

STANLEY BLACK & DECKER, INC.

Form 424B5

November 05, 2015

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**Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5)  
Registration No. 333-207522**

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

**SUBJECT TO COMPLETION**

**Preliminary Prospectus Supplement dated November 5, 2015 to Prospectus dated October 19, 2015**

**\$632,500,000**

**Stanley Black & Decker, Inc.**

**% Subordinated Notes due November 17, 2018**

This is a remarketing of \$632,500,000 aggregate principal amount of our outstanding subordinated notes due November 17, 2018, which we refer to as the notes, originally issued as junior subordinated notes included in the Convertible Preferred Units we issued in November 2010 (the Units).

The notes will bear interest at a rate of % per annum, commencing November 17, 2015. Interest on the notes will be payable semi-annually in arrears on May 17 and November 17 of each year, commencing on May 17, 2016.

The notes will be our direct, unsecured general obligations and will rank junior in right of payment to all of our existing and future senior indebtedness on the terms and to the extent set forth in the indenture governing the notes. See Description of Remarketed Notes Subordination. The notes will rank senior in right of payment to specified junior indebtedness on the terms and to the extent set forth in the indentures governing such junior indebtedness. See Description of Remarketed Notes Ranking. The notes will not be obligations of or guaranteed by any of our subsidiaries. As a result, the notes will also be structurally subordinated to all debt and other liabilities of our

subsidiaries.

We will not directly receive any of the proceeds from this remarketing of the notes. See [Use of Proceeds](#) and [Relationship of the Equity Units to the Remarketing](#).

The notes are not, and are not expected to be, listed on any national securities exchange or included in any automated quotation system. Prior to this offering, there has been no public market for the remarketed notes.

**Investing in the notes involves risks. See [Risk Factors](#) beginning on page S-9 of this prospectus supplement.**

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

	Per Note	Total
Price to Public(1)	%	\$
Net Proceeds(2)	%	\$
Remarketing Fee to Remarketing Agents(3)	%	\$

(1) Plus accrued interest at the rate of % from November 17, 2015, if settlement occurs after that date.

(2) We will not directly receive any proceeds from the remarketing. See [Use of Proceeds](#) and [Relationship of the Equity Units to the Remarketing](#) in this prospectus supplement.

(3) We will pay all fees and expenses of the remarketing agents.

We will separately pay a remarketing fee to the remarketing agents in the amount of % of the gross proceeds from the sale of the notes.

We expect that beneficial interests in the notes will be credited in book-entry form through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company to the accounts of its participants, including Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V., as operator of the Euroclear System, and Clearstream Banking, *société anonyme*, against payment in New York, New York on or about November 17, 2015.

### *Remarketing Agents*

**BofA Merrill Lynch**

**Citigroup**

**J.P. Morgan**

**Morgan Stanley**

**Prospectus Supplement dated November , 2015.**

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**ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT**

We have not authorized any other person to provide you with any information or make any representation other than those contained in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. If anyone provides you with different or additional information, you should not rely on it. You should assume the information appearing in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is accurate only as of their respective dates. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

**WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION**

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder (the Exchange Act). Our SEC filings are available to the public at the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). You may read and copy all or any portion of this information at the Public Reference Room of the SEC, 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information about its Public Reference Room. We maintain a website at [www.stanleyblackanddecker.com](http://www.stanleyblackanddecker.com). The information on our web site is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus and you should not consider it a part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

You can also inspect reports, proxy statements and other information about Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference information into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is deemed to be part of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, except for any information superseded by information contained directly in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or any subsequently filed document deemed incorporated by reference. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus incorporates by reference the documents set forth below that Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. has previously filed with the SEC (other than information deemed furnished and not filed in accordance with SEC rules, including Items 2.02 and 7.01 of Form 8-K). These documents contain important information about Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. and its finances.

Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 3, 2015;

The information specifically incorporated by reference into our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 3, 2015 from our definitive proxy statement on Schedule 14A filed with the SEC on March 6, 2015;

Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended April 4, 2015, July 4, 2015 and October 3, 2015;

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Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on April 21, 2015, October 5, 2015 and October 16, 2015, and Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed with the SEC on February 20, 2015;

The description of our common stock contained in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A/A, filed with the SEC on March 12, 2010, and any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description;

The description of the depositary preferred stock purchase rights associated with our common stock contained in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A/A, filed with the SEC on July 23, 2004, and any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such descriptions; and

Our definitive proxy statement filed with the SEC on March 6, 2015.

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All documents filed by us pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and before the termination of the offering shall also be deemed to be incorporated herein by reference. We are not, however, incorporating by reference any documents or portions thereof, whether specifically listed above or filed in the future, that are not deemed filed with the SEC, including our compensation committee report and performance graph or any information furnished pursuant to Items 2.02 or 7.01 of Form 8-K or certain exhibits furnished pursuant to Item 9.01 of Form 8-K.

To obtain a copy of these filings at no cost, you may write or telephone us at the following address:

Stanley Black & Decker, Inc.

1000 Stanley Drive

New Britain, Connecticut 06053

Attention: Treasurer

(860) 225-5111

If requested, we will provide to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom this prospectus supplement is delivered, a copy of any or all of the information that has been incorporated by reference into but not delivered with the prospectus supplement. Exhibits to the filings will not be sent, however, unless those exhibits have specifically been incorporated by reference into such documents.

**SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and any documents incorporated herein by reference contain or incorporate statements that are forward-looking within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995.

Those statements include trend analyses and other information relative to markets for our products and trends in our operations or financial results as well as other statements that can be identified by the use of forward-looking language such as may, should, believes, expects, anticipates, plans, estimates, intends, projects, goals, objectives, or similar expressions. Our actual results, performance or achievements could be materially different from the results expressed in, or implied by, those forward-looking statements. Those statements are subject to risks and uncertainties, including but not limited to the risks described in any documents incorporated herein by reference. When considering those forward-looking statements, you should keep in mind the risks, uncertainties and other cautionary statements made in this prospectus supplement, any accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference.

A variety of factors could cause our actual results to differ materially from the expected results expressed in our forward-looking statements, including those set forth in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or any documents incorporated herein by reference, including the Risk Factors, Business and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations section of our reports and other documents filed with the SEC. Factors that may cause our actual results to differ materially from those we contemplate by the forward-looking statements include, among others, the following possibilities:

inability to maintain and improve the overall profitability of our operations;

inability to identify and effectively execute productivity improvements and cost reductions, while minimizing any associated restructuring charges;

inability to limit the impact of steel and other commodity and material price inflation through price increases and other measures;

inability to capitalize on future acquisition opportunities (including any anticipated cost savings or other synergies) and fund other initiatives;

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inability to invest in routine business needs;

inability to continue improvements in working capital;

failure to identify, complete and integrate acquisitions, or to integrate existing businesses, while limiting or otherwise managing associated costs or liabilities;

inability to limit restructuring and other payments associated with recent acquisitions;

inability to minimize or otherwise manage costs or liabilities associated with any sale or discontinuance of a business or product line, including any asset impairment, severance, restructuring, legal or other costs or liabilities;

the extent to which we have to write off accounts receivable or assets or experience supply chain disruptions in connection with bankruptcy filings by our customers or suppliers;

inability to generate free cash flow and maintain a strong debt to capital ratio, including focusing on reduction of debt as determined by management;

inability to successfully settle routine tax audits;

inability to generate earnings sufficient to realize future income tax benefits during periods when temporary differences become deductible;

discontinued acceptance of technologies used in our products and services;

failure of our efforts to build upon our growth platforms and market leadership in Convergent Security Solutions;

inability to manage existing Sonitrol and Mac Tools franchisees and distributor relationships;

inability to access to credit markets on favorable terms, and the maintenance by us of an investment grade credit rating;

inability to negotiate satisfactory payment terms for the purchase and sale of goods, material and products;

inability to sustain the success of our marketing and sales efforts, including our ability to recruit and retain an adequate sales force and to maintain our customer base;

inability of the sales force to adapt to any changes made in the sales organization and achieve adequate customer coverage;

inability to develop and introduce new and high quality products and at the right price points, grow sales in existing markets, identify and develop new markets for our products and maintain and build the strength of our brands;

loss of significant volumes of sales from our larger customers;

inability to maintain or improve current production rates in our manufacturing facilities, to respond to significant changes in product demand, or to fulfill demand for new and existing products;

inability to implement, manage and maintain our operating systems effectively;

inability to continue successfully managing and defending claims and litigation;

pricing pressure and other changes within competitive markets;

increasing competition;

continued consolidation of customers, particularly in consumer channels;

inventory management pressures on our customers;

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changes in laws, regulations and policies that affect us, including, but not limited to trade, monetary, tax and fiscal policies and laws;

risks relating to environmental matters, including changes in the estimated costs to remediate historical contamination and resolve related litigation;

risks arising out of changes in environmental laws or other requirements (or their interpretation or enforcement), including such laws or other requirements that may affect the content or production of our products;

the final geographic distribution of future earnings and the effect of currency exchange fluctuations and impact of dollar/foreign currency exchange, taxes and interest rates on the competitiveness of products, our debt program and our cash flow;

challenging global geopolitical and macroeconomic environment;

the economic environment of emerging markets, particularly Latin America, Russia, Turkey and China;

the strength of the United States and European economies;

the impact that tightened credit markets may have on the Company or its customers or suppliers;

the extent to which world-wide markets associated with homebuilding and remodeling remain very weak or continue to deteriorate;

the impact of events that cause or may cause disruption in our manufacturing, distribution and sales networks, such as war, terrorist activities, natural disasters, political unrest, and recessionary or expansive trends in world economies in which we operate; and

inability to mitigate cost increases (such as customer price increases) generated by, for example, continued increases in the cost of energy or significant Euro, Canadian Dollar, Chinese Renminbi or other currency fluctuations.

There can be no assurance that other factors not currently anticipated by us will not materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition, and results of operations. You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on any forward-looking statements made by us or on our behalf. Please take into account that forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this prospectus supplement or, in the case of the accompanying prospectus or any documents incorporated herein by reference, the date of any such document. We do not undertake any obligation to publicly correct or update any forward looking statement if we later become aware that it is not likely to be achieved.

You are advised, however, to consult any further disclosures we make on related subjects in reports to the SEC.

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**SUMMARY**

*This summary contains basic information about us and this remarketing. Because it is a summary, it does not contain all of the information that you should consider before purchasing any securities in the remarketing. You should read this entire prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference carefully, including the section entitled Risk Factors in our most recent annual report on Form 10-K and our financial statements and the notes thereto incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus before making an investment decision. Unless otherwise indicated, all references in this prospectus supplement to the Company, Stanley, we, our, us, or similar terms mean Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. and its subsidiaries.*

**The Company**

Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. was founded in 1843 by Frederick T. Stanley and incorporated in 1852. We are a diversified global provider of power and hand tools, products and services for various industrial applications, mechanical access solutions (i.e. automatic doors and commercial locking systems), and electronic security and monitoring systems. Stanley®, Black & Decker® and DeWalt® along with the family of Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. brands are recognized around the world for quality, innovation and value and are among the world's most trusted brands.

Our principal executive office is located at 1000 Stanley Drive, New Britain, Connecticut 06053 and our telephone number is (860) 225-5111.

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**The Offering**

The summary below describes the principal terms of the notes. Certain of the terms and conditions described below are subject to important limitations and exceptions. The Description of Remarketed Notes section of this prospectus supplement contains a more detailed description of the terms and conditions of the notes. As used in this section, we, our and us refer to Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. and not to its current or future subsidiaries.

<b>Issuer</b>	Stanley Black & Decker, Inc., a Connecticut corporation.
<b>Securities Remarketed</b>	\$632,500,000 aggregate principal amount of subordinated notes due November 17, 2018.
<b>Maturity Date</b>	November 17, 2018.
<b>Interest Rate</b>	The notes will bear interest at a rate of % per annum, commencing November 17, 2015.
<b>Interest Payment Dates</b>	Interest on the notes will be payable semi-annually in arrears on May 17 and November 17 of each year, commencing on May 17, 2016.
<b>Redemption</b>	The notes will not be redeemable at any time.
<b>Ranking</b>	<p>The notes will be our direct, unsecured general obligations and will rank junior in right of payment to all of our existing and future senior indebtedness on the terms and to the extent set forth in the indenture governing the notes. See Description of Remarketed Notes Subordination. The notes will rank senior in right of payment to specified junior indebtedness on the terms and to the extent set forth in the indentures governing such junior indebtedness. See Description of Remarketed Notes Ranking.</p> <p>The notes are not obligations of or guaranteed by any of our subsidiaries. As a result, the notes are structurally subordinated to all debt and other liabilities (including guarantees) of our subsidiaries, which means that, in the event of a bankruptcy, liquidation or winding up of a subsidiary, creditors and preferred stockholders of such subsidiaries will be paid from the assets of such subsidiaries before holders of the notes would have any claims to those assets.</p>

As of October 3, 2015 on a pro forma basis as if the remarketing were completed as of such date, we had \$3,850.6 million principal amount of outstanding indebtedness (excluding \$452 million of short-term borrowings), \$1,723.1 million principal amount of which was senior indebtedness and \$2,127.5 million principal amount of which would have been junior indebtedness. As of October 3, 2015, our subsidiaries had approximately \$150.0 million of liabilities (excluding affiliate liabilities owed to Stanley Black & Decker, Inc.).

**The Remarketing**

The notes were initially issued by us on November 5, 2010 as a part of our issuance of Units. Each Unit initially consisted of (i) a

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purchase contract ( purchase contract ) under which the holder agreed to purchase one share of our 4.75% Series B Perpetual Cumulative Convertible preferred stock (the convertible preferred stock ), with a liquidation preference of \$100 per share, convertible into shares of our common stock ( common stock ), par value \$2.50 per share or, subject to certain conditions, cash or a combination of cash and common stock, at our election, and (ii) a 1/10, or 10%, undivided beneficial ownership interest in a \$1,000 principal amount note that corresponds to the stated amount of \$100 per Unit. In order to secure their obligations under the purchase contracts, holders of the Units pledged their notes to us through a collateral agent.

Pursuant to the terms of the Units, the remarketing agents will use their reasonable efforts to remarket the notes under the terms of, and subject to the conditions contained in, the remarketing agreement among us, the remarketing agents and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., not individually but solely as purchase contract agent and as attorney-in-fact of the holders of purchase contracts. See Remarketing in this prospectus supplement.

The terms of the Units and notes require the remarketing agents to use their reasonable best efforts to remarket the notes at a price equal to at least 100% of the aggregate principal amount of the notes included in the remarketing.

### **Listing**

The notes are not, and are not expected to be, listed on any national securities exchange or included in any automated quotation system.

### **Use of Proceeds**

We will not directly receive any proceeds from the remarketing. However, upon a successful remarketing, the portion of the proceeds attributable to notes that are part of Units will automatically be applied to satisfy in full the related Unit holders' obligations to purchase our convertible preferred stock under their purchase contracts. If any proceeds remain from the remarketing of notes that are part of Units after this application, the remarketing agents will remit such proceeds for the benefit of holders of such Units. Holders of separate notes who elected to submit their notes in the remarketing, if any, will receive the portion of the proceeds attributable to their notes.

### **Notice of Redemption**

Promptly following completion of the remarketing, we intend to issue a notice to call the convertible preferred stock for redemption at a redemption price of 100% of the liquidation preference plus accrued and unpaid dividends to the redemption date. We expect that holders of the



convertible preferred stock will choose not to have their convertible preferred stock redeemed and instead will elect to convert their convertible preferred stock; however they are not obligated to do so and no assurance can be given as to the extent to which such holders elect to convert the preferred stock. We intend to settle any such conversions by delivering a combination of cash and common stock to converting holders. It is expected that the amount of cash we will pay to the holders of convertible preferred stock as part of such

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redemptions or conversions will be approximately equal to the amount of cash we receive from holders of Units as part of their obligations to purchase convertible preferred stock under their purchase contracts.

**U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations** See United States Federal Income Tax Considerations.

**Risk Factors**

In considering whether to purchase the notes, you should carefully consider all of the information we have included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement. In particular, you should carefully consider the risk factors described in the section of this prospectus supplement entitled Risk Factors, the discussion of risks relating to our business under the caption Risk Factors in our most recent annual report on Form 10-K and the factors listed in Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements in this prospectus supplement.

**Trustee**

The trustee for the notes is HSBC Bank USA, National Association.

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**RISK FACTORS**

*In considering whether to purchase the notes, you should carefully consider all of the information we have included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement. In particular, you should carefully consider the risk factors described below, the discussion of risks relating to our business under the caption *Risk Factors* in our most recent annual report on Form 10-K and the factors listed in *Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements* in this prospectus supplement.*

**Risk Factors Relating to Notes**

*As used in this section, we, our and us refer to Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. and none of its current or future consolidated subsidiaries.*

**The notes will be subordinated to our existing and future senior indebtedness. The notes are effectively subordinated to our existing and future secured debt, and structurally subordinated to all liabilities and preferred stock of our subsidiaries.**

Our payment obligation under the notes will be unsecured and will rank junior and be subordinated in right of payment to all of our senior indebtedness on the terms set forth in the indenture governing the notes. This means that we cannot make any payments on the notes if (i) we have defaulted on the payment of any of our senior indebtedness and the default is continuing, (ii) the maturity of any senior indebtedness has been accelerated as a result of a default or (iii) we have filed for bankruptcy or are winding-up or liquidating, and our senior indebtedness has not been repaid in full.

In addition the notes will not be obligations of or guaranteed by any of our subsidiaries. As a result, the notes will be structurally subordinated to all liabilities and preferred stock of our subsidiaries, which means that, in the event of a bankruptcy, dissolution or winding up of a subsidiary, creditors and preferred stockholders of such subsidiaries will be paid from the assets of such subsidiary before holders of the notes would have any claims to those assets.

As of October 3, 2015 on a pro forma basis as if the remarketing were completed as of such date, we had \$3,850.6 million principal amount of outstanding indebtedness (excluding \$452 million of short-term borrowings), \$1,723.1 million principal amount of which was senior indebtedness and \$2,127.5 million principal amount of which would have been junior indebtedness. As of October 3, 2015, our subsidiaries had approximately \$150.0 million of liabilities (excluding affiliate liabilities owed to Stanley Black & Decker, Inc.).

Since our operations are partially conducted through our subsidiaries, the cash flow and the consequent ability to service our indebtedness, including the notes, is partially dependent upon the earnings of our subsidiaries and the distribution of those earnings or upon the payments of funds by those subsidiaries to us. Our subsidiaries are separate and distinct legal entities and have no obligation, contingent or otherwise, to pay any amounts due pursuant to the notes or to make funds available to us, whether by dividends, loans or other payments. In addition, the payment of dividends and the making of loans and advances to us by our subsidiaries may be subject to contractual or statutory restrictions, are contingent upon the earnings of those subsidiaries and are subject to various business considerations. Any right we may have to receive assets of any of our subsidiaries upon their liquidation or reorganization (and the consequent right of the holders of the notes to participate in those assets) will be structurally subordinated to the claims of such subsidiary's creditors, including trade creditors, because such creditors' claims will have a priority over our claim as an equity owner of our subsidiaries.

The notes will also be effectively subordinated to our secured indebtedness to the extent of the value of the assets securing such indebtedness. In the event of our bankruptcy, liquidation, reorganization or other winding

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up, our assets that secure debt will be available to pay obligations on the notes only after the secured debt has been repaid in full from these assets. There may not be sufficient assets remaining to pay amounts due on any or all of the notes then outstanding.

The indenture governing the notes does not prohibit us from incurring additional senior debt or secured debt, nor does it prohibit any of our subsidiaries from incurring additional liabilities.

### **Your ability to transfer the notes may be limited by the absence of an active trading market, and there is no assurance that any active trading market will develop for the notes.**

There is no established public market for the notes and, prior to the remarketing, trading for the notes has been illiquid. We have not applied for and do not intend to apply for listing of the notes on any securities exchange, nor do we intend to arrange for the notes to be quoted on any quotations system.

The liquidity of any market for the notes will depend upon the number of holders of the notes, our performance, the market for similar securities, the interest of securities dealers in making a market in the notes and other factors. A liquid trading market may never develop for the notes. If a market develops, the notes could trade at prices that may be lower than the remarketing price of the notes. We cannot predict the extent, if any, to which investors' interest will lead to a liquid trading market. If an active market does not develop or is not maintained, the price and liquidity of the notes may be adversely affected.

### **The subordinated indenture does not restrict our ability to take certain actions that could negatively impact holders of the notes.**

We are not restricted under the terms of the subordinated indenture or the notes from incurring additional debt that would be equal in right of payment with or senior in right of payment to the notes. In addition, the limited covenants applicable to the notes do not require us to achieve or maintain any minimum financial results relating to our financial position or results of operations. Our ability to recapitalize, incur additional debt and take a number of other actions that are not limited by the terms of the notes could have the effect of diminishing our ability to make payments on the notes when due. Certain of our other debt instruments may, however, restrict these and other actions.

### **We are both an operating company and a holding company and may require cash from our subsidiaries to make payments on the notes.**

The notes are solely the obligation of Stanley Black and Decker, Inc. and no other entity will have any obligation, contingent or otherwise, to make payments in respect of the notes. While we have substantial operations of our own, we are also a holding company for several direct and indirect subsidiaries. Our subsidiaries will have no obligation to pay any amount in respect of the notes. Accordingly, we may depend, in part, on dividends and other distributions from our subsidiaries to generate the funds necessary to meet our obligations under the indenture governing the notes, including payment of interest. As described above, as an equity holder of our subsidiaries, our ability to participate in any distribution of assets of any subsidiary is structurally subordinate to the claims of the creditors of that subsidiary. If we are unable to obtain cash from our subsidiaries, we may be unable to fund required payments in respect of the notes.

### **The notes may receive a lower rating than anticipated.**

We intend to seek a rating for the notes. If one or more rating agencies rates the notes and assigns the notes a rating lower than the rating expected by investors, reduces their rating in the future or announces its intention to put the notes

on credit watch, the market price of our common stock and notes would be harmed.

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**USE OF PROCEEDS**

We will not directly receive any of the proceeds from the remarketing of the notes. See Plan of Distribution. Proceeds from the remarketing attributable to the notes that are part of the Units that participated in the remarketing will be used as follows:

to satisfy the obligations of the holders of Units to purchase our convertible preferred stock under the purchase contracts on the date of settlement of the remarketing; and

any remaining proceeds will be remitted for the benefit of holders of Units participating in the remarketing, on a pro rata basis.

Holders of separate notes who elected to submit their notes in the remarketing, if any, will receive the portion of the proceeds attributable to their notes.

See Relationship of the Equity Units to the Remarketing.

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The ratio of earnings to fixed charges for each of the periods indicated is set forth below. For purposes of computing these ratios, earnings represents income from continuing operations before income taxes and fixed charges. Fixed charges are the sum of (i) interest expense, (ii) the portion of rents representative of interest, and (iii) amortization of capitalized interest. See Exhibit 12 of the Company's annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 3, 2015 (incorporated herein by reference) for a detailed computation of the ratio of earnings to fixed charges.

	<b>For the Fiscal Quarter Ended</b>		<b>For the Fiscal Year</b>			
	<b>October 3,</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>
	<b>2015</b>					
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges	6.8X	6.7X	4.4X	4.4X	5.3X	2.4X

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**RELATIONSHIP OF THE EQUITY UNITS TO THE REMARKETING**

In November 2010, we issued 6,325,000 Units in a registered offering. Each Unit was initially comprised of (i) a purchase contract under which the holder agreed to purchase one share of our convertible preferred stock and (ii) a 1/10, or 10%, undivided beneficial ownership interest in a \$1,000 principal amount note that corresponds to the stated amount of \$100 per Unit. In order to secure their obligations under the purchase contracts, holders of the Units pledged their notes to us through a collateral agent.

Under the terms of the Units, the Company has engaged Citigroup Global Markets Inc., J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated and Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC as the remarketing agents to remarket the notes on behalf of the holders (other than those holders who have elected not to participate in the remarketing, if any), pursuant to the remarketing agreement.

We will not directly receive any of the proceeds from the remarketing. See Use of Proceeds. A portion of the proceeds of the remarketing of the Units will be used to satisfy the obligation of holders of Units that participated in the remarketing to purchase our convertible preferred stock under the related purchase contracts on the date of settlement of the remarketing. If any proceeds remain from the remarketing of notes that are part of Units after this application, the remarketing agents will remit such proceeds for the benefit of holders of such Units. Holders of separate notes who elected to submit their notes in the remarketing, if any, will receive the portion of the proceeds attributable to their notes.

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**DESCRIPTION OF REMARKETED NOTES**

*The description in this prospectus supplement is a summary of some of the terms of the notes offered hereby and the indenture. The description of the notes and the indenture contain a summary of their material terms but do not purport to be complete, and reference is hereby made to the indenture that has been filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus supplement is a part. Copies of the indenture and the forms of certificates evidencing the notes are available upon request from us.*

*The following description is only a summary of the material provisions of the notes and the indenture and does not purport to be complete. We urge you to read the indenture in its entirety because it, and not this description, defines your rights as a holder of the notes. To the extent that the following description is not consistent with the description contained in the accompanying prospectus, you should rely on the following description. For the purposes of this description, the terms we, our and us refer to Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. and, unless otherwise expressly stated or the context otherwise requires, not any of our subsidiaries.*

**General**

The notes were issued as a separate series of debt securities under an indenture dated as of November 22, 2005 between us and HSBC Bank USA, National Association, as trustee (the trustee), as supplemented by the second supplemental indenture dated as of November 5, 2010 between us and the trustee. The notes were issued in connection with our issuance of Units. The Units initially consisted of (i) a purchase contract under which the holder agreed to purchase one share of convertible preferred stock, and (ii) a 1/10, or 10%, undivided beneficial ownership interest in a \$1,000 principal amount note that corresponds to the stated amount of \$100 per Unit.

This prospectus supplement relates to the remarketing of the notes.

The notes initially were issued in an aggregate principal amount of \$632,500,000. The notes are issued in certificated form, without coupons, in denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof.

We refer to the notes and all other debt securities issued under the indenture herein as indenture securities. For the purposes of this section, any reference to the indenture shall generally mean the indenture as supplemented by the supplemental indentures relating to the notes.

The indenture permits us to issue an unlimited amount of indenture securities from time to time in one or more series. All indenture securities of any one series need not be issued at the same time, and a series may be reopened for issuances of additional indenture securities of such series. Additional indenture securities issued in this manner will be consolidated with, and will form a single series with, the previously outstanding indenture securities of such series; provided, however, that if such additional indenture securities are not fungible with the previously outstanding indenture securities for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the additional indenture securities will have a separate CUSIP number.

Except to the limited extent described below under Consolidation, Merger and Conveyance of Assets as an Entirety, the indenture does not contain any provisions that are intended to protect holders of notes in the event of a highly-leveraged or similar transaction involving us.

**Ranking**

The notes will be our direct, unsecured general obligations and will rank junior in right of payment to all of our existing and future senior indebtedness on the terms and to the extent set forth in the indentures and as summarized below, and senior in right of payment to all of our junior indebtedness (as defined below) to the extent and on the terms set forth in the indentures governing such junior indebtedness. The notes will not be obligations of, or guaranteed by, any of our subsidiaries. The notes will be effectively subordinated to our secured indebtedness to the extent of the value of the assets securing such indebtedness. In the event of our

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bankruptcy, liquidation, reorganization or other winding up, our assets that secure debt will be available to pay obligations on the notes only after the secured debt has been repaid in full from these assets. There may not be sufficient assets remaining to pay amounts due on any or all of the notes then outstanding. We may issue additional series of subordinated notes that rank senior to, junior to or equal in right of payment with the notes.

junior indebtedness means the Company's existing \$750 million principal amount of 5.75% Junior Subordinated Debentures due 2052, \$345 million principal amount of 2.25% Junior Subordinated Notes due 2018, \$400 million principal amount of 5.75% Fixed-to-Floating Rate Junior Subordinated Debentures due 2053, and any future junior subordinated indebtedness or obligations that are expressly subordinated in right of payment to the notes.

The Company may not make payment of the principal of, or premium, if any, or interest on any junior indebtedness, if any of the following occurs:

a default by us on the payment of principal, premium, interest or any other payment due on any indebtedness senior in right of payment thereto (including the notes) so long as the default continues; or

the maturity of any indebtedness senior in right of payment thereto (including the notes) has been accelerated because of a default.

In addition, upon any distribution of our assets to creditors upon our dissolution or winding-up or liquidation or reorganization or in bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or other proceedings, all amounts due on our indebtedness senior in right of payment (including the notes) to any junior indebtedness shall be paid in full before any payment is made by us on account of the principal, premium, if any, or interest on such junior indebtedness.

As of October 3, 2015 on a pro forma basis as if the remarketing were completed as of such date, we had \$3,850.6 million principal amount of outstanding indebtedness (excluding \$452 million of short-term borrowings), \$1,723.1 million principal amount of which was senior indebtedness, \$2,127.5 million principal amount of which would have been junior indebtedness. As of October 3, 2015, our subsidiaries had approximately \$150.0 million of liabilities (excluding affiliate liabilities owed to Stanley Black & Decker, Inc.).

## **Subordination**

Holders of the notes should recognize that contractual provisions in the indenture may prohibit us from making payments on the notes. The notes are subordinated and junior in right of payment to our existing and future senior indebtedness (but not junior indebtedness as defined above), to the extent and in the manner stated in the indenture. No payment of the principal of, or premium, if any, or interest on the notes may be made by us, if any of the following occurs:

a default by us on the payment of principal, premium, interest or any other payment due on any senior indebtedness so long as the default continues; or

the maturity of any senior indebtedness has been accelerated because of a default.

In addition, upon any distribution of our assets to creditors upon our dissolution or winding-up or liquidation or reorganization or in bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or other proceedings, all amounts due on our senior indebtedness shall be paid in full before any payment is made by us on account of the principal, premium, if any, or interest on the notes.

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senior indebtedness means all of our obligations, whether presently existing or from time to time hereafter incurred, created, assumed or existing, to pay principal, premium, interest, penalties, fees and any other payment in respect of any of the following: (a) indebtedness for borrowed money, including, without limitation, such obligations as are evidenced by credit agreements, notes, debentures, bonds and similar instruments; (b) obligations under synthetic leases, finance leases and capitalized leases; (c) our obligations, for reimbursement under letters of credit, banker's acceptances, security purchase facilities or similar facilities issued for our account; (d) any obligations with respect to derivative contracts, including but not limited to commodity contracts, interest rate, commodity and currency swap agreements, forward contracts and other similar agreements or arrangements designed to protect against fluctuations in commodity prices, currency exchange or interest rates; and (e) all obligations of the types referred to in clauses (a), (b), (c) and (d) above of others which we have assumed, guaranteed or otherwise becomes liable for, under any agreement, unless, in the case of any particular indebtedness or obligation, the instrument creating or evidencing the same or the assumption or guarantee of the same expressly provides that such indebtedness or obligation is not superior in right of payment to or is equal in right of payment with the notes, as the case may be; provided that trade obligations incurred in the ordinary course of business shall not be deemed to be senior indebtedness.

This subordination will not prevent the occurrence of any event of default with respect to the notes. There is no limitation on the issuance of additional senior indebtedness by us in the indenture.

## **Principal and Interest**

Following the remarketing, the notes will bear interest from November 17, 2015 at a rate of % per annum, payable semi-annually in arrears on May 17 and November 17 of each year, commencing May 17, 2016 (each, an interest payment date). The notes will mature on November 17, 2018 (the maturity date).

The indenture provides for the payment of interest on an interest payment date only to persons in whose names the notes are registered at the close of business on the regular record date, which will be May 1 and November 1 (whether or not a business day), as the case may be, immediately preceding the applicable interest payment date except that interest payable on the Maturity Date of the Notes shall be paid to the Person to whom principal is payable. Interest will be calculated on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months, and with respect to any period less than a full calendar month, on the basis of the actual number of days elapsed during the period.

If any date on which interest payments are to be made on the notes is not a business day, then payment of the interest payable on that date will be made on the next succeeding day that is a business day, and no interest or payment will be paid in respect of the delay.

## **Redemption**

The notes will not be redeemable at any time.

## **Payment**

So long as any separate notes are registered in the name of The Depository Trust Company, or DTC, as depository for the notes as described herein under Book-Entry Issuance, or DTC's nominee, payments on the notes will be made as described therein.

If we default in paying interest on a note, we will pay such interest either

on a special record date between 10 and 15 calendar days before the payment; or

in any other lawful manner of payment that is consistent with the requirements of any securities exchange on which the notes may be listed for trading.

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We will pay principal of and any interest on the notes at maturity upon presentation of the notes at the corporate trust office of HSBC Bank USA, National Association, in New York, New York, as our paying agent for the notes. In our discretion, we may change the place of payment on the notes, and we may remove any paying agent and may appoint one or more additional paying agents (including us or any of our affiliates).

If any interest payment date or the maturity of a note falls on a day that is not a business day, the required payment of principal and/or interest will be made on the next succeeding business day as if made on the date such payment was due, and no interest will accrue on such payment for the period from and after such interest payment date or the maturity, as the case may be, to the date of such payment on the next succeeding business day. Business day, means any day other than a Saturday or a Sunday or a day on which banking institutions and trust companies in New York City, New York are authorized or required by law or executive order to remain closed.

## **Form; Transfers; Exchanges**

So long as any separate notes are registered in the name of DTC, as depositary for the notes as described herein under Book-Entry Issuance, or DTC's nominee, transfers and exchanges of beneficial interests in the separate notes will be made as described therein. In the event that the book-entry only system is discontinued, and the separate notes are issued in certificated form, you may exchange or transfer notes at the corporate trust office of the trustee. The trustee acts as our agent for registering notes in the names of holders and transferring debt securities. We may appoint another agent or act as our own agent for this purpose. The entity performing the role of maintaining the list of registered holders is called the security registrar; the security registrar will also perform transfers. In our discretion, we may change the place for registration of transfer of the notes and may remove and/or appoint one or more additional security registrars (including us or any of our affiliates).

There will be no service charge for any transfer or exchange of the notes, but you may be required to pay a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection therewith.

## **Events of Default**

An event of default with respect to the notes will occur if

we do not pay any interest on any note within 30 calendar days following an interest payment date;

we do not pay principal on any note on its due date; or

we file for bankruptcy or certain other similar events in bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or reorganization occur.

No event of default with respect to the notes necessarily constitutes an event of default with respect to the indenture securities of any other series issued under the indenture.

## **Remedies**

### ***Acceleration***



*Any One Series.* If an event of default occurs and is continuing with respect to any one series of indenture securities, then either the trustee or the holders of 10% in principal amount of the outstanding indenture securities of such series may declare the principal amount of all of the indenture securities of such series to be due and payable immediately.

*More Than One Series.* If an event of default occurs and is then continuing with respect to more than one series of indenture securities, then either the trustee or the holders of at least 10% of the aggregate principal amount of the outstanding indenture securities of all such series, considered as one class, may make such

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declaration of acceleration. Thus, if there is more than one series affected, the action by the holders of at least 10% of the aggregate principal amount of the outstanding indenture securities of any particular series will not, in itself, be sufficient to make a declaration of acceleration.

***Rescission of Acceleration***

After the declaration of acceleration has been made and before the trustee has obtained a judgment or decree for payment of the money due, such declaration and its consequences will be rescinded and annulled, if

we pay or deposit with the trustee a sum sufficient to pay

all overdue interest;

the principal of and any premium which have become due otherwise than by such declaration of acceleration and interest thereon;

interest on overdue interest to the extent lawful; and

all amounts due to the trustee under the indenture; and

all events of default, other than the nonpayment of the principal which has become due solely by such declaration of acceleration, have been cured or waived as provided in the indenture. For more information as to waiver of defaults, see *Waiver of Default and of Compliance* below.

***Control by Holders; Limitations***

Subject to the indenture, if an event of default with respect to the indenture securities of any one series occurs and is continuing, the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding indenture securities of that series will have the right to direct the time, method and place of (i) conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee or (ii) exercising any trust or power conferred on the trustee with respect to the indenture securities of such series.

If an event of default is continuing with respect to more than one series of indenture securities, the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding indenture securities of all such series, considered as one class, will have the right to make such direction, and not the holders of the indenture securities of any one of such series.

These rights of holders to make direction are subject to the following limitations:

the holders' directions may not conflict with any law or the indenture or be unduly prejudicial to the rights of holders of notes of other series; and

the holders' directions may not involve the trustee in personal liability where the trustee believes indemnity is not adequate.

The trustee may also take any other action it deems proper that is consistent with the holders' direction. With respect to events of default and other defaults in the performance of, or breach of, covenants in the indenture that do not constitute events of default, if any such event of default or other default occurs and is continuing after any applicable notice and/or cure period, then the trustee may in its discretion (and subject to the rights of the holders to control remedies as described above and certain other conditions specified in the indenture) bring such judicial proceedings as the trustee shall deem appropriate or proper.

The indenture provides that no holder of any indenture security will have any right to institute any proceeding, judicial or otherwise, with respect to the indenture for the appointment of a receiver or for any other remedy thereunder unless

that holder has previously given the trustee written notice of a continuing event of default;

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the holders of at least 10% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding indenture securities of all affected series, considered as one class, have made written request to the trustee to institute proceedings in respect of that event of default;

the holders have offered the trustee reasonable indemnity against costs and liabilities incurred in complying with such request; and

for 60 calendar days after receipt of such notice, the trustee has failed to institute any such proceeding and no direction inconsistent with such request has been given to the trustee during such 60-day period by the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of outstanding indenture securities of all affected series, considered as one class.

Furthermore, no holder will be entitled to institute any such action if and to the extent that such action would disturb or prejudice the rights of other holders.

However, each holder has an absolute and unconditional right to receive payment when due and to bring a suit to enforce that right.

### ***Notice of Default***

We shall provide written notice to the trustee immediately upon becoming aware of any default or event of default. Within 30 calendar days of the trustee obtaining actual knowledge of the occurrence of any default or event of default, the Trustee will transmit notice of default to the holders of the notes, unless such default or event of default is cured or waived.

Upon our application or demand to the trustee to take any action under the indenture, we will furnish the trustee with a statement as to their compliance with the conditions and covenants in the indenture.

### ***Waiver of Default and of Compliance***

The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding notes may waive, on behalf of the holders of all outstanding notes, any past default under the indenture, except a default in the payment of principal or interest, or with respect to compliance with certain provisions of the indenture that cannot be amended without the consent of the holder of each outstanding indenture security.

Compliance with certain covenants in the indenture or otherwise provided with respect to indenture securities may be waived by the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the affected indenture securities, considered as one class.

### **Consolidation, Merger and Conveyance of Assets as an Entirety**

Subject to the provisions described in the next paragraph, we have agreed in the indenture to preserve our corporate existence.

We have also agreed not to consolidate with or merge or convert into any other entity or convey, transfer, sell or lease all or substantially all of our properties and assets substantially as an entirety to any entity unless:

the entity formed by such consolidation or into which we are merged or the entity which acquires or which leases its property and assets substantially as an entirety is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the United States, any state thereof or the District of Columbia and expressly assumes, by supplemental indenture, the due and punctual payment of the principal and interest on all the outstanding notes and the performance of all of its covenants and obligations under the indenture; and

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immediately after giving effect to such transaction, no event of default, and no event which, after notice or lapse of time or both, would become an event of default, will have occurred and be continuing.

The indenture does not prevent or restrict:

any consolidation or merger after the consummation of which we would be the surviving or resulting entity;  
or

any conveyance or other transfer, or lease, of any part of our properties which does not constitute the entirety, or substantially the entirety, thereof.

**Modification of Indenture**

***Without Holder Consent***

Without the consent of any holders of indenture securities, we and the trustee may enter into one or more supplemental indentures for any of the following purposes:

to evidence the succession of another entity to us;

to add one or more covenants or other provisions for the benefit of the holders of all or any series of indenture securities, or to surrender any right or power conferred upon us;

to add any additional events of default for all or any series of indenture securities;

to change or eliminate any provision of the indenture or to add any new provision to the indenture that does not adversely affect the interests of the holders;

to provide security for the indenture securities of any series;

to establish the form or terms of indenture securities of any series as permitted by the indenture;

to evidence and provide for the acceptance of appointment of a separate or successor trustee;

to provide for the procedures required to permit the utilization of a noncertificated system of registration for any series of indenture securities;

to change any place or places where

we may pay principal, premium and interest,

indenture securities may be surrendered for transfer or exchange, and

notices and demands to or upon us may be served;

to cure any ambiguity, defect or inconsistency; or

to make any other changes that do not adversely affect the interests of the holders in any material respect; provided, however, that any supplemental indenture made solely to conform the provisions of the indenture to the description contained in to the description of the notes contained in the preliminary prospectus supplement dated November 1, 2010 (as supplemented by the related term sheet dated November 1, 2010) will not be deemed to adversely affect the interests of the holders.

If the Trust Indenture Act is amended after the date of the supplemental indenture so as to require changes to the indenture or so as to permit changes to, or the elimination of, provisions which, as of the date of the supplemental indenture or at any time thereafter, were required by the Trust Indenture Act to be contained in the indenture, the indenture will be deemed to have been amended so as to conform to such amendment or to effect such changes or elimination, and we and the trustee may, without the consent of any holders, enter into one or more supplemental indentures to effect or evidence such amendment.

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### ***With Holder Consent***

Except as provided above, the consent of the holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of the indenture securities of all outstanding series, considered as one class, is generally required for the purpose of adding to, changing or eliminating any of the provisions of the indenture pursuant to a supplemental indenture.

However, no amendment or modification may, without the consent of the holder of each outstanding indenture security directly affected thereby,

change the stated maturity of the principal or interest on any indenture security (other than pursuant to the terms thereof), or reduce the principal amount, interest or premium payable or change the currency in which any indenture security is payable, or impair the right to bring suit to enforce any payment;

reduce the percentages of holders whose consent is required for any supplemental indenture or waiver or reduce the requirements for quorum and voting under the indenture;

modify certain of the provisions in the indenture relating to supplemental indentures and waivers of certain covenants and past defaults; or

cause a significant modification of the notes within the meaning of Treasury Regulation § 1.1001-3.

A supplemental indenture that changes or eliminates any provision of the indenture expressly included solely for the benefit of holders of indenture securities of one or more particular series will be deemed not to affect the rights under the indenture of the holders of indenture securities of any other series.

We will be entitled to set any day as a record date for the purpose of determining the holders of outstanding indenture securities of any series entitled to give or take any demand, direction, consent or other action under the indenture, in the manner and subject to the limitations provided in the indenture. In certain circumstances, the trustee also will be entitled to set a record date for action by holders. If such a record date is set for any action to be taken by holders of particular indenture securities, such action may be taken only by persons who are holders of such indenture securities at the close of business on the record date.

### **Satisfaction and Discharge**

The notes will not be subject to defeasance.

The indenture will be deemed satisfied and discharged when no indenture securities remain outstanding and when we have paid all other sums payable by us under the indenture.

### **Resignation and Removal of the Trustee; Deemed Resignation**

The trustee may resign at any time by giving written notice to us.



The trustee may also be removed by act of the holders of a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding indenture securities of any series.

No resignation or removal of the trustee and no appointment of a successor trustee will become effective until the acceptance of appointment by a successor trustee in accordance with the requirements of the indenture.

**Agreement by Purchasers of Certain Tax Treatment**

Each note will provide that, by acceptance of the note or a beneficial interest therein, you intend that the note constitutes debt and you agree to treat it as debt for U.S. federal, state and local tax purposes (unless otherwise required by a taxing authority). See United States Federal Income Tax Considerations.

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### **Title**

We, the trustee, and any agent of ours or the trustee, will treat the person or entity in whose name indenture securities are registered as the absolute owner of those indenture securities (whether or not the indenture securities may be overdue) for the purpose of making payments (subject to the record date provisions of the indenture) and for all other purposes irrespective of notice to the contrary.

### **Governing Law**

The indenture and the indenture securities provide that they will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York, except to the extent the Trust Indenture Act shall be applicable.

### **Regarding the Trustee**

The trustee under the indenture is HSBC Bank USA, National Association. In addition to acting as trustee, HSBC Bank USA, National Association and its affiliates also maintain various banking and trust relationships with us and our affiliates.

### **Book-Entry Issuance**

*The Depository Trust Company.* The notes will be evidenced by one or more global notes registered in the name of DTC's nominee, Cede & Co., or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. Such global notes will be deposited with the trustee as custodian for DTC.

Purchases of the notes under the DTC system must be made by or through direct participants, which will receive a credit for the notes on DTC's records. The ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each note (beneficial owner) is in turn to be recorded on the direct and indirect participants' records. Beneficial owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchases, but beneficial owners are expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transactions, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the direct or indirect participant through which they purchased the notes. Transfers of ownership interests on the notes are to be accomplished by entries made on the books of Direct and indirect participants acting on behalf of beneficial owners. Beneficial owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in notes, except in the event that use of the book-entry system for the notes is discontinued.

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all notes deposited by direct participants with DTC are registered in the name of DTC's nominee, Cede & Co., or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. The deposit of the notes with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. or such other nominee do not effect any change in beneficial ownership. DTC has no knowledge of the actual beneficial owners of the notes; DTC's records reflect only the identity of the direct participants to whose accounts the notes are credited, which may or may not be the beneficial owners. The direct and indirect participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to direct participants, by direct participants to indirect participants, and by direct participants and indirect participants to beneficial owners, will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Notices will be sent to DTC.

Neither DTC nor Cede & Co. (nor such other DTC nominee) will consent or vote with respect to the notes unless authorized by a direct participant in accordance with DTC's procedures. Under its usual procedures, DTC mails an omnibus proxy to us as soon as possible after the record date. The omnibus proxy assigns the voting or consenting rights of Cede & Co. to those direct participants to whose accounts the notes are credited on the record date. We believe that these arrangements will enable the beneficial owners to exercise rights equivalent in substance to the rights that can be directly exercised by a registered holder of the notes.

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Payments of principal and interest on the notes will be made to Cede & Co. (or such other nominee of DTC). DTC's practice is to credit direct participants' accounts upon DTC's receipt of funds and corresponding detail information from us or the trustee, on payable date in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC's records. Payments by participants to beneficial owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices and will be the responsibility of each participant and not of DTC, the trustee or us, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payment of the purchase price, principal and interest to Cede & Co. (or other such nominee of DTC) is our responsibility. Disbursement of such payments to direct participants will be the responsibility of DTC, and disbursement of such payments to the beneficial owners is the responsibility of direct and indirect participants.

A beneficial owner will not be entitled to receive physical delivery of the notes. Accordingly, each beneficial owner must rely on the procedures of DTC to exercise any rights under the notes.

DTC may discontinue providing its services as securities depository with respect to the notes at any time by giving us or the trustee reasonable notice. In the event no successor securities depository is obtained, certificates for the notes will be printed and delivered.

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

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

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

The Euroclear Operator is regulated and examined by the Belgian Banking Commission.

Links have been established among DTC, Clearstream and Euroclear to facilitate the initial issuance of the notes sold outside of the United States and cross-market transfers of the notes associated with secondary market trading.

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Although DTC, Clearstream and Euroclear have agreed to the procedures provided below in order to facilitate transfers, they are under no obligation to perform these procedures, and these procedures may be modified or discontinued at any time. Neither we, nor the Trustee nor any of our or their respective agents will have any responsibility for the performance by DTC, Euroclear or Clearstream or their respective participants or indirect participants of their respective obligations under the rules and procedures governing their operations.

Clearstream and Euroclear will record the ownership interests of their participants in much the same way as DTC, and DTC will record the total ownership of each of the U.S. agents of Clearstream and Euroclear, as participants in DTC. When notes are to be transferred from the account of a DTC participant to the account of a Clearstream Participant or a Euroclear Participant, the purchaser must send instructions to Clearstream or Euroclear through a participant at least one day prior to settlement. Clearstream or Euroclear, as the case may be, will instruct its U.S. agent to receive the notes against payment. After settlement, Clearstream or Euroclear will credit its participant's account. Credit for the notes will appear on the next day (European time).

Because settlement is taking place during New York business hours, DTC participants will be able to employ their usual procedures for sending notes to the relevant U.S. agent acting for the benefit of Clearstream Participants or Euroclear Participants. The sale proceeds will be available to DTC seller on the settlement date. As a result, to a DTC participant, a cross-market transaction will settle no differently than a trade between two DTC participants.

When a Clearstream Participant or Euroclear Participant wishes to transfer notes to a DTC participant, the seller will be required to send instructions to Clearstream or Euroclear through a participant at least one business day prior to settlement. In these cases, Clearstream or Euroclear will instruct its U.S. agent to transfer these notes against payment for them. The payment will then be reflected in the account of the Clearstream Participant or Euroclear Participant the following day, with the proceeds back valued to the value date, which would be the preceding day, when settlement occurs in New York, if settlement is not completed on the intended value date, that is, the trade fails, proceeds credited to the Clearstream Participant's or Euroclear Participant's account will instead be valued as of the actual settlement date.

You should be aware that you will only be able to make and receive deliveries, payments and other communications involving the notes through Clearstream and Euroclear on the days when those clearing systems are open for business. Those systems may not be open for business on days when banks, brokers and other institutions are open for business in the United States. In addition, because of time zone differences there may be problems with completing transactions involving Clearstream and Euroclear on the same business day as in the United States.

The information in this section concerning DTC's, Clearstream's and Euroclear's book-entry systems have been obtained from sources that we believe to be reliable, but neither we nor the underwriters take any responsibility for the accuracy of this information.

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**REMARKETING**

Under the terms and subject to the conditions contained in the remarketing agreement, dated as of November 5, 2015, among us and Citigroup Global Markets Inc., J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated and Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC, as the remarketing agents, and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. not individually but solely as purchase contract agent and as attorney-in-fact of the holders of purchase contracts, the remarketing agents have agreed to use their reasonable best efforts to remarket the notes that are included in the Units and any separate notes held by holders that have elected to participate in the remarketing at a public offering price that will result in proceeds sufficient to satisfy the Unit holders' obligations to purchase our convertible preferred stock under their purchase contracts, as described above in "Use of Proceeds."

In connection with the remarketing, the remarketing agents will reset the interest rate on the notes to  $\quad\%$  per year effective on the remarketing settlement date.

The remarketing agents have no obligation to purchase any of the notes. The remarketing agreement provides that the remarketing is subject to customary conditions precedent, including the delivery of legal opinions.

The remarketing fee equals  $\quad\%$  of the principal amount of the notes, which will be paid by the Company. The Company will pay all other fees and expenses of the remarketing agents. Corporate Unit holders and holders of separate notes will not be responsible for the payment of any remarketing fees or expenses in connection with the remarketing. We estimate that our total expenses for this offering, excluding remarketing fees, will be \$  $\quad$ .

The notes have no established trading market. We have been informed by the remarketing agents that they intend to make a market in the notes, but they are not obligated to do so and may cease market-making at any time without notice. No assurance can be given as to the liquidity of the trading market for the notes.

In order to facilitate the remarketing of the notes, the remarketing agents may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the price of the notes. These transactions consist of bids or purchases for the purpose of pegging, fixing or maintaining the price of the notes. In general, purchases of notes for the purpose of stabilization, as well as other purchases by the remarketing agents for their own accounts, could cause the price of the notes to be higher than it might be in the absence of these purchases. We and the remarketing agents make no representation or prediction as to the direction or magnitude of any effect that the transactions described above may have on the price of the notes. In addition, we and the remarketing agents make no representation that the remarketing agents will engage in these transactions or that these transactions, once commenced, will not be discontinued without notice.

The remarketing agents 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. The remarketing agents and their respective affiliates have engaged in, and may in the future engage in, investment banking and other commercial dealings in the ordinary course of business with us. They have received customary fees and commissions for these transactions. Affiliates of the remarketing agents are agents and/or lenders on our U.S. \$1,500,000,000 credit facility, dated June 27, 2013 (the "Credit Facility"), for which they received customary compensation. In particular, Citibank, N.A., serves as administrative agent for the Credit Facility, Citigroup Global Markets Inc., Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated and J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, as Lead Arrangers and Book Runners, Bank of America, N.A., as Syndication Agent and Bank of America, N.A., Citibank, N.A., J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, N.A. and Morgan Stanley Bank, N.A., as Lenders.

In addition, in the ordinary course of its business activities, the remarketing agents and their respective affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related

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derivative securities) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers. Such investments and securities activities may involve securities and/or instruments of ours or our affiliates. The remarketing agents or their respective affiliates that have a lending relationship with us routinely hedge their credit exposure to us consistent with their customary risk management policies. Typically, the remarketing agents and their respective affiliates would hedge such exposure by entering into transactions which consist of either the purchase of credit default swaps or the creation of short positions in our securities, including potentially the notes offered hereby. Any such credit default swaps or short positions could adversely affect future trading prices of the notes offered hereby. The remarketing agents and their respective affiliates may also make investment recommendations and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such securities or financial instruments and may hold, or recommend to clients that they acquire, long and/or short positions in such securities and instruments.

We have agreed to indemnify the remarketing agents against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribute to payments the remarketing agents may be required to make because of any of those liabilities.

## **T+7 Settlement**

We expect that delivery of the notes will be made against payment therefor on or about the seventh business day following the date of pricing of the notes (this settlement cycle being referred to as T+7). Accordingly, purchasers who wish to trade the notes on the date of pricing or the next succeeding business day will be required, by virtue of the fact that the notes initially will settle in T+7, to specify an alternate settlement cycle at the time of any such trade to prevent a failed settlement. Purchasers of the notes who wish to trade their notes on the date of pricing or the next succeeding business day should consult their own advisor.

## **Selling Restrictions**

Other than in the United States, no action has been taken by us or the remarketing agents that would permit a public offering of the securities offered by this prospectus supplement in any jurisdiction where action for that purpose is required. The securities offered by this prospectus supplement may not be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, nor may this prospectus supplement or any other offering material or advertisements in connection with the offer and sale of any such securities be distributed or published in any jurisdiction, except under circumstances that will result in compliance with the applicable rules and regulations of that jurisdiction. Persons into whose possession this prospectus supplement comes are advised to inform themselves about and to observe any restrictions relating to the offering and the distribution of this prospectus supplement. This prospectus supplement does not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities offered by this prospectus supplement in any jurisdiction in which such an offer or a solicitation is unlawful.

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

In relation to each member state of the European Economic Area, no offer of notes which are the subject of the offering has been, or will be made to the public in that Member State, other than under the following exemptions under the Prospectus Directive:

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

B. to fewer than 150 natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Directive), subject to obtaining the prior consent of the remarketing agents for any such offer; or

C. in any other circumstances falling within Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive, provided that no such offer of notes referred to in (a) to (c) above shall result in a requirement for the Company or any remarketing agent to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive or supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.

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This prospectus supplement has been prepared on the basis that any offer of notes in any Member State will be made pursuant to an exemption under the Prospectus Directive from the requirement to publish a prospectus for offers of notes. Accordingly any person making or intending to make an offer in that Relevant Member State of notes which are the subject of the offering contemplated in this prospectus may only do so in circumstances in which no obligation arises for the Company or any of the remarketing agents to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive in relation to such offer. Neither the Company nor the remarketing agents have authorized, nor do they authorize, the making of any offer of notes in circumstances in which an obligation arises for the Company or the remarketing agents to publish a prospectus for such offer.

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

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

In addition, in the United Kingdom, this document is being distributed only to, and is directed only at, and any offer subsequently made may only be directed at persons who are qualified investors (as defined in the Prospectus Directive) (i) who have professional experience in matters relating to investments falling within Article 19 (5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005, as amended (the Order) and/or (ii) who are high net worth companies (or persons to whom it may otherwise be lawfully communicated) falling within Article 49(2)(a) to (d) of the Order (all such persons together being referred to as relevant persons). This document must not be acted on or relied on in the United Kingdom by persons who are not relevant persons. In the United Kingdom, any investment or investment activity to which this document relates is only available to, and will be engaged in with, relevant persons.

### ***Notice to Prospective Investors in Switzerland***

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

### ***Notice to Prospective Investors in the Dubai International Financial Centre***

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

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***Notice to Prospective Investors in Canada***

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

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

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

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**UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS**

The following discussion is a summary of U.S. federal income tax considerations generally applicable to the purchase, ownership and disposition of the notes by a Non-U.S. Holder (as defined below). This summary deals only with notes held as capital assets (generally, assets held for investment) by holders that purchase the notes in the remarketing at the remarketing offering price. The tax treatment of a holder may vary depending on the holder's particular situation. This summary does not address all of the tax considerations that may be relevant to holders that may be subject to special tax treatment such as, for example, insurance companies, broker dealers, tax-exempt organizations, regulated investment companies, persons holding notes as part of a straddle, hedge, conversion transaction or other integrated investment, partnerships (or other entities or arrangements classified as partnerships for United States federal income tax purposes) and their partners, controlled foreign corporations, passive foreign investment companies, and certain former citizens and former long-term residents of the United States. In addition, this summary does not address any aspects of the Medicare contribution tax on net investment income, alternative minimum taxes, U.S. federal estate or gift tax considerations, or state, local, or foreign tax laws. This summary is based on the United States federal income tax laws, Treasury regulations, rulings and decisions in effect as of the date hereof, which are subject to change or differing interpretations, possibly on a retroactive basis.

Holders should consult their own tax advisors as to the particular tax consequences to them of purchasing, owning, and disposing of the notes, including the application and effect of United States federal, state, local and foreign tax laws.

For purposes of this summary, a U.S. Holder is a beneficial owner of notes that is, for United States federal income tax purposes (1) an individual who is a citizen or resident of the United States, (2) 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 or any state thereof or the District of Columbia, (3) an estate, the income of which is subject to United States federal income taxation regardless of its source, or (4) a trust if (a) 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) the trust has in effect a valid election to be treated as a domestic trust for United States federal income tax purposes. A beneficial owner of notes that is not a U.S. Holder or a partnership is referred to herein as a Non-U.S. Holder.

If a partnership (including an entity or arrangement classified as a partnership for United States federal income tax purposes) beneficially owns notes, the treatment of a partner in the partnership will depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. A holder of notes that is a partnership and partners in such partnership should consult their own tax advisors as to the tax consequences to them of purchasing, owning and disposing of notes.

**Classification of the Notes**

Generally, characterization of an obligation as indebtedness for U.S. federal income tax purposes is made at the time of the issuance of the obligation. In connection with the issuance of the notes, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, our special counsel, delivered an opinion that, under the then existing law, and based on certain representations, facts and assumptions set forth in such opinion, the notes will be classified as indebtedness for United States federal income tax purposes. We agreed, and continue to agree, to treat the notes in the same manner. By purchasing the notes, each holder agrees to treat the notes as indebtedness for United States federal income tax purposes.



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**Non-U.S. Holders**

***United States Federal Withholding Tax***

United States federal withholding tax will not apply to any payment to a Non-U.S. Holder of principal or interest on the notes provided that:

the Non-U.S. Holder does not actually or constructively own 10% or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of our voting stock within the meaning of the Code and the Treasury regulations;

the Non-U.S. Holder is not a controlled foreign corporation that is related to us through stock ownership; and

either (a) the Non-U.S. Holder provides its name, address and certain other information on an IRS Form W-8BEN or W-8BEN-E (or a suitable substitute form), and certifies, under penalties of perjury, that it is not a United States person or (b) the Non-U.S. Holder holds its notes through certain foreign intermediaries or certain foreign partnerships and certain certification requirements are satisfied; and

we or our paying agent (or other withholding agent) do not have actual knowledge or reason to know that the beneficial owner of the note is a U.S. person.

In addition, payments of interest on the notes made to a Non-U.S. Holder will not be subject to U.S. federal withholding tax if the income is effectively connected with such Non-U.S. Holder's trade or business in the United States (and if required under an applicable income tax treaty, is attributable to a United States permanent establishment or fixed base) and such Non-U.S. Holder provides an IRS Form W-8ECI (or other applicable form). If the above criteria are not met, payments of interest on a note will generally be subject to U.S. federal withholding tax at a 30% rate (or a lower applicable treaty rate, provided certain certification requirements are met).

In general, United States federal withholding tax will not apply to any gain or income realized by a Non-U.S. Holder on the sale, exchange or other disposition of the notes.

***United States Federal Income Tax***

Any gain realized on the disposition by a Non-U.S. Holder of a note will generally not be subject to United States federal income tax unless:

such gain or income is effectively connected with the Non-U.S. Holder's conduct of a trade or business in the United States (and if required under an applicable income tax treaty, is attributable to a United States permanent establishment or fixed base); or

the Non-U.S. Holder is an individual who is present in the United States for 183 days or more in the taxable year of the disposition and certain other conditions are met.



If a Non-U.S. Holder is engaged in a trade or business in the United States and any interest or gain recognized on the notes is effectively connected with the conduct of such trade or business (and if required under an applicable income tax treaty, is attributable to a United States permanent establishment or fixed base), such Non-U.S. Holder will be subject to United States federal income tax (but generally not withholding tax) on such interest or gain on a net income basis in the same manner as if such holder were a U.S. Holder. In addition, in certain circumstances, if a Non-U.S. Holder is a foreign corporation it may be subject to a 30% branch profits tax (or, if a tax treaty applies, such lower rate as provided). A Non-U.S. Holder who is subject to United States federal income tax because such Non-U.S. Holder was present in the United for 183 days or more in the taxable year of the disposition will be subject to a flat 30% tax on the gain derived from such disposition, which may be offset by certain United States source capital losses. Any gain recognized with respect to accrued and unpaid interest upon the disposition of a note by such Non-U.S. Holder would be taxed in the same manner as interest described above under United States Federal Withholding Tax .

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***Information Reporting and Backup Withholding***

Payments of interest made by us or our paying agent on, or the proceeds from the sale or other disposition of, the notes will generally be subject to information reporting and United States federal backup withholding at the rate then in effect if a Non-U.S. Holder receiving such payment fails to comply with applicable United States information reporting or certification requirements. Such requirements are generally satisfied by providing a properly executed IRS Form W-8BEN or W-8BEN-E (or appropriate substitute form) described above. Any amount withheld under the backup withholding rules is allowable as a credit against the Non-U.S. Holder's United States federal income tax liability, provided that the required information is timely furnished to the IRS.

***Additional Withholding Requirements under the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act***

Withholding at a rate of 30% will generally be required in certain circumstances on interest payable on and, after December 31, 2018, gross proceeds from the disposition of the notes held by or through certain financial institutions (including investment funds), unless such institution (i) enters into, and complies with, an agreement with the IRS to report, on an annual basis, information with respect to interests in, and accounts maintained by, the institution that are owned by certain U.S. persons or by certain non-U.S. entities that are wholly or partially owned by U.S. persons and to withhold on certain payments, (ii) if required under an intergovernmental agreement between the United States and an applicable foreign country, reports such information to its local tax authority, which will exchange such information with the U.S. authorities, or (iii) otherwise qualifies for an exemption. An intergovernmental agreement between the United States and applicable foreign country may modify these requirements. Accordingly, the entity through which the notes are held will affect the determination of whether such withholding is required. Similarly, interest payable on and, after December 31, 2018, gross proceeds from the disposition of the notes held by an investor that is a non-financial non-U.S. entity that does not qualify under certain exemptions will generally be subject to withholding at a rate of 30%, unless such entity either (i) certifies that such entity does not have any substantial United States owners or (ii) provides certain information regarding the entity's substantial United States owners, which we will in turn provide to the United States Department of the Treasury. Prospective investors should consult their own tax advisors regarding the possible implications of these rules on an investment in the notes.

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**LEGAL MATTERS**

Donald J. Riccitelli, Corporate Counsel of Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. and Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, New York, New York are representing us in connection with this remarketing. The remarketing agents are being represented by Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, New York, New York. Mr. Riccitelli beneficially owns and has rights to acquire less than one percent of our common stock.

**EXPERTS**

The consolidated financial statements of the Company as of January 3, 2015 and December 28, 2013 and for each of the three years in the period ended January 3, 2015 appearing in the Company's Current Report (Form 8-K) dated October 2, 2015 (including the schedule appearing therein), and the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of January 3, 2015 appearing in the Company's Annual Report (Form 10-K) for the year ended January 3, 2015 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 19, 2015, have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in its reports thereon, included therein, and incorporated herein by reference. Such consolidated financial statements and schedule are incorporated herein by reference in reliance upon such reports given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

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**Prospectus**

**Stanley Black & Decker, Inc.**

**Common Stock**

**Preferred Stock**

**Debt Securities**

**Warrants**

**Depository Shares**

**Stock Purchase Contracts**

**and**

**Stock Purchase Units**

We may offer, issue and sell, together or separately:

shares of our common stock;

shares of our preferred stock;

debt securities, which may be senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities;

warrants to purchase our debt securities, shares of our common stock or shares of our preferred stock;

depository shares representing an interest in our preferred stock;

stock purchase contracts to purchase shares of our common stock or other securities; and

stock purchase units, each representing ownership of a stock purchase contract and debt securities, preferred securities or debt obligations of third-parties, including U.S. treasury securities or any combination of the foregoing, securing the holder's obligation to purchase our common stock or other securities under the stock purchase contracts.

We will provide the specific prices and terms of these securities in one or more supplements to this prospectus at the time of offering. You should read this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement carefully before you make your investment decision.

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

**Investing in our securities involves a number of risks. See Risk Factors on page 7 before you make your investment decision.**

We may offer securities through underwriting syndicates managed or co-managed by one or more underwriters or dealers, through agents or directly to purchasers. If required, the prospectus supplement for each offering of securities will describe the plan of distribution for that offering. For general information about the distribution of securities offered, please see "Plan of Distribution" in this prospectus.

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the trading symbol SWK.

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

**The date of this prospectus is October 19, 2015**

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**ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS**

This prospectus is part of an automatic shelf registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) as a well-known seasoned issuer as defined in Rule 405 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act), using a shelf registration process. Under this process, we may sell: common stock; preferred stock; debt securities; warrants to purchase debt securities, common stock or preferred stock; depositary shares; or stock purchase contracts and stock purchase units. This prospectus only provides you with a general description of the securities that we may offer. Each time we sell securities, we will provide a supplement to this prospectus that contains specific information about the terms of the securities. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should carefully read both this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement and any free writing prospectus prepared by or on behalf of us, together with the additional information described under the heading **Where You Can Find More Information**.

We have not authorized anyone to provide you with any information other than that contained in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus, the accompanying prospectus supplement or a free writing prospectus prepared by or on behalf of us. We take no responsibility for, and can provide no assurance as to the reliability of, any other information that others may give you. We are not making offers to sell the securities in any jurisdiction in which an offer or solicitation is not authorized or in which the person making such offer or solicitation is not qualified to do so or to anyone to whom it is unlawful to make an offer or solicitation.

The information in this prospectus is accurate as of the date on the front cover. You should not assume that the information contained in this prospectus is accurate as of any other date.

When used in this prospectus, the terms Stanley Black & Decker, Inc., the Company, we, our and us refer to Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. and its consolidated subsidiaries, unless otherwise specified or the context otherwise requires.

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**WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION**

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended and the rules promulgated thereunder (the Exchange Act). Our SEC filings are available to the public at the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). You may read and copy all or any portion of this information at the Public Reference Section of the SEC, 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information about the public reference rooms. We maintain a website at [www.stanleyblackanddecker.com](http://www.stanleyblackanddecker.com). The information on our web site is not incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement, and you should not consider it a part of this prospectus or any accompanying prospectus supplement.

You can also inspect reports, proxy statements and other information about Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference information into this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is deemed to be part of this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement, except for any information superseded by information contained directly in this prospectus, any accompanying prospectus supplement, any subsequently filed document deemed incorporated by reference or a free writing prospectus prepared by or on behalf of us. This prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement incorporates by reference the documents set forth below that Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. has previously filed with the SEC (other than information deemed furnished and not filed in accordance with SEC rules, including Items 2.02 and 7.01 of Form 8-K). These documents contain important information about Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. and its finances.

Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 3, 2015;

The information specifically incorporated by reference into our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 3, 2015 from our definitive proxy statement on Schedule 14A filed with the SEC on March 6, 2015;

Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended April 4, 2015 and July 4, 2015;

Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on April 21, 2015, October 5, 2015 and October 16, 2015, and Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed with the SEC on February 20, 2015;

The description of our common stock contained in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A/A, filed with the SEC on March 12, 2010, and any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description;

The description of the depositary preferred stock purchase rights associated with our common stock contained in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A/A, filed with the SEC on July 23, 2004, and any



amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such descriptions; and

Our definitive proxy statement filed with the SEC on March 6, 2015.

All documents filed by us pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date of this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement and before the termination of the offering shall also be deemed to be incorporated herein by reference. We are not, however, incorporating by reference any documents or portions thereof, whether specifically listed above or filed in the future, that are not deemed filed with the SEC, including our compensation committee report and performance graph or any information furnished pursuant to Items 2.02 or 7.01 of Form 8-K or certain exhibits furnished pursuant to Item 9.01 of Form 8-K.

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To obtain a copy of these filings at no cost, you may write or telephone us at the following address:

Stanley Black & Decker, Inc.

1000 Stanley Drive

New Britain, Connecticut 06053

Attention: Treasurer

(860) 225-5111

If requested, we will provide to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom a prospectus is delivered, a copy of any or all of the information that has been incorporated by reference in the prospectus but not delivered with the prospectus. Exhibits to the filings will not be sent, however, unless those exhibits have specifically been incorporated by reference into such documents.

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**SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement and any documents incorporated by reference contain or incorporate statements that are forward-looking within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995.

Those statements include trend analyses and other information relative to markets for our products and trends in our operations or financial results as well as other statements that can be identified by the use of forward-looking language such as may, should, believes, expects, anticipates, plans, estimates, intends, projects, goals, similar expressions. Our actual results, performance or achievements could be materially different from the results expressed in, or implied by, those forward-looking statements. Those statements are subject to risks and uncertainties, including but not limited to the risks described in this prospectus, any accompanying prospectus supplement and any documents incorporated by reference. When considering those forward-looking statements, you should keep in mind the risks, uncertainties and other cautionary statements made in this prospectus, any accompanying prospectus supplement and the documents incorporated by reference.

A variety of factors could cause our actual results to differ materially from the expected results expressed in our forward-looking statements, including those factors set forth in this prospectus, any accompanying prospectus supplement or the documents incorporated by reference, including the Risk Factors, Business and Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations sections of our reports and other documents filed with the SEC. Factors that may cause our actual results to differ materially from those we contemplate by the forward-looking statements include, among others, the following possibilities:

inability to maintain and improve the overall profitability of our operations;

inability to identify and effectively execute productivity improvements and cost reductions, while minimizing any associated restructuring charges;

inability to limit the impact of steel and other commodity and material price inflation through price increases and other measures;

inability to capitalize on future acquisition opportunities (including any anticipated cost savings or other synergies) and fund other initiatives;

inability to invest in routine business needs;

inability to continue improvements in working capital;

failure to identify, complete and integrate acquisitions, or to integrate existing businesses, while limiting or otherwise managing associated costs or liabilities;

inability to limit restructuring and other payments associated with recent acquisitions;

inability to minimize or otherwise manage costs or liabilities associated with any sale or discontinuance of a business or product line, including any asset impairment, severance, restructuring, legal or other costs or liabilities;

the extent to which we have to write off accounts receivable or assets or experience supply chain disruptions in connection with bankruptcy filings by our customers or suppliers;

inability to generate free cash flow and maintain a strong debt to capital ratio, including focusing on reduction of debt as determined by management;

inability to successfully settle routine tax audits;

inability to generate earnings sufficient to realize future income tax benefits during periods when temporary differences become deductible;

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discontinued acceptance of technologies used in our products and services;

failure of our efforts to build upon our growth platforms and market leadership in Convergent Security Solutions;

inability to manage existing Sonitrol and Mac Tools franchisees and distributor relationships;

inability to access to credit markets on favorable terms, and the maintenance by us of an investment grade credit rating;

inability to negotiate satisfactory payment terms for the purchase and sale of goods, material and products;

inability to sustain the success of our marketing and sales efforts, including our ability to recruit and retain an adequate sales force and to maintain our customer base;

inability of the sales force to adapt to any changes made in the sales organization and achieve adequate customer coverage;

inability to develop and introduce new and high quality products and at the right price points, grow sales in existing markets, identify and develop new markets for our products and maintain and build the strength of our brands;

loss of significant volumes of sales from our larger customers;

inability to maintain or improve current production rates in our manufacturing facilities, to respond to significant changes in product demand, or to fulfill demand for new and existing products;

inability to implement, manage and maintain our operating systems effectively;

inability to continue successfully managing and defending claims and litigation;

pricing pressure and other changes within competitive markets;

increasing competition;

continued consolidation of customers, particularly in consumer channels;

inventory management pressures on our customers;

changes in laws, regulations and policies that affect us, including, but not limited to trade, monetary, tax and fiscal policies and laws;

risks relating to environmental matters, including changes in the estimated costs to remediate historical contamination and resolve related litigation;

risks arising out of changes in environmental laws or other requirements (or their interpretation or enforcement), including such laws or other requirements that may affect the content or production of our products;

the final geographic distribution of future earnings and the effect of currency exchange fluctuations and impact of dollar/foreign currency exchange, taxes and interest rates on the competitiveness of products, our debt program and our cash flow;

challenging global geopolitical and macroeconomic environment;

the economic environment of emerging markets, particularly Latin America, Russia, Turkey and China;

the strength of the United States and European economies;

the impact that tightened credit markets may have on the Company or its customers or suppliers;

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the extent to which world-wide markets associated with homebuilding and remodeling remain very weak or continue to deteriorate;

the impact of events that cause or may cause disruption in our manufacturing, distribution and sales networks, such as war, terrorist activities, natural disasters, political unrest, and recessionary or expansive trends in world economies in which we operate; and

inability to mitigate cost increases (such as customer price increases) generated by, for example, continued increases in the cost of energy or significant Euro, Canadian Dollar, Chinese Renminbi or other currency fluctuations.

There can be no assurance that other factors not currently anticipated by us will not materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition, and results of operations. You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on any forward-looking statements made by us or on our behalf. Please take into account that forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this prospectus or, in the case of any accompanying prospectus supplement or documents incorporated by reference, the date of any such document. We do not undertake any obligation to publicly correct or update any forward-looking statement if we later become aware that it is not likely to be achieved. You are advised, however, to consult any further disclosures we make on related subjects in reports and other information filed with the SEC.

**Table of Contents****STANLEY BLACK & DECKER, INC.**

Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. was founded in 1843 by Frederick T. Stanley and incorporated in 1852. We are a diversified global provider of power and hand tools, products and services for various industrial applications, mechanical access solutions (i.e. automatic doors and commercial locking systems), and electronic security and monitoring systems. Stanley®, Black & Decker® and DeWalt® along with the family of Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. brands are recognized around the world for quality, innovation and value and are among the world's most trusted brands.

Our principal executive office is located at 1000 Stanley Drive, New Britain, Connecticut 06053 and our telephone number is (860) 225-5111.

**RISK FACTORS**

Investing in our securities involves risk. See the risk factors described in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K (together with any material changes thereto contained in subsequently filed Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q) and those contained in our other filings with the SEC for our most recent fiscal year, which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement. Before making an investment decision, you should carefully consider these risks as well as other information we include or incorporate by reference in this prospectus. These risks could materially affect our business, results of operations or financial condition and cause the value of our securities to decline. You could lose all or part of your investment.

**USE OF PROCEEDS**

Except as otherwise set forth in the prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement, we expect to use the net proceeds from the sale of securities for general corporate purposes, including the financing of our operations, the possible repayment of indebtedness, and possible business acquisitions. 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 ratio of earnings to fixed charges for each of the periods indicated is set forth below. For purposes of computing these ratios, earnings represents income from continuing operations before income taxes and fixed charges. Fixed charges are the sum of (i) interest expensed and capitalized, (ii) amortized premiums, discounts and capitalized expenses related to indebtedness, and (iii) the portion of rents representative of interest.

	<b>For the Fiscal Year</b>					
	<b>Six Months Ended</b>		<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>
	<b>July 4, 2015</b>	<b>2014</b>				
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges	6.5X	6.7X	4.4X	4.4X	5.3X	2.4X



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**DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES**

This prospectus contains summary descriptions of the debt securities, common stock, preferred stock, warrants, depositary shares, stock purchase contracts and stock purchase units that may be offered and sold from time to time. These summary descriptions are not meant to be complete descriptions of each security. However, at the time of an offering and sale, this prospectus together with the accompanying prospectus supplement will contain the material terms of the securities being offered.

**DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES**

As used in this prospectus, debt securities means the debentures, notes, bonds and other evidences of indebtedness that we may issue separately, upon exercise of a debt warrant, in connection with a stock purchase contract or as part of a stock purchase unit from time to time. The debt securities may either be senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities. Senior debt securities may be issued under a Senior Indenture and subordinated debt securities may be issued under a Subordinated Indenture. This prospectus sometimes refers to the Senior Indenture and the Subordinated Indenture collectively as the Indentures. The Indentures have been filed with the SEC. We may also issue debt securities under a separate, new indenture. If that occurs, we will describe any differences in the terms of any series or issue of debt securities in the prospectus supplement relating to that series or issue.

The following briefly summarizes the material provisions of the Indentures and the debt securities, other than pricing and related terms disclosed in an accompanying prospectus supplement or pricing supplement. You should read the more detailed provisions of the applicable Indenture, including the defined terms, for provisions that may be important to you. You should also read the particular terms of an offering of debt securities, which will be described in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement or pricing supplement. Copies of the Indentures may be obtained from Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. or the applicable trustee.

As used in this Description of Debt Securities, the terms Stanley Black & Decker, Inc., we, our and us refer to Stanley Black & Decker, Inc., a Connecticut corporation, and do not, unless otherwise specified, include our subsidiaries.

**General**

The debt securities will be our direct general unsecured obligations. The senior debt securities will rank equally with all of our other senior unsecured and unsubordinated debt. The subordinated debt securities will be subordinate and junior in right of payment to all of our present and future senior indebtedness to the extent and in the manner set forth in the Subordinated Indenture.

Since our operations are partially conducted through our subsidiaries, the cash flow and the consequent ability to service our indebtedness, including the debt securities, is partially dependent upon the earnings of our subsidiaries and the distribution of those earnings or upon the payments of funds by those subsidiaries to us. Our subsidiaries are separate and distinct legal entities and have no obligation, contingent or otherwise, to pay any amounts due pursuant to the debt securities or to make funds available to us, whether by dividends, loans or other payments. In addition, the payment of dividends and the making of loans and advances to us by our subsidiaries may be subject to contractual or statutory restrictions, are contingent upon the earnings of those subsidiaries and are subject to various business considerations. Any right we may have to receive assets of any of our subsidiaries upon their liquidation or reorganization (and the consequent right of the holders of our debt securities to participate in those assets) will be structurally subordinated to the claims of such subsidiary's creditors, including trade creditors, because such creditors' claims will have a priority over our claim as an equity owner of our subsidiaries.



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The Indentures do not limit the aggregate principal amount of debt securities that we may issue and provide that we may issue debt securities from time to time in one or more series, in each case with the same or various maturities, at par or at a discount. We may issue additional debt securities of a particular series without the consent of the holders of the debt securities of such series outstanding at the time of the issuance. Any such additional debt securities, together with all other outstanding debt securities of that series, will constitute a single series of debt securities under the applicable Indenture. The Indentures also do not limit our ability to incur other debt.

Each prospectus supplement will summarize the material terms relating to the specific series of debt securities being offered. These terms may include some or all of the following:

the title of debt securities, whether they are subordinated debt securities or senior debt securities;

any limit on the aggregate principal amount of the debt securities;

the price or prices at which we will sell the debt securities;

the maturity date or dates of the debt securities;

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

the date or dates from which any interest will accrue or the method by which such date or dates will be determined;

the right, if any, to extend the interest payment periods and defer interest payments, and the duration of any such deferral period, including the maximum consecutive periods during which interest payments may be deferred;

whether the amount of payments of principal of (and premium, if any) or interest on the debt securities may be determined with reference to any index, formula or other method, such as one or more currencies, commodities, equity indices or other indices, and the manner of determining the amount of such payments;

the dates on which we will pay interest on the debt securities and the regular record date for determining who is entitled to the interest payable on any interest payment date;

the place or places where the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest on the debt securities will be payable;

if we possess the option to do so, the periods within which and the prices at which we may redeem the debt securities, in whole or in part, pursuant to optional redemption provisions, and the other terms and conditions of any such provisions;

our obligation, if any, to redeem, repay or purchase debt securities by making periodic payments to a sinking fund or through an analogous provision or at the option of holders of the debt securities, and the period or periods within which and the price or prices at which we will redeem, repay or purchase the debt securities, in whole or in part, pursuant to such obligation, and the other terms and conditions of such obligation;

the denominations in which the debt securities will be issued, if other than denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000;

the portion, or methods of determining the portion, of the principal amount of the debt securities which we must pay upon the acceleration of the maturity of the debt securities in connection with an Event of Default (as described below), if other than the full principal amount;

the currency, currencies or currency unit in which we will pay the principal of (and premium, if any) or interest, if any, on the debt securities, if not United States dollars;

provisions, if any, granting special rights to holders of the debt securities upon the occurrence of specified events;

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any deletions from, modifications of or additions to the Events of Default or our covenants with respect to the applicable series of debt securities, and whether or not such Events of Default or covenants are consistent with those contained in the applicable Indenture;

the application, if any, of the terms of the Indenture relating to defeasance and covenant defeasance (which terms are described below) to the debt securities;

whether the subordination provisions summarized below or different subordination provisions will apply to the debt securities;

the terms, if any, upon which the holders may convert or exchange the debt securities into or for our common stock, preferred stock or other securities or property;

whether any of the debt securities will be issued in global form in the name of a depository and, if so, the terms and conditions upon which global debt securities will cease to be issued in the name of a depository and exchanged for debt securities of smaller denominations issued in the name of investors and/or their direct or indirect nominees;

any change in the right of the trustee or the requisite holders of debt securities to declare the principal amount thereof due and payable because of an Event of Default;

the depository for global debt securities;

any special tax implications of the debt securities;

any trustees, authenticating or paying agents, transfer agents or registrars or other agents with respect to the debt securities; and

any other terms of the debt securities.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the debt securities will not be listed on any securities exchange and will be issued in fully-registered form without coupons.

Debt securities may be sold at a discount below their stated principal amount, bearing no interest or interest at a rate which at the time of issuance is below market rates. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the material federal income tax consequences and special considerations applicable to any such debt securities. The debt securities may also be issued as indexed securities or securities denominated in foreign currencies, currency units or composite currencies, as described in more detail in the prospectus supplement relating to any of the particular debt securities.

**Subordination**

The prospectus supplement relating to any offering of subordinated debt securities will describe the specific subordination provisions, including the extent of subordination of payments by us of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on such subordinated debt securities.

The Subordinated Indenture does not limit the issuance of additional Senior Indebtedness.

### **Certain Covenants**

Except as set forth below or in any indenture supplemental to the Indentures or in a board resolution of ours establishing a series of securities under the Indentures, the Indentures will not:

limit the amount of indebtedness or lease obligations that may be incurred by us and our subsidiaries; or

contain provisions which would give holders of the notes the right to require us to repurchase their notes in the event of a decline in the credit rating of our debt securities resulting from a change in control, recapitalization or similar restructuring or in the case of any other event.

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### **Limitation on Liens**

The Senior Indenture provides that if we or any Restricted Subsidiary (as defined below) shall issue, assume or guarantee any evidence of indebtedness for money borrowed ( **Indebtedness** ) secured by a mortgage, security interest, pledge or lien ( **Mortgage** ) on any Principal Property (as described below), or shares of stock or Indebtedness of any Restricted Subsidiary, we will secure or cause such Restricted Subsidiary to secure any debt securities issued under the Senior Indenture (the **Senior Securities** ) equally and ratably with such secured Indebtedness (for so long as such secured Indebtedness remains to be so secured), unless the aggregate amount of all such secured Indebtedness, together with all Attributable Debt (as defined below) outstanding pursuant to the first paragraph of the **Limitation on Sale and Lease-back Transactions** covenant described below, would not exceed 10% of Consolidated Net Worth (defined below). The Subordinated Indenture does not contain a similar limitation on liens.

Such limitation will not apply to Indebtedness secured by (a) Mortgages on property of any corporation existing at the time such corporation becomes a Restricted Subsidiary, (b) Mortgages on any property existing at the date of the indenture or at the time of acquisition by us or a Restricted Subsidiary (including acquisition through merger or consolidation), (c) Mortgages securing Indebtedness of a Restricted Subsidiary to us or to another Restricted Subsidiary, (d) purchase money and construction Mortgages entered into within specified time limits, (e) mechanics liens, tax liens, liens in favor of any governmental body to secure progress, advance or other payments or the acquisition of real or personal property from any governmental body pursuant to contract or provision of statute, any other liens, charges and encumbrances incidental to construction, conduct of business or ownership of property of ours or any Restricted Subsidiary which were not incurred in connection with borrowing money, obtaining advances or credits or the acquisition of property and in the aggregate do not materially impair use of any Principal Property or which are being contested in good faith, or (f) any extension, renewal or replacement of any of the aforementioned Mortgages not in excess of the principal amount of such Indebtedness plus any premium or fee payable in connection with such transaction.

### **Limitation on Sale and Lease-back Transactions**

The Senior Indenture provides that neither we nor any Restricted Subsidiary may enter into any sale and lease-back transaction involving any Principal Property unless the aggregate amount of all Attributable Debt with respect to such transactions, together with all Indebtedness outstanding pursuant to the first paragraph of the **Limitation on Liens** covenant described above, would not exceed 10% of Consolidated Net Worth.

Such limitation will not apply to any sale and lease-back transaction if (a) the lease is for a period of not more than three years, (b) the purchaser's commitment is obtained within a specified period after the acquisition, construction or placing in service of the Principal Property, (c) the rent payable pursuant to such lease is to be reimbursed under a contract with the United States Government or instrumentality or agency thereof, (d) the transaction is between us and a Restricted Subsidiary or between Restricted Subsidiaries, (e) we or such Restricted Subsidiary would be entitled as described in **Limitation on Liens**, above, to mortgage such Principal Property without equally and ratably securing the Senior Securities, or (f) we or such Restricted Subsidiary, within 180 days after the effective date of the transaction, apply to the retirement of Senior Securities or other Indebtedness of ours or a Restricted Subsidiary an amount equal to (A) either (i) the lesser of the net proceeds of the sale or transfer or the book value at the date of such sale or transfer of the Principal Property leased, if the transaction is for cash, or (ii) the fair market value of the Principal Property leased, if the transaction is for other than cash, minus (B) the amount equal to the principal amount of Senior Securities delivered to the trustee within such 180 days for cancellation and the principal amount of Indebtedness voluntarily retired (including any premium or fee paid in connection therewith) within such 180 days.

### **Consolidation, Merger and Sale of Assets**

We may consolidate or merge with or into any other corporation, and we may sell or transfer all or substantially all of our assets to another corporation, provided, among other things, that (a) if we are not the



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surviving corporation, the corporation formed by or resulting from any such consolidation or merger or the transferee of such assets shall be a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the United States, any state thereof or the District of Columbia and shall expressly assume by supplemental indenture payment of the principal of and premium, if any, and interest, if any, on the debt securities issued under the Indenture and the performance and observance of the Indenture and (b) we or such successor corporation shall not immediately thereafter be in default under the Indenture.

## **Definition of Certain Terms**

**Restricted Subsidiary** means a Subsidiary (as defined below) (i) substantially all the property of which is located, or substantially all the business of which is carried on, within the United States, and (ii) which owns a Principal Property; provided, however, that the term shall not include any Subsidiary which is solely or primarily engaged in the business of providing or obtaining financing for the sale or lease of products sold or leased by us or any Subsidiary or which is primarily engaged in the business of a finance company either on a secured or an unsecured basis.

**Principal Property** means all real property and tangible personal property constituting a manufacturing plant located within the United States owned by us or a Restricted Subsidiary, exclusive of (i) motor vehicles, mobile materials-handling equipment and other rolling stock, (ii) office furnishings and equipment, information and electronic data processing equipment, (iii) any property financed through obligations issued by a state or possession of the United States, or any political subdivision or instrumentality of the foregoing, on which the interest is not, in the opinion of tax counsel of recognized standing or in accordance with a ruling issued by the Internal Revenue Service, includable in gross income of the holder by reason of Section 103(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (or any successor to such provision) as in effect at the time of the issuance of such obligations, (iv) any real property held for development or sale, or (v) any property the gross book value of which (including related land and improvements thereon and all machinery and equipment included therein without deduction of any depreciation reserves) is less than 10% of Consolidated Net Worth or which our board of directors determines is not material to the operation of our business and our Subsidiaries taken as a whole.

**Consolidated Net Worth** means the excess over current liabilities of all assets properly appearing on our consolidated balance sheet after deducting the minority interests of others in Subsidiaries.

A **Subsidiary** is defined to mean any corporation of which at least a majority of all outstanding stock having ordinary voting power in the election of directors of such corporation is at the time, directly or indirectly, owned by us or by one or more Subsidiaries of ours or by us and one or more Subsidiaries.

**Attributable Debt** in respect of any Sale and Lease-Back Transaction means, as of the time of the determination, the lesser of (i) the sale price of the Principal Property so leased multiplied by a fraction the numerator of which is the remaining portion of the base term of the lease included in such transaction and the denominator of which is the base term of such lease, and (ii) the total obligation (discounted to present value at the implicit interest factor, determined in accordance with generally accepted financial practice, included in the rental payments or, if such interest factor cannot readily be determined, at a rate of interest of 10% per annum, compounded semi-annually) of the lessee for rental payments (other than amounts required to be paid on account of property taxes as well as maintenance, repairs, insurance, water rates and other items which do not constitute payments for property rights) during the remaining portion of the base term of lease included in such transaction.

## **Events of Default**

The following events are defined in the Indentures as **Events of Default** with respect to any series of debt securities:

default in the payment of any installment of interest on any debt securities in such series for 30 days after becoming due;

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default in the payment of principal or premium, if any, of any debt securities in such series when due;

default in the performance of any other covenant for 90 days after notice;

involuntary acceleration of the maturity of our indebtedness in excess of \$10 million for money borrowed which acceleration shall not be rescinded or annulled or otherwise cured, or which indebtedness shall not be discharged, within 10 days after notice;

entry of certain court orders which would require us to make payments exceeding \$25 million and where 60 days have passed since the entry of the order without it having been satisfied or stayed;

certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization; and

any other Event of Default that may be set forth in the supplemental indenture or board resolution with respect to a particular series of debt securities.

If an Event of Default shall occur and be continuing with respect to a series of debt securities, either the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities (or such lesser amount as may be provided for in the debt securities of such series) of such series may declare the entire principal amount of all the debt securities of such series to be due and payable.

The Indentures provide that the trustee shall, within 90 days after the occurrence of default with respect to a particular series of debt securities, give the holders of the debt securities of such series notice of such default known to it (the term default to mean the events specified above without grace periods); provided that, except in the case of default in the payment of principal or premium, if any, or interest, if any, on any of the debt securities of such series, the trustee shall be protected in withholding such notice if it in good faith determines the withholding of such notice is in the interest of the holders of the debt securities of such series.

We are required to furnish the trustee annually a statement by certain of our officers to the effect that to the best of their knowledge we are not in default in the fulfillment of any of our obligations under the Indentures or, if there has been a default in the fulfillment of any such obligation, specifying each such default. No holder of any debt securities of any particular series shall have any right to institute any judicial or other proceeding with respect to the Indentures, or for the appointment of a receiver or trustee, or for any other remedy unless:

an Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing and such holder shall have given the trustee prior written notice of such continuing Event of Default;

the holders of not less than 25% of the outstanding principal amount of debt securities of a particular series shall have requested the trustee for such series to institute proceedings in respect of such Event of Default;

under the Senior Indenture, the trustee shall have been offered indemnity reasonably satisfactory to it against the costs, expenses and liabilities to be incurred in compliance with such request;

under the Subordinated Indenture, the trustee shall have been offered such reasonable indemnity as it may require against its costs, expenses and liabilities in complying with such request;

the trustee shall have failed to institute proceedings 60 days after the receipt of such notice, request and offer of indemnity; and

no direction inconsistent with such written request shall have been given for 60 days by the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of such series.

The holders of a majority in principal amount of a particular series of debt securities outstanding will have the right, subject to certain limitations, to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee with respect to such series or exercising any trust or power conferred to the trustee, and to waive certain defaults. The Indentures provide that in case an Event of Default shall occur and be continuing, the trustee shall exercise such of its rights and powers under the Indentures, and use the same degree of care and skill in their exercise, as a prudent man would exercise or use under the circumstances in the conduct

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of his own affairs. Subject to such provisions, the trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers under the Indentures at the request of any of the holders of debt securities of a particular series unless they shall have offered to the trustee security or indemnity reasonably satisfactory to the trustee against the costs, expenses and liabilities which might be incurred by it in compliance with such request.

### **Discharge, Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance**

If indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we may discharge or defease our obligations under each Indenture as set forth below.

We may discharge certain obligations to holders of any series of debt securities issued under either the Senior Indenture or the Subordinated Indenture which have not already been delivered to the trustee for cancellation and which have either become due and payable or are by their terms due and payable within one year (or scheduled for redemption within one year) by irrevocably depositing with the trustee funds or government obligations denominated in U.S. dollars or in the foreign currency in which debt securities of such series are payable in an amount sufficient, in the opinion of an independent firm of certified public accountants, to pay the entire indebtedness on debt securities of such series with respect to principal (and premium and additional amounts, if any) and interest to the date of such deposit (if debt securities of such series have become due and payable) or to the maturity thereof or the date of redemption of debt securities of such series, as the case may be.

If indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we may elect either (i) to defease and be discharged from any and all obligations with respect to the debt securities of or within any series (except for, among other things, the obligation to pay additional amounts, if any, upon the occurrence of certain events of taxation, assessment or governmental charge with respect to payments on debt securities of such series and other obligations to register the transfer or exchange of debt securities of such series, to replace temporary or mutilated, destroyed, lost or stolen debt securities, to maintain an office or agency with respect to the debt securities and to hold moneys for payment in trust) ( defeasance ) or (ii) to be released from our obligations with respect to certain covenants applicable to the debt securities of or within any series of debt securities and any omission to comply with such obligations shall not constitute an Event of Default with respect to such series of debt securities ( covenant defeasance ), upon the deposit with the relevant Indenture trustee, in trust for such purpose, of money and/or government obligations which through the payment of principal and interest in accordance with their terms will provide money in an amount sufficient, without reinvestment, to pay the principal of (and premium, if any) or interest on such debt securities to maturity. As a condition to defeasance or covenant defeasance, we must deliver to the trustee an opinion of counsel to the effect that the holders of such debt securities will not recognize income, gain or loss for federal income tax purposes as a result of such defeasance or covenant defeasance and will be subject to federal income tax on the same amounts and in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if such defeasance or covenant defeasance had not occurred. Such opinion of counsel, in the case of defeasance under clause (i) above, must refer to and be based upon a ruling of the Internal Revenue Service or a change in applicable federal income tax law occurring after the date of the relevant Indenture. In addition, in the case of either defeasance or covenant defeasance, we must deliver to the trustee (i) an opinion of counsel stating that the money and government obligations or other property deposited with the trustee to be held in trust will not be subject to any case or proceeding under any Federal or State bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization or other similar law, or any decree or order for relief, and (ii) an officers certificate and an opinion of counsel, each stating that all conditions precedent with respect to such defeasance or covenant defeasance have been complied with.

We may exercise our defeasance option with respect to such debt securities notwithstanding our prior exercise of our covenant defeasance option.



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**Modification and Waiver**

Modification and amendment of the Indentures may be made by us and the trustee with the consent of the holders of not less than a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of each series affected thereby; provided, however, that no such modification or amendment may, without the consent of the holder of each outstanding debt security affected thereby:

change the stated maturity of the principal of, or any premium or installment of interest on, or any additional amounts with respect to, debt securities of any series,

reduce the principal amount of, or the rate (or modify the calculation of such rate) of interest on, or any additional amounts with respect to, or any premium payable upon the redemption of, debt securities of any series,

change our obligation to pay additional amounts with respect to debt securities of any series or reduce the amount of the principal of an original issue discount debt securities that would be due and payable upon a declaration of acceleration of the maturity thereof or the amount thereof provable in bankruptcy,

change the redemption provisions of debt securities of any series or adversely affect the right of repayment at the option of any holder of debt securities of any series,

change the place of payment or the coin or currency in which the principal of, any premium or interest on or any additional amounts with respect to debt securities of any series is payable,

impair the right to institute suit for the enforcement of any payment on or after the stated maturity of debt securities of any series,

reduce the percentage in principal amount of an outstanding series of debt securities, the consent of whose holders is required in order to take certain actions,

reduce the requirements for quorum or voting by holders of a particular series of debt securities,

modify any of the provisions in the Indentures regarding the waiver of past defaults and the waiver of certain covenants by the holders of a particular series of debt securities except to increase any percentage vote required or to provide that certain other provisions of the Indentures cannot be modified or waived without the consent of the holder of each debt security of such series affected thereby,

make any change that adversely affects the right to convert or exchange any series of debt security into or for our common stock or other securities in accordance with its terms, or

modify any of the above provisions.

The holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of any series may, on behalf of the holders of all debt securities of such series, waive our compliance with certain restrictive provisions of the applicable Indenture. The holders of not less than a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series may, on behalf of the holders of all debt securities of such series, waive any past default and its consequences under the Indenture with respect to the debt securities of such series, except a default:

in the payment of principal of (or premium, if any), any interest on or any additional amounts with respect to debt securities of such series; or

in respect of a covenant or provision of the Indenture that cannot be modified or amended without the consent of the holder of each debt security of such series.

Under the Indentures, we are required to furnish the trustee annually a statement as to performance by us of certain of our obligations under the Indentures and as to any default in such performance. We are also required to deliver to the trustee, within five days after occurrence thereof, written notice of any Event of Default or any event which after notice or lapse of time or both would constitute an Event of Default.



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### **Payment and Paying Agents**

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, payment of interest on a debt security on any interest payment date will be made to the person in whose name a debt security is registered at the close of business on the record date for the interest.

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, principal, interest and premium on the debt securities of a particular series will be payable at the office of such paying agent or paying agents as we may designate for such purpose from time to time. Notwithstanding the foregoing, at our option, payment of any interest may be made by check mailed to the address of the person entitled thereto as such address appears in the security register.

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, a paying agent designated by us and located in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York will act as paying agent for payments with respect to debt securities of each series. All paying agents initially designated by us for the debt securities of a particular series will be named in the applicable prospectus supplement. We may at any time designate additional paying agents or rescind the designation of any paying agent or approve a change in the office through which any paying agent acts, except that we will be required to maintain a paying agent in each place of payment for the debt securities of a particular series.

All moneys paid by us to a paying agent for the payment of the principal, interest or premium on any debt security which remain unclaimed at the end of two years after such principal, interest or premium has become due and payable will be repaid to us upon written request, and the holder of such debt security thereafter may look only to us for payment thereof.

### **Denominations, Registrations and Transfer**

Unless an accompanying prospectus supplement states otherwise, debt securities will be represented by one or more global certificates registered in the name of a nominee for The Depository Trust Company ( "DTC" ). In such case, each investor's beneficial interest in the global securities will be shown on the records of DTC and transfers of beneficial interests will only be effected through DTC's records.

A holder of a beneficial interest in a global security may only exchange such interest for certificated securities registered in such holder's name if:

DTC notifies us that it is unwilling or unable to continue serving as the depository for the relevant global securities or DTC ceases to maintain certain qualifications under the Exchange Act and no successor depository has been appointed for 90 days; or

We determine, in our sole discretion, that the global security shall be exchangeable.

If debt securities cease to be represented by global certificates, they will only be issued in the minimum denomination specified in the accompanying prospectus supplement and integral multiples of such denomination. Transfers and exchanges of such debt securities will only be permitted in such minimum denomination. Transfers of debt securities in certificated form may be registered at the trustee's corporate trust office or at the offices of any paying agent or trustee appointed by us under the Indentures. Exchanges of debt securities for an equal aggregate principal amount of debt securities in different denominations may also be made at such locations.

**Benefits of Indentures**

Nothing in the Indentures will confer upon or give any person other than us, the trustee, our and its successors, and the person or persons in whose names the debt securities of a particular series are registered in the security register for the debt securities of such series, any benefit, right, remedy or claim under the Indentures.

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**Governing Law**

The Indentures are and debt securities will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the internal laws of the State of New York, without regard to its principles of conflicts of laws (other than Section 5-1401 of the General Obligations Law of the State of New York).

**Regarding the Trustee**

The Senior Indenture Trustee is The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as successor trustee to JP Morgan Chase Bank N.A., and the Subordinated Indenture Trustee is HSBC Bank USA, National Association. The Trustees are permitted to engage in other transactions with us and our subsidiaries from time to time, provided that if the trustees acquire any conflicting interest they must eliminate such conflict upon the occurrence of an Event of Default, or else resign.

**Conversion or Exchange Rights**

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

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**DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK**

**General**

The following summary description of our capital stock is based on the provisions of the Connecticut Business Corporation Act (the "CBCA"), our restated certificate of incorporation, as amended, and our bylaws, as amended. This description does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of the CBCA, as it may be amended from time to time, and to the terms of the restated certificate of incorporation and bylaws, as each may be amended from time to time, which are incorporated by reference as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. See "Where You Can Find More Information." As used in this Description of Capital Stock, the terms Stanley Black & Decker, Inc., we, our and us refer to Stanley Black & Decker, Inc., a Connecticut corporation, and do not, unless otherwise specified, include the subsidiaries of this Connecticut corporation.

Our authorized capital stock consists of 300,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$2.50 per share, and 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, without par value. The number of authorized shares of any class may be increased or decreased by an amendment to our restated certificate of incorporation proposed by our board of directors and approved by a majority of voting shares voted on the issue at a meeting at which a quorum exists.

**Common Stock**

Each shareholder of record of our common stock is entitled to one vote for each share held on every matter properly submitted to the shareholders for their vote. Holders of our common stock do not have cumulative voting rights. After satisfaction of the dividend rights of holders of preferred stock, holders of common stock are entitled ratably to any dividend declared by the board of directors out of funds legally available for this purpose.

Upon our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, the holders of our common stock are entitled to receive ratably our net assets available, if any, after the payment of all debts and other liabilities and subject to the prior rights of any outstanding preferred stock.

Holders of our common stock have no redemption or conversion rights, no sinking fund provisions and no preemptive right to subscribe for or purchase additional shares of any class of our capital stock.

The outstanding shares of our common stock are fully paid and nonassessable, and any shares of common stock issued in an offering pursuant to this prospectus and any shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of common stock warrants or conversion or exchange of debt securities or preferred stock which are convertible into or exchangeable for our common stock, or in connection with the obligations of a holder of stock purchase contracts to purchase our common stock, when issued in accordance with their terms will be fully paid and nonassessable. The rights, preferences and privileges of holders of common stock are subject to, and may be adversely affected by, the rights of the holders of shares of any series of preferred stock that we may designate and issue in the future.

**Preferred Stock**

This section describes the general terms and provisions of preferred stock that we are authorized to issue. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the specific terms of the shares of preferred stock offered through that prospectus supplement, as well as any general terms described in this section that will not apply to those shares of preferred stock. We will file a copy of the certificate of amendment to our certificate of incorporation that contains the terms of each new series of preferred stock with the Secretary of the State of Connecticut and with the SEC each time we issue a new series of preferred stock. Each such certificate of amendment will establish the number of shares

included in a designated series and fix the designation, powers, privileges, preferences and rights of the shares of each series as well as any applicable qualifications, limitations or restrictions. You should refer to the applicable certificate of amendment as well as our certificate of incorporation before deciding to buy shares of our preferred stock as described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

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Our board of directors has been authorized to provide for the issuance of up to 10,000,000 shares of our preferred stock in multiple series without the approval of shareholders. With respect to each series of our preferred stock, our board of directors has the authority to fix the following terms:

the designation of the series;

the number of shares within the series;

whether dividends are cumulative and, if cumulative, the dates from which dividends are cumulative;

the rate of any dividends, any conditions upon which dividends are payable, and the dates of payment of dividends;

whether the shares are redeemable, the redemption price and the terms of redemption;

the amount payable for each share if we dissolve or liquidate;

whether the shares are convertible or exchangeable, the price or rate of conversion or exchange, and the applicable terms and conditions;

any restrictions on issuance of shares in the same series or any other series;

voting rights applicable to the series of preferred stock; and

any other rights, priorities, preferences, restrictions or limitations of such series.

The right of a holder of preferred stock to receive payment in respect thereof upon any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of us will be subordinate to the rights of our general creditors. Shares of our preferred stock that we issue in accordance with their terms will be fully paid and nonassessable, and will not be entitled to preemptive rights unless specified in the applicable certificate of amendment to a certificate of incorporation and the applicable prospectus supplement.

Our ability to issue preferred stock, or rights to purchase such shares, could discourage an unsolicited acquisition proposal. For example, we could impede a business combination by issuing a series of preferred stock containing class voting rights that would enable the holders of such preferred stock to block a business combination transaction. Alternatively, we could facilitate a business combination transaction by issuing a series of preferred stock having sufficient voting rights to provide a required percentage vote of the shareholders. Additionally, under certain circumstances, our issuance of preferred stock could adversely affect the voting power of the holders of our common

stock. Although our board of directors is required to make any determination to issue any preferred stock based on its judgment as to the best interests of our shareholders, our board of directors could act in a manner that would discourage an acquisition attempt or other transaction that some, or a majority, of our shareholders might believe to be in their best interests or in which shareholders might receive a premium for their stock over prevailing market prices of such stock. Our board of directors does not at present intend to seek shareholder approval prior to any issuance of currently authorized stock, unless otherwise required by law or applicable stock exchange requirements.

**Anti-Takeover Effects of Provisions of the Certificate of Incorporation, Bylaws and Other Agreements**

The rights of our shareholders and related matters are governed by the CBCA, the certificate of incorporation, the bylaws and the Rights Agreement, dated January 19, 2006, which is referred to herein as the Rights Agreement. Provisions of the CBCA, the certificate of incorporation, the bylaws and the Rights Agreement, which are summarized below, may discourage or make more difficult a takeover attempt that shareholders might consider in their best interest. These provisions may also adversely affect prevailing market prices for our common stock.

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### **Board of Directors**

The certificate of incorporation provides that the board of directors shall consist of not less than nine nor more than eighteen directors, the exact number to be fixed by the board of directors from time to time. At each annual meeting of the shareholders, each nominee for director shall stand for election to a one-year term expiring at the next annual meeting of shareholders. Despite the expiration of a director's term, such director shall continue to serve until either the director's successor shall have been duly elected and qualified or there is a decrease in the number of directors. In no case will a decrease in the number of directors shorten the term of any incumbent director. Any vacancy on the board of directors may be filled by the shareholders or by the board of directors, whether such vacancy occurs as a result of an increase in the number of directors or otherwise. The certificate of incorporation also provides that directors may be removed from office, but only for cause by the affirmative vote of at least a majority of the votes entitled to be cast thereon.

### **Shareholder Action by Written Consent; Special Meetings**

Under the CBCA our shareholders may take action by written unanimous consent of holders of all of our shares in lieu of an annual or special meeting. Otherwise, shareholders will only be able to take action at an annual or special meeting called in accordance with the bylaws.

The bylaws provide that special meetings of shareholders may only be called by:

the chairman of the board;

the chief executive officer;

the secretary; or

the chairman of the board, the chief executive officer or the secretary upon the written request of the holders of not less than thirty-five percent (35%) of our outstanding voting stock.

In addition, the CBCA provides that a corporation with a class of voting stock registered under the Exchange Act shall hold a special meeting of shareholders if the holders of thirty-five percent (35%) of the votes entitled to be cast on any issue proposed to be considered demand such a meeting.

### **Advance Notice Requirements for Director Nominations and Other Proposals**

**Director Nominations.** The bylaws contain advance notice procedures with regard to shareholder proposals related to the nomination of candidates for election as directors. These procedures provide that notice of shareholder proposals related to shareholder nominations for the election of directors must be received at our executive offices at least 90 days, but no more than 120 days before the first anniversary of the date on which the proxy statement for the preceding annual meeting was mailed; provided, however, that in the event the annual meeting is not within 30 days before or after such anniversary date, notice by the shareholder must be received not later than the close of business 10 days after the day on which notice of the date of the annual meeting was mailed or public disclosure of the date of the annual meeting was made, whichever occurs first. Our bylaws require that all directors be shareholders of record.



A shareholder's notice to our corporate secretary must be in proper written form and must set forth certain information including:

the name, and record addresses of the nominating shareholder, and any other person on whose behalf the nomination is being made, and the nominee;

the class or series and number of shares of our capital stock which are beneficially or of record owned by the nominating shareholder or such other person;

a description of all arrangements or understandings between the nominating shareholder or such other person and any nominee(s) in connection with the nomination;

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any other information relating to the nominee that would be required to be disclosed in a proxy statement or other solicitations of proxies for election of directors or as otherwise required to be disclosed pursuant to the Exchange Act had the nominee been nominated by the board of directors;

a consent of the nominee to be named in the proxy statement and to serve if elected; and

a representation that the nominating shareholder intends to appear in person or by proxy at the meeting to make such nomination.

**Other Proposals.** In addition to the procedures for nominating directors, the bylaws also contain notice procedures for other shareholder proposals to be brought before an annual meeting. To be timely, we must receive shareholder proposals at least 90 days, but no more than 120 days before the first anniversary of the date on which the proxy statement for the preceding annual meeting was mailed; provided, however, that in the event the annual meeting is not within 30 days before or after such anniversary date, notice by the shareholder must be received not later than the close of business 10 days after the day on which notice of the date of the annual meeting was mailed or public disclosure of the date of the annual meeting was made, whichever occurs first.

A shareholder's notice to our corporate secretary must be in proper written form and must set forth, as to each matter that shareholder proposes to bring before the meeting:

a brief description of the business desired to be brought before the meeting and the reasons for conducting that business at the meeting;

the complete text of any resolutions to be presented;

the name and record address of that shareholder and any other person on whose behalf the proposal is made;

the class and series and number of shares of each class and series of our capital stock which are owned beneficially or of record by that shareholder or such other person;

a description of all arrangements or understandings between that shareholder and any such other person in connection with the proposal of that business and any material interest of that shareholder or such other person in that business; and

a representation that the shareholder intends to appear in person or by proxy at the meeting to bring that business before the meeting.

## **Rights Agreement**

On January 19, 2006, our board of directors declared a dividend distribution of one right for each share of our common stock outstanding on the close of business on March 10, 2006 and authorized the issuance of one right (as

such number may be adjusted from time to time in accordance with the terms of the Rights Agreement) per share of our common stock issued between March 10, 2006 and the distribution date. Each outstanding share of common stock currently has one half of a share purchase right. Each purchase right may be exercised to purchase one two-hundredth of a share of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock at an exercise price of \$220.00, subject to adjustment. The rights, which do not have voting rights, expire on March 10, 2016, and may be redeemed by us at a price of \$0.01 per right at any time prior to the earlier of the rights' expiration date or the close of business on the tenth day following the public announcement that a person has acquired beneficial ownership of 15% or more of the outstanding shares of common stock.

In the event that we are acquired in a merger or other business combination transaction, provision shall be made so that each holder of a right (other than a holder who is a 10%-or-more shareholder) shall have the right to receive, upon exercise thereof, that number of shares of common stock of the surviving company having a market value equal to two times the exercise price of the right. Similarly, if anyone becomes the beneficial owner of more than 10% of the then outstanding shares of common stock (except pursuant to an offer for all outstanding

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shares of common stock which the independent directors have deemed to be fair and in our best interest), provision will be made so that each holder of a right (other than a holder who is a 10%-or-more shareholder) shall thereafter have the right to receive, upon exercise thereof, common stock (or, in certain circumstances, cash, property or our other securities) having a market value equal to two times the exercise price of the right.

### **Antitakeover Legislation**

We are subject to the provisions of Section 33-844 of the CBCA which prohibits a Connecticut corporation from engaging in a business combination with an interested shareholder for a period of five years after the date of the transaction in which the person became an interested shareholder, unless the business combination or the purchase of stock by which such person becomes an interested shareholder is approved by our board of directors, and by a majority of our non-employee directors, prior to the date on which the person becomes an interested shareholder. A business combination generally includes mergers, asset sales, some types of stock issuances and other transactions with, or resulting in a disproportionate financial benefit to, the interested shareholder. Subject to exceptions, an interested shareholder is a person who owns 10% or more of our voting power, or is an affiliate or associate of Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. and owned 10% or more of our voting power within the past five years.

Under our certificate of incorporation, the affirmative vote by the holders of 80% of our outstanding voting stock is required for the approval or authorization of any business combination involving an interested shareholder. This voting requirement does not apply if:

2/3 of our disinterested directors expressly approve the proposed business combination; or

The following conditions are satisfied:

The cash and fair market value of other consideration received on a per share basis by each shareholder is no less than the highest share price (or the equivalent value) paid by the interested shareholder in acquiring our capital stock; and

A proxy statement is mailed to all shareholders of the corporation for the purpose of soliciting shareholder approval of the business combination.

This 80% vote is required even if no vote or a lesser percentage is required by any applicable laws. Additionally, the affirmative vote of the holders of not less than 80% of our outstanding shares of capital stock is required to modify this section of our certificate of incorporation.

Notwithstanding the 80% vote required by our certificate of incorporation, we are also subject to Section 33-841 and Section 33-842 of the CBCA. These provisions generally require business combinations with an interested shareholder to be approved by the board of directors and then by the affirmative vote of at least:

the holders of 80% of the voting power of the outstanding shares of our voting stock; and

the holders of  $2/3$  of the voting power of the outstanding shares of our voting stock, excluding the voting stock held by the interested shareholder;

unless the consideration to be received by the shareholders meets certain price and other requirements set forth in Section 33-842 of the CBCA or unless the board of directors of the corporation has by resolution determined to exempt business combinations with that interested shareholder prior to the time that such shareholder became an interested shareholder.

We are also subject to Section 33-756(d) of the CBCA, generally requiring directors acting with respect to mergers, sales of assets and other specified transactions to consider, in determining what they reasonably believe to be in the best interests of the corporation, specified interests, including those of the corporation's employees, customers, creditors and suppliers and any community in which any office or other facility of the corporation is located.

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**Limitation of Liability of Directors**

The certificate of incorporation contains provisions permitted under the CBCA relating to the personal liability of directors. The provisions limit the personal liability to us or our shareholders of a director for monetary damages for breach of duty as a director to an amount that is not more than the compensation received by that director for serving us during the year of the violation. Our bylaws provide for the indemnification and reimbursement of, and advances of expenses to, any person that is made a party to an action by reason of the fact that he or she:

is or was our director, officer, employee or agent, or

served at our request as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation.

Our bylaws provide for indemnification of directors and officers to the fullest extent permitted by Connecticut law.

**Listing**

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol SWK.

**Transfer Agent and Registrar**

The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is Computershare Investor Services, LLC.

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**DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS**

This section describes the general terms and provisions of our warrants to acquire our securities that we may issue from time to time. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms of any warrant agreements and the warrants issuable thereunder. If any particular terms of the warrants described in the prospectus supplement differ from any of the terms described herein, then the terms described herein will be deemed superseded by that prospectus supplement.

We may issue warrants for the purchase of our debt securities, common stock or preferred stock, including rights to receive payment in cash or securities based on the value, rate or price of one or more specified commodities, currencies, securities or indices, or any combination of the foregoing. We may issue warrants independently or together with other securities, and they may be attached to or separate from the other securities. Each series of warrants will be issued under a separate warrant agreement that we will enter into with a bank or trust company, as warrant agent, as detailed in the applicable prospectus supplement. The warrant agent will act solely as our agent in connection with the warrants and will not assume any obligation, or agency or trust relationship, with you. We will file a copy of the warrant and warrant agreement with the SEC each time we issue a series of warrants, and these warrants and warrant agreements will be incorporated by reference into the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. A holder of our warrants should refer to the provisions of the applicable warrant agreement and prospectus supplement for more specific information.

The prospectus supplement relating to a particular issue of warrants will describe the terms of those warrants, including, when applicable:

the offering price;

the currency or currencies, including composite currencies, in which the purchase price and/or exercise price of the warrants may be payable;

the number of warrants offered;

the securities underlying the warrants, if any, to receive payment in cash or securities based on the value, rate or price of one or more specified commodities, currencies, securities or indices, or any combination of the foregoing, purchasable upon exercise of the warrants;

the exercise price and the amount of securities you will receive upon exercise;

the procedure for exercise of the warrants and the circumstances, if any, that will cause the warrants to be automatically exercised;

the rights, if any, we have to redeem the warrants;

the date on which the right to exercise the warrants will commence and the date on which the warrants will expire;

the designation and terms of the securities with which the warrants are issued and the number of warrants issued with each such security;

the date on and after which the warrants and the related securities will be separately transferable;

material U.S. federal income tax consequences;

the name of the warrant agent; and

any other material terms of the warrants.

After warrants expire they will become void. All warrants will be issued in registered form. The prospectus supplement may provide for the adjustment of the exercise price of the warrants.



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Warrants may be exercised at the appropriate office of the warrant agent or any other office indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement. Before the exercise of warrants, holders will not have any of the rights of holders of the securities purchasable upon exercise and will not be entitled to payments made to holders of those securities.

The applicable warrant agreement may be amended or supplemented without the consent of the holders of the warrants to which it applies to effect changes that are not inconsistent with the provisions of the warrants and that do not materially and adversely affect the interests of the holders of the warrants. However, any amendment that materially and adversely alters the rights of the holders of warrants will not be effective unless the holders of at least a majority of the applicable warrants then outstanding approve the amendment. Every holder of an outstanding warrant at the time any amendment becomes effective, by continuing to hold the warrant, will be bound by the applicable warrant agreement as amended. The prospectus supplement applicable to a particular series of warrants may provide that certain provisions of the warrants, including the securities for which they may be exercisable, the exercise price and the expiration date, may not be altered without the consent of the holder of each warrant affected thereby.

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**DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES**

**General**

We may offer fractional shares of preferred stock, rather than full shares of preferred stock. If we do so, we may issue receipts for depositary shares that each represent a fraction of a share of a particular series of preferred stock. The prospectus supplement will indicate that fraction. The shares of preferred stock represented by depositary shares will be deposited under a depositary agreement between us and a bank or trust company that meets certain requirements and is selected by us (the Bank Depositary). Each owner of a depositary share will be entitled to all the rights and preferences of the preferred stock represented by the depositary share. The depositary shares will be evidenced by depositary receipts issued pursuant to the depositary agreement. Depositary receipts will be distributed to those persons purchasing the fractional shares of preferred stock in accordance with the terms of the offering.

We have summarized some common provisions of a depositary agreement and the related depositary receipts. The forms of the depositary agreement and the depositary receipts relating to any particular issue of depositary shares will be filed with the SEC each time we issue depositary shares, and you should read those documents for provisions that may be important to you. If any particular terms of the depositary agreements and the related depositary receipts described in the prospectus supplement differ from any of the terms described herein, then the terms described herein will be deemed superseded by that prospectus supplement.

**Dividends and Other Distributions**

If we pay a cash distribution or dividend on a series of preferred stock represented by depositary shares, the Bank Depositary will distribute such dividends to the record holders of such depositary shares. If the distributions are in property other than cash, the Bank Depositary will distribute the property to the record holders of the depositary shares. However, if the Bank Depositary determines that it is not feasible to make the distribution of property, the Bank Depositary may, with our approval, sell such property and distribute the net proceeds from such sale to the record holders of the depositary shares.

**Redemption of Depositary Shares**

If we redeem a series of preferred stock represented by depositary shares, the Bank Depositary will redeem the depositary shares from the proceeds received by the Bank Depositary in connection with the redemption. The redemption price per depositary share will equal the applicable fraction of the redemption price per share of the preferred stock. If fewer than all the depositary shares are redeemed, the depositary shares to be redeemed will be selected by lot or pro rata as the Bank Depositary may determine.

**Voting the Preferred Stock**

Upon receipt of notice of any meeting at which the holders of the preferred stock represented by depositary shares are entitled to vote, the Bank Depositary will mail the notice to the record holders of the depositary shares relating to such preferred stock. Each record holder of these depositary shares on the record date, which will be the same date as the record date for the preferred stock, may instruct the Bank Depositary as to how to vote the preferred stock represented by such holder's depositary shares. The Bank Depositary will endeavor, insofar as practicable, to vote the amount of the preferred stock represented by such depositary shares in accordance with such instructions, and we will take all action that the Bank Depositary deems necessary in order to enable the Bank Depositary to do so. The Bank Depositary will abstain from voting shares of the preferred stock to the extent it does not receive specific instructions from the holders of depositary shares representing such preferred stock.



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### **Amendment and Termination of the Depositary Agreement**

The form of depositary receipt evidencing the depositary shares and any provision of the depositary agreement may be amended by agreement between the Bank Depositary and us. However, any amendment that materially and adversely alters the rights of the holders of depositary shares will not be effective unless such amendment has been approved by the holders of at least a majority of the depositary shares then outstanding. The depositary agreement may be terminated by the Bank Depositary or us only if (1) all outstanding depositary shares have been redeemed or (2) there has been a final distribution in respect of the preferred stock in connection with any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our company and such distribution has been distributed to the holders of depositary receipts.

### **Charges of Bank Depositary**

We will pay all transfer and other taxes and governmental charges arising solely from the existence of the depositary arrangements. We will pay charges of the Bank Depositary in connection with the initial deposit of the preferred stock and any redemption of the preferred stock. Holders of depositary receipts will pay other transfer and other taxes and governmental charges and any other charges, including a fee for the withdrawal of shares of preferred stock upon surrender of depositary receipts, as are expressly provided in the depositary agreement to be for their accounts.

### **Withdrawal of Preferred Stock**

Except as may be provided otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, upon surrender of depositary receipts at the principal office of the Bank Depositary, subject to the terms of the depositary agreement, the owner of the depositary shares may demand delivery of the number of whole shares of preferred stock and all money and other property, if any, represented by those depositary shares. Partial shares of preferred stock will not be issued. If the depositary receipts delivered by the holder evidence a number of depositary shares in excess of the number of depositary shares representing the number of whole shares of preferred stock to be withdrawn, the Bank Depositary will deliver to such holder at the same time a new depositary receipt evidencing the excess number of depositary shares. Holders of preferred stock thus withdrawn may not thereafter deposit those shares under the depositary agreement or receive depositary receipts evidencing depositary shares therefor.

### **Miscellaneous**

The Bank Depositary will forward to holders of depositary receipts all reports and communications from us that are delivered to the Bank Depositary and that we are required to furnish to the holders of the preferred stock.

Neither the Bank Depositary nor we will be liable if we are prevented or delayed by law or any circumstance beyond our control in performing our obligations under the depositary agreement. The obligations of the Bank Depositary and us under the depositary agreement will be limited to performance in good faith of our duties thereunder, and we will not be obligated to prosecute or defend any legal proceeding in respect of any depositary shares or preferred stock unless satisfactory indemnity is furnished. We may rely upon written advice of counsel or accountants, or upon information provided by persons presenting preferred stock for deposit, holders of depositary receipts or other persons believed to be competent and on documents believed to be genuine.

### **Resignation and Removal of Bank Depositary**

The Bank Depositary may resign at any time by delivering to us notice of its election to do so, and we may at any time remove the Bank Depositary. Any such resignation or removal will take effect upon the appointment of a successor Bank Depositary and its acceptance of such appointment. The successor Bank Depositary must be appointed within 60

days after delivery of the notice of resignation or removal and must be a bank or trust company meeting the requirements of the depositary agreement.

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**DESCRIPTION OF STOCK PURCHASE CONTRACTS AND STOCK PURCHASE UNITS**

We may issue stock purchase contracts, including contracts obligating holders to purchase from or sell to us, and obligating us to sell to or purchase from the holders, a specified number of shares of common stock or other securities at a future date or dates, which we refer to in this prospectus as stock purchase contracts. The price per share of the securities and the number of shares of the securities may be fixed at the time the stock purchase contracts are issued or may be determined by reference to a specific formula set forth in the stock purchase contracts, and may be subject to adjustment under anti-dilution formulas. The stock purchase contracts may be issued separately or as part of units consisting of a stock purchase contract and debt securities, preferred securities or debt obligations of third parties, including U.S. treasury securities, any other securities described in the applicable prospectus supplement or any combination of the foregoing, securing the holders' obligations to purchase the securities under the stock purchase contracts, which we refer to herein as stock purchase units. The stock purchase contracts may require holders to secure their obligations under the stock purchase contracts in a specified manner. The stock purchase contracts also may require us to make periodic payments to the holders of the stock purchase contracts or the stock purchase units, as the case may be, or vice versa, and those payments may be unsecured or pre-funded in whole or in part.

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms of the stock purchase contracts or stock purchase units. This description is not complete and the description in the prospectus supplement will not necessarily be complete, and reference is made to the stock purchase contracts, and, if applicable, collateral or depositary arrangements relating to the stock purchase contracts or stock purchase units, which will be filed with the SEC each time we issue stock purchase contracts or stock purchase units. If any particular terms of the stock purchase contracts or stock purchase units described in the prospectus supplement differ from any of the terms described herein, then the terms described herein will be deemed superseded by that prospectus supplement. Material United States federal income tax considerations applicable to the stock purchase units and the stock purchase contracts will also be discussed in the applicable prospectus supplement.

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**PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION**

We may sell the securities being offered hereby in one or more of the following ways from time to time:

to underwriters for resale to purchasers;

directly to purchasers; or

through agents or dealers to purchasers.

In addition, Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. may enter into derivative or hedging transactions with third parties, or sell securities not covered by this prospectus to third parties in privately negotiated transactions. In connection with such a transaction, the third parties may sell securities covered by and pursuant to this prospectus and an applicable prospectus supplement. If so, the third party may use securities borrowed from us or others to settle such sales and may use securities received from us to close out any related short positions. We may also loan or pledge securities covered by this prospectus and an applicable prospectus supplement to third parties, who may sell the loaned securities or, in an event of default in the case of a pledge, sell the pledged securities pursuant to this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement.

We will identify the specific plan of distribution, including any underwriters, dealers, agents or direct purchasers and their compensation in a prospectus supplement.

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**LEGAL MATTERS**

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we are being represented by Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, New York, New York, as to matters of New York law and matters of Connecticut law will be passed upon for us by Donald J. Riccitelli, our corporate counsel. Mr. Riccitelli beneficially owns and has rights to acquire less than one percent of our common stock.

**EXPERTS**

The consolidated financial statements of Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. and subsidiaries as of January 3, 2015 and December 28, 2013 and for each of the three years in the period ended January 3, 2015 appearing in the Company's Current Report (Form 8-K) dated October 2, 2015 (including the schedule appearing therein), and the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of January 3, 2015 appearing in the Company's Annual Report (Form 10-K) for the year ended January 3, 2015 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 19, 2015, have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in its reports thereon, included therein, and incorporated herein by reference. Such consolidated financial statements and schedule are incorporated herein by reference in reliance upon such reports given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.