

DUPONT E I DE NEMOURS & CO
Form 424B2
March 24, 2011

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CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

| Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered | Amount to be Registered | Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Share | Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price | Amount of Registration Fee(2) |
|---|------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Debt Securities | \$2,000,000,000 | (1) | \$1,997,712,000 | \$231,934.36 |

(1) The 1.75% Notes have a maximum offering price of 99.913%. The Floating Rate Notes have a maximum offering price of 100.000%. The 2.75% Notes have a maximum offering price of 99.823%. The 4.25% Notes have a maximum offering price of 99.789%.

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

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Filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2)
Registration Statement No. 333-150613

Prospectus Supplement (To prospectus dated May 2, 2008)

\$2,000,000,000

E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company

\$400,000,000 1.75% Notes due 2014

\$600,000,000 Floating Rate Notes due 2014

\$500,000,000 2.75% Notes due 2016

\$500,000,000 4.25% Notes due 2021

We will pay interest on the 1.75% Notes due 2014 (the "1.75% Notes") on March 25 and September 25 of each year, commencing on September 25, 2011. We will pay interest on the Floating Rate Notes due 2014 (the "Floating Rate Notes") on March 25, June 25, September 25 and December 25 of each year, commencing on June 25, 2011. We will pay interest on the 2.75% Notes due 2016 (the "2.75% Notes") on April 1 and October 1 of each year, commencing on October 1, 2011. We will pay interest on the 4.25% Notes due 2021 (the "4.25% Notes") on April 1 and October 1 of each year, commencing on October 1, 2011. We refer to the 1.75% Notes, the Floating Rate Notes, the 2.75% Notes and the 4.25% Notes together as the "Notes." We may redeem the 1.75% Notes, the 2.75% Notes and the 4.25% Notes at our option prior to maturity, in whole or in part, as described in this prospectus supplement. If we do not acquire at least 80% of the outstanding shares of Danisco A/S by October 31, 2011, or if we abandon the acquisition of Danisco A/S prior to such date, we must redeem all of the Notes at the redemption price described in this prospectus supplement in "Description of Notes Special Mandatory Redemption." If we experience a Change of Control Triggering Event (as defined herein), we may be required to offer to purchase the Notes from holders. See "Description of Notes Change of Control."

| | Public Offering Price ⁽¹⁾ | Underwriting Discount | Proceeds before Expenses |
|------------------------|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Per 1.75% Note | 99.913% | 0.25% | 99.663% |
| Total | \$ 399,652,000 | \$ 1,000,000 | \$ 398,652,000 |
| Per Floating Rate Note | 100.000% | 0.25% | 99.750% |
| Total | \$ 600,000,000 | \$ 1,500,000 | \$ 598,500,000 |
| Per 2.75% Note | 99.823% | 0.35% | 99.473% |

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| | | | | | | |
|--|----|---------------|----|-----------|----|---------------|
| Total | \$ | 499,115,000 | \$ | 1,750,000 | \$ | 497,365,000 |
| Per 4.25% Note | | 99.789% | | 0.45% | | 99.339% |
| Total | \$ | 498,945,000 | \$ | 2,250,000 | \$ | 496,695,000 |
| Combined Total for 1.75% Notes, Floating Rate Notes, 2.75% Notes and 4.25% Notes | \$ | 1,997,712,000 | \$ | 6,500,000 | \$ | 1,991,212,000 |

(1) Plus accrued interest, if any, from March 25, 2011.

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

The Notes will be ready for delivery in book-entry form only through The Depository Trust Company on or about March 25, 2011.

Joint Bookrunners

| | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Credit Suisse | Goldman, Sachs & Co. | J.P. Morgan |
| BofA Merrill Lynch | Citi | Deutsche Bank Securities |
| Morgan Stanley | RBS <i>Co-managers</i> | UBS Investment Bank |
| Barclays Capital | BBVA | BNP PARIBAS |
| Dankse Markets | HSBC | ING |
| Mitsubishi UFJ Securities | Mizuho Securities | PNC Capital Markets LLC |
| RBC Capital Markets | Santander | Scotia Capital |
| SOCIETE GENERALE | Standard Chartered Bank | US Bancorp |
| | Wells Fargo Securities | |

The date of this prospectus supplement is March 22, 2011.

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You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with information different from that contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. We are offering to sell Notes only in jurisdictions in which offers and sales of the Notes are permitted. The information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is accurate only as of the date of this prospectus supplement, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus or any sale of the Notes. In this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, the "Company," "we," "us" and "our" refer to E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company.

If we use a capitalized term in this prospectus supplement and do not define the term, it is defined in the accompanying prospectus.

The Notes are offered globally for sale only in those jurisdictions in the United States, Canada, Europe, Asia and in other jurisdictions where it is lawful to make such offers. See "Underwriting."

The distribution of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and the offering of the Notes in certain jurisdictions may be restricted by law. Persons into whose possession this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus come should inform themselves about and observe any such restrictions. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus do not

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constitute, and may not be used in connection with, an offer or solicitation by anyone in any jurisdiction in which such offer or solicitation is not authorized or in which the person making such offer or solicitation is not qualified to do so or to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation. See "Underwriting."

References herein to "\$" and "dollars" are to the currency of the United States of America and references to DKK are to the currency of the Kingdom of Denmark.

FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

This prospectus and the information incorporated herein by reference contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") and Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, which may be identified by their use of words like "plans," "expects," "will," "anticipates," "intends," "projects," "estimates" or other words of similar meaning. All statements that address expectations or projections about the future, including statements about our strategy for growth, product development, market position, expenditures, and financial results, are forward-looking statements.

Forward-looking statements are based on certain assumptions and expectations of future events. We cannot guarantee that these assumptions and expectations are accurate or will be realized. Some of the important factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those projected in any forward-looking statements are set forth in the section entitled "Forward-Looking Information" in the accompanying prospectus.

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ABOUT DUPONT

We were founded in 1802 and incorporated in Delaware in 1915. We have been in continuous operation for over 200 years. Our principal offices are at 1007 Market Street in Wilmington, Delaware.

We are a world leader in science and innovation across a range of disciplines, including agriculture and industrial biotechnology, chemistry, biology, materials science and manufacturing. We operate globally and offer a wide range of innovative products and services for markets, including agriculture and food, building and construction, electronics and communications, general industrial and transportation.

Our 13 businesses are aggregated into seven reportable segments based on similar economic characteristics, the nature of the products and production processes, end-use markets, channels of distribution and regulatory environment. Our reportable segments are Agriculture & Nutrition, Electronics & Communications, Performance Chemicals, Performance Coatings, Performance Materials, Safety & Protection, and Pharmaceuticals. We include certain embryonic businesses not included in our reportable segments, such as Applied BioSciences, and nonaligned businesses in Other.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

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

| | Years Ended December 31, | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| | 2010 | 2009 | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
| Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges | 6.1x | 4.8x | 5.5x | 7.8x | 6.6x |

For purposes of calculating the ratio of earnings to fixed charges, (i) "earnings" represent the sum of income before cumulative effect of changes in accounting principles, provision for (benefit from) income taxes, non-controlling interests in earnings (losses) of consolidated subsidiaries, adjustment for companies accounted for by the equity method, capitalized interest and amortization of capitalized interest plus fixed charges, and (ii) "fixed charges" represent the sum of interest and debt expense, capitalized interest and rental expense representative of interest factor. The ratio is based solely on historical financial information.

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DANISCO ACQUISITION

On January 9, 2011, we and our wholly-owned subsidiary, DuPont Denmark Holding ApS (the "Acquisition Subsidiary"), entered into a definitive agreement (the "Announcement Agreement") with Danisco A/S ("Danisco") for Acquisition Subsidiary to acquire Danisco for \$6.3 billion, including \$5.8 billion in cash and the assumption of approximately \$500 million of Danisco's net debt, which we refer to as the Acquisition. Danisco is a technology-driven organization, with research and application development capabilities in biotechnology. Danisco has specialty food ingredients, including enablers, cultures and sweeteners, which generate about 65% of its total sales. Genencor, Danisco's enzymes division, represents about 35% of its total sales. DuPont and Danisco are currently joint venture partners in the development of cellulosic ethanol technology. Danisco has nearly 7,000 employees globally with operations in 23 countries. Upon completion, the Acquisition would establish us as a clear leader in industrial biotechnology with science-intensive innovations that address global challenges in food production and reduced fossil fuel consumption.

In accordance with the terms of and subject to the conditions set forth in the Announcement Agreement, Acquisition Subsidiary has made a public tender offer for all of Danisco's outstanding shares, excluding treasury shares (the "Shares"), at a price of DKK 665 per share in cash, which we refer to as the Tender Offer. Acquisition Subsidiary commenced the Tender Offer on January 21, 2011. On February 18, 2011, Acquisition Subsidiary extended the Tender Offer in order to provide additional time to obtain regulatory approvals and clearances from the competition authorities in the European Union and China. The Tender Offer, as extended, will expire on April 1, 2011 at 11:00 p.m. CEST (5:00 p.m. EDT), if not further extended or terminated. Acquisition Subsidiary has stated that if all competition approvals have not been obtained by April 1, 2011, it will extend the Tender Offer such that it will expire on April 29, 2011, at 11:00 p.m. CEST (5:00 p.m. EDT). Acquisition Subsidiary's consummation of the Tender Offer is subject to the following closing conditions:

that Acquisition Subsidiary owns, or has received valid acceptances in respect of, an aggregate of more than 90% of the Shares (excluding Danisco's treasury shares, if any) and voting rights in Danisco (the "Minimum Acceptance"); and

that Danisco's board of directors has not withdrawn its recommendation that Danisco shareholders accept the Tender Offer or modified such recommendation in a manner adverse to Acquisition Subsidiary or the Tender Offer.

The Tender Offer is also subject to customary closing conditions, including the absence of changes in Danisco's share capital, receipt of certain regulatory approvals, no conflicts with laws or judicial orders (subject to certain exceptions), maintenance of ordinary course operations in all material respects (subject to certain exceptions), absence of certain significant mergers, acquisitions and dispositions, and the absence of a material adverse effect on Danisco. Acquisition Subsidiary has the right to waive the Tender Offer conditions, including waiving the Minimum Acceptance in order to accept a lesser number of Shares.

We do not intend to consummate the Tender Offer if less than 90% of the Shares (excluding Danisco's treasury shares, if any) are tendered. However, Acquisition Subsidiary has the right to do so under the Announcement Agreement provided that it does not accept less than 80% of the Shares (excluding Danisco's treasury shares, if any) in the Tender Offer without the consent of the Danisco board of directors. If Acquisition Subsidiary acquires more than 90% of the Shares in the Tender Offer (excluding Danisco's treasury shares, if any), we have agreed in the Announcement Agreement to redeem the Danisco shares held by the remaining minority shareholders of Danisco pursuant to Danish law (the "Compulsory Acquisition").

Subject to applicable law, Acquisition Subsidiary may extend the Tender Offer from time to time if any of the closing conditions have not been satisfied or waived, if a competing bid has been publicly

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announced and not withdrawn, if the Minimum Acceptance is waived or amended, or if required to do so by law. Acquisition Subsidiary is obligated to extend the Tender Offer, subject to applicable law, if either, at the expiration of the offer period, all conditions thereto have been satisfied or waived other than receipt of regulatory approvals and no conflicts with laws or judicial orders, or one time following announcement that such conditions have been satisfied, provided, however, that save for an extension due to an improvement of the Tender Offer or pursuant to a special dispensation granted by the Danish Financial Supervisory Authority (the "DFSA"), the offer period cannot exceed a maximum of four months. Any such extension of the Tender Offer would be for at least 14 calendar days. The Announcement Agreement provides that the Tender Offer may not be extended beyond October 31, 2011, unless otherwise agreed between us and Danisco.

In addition to its right to extend the Tender Offer as described above, Acquisition Subsidiary may amend the Tender Offer to increase the offer price or otherwise improve the terms of the Tender Offer in favor of the Danisco shareholders (including by way of a waiver of the Minimum Condition, in part or in full). Under Danish law, if Acquisition Subsidiary increases the offer price or otherwise improves the terms of the Tender Offer within the last two (2) weeks of the Tender Offer period, Acquisition Subsidiary must hold the Tender Offer open so that it expires 14 calendar days from the date on which notice of such increase or amendment is first published, provided, however, that once the condition of competition approvals has been fulfilled, Acquisition Subsidiary can, with the exception of a special dispensation granted by the DFSA and provided that no competing bid has been publicly announced, only improve the offer price or the terms of the Tender Offer one time if such improvement is made within the last two weeks of the extended Tender Offer period.

Danisco's board of directors has unanimously recommended the Tender Offer to its shareholders. If a third party makes a competing bid at a higher price or otherwise on terms more favorable to Danisco's shareholders than the Tender Offer (and Danisco's board of directors recommends such more favorable competing bid to its shareholders) and we have not matched such competing bid or other more favorable terms after five business days, any shareholder acceptances of the Tender Offer will be cancelled, and Acquisition Subsidiary may withdraw the Tender Offer. The Announcement Agreement may be terminated by either us or Danisco if Acquisition Subsidiary withdraws the Tender Offer upon a failure of the closing conditions thereto to be satisfied or waived (including upon the recommendation of Danisco's board of directors of a competing bid), and by Danisco if we have not fulfilled our obligations to consummate the Tender Offer provided such closing conditions are satisfied or waived. The Announcement Agreement may also be terminated by mutual written consent of us and Danisco.

If the conditions to the Tender Offer are satisfied or waived, we would expect the Acquisition to close early in the second quarter of 2011. We expect to finance the Acquisition with approximately \$3.0 billion of cash on hand and the net proceeds of this offering and other capital markets transactions.

In connection with the Acquisition, we entered into a \$4.0 billion bridge loan facility and a \$2.0 billion bridge loan facility. The latter requires that the Company have unrestricted cash, cash equivalents and other liquid, non-speculative debt investments at least equal to \$2.0 billion on hand at all times and readily available for use to purchase Danisco's shares. The commitments under the bridge loan facilities will terminate (i) on the earlier of November 7, 2011 or the termination of the Announcement Agreement, (ii) upon the making of any loans under the bridge loan facilities, or (iii) upon our voluntary termination of such commitments.

The foregoing summary of the Announcement Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby, including the Tender Offer, does not purport to be complete and is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by, the full text of the Announcement Agreement, which was filed as Exhibit 2.1 to our Current Report on Form 8-K filed on January 12, 2011, and which is incorporated herein by reference.

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RISK FACTORS

Before you invest in any of our securities, in addition to the other information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, you should carefully consider the risk factors under the heading "Risk Factors" contained in Part I, Item 1A in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010, which are incorporated herein by reference. In addition, you should carefully consider the risk factors set forth below, which supplement such risk factors.

Risk Related to this Offering

If we do not acquire at least 80% of Danisco's outstanding shares by October 31, 2011, or if we abandon the acquisition of Danisco prior to such date, we will be required to redeem the Notes and as a result you may not obtain your expected return on the Notes.

We may not be able to consummate the Tender Offer for Danisco's outstanding shares within the timeframe specified under "Description of the Notes Special Mandatory Redemption." Our ability to consummate the Tender Offer is subject to various closing conditions, including the tender of at least 90% of Danisco's outstanding shares, which condition may be waived by us subject to certain limitations. Many of these closing conditions are beyond our control and we may not be able to complete the Tender Offer. If we do not acquire at least 80% of Danisco's outstanding shares by October 31, 2011, or if we abandon the acquisition of Danisco prior to such date, we will be required to redeem all of the Notes at a redemption price equal to 101% of the aggregate principal amount thereof, plus accrued and unpaid interest from the date of initial issuance to but excluding the Special Mandatory Redemption Date (as defined below).

There is no security interest provided for the benefit of the Noteholders and it is possible that we will not have sufficient financial resources available to satisfy our obligation, if any, to redeem the Notes upon a special mandatory redemption event. This could be the case, for example, if we or any of our subsidiaries commence a bankruptcy or reorganization case, or such a case is commenced against us or one of our subsidiaries, before the date on which we are required to redeem the Notes pursuant to the special mandatory redemption provision.

In addition, even if we are able to redeem the Notes pursuant to the special mandatory redemption provision, you may not obtain your expected return on the Notes and may not be able to reinvest the proceeds from a special mandatory redemption in an investment that results in a comparable return. Your decision to invest in the Notes is made at the time of the offering of the Notes. You will have no rights under the special mandatory redemption provision as long as we acquire at least 80% of Danisco's outstanding shares by October 31, 2011, nor will you have any right to require us to repurchase your Notes if, between the closing of the Notes offering and the acquisition of such interest in Danisco, we experience any changes in our business or financial condition (other than a Change of Control Triggering Event, as defined below), or if the terms of the Acquisition or the financing thereof change.

The Acquisition may not be consummated and, even if the Acquisition is consummated, we may not be able to fully realize its anticipated benefits.

There are significant uncertainties associated with our ongoing Tender Offer for all outstanding shares of Danisco. If the conditions to the Tender Offer, including our acquisition of at least 90% of the outstanding shares of Danisco, are not satisfied or waived, we will not be able to complete the Tender Offer or the Acquisition. Even if such conditions are satisfied or waived and we complete the Tender Offer and the Acquisition, additional uncertainties exist with respect to the Acquisition, including integration risks and costs and uncertainties associated with the operation of acquired businesses. The acquisition involves the integration of Danisco with our existing businesses. We will be required to devote significant management attention and resources to integrating Danisco. We may also experience difficulties in combining corporate cultures. Delays or unexpected difficulties in the integration process could adversely affect our business, financial results and financial condition. Even if we are able to integrate Danisco's operations successfully, this integration may not result in the realization of the full benefits of synergies, cost savings and operational efficiencies that we expect to realize and these benefits may not be achieved within a reasonable period of time.

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USE OF PROCEEDS

We estimate the net proceeds from the sale of Notes in this offering will be approximately \$1,991 million after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and before deducting other estimated offering expenses payable by us. As described below, assuming that the conditions to the Tender Offer are met, we intend to use the net proceeds from this offering and other capital markets transactions together with approximately \$3.0 billion of cash on hand to finance the Acquisition.

The net proceeds from this offering will be held in an interest-bearing account at JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association ("JPMorgan"), and will be subject to the terms of a depository agreement between us and JPMorgan, as depository agent (the "Depository Agreement"). The Depository Agreement will provide, among other things, that the funds deposited with JPMorgan may only be released to us: (i) to satisfy our obligations under the Announcement Agreement and the Tender Offer, (ii) if the Tender Offer is not completed pursuant to the terms of the Announcement Agreement, or (iii) if there are any funds remaining after the satisfaction of our obligations under the Announcement Agreement pursuant to clause (i).

If we do not acquire at least 80% of Danisco's outstanding shares by October 31, 2011, or if we abandon the acquisition of Danisco prior to such date, we must redeem the Notes at a redemption price equal to 101% of the aggregate principal amount of the Notes, plus accrued and unpaid interest to the Special Mandatory Redemption Date. See "Description of the Notes Special Mandatory Redemption."

You should note that it is possible that the net proceeds from this offering may be released from the Depository Agreement described above pursuant to clause (ii) of the second preceding paragraph at a time that we are not required to make the Special Mandatory Redemption. Prior to October 31, 2011 we may choose not to or become unable to complete the Tender Offer pursuant to the Announcement Agreement but nevertheless may pursue the acquisition of Danisco pursuant to alternate means.

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DESCRIPTION OF NOTES

The following description of the particular terms of the 1.75% Notes due 2014 (the "1.75% Notes"), the Floating Rate Notes due 2014 (the "Floating Rate Notes"), the 2.75% Notes due 2016 (the "2.75% Notes") and the 4.25% Notes due 2021 (the "4.25% Notes") offered hereby (referred to in the prospectus as the "Debt Securities") supplements the description of the general terms and provisions of the Debt Securities included in the accompanying prospectus. The 1.75% Notes, the Floating Rate Notes, the 2.75% Notes and the 4.25% Notes are collectively referred to in this prospectus supplement as the "Notes." The following summary of the Notes is qualified in its entirety by reference in the accompanying prospectus to the description of the Indenture dated as of June 1, 1992 (the "Indenture"), between the Company and Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, formerly known as Bankers Trust Company, as trustee (the "Trustee"). Each of the 1.75% Notes, Floating Rate Notes, 2.75% Notes and 4.25% Notes constitutes a separate series of notes under the Indenture.

General

The 1.75% Notes, 2.75% Notes and 4.25% Notes will mature at par on March 25, 2014, April 1, 2016 and April 1, 2021, respectively, unless we redeem or repurchase the 1.75% Notes, 2.75% Notes or 4.25% Notes prior to that date, as described below under " Special Mandatory Redemption," " Optional Redemption," " Change of Control" and " Tax Redemption." The Floating Rate Notes will mature at par on March 25, 2014, unless we redeem or repurchase the Floating Rate Notes prior to that date, as described below under " Special Mandatory Redemption," " Change of Control" and " Tax Redemption." The Notes will constitute part of the senior debt of the Company and will rank pari passu with all other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness of the Company. The Notes will be issued in fully registered form only, in denominations of \$2,000 and additional multiples of \$1,000. Principal of and interest on the Notes will be payable, and the transfer of Notes will be registrable, through The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York ("DTC"), as described below.

The Company may, without the consent of the holders of any series of Notes, issue additional notes having the same ranking and the same interest rate, maturity and other terms as the Notes of such series. Any additional notes having such similar terms, together with the Notes of such series, will constitute a single series of notes under the Indenture. No additional Notes of such series may be issued if an Event of Default has occurred and is continuing with respect to the Notes of such series. As used in this prospectus supplement, "Business Day" means any day, other than a Saturday or Sunday, that is not a day on which banking institutions are authorized or required by law or regulation to close in the City of New York.

Fixed Rate Notes

Each 1.75% Note will bear interest from March 25, 2011 at the annual rate of 1.75%. Each 2.75% Note will bear interest from March 25, 2011 at the annual rate of 2.75%. Each 4.25% Note will bear interest from March 25, 2011 at the annual rate of 4.25%. Interest on the 1.75% Notes will be payable semiannually on March 25 and September 25 of each year, commencing on September 25, 2011. Interest on the 2.75% Notes will be payable semiannually on April 1 and October 1 of each year, commencing on October 1, 2011. Interest on the 4.25% Notes will be payable semiannually on April 1 and October 1 of each year, commencing on October 1, 2011. In each case, interest will be payable to the person in whose name such 1.75% Note, 2.75% Note or 4.25% Note is registered at the close of business on the 14th calendar day immediately preceding such interest payment date (whether or not a Business Day).

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Interest payable at the maturity of the 1.75% Notes, 2.75% Notes and 4.25% Notes will be payable to registered holders of the 1.75% Notes, 2.75% Notes and 4.25% Notes, respectively, to whom principal is payable. Interest will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months.

If any interest payment date falls on a day that is not a Business Day, the interest payment will be postponed to the next day that is a Business Day, and no interest on such payment will accrue for the period from and after such interest payment date. If the maturity date of the 1.75% Notes, 2.75% Notes or 4.25% Notes falls on a day that is not a Business Day, the payment of interest and principal may be made on the next succeeding Business Day, and no interest on such payment will accrue for the period from and after the maturity date.

Interest payments for the 1.75% Notes, 2.75% Notes and 4.25% Notes will include accrued interest from and including the date of issue or from and including the last date in respect of which interest has been paid, as the case may be, to but excluding the interest payment date or the date of maturity, as the case may be.

Floating Rate Notes

The Floating Rate Notes will bear interest for each interest period at a rate determined by the calculation agent, which will initially be Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas. The interest rate on the Floating Rate Notes for a particular interest period will be a per annum rate equal to three-month USD LIBOR as determined on the interest determination date plus 0.42%. The interest determination date for an interest period will be the second London Business Day preceding the first day of such interest period. Promptly upon determination, the calculation agent will inform the Trustee and us of the interest rate for the next interest period. Absent manifest error, the determination of the interest rate by the calculation agent shall be binding and conclusive on the holders of the Floating Rate Notes, the Trustee and us. As used in this prospectus supplement, a "London Business Day" is a day on which dealings in deposits in U.S. dollars are transacted in the London interbank market.

Interest on the Floating Rate Notes will be paid to but excluding the relevant interest payment date. We will make interest payments on the Floating Rate Notes quarterly in arrears on March 25, June 25, September 25 and December 25, beginning June 25, 2011, to the person in whose name the Floating Rate Notes are registered at the close of business on the 14th calendar day immediately preceding the interest payment date. Interest on the Floating Rate Notes will accrue from and including March 25, 2011, to but excluding the first interest payment date and then from and including the immediately preceding interest payment date to which interest has been paid or duly provided for to but excluding the next interest payment date or maturity date, as the case may be. We refer to each of these periods as an "interest period." The amount of accrued interest that we will pay for any interest period can be calculated by multiplying the face amount of the Floating Rate Notes then outstanding by an accrued interest factor. This accrued interest factor is computed by adding the interest factor calculated for each day from March 25, 2011, or from the last date we paid interest to you, to the date for which accrued interest is being calculated. The interest factor for each day is computed by dividing the interest rate applicable to that day by 360. If an interest payment date for the Floating Rate Notes falls on a day that is not a Business Day, the interest payment date shall be postponed to the next succeeding Business Day unless such next succeeding Business Day would be in the following month, in which case, the interest payment date shall be the immediately preceding Business Day.

On any interest determination date, LIBOR will be equal to the offered rate for deposits in U.S. dollars having an index maturity of three months, in amounts of at least \$1,000,000, as such rate appears on Bloomberg L.P.'s page "BBAM" at approximately 11:00 a.m., London time, on such interest determination date. If on an interest determination date, such rate does not appear on the

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Bloomberg L.P.'s page "BBAM" as of 11:00 a.m., London time, or if the Bloomberg L.P.'s page "BBAM" is not available on such date, the calculation agent will obtain such rate from "Reuters Page LIBOR01."

If no offered rate appears on Bloomberg L.P. page "BBAM" or "Reuters Page LIBOR01" on an interest determination date at approximately 11:00 a.m., London time, then the calculation agent (after consultation with us) will select four major banks in the London interbank market and shall request each of their principal London offices to provide a quotation of the rate at which three-month deposits in U.S. dollars in amounts of at least \$1,000,000 are offered by it to prime banks in the London interbank market, on that date and at that time, that is representative of single transactions at that time. If at least two quotations are provided, LIBOR will be the arithmetic average of the quotations provided. Otherwise, the calculation agent (after consultation with us) will select three major banks in New York City and shall request each of them to provide a quotation of the rate offered by them at approximately 11:00 a.m., New York City time, on the interest determination date for loans in U.S. dollars to leading European banks having an index maturity of three months for the applicable interest period in an amount of at least \$1,000,000 that is representative of single transactions at that time. If three quotations are provided, LIBOR will be the arithmetic average of the quotations provided. Otherwise, the rate of LIBOR for the next interest period will be set equal to the rate of LIBOR for the then current interest period.

Upon request from any holder of Floating Rate Notes, the calculation agent will provide the interest rate in effect for the Floating Rate Notes for the current interest period and, if it has been determined, the interest rate to be in effect for the next interest period.

All percentages resulting from any calculation of the interest rate on the Floating Rate Notes will be rounded to the nearest one millionth of a percentage point with five one hundred millionths of a percentage point rounded upwards (*e.g.*, 9.8765445% (or .098765445) would be rounded to 9.876545% (or .09876545)), and all dollar amounts used in or resulting from such calculation on the Floating Rate Notes will be rounded to the nearest cent (with one-half cent being rounded upward). Each calculation of the interest rate on the notes by the calculation agent will (in absence of manifest error) be final and binding on the holders and us.

The interest rate on the Floating Rate Notes will in no event be higher than the maximum rate permitted by New York law as the same may be modified by United States law of general application.

Special Mandatory Redemption

In the event that (i) prior to October 31, 2011, we deliver a certificate to the Trustee indicating that we have abandoned the acquisition of Danisco, or (ii) on October 31, 2011, we have not acquired at least 80% of Danisco's outstanding shares (the "Special Mandatory Redemption Event"), then we will redeem all of the Notes on the Special Mandatory Redemption Date at a redemption price equal to 101% of the aggregate principal amount of the Notes plus accrued and unpaid interest from the date of initial issuance to but excluding the Special Mandatory Redemption Date (the "Special Mandatory Redemption Price"), subject to the right of holders of record on the relevant record date to receive interest due on the relevant interest payment date.

We will cause the notice of the special mandatory redemption to be mailed, with a copy to the trustee, within five business days after the Special Mandatory Redemption Event to each registered holder of Notes at its registered address. "Special Mandatory Redemption Date" means the date that is 30 days after notice of the special mandatory redemption is mailed by us. If funds sufficient to pay the Special Mandatory Redemption Price of all Notes to be redeemed on the Special Mandatory Redemption Date are deposited with Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as paying agent (the

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"paying agent"), on or before the Special Mandatory Redemption Date, and certain other conditions are satisfied, the Notes will cease to bear interest on and after the Special Mandatory Redemption Date.

The provision relating to special mandatory redemption described herein may not be waived or modified without the written consent of holders of at least two-thirds of the aggregate principal amount of Notes then outstanding.

Optional Redemption

The 1.75% Notes will be redeemable as a whole at any time or in part from time to time, at the option of the Company, at a redemption price equal to the greater of (i) 100% of the principal amount of the 1.75% Notes or (ii) the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest thereon from the redemption date to the maturity date (exclusive of any accrued interest) discounted to the redemption date on a semiannual basis (assuming a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) at the Treasury Rate plus 10 basis points, plus, in each case, any interest accrued but not paid to the date of redemption.

The Floating Rate Notes are not redeemable at the option of the Company prior to maturity.

The 2.75% Notes will be redeemable as a whole at any time or in part from time to time, at the option of the Company, at a redemption price equal to the greater of (i) 100% of the principal amount of the 2.75% Notes or (ii) the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest thereon from the redemption date to the maturity date (exclusive of any accrued interest) discounted to the redemption date on a semiannual basis (assuming a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) at the Treasury Rate plus 15 basis points, plus, in each case, any interest accrued but not paid to the date of redemption.

The 4.25% Notes will be redeemable as a whole at any time or in part from time to time, at the option of the Company, at a redemption price equal to the greater of (i) 100% of the principal amount of the 4.25% Notes or (ii) the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest thereon from the redemption date to the maturity date (exclusive of any accrued interest) discounted to the redemption date on a semiannual basis (assuming a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) at the Treasury Rate plus 15 basis points, plus, in each case, any interest accrued but not paid to the date of redemption.

For purposes of the foregoing discussion of a repurchase of 1.75% Notes, 2.75% Notes and 4.25% Notes at our option, the following definitions are applicable:

"*Treasury Rate*" means, with respect to any redemption date for the 1.75% Notes, 2.75% Notes and 4.25% Notes, the rate per annum equal to the semiannual equivalent yield to maturity of the Comparable Treasury Issue, calculated using a price for the Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed as a percentage of its principal amount) equal to the Comparable Treasury Price for that redemption date.

"*Comparable Treasury Issue*" means the United States Treasury security selected by an Independent Investment Banker as having a maturity comparable to the remaining term of the 1.75% Notes, 2.75% Notes or 4.25% Notes to be redeemed that would be utilized, at the time of selection and in accordance with customary financial practice, in pricing new issues of corporate debt securities of comparable maturity to the remaining term of such securities.

"*Independent Investment Banker*" means one of the Reference Treasury Dealers appointed by the Trustee after consultation with the Company.

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"*Comparable Treasury Price*" means, with respect to any redemption date for the 1.75% Notes, 2.75% Notes or 4.25% Notes, (i) the average of four Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations for that redemption date, after excluding the highest and lowest such Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, or (ii) if the Trustee obtains fewer than four such Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, the average of all such quotations.

"*Reference Treasury Dealer*" means each of Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and J.P. Morgan Securities LLC or their respective affiliates, and one other primary U.S. Government securities dealers in New York City appointed by the Trustee in consultation with the Company (each, a "Primary Treasury Dealer"); provided, however, that if any of the foregoing shall cease to be a Primary Treasury Dealer, the Company shall 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 Trustee, of the bid and asked prices for the Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed in each case as a percentage of its principal amount) quoted in writing to the Trustee by that Reference Treasury Dealer at 5:00 p.m. (New York City time) on the third business day preceding that redemption date.

Unless the Company defaults in payment of the redemption price, on and after the redemption date interest will cease to accrue on the 1.75% Notes, 2.75% Notes and 4.25% Notes or portions thereof called for redemption.

Change of Control

If a Change of Control Triggering Event occurs, unless we have redeemed the Notes as described above under " Special Mandatory Redemption" or, in the case of the 1.75% Notes, 2.75% Notes and 4.25% Notes, have exercised our right to redeem the 1.75% Notes, 2.75% Notes or 4.25% Notes as described above under " Optional Redemption," or upon the occurrence of specified events involving United States taxation as described below under " Tax Redemption," holders of Notes will have the right to require us to repurchase all or any part (equal to \$2,000 and additional multiples of \$1,000) of their Notes pursuant to the offer described below (the "Change of Control Offer") on the terms set forth in the 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 the date of purchase (the "Change of Control Payment"). Within 30 days following any Change of Control Triggering Event, we will be required to mail a notice to holders of Notes describing the transaction or transactions that constitute the Change of Control Triggering Event and offering to repurchase the Notes on the date specified in the notice, which date will be no earlier than 30 days and no later than 60 days from the date such notice is mailed (the "Change of Control Payment Date"), pursuant to the procedures required by the Notes and described in such notice. We must comply with the requirements of Rule 14e-1 under 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 securities laws or regulations conflict with the Change of Control provisions of the Notes, we will be required to comply with the applicable securities laws and regulations and will not be deemed to have breached our obligations under the Change of Control provisions of the Notes by virtue of such conflicts.

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

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

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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 purchased.

The Paying Agent will promptly mail to each holder of Notes properly tendered the purchase price for the Notes, and the Trustee will promptly authenticate and mail (or cause to be transferred by book-entry) to each holder a new Note equal in principal amount to any unpurchased portion of any Notes surrendered; *provided* that each new Note will be in a principal amount of \$2,000 and additional multiples of \$1,000. We will not be required to make an offer to repurchase the Notes upon 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 such third party purchases all Notes properly tendered and not withdrawn under its offer.

For purposes of the foregoing discussion of a repurchase of Notes at the option of holders, the following definitions are applicable:

"Below Investment Grade Rating Event" means the Notes are rated below an Investment Grade Rating by each of the Rating Agencies (as defined below) on any date from the date of the public notice of an arrangement that could result in a Change of Control until the end of the 60-day period following public notice of the occurrence of the Change of Control (which 60-day period shall be extended so long as the rating of the Notes is under publicly announced consideration for possible downgrade by any of the Rating Agencies); provided that a Below Investment Grade Rating Event otherwise arising by virtue of a particular reduction in rating shall not be deemed to have occurred with respect to a particular Change of Control (and thus shall not be deemed a Below Investment Grade Rating Event for purposes of the definition of Change of Control Triggering Event hereunder) if the Rating Agency or Agencies making the reduction in rating to which this definition would otherwise apply do not announce or publicly confirm or inform the Trustee in writing at its request that the reduction was the result, in whole or in part, of any event or circumstance comprised of or arising as a result of, or in respect of, the applicable Change of Control (whether or not the applicable Change of Control shall have occurred at the time of the Below Investment Grade Rating Event).

"Change of Control" means the occurrence of any of the following: (1) the direct or indirect sale, transfer, conveyance or other disposition (other than by way of merger or consolidation), in one or a series of related transactions, of all or substantially all of the properties or assets of the Company and its subsidiaries taken as a whole to any Person or group of related persons for purposes of Section 13(d) of the Exchange Act (a "Group") other than the Company or one of its subsidiaries; (2) the approval by the holders of the Company's voting stock of any plan or proposal for the liquidation or dissolution of the Company (whether or not otherwise in compliance with the provisions of the Indenture); (3) the consummation of any transaction (including, without limitation, any merger or consolidation) the result of which is that any Person or Group becomes the beneficial owner, directly or indirectly, of more than 50% of the then outstanding voting interests in our capital stock; or (4) the first day on which a majority of the members of our Board of Directors are not Continuing Directors.

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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 and our subsidiaries' properties or assets 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 ability of a holder of Notes to require us to repurchase such holder's Notes as a result of a sale, lease, transfer, conveyance or other disposition of less than all of our and our subsidiaries' assets taken as a whole to another Person or Group may be uncertain.

"*Change of Control Triggering Event*" means the occurrence of both a Change of Control and a Below Investment Grade Rating Event.

"*Continuing Directors*" means, as of any date of determination, any member of our Board of Directors who (1) was a member of such Board of Directors on the date of the issuance of the Notes; or (2) was nominated for election or elected to such Board of Directors with the approval of a majority of the Continuing Directors who were members of such Board of Directors at the time of such nomination or election (either by a specific vote or by approval of our proxy statement in which such member was named as a nominee for election as a director, without objection to such nomination).

"*Fitch*" means Fitch Ratings.

"*Investment Grade Rating*" means a rating equal to or higher than BBB- (or the equivalent) by Fitch, Baa3 (or the equivalent) by Moody's, BBB- (or the equivalent) by S&P and an equivalent rating of any replacement agency, respectively.

"*Moody's*" means Moody's Investors Service, Inc.

"*Paying Agent*" shall mean the Trustee or any other Person authorized by the Company to pay the principal of or interest on the Notes on behalf of the Company.

"*Person*" has the meaning set forth in the Indenture and includes a "person" as used in Section 13(d)(3) of the Exchange Act.

"*Rating Agencies*" means (1) each of Fitch, Moody's and S&P; and (2) if any of Fitch, Moody's or 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) as a replacement agency for Fitch, Moody's or S&P, or all of them, as the case may be.

"*S&P*" means Standard & Poor's Ratings Services, a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc.

Tax Redemption

The Notes may be redeemed as a whole, at the option of the Company at any time prior to maturity, upon the giving of a notice of redemption as described below, if the Company determines that, as a result of any change in or amendment to the laws (or any regulations or rulings promulgated thereunder) of the United States or of any political subdivision or taxing authority thereof or therein, or any change in official position regarding the application or interpretation of such laws, regulations or rulings, which change or amendment becomes effective on or after the date of this prospectus supplement, the Company has or will become obligated to pay Additional Amounts (as defined below) with respect to such Notes for reasons outside its control and after taking reasonable measures to avoid such obligation. The Notes will be redeemed at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount thereof, together with accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption. Prior to the giving of any notice of redemption pursuant to this paragraph, the Company will deliver to the Trustee (i) a certificate stating that the Company is entitled to effect such redemption and setting forth a statement of facts showing that the conditions precedent to the right of the Company to so redeem have occurred

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and (ii) an opinion of independent counsel satisfactory to such Trustee to the effect that the Company has or will become obligated to pay Additional Amounts for the reasons described above; provided that no such notice of redemption shall be given earlier than 60 days prior to the earliest date on which the Company would be obligated to pay such Additional Amounts if a payment in respect of the Notes were then due. Notice of redemption will be given not less than 30 nor more than 60 days prior to the date fixed for redemption, which date and the redemption price will be specified in the notice.

Payment of Additional Amounts

The Company will, subject to certain exceptions and limitations set forth below, pay such additional amounts ("Additional Amounts") to the beneficial owner of any Note who is a United States Alien as may be necessary in order that every net payment of principal of and interest on such Note and any other amounts payable on such Note, after withholding for or on account of any present or future tax, assessment or governmental charge imposed upon or as a result of such payment by the United States (or any political subdivision or taxing authority thereof or therein), will not be less than the amount provided for in such Note to be then due and payable. The Company will not, however, be required to make any payment of Additional Amounts to any beneficial owner for or on account of:

- (a) any such tax, assessment or other governmental charge that would not have been so imposed but for the existence of any present or former connection between such beneficial owner (or between a fiduciary, settlor, beneficiary, member or shareholder of such beneficial owner, if such beneficial owner is an estate, a trust, a partnership or a corporation) and the United States and its possessions, including, without limitation, such beneficial owner (or such fiduciary, settlor, beneficiary, member or shareholder) being or having been a citizen or resident thereof or being or having been engaged in a trade or business or present therein or having, or having had, a permanent establishment therein;
- (b) any tax that would not have been so imposed, assessed, levied or collected but for the fact that, where presentation is required in order to receive payment, the Note was presented more than 30 days after the date on which such payment became due and payable or was provided for, whichever is later;
- (c) any estate, inheritance, gift, sales, transfer or personal property tax or any similar tax, assessment or governmental charge;
- (d) any tax, assessment or other governmental charge imposed by reason of such beneficial owner's past or present status as a personal holding company or controlled foreign corporation or passive foreign investment company with respect to the United States or as a corporation that accumulates earnings to avoid United States federal income tax;
- (e) any tax, assessment or other governmental charge that is payable otherwise than by withholding from payments on or in respect of any Note;
- (f) any tax, assessment or other governmental charge that would not have been imposed but for the failure to comply with certification, information or other reporting requirements concerning the nationality, residence or identity of the beneficial owner of such Note, if such compliance is required by statute or by regulation of the United States or of any political subdivision or taxing authority thereof or therein as a precondition to relief or exemption from such tax, assessment or other governmental charge;
- (g) any tax, assessment or other governmental charge imposed by reason of such beneficial owner's status (including past status) as the actual or constructive owner of 10% or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock entitled to vote of the Company or as a controlled foreign corporation that is related directly or indirectly to the Company through stock ownership;

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- (h) any tax, assessment or other governmental charge that is required to be deducted or withheld on a payment pursuant to European Union Directive 2003/48/EC (the "Directive") or any law implementing, or introduced in order to conform to, the Directive;
- (i) except in the case of the liquidation, dissolution or winding-up of the Company, any tax, assessment or other governmental charge imposed in connection with a Note presented for payment by or on behalf of a beneficial owner who would have been able to avoid such tax, assessment or other governmental charge by presenting the Note to, or otherwise accepting payment from, another paying agent in a member state of the European Union; or
- (j) any combination of items (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h) or (i);

nor shall Additional Amounts be paid with respect to any payment on a Note to a United States Alien who is a fiduciary or partnership or other than the sole beneficial owner of such payment to the extent such payment would be required by the laws of the United States (or any political subdivision thereof) to be included in the income, for tax purposes, of a beneficiary or settlor with respect to such fiduciary or a member of such partnership or a beneficial owner who would not have been entitled to the Additional Amounts had such beneficiary, settlor, member or beneficial owner held its interest in the Note directly.

The term "United States Alien" means any person that is, for United States federal income tax purposes, a foreign corporation, a nonresident alien individual, a nonresident alien fiduciary of a foreign estate or trust, or a foreign partnership to the extent that one or more of its members is a foreign corporation, a nonresident alien individual or a nonresident alien fiduciary of a foreign estate or trust.

Modification of the Indenture

In addition to the modification provisions set forth in the accompanying prospectus under the caption "Description of Debt Securities Modification of the Indenture," the provision relating to special mandatory redemption, as described under "Special Mandatory Redemption," may not be waived or modified without the written consent of holders of at least two-thirds of the aggregate principal amount of Notes then outstanding.

Events of Default

In addition to the events of default set forth in the accompanying prospectus under the caption "Description of Debt Securities Events of Default," the terms of the Notes will provide that our failure to timely deliver a special mandatory redemption notice, as described under "Special Mandatory Redemption," is an event of default.

Applicable Law

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

Book-Entry, Delivery and Form

The Notes will be issued in the form of one or more fully registered global notes (the "Global Notes") registered in the name of DTC or Cede & Co., DTC's nominee. Beneficial interests in the Global Notes will be represented through book-entry accounts of financial institutions acting on behalf of beneficial owners as direct and indirect participants in DTC and investors will hold such beneficial interests only through DTC, or through Clearstream Banking, S.A. or Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V. as DTC participants. Beneficial interests in the Global Notes will be held in denominations of \$2,000 and

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additional multiples of \$1,000. Except as described 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.

DTC has advised the Company as follows: DTC is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a "banking organization" within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a "clearing corporation" within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a "clearing agency" registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Exchange Act. DTC holds securities deposited with it by its participants and records the settlement of transactions among its participants in such securities through electronic computerized book-entry changes in accounts of the participants, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of securities certificates. DTC's participants include securities brokers and dealers (including the Underwriters), banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations, some of whom (and/or their representatives) own DTC. Access to the DTC book-entry system is also available to others, such as banks, brokers, dealers and trust companies that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a participant, either directly or indirectly.

Individual certificates in respect of the Notes will not be issued in exchange for the Global Notes, except in very limited circumstances. If DTC notifies the Company that it is unwilling or unable to continue as a clearing system in connection with the Global Notes, or ceases to be a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act, and a successor clearing system is not appointed by the Company within 90 days after receiving such notice from DTC or upon becoming aware that DTC is no longer so registered, the Company will issue or cause to be issued individual certificates in registered form on registration of transfer of, or in exchange for, book-entry interests in the Notes represented by such Global Notes upon delivery of such Global Notes for cancellation.

Book-entry interests in the Notes may be transferred within DTC in accordance with procedures established for this purpose by DTC. A further description of DTC's procedures with respect to the Global Notes is set forth in the accompanying prospectus under "Description of Debt Securities Global Securities."

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UNITED STATES FEDERAL TAXATION

The information provided in the accompanying prospectus under the caption "United States Federal Taxation" is supplemented with the following information. Please also refer to information provided in this prospectus supplement under the captions "Description of Notes Tax Redemption" and " Payment of Additional Amounts."

Each non-United States person (as such term is defined in the accompanying prospectus) should be aware that if it does not properly provide the required IRS form, or if the IRS form (or, if permissible, a copy of such form) is not properly transmitted to and received by the United States person otherwise required to withhold United States federal income tax, interest on the Note may be subject to United States withholding tax at a 30% rate or a lower applicable treaty rate, and the non-United States person will not be entitled to any Additional Amounts from the Company described under the heading "Description of Notes Payment of Additional Amounts" with respect to such tax. Such tax, however, may in certain circumstances be allowed as a refund or as a credit against such owner's United States federal income tax. The foregoing does not deal with all aspects of federal income tax withholding that may be relevant to non-United States persons. Investors are advised to consult their own tax advisors for specific advice concerning the ownership and disposition of Notes.

Possible Treatment as Contingent Payment Debt Instruments

We may be obligated to pay amounts in excess of the stated interest or principal on the Notes, including as described under "Description of Notes Special Mandatory Redemption." Our obligation to pay such excess amounts may implicate the provisions of the Treasury regulations relating to "contingent payment debt instruments." Under these regulations, however, one or more contingencies will not cause a debt instrument to be treated as a contingent payment debt instrument if, as of the issue date, each such contingency is "remote" or is considered to be "incidental." We believe and intend to take the position that the foregoing contingencies should be treated as remote and/or incidental. Our position is binding on a holder, unless the holder discloses in the proper manner to the IRS that it is taking a different position. However, this determination is inherently factual and we can give you no assurance that our position would be sustained if challenged by the IRS. A successful challenge of this position by the IRS could affect the timing and amount of a holder's income and could cause gain from the sale or other disposition of the Notes to be treated as ordinary income, rather than capital gain. This disclosure assumes that the Notes will not be considered contingent payment debt instruments. Investors are urged to consult their tax advisors regarding the potential application to the Notes of the contingent payment debt regulations and the consequences thereof.

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Under the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the Underwriting Agreement, dated March 22, 2011 (the "Underwriting Agreement"), the underwriters named below (the "Underwriters") have severally agreed to purchase, and the Company has agreed to sell to them, severally, the principal amount of each series of Notes set forth opposite their names below:

| Name | Principal Amount of 1.75% Notes | Principal Amount of Floating Rate Notes | Principal Amount of 2.75% Notes | Principal Amount of 4.25% Notes |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC | \$ 80,000,000 | \$ 120,000,000 | \$ 100,000,000 | \$ 100,000,000 |
| Goldman, Sachs & Co. | 80,000,000 | 120,000,000 | 100,000,000 | 100,000,000 |
| J.P. Morgan Securities LLC | 80,000,000 | 120,000,000 | 100,000,000 | 100,000,000 |
| Citigroup Global Markets Inc. | 20,000,000 | 30,000,000 | 25,000,000 | 25,000,000 |
| Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. | 20,000,000 | 30,000,000 | 25,000,000 | 25,000,000 |
| Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated | 20,000,000 | 30,000,000 | 25,000,000 | 25,000,000 |
| Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated | 20,000,000 | 30,000,000 | 25,000,000 | 25,000,000 |
| RBS Securities Inc. | 20,000,000 | 30,000,000 | 25,000,000 | 25,000,000 |
| UBS Securities LLC | 20,000,000 | 30,000,000 | 25,000,000 | 25,000,000 |
| Barclays Capital Inc. | 2,500,000 | 3,750,000 | 3,125,000 | 3,125,000 |
| Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria S.A. | 2,500,000 | 3,750,000 | 3,125,000 | 3,125,000 |
| BNP Paribas Securities Corp. | 2,500,000 | 3,750,000 | 3,125,000 | 3,125,000 |
| Danske Markets Inc. | 2,500,000 | 3,750,000 | 3,125,000 | 3,125,000 |
| HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. | 2,500,000 | 3,750,000 | 3,125,000 | 3,125,000 |
| ING Financial Markets LLC | 2,500,000 | 3,750,000 | 3,125,000 | 3,125,000 |
| Mitsubishi UFJ Securities (USA), Inc. | 2,500,000 | 3,750,000 | 3,125,000 | 3,125,000 |
| Mizuho Securities USA Inc. | 2,500,000 | 3,750,000 | 3,125,000 | 3,125,000 |
| PNC Capital Markets LLC | 2,500,000 | 3,750,000 | 3,125,000 | 3,125,000 |
| RBC Capital Markets, LLC | 2,500,000 | 3,750,000 | 3,125,000 | 3,125,000 |
| Santander Investment Securities Inc. | 2,500,000 | 3,750,000 | 3,125,000 | 3,125,000 |
| Scotia Capital (USA) Inc. | 2,500,000 | 3,750,000 | 3,125,000 | 3,125,000 |
| SG Americas Securities, LLC | 2,500,000 | 3,750,000 | 3,125,000 | 3,125,000 |
| Standard Chartered Bank | 2,500,000 | 3,750,000 | 3,125,000 | 3,125,000 |
| U.S. Bancorp Investments, Inc | 2,500,000 | 3,750,000 | 3,125,000 | 3,125,000 |
| Wells Fargo Securities, LLC | 2,500,000 | 3,750,000 | 3,125,000 | 3,125,000 |
| Total | \$ 400,000,000 | \$ 600,000,000 | \$ 500,000,000 | \$ 500,000,000 |

The Underwriting Agreement provides that the obligations of the several Underwriters to pay for and accept delivery of the Notes are subject to, among other things, the approval of certain legal matters by their counsel and certain other conditions. The Underwriters are obligated to take and pay for all the Notes if any are taken.

The Underwriters propose initially to offer part of the Notes to the public at the public offering price set forth on the cover page hereof and in part to certain dealers at prices that represent a concession not in excess of 0.15% of the principal amount of the 1.75% Notes, 0.15% of the principal amount of the Floating Rate Notes, 0.20% of the principal amount of the 2.75% Notes and 0.30% of the principal amount of the 4.25% Notes. Any Underwriter may allow, and such dealers may re-allow, a concession not in excess of 0.025% of the principal amount of the 1.75% Notes, 0.025% of the principal amount of the Floating Rate Notes, 0.025% of the principal amount of the 2.75% Notes and 0.125% of the principal amount of the 4.25% Notes to certain other dealers. After the initial offering of the Notes, the offering price and other selling terms may from time to time be varied by the Underwriters. The offering of the Notes by the Underwriters is subject to receipt and acceptance and subject to the Underwriters' right to reject any order in whole or in part.

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In order to facilitate the offering of the Notes, the Underwriters may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the price of the Notes. Specifically, the Underwriters may over-allot in connection with this offering, creating short positions in the Notes for their own account. In addition, to cover over-allotments or to stabilize the price of the Notes, the Underwriters may bid for, and purchase, Notes in the open market. Finally, the Underwriters may reclaim selling concessions allowed to an underwriter or dealer for distributing Notes in this offering, if the Underwriters repurchase previously distributed Notes in transactions that cover syndicate short positions, in stabilization transactions or otherwise. Any of these activities may stabilize or maintain the market price of the Notes above independent market levels. The Underwriters are not required to engage in these activities, and may end any of these activities at any time.

The Underwriters may also impose a penalty bid. This occurs when a particular Underwriter repays to the Underwriters a portion of the underwriting discount received by it because the representatives have repurchased Notes sold by or for the account of such Underwriter in stabilizing or short covering transactions.

The Underwriters and their respective affiliates are full service financial institutions engaged in various activities, which may include securities trading, commercial and investment banking, financial advisory, investment management, investment research, principal investment, hedging, financing and brokerage activities. Certain of the Underwriters and their affiliates engage in transactions with, and perform services for, the Company in the ordinary course of business and have engaged, and may in the future engage, in commercial banking and investment banking transactions with the Company. In the ordinary course of their various business activities, the Underwriters and their respective affiliates may 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, and such investment and securities activities may involve securities and/or instruments of the issuer. The Underwriters and their respective affiliates may also make investment recommendations and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such securities or instruments and may at any time hold, or recommend to clients that they acquire, long and/or short positions in such securities and instruments.

Goldman, Sachs & Co. and J.P. Morgan Securities LLC are serving as financial advisors to us in our proposed Acquisition of Danisco. J.P. Morgan Securities LLC and an affiliate of Goldman, Sachs & Co. are also serving as joint lead arrangers and joint bookrunners and as administrative agent and syndication agent, respectively, for each of the credit facilities supporting the Tender Offer, and affiliates of Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and certain of the other Underwriters have committed to lend to us funds under such facilities. An affiliate of J.P. Morgan Securities LLC is also acting as depositary agent under the Depository Agreement.

The Notes are offered for sale in those jurisdictions where it is lawful to make such offers.

Neither Standard Chartered Bank nor Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria S.A. is a U.S. registered broker-dealer and, therefore, to the extent that they intend to effect any sales of the Notes in the United States, they will do so through one or more U.S. registered broker-dealers as permitted by Financial Industry Regulatory Authority regulations.

Each of the Underwriters has represented and agreed that it has not and will not offer, sell or deliver any of the Notes directly or indirectly, or distribute this prospectus supplement or the prospectus or any other offering material relating to the Notes, in or from any jurisdiction except under circumstances that will result in compliance with the applicable laws and regulations thereof and that will not impose any obligations on the Company except as set forth in the Underwriting Agreement.

In particular, each Underwriter has represented and agreed that:

In relation to each Member State of the European Economic Area which has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a "Relevant Member State"), each Underwriter has represented and agreed

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that with effect from and including the date on which the Prospectus Directive is implemented in that Relevant Member State (the "Relevant Implementation Date"), it has not made and will not make an offer of Notes to the public in that Relevant Member State other than:

- (a) to any legal entity that is a qualified investor as defined in the Prospectus Directive;
- (b) to fewer than 100 or, if the Relevant Member State has implemented the relevant provision of the 2010 PD Amending Directive, 150, natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors, as defined in the Prospectus Directive), as permitted under the Prospectus Directive, subject to obtaining the prior consent of the relevant Dealer or Dealers nominated by the issuer 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 shall require the issuer or any Underwriter to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive or supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.

For the purposes of this representation, the expression an "offer of Notes to the public" in relation to any notes in any Relevant Member State means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the 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, the expression "Prospectus Directive" means Directive 2003/71/EC (and amendments thereto, including the 2010 PD Amending Directive, to the extent implemented in the Relevant Member State), and includes any relevant implementing measure in the Relevant Member State and the expression "2010 PD Amending Directive" means Directive 2010/73/EU.

With respect to sales to residents of the United Kingdom:

- (a) it has only communicated or caused to be communicated and will only communicate or cause to be communicated an invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of Section 21 of the FSMA) received by it in connection with the issue or sale of the Notes in circumstances in which Section 21(1) of the FSMA does not apply to the Issuer; and
- (b) it has complied and will comply with all applicable provisions of the FSMA with respect to anything done by it in relation to the Notes in, from or otherwise involving the United Kingdom.

The Notes may not be offered or sold by means of any document other than to persons whose ordinary business is to buy or sell shares or debentures, whether as principal or agent, or in circumstances which do not constitute an offer to the public within the meaning of the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 32) of Hong Kong, and no advertisement, invitation or document relating to the Notes may be issued, 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 laws of Hong Kong) other than with respect to Notes which are or are intended to be disposed of only to persons outside Hong Kong or only to "professional investors" within the meaning of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571) of Hong Kong and any rules made thereunder.

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

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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 under Section 274 of the Securities and Futures Act, Chapter 289 of Singapore (the "SFA"), (ii) to a relevant person, or any person pursuant to Section 275(1A), and in accordance with the conditions, specified in Section 275 of the SFA or (iii) otherwise pursuant to, and in accordance with the conditions of, any other applicable provision of the SFA.

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

The Notes are a new issue of securities with no established trading market. The Underwriters have advised the Company that the Underwriters intend to make a market in the Notes. The Underwriters are not obligated, however, to do so and may discontinue their market making at any time without notice. No assurance can be given as to the liquidity of the trading market for the Notes.

Expenses associated with this offering, to be paid by the Company, are estimated to be \$1.9 million.

The Company has agreed to indemnify the several Underwriters against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933.

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NOTICE TO CANADIAN RESIDENTS

Resale Restrictions

The distribution of the Notes in Canada is being made only on a private placement basis exempt from the requirement that we prepare and file a prospectus with the securities regulatory authorities in each province where trades of Notes are made. Any resale of the Notes in Canada must be made under applicable securities laws which will vary depending on the relevant jurisdiction, and which may require resales to be made under available statutory exemptions or under a discretionary exemption granted by the applicable Canadian securities regulatory authority. Purchasers are advised to seek legal advice prior to any resale of the Notes.

Representations of Purchasers

By purchasing Notes in Canada and accepting a purchase confirmation a purchaser is representing to us and the dealer from whom the purchase confirmation is received that:

the purchaser is entitled under applicable provincial securities laws to purchase the Notes without the benefit of a prospectus qualified under those securities laws,

where required by law, that the purchaser is purchasing as principal and not as agent,

the purchaser has reviewed the text above under Resale Restrictions, and

the purchaser acknowledges and consents to the provision of specified information concerning its purchase of the Notes to the regulatory authority that by law is entitled to collect the information.

Further details concerning the legal authority for this information is available on request.

Rights of Action Ontario Purchasers Only

Under Ontario securities legislation, certain purchasers who purchase a security offered by this prospectus supplement during the period of distribution will have a statutory right of action for damages, or while still the owner of the Notes, for rescission against us in the event that this prospectus supplement contains a misrepresentation without regard to whether the purchaser relied on the misrepresentation. The right of action for damages is exercisable not later than the earlier of 180 days from the date the purchaser first had knowledge of the facts giving rise to the cause of action and three years from the date on which payment is made for the Notes. The right of action for rescission is exercisable not later than 180 days from the date on which payment is made for the Notes. If a purchaser elects to exercise the right of action for rescission, the purchaser will have no right of action for damages against us. In no case will the amount recoverable in any action exceed the price at which the Notes were offered to the purchaser and if the purchaser is shown to have purchased the securities with knowledge of the misrepresentation, we will have no liability. In the case of an action for damages, we will not be liable for all or any portion of the damages that are proven to not represent the depreciation in value of the Notes as a result of the misrepresentation relied upon. These rights are in addition to, and without derogation from, any other rights or remedies available at law to an Ontario purchaser. The foregoing is a summary of the rights available to an Ontario purchaser. Ontario purchasers should refer to the complete text of the relevant statutory provisions.

Enforcement of Legal Rights

All of our directors and officers as well as the experts named herein may be located outside of Canada and, as a result, it may not be possible for Canadian purchasers to effect service of process within Canada upon us or those persons. All or a substantial portion of our assets and the assets of those persons may be located outside of Canada and, as a result, it may not be possible to satisfy a

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judgment against us or those persons in Canada or to enforce a judgment obtained in Canadian courts against us or those persons outside of Canada.

Taxation and Eligibility for Investment

Canadian purchasers of Notes should consult their own legal and tax advisors with respect to the tax consequences of an investment in the Notes in their particular circumstances and about the eligibility of the Notes for investment by the purchaser under relevant Canadian legislation.

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LEGAL OPINIONS

The validity of the Notes offered hereby will be passed on for the Company by Thomas L. Sager, Esq., Senior Vice President and General Counsel of the Company, and for the Underwriters by Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP. Certain matters may be passed upon for the Company by Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP. Mr. Sager beneficially owned, as of March 21, 2011, 11,717 shares of the common stock of the Company, plus 72,240 shares of which he has the right to acquire beneficial ownership within 60 days of March 21, 2011 under the Company's equity-based compensation plans. Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP performs legal services for the Company from time to time.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting (which is included in Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting) incorporated in the accompanying prospectus by reference to the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010, have been so incorporated in reliance upon the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, given on their authority as experts in auditing and accounting.

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PROSPECTUS

E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company

Debt Securities

E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company may offer, issue and sell from time to time debt securities, which may be senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities.

We will provide the specific terms of these securities in supplements to this prospectus. We may describe the terms of these securities in a term sheet that will precede the prospectus supplement. You should read this prospectus and any prospectus supplement carefully before you make your investment decision.

This prospectus may not be used to sell securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

We may offer and sell these securities to or through one or more underwriters, dealers and agents or directly to purchasers on a continuous or delayed basis. The prospectus supplement for each offering of securities will describe in detail the plan of distribution for that offering. For general information about the distribution of securities offered, please see "Plan of Distribution" in this prospectus.

Investing in our securities involves risks. Before buying our securities, you should refer to the risk factors included in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K, our other periodic reports and in other information that we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. See "Risk Factors" on page 5.

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

The date of this prospectus is May 2, 2008.

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, using a "shelf" registration process. Using this process, we may, from time to time, offer to sell any combination of the securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings at an unspecified aggregate initial offering price. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we offer to sell securities, we will provide a supplement to this prospectus. The prospectus supplement will describe the specific terms of that offering, including the specific amounts, prices and terms of the securities offered. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change the information contained in this prospectus. Please carefully read this prospectus and the prospectus supplement, in addition to the information contained in the documents we refer you to under the headings "Where You Can Find More Information" and "Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference" appearing immediately below. If there is any inconsistency between the information in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information in the prospectus supplement.

In this prospectus and any prospectus supplement hereto, unless the context suggests otherwise, references to "our company," "the Company," "DuPont," "we," "us" and "our" mean E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You can read and copy any materials we file with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N. E., Washington, D. C. 20549. You can obtain information about the operation of the SEC's Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC also maintains a web site that contains information we file electronically with the SEC, which you can access over the internet at <http://www.sec.gov>. Our SEC filings are also available at our website at <http://www.dupont.com>. You can also obtain information about us at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

This prospectus is part of a registration statement we have filed with the SEC on Form S-3. As permitted by SEC rules, this prospectus does not contain all of the information we have included in the registration statement. You should also read the documents incorporated by reference to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part, as described immediately below under "Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference."

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to "incorporate by reference" into this prospectus documents that we file with the SEC, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered part of this prospectus. Any statement in this prospectus or incorporated by reference into this prospectus shall be automatically modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a statement contained herein or in a subsequently filed document that is incorporated by reference in this prospectus modifies or supersedes such prior statement. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus.

We incorporate by reference into this prospectus the documents listed below and all documents we subsequently file with the SEC (other than any portion of such filings that are furnished under applicable SEC rules rather than filed) pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act"), prior to the completion of the offering of all securities covered by the relevant prospectus supplement:

our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007, filed with the SEC on February 19, 2008, and Amendment No. 1 thereto, filed with the SEC on April 23, 2008;

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our quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2008, filed with the SEC on April 29, 2008; and

our current reports on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on January 9, 2008, February 5, 2008, March 11, 2008 and May 2, 2008.

You may request a copy of these filings (other than an exhibit to these filings unless we have specifically incorporated that exhibit by reference into the filing), at no cost, by writing or telephoning us at the following address:

DuPont Company
1007 Market Street
Wilmington, DE 19898
Attention: Treasury
Telephone: (302) 774-1000

You should rely only on the information contained in, or incorporated by reference into, this prospectus, any prospectus supplement or any incorporated document. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different or additional information. We are not offering to sell or soliciting any offer to buy any securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale thereof is not permitted. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement or in any document incorporated by reference herein is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front cover of the applicable document.

FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

This prospectus and the information incorporated herein by reference contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 21E of the Exchange Act and Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 (the "Securities Act"), which may be identified by their use of words like "plans," "expects," "will," "anticipates," "intends," "projects," "estimates" or other words of similar meaning. All statements that address expectations or projections about the future, including statements about our strategy for growth, product development, market position, expenditures, and financial results, are forward-looking statements.

Forward-looking statements are based on certain assumptions and expectations of future events. We cannot guarantee that these assumptions and expectations are accurate or will be realized. In addition, the following are some of the important factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those projected in any forward-looking statements:

Price increases for energy and raw materials could have a significant impact on our ability to sustain and grow earnings.

Failure to develop and market new products could impact our competitive position and have an adverse effect on our financial results.

Our results of operations could be adversely affected by litigation and other commitments and contingencies.

As a result of our current and past operations, including operations related to divested businesses, we could incur significant environmental liabilities.

Our ability to generate sales from genetically enhanced products, particularly seeds and other agricultural products, could be adversely affected by market acceptance, government policies, rules or regulations and competition.

Changes in government policies and laws could adversely affect our financial results.

Economic factors, including inflation and fluctuations in currency exchange rates, interest rates and commodity prices could affect our financial results.

Business disruptions could seriously impact our future revenue and financial condition and increase costs and expenses.

Inability to protect and enforce our intellectual property rights could adversely affect our financial results.

The foregoing list of important factors is not inclusive, or necessarily in order of importance. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or that we currently believe to be immaterial also could affect our businesses.

ABOUT DUPONT

We were founded in 1802 and incorporated in Delaware in 1915. We have been in continuous operation for over 200 years. Our principal offices are at 1007 Market Street in Wilmington, Delaware.

We are a world leader in science and technology in a range of disciplines including biotechnology, electronics, materials science, safety and security, and synthetic fibers. We operate globally, manufacturing a wide range of products for distribution and sale to many different markets, including the transportation, safety and protection, construction, motor vehicle, agriculture, home furnishings, medical, electronics, communications, protective apparel, and the nutrition and health markets.

We are strategically aligned into five market- and technology-focused growth platforms consisting of Agriculture & Nutrition, Coatings & Color Technologies, Electronic & Communication Technologies, Performance Materials, and Safety & Protection. In addition to the five growth platforms, our reportable segments include Pharmaceuticals, which represents our retained interest in Cozaar®/ Hyzaar® drugs. We include embryonic businesses not included in the growth platforms, such as applied biosciences and nonaligned businesses in Other.

RISK FACTORS

Before you invest in any of our securities, in addition to the other information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement, you should carefully consider the risk factors under the heading "Risk Factors" contained in Part I, Item 1A in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007, which are incorporated herein by reference. These risk factors may be amended, supplemented or superseded from time to time by risk factors contained in other Exchange Act reports that we file with the SEC, which will be subsequently incorporated by reference herein; by any prospectus supplement accompanying this prospectus; or by a post-effective amendment to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part. In addition, new risks may emerge at any time and we cannot predict such risks or estimate the extent to which they may affect our financial performance. See "Incorporation Of Certain Documents By Reference" and "Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements."

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless we inform you otherwise in a prospectus supplement, we will use the net proceeds from the sale of the offered securities for general corporate purposes. These purposes may include repayment and refinancing of debt, acquisitions, working capital, capital expenditures and repurchases and redemptions of securities. Pending any specific application, we may initially invest funds in short-term marketable securities or apply them to the reduction of short-term indebtedness.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

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

| | Three Months | Years Ended December 31, | | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| | Ended March 31, 2008 | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 | 2003 |
| Ratio of earnings to fixed charges | 13.2 | 7.8 | 6.6 | 6.7 | 5.0 | 2.3 |

For purposes of calculating the ratio of earnings to fixed charges, (i) "earnings" represent the sum of income before cumulative effect of changes in accounting principles, provision for (benefit from) income taxes, minority interests in earnings (losses) of consolidated subsidiaries, adjustment for companies accounted for by the equity method, capitalized interest and amortization of capitalized interest plus fixed charges, and (ii) "fixed charges" represent the sum of interest and debt expense, capitalized interest and rental expense representative of interest factor. The ratio is based solely on historical financial information.

DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

We will issue the debt securities under one of two indentures:

an indenture dated as of June 1, 1992 between us and Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas (formerly Bankers Trust Company), as trustee; or

an indenture dated as of June 1, 1992 between us and The Bank of New York Trust Company, N.A., successor to The Chase Manhattan Bank and Chemical Bank, as trustee.

Each indenture is incorporated into or filed as an exhibit to the registration statement, of which this prospectus is a part. The trustee will be designated in the prospectus supplement for each offering of debt securities. All references to the "trustee" mean the trustee identified in the prospectus supplement. The following summaries of certain provisions of the indentures are not complete. We encourage you to read the indentures.

General

The indentures do not limit the amount of debt securities that we may issue. Each provides that debt securities may be issued up to the aggregate principal amount that we authorize from time to time. The debt securities will be unsecured and will rank on a parity with all of our other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness.

The prospectus supplement relating to a series of debt securities will describe the terms of that series, including, where applicable:

the designation, aggregate principal amount, currency or currencies and denominations of the debt securities;

whether the debt securities may be convertible into or exchangeable for other securities;

the price or prices, expressed as a percentage of aggregate principal amount, at which the debt securities will be issued;

the date or dates on which the debt securities will mature;

the currency or currencies in which the debt securities are being sold and in which the principal of and any interest on the debt securities will be payable and whether the holder of the debt

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securities may elect the currency in which payments are to be made, and, if so, the manner of such election;

the rate or rates, which may be fixed or variable, at which the debt securities will bear interest, if any;

the date from which interest on the debt securities will accrue, the dates on which interest will be payable and the date on which payment of interest will commence;

the dates on which and the price or prices at which the debt securities will, under any mandatory sinking fund provision, or may, under any optional redemption or required repayment provisions, be redeemed or repaid and the other terms and provisions of any mandatory sinking fund, optional redemption or required repayment;

whether the debt securities are to be issuable as registered securities, bearer securities or both and the terms upon which any bearer securities of a series may be exchanged for registered securities of that series;

whether the debt securities are to be issued in whole or in part in the form of one or more global securities and, if so, the identity of the depositary or depositaries for the global security or securities;

any special provisions for the payment of additional amounts on the debt securities;

if a temporary global security is to be issued for a series, the requirements for certification of ownership by non-United States persons that will apply before (a) the issuance of a definitive bearer security or (b) the payment of interest on an interest payment date that occurs before the issuance of a definitive bearer security;

if a temporary global security is to be issued with respect to the series, the terms upon which interests in the temporary global security may be exchanged for interests in a definitive global security or for definitive debt securities of the series and the terms upon which interests in a definitive global security, if any, may be exchanged for definitive debt securities of the series;

any additions, modifications or deletions to the restrictive covenants included for the benefit of holders of the debt securities;

any additions, modifications or deletions to the events of default provided with respect to the debt securities;

if the debt securities of the series are subject to defeasance at our option, the provisions, federal income tax consequences and other considerations applicable thereto;

the designated trustee for the debt securities; and

any other terms of the debt securities not inconsistent with the provisions of the applicable indenture. (Section 301)

Debt securities of a series may be issuable in whole or in part in the form of one or more global securities, as described below under "Global Securities". Registered securities denominated in U.S. dollars will ordinarily be issued only in denominations of \$1,000 or any integral multiple of \$1,000. (Section 302) One or more global securities will be issued in a denomination or aggregate denominations equal to the aggregate principal amount of outstanding debt securities of the series. (Section 303) The prospectus supplement relating to a series of debt securities denominated in a foreign or composite currency will specify the allowable denominations and any special U.S. federal income tax and other considerations. No service charge will be made for any tender or exchange of debt securities but we may require payment of a sum

sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge. (Section 305)

Debt securities may be presented for exchange, and registered securities that are not in global form may be presented for transfer, with the form of transfer endorsed thereon duly executed, at the office of any transfer agent or at the office of the security registrar, without service charge and upon payment of any taxes and other governmental charges as described in the indenture. Transfers or exchanges will be effected once the transfer agent or the security registrar, as the case may be, is satisfied with the documents of title and identity of the person making the request. (Section 305)

Debt securities may be issued under the indenture as original issue discount securities to be offered and sold at a substantial discount below their stated principal amount. "Original issue discount securities" means any debt securities that provide for an amount less than their principal amount to be due and payable upon a declaration of acceleration of maturity upon the occurrence and continuation of an event of default and any debt securities issued with original issue discount for U.S. federal income tax purposes. (Section 101) A prospectus supplement will describe U.S. federal income tax consequences and other special considerations applicable to any original issue discount securities.

Global Securities

The debt securities of a series may be issued in whole or in part in the form of one or more global securities that will be deposited with, or on behalf of, a depositary identified in the prospectus supplement relating to that series. Global securities may be issued in either registered or bearer form and in either temporary or definitive form. Unless and until it is exchanged in whole or in part for debt securities in definitive form, a global security may not be transferred except as a whole by the depositary to a nominee of the depositary or by a nominee of the depositary to the depositary or another nominee of the depositary or by the depositary or any nominee to a successor of the depositary or a nominee of that successor. (Sections 303 and 305)

The specific terms of the depositary arrangement with respect to any debt securities of a series will be described in the prospectus supplement relating to that series. We anticipate that the following provisions will apply to all depositary arrangements.

Upon the issuance of a global security, the depositary will credit, on its book-entry registration and transfer system, the respective principal amounts of the debt securities represented by the global security to the accounts of "participants" that have accounts with the depositary. The accounts to be credited shall be designated by the underwriters of debt securities, by certain of our agents or by us if we sell debt securities directly. Ownership of beneficial interests in a global security will be limited to participants or persons that may hold interests through participants. Ownership of beneficial interests in a global security will be shown on, and the transfer of that ownership will be effected only through, records maintained by the depositary or by participants or persons that hold through participants. The laws of some states require that certain purchasers of securities take physical delivery of securities in definitive form. These limits and laws may impair the ability to transfer beneficial interests in a global security.

So long as the depositary or its nominee is the owner of a global security, the depositary or its nominee, as the case may be, will be considered the sole owner or holder of the debt securities represented by that global security for all purposes under the indenture. Except as set forth below, owners of beneficial interests in a global security will not be entitled to have debt securities of the series represented by that global security registered in their names, will not receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of debt securities in definitive form and will not be considered the owners or holders of the debt securities under the indenture governing the debt securities. Accordingly, each person owning a beneficial interest in a global security must rely on the procedures of the depositary and, if such person is not a participant, on the procedures of the participant and, if applicable, the indirect participant, through which such person owns its interest, to exercise any right of a holder under the indenture.

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Principal, premium, if any, and interest payments on debt securities registered in the name of or held by a depositary or its nominee will be made to the depositary or its nominee, as the case may be, as the registered owner or the holder of the global security representing those debt securities. Neither we, the trustee, any paying agent nor the security registrar will have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the records relating to or payments made on account of beneficial ownership interests in a global security or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to beneficial ownership interests. (Section 308)

We expect that the depositary for debt securities of a series, upon receipt of any payment of principal, premium or interest in respect of a definitive global security, will credit immediately participants' accounts with payments in amounts proportionate to their respective beneficial interests in the principal amount of the global security as shown on the records of the depositary. We also expect that payments by participants to owners of beneficial interests in a global security held through those participants will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is now the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name", and will be the responsibility of those participants.

If a depositary for debt securities of a series is at any time unwilling or unable to continue as depositary and we do not appoint a successor depositary within 90 days, we will issue debt securities of that series in definitive form in exchange for the global security or securities representing the debt securities of that series. In addition, we may at any time and in our sole discretion determine not to have any debt securities of a series represented by one or more global securities. In that event, we will issue debt securities of that series in definitive form in exchange for the global security or securities representing those debt securities. An owner of a beneficial interest in a global security representing debt securities of a series may, on terms acceptable to us and the depositary for such global security, receive debt securities of that series in definitive form. In any of these instances, an owner of a beneficial interest in a global security will be entitled to physical delivery in definitive form of debt securities of the series represented by that global security equal in principal amount to that beneficial interest and to have debt securities registered in its name if the debt securities of that series are issuable as registered securities. Debt securities of that series issued in definitive form will be issued only in authorized denominations. (Section 305)

Payment and Paying Agents

Payment of principal of and any premium on registered securities will be made in the designated currency against surrender of any registered securities at the corporate trust office of the trustee in New York City. Payment of any installment of interest on registered securities will ordinarily be made to the person in whose name the debt security is registered at the close of business on the regular record date for that interest payment. Payments of interest will be made, at our option, by a check in the designated currency mailed to each holder at the holder's registered address or by wire transfer to an account designated by the holder pursuant to an arrangement that is satisfactory to the trustee and us. (Sections 307 and 1001)

The paying agents outside the United States that we initially appoint for a series of debt securities will be named in the prospectus supplement. We may terminate the appointment of any of the paying agents from time to time, except that we will maintain at least one paying agent in New York City for payments on registered securities. So long as any series of debt securities is listed on The International Stock Exchange of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland Limited or the Luxembourg Stock Exchange or any other stock exchange located outside the United States and it is a requirement of that stock exchange, we will maintain a paying agent in London or Luxembourg or any other required city located outside the United States, as the case may be, for that series of debt securities. (Section 1002)

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All moneys that we pay to a paying agent for the payment of principal of or any premium, or interest on any debt security that remains unclaimed at the end of two years after it became due and payable will be repaid to us and the holder of that debt security will thereafter look only to us for payment. (Section 1003)

Certain Covenants

Liens. We covenant that, so long as any of the debt securities remain outstanding, we will not, nor will we permit any Restricted Subsidiary (as defined below, in "Definition of Certain Terms") to issue, assume, or guarantee any debt for money borrowed if that debt is secured by a mortgage on any Principal Property (as defined), or on any shares of stock or indebtedness of any Restricted Subsidiary (whether the Principal Property, shares of stock, or indebtedness are now owned or hereafter acquired) without in any such case effectively providing that the debt securities shall be secured equally and ratably with such debt. This restriction, however, shall not apply to:

mortgages on property, shares of stock, or indebtedness of any corporation existing at the time such corporation becomes a Restricted Subsidiary;

mortgages on property existing at the time that it is acquired, or to secure debt incurred for the purpose of financing the purchase price of such property or improvements or construction on the property, which debt is incurred prior to, at the time of or within one year after such acquisition, completion of such construction, or the commencement of commercial operation of such property thereon;

mortgages securing debt owing by any Restricted Subsidiary to us or another Restricted Subsidiary;

mortgages on property of a corporation existing at the time that corporation is merged into or consolidated with us or a Restricted Subsidiary or at the time of a sale, lease or other disposition of the properties of a corporation as an entirety or substantially as an entirety to us or a Restricted Subsidiary;

mortgages on property of us or a Restricted Subsidiary in favor of the United States of America or any State thereof, or any department, agency or instrumentality or political subdivision of the United States of America or any State thereof, or in favor of any other country, or any political subdivision thereof, to secure certain payments pursuant to any contract or statute or to secure any indebtedness incurred for the purpose of financing all or any part of the purchase price or the cost of construction of the property subject to such mortgages, including without limitation mortgages incurred in connection with pollution control, industrial revenue or similar financings;

mortgages existing at the date of the indenture;

mortgages on particular property, or any proceeds of the sale of that property, to secure all or any part of the cost of exploration, drilling, mining or development of that property, including construction of facilities for field processing of minerals, intended to obtain or materially increase the production and sale or other disposition of oil, gas, coal, uranium, copper or other minerals of that property, or any indebtedness created, issued, assumed or guaranteed to provide funds for any or all such purposes; or

any extension, renewal or replacement or successive extensions, renewals or replacements, in whole or in part, of any mortgage referred to in the clauses immediately above.

Notwithstanding the above, we and one or more of our Restricted Subsidiaries may, without securing the debt securities issued under this prospectus, issue, assume, or guarantee debt secured by mortgages which would otherwise be subject to the above restrictions, provided that the aggregate amount of that debt that would then be outstanding, with certain exceptions, does not at any one time

exceed 10% of the Consolidated Net Tangible Assets (as defined) of us and our consolidated subsidiaries. (Section 1004)

For the purposes of this covenant, the following types of transactions shall not be deemed to create debt secured by a mortgage: the sale or other transfer of

oil, gas, coal, uranium, copper or other minerals in place for a period of time until, or in an amount such that, the purchaser will realize therefrom a specified amount of money (however determined) or a specified amount of such minerals; or

any other interest in property of the character commonly referred to as a "production payment". (Section 1004)

Sale and Leaseback Transactions. Sale and leaseback transactions by us or any Restricted Subsidiary of any Principal Property are prohibited unless (a) we or such Restricted Subsidiary would be entitled to issue, assume, or guarantee debt secured by a mortgage upon the property involved at least equal in amount to the Attributable Debt (as defined) for that transaction without equally and ratably securing the debt securities or (b) an amount in cash equal to the Attributable Debt for that transaction is applied to the retirement of our nonsubordinated debt or debt of a Restricted Subsidiary, which by its terms matures at or is extendible or renewable at the option of the obligor to a date more than twelve months after its creation. (Section 1005)

Consolidation or Merger. We will not consolidate or merge with or dispose of all or substantially all of our property to any corporation unless the surviving corporation, if other than us, shall assume our obligations under the indenture and under the debt securities. (Section 801) If on any consolidation or merger of us or any Restricted Subsidiary with or into any other corporation, or on any sale, conveyance, or lease of substantially all our or a Restricted Subsidiary's properties, any Principal Property or any shares of stock or indebtedness of any Restricted Subsidiary would then become subject to any mortgage, pledge, lien or encumbrance, we, prior to such event, will secure the debt securities by a direct lien on that Principal Property, shares of stock or indebtedness, prior to all liens other than any previously existing. (Section 802)

Except for the limitations on secured debt and sale and leaseback transactions described above, the indenture and debt securities do not contain any covenants or other provisions designed to afford holders of the debt securities protection in the event of a highly leveraged transaction involving us.

Definition of Certain Terms

"Subsidiary" is defined to mean any corporation which is consolidated in our accounts and any corporation of which at least a majority of the outstanding stock having voting power under ordinary circumstances to elect a majority of the board of directors of that corporation shall at the time be owned or controlled by us, or by us and one or more Subsidiaries, or by one or more Subsidiaries. (Section 101)

"Restricted Subsidiary" is defined to mean any wholly-owned subsidiary

substantially all the property of which is located within the continental United States of America,

which owns a Principal Property, and

in which our investment exceeds 1% of our consolidated assets as of the end of the preceding year.

The term "Restricted Subsidiary" does not include any wholly-owned subsidiary which is principally engaged in leasing or in financing installment receivables or which is principally engaged in financing our operations outside the continental United States. (Section 101)

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"Principal Property" is defined as any manufacturing plant or facility or any mineral producing property or any research facility located within the continental United States owned by us or any Restricted Subsidiary, unless, in the opinion of our Board of Directors, such plant, facility, property or research facility is not of material importance to the total business conducted by us and our Restricted Subsidiaries. (Section 101)

"Attributable Debt" is defined as the present value, discounted as provided in the indenture, of the obligation of a lessee for rental payments during the remaining term of any lease. (Section 1005)

"Consolidated Net Tangible Assets" means the total amount of assets less applicable reserves and other properly deductible items after deducting (a) all current liabilities excluding any thereof which are by their terms extendible or renewable at the option of the obligor thereon to a time more than 12 months after the time as of which the amount thereof is being computed, and (b) all goodwill, trade names, trademarks, patents, purchased technology, unamortized debt discount and other like intangible assets, all as set forth on our most recent quarterly balance sheet and computed in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. (Section 101)

Modification of the Indenture

The indenture permits us and the trustee, with the consent of the holders of not less than a majority in principal amount of the debt securities at the time outstanding and affected, to execute a supplemental indenture modifying the indenture or the rights of the holders of debt securities and any related coupons. No modification shall, without the consent of the holder of each debt security affected thereby,

change the maturity of any debt security or coupon, or reduce its principal amount, or reduce the rate or change the time of payment of interest, or change any place of payment or change the coin or currency in which a debt security or coupon is payable or impair the right of any holder to institute suit for the enforcement of payment in accordance with the foregoing, or

reduce the percentage of debt securities, the consent of the holders of which is required for any modification. (Section 902)

The indenture contains provisions for convening meetings of the holders of debt securities of a series. (Section 1401) A meeting may be called at any time by the trustee or upon our request or the request of holders of at least 10% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of the series, upon notice given in accordance with the indenture. (Section 1402) Except as limited in the preceding paragraph, any resolution presented at a meeting or adjourned meeting at which a quorum is present may be adopted by the affirmative vote of the holders of not less than a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series. Except as limited in the preceding paragraph, any resolution with respect to any demand, consent, waiver or other action that may be made, given or taken by the holders of a specified percentage, which is less than a majority in principal amount of outstanding debt securities of a series, may be adopted at a meeting or adjourned meeting at which a quorum is present by the affirmative vote of the holders of such specified percentage in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series. (Section 1404)

Any resolution passed or decision taken at any meeting of holders of debt securities of any series duly held in accordance with the indenture will be binding on all holders of debt securities of that series and the related coupons. The quorum at any meeting called to adopt a resolution, and at any reconvened meeting, will be persons holding or representing not less than a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of a series. (Section 1404)

Events of Default

The indenture defines an event of default with respect to any series of debt securities as any one of the following events and any other event that is established for the debt securities of a particular series:

default for 30 days in any payment of interest on the series;

default in any payment of principal and premium, if any, on the series;

default in the payment of any sinking fund installment;

default for 60 days after appropriate notice in performance of any other covenant in the indenture; or

certain events involving bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization.

No event of default with respect to a particular series of debt securities issued under the indenture necessarily constitutes an event of default with respect to any other series of debt securities. (Section 501).

We are required to file with the trustee annually an officer's certificate indicating whether we are in default under the indenture. (Section 1008)

The indenture provides that if an event of default shall occur and be continuing with respect to any series of debt securities, either the trustee or the holders of 25% in principal amount of the debt securities of the series (in the case of defaults under the final two clauses listed above, the holders of 25% in principal amount of all the debt securities) then outstanding may declare the principal, or in the case of original issue discount securities, that portion of the principal amount as may be specified, of the debt securities of the series or of all the debt securities, as the case may be, to be due and payable immediately. (Section 502) In certain cases, the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series, or in the case of defaults under the final two clauses listed above, the holders of a majority in principal amount of all the debt securities may on behalf of the holders of all the debt securities of any such series or of all the debt securities, as the case may be, waive any past default or event of default except a default not previously cured in payment of the principal or of premium, if any, or interest on any of the debt securities of such series or of all the debt securities. (Section 513)

The indenture contains a provision entitling the trustee, subject to the duty of the trustee during default to act with the required standard of care, to be indemnified by the holders of the debt securities of any series before exercising any right or power under the indenture at the request of the holders. (Section 603) The indenture provides that no holder of any debt securities of any series may institute any proceeding, judicial or otherwise, to enforce the indenture except, among other things, where the trustee has, for 60 days after it is given notice of default, failed to act, and where there has been both a request to enforce the indenture by the holders of not less than 25% in aggregate principal amount of the then outstanding debt securities of that series and an offer of reasonable indemnity to the trustee. (Section 507) This provision will not prevent any holder of debt securities from enforcing payment of the principal thereof and premium, if any, and interest thereon at their due dates. (Section 508) The holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of any series then outstanding may direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceedings for any remedy available to the trustee or exercising any trust or power conferred on it for the debt securities of that series. However, the trustee may refuse to follow any direction that conflicts with law or the indenture or which would be unjustly prejudicial to the other holders. (Section 512)

The indenture provides that the trustee will, within 90 days after the occurrence of a default on any series of debt securities known to it, give to the holders of that series notice of the default if not

cured or waived. Except in the case of a default in the payment of principal of, any premium, or interest on, any debt securities, the trustee shall be protected in withholding such notice if it determines in good faith that doing so is in the holders' interests. (Section 602)

Discharge and Defeasance

The indenture provides that we may specify that, for debt securities of a certain series, we will be discharged from any and all obligations regarding those debt securities if we irrevocably deposit with the trustee, in trust, money and/or U. S. government obligations which through the payment of interest and principal will provide enough money to pay any installment of principal, any premium, and, any interest, and any mandatory sinking fund payments of such debt securities on their stated maturity in accordance with the terms of the indenture and the debt securities. A trust may only be established if it would not cause the debt securities of a series listed on any nationally recognized securities exchange to be de-listed. Establishment of a trust may be conditioned on our delivery to the trustee of an opinion of counsel, who may be our counsel, to the effect that, based upon applicable U. S. federal income tax law or a ruling published by the United States Internal Revenue Service, a defeasance and discharge will not be deemed, or result in, a taxable event to holders of the debt securities. (Section 1301) Defeasance, however, will not end our obligations to register the transfer or exchange of debt securities, to replace stolen, lost or mutilated debt securities, to maintain paying agencies and hold monies for payment in trust and, if so specified for debt securities of a certain series, to pay the principal of and premium, if any, and interest, if any, on those debt securities.

Trustees' Relationship with Issuer

The Bank of New York Trust Company, N. A. acts as trustee for our Medium-Term Notes Series G and 4.125% Notes Due 2013.

Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas acts as depository for our funds and performs other services for us in the normal course of business. It also acts as trustee for our 6.875% Notes Due 2009, 4.125% Notes Due 2010, 4.75% Notes Due 2012, 5.0% Notes Due 2013, 4.875% Notes Due 2014, 5.25% Notes Due 2016, 6.50% Debentures Due 2028 and 5.60% Notes Due 2036.

UNITED STATES FEDERAL TAXATION

The following summary describes the material United States federal income and certain estate tax consequences of ownership and disposition of the debt securities. This summary provides general information only and is directed solely to original beneficial owners purchasing debt securities at the "issue price," that is, the first price at which a substantial amount of debt securities is sold to the public (excluding sales to bond houses, brokers or similar persons or organizations acting in the capacity of underwriters, placement agents or wholesalers). This summary is based on the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended to the date hereof (the "Code"), existing administrative pronouncements and judicial decisions, existing and proposed Treasury Regulations currently in effect, and interpretations of the foregoing, changes to any of which subsequent to the date of this prospectus may affect the tax consequences described herein, possibly with retroactive effect. This summary deals only with debt securities held as capital assets within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Code. This summary does not discuss all of the tax consequences that may be relevant to a beneficial owner in light of his particular circumstances or to beneficial owners subject to special rules, such as certain financial institutions, insurance companies, dealers in securities, persons holding debt securities in connection with a hedging transaction, "straddle," conversion transaction or other integrated transaction or persons who have ceased to be United States citizens or to be taxed as resident aliens. Persons considering the purchase of debt securities should consult their own tax advisors with regard to the application of the United States federal income and estate tax laws to their particular situations, as well as any tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, local or foreign taxing jurisdiction.

Tax Consequences to United States Persons

For purposes of the following discussion, "United States person" means a beneficial owner of the debt securities that is, for United States federal income tax purposes, (i) a citizen or resident of the United States, (ii) a corporation or other entity treated as a corporation for United States federal income tax purposes created or organized in or under the laws of the United States, any State 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 (A) if a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of the trust and one or more United States persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust or (B) that has made a valid election to be treated as a U. S. person for U. S. federal income tax purposes. Partnerships are subject to special tax rules and should contact their own tax advisors.

Payments of Interest

Interest on the debt securities will generally be taxable to a United States person as ordinary interest income at the time it is accrued or is received in accordance with the United States person's method of accounting for tax purposes.

Sale, Exchange or Retirement of the Debt Securities

Upon the sale, exchange or retirement of the debt securities, a United States person will recognize taxable gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized on the sale, exchange or retirement and the United States person's adjusted tax basis in the debt securities. For these purposes, the amount realized does not include any amount attributable to accrued but unpaid interest on the debt securities. Amounts attributable to accrued but unpaid interest are treated as interest as described under "Payments of Interest" above. A United States person's adjusted tax basis in the debt securities generally will equal the cost of the debt securities to the United States person.

In general, gain or loss realized on the sale, exchange or redemption of the debt securities will be capital gain or loss. Prospective investors should consult their own tax advisors regarding the treatment of capital gains (which may be taxed at lower rates than ordinary income for taxpayers who are individuals, trusts or estates) and losses (the deductibility of which is subject to limitations).

Backup Withholding and Information Reporting

Backup withholding and information reporting requirements may apply to certain payments of principal, premium and interest on the debt securities, and to payments of proceeds of the sale or redemption of the debt securities, to certain non-corporate United States persons. We, our agent, a broker, or any paying agent, as the case may be, will be required to withhold from any payment a tax at a rate currently equal to 28 percent of such payment if the United States person fails to furnish or certify its correct taxpayer identification number to the payor in the manner required, fails to certify that such United States person is not subject to backup withholding, or otherwise fails to comply with the applicable requirements of the backup withholding rules. Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules from a payment to a United States person may be credited against such United States person's United States federal income tax and may entitle such United States person to a refund, provided that the required information is furnished to the Internal Revenue Service.

Tax Consequences to Non-United States Persons

As used herein, the term "non-United States person" means a beneficial owner of the debt securities that is not a United States person.

Income and Withholding Tax

Subject to the discussion of backup withholding below:

(a) Payments of principal and interest on the debt securities that is beneficially owned by a non-United States person will not be subject to United States federal withholding tax; provided, that in the case of interest, (1)(i) the beneficial owner does not actually or constructively own 10% or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of our stock entitled to vote, (ii) the beneficial owner is not a controlled foreign corporation that is related, directly or indirectly, to us through stock ownership, (iii) the beneficial owner of the debt securities is not a bank whose receipt of interest is described in Section 881(c)(3)(A) of the Code; and (iv) either (A) the beneficial owner of the debt securities provides an IRS Form W-8 BEN (or successor form) certifying to the person otherwise required to withhold United States federal income tax from such interest, under penalties of perjury, that it is not a United States person and provides its name and address or (B) a securities clearing organization, bank or other financial institution that holds customers' securities in the ordinary course of its trade or business (a "financial institution") and holds an interest in the debt securities certifies to the person otherwise required to withhold United States federal income tax from such interest, under penalties of perjury, that such statement has been received from the beneficial owner by it or by a financial institution between it and the beneficial owner and furnishes the payor with a copy thereof; (2) the beneficial owner is entitled to the benefits of an income tax treaty under which the interest is exempt from United States federal withholding tax and the beneficial owner of the debt securities or such owner's agent provides an IRS Form W-8 BEN (or successor form) claiming the exemption; or (3) the beneficial owner conducts a trade or business in the United States to which the interest is effectively connected and the beneficial owner of the debt securities or such owner's agent provides an IRS Form W-8 ECI (or successor form) provided that in each such case, the relevant certification or IRS Form is delivered pursuant to applicable procedures and is properly transmitted to the person otherwise required to withhold United States federal income tax, and none of the persons receiving the relevant certification or IRS Form has actual knowledge that the certification or any statement on the IRS Form is false. The Forms W-8 ECI and W-8 BEN must be periodically updated.

(b) A non-United States person will not be subject to United States federal withholding tax on any gain realized on the sale, exchange or other disposition of the debt securities unless the gain is effectively connected with the beneficial owner's trade or business in the United States or, in the case of an individual, the beneficial owner is present in the United States for 183 days or more in the taxable year in which the sale, exchange or other disposition occurs and certain other conditions are met, or the non-United States person is subject to U. S. tax under provisions applicable to certain U. S. expatriates.

(c) The debt securities owned by an individual who at the time of death is not, for United States estate tax purposes, a citizen or resident of the United States generally will not be subject to United States federal estate tax as a result of such individual's death if the individual does not actually or constructively own 10% or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of our stock entitled to vote and, at the time of such individual's death the income on the debt securities would not have been effectively connected with a United States trade or business of the individual.

If a non-United States person owning the debt securities is engaged in a trade or business in the United States, and if interest on the debt securities (or gain realized on its sale, exchange or other disposition) is effectively connected with the conduct of such trade or business, such owner, although exempt from the withholding tax discussed in the preceding paragraphs, will generally be subject to regular United States income tax on such effectively connected income in the same manner as if it were a United States person. In addition, if such owner is a foreign corporation, it may be subject to a 30% branch profits tax (unless reduced or eliminated by an applicable treaty) of its effectively connected earnings and profits for the taxable year, subject to certain adjustments. For purposes of the

branch profits tax, interest on, and any gain recognized on the sale, exchange or other disposition of, the debt securities will be included in the effectively connected earnings and profits of such owner if such interest or gain, as the case may be, is effectively connected with the conduct by such owner of a trade or business in the United States.

Each owner of the debt securities should be aware that if it does not properly provide the required IRS form, or if the IRS form (or, if permissible, a copy of such form) is not properly transmitted to and received by the United States person otherwise required to withhold United States federal income tax, interest on the debt securities may be subject to United States withholding tax at a 30% rate or a lower applicable treaty rate. Such tax, however, may in certain circumstances be allowed as a refund or as a credit against such owner's United States federal income tax. The foregoing does not deal with all aspects of federal income tax withholding that may be relevant to foreign owners of the debt securities. Investors are advised to consult their own tax advisors for specific advice concerning the ownership and disposition of debt securities.

Backup Withholding and Information Reporting

Under current Treasury Regulations, backup withholding (imposed at a rate currently equal to 28 percent) will not apply to payments made by us or a paying agent to an owner in respect of the debt securities if the certifications described above are received, provided in each case that we or the paying agent, as the case may be, does not have actual knowledge that the payee is a United States person.

Backup withholding is not a separate tax, but is allowed as a refund or credit against the owner's United States federal income tax, provided the necessary information is furnished to the Internal Revenue Service.

Interest on the debt securities that is beneficially owned by a non-United States person will be reported annually on IRS Form 1042S, which must be filed with the Internal Revenue Service and furnished to such beneficial owner.

The United States federal income tax discussion set forth above is included for general information only and may not be applicable depending upon an owner's particular situation. Owners should consult their own tax advisors with respect to the tax consequences to them of the ownership and disposition of the debt securities, including the tax consequences under state, local, foreign and other tax laws and the possible effects of changes in federal or other tax laws.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the debt securities in and outside the United States (a) through underwriters or dealers, (b) directly to purchasers or (c) through agents. The prospectus supplement will include the following information:

the terms of the offering

the names of any underwriters or agents

the purchase price from us of the securities

the net proceeds to us from the sale of the securities

any delayed delivery arrangements

any underwriting discounts and other items constituting underwriters' compensation

any initial public offering price

any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers

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If we use underwriters in the sale, the underwriters will acquire the debt securities for their own account. The underwriters may resell the securities 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 offer securities to the public either through underwriting syndicates represented by one or more managing underwriters or directly by one or more firms acting as underwriters. Unless we inform you otherwise in the prospectus supplement, the obligations of the underwriters to purchase the securities will be subject to certain conditions, and the underwriters will be obligated to purchase all the offered securities if they purchase any of them. The underwriters may change from time to time any initial public offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or re-allowed or paid to dealers.

During and after an offering through underwriters, the underwriters may purchase and sell the securities in the open market. These transactions may include over-allotment and stabilizing transactions and purchases to cover syndicate short positions created in connection with the offering. The underwriters may also impose a penalty bid, whereby selling concessions allowed to syndicate members or other broker-dealers for the offered securities sold for their account may be reclaimed by the syndicate if those offered securities are repurchased by the syndicate in stabilizing or covering transactions. These activities may stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the market price of the offered securities, which may be higher than the price that might otherwise prevail in the open market. If commenced, these activities may be discontinued at any time.

If we use dealers in the sale of securities, we will sell the securities to them as principals. They may then resell those securities to the public at varying prices determined by the dealers at the time of resale. We will include in the prospectus supplement the names of the dealers and the terms of the transaction.

We may sell the securities directly. In that case, no underwriters or agents would be involved. We may also sell the securities through agents we designate from time to time. In the prospectus supplement, we will name any agent involved in the offer or sale of the offered securities, and we will describe any commissions payable by us to the agent. Unless we inform you otherwise in the prospectus supplement, any agent will agree to use its reasonable best efforts to solicit purchases for the period of its appointment.

We may sell the securities directly to institutional investors or others who may be deemed to be underwriters within the meaning of the Securities Act with respect to any sale of those securities. We will describe the terms of any such sales in the prospectus supplement.

If we so indicate in the prospectus supplement, we may authorize agents, underwriters or dealers to solicit offers from certain types of institutions to purchase securities from us at the public offering price under delayed delivery contracts. These contracts would provide for payment and delivery on a specified date in the future. The contracts would be subject only to those conditions described in the prospectus supplement. The prospectus supplement will describe the commission payable for solicitation of those contracts.

We may have agreements with the agents, dealers and underwriters to indemnify them against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribute to payments that the agents, dealers or underwriters may be required to make. Agents, dealers and underwriters may be customers of, engage in transactions with or perform services for us in the ordinary course of their businesses.

LEGAL OPINION

Stacey J. Mobley, our General Counsel, or another of our lawyers, will issue an opinion about the legality of the offered securities for us. Any underwriters will be advised about other issues relating to any offering by their own legal counsel.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements incorporated in this prospectus by reference to the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007 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.

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