

DUNKIN' BRANDS GROUP, INC.

Form 424B7

August 10, 2012

Table of Contents

Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(7)

Registration File No. 333-183190

The information in this preliminary prospectus supplement is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are not an offer to sell these securities, and we are not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Subject to completion, dated August 9, 2012

Prospectus Supplement to Prospectus dated August 9, 2012

21,754,659 Shares

Dunkin' Brands Group, Inc.

Common stock

The selling stockholders named in this prospectus supplement are offering 21,754,659 shares of our common stock. We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of our common stock by the selling stockholders.

We have entered into an agreement with certain of the selling stockholders to repurchase 15,000,000 shares of our common stock, concurrently with the closing of this offering, directly from such selling stockholders in a private, non-underwritten transaction at a price per share equal to the price paid by the underwriter in this offering. The closing of the share repurchase is contingent on the closing of this offering. The closing of this offering is not contingent on the closing of the share repurchase.

Our common stock is listed on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol **DNKN**. On August 8, 2012, the last sale price of our common stock as reported on The NASDAQ Global Select Market was \$30.73 per share.

The underwriter has agreed to purchase the shares of common stock from the selling stockholders at a price of \$ _____ per share, which will result in \$ _____ of proceeds to the selling stockholders before expenses. The underwriter may offer the shares of common stock in transactions on The NASDAQ Global Select Market, in the over-the-counter market or through negotiated transactions at market prices or at negotiated prices. See **Underwriting**.

Delivery of the shares of common stock is expected to be made on or about _____, 2012.

Investing in our common stock involves substantial risk. Please read **Risk factors beginning on page S-3.**

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any other regulatory body has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

Citigroup

, 2012

Table of Contents

Table of contents

Prospectus supplement

<u>About this prospectus supplement</u>	S-ii
<u>Prospectus supplement summary</u>	S-1
<u>Risk factors</u>	S-3
<u>Cautionary note regarding forward-looking statements</u>	S-6
<u>Use of proceeds</u>	S-7
<u>Market price of our common stock</u>	S-7
<u>Dividend policy</u>	S-7
<u>Selling stockholders</u>	S-8
<u>Material U.S. federal tax considerations for Non-U.S. Holders of common stock</u>	S-10
<u>Underwriting</u>	S-14
<u>Legal matters</u>	S-21
<u>Experts</u>	S-21
<u>Where you can find more information</u>	S-22
<u>Incorporation of certain documents by reference</u>	S-22

Prospectus

<u>About this prospectus</u>	ii
<u>Risk factors</u>	1
<u>Cautionary note regarding forward-looking statements</u>	1
<u>Use of proceeds</u>	2
<u>Description of capital stock</u>	2
<u>Plan of distribution</u>	5
<u>Legal matters</u>	7
<u>Experts</u>	7
<u>Where you can find more information</u>	8
<u>Incorporation of certain information by reference</u>	8

We have not authorized anyone to provide any information or to make any representations other than those contained in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or in any free writing prospectuses we have prepared. We take no responsibility for, and can provide no assurance as to the reliability of, any other information that others may give you. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are an offer to sell only the shares offered hereby, but only under circumstances and in jurisdictions where it is lawful to do so. The information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is current only as of the date of the applicable document.

S-i

Table of Contents

About this prospectus supplement

Unless otherwise indicated or the context otherwise requires, references in this prospectus supplement to the Company, Dunkin' Brands, we, us and our refer to Dunkin' Brands Group, Inc. and its consolidated subsidiaries.

This document is in two parts. The first part is this prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of this common stock offering and certain other matters relating to us, our business and prospects. The second part, the accompanying prospectus, contains a description of our common stock and certain other information.

The information contained in this prospectus supplement may add, update or change information contained in the accompanying prospectus or in documents that we file or have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). To the extent the information contained in this prospectus supplement differs or varies from the information contained in the accompanying prospectus or documents incorporated by reference filed before the date of this prospectus supplement, the information in this prospectus supplement will supersede such information.

S-ii

Table of Contents

Prospectus supplement summary

This summary highlights information appearing elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. This summary is not complete and does not contain all of the information that you should consider before investing in our common stock. You should carefully read the entire prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the financial data and related notes and other information incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement before deciding whether to invest in our common stock.

Our company

We are one of the world's leading franchisors of quick service restaurants serving hot and cold coffee and baked goods, as well as hard serve ice cream. We franchise restaurants under our Dunkin' Donuts and Baskin-Robbins brands. With over 17,000 points of distribution in 55 countries, we believe that our portfolio has strong brand awareness in our key markets.

We believe that our nearly 100% franchised business model offers strategic and financial benefits. For example, because we do not own or operate a significant number of stores, our Company is able to focus on menu innovation, marketing, franchisee coaching and support, and other initiatives to drive the overall success of our brand. Financially, our franchised model allows us to grow our points of distribution and brand recognition with limited capital investment by us.

The share repurchase

On July 24, 2012, our Board of Directors authorized a \$500 million common stock repurchase program. In connection with the repurchase program, we have entered into an agreement with certain of the selling stockholders to repurchase 15,000,000 shares of our common stock, concurrently with the closing of this offering, directly from such selling stockholders in a private, non-underwritten transaction at a price per share equal to the price paid by the underwriter in this offering. We refer to this repurchase as the share repurchase. We intend to fund the share repurchase primarily with borrowings under our recently upsized term loan facility, and also from cash on hand. The closing of the share repurchase is contingent on the closing of this offering and the satisfaction of certain other customary conditions. The funding of the share repurchase will, if completed, increase the amount of debt on our balance sheet.

The closing of this offering is not conditioned on the consummation of the share repurchase, and there can be no assurance that the share repurchase will be consummated.

The description and the other information in this prospectus supplement regarding the share repurchase is included in this prospectus supplement solely for informational purposes. Nothing in this prospectus supplement should be construed as an offer to sell, or the solicitation of an offer to buy, any of our common stock subject to the share repurchase.

Amendment to our senior secured credit facility

In connection with the share repurchase, we have entered into an amendment to our senior credit facility that provides us with \$400 million in additional term loan borrowings. The amendment also permits us to borrow additional incremental term loans and provides increased flexibility for us to pay dividends and engage in share repurchases. See **Risk factors** **Risks related to our indebtedness** Our substantial indebtedness could adversely affect our financial condition.

Company information

Our principal executive offices are located at 130 Royall Street, Canton, Massachusetts 02021, our telephone number at that address is (781) 737-3000 and our internet address is www.dunkinbrands.com. Our website, and the information contained on our website, is not part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

Table of Contents

The offering

Common stock offered by the selling stockholders	21,754,659 shares
Common stock to be outstanding after this offering and the concurrent share repurchase	105,501,023 shares ⁽¹⁾
Use of proceeds	We will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of shares of common stock by the selling stockholders.
Share repurchase	We have entered into an agreement with certain of the selling stockholders to repurchase 15,000,000 shares of our common stock, concurrently with the closing of this offering, directly from such selling stockholders in a private, non-underwritten transaction at a price per share equal to price paid by the underwriter in this offering. The closing of the share repurchase is contingent on the closing of this offering. The closing of this offering is not contingent on the closing of the share repurchase.
Risk factors	You should read carefully the information set forth under Risk factors herein for a discussion of factors that you should consider before deciding to invest in our common stock
NASDAQ Global Select Market symbol	DNKN

⁽¹⁾ Based on 120,501,023 shares outstanding as of July 31, 2012

Table of Contents

Risk factors

An investment in our common stock involves various risks. You should carefully consider the following risks and all of the other information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus before investing in our common stock. In addition, you should read and consider the risk factors associated with our business included in the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, including our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011. See [Where you can find more information](#). The risks described below and incorporated herein by reference are those which we believe are the material risks that we face. The trading price of our common stock could decline due to any of these risks, and you may lose all or part of your investment in our common stock.

Risks related to this offering and our common stock

Our stock price could be extremely volatile and, as a result, you may not be able to resell your shares at or above the price you paid for them.

Since our initial public offering in July 2011, the price of our common stock, as reported by NASDAQ, has ranged from a low of \$23.24 on December 15, 2011 to a high of \$37.02 on June 19, 2012. In addition, the stock market in general has been highly volatile. As a result, the market price of our common stock is likely to be similarly volatile, and investors in our common stock may experience a decrease, which could be substantial, in the value of their stock, including decreases unrelated to our operating performance or prospects, and could lose part or all of their investment. The price of our common stock could be subject to wide fluctuations in response to a number of factors, including those described elsewhere in this prospectus and others such as:

variations in our operating performance and the performance of our competitors;

actual or anticipated fluctuations in our quarterly or annual operating results;

publication of research reports by securities analysts about us or our competitors or our industry;

our failure or the failure of our competitors to meet analysts' projections or guidance that we or our competitors may give to the market;

additions and departures of key personnel;

strategic decisions by us or our competitors, such as acquisitions, divestitures, spin-offs, joint ventures, strategic investments or changes in business strategy;

the passage of legislation or other regulatory developments affecting us or our industry;

speculation in the press or investment community;

changes in accounting principles;

terrorist acts, acts of war or periods of widespread civil unrest;

natural disasters and other calamities; and

changes in general market and economic conditions.

As we operate in a single industry, we are especially vulnerable to these factors to the extent that they affect our industry or our products, or to a lesser extent our markets. In the past, securities class action litigation has often

S-3

Table of Contents

been initiated against companies following periods of volatility in their stock price. This type of litigation could result in substantial costs and divert our management's attention and resources, and could also require us to make substantial payments to satisfy judgments or to settle litigation.

Your percentage ownership in us may be diluted by future issuances of capital stock, which could reduce your influence over matters on which stockholders vote.

Pursuant to the terms of our amended and restated charter and bylaws, our board of directors has the authority, without action or vote of our stockholders, to issue all or any part of our authorized but unissued shares of common stock, including shares issuable upon the exercise of options, or shares of our authorized but unissued preferred stock. Issuances of common stock or voting preferred stock would reduce your influence over matters on which our stockholders vote, and, in the case of issuances of preferred stock, would likely result in your interest in us being subject to the prior rights of holders of that preferred stock.

There may be sales of a substantial amount of our common stock after this offering by our current stockholders, and these sales could cause the price of our common stock to fall.

As of July 31, 2012, there were 120,501,023 shares of common stock outstanding.

Each of our directors (including our chief executive officer), our chief financial officer and certain significant equity holders (including affiliates of the Sponsors) have entered into a lock-up agreement with the underwriter which regulates their sales of our common stock for a period of 60 days after the date of this prospectus supplement, subject to certain exceptions and automatic extensions in certain circumstances. Such lock-up agreements cover, in the aggregate, 738,888 outstanding shares of our common stock and vested options to purchase an additional 1,099,553 shares of our common stock.

Sales of substantial amounts of our common stock in the public market after this offering, or the perception that such sales will occur, could adversely affect the market price of our common stock and make it difficult for us to raise funds through securities offerings in the future. The shares sold in this offering are eligible for immediate sale in the public market without restriction by persons other than our affiliates.

Beginning 60 days after this offering, subject to certain exceptions and automatic extensions in certain circumstances, holders of shares of our common stock may require us to register their shares for resale under the federal securities laws, and holders of additional shares of our common stock would be entitled to have their shares included in any such registration statement, all subject to reduction upon the request of the underwriter of the offering, if any. Registration of those shares would allow the holders to immediately resell their shares in the public market. Any such sales or anticipation thereof could cause the market price of our common stock to decline.

In addition, we have registered shares of common stock that are reserved for issuance under our 2011 Omnibus Long-Term Incentive Plan.

Provisions in our charter documents and Delaware law may deter takeover efforts that you feel would be beneficial to stockholder value.

Our certificate of incorporation and bylaws and Delaware law contain provisions which could make it harder for a third party to acquire us, even if doing so might be beneficial to our stockholders. These provisions include a classified board of directors and limitations on actions by our stockholders. In addition, our board of directors has the right to issue preferred stock without stockholder approval that could be used to dilute a potential hostile acquirer. Our certificate of incorporation also imposes some restrictions on mergers and other business combinations between us and any holder of 15% or more of our outstanding common stock other than the Sponsors. As a result, you may lose your ability to sell your stock for a price in excess of the prevailing market price due to these protective measures and efforts by stockholders to change the direction or management of the company may be unsuccessful.

Table of Contents

If you purchase shares in this offering, you will suffer immediate and substantial dilution.

If you purchase shares of our common stock in this offering, you will incur immediate and substantial dilution in the pro forma net tangible book value of your stock of \$() per share as of June 30, 2012, because the price that you pay will be substantially greater than the net tangible book value per share of the shares you acquire. You will experience additional dilution upon the exercise of options and warrants to purchase our common stock, including those options currently outstanding and those granted in the future, and the issuance of restricted stock or other equity awards under our stock incentive plans. To the extent we raise additional capital by issuing equity securities, our stockholders will experience substantial additional dilution.

Risks related to our indebtedness

Our substantial indebtedness could adversely affect our financial condition.

We have a significant amount of indebtedness. As of July 31, 2012, we had total indebtedness of approximately \$1.5 billion, excluding \$11.1 million of undrawn letters of credit and \$88.9 million of unused commitments under our senior credit facility. In addition, in connection with the share repurchase, we have entered into an amendment to our senior credit facility that provides us with \$400 million in additional term loan borrowings.

Subject to the limits contained in the credit agreement governing our senior credit facility and our other debt instruments, we may be able to incur substantial additional debt from time to time to finance working capital, capital expenditures, investments or acquisitions, or for other purposes. If we do so, the risks related to our high level of debt could intensify. Specifically, our high level of debt could have important consequences, including:

limiting our ability to obtain additional financing to fund future working capital, capital expenditures, acquisitions or other general corporate requirements;

requiring a substantial portion of our cash flow to be dedicated to debt service payments instead of other purposes, thereby reducing the amount of cash flow available for working capital, capital expenditures, acquisitions and other general corporate purposes;

increasing our vulnerability to adverse changes in general economic, industry and competitive conditions;

exposing us to the risk of increased interest rates as certain of our borrowings, including borrowings under the senior credit facility, are at variable rates of interest;

limiting our flexibility in planning for and reacting to changes in the industry in which we compete;

placing us at a disadvantage compared to other, less leveraged competitors or competitors with comparable debt at more favorable interest rates; and

increasing our cost of borrowing.

Table of Contents

Cautionary note regarding forward-looking statements

This prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein include statements that express our opinions, expectations, beliefs, plans, objectives, assumptions or projections regarding future events or future results and therefore are, or may be deemed to be, forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act. These forward-looking statements can generally be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology, including the terms believes, estimates, anticipates, expects, seeks, projects, intends, plans, may, will or should or, in each case, their negative or other variations or common terminology. These forward-looking statements include matters that are not historical facts. They appear in a number of places throughout this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated herein and therein by reference and include statements regarding our intentions, beliefs or current expectations concerning, among other things, our results of operations, financial condition, liquidity, prospects, growth, strategies and the industry in which we operate. By their nature, forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties because they relate to events and depend on circumstances that may or may not occur in the future. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to: the ongoing level of profitability of franchisees and licensees; changes in working relationship with our franchisees and licensees and the actions of our franchisees and licensees; our master franchisees' relationships with sub-franchisees; the strength of our brand in the markets in which we compete; changes in competition within the quick service restaurant segment of the food industry; changes in consumer behavior resulting from changes in technologies or alternative methods of delivery; economic and political conditions in the countries where we operate; our substantial indebtedness; our ability to protect our intellectual property rights; consumer preferences, spending patterns and demographic trends; the success of our growth strategy and international development; changes in commodity and food prices, particularly coffee, dairy products and sugar, and the other operating costs; shortages of coffee; failure of our network and information technology systems; interruptions or shortages in the supply of products to our franchisees and licensees; the impact of food borne-illness or food safety issues or adverse public or media opinions regarding the health effects of consuming our products; our ability to collect royalty payments from our franchisees and licensees; uncertainties related to litigation; the ability of our franchisees and licensees to open new restaurants and keep existing restaurants in operation; our ability to retain key personnel; any inability to protect consumer credit card data; and catastrophic events. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from our expectations are more fully described in our other filings with the SEC, including in the Risk Factors section in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011 and subsequent Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, each incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement. See Where you can find more information.

Although we base these forward-looking statements on assumptions that we believe are reasonable when made, we caution you that forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and that our actual results of operations, financial condition and liquidity, and the development of the industry in which we operate may differ materially from those made in or suggested by the forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein. In addition, even if our results of operations, financial condition and liquidity, and the development of the industry in which we operate, are consistent with the forward-looking statements, those results or developments may not be indicative of results or developments in subsequent periods.

Given these risks and uncertainties, you are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. Any forward-looking statements that we make speak only as of the date of such statement, and we undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statements or to publicly announce the results of any revisions to any of those statements to reflect future events or developments.

Table of Contents**Use of proceeds**

We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of shares of our common stock by the selling stockholders.

Market price of our common stock

Our common stock has been listed on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol **DNKN** since July 27, 2011. Prior to that time, there was no public market for our common stock. The following table sets forth for the periods indicated the high and low sale prices of our common stock on The NASDAQ Global Select Market.

Fiscal Quarter	High	Low
2011		
Third Quarter (14 weeks ended September 30, 2011)(1)	\$ 31.94	\$ 24.97
Fourth Quarter (14 weeks ended December 30, 2011)	\$ 29.93	\$ 23.24
2012		
First Quarter (14 weeks ended March 30, 2012)	\$ 32.44	\$ 24.35
Second Quarter (14 weeks ended June 30, 2012)	\$ 37.02	\$ 29.58
Third Quarter (through August 3, 2012)	\$ 36.11	\$28.64

(1) Represents period from July 27, 2011, the date of our initial public offering, through the end of the quarter.

A recent reported closing price for our common stock is set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement. American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC is the transfer agent and registrar for our common stock. On July 31, 2012, we had 209 holders of record of our common stock.

Dividend policy

On December 3, 2010, we paid a cash dividend of \$500.0 million on the outstanding shares of our Class L common stock. On March 5, 2012, our board of directors determined that, subject to compliance with the covenants contained in our senior credit facility and other considerations, we would endeavor to pay dividends to holders of our common stock at regular intervals in the future. In furtherance of this dividend policy, we declared cash dividends of \$0.15 per share on the outstanding shares of our common stock that were paid on March 28, 2012 to holders of record of our common stock on March 19, 2012 and on May 16, 2012 to holders of record of our common stock on May 7, 2012, and we declared a cash dividend of \$0.15 per share on the outstanding shares of our common stock that will be paid on August 24, 2012 to holders of record of our common stock on August 6, 2012. Purchasers of our common stock in this offering will not be holders of record with respect to the purchased shares on August 6, 2012 and accordingly, will not receive this dividend.

Table of Contents**Selling stockholders**

The following table sets forth information regarding the beneficial ownership of our common stock held by the selling stockholders as of July 31, 2012.

Beneficial ownership has been determined in accordance with the applicable rules and regulations promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. The information is not necessarily indicative of beneficial ownership for any other purpose. Under these rules, beneficial ownership includes any shares as to which the individual or entity has sole or shared voting or investment power and any shares as to which the individual or entity has the right to acquire beneficial ownership within 60 days after July 31, 2012 through the exercise of any stock option, warrant or other right. For purposes of calculating each person's or group's percentage ownership, shares of common stock issuable pursuant to stock options exercisable within 60 days after July 31, 2012 are included as outstanding and beneficially owned for that person or group but are not treated as outstanding for the purpose of computing the percentage ownership of any other person or group. The inclusion in the following table of those shares, however, does not constitute an admission that the named stockholder is a direct or indirect beneficial owner. To our knowledge, except under applicable community property laws or as otherwise indicated, the persons named in the table have sole voting and sole investment control with respect to all shares shown as beneficially owned. For more information regarding the terms of our common stock, see "Description of capital stock" in the accompanying prospectus. For more information regarding our relationship with certain of the selling stockholders, see "Transactions with Related Persons" in our definitive proxy statement for our 2012 annual meeting of stockholders, which is incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement.

The numbers listed below are based on 120,501,023 shares of our common stock outstanding as of July 31, 2012.

Name and address of beneficial owner	Shares owned before the offering		Shares offered hereby	Shares owned after the offering and the concurrent share repurchase(1)	
	Number	Percentage		Number	Percentage
Bain Capital Integral Investors 2006, LLC and Related Funds (2)	12,242,613	10.2%	7,242,613		
Carlyle Partners IV, L.P. and Related Funds (3)	12,242,614	10.2%	7,242,614		
Thomas H. Lee Equity Fund V, L.P. and Related Funds (4)	12,242,610	10.2%	7,242,610		
RGIP, LLC (5)	26,822	*	26,822		

* Indicates less than 1%

(1) Assumes the consummation of our repurchase of 15,000,000 shares of our common stock from certain of the selling stockholders concurrently with the closing of this offering and the retirement of such repurchased shares.

(2) The shares included in the table consist of: (i) 12,126,832 shares of common stock owned by Bain Capital Integral Investors 2006, LLC, whose administrative member is Bain Capital Investors, LLC ("BCI"); (ii) 112,273 shares of common stock owned by BCIP TCV, LLC, whose administrative member is BCI; and (iii) 3,508 shares of common stock held by BCIP Associates-G, whose managing general partner is BCI. As a result of the relationships described above, BCI may be deemed to share beneficial ownership of the shares held by each of Bain Capital Integral Investors 2006, LLC, BCIP TCV, LLC and BCIP Associates-G (collectively, the "Bain Capital Entities"). In this offering, each of the Bain Capital Entities will sell the following number of shares of common stock: (i) Bain Capital Integral Investors 2006, LLC: 7,174,117 shares of common stock, (ii) BCIP TCV, LLC: 66,420 shares of common stock and (iii) BCIP Associates-G: 2,076 shares of common stock. Voting and investment determinations with respect to the shares held by the Bain Capital Entities are made by an investment committee comprised of the following managing directors of BCI: Andrew Balson, Steven Barnes, Joshua Bekenstein, John Connaughton, Todd Cook, Paul Edgerley, Christopher Gordon, Blair Hendrix, Jordan Hitch, Jon Kilgallon, Lew Klessel, Matthew Levin, Ian Loring, Philip Loughlin, Seth Meisel, Mark Nunnally, Stephen Pagliuca, Ian Reynolds, Mark Verdi and Stephen Zide. As a result, and by virtue of the relationships described in this footnote, the investment committee of BCI may be

Table of Contents

deemed to exercise voting and dispositive power with respect to the shares held by the Bain Capital Entities. Each of the members of the investment committee of BCI disclaims beneficial ownership of such shares. Each of the Bain Capital Entities has an address c/o Bain Capital Partners, LLC, 111 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02199. Certain partners and other employees of Bain Capital entities may make a contribution of shares of common stock to one or more charities prior to this offering. In such case, a recipient charity, if it chooses to participate in this offering, will be the selling stockholder with respect to the donated shares.

- (3) The shares included in the table consist of: (i) 11,761,068 shares of common stock owned by Carlyle Partners IV, L.P.; and (ii) 481,546 shares of common stock owned by CP IV Coinvestment, L.P. (collectively, the Carlyle Funds). In this offering, each of the Carlyle Funds will sell the following number of shares: (i) Carlyle Partners IV, L.P.: 6,957,735 shares of common stock and (ii) CP IV Coinvestment, L.P.: 284,879 shares of common stock in this offering. TC Group IV, L.P. is the general partner of each of Carlyle Partners IV, L.P. and CP IV Coinvestment, L.P. TC Group IV Managing GP, L.L.C. is the general partner of TC Group IV, L.P. TC Group, L.L.C. is the managing member of TC Group IV Managing GP, L.L.C. TCG Holdings, L.L.C. is the managing member of TC Group, L.L.C. Accordingly, each of TC Group IV, L.P., TC Group IV Managing GP, L.L.C., TC Group, L.L.C. and TCG Holdings, L.L.C. may be deemed to share beneficial ownership of the shares of our common stock owned of record by each of the Carlyle Funds. TCG Holdings L.L.C. is managed by a three person managing board, and all board action relating to the voting or disposition of these shares requires approval of a majority of the board. William E. Conway, Jr., Daniel A. D'Aniello and David M. Rubenstein, as the members of the TCG Holdings, L.L.C. managing board may be deemed to share beneficial ownership of shares of our common stock beneficially owned by TCG Holdings, L.L.C. Such individuals expressly disclaim any such beneficial ownership. Each of the Carlyle Funds has an address c/o The Carlyle Group, 1001 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 220 South, Washington, D.C. 20004-2505.
- (4) The shares included in the table consist of: (A)(i) 9,321,307 shares of common stock owned by Thomas H. Lee Equity Fund V, L.P.; (ii) 2,418,505 shares of common stock owned by Thomas H. Lee Parallel Fund V, L.P.; and (iii) 128,434 shares of common stock owned by Thomas H. Lee Equity (Cayman) Fund V, L.P. (collectively, the THL Funds), (B) 180,655 shares of common stock owned by Thomas H. Lee Investors Limited Partnership (the THL Co-Invest Fund), and (C)(i) 63,355 shares of common stock owned by Putnam Investments Employees Securities Company I LLC; (ii) 56,566 shares of common stock owned by Putnam Investments Employees Securities Company II LLC; and (iii) 73,788 shares of common stock owned by Putnam Investment Holdings, LLC (collectively, the Putnam Funds). In this offering, the each of the THL Funds and the Putnam Funds will sell the following number of shares: (i) Thomas H. Lee Equity Fund V, L.P.: 5,514,392 shares of common stock, (ii) Thomas H. Lee Parallel Fund V, L.P.: 1,430,765 shares of common stock, (iii) Thomas H. Lee Equity (Cayman) Fund V, L.P.: 75,981 shares of common stock, (iv) Thomas H. Lee Investors Limited Partnership: 106,874 shares of common stock, (v) Putnam Investments Employees Securities Company I LLC: 37,481 shares of common stock, (vi) Putnam Investments Employees Securities Company II LLC: 33,464 shares of common stock and (viii) Putnam Investment Holdings, LLC: 43,653 shares of common stock. The THL Funds general partner is THL Equity Advisors V, LLC, whose sole member is Thomas H. Lee Partners, L.P., whose general partner is Thomas H. Lee Advisors, LLC (collectively, the THL Advisors). Shares held by the THL Funds may be deemed to be beneficially owned by the THL Advisors. The THL Advisors disclaim any beneficial ownership of any shares held by the THL Funds. The general partner of the THL Co-Invest Fund is THL Investment Management Corp. The Putnam Funds are co-investment entities of the THL Funds. Putnam Investment Holdings, LLC (Holdings) is the managing member of Putnam Investments Employees Securities Company I LLC (ESC I) and Putnam Investments Employees Securities Company II LLC (ESC II). Holdings disclaims any beneficial ownership of any shares held by ESC I or ESC II. Putnam Investments LLC, the managing member of Holdings, disclaims beneficial ownership of any shares held by the Putnam Funds. The Putnam Funds and the THL Co-Invest Fund are contractually obligated to co-invest (and dispose of securities) alongside the THL Funds on a pro rata basis. Voting and investment control over securities that the THL Funds own are acted upon by majority vote of the members of a nine-member committee, the members of which are Todd M. Abbrecht, Charles A. Brizius, Anthony J. DiNovi, Thomas M. Hagerty, Scott L. Jaeckel, Seth W. Lawry, Soren L. Oberg, Scott M. Sperling and Kent R. Weldon, each of whom disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares of common stock included in the table. Each of the THL Funds and the THL Co-Invest Fund has an address c/o Thomas H. Lee Partners, L.P., 100 Federal Street, 35th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. Each of the Putnam Funds has an address c/o Putnam Investment, Inc., 1 Post Office Square, Boston, Massachusetts 02109.
- (5) Brad Malt, Ann Milner and Alfred Rose have shared voting and investment power for RGIP, LLC. The address of RGIP, LLC is Prudential Tower, 800 Boylston Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02199-3600.

Table of Contents

Material U.S. federal tax considerations for Non-U.S. Holders of common stock

The following is a summary of the material U.S. federal income and estate tax considerations relating to the purchase, ownership and disposition of our common stock by Non-U.S. Holders (defined below). This summary does not purport to be a complete analysis of all the potential tax considerations relevant to Non-U.S. Holders of our common stock. This summary is based upon the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Internal Revenue Code"), the Treasury regulations promulgated or proposed thereunder and administrative and judicial interpretations thereof, all as of the date hereof and all of which are subject to change or differing interpretations at any time, possibly with a retroactive effect.

This summary assumes that shares of our common stock are held as "capital assets" within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Internal Revenue Code. This summary does not purport to deal with all aspects of U.S. federal income and estate taxation that might be relevant to particular Non-U.S. Holders in light of their particular investment circumstances or status, nor does it address specific tax considerations that may be relevant to particular persons (including, for example, financial institutions, broker-dealers, insurance companies, partnerships or other pass-through entities, certain U.S. expatriates, tax-exempt organizations, pension plans, "controlled foreign corporations", "passive foreign investment companies", corporations that accumulate earnings to avoid U.S. federal income tax, persons in special situations, such as those who have elected to mark securities to market or those who hold common stock as part of a straddle, hedge, conversion transaction, synthetic security or other integrated investment, or holders subject to the alternative minimum tax). In addition, except as explicitly addressed herein with respect to estate tax, this summary does not address estate and gift tax considerations or considerations under the tax laws of any state, local or non-U.S. jurisdiction.

For purposes of this summary, a "Non-U.S. Holder" means a beneficial owner of common stock that for U.S. federal income tax purposes is not treated as a partnership and is not:

an individual who is a citizen or resident of the United States;

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

an estate, the income of which is included in gross income for U.S. federal income tax purposes regardless of its source; or

a trust, if (1) a U.S. court is able to exercise primary supervision over the trust's administration and one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all of the trust's substantial decisions or (2) the trust has a valid election in effect under applicable U.S. Treasury regulations to be treated as a U.S. person.

If an entity that is classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes holds our common stock, the tax treatment of persons treated as its partners for U.S. federal income tax purposes will generally depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. Partnerships and other entities that are classified as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes and persons holding our common stock through a partnership or other entity classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes are urged to consult their own tax advisors.

There can be no assurance that the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") will not challenge one or more of the tax consequences described herein, and we have not obtained, nor do we intend to obtain, a ruling from the IRS with respect to the U.S. federal income or estate tax consequences to a Non-U.S. Holder of the purchase, ownership or disposition of our common stock.

Table of Contents

THIS SUMMARY IS NOT INTENDED TO BE TAX ADVICE. NON-U.S. HOLDERS ARE URGED TO CONSULT THEIR TAX ADVISORS CONCERNING THE U.S. FEDERAL INCOME AND ESTATE TAXATION, STATE, LOCAL AND NON-U.S. TAXATION AND OTHER TAX CONSEQUENCES TO THEM OF THE PURCHASE, OWNERSHIP AND DISPOSITION OF OUR COMMON STOCK.

Distributions on our common stock

As discussed under "Dividend policy" above, we currently expect to pay regular dividends on our common stock. Distributions of cash or property on our common stock generally will constitute dividends for U.S. federal income tax purposes to the extent of our current or accumulated earnings and profits, as determined under U.S. federal income tax principles. If a distribution exceeds our current and accumulated earnings and profits, the excess will constitute a return of capital and will first reduce the holder's basis in our common stock, but not below zero. Any remaining excess will be treated as capital gain, subject to the tax treatment described below in "Gain on sale, exchange or other taxable disposition of our common stock." Any such distribution would also be subject to the discussion below under the section titled "Withholding and information reporting requirements - FATCA."

Dividends paid to a Non-U.S. Holder generally will be subject to a 30% U.S. federal withholding tax unless such Non-U.S. Holder provides us or our agent, as the case may be, with the appropriate IRS Form W-8, such as:

IRS Form W-8BEN (or successor form) certifying, under penalties of perjury, a reduction in withholding under an applicable income tax treaty, or

IRS Form W-8ECI (or successor form) certifying that a dividend paid on common stock is not subject to withholding tax because it is effectively connected with a trade or business in the United States of the Non-U.S. Holder (in which case such dividend generally will be subject to regular graduated U.S. federal income tax rates as described below).

The certification requirement described above also may require a Non-U.S. Holder that provides an IRS form or that claims treaty benefits to provide its U.S. taxpayer identification number. Special certification and other requirements apply in the case of certain Non-U.S. Holders that are intermediaries or pass-through entities for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Each Non-U.S. Holder is urged to consult its own tax advisor about the specific methods for satisfying these requirements. A claim for exemption will not be valid if the person receiving the applicable form has actual knowledge or reason to know that the statements on the form are false.

If dividends are effectively connected with a trade or business in the United States of a Non-U.S. Holder (and, if required by an applicable income tax treaty, attributable to a U.S. permanent establishment), the Non-U.S. Holder, although exempt from the withholding tax described above (provided that the certifications described above are satisfied), generally will be subject to U.S. federal income tax on such dividends on a net income basis in the same manner as if it were a resident of the United States. In addition, if a Non-U.S. Holder is treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the Non-U.S. Holder may be subject to an additional "branch profits tax" equal to 30% (unless reduced by an applicable income treaty) of its earnings and profits in respect of such effectively connected dividend income.

If a Non-U.S. Holder is eligible for a reduced rate of U.S. federal withholding tax pursuant to an income tax treaty, the holder may obtain a refund or credit of any excess amount withheld by timely filing an appropriate claim for refund with the IRS.

Gain on sale, exchange or other taxable disposition of our common stock

Subject to the discussion below under the section titled "Withholding and information reporting requirements - FATCA", in general, a Non-U.S. Holder will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax or

Table of Contents

withholding tax on gain realized upon such holder's sale, exchange or other taxable disposition of shares of our common stock unless (i) such Non-U.S. Holder is an individual who is present in the United States for 183 days or more in the taxable year of disposition, and certain other conditions are met, (ii) we are or have been a United States real property holding corporation, as defined in the Internal Revenue Code (a USRPHC), at any time within the shorter of the five-year period preceding the disposition and the Non-U.S. Holder's holding period in the shares of our common stock, and certain other requirements are met, or (iii) such gain is effectively connected with the conduct by such Non-U.S. Holder of a trade or business in the United States (and, if required by an applicable income tax treaty, is attributable to a permanent establishment maintained by such Non-U.S. Holder in the United States).

If the first exception applies, the Non-U.S. Holder generally will be subject to U.S. federal income tax at a rate of 30% (or at a reduced rate under an applicable income tax treaty) on the amount by which such Non-U.S. Holder's capital gains allocable to U.S. sources (including gain, if any, realized on a disposition of our common stock) exceed capital losses allocable to U.S. sources during the taxable year of the disposition. If the third exception applies, the Non-U.S. Holder generally will be subject to U.S. federal income tax with respect to such gain on a net income basis in the same manner as if it were a resident of the United States and a Non-U.S. Holder that is a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes may also be subject to a branch profits tax with respect any earnings and profits attributable to such gain at a rate of 30% (or at a reduced rate under an applicable income tax treaty).

Generally, a corporation is a USRPHC only if the fair market value of its U.S. real property interests (as defined in the Internal Revenue Code) equals or exceeds 50% of the sum of the fair market value of its worldwide real property interests plus its other assets used or held for use in a trade or business. Although there can be no assurance in this regard, we believe that we are not, and do not anticipate becoming, a USRPHC. However, because the determination of whether we are a USRPHC depends on the fair market value of our U.S. real property relative to the fair market value of other business assets, there can be no assurance that we will not become a USRPHC in the future. Even if we became a USRPHC, a Non-U.S. Holder would not be subject to U.S. federal income tax on a sale, exchange or other taxable disposition of our common stock by reason of our status as a USRPHC so long as our common stock continues to be regularly traded on an established securities market and such Non-U.S. Holder does not own and is not deemed to own (directly, indirectly or constructively) more than 5% of our common stock at any time during the shorter of the five year period ending on the date of disposition and the holder's holding period. However, no assurance can be provided that our common stock will continue to be regularly traded on an established securities market for purposes of the rules described above. Prospective investors are encouraged to consult their own tax advisors regarding the possible consequences to them if we are, or were to become, a USRPHC.

Withholding and information reporting requirements – FATCA

Recently enacted legislation (commonly referred to as FATCA) will impose U.S. federal withholding tax of 30% on payments to certain non-U.S. entities (including certain intermediaries), including dividends on and the gross proceeds from disposition of our common stock, unless such persons comply with a complicated U.S. information reporting, disclosure and certification regime. This new regime requires, among other things, a broad class of persons to enter into agreements with the IRS to obtain, disclose and report information about their investors and account holders. This new regime and its requirements are different from and in addition to the certification requirements described elsewhere in this discussion. As currently proposed, the FATCA withholding rules would apply to payments of dividends on our common stock beginning January 1, 2014, and to gross proceeds from dispositions of our common stock beginning January 1, 2015. Under certain circumstances, a Non-U.S. Holder may be eligible for refunds or credits for such taxes.

Although administrative guidance and proposed regulations have been issued, regulations implementing the new FATCA regime have not yet been finalized and the exact scope of this new regime remains unclear and potentially subject to material changes. Prospective investors should consult their own tax advisors regarding the

Table of Contents

possible impact of the FATCA rules on their investment in our common stock, and the entities through which they hold our common stock, including, without limitation, the process and deadlines for meeting the applicable requirements to prevent the imposition of this 30% withholding tax under FATCA.

Backup withholding and information reporting

We must report annually to the IRS and to each Non-U.S. Holder the gross amount of the distributions on our common stock paid to the holder and the tax withheld, if any, with respect to the distributions.

Non-U.S. Holders may have to comply with specific certification procedures to establish that the holder is not a United States person (as defined in the Internal Revenue Code) in order to avoid backup withholding at the applicable rate, currently 28% and scheduled to increase to 31% for taxable years 2013 and thereafter, with respect to dividends on our common stock. Dividends paid to Non-U.S. Holders subject to the U.S. withholding tax, as described above under the section titled Distributions on our common stock, generally will be exempt from U.S. backup withholding.

Information reporting and backup withholding will generally apply to the proceeds of a disposition of our common stock by a Non-U.S. Holder effected by or through the U.S. office of any broker, U.S. or foreign, unless the holder certifies its status as a Non-U.S. Holder and satisfies certain other requirements, or otherwise establishes an exemption. Dispositions effected through a non-U.S. office of a U.S. broker or a non-U.S. broker with substantial U.S. ownership or operations generally will be treated in a manner similar to dispositions effected through a U.S. office of a broker. Prospective investors should consult their own tax advisors regarding the application of the information reporting and backup withholding rules to them.

Copies of information returns may be made available to the tax authorities of the country in which the Non-U.S. Holder resides or in which the Non-U.S. Holder is incorporated under the provisions of a specific treaty or agreement.

Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules from a payment to a Non-U.S. Holder can be refunded or credited against the Non-U.S. Holder's U.S. federal income tax liability, if any, provided that an appropriate claim is timely filed with the IRS.

Federal estate tax

Common stock owned (or treated as owned) by an individual who is not a citizen or a resident of the United States (as defined for U.S. federal estate tax purposes) at the time of death will be included in the individual's gross estate for U.S. federal estate tax purposes, unless an applicable estate or other tax treaty provides otherwise, and, therefore, may be subject to U.S. federal estate tax.

Table of Contents

Underwriting

We and the selling stockholders have entered into an underwriting agreement with Citigroup Global Markets Inc., as the sole book-running manager and underwriter. Subject to the terms and conditions of the underwriting agreement, the selling stockholders have agreed to sell to the underwriter, and the underwriter has agreed to purchase 21,754,659 shares of common stock.

The underwriter has agreed to purchase the shares of common stock from the selling stockholders at a price of \$ _____ per share, which will result in \$ _____ of proceeds to the selling stockholders before expenses. The underwriter may receive from purchasers of the shares normal brokerage commissions in amounts agreed with such purchasers. The underwriter proposes to offer the shares of common stock from time to time for sale in one or more transactions on The NASDAQ Global Select Market, in the over-the-counter market, through negotiated transactions or otherwise at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to prevailing market prices or at negotiated prices, subject to receipt and acceptance by it and subject to its right to reject any order in whole or in part. The underwriter may effect such transactions by selling shares of common stock to or through dealers and such dealers may receive compensation in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions from the underwriter and/or purchasers of shares of common stock for whom they may act as agents or to whom they may sell as principal. The difference between the price at which the underwriter purchases shares and the price at which the underwriter resells such shares, which may include a commission equivalent of up to \$0.05 per share, may be deemed underwriting compensation. The underwriter is committed to purchase all the common shares offered by the selling stockholders if it purchases any shares.

Sales of shares made outside of the United States may be made by affiliates of the underwriter. The offering of the shares by the underwriter is subject to receipt and acceptance and subject to the underwriter's right to reject any order in whole or in part. The underwriter has informed us that it does not intend to confirm sales to discretionary accounts that exceed 5% of the total number of shares offered by it.

We estimate that the total expenses of this offering, including registration, filing and listing fees, printing fees and legal and accounting expenses, but excluding the underwriting discounts and commissions, will be approximately \$900,000.

We have entered into an agreement with certain of the selling stockholders to repurchase 15,000,000 shares of our common stock, concurrently with the closing of this offering, directly from such selling stockholders in a private, non-underwritten transaction at a price per share equal to the price paid by the underwriter in this offering. The closing of the share repurchase is contingent on the closing of this offering. The closing of this offering is not contingent on the closing of the share repurchase.

A prospectus supplement in electronic format may be made available on the web sites maintained by the underwriter, or one or more selling group members, if any, participating in the offering. The underwriter may agree to allocate a number of shares to selling group members for sale to their online brokerage account holders. Internet distributions will be allocated by the underwriter to the selling group members that may make Internet distributions on the same basis as other allocations.

We have agreed that we will not (i) offer, pledge, announce the intention to sell, sell, contract to sell, sell any option or contract to purchase, purchase any option or contract to sell, grant any option, right or warrant to purchase or otherwise dispose of, directly or indirectly, or file with the Securities and Exchange Commission a registration statement under the Securities Act relating to, any shares of our common stock or securities convertible into or exchangeable or exercisable for any shares of our common stock, or publicly disclose the intention to make any offer, sale, pledge, disposition or filing (other than filings on Form S-8 relating to our employee benefit plans), or (ii) enter into any swap or other arrangement that transfers all or a portion of the economic consequences associated with the ownership of any shares of common stock or any such other securities (regardless of whether any of these transactions are to be settled by the delivery of shares of common

Table of Contents

stock or such other securities, in cash or otherwise), in each case without the prior written consent of the underwriter, for a period of 60 days after the date of this prospectus supplement, subject to certain exceptions.

Our directors (including our chief executive officer), our chief financial officer and certain of our significant equity holders (including affiliates of the Sponsors) have entered into lock-up agreements with the underwriter prior to the commencement of this offering pursuant to which each of these persons or entities, with limited exceptions (including with respect to any shares to be sold in the share repurchase), for a period of 60 days after the date of this prospectus supplement, may not, without the prior written consent of the underwriter, (1) offer, pledge, announce the intention to sell, sell, contract to sell, sell any option or contract to purchase, purchase any option or contract to sell, grant any option, right or warrant to purchase, or otherwise transfer or dispose of, directly or indirectly, any shares of our common stock or any securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for our common stock (including, without limitation, common stock or such other securities which may be deemed to be beneficially owned by such directors, executive officers, managers and members in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC and securities which may be issued upon exercise of a stock option or warrant) or (2) enter into any swap or other agreement that transfers, in whole or in part, any of the economic consequences of ownership of the common stock or such other securities, whether any such transaction described in clause (1) or (2) above is to be settled by delivery of common stock or such other securities, in cash or otherwise, or (3) make any demand for or exercise any right with respect to the registration of any shares of our common stock or any security convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for our common stock.

We and the selling stockholders have agreed to indemnify the underwriter against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

Our common stock is listed on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol DNKN.

In connection with this offering, the underwriter may engage in stabilizing transactions, which involves making bids for, purchasing and selling shares of common stock in the open market for the purpose of preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the common stock while this offering is in progress. These stabilizing transactions may include making short sales of the common stock, which involves the sale by the underwriter of a greater number of shares of common stock than it is required to purchase in this offering, and purchasing shares of common stock on the open market to cover positions created by short sales. The underwriter may close out any covered short position by purchasing shares in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriter is concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of the common stock in the open market that could adversely affect investors who purchase in this offering.

The underwriter has advised us that, pursuant to Regulation M of the Securities Act, it may also engage in other activities that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the price of the common stock, including the imposition of penalty bids.

These activities may have the effect of raising or maintaining the market price of the common stock or preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the common stock, and, as a result, the price of the common stock may be higher than the price that otherwise might exist in the open market. If the underwriter commence these activities, it may discontinue them at any time. The underwriter may carry out these transactions on The NASDAQ Global Select Market, in the over-the-counter market or otherwise.

Other than in the United States, no action has been taken by us or the underwriter 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

Table of Contents

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 United Kingdom

This document is only being distributed to and is only directed at (i) persons who are outside the United Kingdom or (ii) to investment professionals falling within Article 19(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005 (the "Order") or (iii) high net worth entities, and other persons to whom it may lawfully be communicated, falling within Article 49(2)(a) to (d) of the Order (all such persons together being referred to as "relevant persons"). The securities are only available to, and any invitation, offer or agreement to subscribe, purchase or otherwise acquire such securities will be engaged in only with, relevant persons. Any person who is not a relevant person should not act or rely on this document or any of its contents.

The underwriter has agreed that:

(a) it has only communicated or caused to be communicated and will only communicate or cause to be communicated an invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of Section 21 of the FSMA) received by it in connection with the issue or sale of the shares in circumstances in which Section 21(1) of the FSMA does not apply to the Company; and

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

European Economic Area

In relation to each member state of the European Economic Area which has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a "Relevant Member State"), including each Relevant Member State that has implemented the 2010 PD Amending Directive with regard to persons to whom an offer of securities is addressed and the denomination per unit of the offer of securities (each, an "Early Implementing Member State"), with effect from and including the date on which the Prospectus Directive is implemented in that Relevant Member State (the "Relevant Implementation Date"), no offer of shares which are the subject of the offering contemplated by this prospectus supplement will be made to the public in that Relevant Member State (other than offers (the "Permitted Public Offers") where a prospectus will be published in relation to the shares that has been approved by the competent authority in a Relevant Member State or, where appropriate, approved in another Relevant Member State and notified to the competent authority in that Relevant Member State, all in accordance with the Prospectus Directive), except that with effect from and including that Relevant Implementation Date, offers of shares may be made to the public in that Relevant Member State at any time:

(a) to "qualified investors" as defined in the Prospectus Directive, including:

(i) (in the case of Relevant Member States other than Early Implementing Member States), legal entities which are authorized or regulated to operate in the financial markets or, if not so authorized or regulated, whose corporate purpose is solely to invest in securities, or any legal entity which has two or more of (A) an average of at least 250 employees during the last financial year; (B) a total balance sheet of more than 43,000,000 and (C) an annual turnover of more than 50,000,000 as shown in its last annual or consolidated accounts; or

(ii) (in the case of Early Implementing Member States), persons or entities that are described in points (1) to (4) of Section I of Annex II to Directive 2004/39/EC, and those who are treated on request as professional clients in accordance with Annex II to Directive 2004/39/EC, or recognized as eligible counterparties in accordance with Article 24 of Directive 2004/39/EC unless they have requested that they be treated as non-professional clients; or

Table of Contents

(b) to fewer than 100 (or, in the case of Early Implementing Member States, 150) natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Directive), as permitted in the Prospectus Directive, subject to obtaining the prior consent of the representatives for any such offer; or

(c) in any other circumstances falling within Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive, provided that no such offer of shares shall result in a requirement for the publication by the Company or any underwriter of a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive or of a supplement to a prospectus pursuant to Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.

Any person making or intending to make any offer within the European Economic Area of shares which are the subject of the offering contemplated in this prospectus supplement should only do so in circumstances in which no obligation arises for the Company or the underwriter to produce a prospectus for such offer. Neither the Company nor the underwriter have authorized, nor do they authorize, the making of any offer of shares through any financial intermediary, other than offers made by the underwriter which constitute the final offering of shares contemplated in this prospectus supplement.

Each person in a Relevant Member State (other than a Relevant Member State where there is a Permitted Public Offer) who initially acquires any shares or to whom any offer is made will be deemed to have represented, warranted and agreed to and with the underwriter and the Company that: (a) it is a qualified investor within the meaning of the law in that Relevant Member State implementing Article 2(1)(e) of the Prospectus Directive and (b) in the case of any shares acquired by it as a financial intermediary, as that term is used in Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive, (i) the shares acquired by it in the offering have not been acquired on behalf of, nor have they been acquired with a view to their offer or resale to, persons in any Relevant Member State other than qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Directive, or in circumstances in which the prior consent of the representatives has been given to the offer or resale or (ii) where shares have been acquired by it on behalf of persons in any Relevant Member State other than qualified investors, the offer of those shares to it is not treated under the Prospectus Directive as having been made to such persons.

For the purpose of the above provisions, the expression an offer to the public in relation to any shares in any Relevant Member State means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer of any shares to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase any shares, as the same may be varied in the Relevant Member State by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in the Relevant Member State and the expression Prospectus Directive means Directive 2003/71 EC (including the 2010 PD Amending Directive, in the case of Early Implementing Member States) and includes any relevant implementing measure in each Relevant Member State and the expression 2010 PD Amending Directive means Directive 2010/73/EU.

Notice to prospective investors in Hong Kong

The shares may not be offered or sold by means of any document other than (i) in circumstances which do not constitute an offer to the public within the meaning of the Companies Ordinance (Cap.32, Laws of Hong Kong), or (ii) to professional investors within the meaning of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap.571, Laws of Hong Kong) and any rules made thereunder, or (iii) in other circumstances which do not result in the document being a prospectus within the meaning of the Companies Ordinance (Cap.32, Laws of Hong Kong), and no advertisement, invitation or document relating to the shares may be issued or may be in the possession of any person for the purpose of issue (in each case whether in Hong Kong or elsewhere), which is directed at, or the contents of which are likely to be accessed or read by, the public in Hong Kong (except if permitted to do so under the laws of Hong Kong) other than with respect to shares which are or are intended to be disposed of only to persons outside Hong Kong or only to professional investors within the meaning of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571, Laws of Hong Kong) and any rules made thereunder.

Table of Contents

Notice to prospective investors in Singapore

This prospectus supplement has not been registered as a prospectus with the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Accordingly, this prospectus supplement and any other document or material in connection with the offer or sale, or invitation for subscription or purchase, of the shares may not be circulated or distributed, nor may the shares be offered or sold, or be made the subject of an invitation for subscription or purchase, whether directly or indirectly, to persons in Singapore other than (i) to an institutional investor under Section 274 of the Securities and Futures Act, Chapter 289 of Singapore (the "SFA"), (ii) to a relevant person, or any person pursuant to Section 275(1A), and in accordance with the conditions, specified in Section 275 of the SFA or (iii) otherwise pursuant to, and in accordance with the conditions of, any other applicable provision of the SFA.

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

Notice to prospective investors in Japan

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

Notice to prospective investors in Switzerland

The shares may not be publicly offered in Switzerland and will not be listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange ("SIX") or on any other stock exchange or regulated trading facility in Switzerland. This document has been prepared without regard to the disclosure standards for issuance prospectuses under art. 652a or art. 1156 of the Swiss Code of Obligations or the disclosure standards for listing prospectuses under art. 27 ff. of the SIX Listing Rules or the listing rules of any other stock exchange or regulated trading facility in Switzerland. Neither this document nor any other offering or marketing material relating to the shares or the offering may be publicly distributed or otherwise made publicly available in Switzerland.

Neither this document nor any other offering or marketing material relating to the offering, the Company, the shares have been or will be filed with or approved by any Swiss regulatory authority. In particular, this document will not be filed with, and the offer of shares will not be supervised by, the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority FINMA (FINMA), and the offer of shares has not been and will not be authorized under the Swiss Federal Act on Collective Investment Schemes ("CISA"). The investor protection afforded to acquirers of interests in collective investment schemes under the CISA does not extend to acquirers of shares.

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

Table of Contents

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 shares to which this prospectus supplement relates may be illiquid and/or subject to restrictions on their resale. Prospective purchasers of the shares offered should conduct their own due diligence on the shares. If you do not understand the contents of this prospectus supplement you should consult an authorized financial advisor.

Notice to prospective investors in the United Arab Emirates

This offering has not been approved or licensed by the Central Bank of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Securities and Commodities Authority of the UAE and/or any other relevant licensing authority in the UAE including any licensing authority incorporated under the laws and regulations of any of the free zones established and operating in the territory of the UAE, in particular the DFSA, a regulatory authority of the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC). This offering does not constitute a public offer of securities in the UAE, DIFC and/or any other free zone in accordance with the Commercial Companies Law, Federal Law No 8 of 1984 (as amended), DFSA Offered Securities Rules and NASDAQ Dubai Listing Rules, accordingly, or otherwise. The shares may not be offered to the public in the UAE and/or any of the free zones.

The shares may be offered and issued only to a limited number of investors in the UAE or any of its free zones who qualify as sophisticated investors under the relevant laws and regulations of the UAE or the free zone concerned.

Notice to prospective investors in Australia

No prospectus or other disclosure document (as defined in the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) of Australia (Corporations Act)) in relation to the common shares has been or will be lodged with the Australian Securities & Investments Commission (ASIC). This document has not been lodged with ASIC and is only directed to certain categories of exempt persons. Accordingly, if you receive this document in Australia:

- (a) you confirm and warrant that you are either:
 - (i) a sophisticated investor under section 708(8)(a) or (b) of the Corporations Act;
 - (ii) a sophisticated investor under section 708(8)(c) or (d) of the Corporations Act and that you have provided an accountant's certificate to us which complies with the requirements of section 708(8)(c)(i) or (ii) of the Corporations Act and related regulations before the offer has been made;
 - (iii) a person associated with the company under section 708(12) of the Corporations Act; or
 - (iv) a professional investor within the meaning of section 708(11)(a) or (b) of the Corporations Act, and to the extent that you are unable to confirm or warrant that you are an exempt sophisticated investor, associated person or professional investor under the Corporations Act any offer made to you under this document is void and incapable of acceptance; and
- (b) you warrant and agree that you will not offer any of the common shares for resale in Australia within 12 months of that common shares being issued unless any such resale offer is exempt from the requirement to issue a disclosure document under section 708 of the Corporations Act.

Notice to prospective investors in Chile

The shares are not registered in the Securities Registry (Registro de Valores) or subject to the control of the Chilean Securities and Exchange Commission (Superintendencia de Valores y Seguros de Chile). This prospectus supplement and other offering materials relating to the offer of the shares do not constitute a public offer of, or an invitation to subscribe for or purchase, the shares in the Republic of Chile, other than to

S-19

Table of Contents

individually identified purchasers pursuant to a private offering within the meaning of Article 4 of the Chilean Securities Market Act (Ley de Mercado de Valores) (an offer that is not addressed to the public at large or to a certain sector or specific group of the public).

Other relationships

The underwriter and its 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.

Affiliates of the underwriter act as a lender under our senior credit facility. The underwriter and its affiliates have provided in the past to us and our affiliates and may provide from time to time in the future certain commercial banking, financial advisory, investment banking and other services for us and such affiliates in the ordinary course of their business, for which it has received and may continue to receive customary fees and commissions. In addition, from time to time, the underwriter and its affiliates may effect transactions for their own account or the account of customers, and hold on behalf of themselves or their customers, long or short positions in our debt or equity securities or loans, and may do so in the future.

In the ordinary course of its various business activities, the underwriter and its respective affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for its own account and for the accounts of its customers, and such investment and securities activities may involve securities and/or instruments of the issuer. The underwriter and its affiliates may also make investment recommendations and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such securities or instruments and may at any time hold, or recommend to clients that they acquire, long and/or short positions in such securities and instruments.

Table of Contents

Legal matters

The validity of the issuance of the shares of common stock to be sold in this offering will be passed upon for us by Ropes & Gray LLP, Boston, Massachusetts. Some attorneys of Ropes & Gray LLP are members in RGIP, LLC, which is a direct investor in Dunkin' Brands Group, Inc. and is also an investor in certain investment funds affiliated with Bain Capital Partners, LLC and Thomas H. Lee Partners, L.P. RGIP, LLC directly and indirectly owns less than 1% of our common stock and is a selling stockholder in this offering. The validity of the common stock offered hereby will be passed upon on behalf of the underwriter by Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, New York, New York.

Experts

The consolidated financial statements of Dunkin' Brands Group, Inc. as of December 31, 2011 and December 25, 2010, and for the years ended December 31, 2011, December 25, 2010 and December 26, 2009, have been incorporated by reference herein and in the registration statement in reliance upon the report of KPMG LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The financial statements of BR Korea Co., Ltd. (our joint venture entity in Korea) as of December 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, and for each of the three fiscal years in the period ended December 31, 2011, incorporated by reference in this prospectus from Amendment No. 1 to the Annual Report on Form 10-K of Dunkin' Brands Group, Inc. have been audited by Deloitte Anjin LLC, an independent auditor, as stated in their report, which is incorporated herein by reference (which report expresses an unqualified opinion on the financial statements and includes an explanatory paragraph referring to the nature and effect of difference between accounting Standards for Non-Public Entities in the Republic of Korea from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America). Such financial statements are incorporated in reliance upon the report of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

The financial statements of B-R 31 Ice Cream Co., Ltd. (our joint venture entity in Japan) as of December 31, 2010 and for the year then ended incorporated herein by reference have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers Aarata, independent accountants, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

The financial statements of BR Korea Co., Ltd. and B-R Ice Cream Co., Ltd. referred to above are incorporated by reference herein in accordance with the requirements of Rule 3-09 of Regulation S-X.

Table of Contents

Where you can find more information

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-3 under the Securities Act with respect to the shares of our common stock being offered by this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus do not contain all of the information set forth in the registration statement. For further information with respect to us and the shares of our common stock, reference is made to the registration statement and its exhibits. Statements contained in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus as to the contents of any contract or other document are not necessarily complete. We are required to file annual and quarterly reports, special reports, proxy statements, and other information with the SEC. The registration statement, such reports and other information can be inspected and copied at the Public Reference Room of the SEC located at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Copies of such materials, including copies of all or any portion of the registration statement, can be obtained from the Public Reference Room of the SEC at prescribed rates. You can call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 to obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room. Such materials may also be accessed electronically by means of the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.

Incorporation of certain documents by reference

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus information we file with it, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, except to the extent superseded by information contained in a further prospectus supplement or by information contained in documents filed with the SEC after the date of this prospectus supplement and prior to the termination of this offering. We incorporate by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus the documents listed below and any future filings made by us with the SEC under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, except for information furnished under Items 2.02, 7.01 or 9.01 on Form 8-K or other information furnished to the SEC which is not deemed filed and not incorporated in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus, until the termination of this offering. We hereby incorporate by reference the following documents:

Our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, filed with the SEC on February 24, 2012, Amendment No. 1 to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, filed with the SEC on March 16, 2012, and Amendment No. 2 to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, filed with the SEC on March 28, 2012 (File No. 001-35258);

Our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2012 and June 30, 2012, filed with the SEC on May 9, 2012 and August 3, 2012, respectively (File No. 001-35258);

Our Current Reports on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on February 7, 2012, April 26, 2012 (with respect to that portion filed under Item 8.01), May 16, 2012, June 7, 2012, June 27, 2012, July 26, 2012 (with respect to that portion filed under Item 8.01) and August 9, 2012 (with respect to those portions filed under Item 1.01, Item 2.03 and Item 9.01) (File No. 001-35258); and

The description of capital stock contained in the Registration Statement on Form 8-A, as filed with the SEC on July 27, 2011 (File No. 001-35258), as supplemented by the Description of capital stock found on page 2 of the accompanying prospectus and including any amendments or reports filed for the purpose of updating such description.

You may request a copy of these filings, at no cost, by writing or telephoning us at the following address:

Secretary

Dunkin' Brands Group, Inc.

130 Royall Street

Canton, Massachusetts 02021

Edgar Filing: DUNKIN' BRANDS GROUP, INC. - Form 424B7

(781) 737-3000

Copies of these filings are also available, without charge, on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov and on our website at www.dunkinbrands.com as soon as reasonably practicable after they are filed electronically with the SEC. The information contained on our website is not a part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

S-22

Table of Contents

Dunkin' Brands Group, Inc.

Common stock

The selling stockholders to be named in a prospectus supplement may offer and sell shares of our common stock from time to time in amounts, at prices and on terms that will be determined at the time of the offering.

This prospectus describes the general manner in which the shares of our common stock may be offered and sold by the selling stockholders. The specific manner in which shares of common stock may be offered and sold will be described in a supplement to this prospectus.

You should carefully read this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement, together with the documents we incorporate by reference, before you invest in our common stock.

Our common stock is listed on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol DNKN. On August 8, 2012, the last sale price of our common stock as reported on The NASDAQ Global Select Market was \$30.73 per share.

Investing in our common stock involves substantial risk. Please read Risk factors beginning on page 1 of this prospectus and any risk factors described in any applicable prospectus supplement and in the documents we incorporate by reference.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any other regulatory body has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

Prospectus dated August 9, 2012.

Table of Contents

Table of contents

<u>About this prospectus</u>	ii
<u>Risk factors</u>	1
<u>Cautionary note regarding forward-looking statements</u>	1
<u>Use of proceeds</u>	2
<u>Description of capital stock</u>	2
<u>Plan of distribution</u>	5
<u>Legal matters</u>	7
<u>Experts</u>	7
<u>Where you can find more information</u>	8
<u>Incorporation of certain information by reference</u>	8

We have not authorized anyone to provide any information or to make any representations other than those contained in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus, any accompanying prospectus supplement or in any free writing prospectuses we have prepared. We take no responsibility for, and can provide no assurance as to the reliability of, any other information that others may give you. This prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement are an offer to sell only the shares offered hereby, but only under circumstances and in jurisdictions where it is lawful to do so. The information contained in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement is current only as of the date of the applicable document.

Table of Contents

About this prospectus

Unless otherwise indicated or the context otherwise requires, references in this prospectus to the Company, Dunkin' Brands, we, us and our refer to Dunkin' Brands Group, Inc. and its consolidated subsidiaries.

This prospectus is a part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), as a well-known seasoned issuer as defined under Rule 405 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act), using a shelf registration process. Under this shelf registration process, the selling stockholders may from time to time sell common stock in one or more offerings. This prospectus provides you with a general description of our common stock. Each time the selling stockholders sell securities under this shelf registration, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering, including information about the selling stockholders. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. Any statement that we make in this prospectus will be modified or superseded by any inconsistent statement made by us in a prospectus supplement. You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, including all documents incorporated herein or therein by reference, together with additional information described under Where you can find more information.

Table of Contents

Risk factors

Investing in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. See Item 1A Risk Factors in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K incorporated by reference in this prospectus and in any subsequent Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q and the Risk factors section in the applicable prospectus supplement for a discussion of the factors you should carefully consider before deciding to purchase our common stock.

Cautionary note regarding forward-looking statements

This prospectus, the accompanying prospectus supplement and the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein include statements that express our opinions, expectations, beliefs, plans, objectives, assumptions or projections regarding future events or future results and therefore are, or may be deemed to be, forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act. These forward-looking statements can generally be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology, including the terms believes, estimates, anticipates, expects, seeks, projects, intends, plans, may, will or should or, in each case, their negative or other variations or common terminology. These forward-looking statements include matters that are not historical facts. They appear in a number of places throughout this prospectus, the accompanying prospectus supplement and the documents incorporated herein and therein by reference and include statements regarding our intentions, beliefs or current expectations concerning, among other things, our results of operations, financial condition, liquidity, prospects, growth, strategies and the industry in which we operate. By their nature, forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties because they relate to events and depend on circumstances that may or may not occur in the future. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to: the ongoing level of profitability of franchisees and licensees; changes in working relationship with our franchisees and licensees and the actions of our franchisees and licensees; our master franchisees' relationships with sub-franchisees; the strength of our brand in the markets in which we compete; changes in competition within the quick service restaurant segment of the food industry; changes in consumer behavior resulting from changes in technologies or alternative methods of delivery; economic and political conditions in the countries where we operate; our substantial indebtedness; our ability to protect our intellectual property rights; consumer preferences, spending patterns and demographic trends; the success of our growth strategy and international development; changes in commodity and food prices, particularly coffee, dairy products and sugar, and the other operating costs; shortages of coffee; failure of our network and information technology systems; interruptions or shortages in the supply of products to our franchisees and licensees; the impact of food borne-illness or food safety issues or adverse public or media opinions regarding the health effects of consuming our products; our ability to collect royalty payments from our franchisees and licensees; uncertainties related to litigation; the ability of our franchisees and licensees to open new restaurants and keep existing restaurants in operation; our ability to retain key personnel; any inability to protect consumer credit card data; and catastrophic events. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from our expectations are more fully described in our other filings with the SEC, including in the Risk Factors section in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011 and subsequent Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, each incorporated by reference in this prospectus and in the Risk factors section in the applicable prospectus supplement. See Where you can find more information.

Although we base these forward-looking statements on assumptions that we believe are reasonable when made, we caution you that forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and that our actual results of operations, financial condition and liquidity, and the development of the industry in which we operate may differ materially from those made in or suggested by the forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus, the accompanying prospectus supplement and the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein. In addition, even if our results of operations, financial condition and liquidity, and the development of the industry in which we operate, are consistent with the forward-looking statements, those results or developments may not be indicative of results or developments in subsequent periods.

Given these risks and uncertainties, you are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. Any forward-looking statements that we make speak only as of the date of such statement, and we undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statements or to publicly announce the results of any revisions to any of those statements to reflect future events or developments.

Table of Contents

Use of proceeds

We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of shares of our common stock by the selling stockholders.

Description of capital stock

General

The total amount of our authorized capital stock consists of 475,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share and 25,000,000 shares of undesignated preferred stock. As of July 31, 2012, we had outstanding 120,501,023 shares of common stock and no shares of preferred stock, 209 stockholders of record of common stock, and had outstanding options to purchase 5,530,012 shares of common stock, which options were exercisable at a weighted average exercise price of \$8.50 per share.

The following summary describes all material provisions of our capital stock. We urge you to read our certificate of incorporation and our by-laws, copies of which have been filed with the SEC.

Our certificate of incorporation and by-laws contain provisions that are intended to enhance the likelihood of continuity and stability in the composition of our board of directors and which may have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a future takeover or change in control of our company unless such takeover or change in control is approved by our board of directors. These provisions include a classified board of directors, elimination of stockholder action by written consents, elimination of the ability of stockholders to call special meetings (except in limited circumstances), advance notice procedures for stockholder proposals and supermajority vote requirements for amendments to our certificate of incorporation and by-laws.

Common stock

Dividend Rights. Subject to preferences that may apply to shares of preferred stock outstanding at the time, holders of outstanding shares of common stock will be entitled to receive dividends out of assets legally available at the times and in the amounts as the board of directors may from time to time determine.

Voting Rights. Each outstanding share of common stock is entitled to one vote on all matters submitted to a vote of stockholders. Holders of shares of our common stock shall have no cumulative voting rights.

Preemptive Rights. Our common stock is not entitled to preemptive or other similar subscription rights to purchase any of our securities.

Conversion or Redemption Rights. Our common stock is neither convertible nor redeemable.

Liquidation Rights. Upon our liquidation, the holders of our common stock will be entitled to receive pro rata our assets which are legally available for distribution, after payment of all debts and other liabilities and subject to the prior rights of any holders of preferred stock then outstanding.

Nasdaq Listing. Our common stock is listed on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol DNKN.

Preferred stock

Our board of directors may, without further action by our stockholders, from time to time, direct the issuance of shares of preferred stock in one or more series and may, at the time of issuance, determine the designations, powers, preferences, privileges, and relative participating, optional or special rights as well as the qualifications, limitations or restrictions thereof, including dividend rights, conversion rights, voting rights, terms of redemption

Table of Contents

and liquidation preferences, any or all of which may be greater than the rights of the common stock. Satisfaction of any dividend preferences of outstanding shares of preferred stock would reduce the amount of funds available for the payment of dividends or other distributions on shares of our common stock. Holders of shares of preferred stock may be entitled to receive a preference payment in the event of our liquidation before any payment is made to the holders of shares of our common stock. Under specified circumstances, the issuance of shares of preferred stock may render more difficult or tend to discourage a merger, tender offer or proxy contest, the assumption of control by a holder of a large block of our securities or the removal of incumbent management. Upon the affirmative vote of a majority of the total number of directors then in office, our board of directors, without stockholder approval, may issue shares of preferred stock with voting and conversion rights which could adversely affect the holders of shares of our common stock and the market value of our common stock. Upon consummation of this offering, there will be no shares of preferred stock outstanding, and we have no present intention to issue any shares of preferred stock.

Anti-takeover effects of our certificate of incorporation and by-laws

Our certificate of incorporation and by-laws contain certain provisions that are intended to enhance the likelihood of continuity and stability in the composition of the board of directors and which may have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a future takeover or change in control of the company unless such takeover or change in control is approved by the board of directors.

These provisions include:

Classified Board. Our certificate of incorporation provides that our board of directors shall be divided into three classes of directors, with the classes as nearly equal in number as possible. As a result, approximately one-third of our board of directors will be elected each year. The classification of directors has the effect of making it more difficult for stockholders to change the composition of our board. Our certificate of incorporation also provides that, subject to any rights of holders of preferred stock to elect additional directors under specified circumstances, the number of directors will be fixed exclusively pursuant to a resolution adopted by our board of directors. Our board of directors currently has eleven members.

Action by Written Consent; Special Meetings of Stockholders. Our certificate of incorporation provides that stockholder action can be taken only at an annual or special meeting of stockholders and cannot be taken by written consent in lieu of a meeting. Our certificate of incorporation and the by-laws also provide that, except as otherwise required by law, special meetings of the stockholders can only be called by the chairman or vice-chairman of the board, the chief executive officer or pursuant to a resolution adopted by a majority of the board of directors. Except as described above, stockholders are not permitted to call a special meeting or to require the board of directors to call a special meeting.

Advance Notice Procedures. Our by-laws establish an advance notice procedure for stockholder proposals to be brought before an annual meeting of our stockholders, including proposed nominations of persons for election to the board of directors. Stockholders at an annual meeting will only be able to consider proposals or nominations specified in the notice of meeting or brought before the meeting by or at the direction of the board of directors or by a stockholder who was a stockholder of record on the record date for the meeting, who is entitled to vote at the meeting and who has given our Secretary timely written notice, in proper form, of the stockholder's intention to bring that business before the meeting. Although the by-laws do not give the board of directors the power to approve or disapprove stockholder nominations of candidates or proposals regarding other business to be conducted at a special or annual meeting, the by-laws may have the effect of precluding the conduct of certain business at a meeting if the proper procedures are not followed or may discourage or deter a potential acquirer from conducting a solicitation of proxies to elect its own slate of directors or otherwise attempting to obtain control of the company.

Super Majority Approval Requirements. The Delaware General Corporation Law generally provides that the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares entitled to vote on any matter is required to amend a corporation's certificate of incorporation or by-laws, unless either a corporation's certificate of incorporation or by-laws

Table of Contents

require a greater percentage. Our certificate of incorporation and by-laws provide that the affirmative vote of holders of at least 75% of the total votes eligible to be cast in the election of directors is required to amend, alter, change or repeal specified provisions. This requirement of a supermajority vote to approve amendments to our certificate of incorporation and by-laws could enable a minority of our stockholders to exercise veto power over any such amendments.

Authorized but Unissued Shares. Our authorized but unissued shares of common stock and preferred stock will be available for future issuance without stockholder approval. These additional shares may be utilized for a variety of corporate purposes, including future public offerings to raise additional capital, corporate acquisitions and employee benefit plans. The existence of authorized but unissued shares of common stock and preferred stock could render more difficult or discourage an attempt to obtain control of a majority of our common stock by means of a proxy contest, tender offer, merger or otherwise.

Business Combinations with Interested Stockholders. We have elected in our certificate of incorporation not to be subject to Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, an antitakeover law. In general, Section 203 prohibits a publicly held Delaware corporation from engaging in a business combination, such as a merger, with a person or group owning 15% or more of the corporation's voting stock for a period of three years following the date the person became an interested stockholder, unless (with certain exceptions) the business combination or the transaction in which the person became an interested stockholder is approved in a prescribed manner. Accordingly, we are not subject to any anti-takeover effects of Section 203. However, our certificate of incorporation contains provisions that have the same effect as Section 203, except that they provide that our Sponsors and their respective affiliates will not be deemed to be interested stockholders, regardless of the percentage of our voting stock owned by them, and accordingly will not be subject to such restrictions.

Corporate opportunities

Our certificate of incorporation provides that we renounce any interest or expectancy of the Company in the business opportunities of the Sponsors and of their officers, directors, agents, shareholders, members, partners, affiliates and subsidiaries and each such party shall not have any obligation to offer us those opportunities unless presented to a director or officer of the Company in his or her capacity as a director or officer of the Company.

Limitations on liability and indemnification of officers and directors

Our certificate of incorporation limits the liability of our directors to the fullest extent permitted by the Delaware General Corporation Law and provides that we will indemnify them to the fullest extent permitted by such law. We have entered into indemnification agreements with our current directors and executive officers and expect to enter into a similar agreement with any new directors or executive officers.

Transfer agent and registrar

The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC. Its address is 6201 15th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11219. Its telephone number is (718) 921-8200.

Table of Contents

Plan of distribution

The selling stockholders may sell securities in any of the ways described below or in any combination thereof:

to or through underwriters or dealers;

through one or more agents; or

directly to purchasers or to a single purchaser.

The distribution of the securities by the selling stockholders may be effected from time to time in one or more transactions:

at a fixed price, or prices, which may be changed from time to time;

at market prices prevailing at the time of sale;

at prices related to such prevailing market prices; or

at negotiated prices.

Each prospectus supplement will describe the method of distribution of the securities and any applicable restrictions.

The prospectus supplement will describe the terms of the offering of the securities, including the following:

the name or names of any underwriters, dealers or agents and the amounts of securities underwritten or purchased by each of them;

the public offering price of the securities, the proceeds to the selling stockholders, and any discounts, commissions or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers.

information about the selling stockholders, including the relationship between the selling stockholders and us.

Any offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers will be specified in the applicable prospectus supplement and may be changed from time to time.

Only the agents or underwriters named in each prospectus supplement are agents or underwriters in connection with the securities being offered thereby.

The selling stockholders may authorize underwriters, dealers or other persons acting as our agents to solicit offers by certain institutions to purchase securities from the selling stockholders pursuant to delayed delivery contracts providing for payment and delivery on the date stated in each applicable prospectus supplement. Each contract will be for an amount not less than, and the aggregate amount of securities sold pursuant to such contracts shall not be less nor more than, the respective amounts stated in each applicable prospectus supplement. Institutions with whom the contracts, when authorized, may be made include commercial and savings banks, insurance companies, pension funds, investment

Edgar Filing: DUNKIN' BRANDS GROUP, INC. - Form 424B7

companies, educational and charitable institutions and other institutions, but shall in all cases be subject to our approval. Delayed delivery contracts will be subject only to those conditions set forth in each applicable prospectus supplement, and each prospectus supplement will set forth any commissions we pay for solicitation of these contracts.

Agents, underwriters and other third parties described above may be entitled to indemnification by us and the selling stockholders against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribution from us and the selling stockholders with respect to payments which the agents, underwriters or third parties may be required to make in respect thereof. Agents, underwriters and such other third parties may be customers of, engage in transactions with, or perform services for us or the selling stockholders in the ordinary

Table of Contents

course of business. We and the selling stockholders may also use underwriters or such other third parties with whom we or such selling stockholders have a material relationship. We and the selling stockholders will describe the nature of any such relationship in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Certain underwriters may use this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement for offers and sales related to market-making transactions in the securities. These underwriters may act as principal or agent in these transactions, and the sales will be made at prices related to prevailing market prices at the time of sale. Any underwriters involved in the sale of the securities may qualify as underwriters within the meaning of Section 2(a)(11) of the Securities Act. In addition, the underwriters' commissions, discounts or concessions may qualify as underwriters' compensation under the Securities Act and the rules of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority.

Our common stock is listed on The NASDAQ Global Select Market. Underwriters may make a market in our common stock, but will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. We can make no assurance as to the development, maintenance or liquidity of any trading market for the securities.

Certain persons participating in an offering may engage in overallotment, stabilizing transactions, short covering transactions and penalty bids in accordance with rules and regulations under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Overallotment involves sales in excess of the offering size, which create a short position. Stabilizing transactions permit bids to purchase the underlying security so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum. Short covering transactions involve purchases of the securities in the open market after the distribution is completed to cover short positions. Penalty bids permit the underwriters to reclaim a selling concession from a dealer when the securities originally sold by the dealer are purchased in a covering transaction to cover short positions. Those activities may cause the price of the securities to be higher than it would otherwise be. If commenced, the underwriters may discontinue any of the activities at any time.

Table of Contents

Legal matters

The validity of the issuance of the shares of common stock to be sold in this offering will be passed upon for us by Ropes & Gray LLP, Boston, Massachusetts. Some attorneys of Ropes & Gray LLP are members in RGIP, LLC, which is a direct investor in Dunkin' Brands Group, Inc. and is also an investor in certain investment funds affiliated with Bain Capital Partners, LLC and Thomas H. Lee Partners L.P. RGIP, LLC directly and indirectly owns less than 1% of our common stock. The validity of the common stock offered hereby will be passed upon on behalf of the underwriter(s) by counsel that we will name in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Experts

The consolidated financial statements of Dunkin' Brands Group, Inc. as of December 31, 2011 and December 25, 2010, and for the years ended December 31, 2011, December 25, 2010 and December 26, 2009, have been incorporated by reference herein and in the registration statement in reliance upon the report of KPMG LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The financial statements of BR Korea Co., Ltd. (our joint venture entity in Korea) as of December 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, and for each of the three fiscal years in the period ended December 31, 2011, incorporated by reference in this prospectus from Amendment No. 1 to the Annual Report on Form 10-K of Dunkin' Brands Group, Inc. have been audited by Deloitte Anjin LLC, an independent auditor, as stated in their report, which is incorporated herein by reference (which report expresses an unqualified opinion on the financial statements and includes an explanatory paragraph referring to the nature and effect of difference between accounting Standards for Non-Public Entities in the Republic of Korea from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America). Such financial statements are incorporated in reliance upon the report of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

The financial statements of B-R 31 Ice Cream Co., Ltd. (our joint venture entity in Japan) as of December 31, 2010 and for the year then ended incorporated by reference in this prospectus have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers Aarata, independent accountants, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

The financial statements of BR Korea Co., Ltd. and B-R Ice Cream Co., Ltd. referred to above are incorporated by reference herein in accordance with the requirements of Rule 3-09 of Regulation S-X.

Table of Contents

Where you can find more information

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-3 under the Securities Act with respect to the shares of our common stock being offered by this prospectus. This prospectus, which forms a part of the registration statement, does not contain all of the information set forth in the registration statement. For further information with respect to us and the shares of our common stock, reference is made to the registration statement and its exhibits. Statements contained in this prospectus as to the contents of any contract or other document are not necessarily complete. We are required to file annual and quarterly reports, special reports, proxy statements, and other information with the SEC. The registration statement, such reports and other information can be inspected and copied at the Public Reference Room of the SEC located at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Copies of such materials, including copies of all or any portion of the registration statement, can be obtained from the Public Reference Room of the SEC at prescribed rates. You can call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 to obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room. Such materials may also be accessed electronically by means of the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.

Incorporation of certain information by reference

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference into this prospectus information we file with it, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus, and information in documents that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and supersede information in this prospectus. We incorporate by reference into this prospectus the documents listed below and any future filings made by us with the SEC under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, except for information furnished under Items 2.02, 7.01 or 9.01 on Form 8-K or other information furnished to the SEC which is not deemed filed and not incorporated in this prospectus, until the termination of the offering of securities described in the applicable prospectus supplement. We hereby incorporate by reference the following documents:

Our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, filed with the SEC on February 24, 2012, Amendment No. 1 to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, filed with the SEC on March 16, 2012, and Amendment No. 2 to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, filed with the SEC on March 28, 2012 (File No. 001-35258);

Our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2012 and June 30, 2012, filed with the SEC on May 9, 2012 and August 3, 2012, respectively (File No. 001-35258);

Our Current Reports on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on February 7, 2012, April 26, 2012 (with respect to that portion filed under Item 8.01), May 16, 2012, June 7, 2012, June 27, 2012 and July 26, 2012 (with respect to that portion filed under Item 8.01) (File No. 001-35258); and

The description of capital stock contained in the Registration Statement on Form 8-A, as filed with the SEC on July 27, 2011 (File No. 001-35258), as supplemented by the Description of capital stock found on page 2 of this prospectus and including any amendments or reports filed for the purpose of updating such description.

You may request a copy of these filings, at no cost, by writing or telephoning us at the following address:

Secretary

Dunkin' Brands Group, Inc.

130 Royall Street

Canton, Massachusetts 02021

(781) 737-3000

Edgar Filing: DUNKIN' BRANDS GROUP, INC. - Form 424B7

Copies of these filings are also available, without charge, on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov and on our website at www.dunkinbrands.com as soon as reasonably practicable after they are filed electronically with the SEC. The information contained on our website is not a part of this prospectus.

Table of Contents

21,754,659 shares

Common stock

Prospectus Supplement

Citigroup

, 2012