

CONNS INC
Form S-3/A
September 07, 2012
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As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on September 6, 2012

Registration No. 333-180789

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Amendment No. 2

to

Form S-3

REGISTRATION STATEMENT

UNDER

THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

CONN S, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

06-1672840
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification Number)

4055 Technology Forest Boulevard

The Woodlands, Texas 77381

(936) 230-5899

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

Sydney K. Boone

Corporate General Counsel and Secretary

4055 Technology Forest Boulevard

The Woodlands, Texas 77381

(936) 230-5899

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copies to:

D. Forrest Brumbaugh

Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P.

2200 Ross Avenue, Suite 2800

Dallas, Texas 75201

(214) 855-8000

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: From time to time after the effective date of this Registration Statement. "

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If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box.

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Large accelerated filer | <input type="checkbox"/> | Accelerated filer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Non-accelerated filer | <input type="checkbox"/> (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) | Smaller reporting company | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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| Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered | Amount to be Registered(1) | Proposed | Proposed | Amount of Registration Fee(3) |
|---|----------------------------------|---|---|----------------------------------|
| | | Maximum Offering Price per Share(2) | Maximum Aggregate Offering Price(2) | |
| Primary Offering: | | | | |
| Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share | | | | |
| Preferred Stock, par value \$0.01 per share | | | | |
| Debt Securities | | | | |
| Warrants | | | | |
| Rights | | | | |
| Stock Purchase Contracts | | | | |
| Depository Shares | | | | |
| Units | | | | |
| Total Primary Offering | | | \$150,000,000 | \$17,190 |
| Secondary Offering: | | | | |
| Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share | 4,407,227 | \$22.69 | \$100,000,000 | \$11,460 |
| Total | | | | \$28,650 |

- (1) There are being registered hereunder the following securities, which together shall have an aggregate offering price not to exceed \$150,000,000: (i) such indeterminate number of shares of common stock, such indeterminate number of shares of preferred stock, such indeterminate principal amount of debt securities, such indeterminate number of warrants to purchase common stock, preferred stock or debt securities, such indeterminate number of rights to purchase common stock, preferred stock, warrants or debt securities, such indeterminate amount of stock purchase contracts, such indeterminate amount of depository shares, and such indeterminate number of units including any of these securities, as may be sold by the registrant from time to time. There are also being registered hereunder 4,407,227 shares of common stock as may be sold from time to time by selling stockholders described in this registration statement. If any debt securities are issued at an original issue discount, then the offering price of such debt securities shall be in such greater principal amount as shall result in an aggregate initial offering price not to exceed \$150,000,000, less the aggregate dollar amount of all securities previously issued hereunder. Any securities registered hereunder may be sold separately or as units with other securities registered hereunder. The securities registered also include such indeterminate amounts and numbers of shares of common stock and numbers of shares of preferred stock, and principal amounts of debt securities, as may be issued upon conversion of or exchange for preferred stock or debt securities that provide for conversion or exchange, upon exercise of warrants or pursuant to the anti-dilution provisions of any such securities. In addition, pursuant to Rule 416 of the rules and regulations under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), the securities being registered hereunder include such indeterminate number of securities as may be issuable with respect to the shares being registered hereunder as a result of stock splits, stock dividends or similar transactions.
- (2) With respect to the primary offering, the proposed maximum per unit and aggregate offering prices per class of security will be determined from time to time in connection with the sale of the securities registered under this registration statement. With respect to the secondary offering, estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(c) under the Securities Act, based upon the high and low sales price per share as reported on the NASDAQ Global Select Market on August 31, 2012.
- (3) With respect to the primary offering, estimated solely for purposes of determining the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act, and based upon the maximum aggregate offering price of all securities being registered for sale by the registrant. With respect to the secondary offering, a registration fee of \$11,460 is payable. This registration statement includes a total of \$125,000,000 of unsold securities that had previously been registered under the registrant's registration statement on Form S-3 (333-157390) declared effective by with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 30, 2009 (the "Prior Registration Statement"). In connection with the registration of such unsold securities on the Prior Registration Statement, the registrant paid a registration fee of \$4,912.50 for such unsold securities. In accordance with Rule 415(a)(6) of the Securities Act, the registration fee paid for the unsold securities on the Prior Registration Statement will be used to offset the current registration fee due. Accordingly, the amount of the registration fee for the securities for sale by the registrant under this registration statement of \$28,650 has been reduced by \$4,912.50. Pursuant to 415(a)(6) of the Securities Act, the offering of the unsold securities registered under the Prior Registration Statement will be deemed terminated as of the date of effectiveness of this registration statement. In addition, in connection with the filing of this registration statement on April 18, 2012 the registrant paid \$23,737.50, which represents the remaining balance of the registration fee payable with respect to this registration statement.

The registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until Conn s, Inc. shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act or until this Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Securities and Exchange Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

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The information in this prospectus 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 prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED SEPTEMBER 6, 2012

PROSPECTUS

\$150,000,000

CONN S, INC.

Common Stock

Preferred Stock

Debt Securities

Warrants

Rights

Stock Purchase Contracts

Depositary Shares

Units

4,407,227 Shares of Common Stock Offered by the Selling Stockholders

This prospectus will allow us to issue common stock, preferred stock, debt securities, warrants, rights, stock purchase contracts, depositary shares and units from time to time at prices and on terms determined at or prior to the offering. We may offer these securities up to an aggregate offering price of \$150,000,000.

In addition, this prospectus will allow selling stockholders to be named in a prospectus supplement to offer up to 4,407,227 shares of our common stock from time to time at prices and on terms determined at or prior to the offering. To the extent that any selling stockholder resells any securities, the selling stockholder may be required to provide you with this prospectus and a prospectus supplement identifying and containing specific information about the selling stockholder and the terms of the securities being offered.

The specific terms of any offered securities will be described in a prospectus supplement. These securities may be offered to or through one or more underwriters, dealers and agents, directly to purchasers, or through any other manner permitted by law, on a continued or delayed basis. See "Plan of Distribution" in this

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prospectus. The plan of distribution for any particular offering of these securities may also be described in any applicable prospectus supplement. This prospectus describes the general terms of these securities. The specific terms of any securities and the specific manner in which they will be offered will be included in one or more prospectus supplements to this prospectus relating to that offering.

This prospectus may not be used to sell securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement that contains a description of those securities. The prospectus supplement may add to, change, update or supersede information contained in this prospectus. The prospectus supplement may also contain important information about U.S. federal income tax consequences. You should read carefully this prospectus together with any applicable prospectus supplement and the information incorporated by reference into this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement before you decide to invest in our securities.

Our common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol CONN. On August 31, 2012, the closing price of our common stock as quoted on the NASDAQ Global Select Market was \$23.16 per share. Each prospectus supplement will indicate whether the securities offered thereby are expected to be listed on any securities exchange.

Our principal executive office is located at 4055 Technology Forest Boulevard, The Woodlands, Texas 77381. Our telephone number is (936) 230-5899 and our company website is www.conns.com. Information on our website is not incorporated into this prospectus and does not constitute a part of this prospectus.

Investing in our securities involves various risks. You should carefully consider the risk factors in the sections entitled Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements beginning on page 6 and Risk Factors on page 5, the risk factors contained in our filings made with the Securities and Exchange Commission, and the risk factors in any applicable prospectus supplements before deciding to invest in our securities.

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

The date of the prospectus is _____, 2012

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You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference into this prospectus. No dealer, sales person or other person is authorized to provide you with any information that differs from the information in this prospectus. The information in this prospectus is complete and accurate as of the date on the front cover, but the information may have changed since that date.

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ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which we refer to as the SEC or the Commission, using a shelf registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we may from time to time sell common stock, preferred stock, debt securities, warrants to purchase any of such securities, rights to purchase any of such securities, stock purchase contracts, depository shares and units that include any combination of such securities. We may offer these securities in one or more offerings up to a total aggregate dollar amount of \$150,000,000.

In addition, under this shelf registration process certain selling stockholders to be named in a prospectus supplement may from time to time sell up to 4,407,227 shares of our common stock.

This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities covered by this prospectus, which is not intended to be a complete description of each security. Each time securities are sold under this shelf registration process, we and/or the selling stockholders will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering. The prospectus supplement may also add, update, change or supersede any of the information contained in this prospectus or in the documents that we have incorporated by reference into this prospectus. To the extent there is a conflict between the information contained in this prospectus and the prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information in the prospectus supplement, provided that if any statement in one of these documents is inconsistent with a statement in another document having a later date—for example, a document incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement—the statement in the document having the later date modifies or supersedes the earlier statement. You should read the prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement, together with the additional information described under the heading **WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION**, before deciding to invest in any of the securities being offered. **THIS PROSPECTUS MAY NOT BE USED TO CONSUMMATE A SALE OF SECURITIES UNLESS IT IS ACCOMPANIED BY A PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT.**

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and any supplement to this prospectus. No dealer, sales person or other person is authorized to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. This prospectus and any prospectus supplement does not constitute an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

This prospectus contains summaries of certain provisions contained in some of the documents described herein, but reference is made to the actual documents for complete information. All of the summaries are qualified in their entirety by reference to the actual documents. Copies of some of the documents referred to herein have been filed, will be filed or will be incorporated by reference as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, and you may obtain copies of those documents as described below under the heading **WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION**.

You should not assume that the information in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date of the document containing the information. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since then.

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PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary highlights selected information about us and does not contain all the information that may be important to you. To understand the terms of the securities being offered by this prospectus, the associated prospectus supplement, and any free writing prospectus, we encourage you to read the entire prospectus, especially the risks of investing in the shares described under the section Risk Factors, and the documents identified under the caption Incorporation of Documents by Reference. Unless the context otherwise indicates, references in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement, and any free writing prospectus to Conn s, the Company, we, us and our means Conn s, Inc. and all of its direct and indirect subsidiaries, limited liability companies, and limited partnerships.

Company Overview

We are a leading specialty retailer of durable consumer products, and we also provide consumer credit to support our customers purchases of the products that we offer. Currently, we derive our revenue primarily from two sources: retail sales and delivery of consumer electronics, home appliances, furniture and mattresses, lawn and garden equipment and repair service agreements; and our in-house consumer credit program, including sales of related credit insurance products. We operate a highly integrated and scalable business through our 65 retail stores and our website, providing our customers with a broad range of brand name products, monthly payment options, next day delivery capabilities, and product repair service through well-trained and knowledgeable sales, consumer credit and service personnel. Through our in-house proprietary consumer credit programs, we provided financing, including down payments received, for approximately 60% of our retail sales during the twelve months ended January 31, 2012. Additionally, we offer third-party payment options through GE Capital, for customers with high credit scores, and RAC Acceptance, a rent-to-own payment plan for customers that do not qualify for the other options we offer.

During the past year we have closed or allowed the lease to expire on 12 stores. Additionally, we have announced plans to open five new stores during fiscal year 2013.

We offer over 2,100 product items, or SKUs, at good-better-best price points in our core retail product categories of:

Consumer Electronic, which includes LED, LCD, plasma, DLP and 3-D televisions, camcorders, digital cameras, Blu-ray players, video game equipment and software, portable audio, and home theater products. We represent such brands as Samsung, Sony, LG, Toshiba, Panasonic, Mitsubishi, Nintendo and Bose;

Furniture and Mattress, which includes living room, bedroom and dining room furniture and related accessories. We represent such brands as Serta, Sealy, Therapedic, Leggett & Platt, Franklin, Albany, Home Stretch, Vaughn Bassett, Harden, Steve Silver and Jackson Furniture;

Home Appliance, which includes refrigerators, freezers, washers, dryers, dishwashers, ranges and room air conditioners. We represent such brands as Whirlpool, Maytag, Frigidaire, Kitchen Aid, Samsung, LG, General Electric, Haier, Dyson, Eureka and Friedrich; and

Home office, which includes desktop, notebook, netbook and tablet computers, printers and computer accessories. We represent such brands as Hewlett Packard, Toshiba, Sony, Samsung, Dell and Asus.

We currently offer our products through 65 retail stores located in three states: Texas, Louisiana and Oklahoma, as well as through our website. We sell our products for cash or for payment through major credit cards, in addition to offering our customers several financing alternatives through our proprietary credit programs

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and third-party financing. Under our proprietary in-house credit program, we offer our customers an installment payment plan. Additionally, at times, we offer customers no-interest financing plans through our in-house credit program and a third-party financing program.

We began as a small plumbing and heating business in 1890. We started selling home appliances to the retail market in 1937 through one store located in Beaumont, Texas. In 1959, we opened our second store and have since grown to 65 stores. We believe that our customer-focused business strategies make us an attractive alternative to appliance and electronics superstores, department stores and other national, regional and local retailers. We strive to provide our customers with:

a broad selection of products at various competitive price points;

next day delivery and installation capabilities;

a high level of customer service;

flexible payment alternatives through our proprietary in-house credit programs and third-party financing;

commissioned and trained sales force; and

product repair or replacement service.

For over 45 years we have offered flexible consumer credit through our proprietary in-house credit program to our credit-worthy customers for purchases of only the products we offer. We believe our consumer credit program differentiates us from our competitors who do not offer similar in-store consumer credit programs, and generates strong customer loyalty and repeat business for us. We believe that our credit customers represent an underserved market that seeks to purchase the latest in consumer goods through access to flexible consumer credit alternatives that are not widely available to them.

We believe that these strategies drive repeat purchases and enable us to generate substantial brand name recognition and customer loyalty. During the twelve months ended January 31, 2012, approximately 72% of our credit customers, based on the number of credit invoices written, were repeat customers, and, as of January 31, 2012, approximately 79% of balances due under our in-house credit program were from customers that have had previous credit accounts with us.

Our decisions to extend consumer credit to our retail customers are made by our internal credit underwriting department separate and distinct from our retail sales department. Our underwriting process considers one or more of the following elements: credit bureau reporting; income verification; current income and debt levels; a review of the customer's previous credit history with us; the credit risk of the particular products being purchased; and the level of the down payment made at the time of purchase.

In addition to underwriting, we employ our own collections department to service our consumer credit portfolio. Our in-house credit financed sales are secured by the products purchased, which we believe gives us a distinct advantage over other creditors when pursuing collections, especially given that, generally, the products we sell and finance are often times necessities for the home. We employ an intensive credit collection strategy that includes dialer-based calls, virtual calling and messaging systems, field collectors that contact borrowers at their home, collection letters, a legal staff that files lawsuits and attends bankruptcy hearings and voluntary repossession.

By combining our front-end underwriting discipline with the back-end rigor in monitoring and collections, we have achieved an average net loss ratio of 6.5% over the past three fiscal years. As of July 31, 2012, our total portfolio balance was \$661.7 million and the percentage of borrowers who were more than 60 days delinquent

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was 7.5%. Additionally, we work with our borrowers after they experience financial hardships in order to help them re-establish their regular payment habits through our re-aging program. As of July 31, 2012, 10.6% of the total portfolio balance had been re-aged during the term of the financing, thereby extending the contractual term of those customers' financing agreements.

Our principal executive offices are located at 4055 Technology Forest Boulevard, The Woodlands, Texas 77381. Our telephone number is (936) 230-5899, and our company website is www.conns.com. Information on our website is not incorporated into this prospectus and does not constitute a part of this prospectus.

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RISK FACTORS

An investment in our securities involves various risks. Before you decide whether to purchase any of our securities, you should carefully consider the risks described below and in any applicable prospectus supplement, together with all of the other information appearing in this prospectus or incorporated by reference into this prospectus, including without limitation, any risk factors discussed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K and any other filings made with the SEC, in light of your particular investment objectives and financial circumstances. The risks so described are not the only risks facing our company. Additional risks not presently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial may also impair our business operations. Our business, financial conditions, or results of operations could be materially adversely affected by any of these risks. The trading price of our securities could decline due to any of these risks, and you may lose all or part of your investment.

The price of our common stock has fluctuated substantially over the past several years and may continue to fluctuate substantially in the future.

From February 1, 2010 to August 31, 2012, the trading price of our common stock ranged from a low of \$3.12 per share to a high of \$23.25 per share. Our stock may continue to be subject to fluctuations as a result of a variety of factors, which are described throughout our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2012, including those factors discussed under the section of such report entitled Risk Factors. Some of these factors are beyond our control. We may fail to meet the expectations of our stockholders or securities analysts at some time in the future, and our stock price could decline as a result.

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SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus and the documents incorporated into this prospectus by reference contain forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Such forward-looking statements include information concerning our future financial performance, business strategy, plans, goals and objectives. Statements containing the words anticipate, believe, could, estimate, expect, intend, may, plan, project, should, such terms or other similar expressions are generally forward-looking in nature and not historical facts. Although we believe that the expectations, opinions, projections, and comments reflected in these forward-looking statements are reasonable, we can give no assurance that such statements will prove to be correct. A wide variety of potential risks, uncertainties, and other factors could materially affect our ability to achieve the results either expressed or implied by our forward-looking statements including, but not limited to: general economic conditions impacting our customers or potential customers; our ability to continue existing or offer new customer financing programs; changes in the delinquency status of our credit portfolio; higher than anticipated net charge-offs in the credit portfolio; the success of our planned opening of new stores and the update of existing stores; technological and market developments, and sales trends for our major product offerings; our ability to fund our operations, capital expenditures, debt repayment and expansion from cash flows from operations, borrowings from our revolving credit facility, and proceeds from accessing debt or equity markets; and the other risks detailed from time-to-time in our SEC reports, including but not limited to, our Annual Report on Form 10-K for our fiscal year ended January 31, 2012. You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of this prospectus or the applicable incorporated document. Except as required by law, we are not obligated to publicly release any revisions to these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this prospectus or the applicable incorporated document or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless otherwise provided in an applicable prospectus supplement, we currently intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of the securities under this prospectus by us for general corporate purposes, which may include general and administrative expenses, capital expenses, repayment or refinancing of debt, acquisitions of, or investment in, properties, companies, subsidiaries or assets that complement our business, or repurchasing or redeeming our securities. We will set forth in a prospectus supplement relating to a specific offering by us our intended use for the net proceeds received from the sale of securities in that offering. Pending the application of the net proceeds, we may to invest net proceeds in marketable securities and/or short-term investment grade and U.S. government securities.

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

SELLING STOCKHOLDERS

This prospectus relates in part to the possible sale by certain of our stockholders, who own shares of our common stock. Certain of the shares of our common stock included in this prospectus for resale by the selling stockholders were acquired when shares of preferred stock of our predecessor companies, which were beneficially owned by the selling stockholders, were converted into shares of our common stock at or around the time of our initial public offering in November 2003. Some of the shares of preferred stock of our predecessor companies were originally acquired by the selling stockholders in a management restructuring transaction in 1998 under an exemption from registration under Section 4(2) of the Securities Act and Regulation D promulgated thereunder for transactions by an issuer not involving a public offering. The remainder of the shares of preferred stock of our predecessor companies were acquired from individual shareholders in several transactions exempt from registration between 1998 and 2003, including shares of preferred stock acquired in 2002 from a stockholder who was an executive in our company. The remaining shares of common stock that may be offered by the selling stockholders were acquired in our November 2010 rights offering. The issuance of

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shares of common stock acquired in the rights offering was registered under our prior universal shelf registration statement. The initial purchasers of these securities, as well as their transferees, pledges, donees or successors, all of whom are referred to herein as selling stockholders, may from time to time offer and sell such securities pursuant to this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement. Some of the selling stockholders are affiliates of the Company.

The applicable prospectus supplement will set forth the name of each of the selling stockholders, the amount of our common stock owned by each selling stockholder prior to the offering, the number of shares of our common stock to be offered by each selling stockholder and the amount of our common stock to be owned by each selling stockholder after completion of the offering. The applicable prospectus supplement will also disclose whether any of the selling stockholders has held any position or office with, has been employed by or otherwise has had a material relationship with us (or any of our predecessors or affiliates) during the three years prior to the date of such prospectus supplement.

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The following table sets forth the ratios of earnings to fixed charges for the periods indicated below for Conn s. You should read these ratios of earnings to fixed charges in connection with our consolidated financial statements, including the notes to those statements, which are incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

| | Six Months | | Year Ended January 31, | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Ended July 31, 2012 | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 | 2008 |
| Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges(1) | 3.8 | | 1.0 | 1.2 | 2.6 | 2.7 |

(1) Due to our loss in the fiscal year ended January 31, 2012, the ratio coverage was less than 1:1. Additional earnings of \$3.9 million would have been required to achieve a ratio of 1:1. For the fiscal year ended January 31, 2012, we incurred charges of approximately \$11.1 million related to the repayment of our term loan that are not included in amortized premiums and expenses within fixed charges above. This amount included a prepayment premium of \$4.8 million, write-off of the unamortized original issue discount of \$5.4 million and deferred financing costs of \$0.9 million.

Ratio of earnings to fixed charges is calculated as income before provision for income taxes plus fixed charges (excluding capitalized interest), divided by fixed charges. Fixed charges consist of the sum of interest expensed and capitalized, amortized premiums, discounts and capitalized expenses related to indebtedness and an estimate of the interest within rental expense.

For the periods indicated above, we did not have any outstanding shares of preferred stock. Therefore, the ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends are identical to the ratios presented in the above table.

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DILUTION

A prospectus supplement will set forth the following information regarding any material dilution of the equity interests of investors purchasing securities in an offering under this prospectus:

the net tangible book value per share of our equity securities before and after the offering;

the amount of the increase in such net tangible book value per share attributable to the cash payments made by purchasers in the offering; and

the amount of the immediate dilution from the public offering price which will be absorbed by such purchasers.

THE SECURITIES WE MAY OFFER

The descriptions of the securities contained in this prospectus, together with the applicable prospectus supplements, summarize the material terms and provisions of the various types of securities that may be offered. The applicable prospectus supplement relating to any securities will describe the particular terms of the securities offered by that prospectus supplement. If indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the terms of the securities may differ from the terms summarized below. The prospectus supplement will also include information, where applicable, about material U.S. federal income tax considerations relating to the securities, and the securities exchange, if any, on which the securities are expected to be listed. The descriptions herein and in the applicable prospectus supplement do not contain all of the information that you may find useful or that may be important to you. You should refer to the provisions of the actual documents whose terms are summarized herein and in the applicable prospectus supplement, because those documents, and not the summaries, define your rights as holders of the relevant securities. For more information, please review the forms of these documents, which are or will be filed with the SEC and will be available as described under the heading **WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION**.

We may sell from time to time, in one or more offerings:

common stock;

preferred stock;

debt securities;

warrants to purchase any of the securities listed above;

rights to purchase any of the securities listed above;

stock purchase contracts;

depository shares; and

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units that include any combination of the securities listed above.

We may offer these securities under this prospectus up to an aggregate offering price of \$150,000,000. If debt securities are issued at a discount from their original stated principal amount, then, for purposes of calculating the total dollar amount of all securities issued under this prospectus, we will treat the initial offering price of the debt securities as the total original principal amount of the debt securities.

Certain selling stockholders may also sell from time to time, in one or more offerings, up to a total of 4,407,227 shares of our common stock under this prospectus.

This prospectus may not be used to consummate a sale of securities unless it is accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

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DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

The following description of our common stock and preferred stock, together with the additional information included in any applicable prospectus supplements, summarizes the material terms and provisions of the common stock and preferred stock that may be offered under this prospectus. For the complete terms of our common stock and preferred stock, please refer to our certificate of incorporation and bylaws, which are incorporated by reference into the registration statement, of which this prospectus forms a part. The terms of our common stock and preferred stock may also be affected by Delaware law.

Authorized Capital Stock

Our authorized capital stock consists of 50,000,000 shares of common stock, \$0.01 par value per share, and 1,000,000 shares of preferred stock, \$0.01 par value per share. As of August 31, 2012, we had 32,558,907 shares of common stock outstanding and no shares of preferred stock outstanding.

Common Stock

Subject to the provisions of our certificate of incorporation and limitations prescribed by law or the rules of any stock exchange or automated quotation system on which our securities may be listed or traded, we may issue our common stock from time to time upon such terms and for such consideration as may be determined by our board of directors. Generally, the issuance of common stock, up to the aggregate amounts authorized by our certificate of incorporation and any limitations prescribed by law or the rules of any stock exchange or automated quotation system on which our securities may be listed or traded, will not require approval of our stockholders.

The holders of our common stock, subject to any rights that may be granted to any preferred stockholders, elect all directors and are entitled to one vote per share on all other matters coming before a stockholders' meeting. Our common stock has no cumulative voting rights. Accordingly, the holders of a majority of the shares of common stock entitled to vote in any election of directors can elect all of the directors standing for election, if they so choose. All shares of common stock participate equally in dividends when and as declared by the board of directors and in net assets on liquidation. The shares of common stock have no preemptive rights to participate in future stock offerings.

Voting

For all matters submitted to a vote of stockholders, each holder of common stock is entitled to one vote for each share registered in the stockholder's name. Our common stock does not have cumulative voting rights. Accordingly, holders of a majority of the shares of common stock entitled to vote in any election of directors may elect all of the directors standing for election. Directors are elected by a plurality of the shares voting in person or by proxy. A plurality means receiving the largest number of votes, regardless of whether that is a majority.

Dividends

Holders of common stock are entitled to share ratably in any dividends declared by our board of directors, subject to any preferential dividend rights of any outstanding preferred stock. Dividends consisting of shares of common stock may be paid to holders of shares of common stock. It is our current policy to retain future earnings to finance operations and expansion. Accordingly, we have not, and do not contemplate, declaring or paying cash dividends in the foreseeable future. Any future payment of dividends will be at the discretion of our board of directors and will depend upon our results of operations, financial condition, cash requirements and other factors deemed relevant by our board of directors, including the terms of our indebtedness. In addition, provisions in agreements governing our long-term indebtedness restrict the amount of dividends that we may pay.

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to our stockholders. See Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Liquidity and Capital Resources of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 31, 2012.

Liquidation and Dissolution

If we are liquidated or dissolve, the holders of our common stock will be entitled to share ratably in all the assets that remain after we pay our liabilities, subject to the prior rights of any outstanding preferred stock.

Other Rights and Restrictions

Holders of our common stock do not have preemptive rights, are not entitled to the benefits of any sinking fund, and have no right to convert their common stock into any other securities. Our common stock is not subject to redemption by us. Our certificate of incorporation and bylaws do not restrict the ability of a holder of common stock to transfer the stockholder's shares of common stock. When we issue shares of common stock under this prospectus, the shares will be fully paid and non-assessable and will not have, or be subject to, any preemptive or similar rights.

The rights, powers, preferences and privileges of holders of our common stock are subject to, and may be adversely affected by, the rights of the holders of any series of our preferred stock.

Listing

Our common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market, Inc. under the symbol CONN. On August 31, 2012, the closing price of our common stock as quoted on the NASDAQ Global Select Market, Inc. was \$23.16 per share.

Transfer Agent and Registrar

The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is Computershare Limited.

Anti-Takeover Provisions of Our Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws and the Delaware General Corporation Laws

Our certificate of incorporation and bylaws and the Delaware General Corporation Laws contain provisions that could have the effect of delaying, deferring or discouraging another party from acquiring control of us. These provisions, which are summarized below, are designed to, among other things, discourage coercive takeover practices and inadequate takeover bids and encourage persons seeking to acquire control of us to first negotiate with our board of directors in hopes of improving the terms of any such takeover bids.

Authorized but Unissued Capital Stock

We currently have 50,000,000 authorized shares of common stock and 1,000,000 authorized shares of preferred stock. Due to our authorized but unissued common stock and preferred stock, our board of directors may be able to discourage or make any attempt to obtain control of us more difficult. If, in the exercise of its fiduciary obligations, our board of directors determines that a takeover proposal is not in our best interest, the board of directors could issue a portion of these shares without stockholder approval, subject to any limitations prescribed by law or the rules of any stock exchange or automated quotation or system on which our securities may be listed or traded. These shares could be issued in one or more transactions that might prevent or make the completion of a proposed change of control transaction more difficult or costly by:

diluting the voting or other rights of the proposed acquiror or insurgent stockholder group;

creating a substantial voting block in institutional or other hands that might undertake to support the position of the incumbent board of directors; or

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effecting an acquisition that might complicate or preclude the takeover.

In this regard, our certificate of incorporation grants our board of directors broad power to establish the rights, preferences and limitations of the authorized and unissued shares of our preferred stock. For example, our board of directors could establish one or more series of preferred stock that entitle holders to:

vote separately as a class on any proposed merger or consolidation;

cast a proportionately larger vote together with our common stock on any proposed transaction or other voting matter;

elect directors having terms of office or voting rights greater than those of our other directors;

convert preferred stock into a greater number of shares of our common stock or other securities;

demand redemption at a specified price under prescribed circumstances related to a change of control of us; or

exercise other rights designed to impede a takeover.

Stockholder Action, Special Meeting of Stockholders, Advance Notice Requirements for Stockholder Proposals and Director Nominations

Our bylaws establish an advance notice procedure for stockholders to make nominations of candidates for election as directors and to bring other business before an annual meeting of our stockholders. For notice of stockholder nominations to be timely, the notice must be received by our secretary not later than the close of business on the 90th calendar day, nor earlier than the close of business on the 120th calendar day, prior to the first anniversary of the date of the preceding year's proxy statement in connection with the preceding year's annual meeting. In addition to these procedures, a stockholder's notice proposing to nominate a person for election as a director or relating to the conduct of business other than the nomination of directors must contain certain specified information. Otherwise, the chairman of a meeting may determine that an individual was not nominated or the other business was not properly brought before the meeting.

No Stockholder Action by Written Consent; Special Meetings.

Any action required or permitted to be taken by our stockholders must be effected at a duly called annual or special meeting of stockholders and may not be effected by written consent without a meeting unless approved in advance by our board of directors. Special meetings of our stockholders for any purpose or purposes may be called only by our chairman of the board, our president or by a majority of our board of directors.

Delaware Anti-Takeover Provisions

We are subject to Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law. In general, the statute prohibits a publicly-held Delaware corporation from engaging in any business combination with any person deemed to be an interested stockholder for a period of three years following the date that the stockholder became an interested stockholder unless:

prior to the date that the person became an interested stockholder, the board of directors of the corporation approved either the business combination or the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder;

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upon consummation of the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder, the interested stockholder owned at least 85% of the voting stock of the corporation outstanding at the time the transaction commenced, excluding those shares owned by persons who are directors and also officers and by employee stock plans in which employee participants do not have the right to determine confidentially whether shares held subject to the plan will be tendered in a tender or exchange offer; or

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on or subsequent to the date that the person became an interested stockholder, the business combination is approved by the board of directors and authorized at an annual or special meeting of stockholders by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the outstanding voting stock not held by the interested stockholder.

Section 203 defines "business combination" to include:

any merger or consolidation involving the corporation and the interested stockholder;

any sale, lease, transfer, pledge, or other disposition involving the interested stockholder of 10% or more of the assets of the corporation;

subject to certain exceptions, any transaction that results in the issuance or transfer by the corporation of any stock of the corporation to the interested stockholder;

any transaction involving the corporation which directly or indirectly materially increases the proportionate share of stock owned by the interested stockholder; or

the receipt by the interested stockholder of the benefit of any loans, advances, guarantees, pledges or other financial benefits provided by or through the corporation.

In general, Section 203 defines an interested stockholder as any person beneficially owning 15% or more of the outstanding voting stock of the corporation and any person controlling, controlled by or under common control with that person.

Section 203 may make it more difficult for an interested stockholder to effect various business combinations with us for a three-year period.

The above description of Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law is intended as a summary only and is qualified in its entirety by reference to Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law.

Liability and Indemnification of Directors

As permitted by the Delaware General Corporation Law, we have adopted provisions in our certificate of incorporation and bylaws that provide for the indemnification of our directors and officers to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law. These provisions, among other things, indemnify each of our directors and officers for certain expenses, including judgments, fines, and amounts paid in settling or otherwise disposing of actions or threatened actions, incurred by reason of the fact that such person was a director or officer of Conn's or of any other corporation which such person served in any capacity at the request of Conn's.

In addition, we have entered into indemnification agreements with each of our directors pursuant to which we will indemnify them against judgments, claims, damages, losses, and expenses incurred as a result of the fact that any director, in his capacity as a director, is made or threatened to be made a party to any suit or proceeding. The indemnification agreements also provide for the advancement of certain expenses (such as attorney's fees, witness fees, damages, judgments, fines and settlement costs) to our directors in connection with any such suit or proceeding.

We maintain a directors' and officers' liability insurance policy to insure our directors and officers against certain losses resulting from acts committed by them in their capacities as our directors and officers, including liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act.

Preferred Stock

Our certificate of incorporation authorizes our board to issue up to 1,000,000 shares of preferred stock in such series and with such preferences, conversion or other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends, qualifications, or other provisions as may be fixed by the

board. While providing desired flexibility in

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connection with possible acquisitions and other corporate purposes, the issuance of preferred stock may have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change in control of the company without further action by the stockholders. Shares of preferred stock may be convertible into common stock based on terms, conditions, rates and subject to such adjustments set by the board. The issuance of preferred stock with voting and conversion rights may also adversely affect the voting power of the holders of common stock, including the loss of voting control to others, and negatively affect any dividend payments or liquidation payments to holders of our common stock. No shares of preferred stock preferred stock are currently outstanding.

If we decide to issue any preferred stock pursuant to this prospectus, we will describe in a prospectus supplement the terms of the preferred stock, including, if applicable, the following:

the title of the series and stated value;

the number of shares of the series of preferred stock offered, the liquidation preference per share, if applicable, and the offering price;

applicable dividend rate(s) or amount(s), period(s) and payment date(s) or method(s) of calculation thereof;

the date from which dividends on the preferred stock will accumulate, if applicable;

any procedures for auction and remarketing;

any provisions for a sinking fund;

any applicable provision for redemption and the price or prices, terms and conditions on which preferred stock may be redeemed;

any securities exchange listing;

any voting rights and powers;

whether interests in the preferred stock will be represented by depositary shares;

the terms and conditions, if applicable, of conversion into shares of our common stock, including the conversion price or rate or manner of calculation thereof;

a discussion of any material U.S. federal income tax considerations;

the relative ranking and preference as to dividend rights and rights upon our liquidation, dissolution or the winding up of our affairs;

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any limitations on issuance of any series of preferred stock ranking senior to or on a parity with such series of preferred stock as to dividend rights and rights upon our liquidation, dissolution or the winding up of our affairs; and

any other specific terms, preferences, rights, limitations or restrictions of such series of preferred stock.
All shares of preferred stock offered will, when issued, be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

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DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

The following description, together with the additional information we include in any applicable prospectus supplements, summarizes the material terms and provisions of the debt securities that we may offer under this prospectus. While the terms we have summarized below will apply generally to any future debt securities that may be offered under this prospectus, we will describe the particular terms of any debt securities that may be offered in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement. If we indicate in a prospectus supplement, the terms of any debt securities offered under that prospectus supplement may differ from the terms we describe below.

Senior notes will be issued under a senior indenture, and subordinated notes will be issued under a subordinated indenture. Each indenture for debt securities issued by us will be entered into between us and a trustee to be named in such indenture. We have filed forms of the senior indenture and the subordinated indenture as exhibits to the registration statement, of which this prospectus forms a part. We use the term *indentures* to refer to both the senior indenture and the subordinated indenture. The indentures will be qualified under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, or the Trust Indenture Act. We use the term *trustee* to refer to either the trustee under the senior indenture or the trustee under the subordinated indenture, as applicable.

The following summaries of material provisions of senior notes, subordinated notes and the indentures are subject to, and qualified in their entirety by reference to, the provisions of the indenture applicable to a particular series of debt securities. Except as we may otherwise indicate, the terms of the senior indenture and the subordinated indenture are identical.

General

If we decide to issue any senior notes or subordinated notes pursuant to this prospectus, we will describe in a prospectus supplement the terms of the series of notes, including the following:

the title;

any limit on the amount that may be issued;

whether or not we will issue the series of notes in global form, and, if so, who the depository will be;

the maturity date;

the annual interest rate, which may be fixed or variable, or the method for determining the rate and the date interest will begin to accrue, the dates interest will be payable and the regular record dates for interest payment dates or the method for determining such dates;

whether or not the notes will be secured or unsecured, and the terms of any secured debt;

whether or not the notes will be senior or subordinated;

the terms of the subordination of any series of subordinated debt;

the place where payments will be payable;

our right, if any, to defer payment of interest and the maximum length of any such deferral period;

the date, if any, after which, and the price at which, we may, at our option, redeem the series of notes pursuant to any optional redemption provisions;

the date, if any, on which, and the price at which we are obligated, pursuant to any mandatory sinking fund provisions or otherwise, to redeem, or at the holder's option to purchase, the series of notes;

whether the indenture will restrict our ability to pay dividends, or will require us to maintain any asset ratios or reserves;

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whether we will be restricted from incurring any additional indebtedness;

a discussion of any material or special U.S. federal income tax considerations;

the denominations in which we will issue the series of notes, if other than denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiple thereof; and

any other specific terms, preferences, rights or limitations of, or restrictions on, the debt securities.

Conversion or Exchange Rights

We will set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement the terms on which a series of debt securities may be convertible into or exchangeable for common stock or other securities of ours. Any convertible debt securities that may be offered shall be convertible only into the common stock or preferred stock of Conn s. We will include provisions as to whether conversion or exchange is mandatory, at the option of the holder or at our option. We may include provisions pursuant to which the number of shares of common stock or other securities of ours that the holders of the series of debt securities receive would be subject to adjustment.

Consolidation, Merger or Sale

The indentures do not contain any covenant that restricts our ability to merge or consolidate, or sell, convey, transfer or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of our assets. However, any successor to or acquirer of such assets must assume all of our obligations under the indentures or the debt securities, as appropriate.

Events of Default Under the Indentures

The following are events of default under the indentures with respect to any series of debt securities that we may issue:

if we fail to pay interest when due and our failure continues for 90 days and the time for payment has not been extended or deferred;

if we fail to pay the principal, or premium, if any, when due and the time for payment has not been extended or delayed;

if we fail to observe or perform any other covenant contained in the notes or the indentures, other than a covenant specifically relating to another series of notes, and our failure continues for 90 days after we receive notice from the trustee or holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding notes of the applicable series; and

if we experience specified events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization.

If an event of default with respect to debt securities of any series occurs and is continuing, the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series, by notice to us in writing, and to the trustee if notice is given by such holders, may declare the unpaid principal of, or premium, if any, on and accrued interest, if any, on the debt securities due and payable immediately.

If an event of default with respect to debt securities of any series occurs and is continuing, the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding notes of that series, by notice to us in writing, and to the trustee if notice is given by such holders, may declare the unpaid principal of, or premium, if any, on and accrued interest, if any, on the notes due and payable immediately.

The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of an affected series may waive any default or event of default with respect to the series and its consequences, except uncured defaults or

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events of default regarding payment of principal, or premium, if any, or interest, unless we have cured the default or event of default in accordance with the indenture. Any waiver shall cure the default or event of default.

Subject to the terms of the indentures, if an event of default under an indenture shall occur and be continuing, the trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers under such indenture at the request or direction of any of the holders of the applicable series of debt securities, unless such holders have offered the trustee reasonable indemnity. The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series will have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee, or exercising any trust or power conferred on the trustee, with respect to the notes of that series, *provided that*:

the direction so given by the holder is not in conflict with any law or the applicable indenture; and

subject to its duties under the Trust Indenture Act, the trustee need not take any action that might involve it in personal liability or might be unduly prejudicial to the holders not involved in the proceeding.

A holder of the debt securities of any series will only have the right to institute a proceeding under the indentures or to appoint a receiver or trustee, or to seek other remedies, if:

the holder has given written notice to the trustee of a continuing event of default with respect to that series;

the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series have made written request, and such holders have offered reasonable indemnity to the trustee to institute the proceeding as trustee; and

the trustee does not institute the proceeding, and does not receive from the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series other conflicting directions within 60 days after the notice, request and offer.

These limitations do not apply to a suit instituted by a holder of debt securities if we default in the payment of the principal of, or the premium, if any, or interest on, the debt securities.

We will periodically file statements with the trustee regarding our compliance with specified covenants in the indentures.

Modification of Indenture; Waiver

We and the trustee may change an indenture without the consent of any holders with respect to specific matters, including:

to fix any ambiguity, defect or inconsistency in the indenture; or

to change anything that does not materially adversely affect the interests of any holder of notes of any series.

In addition, under the indentures, we and the trustee may change the rights of holders of a series of debt securities with the written consent of the holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of each series that is affected. However, we and the trustee may only make the following changes with the consent of each holder of any outstanding debt securities affected:

extending the fixed maturity of the series of debt securities;

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reducing the principal amount, the rate of interest or any premium payable upon the redemption of any debt securities;

reducing the minimum percentage of notes, the holders of which are required to consent to any amendment.

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Discharge

Each indenture provides that we can elect, under specified circumstances, to be discharged from our obligations with respect to one or more series of debt securities, except for obligations to:

register the transfer or exchange of debt securities of the series;

replace stolen, lost or mutilated debt securities of the series;

maintain paying agencies;

hold monies for payment in trust;

compensate and indemnify the trustee; and

appoint any successor trustee.

In order to exercise our rights to be discharged, we must deposit with the trustee money or government obligations sufficient to pay all the principal of, any premium, if any, and interest on, the debt securities of the series on the dates payments are due.

Form, Exchange and Transfer

We will issue the debt securities of each series only in fully registered form without coupons and, unless we otherwise specify in the applicable prospectus supplement, in denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiple thereof. The indentures provide that we may issue notes of a series in temporary or permanent global form and as book-entry securities that will be deposited with, or on behalf of, The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, or DTC, or another depository named by us and identified in a prospectus supplement with respect to that series. See *Legal Ownership of Securities* for a further description of the terms relating to any book-entry securities.

At the option of the holder, subject to the terms of the indentures and the limitations applicable to global securities described in the applicable prospectus supplement, the holder of the debt securities of any series can exchange the debt securities for other debt securities of the same series, in any authorized denomination and of like tenor and aggregate principal amount.

Subject to the terms of the indentures and the limitations applicable to global securities set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, holders of the debt securities may present the debt securities for exchange or for registration of transfer, duly endorsed or with the form of transfer endorsed thereon duly executed if so required by us or the security registrar, at the office of the security registrar or at the office of any transfer agent designated by us for this purpose. Unless otherwise provided in the debt securities that the holder presents for transfer or exchange, we will not require any payment for any registration of transfer or exchange, but we may require payment of any taxes or other governmental charges.

We will name in the applicable prospectus supplement the security registrar, and any transfer agent in addition to the security registrar, that we initially designate for any debt securities. We may at any time designate additional transfer agents or rescind the designation of any transfer agent or approve a change in the office through which any transfer agent acts, except that we will be required to maintain a transfer agent in each place of payment for the notes of each series.

If we elect to redeem the debt securities of any series, we will not be required to:

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reissue, register the transfer of, or exchange any notes of that series during a period beginning at the opening of business 15 days before the day of mailing of a notice of redemption of any debt securities that may be selected for redemption and ending at the close of business on the day of the mailing; or

register the transfer of or exchange any notes so selected for redemption, in whole or in part, except the unredeemed portion of any notes we are redeeming in part.

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Information Concerning the Trustee

The trustee, other than during the occurrence and continuance of an event of default under an indenture, undertakes to perform only those duties as are specifically set forth in the applicable indenture. Upon an event of default under an indenture, the trustee must use the same degree of care and skill as a prudent person would exercise or use in the conduct of his or her own affairs. Subject to this provision, the trustee is under no obligation to exercise any of the powers given to it by the indentures at the request of any holder of notes unless it is offered reasonable security and indemnity against the costs, expenses and liabilities that it might incur.

Payment and Paying Agents

Unless we otherwise indicate in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will make payment of the interest on any debt securities on any interest payment date to the person in whose name the debt securities, or one or more predecessor securities, are registered at the close of business on the regular record date for the interest payment.

We will pay principal of and any premium and interest on the notes of a particular series at the office of the paying agents designated by us, except that unless we otherwise indicate in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will make interest payments by check which we will mail to the holder. Unless we otherwise indicate in a prospectus supplement, we will designate the corporate trust office of the trustee in The City of New York as our sole paying agent for payments with respect to notes of each series. We will name in the applicable prospectus supplement any other paying agents that we initially designate for the notes of a particular series. We will maintain a paying agent in each place of payment for the notes of a particular series.

All money we pay to a paying agent or the trustee for the payment of the principal of or any premium or interest on any notes which remains unclaimed at the end of two years after such principal, premium or interest has become due and payable will be repaid to us, and the holder of the security thereafter may look only to us for payment thereof.

Governing Law

The indentures and the notes will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York, except to the extent that the Trust Indenture Act is applicable.

Subordination of Subordinated Notes

The subordinated debt securities will be unsecured and will be subordinate and junior in priority of payment to certain of our other indebtedness to the extent described in a prospectus supplement. The subordinated indenture does not limit the amount of subordinated debt securities that we may issue. It also does not limit us from issuing any other secured or unsecured debt.

DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS

The following description, together with the additional information we may include in any applicable prospectus supplements, summarizes the material terms and provisions of the warrants that we may offer under this prospectus and the related warrant agreements and warrant certificates. While the terms summarized below will apply generally to any warrants that we may offer, we will describe the particular terms of any series of warrants in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement. If we indicate in the prospectus supplement, the terms of any warrants offered under that prospectus supplement may differ from the terms described below. Specific warrant agreements will contain additional important terms and provisions and will be incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the registration statement, of which this prospectus forms a part.

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General

We may issue warrants for the purchase of common stock, preferred stock or debt securities in one or more series. We may issue warrants independently or together with common stock, preferred stock and debt securities, and the warrants may be attached to or separate from these securities.

We will evidence each series of warrants by warrant certificates that we will issue under a separate agreement with a warrant agent. We will indicate the name and address and other information regarding the warrant agent in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to a particular series of warrants.

Terms

If we decide to issue warrants pursuant to this prospectus, we will specify in a prospectus supplement the terms of the series of warrants, including, if applicable, the following:

the offering price and aggregate number of warrants offered;

the currency for which the warrants may be purchased;

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

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

in the case of warrants to purchase debt securities, the principal amount of debt securities purchasable upon exercise of one warrant and the price at, and currency in which, this principal amount of debt securities may be purchased upon such exercise;

in the case of warrants to purchase common stock, the number of shares of common stock purchasable upon exercise of one warrant and the price at which these shares may be purchased upon such exercise;

the effect of any merger, consolidation, sale or other disposition of our business on the warrant agreement and the warrants;

the terms of any rights to redeem or call the warrants;

any provisions for changes to or adjustments in the exercise price or number of securities issuable upon exercise of the warrants;

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

the manner in which the warrant agreement and warrants may be modified;

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a discussion of any material U.S. federal income tax considerations of holding or exercising the warrants;

the terms of the securities issuable upon exercise of the warrants; and

any other specific terms, preferences, rights or limitations of or restrictions on the warrants.

Before exercising their warrants, holders of warrants will not have any of the rights of holders of the securities purchasable upon such exercise, including:

the case of warrants to purchase debt securities, the right to receive payments of principal of, or premium, if any, or interest on, the debt securities purchasable upon exercise or to enforce covenants in the applicable indenture; or

in the case of warrants to purchase common stock or preferred stock, the right to receive dividends, if any, or payments upon our liquidation, dissolution or winding up or to exercise voting rights, if any.

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Exercise of Warrants

Each warrant will entitle the holder to purchase the securities that we specify in the applicable prospectus supplement at the exercise price that we describe in the applicable prospectus supplement. Unless we otherwise specify in the applicable prospectus supplement, holders of the warrants may exercise the warrants at any time up to 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on the expiration date that we set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. After the close of business on the expiration date, unexercised warrants will become void.

Holders of the warrants may exercise the warrants by delivering the warrant certificate representing the warrants to be exercised together with specified information, and paying the required amount to the warrant agent in immediately available funds, as provided in the applicable prospectus supplement. We will set forth on the reverse side of the warrant certificate and in the applicable prospectus supplement the information that the holder of the warrant will be required to deliver to the warrant agent.

Upon receipt of the required payment and the warrant certificate properly completed and duly executed at the corporate trust office of the warrant agent or any other office indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will issue and deliver the securities purchasable upon such exercise. If fewer than all of the warrants represented by the warrant certificate are exercised, then we will issue a new warrant certificate for the remaining amount of warrants. If we so indicate in the applicable prospectus supplement, holders of the warrants may surrender securities as all or part of the exercise price for warrants.

Enforceability of Rights by Holders of Warrants

Each warrant agent will act solely as our agent under the applicable warrant agreement and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust with any holder of any warrant. A single bank or trust company may act as warrant agent for more than one issue of warrants. A warrant agent will have no duty or responsibility in case of any default by us under the applicable warrant agreement or warrant, including any duty or responsibility to initiate any proceedings at law or otherwise, or to make any demand upon us. Any holder of a warrant may, without the consent of the related warrant agent or the holder of any other warrant, enforce by appropriate legal action its right to exercise, and receive the securities purchasable upon exercise of, its warrants.

DESCRIPTION OF RIGHTS

The following description, together with the additional information we may include in any applicable prospectus supplements, summarizes the material terms and provisions of the rights that we may offer under this prospectus and the related rights agent or subscription agent agreements and rights certificates. While the terms summarized below will apply generally to any rights that we may offer, we will describe the particular terms of any series of rights in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement. If we indicate in the prospectus supplement, the terms of any rights offered under that prospectus supplement may differ from the terms described below. Specific rights agent or subscription agent agreements will contain additional important terms and provisions and will be incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the registration statement, of which this prospectus forms a part.

General

We may issue rights to purchase common stock, preferred stock, warrants or debt securities. The rights may or may not be transferable by the persons purchasing or receiving the rights. In connection with any rights issuance, we may enter into a standby underwriting or other arrangement with one or more underwriters or other persons pursuant to which such underwriters or other persons would purchase any offered securities remaining unsubscribed for after such rights issuance. Rights may be issued independently or together with any of our common stock, preferred stock, warrants and/or debt securities offered by a prospectus supplement, and may be

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attached to or separate from those offered securities. Each series of rights will be issued under a separate rights agent or subscription agent agreement to be entered into between us and a bank or trust company, as rights agent or subscription agent, as applicable, all as further set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to the particular issue of rights. The rights agent or subscription agent will act solely as our agent in connection with the rights and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any holders of rights certificates or beneficial owners of rights. A copy of the form of rights certificate representing a series of rights, will be filed with the SEC in connection with the offering of a particular series of rights.

Terms

The prospectus supplement relating to a particular issue of rights to purchase our common stock, preferred stock and/or warrants will describe the terms of those rights, which may include, without limitation, one or more of the following:

the date of determining the security holders entitled to the rights distribution;

the aggregate number of rights issued and the aggregate number of shares of common stock or preferred stock or warrants purchasable upon exercise of the rights;

the exercise price;

the conditions to completion of the rights offering;

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

a discussion of any material U.S. federal income tax considerations.

Exercise of Rights

Each right would entitle the holder of the right to purchase at the exercise price set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement the number of shares of common stock or preferred stock or warrants being offered. Holders may exercise rights at any time up to the close of business on the expiration date set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. After the close of business on the expiration date, unexercised rights will be void. Holders may exercise rights as described in the prospectus supplement relating to the rights being issued. If less than all of the rights issued in any rights offering are exercised, we may offer any unsubscribed securities directly to persons other than our security holders, to or through agents, underwriters or dealers or through a combination of such methods, including pursuant to standby arrangements, as described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Until a holder exercises the rights to purchase shares of our common stock or preferred stock or warrants, the holder will not have any rights as a holder of shares of our common stock or preferred stock or warrants, as the case may be, by virtue of ownership of the rights.

DESCRIPTION OF STOCK PURCHASE CONTRACTS

The following description, together with the additional information we may include in any applicable prospectus supplements, summarizes the material terms and provisions of the stock purchase contracts that we may offer under this prospectus. While the terms summarized below will apply generally to any stock purchase contracts that we may offer, we will describe the particular terms of any series of stock purchase contracts in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement. If we indicate in the prospectus supplement, the terms of any stock purchase contracts offered under that prospectus supplement may differ from the terms described below.

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General

We may issue stock purchase contracts, including contracts obligating holders to purchase from us, and for us to sell to holders, a specific or varying number of shares of common stock or preferred stock at a future date or dates. Alternatively, the stock purchase contracts may obligate us to purchase from holders, and obligate holders to sell to us, a specific or varying number of shares of common stock or preferred stock. The price per share of the common stock or preferred stock may be fixed at the time the stock purchase contracts are issued or may be determined by reference to a specific formula described in the stock purchase contracts.

We may issue stock purchase contracts separately or as a part of units each consisting of a stock purchase contract and one or more of the other securities described in this prospectus or securities of third parties. If we issue a stock purchase contract as part of a unit, the applicable prospectus supplement will state whether the stock purchase contract will be separable from the other securities in the unit before the stock purchase contract settlement date. The stock purchase contracts may require us to make periodic payments to holders or *vice versa* and the payments may be unsecured or pre-funded on some basis. The stock purchase contracts may require holders to secure the holder's obligations in a manner specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, and, in certain circumstances, we may deliver newly issued prepaid stock purchase contracts, often known as prepaid securities, upon release to a holder of any collateral securing such holder's obligations under the original stock purchase contract.

Terms

The prospectus supplement relating to a particular issuance of stock purchase contracts will describe the terms of those stock purchase contracts, which may include, without limitation, one or more of the following:

whether the stock purchase contracts obligate the holder or us to purchase or sell, or both purchase and sell, the common stock or preferred stock subject to the stock purchase contract, and the nature and amount of such common stock or preferred stock, or the method of determining those amounts;

whether the stock purchase contracts are to be prepaid or not;

whether the stock purchase contracts will be issued as part of a unit and, if so, the other securities comprising the unit;

whether the stock purchase contracts are to be settled by delivery, or by reference or linkage to the value or performance of the common stock or preferred stock subject to the stock purchase contract;

any acceleration, cancellation, termination, or other provisions relating to the settlement of the stock purchase contracts; and

whether the stock purchase contracts will be issued in fully registered or global form.

DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES

The following description, together with the additional information we may include in any applicable prospectus supplements, summarizes the material terms and provisions of the depositary shares that we may offer under this prospectus. While the terms summarized below will apply generally to any depositary shares that we may offer, we will describe the particular terms of any depositary shares in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement. If we indicate in the prospectus supplement, the terms of any depositary shares offered under that prospectus supplement may differ from the terms described below. Specific deposit agreements and depositary receipts will contain additional important terms and provisions and will be incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the registration statement, of which this prospectus forms a part.

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General

We may elect to offer fractional shares or some multiple of shares of preferred stock, rather than offer whole shares of preferred stock. If we choose to do this, we will issue receipts for depositary shares. Each depositary share will represent a fraction or some multiple of a share of a particular series of preferred stock.

The shares of any series of preferred stock underlying the depositary shares will be deposited under a separate deposit agreement between us and a bank or trust company, which we will select. The bank or trust company must have its principal office in the United States and a combined capital and surplus of at least \$500,000,000. The prospectus supplement relating to a series of depositary shares will state the name and address of the depositary. Unless otherwise provided by the deposit agreement, each owner of depositary shares will be entitled, in proportion to the applicable fraction or multiple of a share of preferred stock underlying the depositary shares, to all the rights and preferences of the preferred stock underlying the depositary shares including dividend, voting, redemption, conversion and liquidation rights.

The depositary shares will be evidenced by depositary receipts issued under the deposit agreement. Depositary receipts will be distributed to those persons purchasing the fractional interest in or multiple of shares of the related series of preferred stock in accordance with the terms of the offering described in the related prospectus supplement.

Dividends and other Distributions

The depositary will distribute all cash dividends or other cash distributions received with respect to preferred stock to the record holders of depositary shares relating to the preferred stock in proportion to the numbers of the depositary shares owned by the holders on the relevant record date. However, the depositary will distribute only an amount that can be distributed without attributing to any holder of depositary shares a fraction of one cent, and any balance not so distributed will be added to and treated as part of the next sum received by the depositary for distribution to record holders of depositary shares.

If there is a non-cash distribution, the depositary will distribute property received by it to the record holders of depositary shares entitled to it, unless the depositary determines that it is not feasible to make the distribution. If this happens, the depositary may, with our approval, sell the property and distribute the net sale proceeds to the holders.

Redemption of Depositary Shares

If a series of the preferred stock underlying the depositary shares is redeemed in whole or in part, the depositary shares will be redeemed from the redemption proceeds received by the depositary. The redemption price for each depositary share will be equal to the applicable fraction or multiple of the redemption price for each share payable with respect to the series of the preferred stock. Whenever we redeem shares of preferred stock held by the depositary, the depositary will redeem on the same redemption date the number of depositary shares relating to the shares of preferred stock so redeemed. If less than all of the depositary shares are to be redeemed, the depositary shares to be redeemed will be selected by lot or proportionally as may be determined by the depositary.

After the date fixed for redemption, the depositary shares called for redemption will no longer be considered outstanding and all rights of the holders of depositary shares will cease, except the right to receive the money, securities or other property payable upon the redemption and any money, securities or other property to which the holders of the redeemed depositary shares were entitled upon surrender to the depositary of the depositary receipts evidencing the depositary shares.

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Voting the Preferred Stock

Upon receipt of notice of any meeting at which the holders of the preferred stock are entitled to vote, the depositary will mail the information contained in the notice of meeting to the record holders of depositary shares relating to the preferred stock. Each record holder of depositary shares on the record date, which will be the same date as the record date for the preferred stock, will be entitled to instruct the depositary how to exercise the voting rights pertaining to the number of shares of preferred stock underlying the holder's depositary shares. The depositary will endeavor, to the extent practicable, to vote the number of shares of preferred stock underlying the depositary shares in accordance with these instructions, and we will agree to take all action that the depositary may consider necessary in order to enable the depositary to vote the shares.

Amendment and Termination of Deposit Agreement

We may enter into an agreement with the depositary at any time to amend the form of depositary receipt evidencing the depositary shares and any provision of the deposit agreement. However, the holders of a majority of the depositary shares must approve any amendment that materially and adversely alters the rights of the existing holders of depositary shares. We or the depositary may terminate the deposit agreement only if (i) all outstanding depositary shares issued under the agreement have been redeemed, or (ii) a final distribution in connection with any liquidation, dissolution or winding up has been made to the holders of depositary shares.

Charges of Depositary

We will pay all transfer and other taxes and governmental charges arising solely from the existence of the deposit arrangements. We will also pay charges of the depositary in connection with the initial deposit of the preferred stock and any redemption of the preferred stock. Holders of depositary shares will pay transfer and other taxes and governmental charges and such other charges as are expressly provided in the deposit agreement to be for their accounts.

Resignation and Removal of Depositary

The depositary may resign at any time by delivering to us notice of its election to resign, and we may at any time remove the depositary. Any resignation or removal will take effect when a successor depositary has been appointed and has accepted the appointment. Appointment must occur within 60 days after delivery of the notice of resignation or removal. The successor depositary must be a bank or trust company having its principal office in the United States and having a combined capital and surplus of at least \$500,000,000.

Miscellaneous

The depositary will forward to the holders of depositary shares all reports and communications that we deliver to the depositary and that we are required to furnish to the holders of the preferred stock.

Neither the depositary nor we will be liable if either of us are prevented or delayed by law or any circumstance beyond our control in performing our obligations under the deposit agreement. Our obligations and those of the depositary will be limited to performance in good faith of our duties under the deposit agreement. Neither we nor the depositary will be obligated to prosecute or defend any legal proceeding in respect of any depositary shares or preferred stock unless satisfactory indemnity is furnished. Further, both of us may rely upon written advice of counsel or accountants, or upon information provided by persons presenting preferred stock for deposit, holders of depositary receipts or other persons believed to be competent and on documents believed to be genuine.

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DESCRIPTION OF UNITS

The following description, together with the additional information we may include in any applicable prospectus supplements, summarizes the material terms and provisions of the units that we may offer under this prospectus. While the terms summarized below will apply generally to any units that we may offer, we will describe the particular terms of any series of rights in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement. If we indicate in the prospectus supplement, the terms of any units offered under that prospectus supplement may differ from the terms described below.

We may issue units consisting of one or more debt securities, shares of common stock, shares of preferred stock, warrants, rights, stock purchase contracts, or depositary shares or any combination of such securities under this prospectus. The specific terms and conditions of the units will be described in a supplement to this prospectus which may include, without limitation, one or more of the following:

the title of the series of units;

the identification and description of the separate securities comprising the units;

the price or prices at which the units will be issued;

the date, if any, on and after which the securities comprising the units will be separately transferrable; and

any other material terms of the units and the securities comprising such units.

LEGAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

We can issue securities in registered form or in the form of one or more global securities. We describe global securities in greater detail below. We refer to those persons who have securities registered in their own names on the books that we or any applicable trustee maintain for this purpose as the holders of those securities. These persons are the legal holders of the securities. We refer to those persons who, indirectly through others, own beneficial interests in securities that are not registered in their own names as indirect holders of those securities. As we discuss below, indirect holders are not legal holders, and investors in securities issued in book-entry form or in street name will be indirect holders.

Book-Entry Holders

We may issue securities in book-entry form only, as we will specify in the applicable prospectus supplement. This means securities may be represented by one or more global securities registered in the name of a financial institution that holds them as depositary on behalf of other financial institutions that participate in the depositary's book-entry system. These participating institutions, which are referred to as participants, in turn, hold beneficial interests in the securities on behalf of themselves or their customers.

Only the person in whose name a security is registered is recognized as the holder of that security. Securities issued in global form will be registered in the name of the depositary or its nominee. Consequently, for securities issued in global form, we will recognize only the depositary as the holder of the securities, and we will make all payments on the securities to the depositary. The depositary passes along the payments it receives to its participants, which will in turn pass the payments along to their customers who are the beneficial owners. The depositary and its participants do so under agreements they have made with one another or with their customers; they are not obligated to do so under the terms of the securities.

As a result, investors in a book-entry security will not own securities directly. Instead, they will own beneficial interests in a global security, through a bank, broker or other financial institution that participates in

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the depository's book-entry system or holds an interest through a participant. As long as the securities are issued in global form, investors will be indirect holders, and not holders, of the securities.

Street Name Holders

We may terminate a global security or issue securities in non-global form. In these cases, investors may choose to hold their securities in their own names or in street name. Securities held by an investor in street name would be registered in the name of a bank, broker or other financial institution that the investor chooses, and the investor would hold only a beneficial interest in those securities through an account he or she maintains at that institution.

For securities held in street name, we will recognize only the intermediary banks, brokers and other financial institutions in whose names the securities are registered as the holders of those securities, and we will make all payments on those securities to them. These institutions pass along the payments they receive to their customers who are the beneficial owners, but only because they agree to do so in their customer agreements or because they are legally required to do so. Investors who hold securities in street name will be indirect holders, not holders, of those securities.

Legal Holders

Our obligations, as well as the obligations of any applicable trustee and of any third parties employed by us or a trustee, run only to the legal holders of the securities. We do not have obligations to investors who hold beneficial interests in global securities, in street name or by any other indirect means. This will be the case whether an investor chooses to be an indirect holder of a security or has no choice because we are issuing the securities only in global form.

For example, once we make a payment or give a notice to the holder, we have no further responsibility for the payment or notice even if that holder is required, under agreements with depository participants or customers or by law, to pass it along to the indirect holders but does not do so. Similarly, we may want to obtain the approval of the holders to amend an indenture, to relieve us of the consequences of a default or of our obligation to comply with a particular provision of the indenture or for other purposes. In such an event, we would seek approval only from the holders, and not the indirect holders, of the securities. Whether and how the holders contact the indirect holders is up to the holders.

Special Considerations For Indirect Holders

If you hold securities through a bank, broker or other financial institution, either in book-entry form or in street name, you should check with your own institution to find out:

how it handles securities payments and notices;

whether it imposes fees or charges;

how it would handle a request for the holders' consent, if ever required;

whether and how you can instruct it to send you securities registered in your own name so you can be a holder, if that is permitted in the future;

how it would exercise rights under the securities if there were a default or other event triggering the need for holders to act to protect their interests; and

if the securities are in book-entry form, how the depository's rules and procedures will affect these matters.

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Global Securities

A global security is a security held by a depository that represents one or any other number of individual securities. Generally, all securities represented by the same global securities will have the same terms.

Each security issued in book-entry form will be represented by a global security that we deposit with and register in the name of a financial institution or its nominee that we select. The financial institution that we select for this purpose is called the depository. Unless we specify otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, DTC will be the depository for all securities issued in book-entry form.

A global security may not be transferred to or registered in the name of anyone other than the depository, its nominee or a successor depository, unless special termination situations arise. We describe those situations below under **Special Situations When a Global Security Will Be Terminated**. As a result of these arrangements, the depository, or its nominee, will be the sole registered owner and holder of all securities represented by a global security, and investors will be permitted to own only beneficial interests in a global security. Beneficial interests must be held by means of an account with a broker, bank or other financial institution that in turn has an account with the depository or with another institution that does. Thus, an investor whose security is represented by a global security will not be a holder of the security, but only an indirect holder of a beneficial interest in the global security.

If the prospectus supplement for a particular security indicates that the security will be issued in global form only, then the security will be represented by a global security at all times unless and until the global security is terminated. If termination occurs, we may issue the securities through another book-entry clearing system or decide that the securities may no longer be held through any book-entry clearing system.

Special Considerations For Global Securities

As an indirect holder, an investor's rights relating to a global security will be governed by the account rules of the investor's financial institution and of the depository, as well as general laws relating to securities transfers. We do not recognize an indirect holder as a holder of securities and instead deal only with the depository that holds the global security.

If securities are issued only in the form of a global security, an investor should be aware of the following:

an investor cannot cause the securities to be registered in his or her name and cannot obtain non-global certificates for his or her interest in the securities, except in the special situations we describe below;

an investor will be an indirect holder and must look to his or her own bank or broker for payments on the securities and protection of his or her legal rights relating to the securities, as we describe above under **Legal Holders**;

an investor may not be able to sell interests in the securities to some insurance companies and to other institutions that are required by law to own their securities in non-book-entry form;

an investor may not be able to pledge his or her interest in a global security in circumstances where certificates representing the securities must be delivered to the lender or other beneficiary of the pledge in order for the pledge to be effective;

the depository's policies, which may change from time to time, will govern payments, transfers, exchanges and other matters relating to an investor's interest in a global security. We and any applicable trustee have no responsibility for any aspect of the depository's actions or for its records of ownership interests in a global security. We and the trustee also do not supervise the depository in any way;

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the depositary may, and we understand that DTC will, require that those who purchase and sell interests in a global security within its book-entry system use immediately available funds, and your broker or bank may require you to do so as well; and

financial institutions that participate in the depositary's book-entry system, and through which an investor holds its interest in a global security, may also have their own policies affecting payments, notices and other matters relating to the securities. There may be more than one financial intermediary in the chain of ownership for an investor. We do not monitor and are not responsible for the actions of any of those intermediaries.

Special Situations When A Global Security Will Be Terminated

In a few special situations described below, the global security will terminate and interests in it will be exchanged for physical certificates representing those interests. After that exchange, the choice of whether to hold securities directly or in street name will be up to the investor. Investors must consult their own banks or brokers to find out how to have their interests in securities transferred to their own name, so that they will be direct holders. We have described the rights of holders and street name investors above.

The global security will terminate when the following special situations occur:

if the depositary notifies us that it is unwilling, unable or no longer qualified to continue as depositary for that global security and we do not appoint another institution to act as depositary within 90 days;

if we notify any applicable trustee that we wish to terminate that global security; or

if an event of default has occurred with regard to securities represented by that global security and has not been cured or waived. The prospectus supplement may also list additional situations for terminating a global security that would apply only to the particular series of securities covered by the prospectus supplement. When a global security terminates, the depositary, and not we or any applicable trustee, is responsible for deciding the names of the institutions that will be the initial direct holders.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

The securities being offered by this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement may be sold in one or more of the following ways from time to time:

through agents to the public or to investors;

to one or more underwriters for resale to the public or to investors;

in at the market offerings, within the meaning of Rule 415(a)(4) of the Securities Act, to or through a market maker or into an existing trading market, on an exchange or otherwise;

directly to investors in privately negotiated transactions;

through a combination of these methods of sale; or

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through any other manner permitted under applicable law and described in an applicable prospectus supplement. The securities that are distributed by any of these methods may be sold, in one or more transactions, at:

a fixed price or prices, which may be changed;

market prices prevailing at the time of sale;

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prices related to prevailing market prices; or

negotiated prices.

A prospectus supplement will set forth the terms of the offering of securities, including:

the name or names of any agents or underwriters;

the purchase price of the securities being offered and the proceeds to be received from the sale;

any over-allotment options under which underwriters may purchase additional securities;

any agency fees or underwriting discounts and other items constituting agents' or underwriters' compensation;

the public offering price;

any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers; and

any securities exchanges on which such securities may be listed.

Underwriters

If underwriters are used for a sale of securities, the underwriters will acquire the securities for their own account. The underwriters may resell the securities in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions, at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. The obligations of the underwriters to purchase the securities will be subject to the conditions set forth in the applicable underwriting agreement. The underwriters will be obligated to purchase all the securities of the series offered if they purchase any of the securities of that series. Any public offering price and any discounts or concessions the underwriters allow or reallocate or pay to dealers may be changed from time to time. Underwriters with whom we and/or the selling stockholders have a material relationship may be used, and if so, the applicable prospectus supplement will name the underwriter the nature of any such relationship.

Agents

Agents who agree to use their reasonable efforts to solicit purchases for the period of their appointment or to sell securities on a continuing basis may be designated.

Direct Sales

Securities may also be sold directly to one or more purchasers without using underwriters or agents.

Underwriters, dealers and agents that participate in the distribution of the securities may be underwriters as defined in the Securities Act and any discounts or commissions they receive and any profit on their resale of the securities may be treated as underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act. The applicable prospectus supplement will identify any underwriters, dealers or agents and will describe their compensation. We and/or the selling stockholders may have agreements with the underwriters, dealers and agents to indemnify them against specified civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act. Underwriters, dealers and agents may engage in transactions with or perform services for us and/or the selling stockholders in the ordinary course of their businesses.

Trading Markets and Listing of Securities

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, each class or series of securities will be a new issue with no established trading market, other than our common stock, which is listed on The NASDAQ Global Select Market. We may elect to list any other class or series of securities on any exchange, but we are not

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obligated to do so. It is possible that one or more underwriters may make a market in a class or series of securities, but the underwriters will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. No assurance can be given as to the liquidity of the trading market for any of the securities.

Stabilization Activities

In connection with an offering, an underwriter may purchase and sell securities in the open market. These transactions may include short sales, stabilizing transactions and purchases to cover positions created by short sales. Short sales involve the sale by the underwriters of a greater number of securities than they are required to purchase in the offering. Covered short sales are sales made in an amount not greater than the underwriters' option to purchase additional securities, if any, in the offering. If the underwriters have an over-allotment option to purchase additional securities, the underwriters may close out any covered short position by either exercising their over-allotment option or purchasing securities in the open market. In determining the source of securities to close out the covered short position, the underwriters may consider, among other things, the price of securities available for purchase in the open market as compared to the price at which they may purchase securities through the over-allotment option. Naked short sales are any sales in excess of such option or where the underwriters do not have an over-allotment option. The underwriters must close out any naked short position by purchasing securities in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of the securities in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering.

Accordingly, to cover these short sales positions or to otherwise stabilize or maintain the price of the securities, the underwriters may bid for or purchase securities in the open market and may impose penalty bids. If penalty bids are imposed, selling concessions allowed to syndicate members or other broker-dealers participating in the offering are reclaimed if securities previously distributed in the offering are repurchased, whether in connection with stabilization transactions or otherwise. The effect of these transactions may be to stabilize or maintain the market price of the securities at a level above that which might otherwise prevail in the open market. The impositions of a penalty bid may also affect the price of the securities to the extent that it discourages resale of the securities. The magnitude or effect of any stabilization or other transactions is uncertain. These transactions may be effected on The NASDAQ Global Market or otherwise and, if commenced, may be discontinued at any time.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We maintain an Internet website at <http://www.conns.com> which contains information concerning us and our subsidiaries. The information contained on our Internet website and those of our subsidiaries is not incorporated by reference in this prospectus and does not constitute a part of this prospectus.

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. We have also filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-3, as amended, under the Securities Act with respect to the securities being offered under this prospectus. This prospectus, which forms part of the registration statement, does not contain all of the information in the registration statement. We have omitted certain parts of the registration statement, as permitted by the rules and regulations of the SEC. For further information about us and our securities, please see the registration statement and our other filings with the SEC, including our annual, quarterly, and current reports and proxy statements, which you may read and copy at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You may obtain information about the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. Our public filings with the SEC are also available to the public on the SEC's Internet website at www.sec.gov.

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INCORPORATION OF DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference into this prospectus the information we file with it, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents without actually including the specific information in this prospectus. The information incorporated by reference in this prospectus is considered to be part of this prospectus, and later information we file with the SEC or contained in this prospectus will automatically update and supersede this information. Therefore, before you decide to invest in a particular offering under this shelf registration, you should always check for reports we may have filed with the SEC after the date of this prospectus. We incorporate by reference into this prospectus (1) the documents listed below, (2) any future filings we make with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, following the date of this prospectus and prior to the termination of the offering covered by this prospectus and any prospectus supplement and (3) any filings we make with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date of the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part and prior to the effectiveness of such registration statement, in each case other than information furnished to the SEC under Items 2.02 or 7.01 of Form 8-K and which is not deemed filed under the Exchange Act and is not incorporated in this prospectus. As of the date of this prospectus, we incorporate by reference the following documents:

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2012, filed with the SEC on April 12, 2012, including portions of our Definitive Proxy Statement for our 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders held on May 30, 2012 to the extent specifically incorporated by reference into such Form 10-K;

our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the periods ended April 30, 2012 and July 31, 2012, filed with the SEC on June 5, 2012 and September 5, 2012, respectively;

our Current Reports on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on March 30, 2012, April 23, 2012, May 1, 2012, May 23, 2012 and August 30, 2012; and

the description of our common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, contained in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed by us with the SEC on October 10, 2003 pursuant to Section 12 of the Exchange Act, including any amendments or reports filed for the purpose of updating such description.

Any statement contained in a document that is incorporated by reference herein will be deemed to be modified or superseded for all purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus (or in any other document that is subsequently filed with the SEC and incorporated by reference herein) modifies or is to the contrary of that previous statement. Any statement so modified or superseded will not be deemed a part of this prospectus except as so modified or superseded. You may request a copy of any of these filings at no cost, by writing or telephoning us at the following address and telephone number:

Conn s, Inc.

Attention: Sydney K. Boone Corporate General Counsel and Secretary

4055 Technology Forest Boulevard

The Woodlands, Texas 77381

(936) 230-5899

LEGAL MATTERS

In connection with particular offerings of securities in the future, and if stated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the validity of those securities may be passed upon for us by Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. and for any underwriters or agents by counsel named in the applicable prospectus supplement.

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EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Conn's, Inc. appearing in Conn's, Inc.'s Annual Report (Form 10-K) for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2012, including the schedule appearing therein, and the effectiveness of Conn's, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting as of January 31, 2012 have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in their reports thereon, included therein, and incorporated herein by reference. Such consolidated financial statements are incorporated herein by reference in reliance upon such reports given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

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\$150,000,000

CONN S, INC.

Common Stock

Preferred Stock

Debt Securities

Warrants

Rights

Stock Purchase Contracts

Depositary Shares

Units

4,407,227 Shares of

Common Stock Offered

by the Selling Stockholders

Prospectus

, 2012

Table of Contents**PART II****INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS****Item 14. Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution**

The fees and expenses, other than any underwriting discounts and commission, payable by the registrant in connection with the issuance and distribution of the securities being registered hereby are as follows:

| | Amount |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| SEC registration fee | \$ 28,650 |
| Legal fees and expenses | * |
| Accounting fees and expenses | * |
| Printing, mailing and filing expenses | * |
| Transfer agent fees and expenses | * |
| Miscellaneous | * |
| Total* | \$ * |

* As an indeterminate amount of securities are covered by this registration statement, the expenses in connection with the issuance and distribution of those securities are not currently determinable.

Item 15. Indemnification of Directors and Officers

Section 102(b)(7) of the Delaware General Corporation Law, as amended, or the DGCL, provides that a certificate of incorporation may contain a provision eliminating or limiting the personal liability of a director to the corporation or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, provided that such provision may not eliminate or limit the liability of a director (i) for any breach of the director's duty of loyalty to the corporation or its stockholders, (ii) for acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law, (iii) under Section 174 of the DGCL (relating to liability for unauthorized acquisitions or redemptions of, or dividends on, capital stock), or (iv) for any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit. Our Certificate of Incorporation contains such a provision.

Section 145(a) of the DGCL empowers a corporation to indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending, or completed action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation) by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee, or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee, or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with such action, suit, or proceeding if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe that the person's conduct was unlawful. The termination of any action, suit, or proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, conviction, or upon a plea of *nolo contendere* or its equivalent, does not, of itself, create a presumption that the person did not act in good faith and in a manner which the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had reasonable cause to believe that such person's conduct was unlawful.

Section 145(b) of the DGCL empowers a corporation to indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending, or completed action or suit by or in the right of the corporation to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of the fact that the person is or was serving in any of the capacities set forth above against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by the

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person in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, except that no indemnification is permitted in respect of any claim, issue, or matter as to which such person is adjudged to be liable to the corporation unless and only to the extent that the Court of Chancery or the court in which such action or suit was brought determines upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all the circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses which the Court of Chancery or such other court deems proper.

Section 145(c) of the DGCL further provides that, to the extent that a present or former director or officer of a corporation has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action, suit or proceeding referred to in Sections 145(a) or 145(b) of the DGCL, or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, such person will be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection therewith. Section 145(d) of the DGCL provides that any indemnification under Sections 145(a) and 145(b) of the DGCL (unless ordered by a court) shall be made by a corporation only as authorized in the specific case upon a determination that indemnification of the present or former director, officer, employee or agent is proper in the circumstances because the person has met the applicable standard of conduct set forth in Sections 145(a) and 145(b) of the DGCL. Such determination is to be made, with respect to a person who is a director or officer at the time of such determination, (i) by a majority vote of the directors who are not parties to such action, suit or proceeding, even though less than a quorum, (ii) by a committee of such directors designated by majority vote of such directors, even though less than a quorum, (iii) if there are not such directors, or if such directors so direct, by independent legal counsel in a written opinion, or (iv) by the stockholders.

Section 145(f) of the DGCL provides that the indemnification and advancement of expenses provided by, or granted pursuant to, the other subsections of Section 145 of the DGCL shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which those seeking indemnification or advancement of expenses may be entitled under any bylaw, agreement, vote of stockholders or disinterested directors or otherwise, both as to action in such person's official capacity and as to action in another capacity while holding such office.

Section 145(g) of the DGCL empowers a corporation to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against any such liability asserted against such person in any such capacity or arising out of such person's status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify such person against liability under Section 145 of the DGCL. We have obtained and expect to maintain a directors' and officers' liability insurance policy insuring our directors and officers against certain losses resulting from wrongful acts committed by them as our directors and officers, including liabilities arising under the Securities Act.

Section 145(j) of the DGCL provides that that indemnification and advancement of expenses provided by, or granted pursuant to, Section 145 of the DGCL shall, unless otherwise provided when authorized or ratified, continue as to a person who has ceased to be a director, officer, employee, or agent and shall inure to the benefit of such person's heirs, executors, and administrators.

Article Seven of our Certificate of Incorporation provides that we will indemnify to the fullest extent permitted by law any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to a proceeding by reason of the fact that such person is or was our director, officer, incorporator, employee, or agent, or is or was serving at our request as a director, officer, incorporator, employee, partner, trustee, or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, or other enterprise (including an employee benefit plan) against expenses (including counsel fees and disbursements), judgments, fines (including excise taxes assessed on a person with respect to an employee benefit plan), and amounts paid in settlement incurred by such person in connection with such proceeding. Article Seven of our Certificate of Incorporation also requires us to pay expenses (including attorneys' fees) incurred by a director or officer in defending any proceeding in advance of the final disposition

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of such proceeding upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of such director or officer to repay such amount if it shall ultimately be determined that such person is not entitled to be indemnified by us as permitted by law. In addition, Article Seven of our Certificate of Incorporation provides that if the DGCL is amended after the effective date of our Certificate of Incorporation to authorize corporate action further eliminating or limiting the personal liability of directors, then the liability of our directors shall be eliminated or limited to the fullest extent permitted by the DGCL. We have included in our By-Laws provisions to indemnify our directors and officers, as permitted by the DGCL.

We entered into indemnification agreements with our directors and certain of our officers under which we agreed to provide indemnification and expense reimbursement as outlined above.

The foregoing discussion of the indemnification provisions of the DGCL, our Certificate of Incorporation and our By-Laws is not intended to be exhaustive and is qualified in its entirety by reference to such statute, our Certificate of Incorporation and our By-Laws.

Item 16. Exhibits

Reference is made to the Index to Exhibits following the signature pages, which Index is hereby incorporated by reference into this Item 16.

Item 17. Undertakings

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the Calculation of Registration Fee table in the effective registration statement;

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement;

provided, however, that paragraphs (i), (ii) and (iii) above do not apply if the registration statement is on Form S-3 and the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement, or is contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of the registration statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

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(4) That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser:

(i) Each prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of the registration statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in the registration statement; and

(ii) Each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5) or (b)(7) as part of a registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (vii) or (x) for the purpose of providing the information required by section 10(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the earlier of the date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of the registration statement relating to the securities in the registration statement to which that prospectus relates, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof. *Provided, however*, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such effective date, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such effective date.

(5) That, for the purpose of determining liability of the registrant under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the securities, the undersigned registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the undersigned registrant pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:

(i) Any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;

(ii) Any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant or used or referred to by the undersigned registrant;

(iii) The portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about the undersigned registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant; and

(iv) Any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned registrant to the purchaser.

(6) That, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to section 13(a) or section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or

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proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

(7) That:

(i) For purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, the information omitted from the form of prospectus filed as part of this registration statement in reliance upon Rule 430A and contained in a form of prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b) (1) or (4) or 497(h) under the Securities Act shall be deemed to be part of this registration statement as of the time it was declared effective.

(ii) For the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each post-effective amendment that contains a form of prospectus shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(8) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes to file an application for the purpose of determining the eligibility of the trustee to act under subsection (a) of Section 310 of the Trust Indenture Act in accordance with the rules and regulations prescribed by the Commission under Section 305(b)(2) of the Trust Indenture Act.

Table of Contents**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of The Woodlands, State of Texas, on September 6, 2012.

CONN S, INC.

By: /s/ Brian E. Taylor

Name: Brian E. Taylor

Title: Chief Financial Officer and Vice President

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

| Signature | Title | Date |
|----------------------|---|-------------------|
| * | Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive | September 6, 2012 |
| Theodore M. Wright | Officer and President (Principal Executive Officer) | |
| /s/ Brian E. Taylor | Vice President and Chief | September 6, 2012 |
| Brian E. Taylor | Financial Officer (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer) | |
| * | Director | September 6, 2012 |
| Marvin D. Brailsford | | |
| * | Director | September 6, 2012 |
| Jon E. M. Jacoby | | |
| * | Director | September 6, 2012 |
| Bob L. Martin | | |

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| | Signature | Title | Date |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| | * | Director | September 6, 2012 |
| Douglas H. Martin | | | |
| | * | Director | September 6, 2012 |
| Scott L. Thompson | | | |
| /s/ David Schofman | | Director | September 6, 2012 |
| David Schofman | | | |
| /s/ Kelly M. Malson | | Director | September 6, 2012 |
| Kelly M. Malson | | | |

* Michael J. Poppe, by signing his name hereto, does hereby sign and execute this registration statement on behalf of the above-named directors and officers of Conns, Inc. on this 6th day of September, 2012, pursuant to powers of attorney executed on behalf of such directors and officers previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

By: /s/ Michael J. Poppe
Michael J. Poppe, Attorney-in-Fact

Table of Contents**EXHIBIT INDEX****Item 16. Exhibits**

| Exhibit No. | Description |
|--------------------|--|
| 1.1 | Form of Underwriting Agreement(1). |
| 3.1.1 | Certificate of Incorporation of Conn s, Inc. (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to Conn s, Inc. registration statement on Form S-1 (file no. 333-109046) as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on September 23, 2003). |
| 3.1.2 | Certificate of Amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation of Conn s, Inc. dated June 3, 2004 (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.1.1 to Conn s, Inc. Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended April 30, 2004 (file no. 000-50421) as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 7, 2004). |
| 3.1.3 | Certificate of Amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation of Conn s, Inc. dated May 30, 2012 (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.1.2 to Conn s, Inc. Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended April 30, 2012 (file no. 001-34956) as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 5, 2012). |
| 3.2 | Amended and Restated Bylaws of Conn s, Inc. effective as of June 3, 2008 (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.2.3 to Conn s, Inc. Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended April 30, 2008 (file no. 000-50421) as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 4, 2008). |
| 4.1 | Specimen of certificate for shares of Conn s, Inc. s common stock (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Conn s, Inc. registration statement on Form S-1 (file no. 333-109046) as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 29, 2003). |
| 4.2 | Form of Senior Indenture(3). |
| 4.3 | Form of Subordinated Indenture(3). |
| 4.4 | Form of Senior Note(1). |
| 4.5 | Form of Subordinated Note(1). |
| 4.6 | Form of Warrant(1). |
| 4.7 | Form of Warrant Agreement(1). |
| 4.8 | Form of Preferred Stock Certificate(1). |
| 4.9 | Form of Certificate of Designation(1). |
| 4.10 | Form of Rights Agent Agreement or Subscription Agreement(1). |
| 4.11 | Form of Rights Certificate(1). |
| 4.12 | Form of Stock Purchase Contract(1). |
| 4.13 | Form of Deposit Agreement for Depositary Shares(1). |
| 4.14 | Form of Depositary Receipt for Depositary Shares(1). |
| 4.15 | Form of Unit Agreement(1). |
| 4.16 | Form of Unit Certificate(1). |
| 5.1 | Opinion of Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P.(3). |

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| Exhibit No. | Description |
|------------------------|--|
| 12.1 | Statement of Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 12.1 to Conn's, Inc. Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2012 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 12, 2012 and Exhibit 12.1 to Conn's, Inc. Form 10-Q for the period ended July 31, 2012 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on September 5, 2012). |
| 23.1 | Consent of Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. (included in Exhibit 5.1). |
| 23.2 | Consent of Ernst & Young LLP, Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm(3). |
| 24.1 | Powers of Attorney(2). |
| 25.1 | Statement of Eligibility on Form T-1 under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 of Trustee under Senior Indenture(4). |
| 25.2 | Statement of Eligibility on Form T-1 under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 of Trustee under Subordinated Indenture(4). |

- (1) To be filed, if necessary, by amendment or as an exhibit to a report under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and incorporated herein by reference.
- (2) Previously filed.
- (3) Filed herewith.
- (4) To be incorporated herein by reference from a subsequent filing in accordance with Section 305(b)(2) of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939.