

ChinaNet Online Holdings, Inc.
Form 424B5
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No. 333-207466

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT
(To prospectus dated October 16, 2015)

2,150,001 Shares of Common Stock
Warrants to Purchase up to 645,000 Shares of Common Stock

ChinaNet Online Holdings, Inc.

Common Stock
Warrants

We are offering to certain institutional investors, pursuant to this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus, up to an aggregate of 2,150,001 shares of our common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, together with warrants, exercisable for a period of thirty (30) months commencing on the closing date, to purchase up to an aggregate of 645,000 shares of common stock. Each warrant entitles the investor to purchase 0.30 shares of our common stock for every share of common stock purchased by such investor in the offering. The purchase price for each share of common stock and the related warrants is \$5.15. Each warrant has an exercise price of \$6.60 per share. The common stock and the warrants will be issued separately but will be purchased together in the offering. This prospectus supplement also relates to the offering of shares of common stock upon the exercise, if any, of the warrants issued in this offering.

Our common stock is listed on The NASDAQ Capital Market under the symbol "CNET." The last reported sale price of our common stock on January 11, 2018 was \$6.38 per share. The warrants will not be listed on any national securities exchange.

INVESTING IN OUR SECURITIES INVOLVES RISKS, INCLUDING THOSE DESCRIBED IN THE "RISK FACTORS" SECTION BEGINNING ON PAGE S-6 OF THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT AND SET FORTH IN THE DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE IN THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT AND THE ACCOMPANYING BASE PROSPECTUS.

FT Global Capital, Inc. acted as placement agent on this transaction. The placement agent is not purchasing or selling any securities nor is it required to arrange for the sale of any specific number or dollar amount of securities, but has agreed to use its best efforts to arrange for the sale of other securities offered by this prospectus supplement. We have agreed to pay the placement agent the placement agent fees set forth in the table below.

	Per Share	Total (2)
Offering Price	\$ 5.15	\$ 11,072,505.20
Placement Agent Fees (1)	\$ 0.309	\$ 664,350.31
Proceeds to Us, Before Expenses	\$ 4.841	\$ 10,408,154.89

(1) See "Plan of Distribution" for additional disclosure regarding placement agent fees and estimated offering expenses. We will issue to the placement agent warrants to purchase 6% of the shares of common stock issued in this

offering on substantially the same terms as the warrants sold in this offering, except that the placement agent warrants shall not be exercisable for a period of six months and one day after the closing date of this offering. The placement agent warrant and shares of common stock underlying such warrant are being registered herein.

(2) Assumes maximum offering is completed.

We estimate the total expenses of this offering, excluding the placement agent's fees, will be approximately \$110,000.

We expect delivery of the common stock and warrants being sold in this offering to be made to the investors on or about January 17, 2018, against payment of immediately available funds. Because there is no minimum offering amount, the actual offering amount, placement agent fees and proceeds to us, if any, are not presently determinable and may be substantially less than the maximum amounts set forth above.

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 base prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

Placement Agent

FT Global Capital, Inc.

The date of this prospectus supplement is January 12, 2018

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You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus that we have authorized to be distributed to you, or information incorporated by reference herein. We have not, and the placement agent has not, authorized anyone else to provide you with additional or different information. We are offering to sell, and seeking offers to buy, common stock only in jurisdictions where offers and sales are permitted. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying base prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of those documents or that any document incorporated by reference is accurate as of any date other than its filing date.

No action is being taken in any jurisdiction outside the United States to permit an offering of the common stock or possession or distribution of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying base prospectus in that jurisdiction. Persons who come into possession of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying base prospectus in jurisdictions outside the United States are required to inform themselves about and to observe any restrictions as to this offering and the distribution of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus applicable to that jurisdiction.

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus are part of a registration statement on Form S-3 (File No. 333-207466) that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) using a “shelf” registration process. Under this “shelf” registration process, we may from time to time sell any combination of securities described in the accompanying base prospectus in one or more offerings up to a total of \$50 million.

This document is in two parts. The first part is this prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of this offering of common stock and warrants, including the price, the number of shares of common stock and warrants being offered, the risks relating to an investment in our common stock and the placement agent arrangements, and also adds to and updates information contained in the accompanying base prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference into the prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus. The second part is the accompanying base prospectus, which gives more general information, some of which, such as the descriptions of unissued securities other than our common stock and warrants, do not apply to this offering.

If the description of the offering varies between this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus, you should rely on the information contained in this prospectus supplement. However, if any statement in one of these documents is inconsistent with a statement in another document having a later date — for example, a document incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus — the statement in the document having the later date modifies or supersedes the earlier statement. We are not incorporating by reference any information submitted under Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of any Current Report on Form 8-K into any filing under the

Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Securities Act”), or the Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), or into this prospectus supplement or the accompanying base prospectus.

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

We further note that the representations, warranties and covenants made by us in any agreement that is filed as an exhibit to any document that is incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus were made solely for the benefit of the parties to such agreement, including, in some cases, for the purpose of allocating risk among the parties to such agreements, and should not be deemed to be a representation, warranty or covenant to you. Moreover, such representations, warranties or covenants were accurate only as of the date when made. Accordingly, such representations, warranties and covenants should not be relied on as accurately representing the current state of our affairs.

SUMMARY

The following summary may not contain all the information that may be important to you in making an investment in our securities. This prospectus supplement and accompanying base prospectus incorporate important business and financial information about us that is not included in, or delivered with, this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus. Before making an investment, you should read the entire prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus carefully. You should also carefully read the risks of investing discussed under “Risk Factors” and the financial statements included in our other filings with the SEC. This information is incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus, and you can obtain it from the SEC as described below under the headings “Where You Can Find Additional Information About Us” and “Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference.” Unless otherwise mentioned or unless the context requires otherwise, when used in this prospectus supplement, the terms “Company,” “we,” “us,” and “our” refer to ChinaNet Online Holdings, Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiaries and consolidated entities. “China” and the “PRC” refer to the People’s Republic of China.

Our Business

We are a holding company that conducts our primary businesses through our PRC subsidiaries and operating entities (the “VIEs”). We primarily operate a one-stop services for our clients on our integrated service platform, primarily including Omni-channel precision advertising and marketing platform, CloudX with a data analysis management system. Our CloudX omni-channel precision advertising and marketing artificial intelligence platform, primarily consists of digital advertising and marketing portals, include internet and mobile, and our other non-digital advertising

units, such as TV. We provide and monitor varieties of advertising and marketing campaigns through this service system which generates effective sales leads through the combination of the Internet, mobile, content and others, including TV and schemes, while coordinating search engine marketing services through this platform to maximize market exposure and effectiveness for our clients. Our data analysis management system is an information and data analysis portal for small and medium-sized enterprises (“SMEs”) or entrepreneurs who plan to start their own business, helping them for a higher survival and faster deal closing rate. It is built to further expand our service and data-link to assist our clients in developing their sales both online and offline, so that the overall service platform can create a traceable looped online to offline (O2O) ecosystem for our clients in their ground sales expansion throughout the cities in the PRC. During the past few years, we have been developing our SMEs intelligent operation and marketing data service applications, which consists of several online cloud technology based advertising and marketing, lead management, elite store management, client membership management and other administrative operational management tools specifically designed for small business in China to match their simplicity. We are intending to use these applications to create social community-based consumption ecosystem, by deploying our Big Data technologies and analyze both online and offline businesses’ operational and customers’ consumption data to help the SMEs improve their marketing efficiency and sales effectiveness with their target customers.

We derive our revenue principally by:

- selling internet advertising space on our web portals and providing related data service and other value-added services to our clients through the internet advertising management systems and platforms developed and managed by us;
- selling effective sales lead information;
- providing search engine marketing services to increase the sales lead conversion rate for our clients' business promotion on both mobile and PC searches; and
- selling advertising time slots on our television shows.

In order to concentrate all resources on our core business, which is internet advertising, online to offline (O2O) sales channel expansion, precision marketing and the related data services, in the 4th quarter of 2015, we decided to exit our bank kiosk advertising and brand management and sales channel building services. During that time, we also committed to a plan to sell our internet advertising and marketing business operated under www.liansuo.com ("liansuo.com"), which is primarily aimed to serve larger SMEs through membership fees to continue the expansion of our core business as discussed above. We terminated our plan to sell liansuo.com in February 2017.

Excluding revenues generated and net loss incurred from discontinued operations for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, we generated total revenues of US\$34.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2016, compared with US\$32.3 million in 2015, and incurred a net loss from continuing operations (before allocation to the non-controlling interest shareholders) of US\$6.3 million in 2016, compared with a net loss from continuing operations (before allocation to the non-controlling interest shareholders) of US\$7.7 million in 2015. Excluding approximately US\$1.9 million and US\$1.8 million of share-based compensation expenses recognized in relation to the restricted common stock and common stock purchase options granted to our management, employees and directors in September 2015 and December 2014, our adjusted net loss from continuing operations (before allocation to the non-controlling interest shareholders) was US\$4.4 million and US\$5.9 million, respectively, for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively. Loss from discontinued operations (i.e. brand management and sale channel building channel business segment) was approximately US\$0.06 million and US\$1.47 million for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively.

Intellectual Property

As of the date hereof, we have twenty-four software copyright certificates issued by the State Copyright Office of the PRC ("SCO"), including, but not limited to, software systems covering monitoring and management platforms on internet advertising effects, analysis systems on internet traffic statistics and internet user behavior, analysis systems on log-based visit hotspot and browsing trails and analysis systems on search engine marketing.

With this intellectual property, we provide value-added services that are in demand by our clients and track end users to help our clients assess and adjust their marketing strategies and enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of their advertisements placed through our multi-channel advertising and marketing service platforms on both PC and mobile devices.

We increased, and plan to continue increasing, expenditures to enhance the safety of our hardware and server which we depend on to support our network and manage and monitor programs on the network. We also increased, and plan to continue increasing, investment in research and development as we continue to expand, optimize and enhance the technologies of our portal website, upgrade our advertising and internet management software and develop our cloud-computing and mobile based operational management tools for our SMEs clients.

Corporate Structure

We operate our business in the PRC through certain contractual agreements between Rise King Century Technology Development (Beijing) Co., Ltd. ("Rise King WFOE") and Business Opportunity Online (Beijing) Network Technology Co., Ltd. ("Business Opportunity Online") and Beijing CNET Online Advertising Co., Ltd. ("Beijing CNET Online"). Rise King WFOE is our indirect wholly-owned subsidiary that is a registered wholly foreign owned enterprise in the PRC. Business Opportunity Online and Beijing CNET Online are based in Beijing, PRC and owned by three Chinese citizens, including Mr. Handong Cheng, our chairman and chief executive officer, who owns a 46% equity interest in both Business Opportunity Online and Beijing CNET Online.

Recent Developments

On January 2, 2018, we formed a strategic partnership with Wuxi Jingtum Network Technology, a People's Republic of China company ("Jingtum" or "Jingtum Technology"), which is a blockchain ecology builder, and expanded our business into the blockchain industry and its related technology. Through this partnership, both companies will utilize their respective advantages and collaborate to jointly develop blockchain applications to build a credible, highly

secured blockchain and transparent platform for business opportunities and transactions. To support this new partnership and advance our expansion into blockchain, on January 11, 2018, we appointed Mr. Zhongyi Liu as Chief Strategy Officer to head our blockchain strategy plan and related business development. We have been exploring the potential of blockchain for over a year and Mr. Liu has been advising us on blockchain for the past four months.

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Through the contribution of underlying technologies in the blockchain, Jingtum Technology aims to develop a new generation of value-based internet technologies in China helping to upgrade from an information-based network to a value-based exchange network, establishing a credible ecology and promoting preparation as Chinese enterprises enter a new era of digital assets. Jingtum's system is a decentralized and ecologically interactive internet trading network based on blockchain technology. The system addresses data trust issues through cryptography and distributed coherency mechanisms while maintaining rich transactional and contractual features.

We believe that blockchain technology enjoys extremely large demand in applications for small and medium-sized enterprises including product traceability, product certification, disintermediation, customer identification, and brand communication. We believe that the most fundamental value and significance is that the enterprise brand and reputation can be converted into digital form and can help SMEs across the world build a new business ecosystem based on algorithmic trust and enter the global digital asset trading market for transactions and circulation.

Our Principal Executive Offices

Our executive offices are located at No. 3 Min Zhuang Road, Building 6, Yu Quan Hui Gu Tuspark, Haidian District, Beijing, PRC. Our telephone number is +86-10-6084-6616. Our corporate website is at www.chinanet-online.com. Information contained on, or accessed through our website is not intended to constitute, and shall not be deemed to constitute, part of this prospectus supplement.

THE OFFERING

The Offering	Pursuant to this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, we are offering the following securities:
Common stock	Up to 2,150,001 shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, at a purchase price of \$5.15 for each share of common stock and the related warrants described below.
Warrants	Warrants, exercisable for a period of thirty months commencing on the closing date, to purchase up to an aggregate of 645,000 shares of common stock, for an exercise price of \$6.60 per share. Each warrant entitles the investor to purchase 0.30 shares of our common stock for every share of common stock purchased by such investor in the offering. This prospectus supplement also relates to the offering of the shares of common stock issuable upon exercise, if any, of the warrants.
Common stock to be outstanding after this offering	16,132,543 shares, based on 13,982,542 shares of our common stock outstanding as of January 8, 2018 and excluding any shares of our common stock issuable upon exercise of outstanding warrants, preferred stock, options or other rights to purchase shares of our common stock, including the warrants to be issued in this offering.
Use of proceeds	We estimate that the net proceeds from this offering, after deducting placement agent fees and before offering expenses payable by us, will be approximately \$10,408,000. We intend to use the net proceeds from this offering for working capital and general corporate purposes. See “Use of Proceeds” on page S-13.
Risk Factors	See “Risk Factors” beginning on page S-6 of this prospectus supplement and other information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus, including the section entitled “Risk Factors” beginning on page 21 of our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, for a discussion of the factors you should carefully consider before deciding to invest in our common stock.
NASDAQ Capital Market Symbol	CNET

Transfer Agent Empire Stock Transfer, Inc., 1859 Whitney Mesa Dr., Henderson, Nevada 89014

Placement Agent FT Global Capital, Inc.

RISK FACTORS

The following is a summary of certain risks that should be carefully considered along with the other information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus. You should carefully consider the risk factors incorporated by reference to our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2017, Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2017, Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2017 and our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 and the other information contained in this prospectus supplement and accompanying base prospectus, as updated by our subsequent filings under the Exchange Act. The occurrence of any of these risks might cause you to lose all or part of your investment in the offered securities. If any other material risks of which we are unaware later occur or become material, our business, financial condition, and operating results, and the price of and trading market for our stock, could be materially harmed. The risks discussed below also include forward-looking statements and our actual results may differ substantially from those discussed in these forward-looking statements. See “Forward-Looking Statements.”

Risks Related to Our Entry into BlockChain Business

We have an evolving business model.

As blockchain technologies become more widely available, we expect the services and products associated with them to evolve. As a result, to stay current with the industry, our business model may need to evolve as well. From time to time, we may modify aspects of our business model relating to our product mix and service offerings. We cannot offer any assurance that these or any other modifications will be successful or will not result in harm to the business. We may not be able to manage growth effectively, which could damage our reputation, limit our growth and negatively affect our operating results.

Risks Related to this Offering

There is no minimum aggregate offering amount required as a condition to the closing of this offering and the actual amount of net proceeds we receive may be lower than we anticipate, which may have a material adverse effect on our business.

There is no minimum aggregate offering amount required as a condition to the closing of this offering. Accordingly, the actual amount of securities we sell may be less, and perhaps substantially less, than the maximum amount set forth

on the cover page of this prospectus supplement. Likewise, the actual amount of net proceeds we receive may be substantially less than the amount set forth in this prospectus supplement under the caption "Use of Proceeds," which is based upon an assumption that we sell the maximum amount of securities offered hereby. Any substantial shortfall in the amount of securities we sell in this offering compared to the maximum amount offered hereby could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and liquidity.

Management will have broad discretion as to the use of the proceeds from this offering, and we may not use the proceeds effectively.

Although we plan to use all of the net proceeds from this offering for working capital and general corporate purposes, our management still has broad discretion as to the application of the net proceeds from this offering and could use them for purposes other than those contemplated at the time of this offering. Our stockholders may not agree with the manner in which our management chooses to allocate and spend the net proceeds. Moreover, our management may use the net proceeds for corporate purposes that may not increase our profitability or market value.

You will experience immediate dilution in the book value per share of the common stock you purchase.

Because the price per share of our common stock being offered is substantially higher than the book value per share of our common stock, you will suffer substantial dilution in the net tangible book value of the common stock you purchase in this offering. Based on an offering price of \$5.15 per share, after deducting estimated offering commissions and expenses, the net tangible book value of the common stock per share as of September 30, 2017 would have been \$1.25 per share. If you purchase shares of common stock in this offering, you will suffer dilution of \$3.90 per share in the net tangible book value of the common stock.

A large number of shares may be sold in the market following this offering, which may depress the market price of our common stock.

Sales of a substantial number of shares of our common stock in the public market following this offering could cause the market price of our common stock to decline. If there are more shares of common stock offered for sale than buyers are willing to purchase, then the market price of our common stock may decline to a market price at which buyers are willing to purchase the offered shares of common stock and sellers remain willing to sell the shares. All of the shares sold in this offering will be freely tradable without restriction or further registration under the Securities Act.

After the completion of this offering, one stockholder will continue to own a large percentage of our outstanding stock and could significantly influence the outcome of our corporate matters.

Mr. Handong Cheng, our chairman, chief executive officer and president, through Rise King WFOE, which he controls, currently beneficially owns approximately 31.9% of our issued and outstanding common stock. Upon the completion of this offering, his ownership interest will decrease to approximately 26.6%. As a result, he, together with other major shareholders, will continue to maintain control over substantially all corporate actions and decisions that require stockholder approval, including the election of directors and approval of significant corporate transactions, such as mergers, consolidations or the sale of substantially all of our assets.

There may be future sales or other dilution of our equity, which may adversely affect the market price of our common stock.

We are not generally restricted from issuing additional common stock, or any securities that are convertible into or exchangeable for, or that represent the right to receive, common stock. The issuance of any additional common stock

or preferred stock or securities convertible into, exchangeable for, or that represent the right to receive, common stock, or the exercise of such securities, could be substantially dilutive to holders of our common stock. The market price of our common stock could decline as a result of this offering, sales of our common stock made after this offering or the perception that such sales could occur. Because our decision to issue securities in any future offering will depend on market conditions and other factors beyond our control, we cannot predict or estimate the amount, timing or nature of future offerings. Thus, our stockholders bear the risk of future offerings reducing the market price of our common stock and diluting their shareholdings in us.

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We do not anticipate paying cash dividends on our common stock and investors in this offering may never obtain a return on their investment.

You should not rely on an investment in our common stock to provide dividend income, as we have not paid any cash dividends on our common stock to date, and do not plan to pay any cash dividends in the foreseeable future. Accordingly, investors must rely on sales of their common stock after price appreciation, which may never occur, as the only way to realize any return on their investment.

Our common stock may be affected by limited trading volume and may fluctuate significantly.

Our common stock is traded on the NASDAQ Capital Market. Although an active trading market exists for our common stock, there can be no assurance that an active trading market for our common stock will be sustained. Failure to maintain an active trading market for our common stock may adversely affect our shareholders' ability to sell our common stock in short time periods, or at all. Our common stock has experienced, and may experience in the future, significant price and volume fluctuations, which could adversely affect the market price of our common stock.

The price of our common stock may be volatile or may decline, which may make it difficult for investors to resell shares of our common stock at prices they find attractive.

The trading price of our common stock may fluctuate widely as a result of a number of factors, many of which are outside our control. In addition, the stock market is subject to fluctuations in the share prices and trading volumes that affect the market prices of the shares of many companies. These broad market fluctuations could adversely affect the market price of our common stock. Among the factors that could affect our stock price are:

• actual or anticipated quarterly fluctuations in our operating results and financial condition, and, in particular, further deterioration of asset quality;

• changes in revenue or earnings estimates or publication of research reports and recommendations by financial analysts;

- failure to meet analysts' revenue or earnings estimates;

- speculation in the press or investment community;

- strategic actions by us or our competitors, such as acquisitions or restructurings;
 - actions by institutional shareholders;
- fluctuations in the stock price and operating results of our competitors;

general market conditions and, in particular, developments related to market conditions for the financial services industry;

- proposed or adopted regulatory changes or developments;
- anticipated or pending investigations, proceedings or litigation that involve or affect us; or
- domestic and international economic factors unrelated to our performance.

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The stock market has experienced significant volatility recently. As a result, the market price of our common stock may be volatile. In addition, the trading volume in our common stock may fluctuate more than usual and cause significant price variations to occur. The trading price of the shares of our common stock and the value of our other securities will depend on many factors, which may change from time to time, including, without limitation, our financial condition, performance, creditworthiness and prospects, future sales of our equity or equity related securities, and other factors identified below in “Forward-Looking Statements.”

Accordingly, the shares of our common stock that an investor purchases, whether in this offering or in the secondary market, may trade at a price lower than that at which they were purchased, and, similarly, the value of our other securities may decline. Current levels of market volatility are unprecedented. The capital and credit markets have been experiencing volatility and disruption for more than a year. In some cases, the markets have produced downward pressure on stock prices and credit availability for certain issuers without regard to those issuers’ underlying financial strength.

A significant decline in our stock price could result in substantial losses for individual shareholders and could lead to costly and disruptive securities litigation.

There is no public market for the warrants.

There is no established public trading market for the warrants being offered in this offering and we do not expect a market to develop. In addition, we do not intend to apply for listing of the warrants on any securities exchange or automated quotation system. Without an active market, investors in this offering may be unable to readily sell the warrants.

The exercise price of the warrants exceeds the market price of our common stock.

Each warrant will have an exercise price of \$6.60 per share of our common stock, which exceeds the current market price of one share of our common stock. If the market price of our common stock does not exceed the exercise price of the warrants during the period in which the warrants are exercisable, the warrants may not have any value.

The warrants may be dilutive to holders of our common stock.

The ownership interest of the existing holders of our common stock will be diluted to the extent the warrants are exercised. The shares of our common stock underlying the warrants represented approximately 3.8% of our common stock outstanding as of January 8, 2018 (assuming that the total shares of common stock outstanding includes the 2,150,001 offered pursuant to this prospectus supplement and the 645,000 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of the warrants).

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus, including the documents that we incorporate by reference, may contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act and Section 21E of the Exchange Act. Forward-looking statements include those that express plans, anticipation, intent, contingencies, goals, targets or future development and/or otherwise are not statements of historical fact. Any forward-looking statements are based on our current expectations and projections about future events and are subject to risks and uncertainties, known and unknown, that could cause actual results and developments to differ materially from those expressed or implied in such statements.

In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology, such as “expects,” “anticipates,” “intends,” “estimates,” “plans,” “believes,” “seeks,” “may,” “should,” “could” or the negative of such terms or similar expressions. Accordingly, these statements involve estimates, assumptions and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in such forward-looking statements. Any forward-looking statements are qualified in their entirety by reference to the risk factors described herein and those incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus or in any document incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

You should read this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus and the documents that we have incorporated by reference completely and with the understanding that our actual future results may be materially different from what we currently expect. You should assume that the information appearing in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus and any document incorporated herein or therein by reference is accurate as of its date only. Because the risk factors referred to above and in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 could cause actual results or outcomes to differ materially from those expressed in any forward-looking statements made by us or on our behalf, you should not place undue reliance on any forward-looking statements. Further, any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date on which it is made, and we undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances after the date on which the statement is made or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events. New factors emerge from time to time, and it is not possible for us to predict which factors will arise. In addition, we cannot assess the impact of each factor on our business or the extent to which any factor, or combination of factors, may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statements. We qualify all of the information presented in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus supplement and any document incorporated herein by reference, and particularly our forward-looking statements, by these cautionary statements.

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USE OF PROCEEDS

Assuming the maximum offering is completed, we estimate that the net proceeds from this offering will be approximately \$10,296,005 after deducting the placement agent fees and estimated offering expenses.

We intend to use the net proceeds from this offering for working capital and general corporate purposes.

PRICE RANGE OF COMMON STOCK AND DIVIDEND POLICY

Our common stock has been listed on The NASDAQ Capital Market under the symbol “CNET” since October 29, 2013.

On August 18, 2016, we filed a Certificate of Amendment to our Articles of Incorporation with the Secretary of State of Nevada to effect a one-for-two and one-half (1 for 2.5) reverse stock split of our common stock, which became effective on August 19, 2016.

The following table shows the high and low closing sale prices for our common stock reported by The NASDAQ Capital Market for the two years ended December 31, 2017 and subsequent periods.

	High	Low
	(US\$)	
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2016		
First Quarter	2.08	1.60
Second Quarter	1.75	1.18
Third Quarter	2.08	1.38
Fourth Quarter	1.71	0.97
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2017		
First Quarter	1.02	1.33
Second Quarter	1.09	1.38
Third Quarter	0.92	1.17
Fourth Quarter	1.00	1.37
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2018		
First Quarter (through January 11, 2018)	1.12	9.34

Dividend Policy

We have never paid any dividends and we plan to retain earnings, if any, for use in the development of our business.

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Under current PRC regulations, wholly foreign-owned enterprises and Sino-foreign equity joint ventures in the PRC may pay dividends only out of their accumulated profits, if any, determined in accordance with PRC accounting standards and regulations. Additionally, these foreign-invested enterprises are required to set aside certain amounts of their accumulated profits each year, if any, to fund certain reserve funds. These reserves are not distributable as cash dividends. Payment of future dividends, if any, will be at the discretion of our board of directors after taking into account various factors, including current financial condition, operating results and current and anticipated cash needs.

CAPITALIZATION

The following table sets forth our cash and cash equivalents and capitalization as of September 30, 2017 on an actual basis and on an as adjusted basis to give effect to the sale by us of 2,150,001 shares of our common stock in this offering after deducting placement agent fees and estimated offering expenses payable by us. You should read this table in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and the related notes thereto, “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” and the other financial information included in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus.

	As of September 30, 2017	
	Actual (unaudited)	As Adjusted
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$1,234,000	\$12,306,505
Total Current Liabilities	\$9,330,000	\$10,104,350
Stockholders’ Equity		
Common stock (\$0.001 par value; authorized 50,000,000 shares; issued and outstanding 12,340,542 shares at September 30, 2017)	12,000	14,000
Additional Paid in Capital	29,769,000	40,065,155
Statutory Reserve	2,607,000	2,607,000
Accumulated deficit	(14,325,000)	(14,325,000)
Accumulated other comprehensive income	1,504,000	1,504,000
Total Stockholders’ Equity	\$19,567,000	\$29,865,155
Total Capitalization	\$29,140,000	\$40,212,505

DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES

We are offering to certain institutional investors, pursuant to this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, up to an aggregate of 2,150,001 shares of our common stock, together with the warrants. The purchase price for each share of common stock and the related warrants is \$5.15. Each warrant has an exercise price of \$6.60 per share. The common stock and the warrants will be issued separately but will be purchased together in the offering. This prospectus supplement also relates to the offering of shares of common stock upon the exercise, if any, of the warrants issued in this offering.

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Common Stock

The material terms and provisions of our common stock are described in the section entitled “Description of the Securities We May Offer” in the accompanying prospectus. The shares of common stock issued in this offering will be, when issued and paid for in accordance with the securities purchase agreement, duly and validly authorized, issued and fully paid and non-assessable.

Warrants

The material terms and provisions of the warrants being offered pursuant to this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are summarized below. This summary is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by, the form of warrant, which will be provided to the investors in this offering and will be filed as an exhibit to a Current Report on Form 8-K that we will file with the SEC in connection with the consummation of this offering.

The warrants to be issued in this offering represent the right to purchase up to an aggregate of 2,150,001 shares of our common stock. Each warrant entitles the investor to purchase 0.30 shares of our common stock for every share of common stock purchased by such investor in the offering. The warrants are exercisable at the option of the holder for a thirty (30) month period following the closing date of this offering. Each warrant has an exercise price of \$6.60 per share.

The exercise price of the warrants will be subject to adjustment in the case of stock splits, stock dividends, combinations of shares and similar recapitalization transactions. The holder will not have the right to exercise any portion of a warrant if the holder, together with its affiliates, would, subject to limited exceptions, beneficially own in excess of 4.99% of the number of shares of our common stock outstanding immediately after the exercise. The holder may elect to decrease or increase this beneficial ownership limitation up to 9.99% upon 61 days’ prior written notice to us. The warrants also contain “full ratchet” price protection in the event of subsequent issuances below the applicable exercise price.

The warrant holders must surrender payment in cash of the exercise price of the shares being acquired upon exercise of the warrants. If, however, we are unable to offer and sell the shares underlying the warrants pursuant to this prospectus supplement due to the ineffectiveness of the registration statement of which this prospectus supplement is a part, then the warrants may be exercised on a “cashless” basis.

DILUTION

If you invest in our common stock and warrants in this offering, your interest will be diluted immediately to the extent of the difference between the offering price per share of common stock you will pay in this offering and the as adjusted net tangible book value per share of our common stock after giving effect to this offering. Our historical net tangible book value as of September 30, 2017 was \$7,830,000, or \$0.63 per share of common stock. Historical net tangible book value per share represents the amount of our total tangible assets less total liabilities, divided by the number of shares of our common stock outstanding on September 30, 2017.

After giving effect to the assumed sale of our common stock in the aggregate amount of \$11,072,505 in this offering at an assumed offering price of \$5.15 per share, and after deducting estimated offering commissions and expenses payable by us, our net tangible book value as of September 30, 2017 would have been approximately \$18,128,155, or \$1.25 per share. This represents an immediate increase in as adjusted net tangible book value per share of \$0.62 to existing stockholders and immediate dilution of \$3.90 in as adjusted net tangible book value per share to new investors participating in this offering. The following table illustrates this per share dilution to investors participating in this offering:

Offering price per share	\$5.15
Net tangible book value per share as of September 30, 2017	\$0.63
Increase attributable to new investors	\$0.62
As adjusted net tangible book value per share after this offering	\$1.25
Dilution per share to new investors	\$3.90

The above discussion and table are based on 12,340,542 shares of our common stock outstanding as of September 30, 2017 and excludes:

835,216 shares of our common stock issuable upon the exercise of stock options outstanding as of September 30, 2017, at a weighted average exercise price of \$ 2.49 per share;

4,145,522 shares of common stock reserved for future issuance under our ChinaNet Online Holdings, Inc. 2015 Equity Incentive Plan as of September 30, 2017; and

645,000 shares underlying the warrants issuable in the offering.

To the extent that any options are exercised, new options are issued under our 2015 Equity Incentive Plan or we otherwise issue additional shares of common stock in the future at a price less than the offering price, there may be

further dilution to new investors purchasing common stock in this offering.

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PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We have entered into a placement agency agreement, dated January 8, 2018, with FT Global Capital, Inc., pursuant to which FT Global Capital, Inc. agreed to act as our exclusive placement agent in connection with this offering. The placement agent is not purchasing or selling any other securities offered by this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, nor is the placement agent required to arrange for the purchase or sale of any other specific number or dollar amount of securities, but has agreed to use its best efforts to arrange for the sale of all other securities being offered in this offering. We will enter into a securities purchase agreement directly with investors in connection with this offering.

We currently anticipate that the closing of this offering will take place on or about January 17, 2018. On the closing date, the following will occur:

- we will receive funds in the amount of the aggregate purchase price of the shares of common stock and related warrants sold;

- we will irrevocably instruct the transfer agent to deliver the shares of common stock, and we will deliver the warrants, to the investors; and

- the placement agent will receive the placement agent fees in accordance with the terms of the placement agency agreement.

We have agreed to pay the placement agent an aggregate fee equal to six percent (6%) of the gross proceeds from the sale of the shares of common stock and related warrants in this offering. We have also agreed to reimburse the placement agent for certain expenses, including \$15,000 for fees and expenses related to “blue sky” counsel and \$25,000 for additional legal expenses.

We have agreed to issue to the placement agent a warrant to purchase a number of shares of common stock equal to 6.0% of the aggregate number of shares of common stock sold in this offering, which warrant will have an exercise price of \$6.60 per share and will terminate on the three-year anniversary of the effective date of the offering. The placement agent warrants will have substantially the same terms as the warrants being sold in the offering. Pursuant to FINRA Rule 5110(g), the placement agent warrants and any shares issued upon exercise of the placement agent warrants shall not be sold, transferred, assigned, pledged, or hypothecated, or be the subject of any hedging, short sale, derivative, put or call transaction that would result in the effective economic disposition of the securities by any person for a period of 180 days immediately following the date of effectiveness or commencement of sales of this offering, except the transfer of any security: (i) by operation of law or by reason of our reorganization; (ii) to any FINRA member firm participating in the offering and the officers or partners thereof, if all securities so transferred remain subject to the lock-up restriction set forth above for the remainder of the time period; (iii) if the aggregate

amount of our securities held by the placement agent or related persons do not exceed 1% of the securities being offered; (iv) that is beneficially owned on a pro-rata basis by all equity owners of an investment fund, provided that no participating member manages or otherwise directs investments by the fund and the participating members in the aggregate do not own more than 10% of the equity in the fund; or (v) the exercise or conversion of any security, if all securities remain subject to the lock-up restriction set forth above for the remainder of the time period. In addition, the placement agent warrants shall not be exercisable for a period of six months and one day after the closing date of this offering.

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We have also agreed to a 6-month tail fee equal to the cash compensation in this offering if any investor either introduced to us during the term of its engagement or that participated in the offering provides us with further capital during such 6-month period following termination of our engagement with the placement agent.

The estimated offering expenses payable by us, in addition to the aggregate fees and expenses of approximately \$704,350 due to the placement agent, are approximately \$70,000.

We have agreed to indemnify the placement agent and certain other persons against certain liabilities relating to or arising out of the placement agent's activities under the placement agency agreement. We have also agreed to contribute to payments the placement agent may be required to make in respect of such liabilities.

The transfer agent for our common stock is Empire Stock Transfer, Inc.

Our common stock is traded on The NASDAQ Capital Market under the symbol "CNET." The warrants are not eligible for trading on any market.

The purchase price per share of common stock and the exercise price for the warrants were determined based on negotiations with the investors and discussions with the placement agent.

The placement agency agreement and the securities purchase agreement will be included as exhibits to our Current Report on Form 8-K that we will file with the SEC in connection with the consummation of this offering.

LEGAL MATTERS

Certain legal matters governed by the laws of the State of New York and the State of Nevada with respect to the validity of the offered securities will be passed upon for us by Loeb & Loeb LLP, New York, New York. Schiff Hardin LLP, Washington, DC is acting as counsel for the placement agent in this offering.

EXPERTS

The consolidated balance sheets of ChinaNet Online Holdings, Inc. and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2016 and 2015 and the related consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive loss, and cash flows for the years then ended are incorporated in this prospectus supplement by reference to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, which have been audited by Marcum Bernstein & Pinchuk LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report, which is incorporated herein by reference, and has been so incorporated in reliance upon the report of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

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WHERE YOU CAN FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT US

We have filed a registration statement on Form S-3 with the SEC for the securities we are offering by this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus do not include all of the information contained in the registration statement. You should refer to the registration statement and its exhibits for additional information. We will provide to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom a prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus are delivered, a copy of any or all of the information that has been incorporated by reference in the prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus but not delivered with the prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus. We will provide this information upon oral or written request, free of charge. Any requests for this information should be made by calling or sending a letter to the Secretary of the Company, c/o ChinaNet Online Holdings, Inc., at the Company's office located at No. 3 Min Zhuang Road, Building 6, Yu Quan Hui Gu Tuspark, Haidian District, Beijing, PRC. The Company's telephone number is +86-10-6084-6616.

We are required to file annual and quarterly reports, current reports, proxy statements, and other information with the SEC. We make these documents publicly available, free of charge, on our website at www.chinanet-online.com as soon as reasonably practicable after filing such documents with the SEC. You can read our SEC filings, including the registration statement, on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. You also may read and copy any document we file with the SEC at its public reference facility at:

Public Reference Room
100 F Street N.E.
Washington, DC 20549

Please call the SEC at 1-800-732-0330 for further information on the operation of the public reference facilities.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The following documents filed by us with the Securities and Exchange Commission are incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement:

- Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016;

Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarters ended March 31, 2017, June 30, 2017 and September 30, 2017;

- Current Reports on Form 8-K, filed on June 19, 2017, Au