

WhiteHorse Finance, Inc.  
Form 497  
July 17, 2013

## Prospectus

Filed pursuant to Rule 497  
Registration No. 333-187805

### WhiteHorse Finance, Inc.

**\$30,000,000**

### **6.50% Senior Notes due 2020**

We are a recently organized, externally managed, non-diversified, closed-end management investment company that has elected to be treated as a business development company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended. Our investment objective is to generate risk-adjusted returns primarily by originating secured loans to small-capitalization, or small-cap, companies across a broad range of industries, providing our stockholders with current income and capital appreciation.

H.I.G. WhiteHorse Advisers, LLC serves as our investment adviser. H.I.G. WhiteHorse Administration, LLC serves as our administrator. These entities are affiliates of H.I.G. Capital, LLC, an alternative asset manager founded in 1993 and focused on the small-cap market. H.I.G. Capital, LLC had approximately \$12 billion of capital under management as of March 31, 2013.

We are an emerging growth company within the meaning of the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act.

We are offering for sale \$30,000,000 in aggregate principal amount of 6.50% senior notes due 2020, which we refer to as the Notes. The Notes will mature on July 31, 2020. We will pay interest on the Notes on March 31, June 30, September 30 and December 31 of each year, beginning on September 30, 2013. We may redeem the Notes in whole or in part at any time or from time to time on or after July 31, 2016 at the redemption price discussed under the caption Specific Terms of the Notes and the Offering Optional Redemption in this prospectus. The Notes will be issued in minimum denominations of \$25 and integral multiples of \$25 in excess thereof.

The Notes will be our direct senior unsecured obligations and rank equally in right of payment with existing and future unsecured, unsubordinated indebtedness issued by WhiteHorse Finance, Inc. The Notes have been approved for quotation on The NASDAQ Global Select Market, subject to official notice of issuance, under the symbol WHFBL . The Notes are expected to trade flat. This means that purchasers will not pay, and sellers will not receive, any accrued and unpaid interest on the Notes that is not included in the trading price. Currently, there is no public market for the Notes. An active trading market for the Notes may not develop, which could limit the market price of the Notes or your ability to sell them. We do not intend to have the Notes rated. If a rating agency assigns the Notes a non-investment grade rating or the Notes are not rated, the Notes may be subject to greater price volatility than similar securities without such a rating. Below investment grade securities, which are often referred to as junk bonds, are

viewed as speculative investments because of concerns with respect to the issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal.

This prospectus contains important information you should know before investing in our securities. Please read it before you invest and keep it for future reference. We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information about us with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC. We maintain a website at [www.whitehorsefinance.com](http://www.whitehorsefinance.com) and make all of our annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information available, free of charge, on or through our website. This information will also be available, free of charge, by contacting us at 1450 Brickell Avenue, 31<sup>st</sup> Floor, Miami, Florida 33131, Attention: Investor Relations, or by calling us collect at (305) 381-6999. This contact information may also be used to make stockholder inquiries. The SEC also maintains a website at <http://www.sec.gov> that contains this information.

**Neither the SEC nor any state securities commission, nor any other regulatory body, has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.**

**Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk, including credit risk and the risk of the use of leverage. Before buying any of our Notes, you should read the discussion of the material risks of investing in us, including the risk of leverage, in Risk Factors beginning on page 13 of this prospectus.**

	Per Note	Total
Public offering price	100.00%	\$ 30,000,000
Underwriting discount and commission	3.00 %	\$ 900,000
Proceeds, before expenses, to us <sup>(1)</sup>	97.00 %	\$ 29,100,000

We estimate that we will incur approximately \$0.3 million (or \$0.25 per Note) in expenses in connection with this (1) offering, including the fees and expenses incident to securing any required review by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. (See Underwriting. ).

The underwriters may also exercise their option to purchase up to an additional \$4,500,000 aggregate principal amount of Notes from us at the public offering price, less the underwriting discount, for 30 days after the date of this prospectus to cover over-allotments, if any. If the underwriters exercise this option in full, the total underwriting discount will be \$1,035,000, and total proceeds, before expenses, will be \$33,465,000.

The public offering price set forth above does not include accrued interest, if any. Interest on the Notes will accrue from July 23, 2013.

**THE NOTES ARE NOT DEPOSITS OR OTHER OBLIGATIONS OF A BANK AND ARE NOT INSURED BY THE FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION OR ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCY.**

Delivery of the Notes in book-entry form through The Depository Trust Company, or DTC, will be made on or about July 23, 2013.

*Joint Book-Running Managers*

**Deutsche Bank Securities**

**Keefe, Bruyette & Woods**  
*A Stifel Company*  
Co-Lead Managers

**Citigroup**

**Barclays**

**BB&T Capital Markets**  
*Co-Managers*

**Sterne Agee**

**Wunderlich Securities**

The date of this prospectus is July 16, 2013.

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You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus. We have not, and the underwriters have not, authorized any other person to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are not, and the underwriters are not, making an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should assume that the information in this prospectus is accurate only as of the date on the front of this prospectus. Our business, financial condition and prospects may have changed since that date. To the extent required by applicable law, we will update this prospectus during the offering period to reflect material changes to the disclosure this prospectus.

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## PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

*This summary highlights some of the information in this prospectus. It is not complete and may not contain all of the information that you may want to consider. You should read carefully the more detailed information set forth under Risk Factors and the other information included in this prospectus. Except where the context suggests otherwise, the terms:*

*we, us, our and WhiteHorse Finance refer to WhiteHorse Finance, Inc., a Delaware corporation, and its consolidated subsidiaries, WhiteHorse Warehouse (as defined below) and Bayside Financing S.A.R.L.;*

*H.I.G. Capital refers, collectively, to H.I.G. Capital, L.L.C., a Delaware limited liability company, and its affiliates. H.I.G. Capital employs all of WhiteHorse Finance's investment professionals, as well as those of WhiteHorse Advisers (as defined below), WhiteHorse Administration (as defined below) and their respective affiliates;*

*Initial Members refer, collectively, to H.I.G. Bayside Debt & LBO Fund II, L.P. and H.I.G. Bayside Loan Opportunity Fund II, L.P.;*

*Unsecured Term Loan, as amended, refers to the \$90 million unsecured term loan between us, H.I.G. Bayside Loan Opportunity Fund II, L.P., as guarantor, and Citibank, N.A., as sole lead arranger;*

*Credit Facility refers to the \$150 million secured revolving credit facility between WhiteHorse Warehouse, as borrower, and the Lender (as defined below), for which Natixis, New York Branch, provides liquidity support, and the Lender refers, collectively, to the asset-backed commercial paper conduit, together with any additional lenders that may join the Credit Facility in the future;*

*WhiteHorse Warehouse refers to WhiteHorse Finance Warehouse, LLC, a special purpose Delaware limited liability company and a wholly owned subsidiary of WhiteHorse Finance;*

*WhiteHorse Advisers and the investment adviser refer to H.I.G. WhiteHorse Advisers, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and an affiliate of H.I.G. Capital;*

*WhiteHorse Administration and the administrator refer to H.I.G. WhiteHorse Administration, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and an affiliate of H.I.G. Capital; and*

*the investment committee refers to our investment adviser's investment committee.*

*On December 3, 2012, we converted from a Delaware limited liability company into a Delaware corporation. In this conversion, WhiteHorse Finance, Inc. succeeded the business of WhiteHorse Finance, LLC, and the members of WhiteHorse Finance, LLC became stockholders of WhiteHorse Finance, Inc. In this prospectus, we refer to these transactions as the BDC Conversion, and, where applicable, shares refer to our units prior to the BDC Conversion and to shares of common stock in our corporation afterward.*

## WhiteHorse Finance

We are an externally managed, non-diversified, closed-end management investment company that has elected to be treated as a business development company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, or the 1940 Act.

We also elected to be treated as a regulated investment company, or RIC, for tax purposes, under the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code, commencing with our taxable year ended December 31, 2012.

We are a direct lender targeting debt investments in privately held, small-cap companies located in the United States. We define the small-cap market as those companies with enterprise values between \$50 million and \$350 million. Our investment objective is to generate attractive risk-adjusted returns primarily by originating and investing in senior secured loans, including first lien and second lien facilities, to performing small-cap companies across a broad range of industries that typically carry a floating interest rate based on the London Interbank Offered Rate, or LIBOR, and

have a term of three-to-six years. While we focus principally on originating senior secured loans to small-cap companies, we may also make opportunistic investments at other levels of a company's capital structure, including mezzanine loans or equity interests. We also may receive warrants to purchase

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common stock in connection with our debt investments. We generate current income through the receipt of interest payments, as well as origination and other fees, capital appreciation and dividends.

We invest primarily in securities that are rated below investment grade by rating agencies or that may be rated below investment grade if they were so rated. Below investment grade securities, which are often referred to as junk bonds, are viewed as speculative investments because of concerns with respect to the issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal.

In December 2012, we priced our initial public offering, or the IPO, selling 6,666,667 million shares at a public offering price of \$15.00 per share. Concurrent with the IPO, certain persons affiliated with us or our investment adviser purchased an additional 472,673 shares through a private placement transaction exempt from registration under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, at \$15.00 per share. In this prospectus, we refer to this private placement transaction as the Concurrent Private Placement. As a result of the IPO and the Concurrent Private Placement, we received net proceeds of approximately \$99.6 million.

As of March 31, 2013, our investment portfolio consisted of senior secured loans across 14 positions with an aggregate fair value of \$233.2 million and a principal balance outstanding of \$235.2 million. As of that date, the majority of our portfolio comprised senior secured loans to small-cap borrowers. As of March 31, 2013, our portfolio had an average investment size of \$16.8 million, with investment sizes ranging from \$1.0 million to \$60.9 million, a weighted average unlevered cash current yield of 14.6%, and a yield to maturity of 16.6%, with yields to maturity ranging from 8.2% to 30.4%. Yield to maturity is calculated based on the cost of purchased investments or the fair value of contributed investments, in each case on the date of purchase or contribution, as applicable; and uses the relevant published LIBOR curve as of such date; and assumes (1) all scheduled interest payments are made as scheduled and (2) each investment is held to maturity with no prepayments or losses and is repaid at par upon maturity. Also as of March 31, 2013, the weighted average remaining term of our debt investments was approximately 2.5 years, with remaining terms ranging from 0.3 years to 5.3 years. However, we can offer no assurance that the cash current yield or yield to maturity on our investments will remain at levels equivalent to our existing investment portfolio. These yield calculations reflect gross investment returns with respect to our investments as of March 31, 2013 and do not reflect any reduction of such returns to reflect the corresponding expenses that we incurred during the fiscal period ending on such date.

## **H.I.G. Capital**

H.I.G. Capital is one of the leading global alternative asset managers focused on the small-cap market. H.I.G. Capital was founded in 1993 and, over the past 19 years, has grown by continually enhancing its strategic investment capabilities into additional asset classes within the small-cap market. As of March 31, 2013, H.I.G. Capital managed approximately \$12 billion of capital through a number of buyout, credit-oriented and growth capital funds, each of which is focused on the small-cap market. As of such date, H.I.G. Capital operated through domestic offices in Miami, New York, Boston, San Francisco, Dallas, Atlanta and Chicago and international offices in London, Hamburg, Paris, Madrid and Rio de Janeiro, with approximately 260 investment professionals with the operating, strategy and investing experience necessary to execute the firm's value-added investment strategy. H.I.G. Capital's investment professionals share a common investment philosophy built around a highly analytical, private equity-like framework of rigorous business assessment, extensive due diligence and a disciplined risk valuation methodology that guides investment decisions. H.I.G. Capital has built an extensive and proprietary network of informal and unconventional deal sources in the small-cap business community consisting of accountants, attorneys, and other advisors who have access to small-cap companies. We believe that H.I.G. Capital, as an experienced small-cap investor, has a demonstrated ability to identify, source, analyze, invest and monitor investments in the small-cap market.

## **Our Investment Adviser**

Our investment activities are managed by our investment adviser, WhiteHorse Advisers. WhiteHorse Advisers is an affiliate of H.I.G. Capital and is responsible for sourcing potential investments, conducting research and diligence on prospective investments and equity sponsors, analyzing investment opportunities, structuring our investments and monitoring our investments in portfolio companies on an ongoing basis. WhiteHorse Advisers has also agreed to provide us with access to personnel and an investment committee.

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WhiteHorse Advisers was organized in May 2012 as a Delaware limited liability company and is a registered investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended, or the Advisers Act. Under our investment advisory agreement with WhiteHorse Advisers, or the Investment Advisory Agreement, we pay our investment adviser a base management fee and an incentive fee for its services. See The Adviser and the Administrator Investment Advisory Agreement for a discussion of the base management fee and incentive fee that we have agreed to pay our investment adviser.

WhiteHorse Advisers has entered into a staffing agreement, or the Staffing Agreement, with an affiliate of H.I.G. Capital under which the affiliate has agreed to make experienced investment professionals available to WhiteHorse Advisers and to provide access to its senior investment personnel to enable WhiteHorse Advisers to perform all of its obligations under the Investment Advisory Agreement. We believe that the Staffing Agreement provides our investment adviser with access to deal flow generated by H.I.G. Capital in the ordinary course of business and commits certain members of H.I.G. Capital's investment committee to serve as members of WhiteHorse Advisers investment committee, or the investment committee. In addition, under the Staffing Agreement, H.I.G. Capital is obligated to allocate investment opportunities among its managed affiliates fairly and equitably over time in accordance with its allocation policy. See Certain Relationships Investment Advisory Agreement. Through the Staffing Agreement, our investment adviser takes advantage of the significant deal origination, credit underwriting, due diligence, investment structuring, execution, portfolio management and monitoring experience of H.I.G. Capital's senior investment professionals.

An affiliate of our adviser, WhiteHorse Administration, provides administrative services necessary for us to operate. See The Adviser and the Administrator Administration Agreement for a discussion of the fees and expenses for which we are required to reimburse WhiteHorse Administration.

## **Market Opportunity**

We believe that market inefficiencies and an imbalance between the supply of, and demand for, capital in the small-cap credit market creates an attractive investment opportunity through the origination of primary loans for the following reasons:

*Specialized Lending Requirements.* In our experience, lending to small-cap companies requires more rigorous due diligence and underwriting processes than lending to larger companies. Small-cap companies typically have fewer management resources to dedicate to the borrowing process, and often receive no assistance from financial advisors in this regard. Because of these and other specialized lending requirements, only a limited segment of the lending community has historically served small-cap borrowers.

*Reduced Lending by Commercial Banks.* Recent regulatory changes and continued ownership of legacy assets have significantly curtailed banks' lending capacities. In response, we believe that many commercial banks have deemphasized their service and product offerings to small-cap companies in favor of lending to larger customers. We believe that the relative decline in competition from commercial banks will drive a higher volume of deal flow to us.

*Reduced Credit Supply from Non-Bank Lenders.* We believe lending to small-cap companies by hedge funds and other non-bank lenders is constrained, as many such lenders have gone out of business, exited this market or are winding down. Along with reduced lending by commercial banks, we believe that reduced credit supply from non-bank lenders provides a promising environment for originating loans to small-cap companies.

*Significant Demand for Credit.* We believe that demand for debt financing from small-cap companies will remain strong because these companies will continue to require credit to refinance existing debt, to support growth initiatives and to finance acquisitions. We believe the combination of strong demand by small-cap companies and the reduced supply of credit described above should increase lending opportunities for us.

*Inefficient Market.* We believe there are a number of inefficiencies in the small-cap credit market that will allow us to achieve superior risk-adjusted returns relative to other types of loans. Unlike larger companies, small-cap borrowers may not have a financial advisor and, as a result, may not receive as many financing offers, leading to more favorable financing terms for us, and may be less sophisticated in negotiating the terms of their financing. Moreover, the simpler capital structures frequently found in small-cap companies

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enhance protections and reduce or eliminate intercreditor issues. In addition, small-cap lenders face less competition than lenders to larger companies. As a result, small-cap lenders frequently have greater flexibility in structuring favorable transactions.

## **Competitive Strengths**

We believe we are well-positioned to take advantage of opportunities in the small-cap market due to the following competitive strengths:

*Leading Small-Cap Market Position.* H.I.G. Capital is one of the leading global alternative asset managers focused on the small-cap market. With approximately \$12 billion of capital and 19 years of investment experience focused primarily on small-cap companies as of March 31, 2013, H.I.G. Capital believes it has a specialized knowledge of the small-cap marketplace and expertise in evaluating the issues and opportunities facing small-cap companies throughout economic cycles.

*Large and Experienced Team with Substantial Resources.* Our investment adviser has access through the Staffing Agreement to the resources and expertise of H.I.G. Capital's over 390 employees in twelve offices across the United States, Europe and South America as of March 31, 2013. As of such date, H.I.G. Capital had approximately 260 experienced investment professionals, including 78 professionals dedicated to debt investing. We believe that the quality of these resources provides a significant advantage and will contribute to the strength of our business.

*Extensive Deal Sourcing Infrastructure.* Given the inefficiencies of the small-cap market, finding smaller companies that represent attractive debt investment opportunities requires a different sourcing network than that for larger companies. Over the past 19 years, H.I.G. Capital has built an extensive and proprietary network of deal sources in the small-cap market consisting of accountants, attorneys and other advisors who have access to these companies. Each of H.I.G. Capital's approximately 260 investment professionals is involved in deal sourcing and our in-house business development group of 15 deal sourcing professionals further enhances our sourcing network. We believe H.I.G. Capital's extensive deal sourcing infrastructure provides us with access to investment opportunities that may not be available to many of our competitors.

*Deep Credit Expertise.* As of March 31, 2013, H.I.G. Capital's credit platform managed over \$5 billion of capital across multiple investment funds supported by 78 dedicated credit investment professionals. These investment professionals bring a depth of experience across a broad range of transaction types, including primary loan originations and distressed debt investments. We believe this experience will provide us with expertise in credit documentation, loan structuring and restructuring negotiations to help protect our investments and maximize our recovery value to the extent a portfolio company does not perform as expected.

*Disciplined Investment and Underwriting Process.* Through its 19 years of investment experience, H.I.G. Capital has developed a disciplined investment process entailing intensive bottom-up fundamental analysis which we utilize in order to generate attractive risk-adjusted returns while preserving downside protection. Each investment is reviewed by the investment committee, which is comprised of senior investment professionals of H.I.G. Capital with an average of more than 20 years of investment experience as of March 31, 2013.

## **Investment Strategy**

Our investment strategy is to generate current income and capital appreciation primarily by originating secured loans.

Our typical investment size ranges from \$10 million to \$50 million. We primarily target borrowers in the United States with enterprise values of \$50 million to \$350 million across a broad range of industries. The proceeds of our loans are used for a variety of purposes, including refinancings of existing debt, acquisition financing, or working capital to support growth or realignment. We focus principally on originating senior secured loans to performing privately-held small-cap companies across a broad range of industries that typically carry a floating interest rate based on LIBOR and have a term of three to six years. While we focus principally on originating senior secured loans to small-cap companies, including first lien and second lien facilities, we may also opportunistically make investments at other levels of a company's capital structure, including mezzanine loans or equity interests. We also may receive warrants to purchase common stock in connection with our debt investments. We generate current income through the receipt of interest

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payments, origination and other fees, and dividends. Our typical loans carry a floating interest rate based on LIBOR plus a spread, have a term of three to six years, are secured by all tangible and intangible assets of the borrower and include covenants, monitoring and information rights in favor of the lender.

## **Organizational Structure**

The following shows an organizational chart reflecting our relationship with our investment adviser and administrator as of the date of this prospectus:

## **Recent Developments**

On May 22, 2013, we declared a distribution of \$0.355 per share in respect to the quarter ending June 30, 2013. The distribution will be payable on July 3, 2013 to stockholders of record as of June 21, 2013.

On July 9, 2013, we entered into an agreement with the lenders thereto, which amended the terms of the Unsecured Term Loan to subordinate the Unsecured Term Loan to the Notes in right of payment.

## **Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges**

For the three months ended March 31, 2013 and the year ended December 31, 2012, our ratios of earnings to fixed charges were 2.6 and 7.2, respectively. See [Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges](#) for more information.

## **Operating and Regulatory Structure**

Our investment activities are managed by WhiteHorse Advisers and supervised by our board, a majority of whom are independent of us, H.I.G. Capital, WhiteHorse Advisers and their respective affiliates.

As a business development company, we are required to comply with certain regulatory requirements. For example, some existing funds controlled by our affiliates and affiliated funds formed in the future and managed by our investment adviser may, notwithstanding different stated investment objectives, have overlapping investment objectives with our own and, accordingly, may invest in asset classes similar to those targeted by us. If our investment adviser undertakes to manage a new fund in the future, we do not intend to invest in any portfolio company in which that fund has a pre-existing investment, although we may co-invest with such affiliate on a concurrent basis, subject to compliance with existing regulatory guidance, applicable regulations and our allocation procedures. See [Regulation](#) for more information.

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Also, as a business development company, we are generally prohibited from acquiring assets other than qualifying assets unless, after giving effect to any acquisition, at least 70% of our total assets are qualifying assets. Qualifying assets generally include securities of eligible portfolio companies, cash, cash equivalents, U.S. government securities and high-quality debt instruments maturing in one year or less from the time of investments. Under the rules of the 1940 Act, eligible portfolio companies include:

private U.S. operating companies;  
public U.S. operating companies whose securities are not listed on a national securities exchange (e.g., the New York Stock Exchange) or registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act; and  
public U.S. operating companies having a market capitalization of less than \$250 million.  
Public U.S. operating companies whose securities are quoted on the over-the-counter bulletin board and through Pink Sheets LLC are not listed on a national securities exchange and therefore are eligible portfolio companies. See Regulation Qualifying Assets.

We elected to be treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a RIC under the Code. In order to be treated as a RIC, we must satisfy certain source of income, asset diversification and distribution requirements. See Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations.

## **Use of Leverage**

As a business development company, we are permitted under the 1940 Act to borrow funds to finance a portion of our investments. As of March 31, 2013 and December 31, 2012, we had \$141.3 million of debt outstanding under the Credit Facility and the Unsecured Term Loan. In addition to the Credit Facility and the Unsecured Term Loan, we expect to use leverage to finance a portion of our investments in the future, consistent with the rules and regulations under the 1940 Act. As a business development company, we generally are required to meet a coverage ratio of total assets to total borrowings and other senior securities, which include all of our borrowings and any preferred stock that we may issue in the future, of at least 200%. If this ratio declines below 200%, we cannot incur additional debt and could be required to sell a portion of our investments to repay debt when it is disadvantageous to do so.

We expect to incur leverage through either a traditional credit facility, a private securitization vehicle or the issuance of debt securities, rather than through an issuance of preferred stock. We may grant a security interest in up to 100% of our assets under the terms of any debt instruments into which we enter. In addition, under the terms of any credit facility or other debt instruments into which we enter, we may be required to use the net proceeds of any investments that we sell to repay a portion of the amount borrowed under such facility or instrument before applying such net proceeds to other uses.

The use of leverage is generally considered a speculative investment technique and increases the risks associated with investing in our securities. In the future, we may borrow from, and issue senior securities to, banks, insurance companies and other lenders. If the value of our assets decreases, leverage would cause net asset value to decline more sharply than it otherwise would have had we not leveraged, thereby magnifying losses or eliminating our equity stake in a leveraged investment. See Risk Factors Risks Relating to our Business and Structure We intend to finance our investments with borrowed money, which will magnify the potential for gain or loss on amounts invested and may increase the risk of investing in us.

## Conflicts of Interest

We are prohibited under the 1940 Act from participating in certain transactions with our affiliates without the prior approval of our independent directors and, in some cases, of the SEC. Any person that owns, directly or indirectly, five percent or more of our outstanding voting securities will be our affiliate for purposes of the 1940 Act, and we are generally prohibited from buying or selling any security from or to, or entering into certain joint transactions (which could include investments in the same portfolio company) with such affiliates, absent the prior approval of our independent directors. Our investment adviser and its affiliates, including persons that control, or are under common control with, us or our investment adviser, are also considered to be our affiliates under the 1940 Act, and we are generally prohibited from buying or selling any

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security from or to, or entering into joint transactions with, such affiliates without prior approval of our independent directors and, in some cases, exemptive relief from the SEC.

We may, however, invest alongside our investment adviser s and its affiliates other clients in certain circumstances where doing so is consistent with applicable law and SEC staff interpretations. For example, we may invest alongside such accounts consistent with guidance promulgated by the staff of the SEC permitting us and such other accounts to purchase interests in a single class of privately placed securities so long as certain conditions are met, including that our investment adviser, acting on our behalf and on behalf of other clients, negotiates no term other than price. We may also invest alongside our investment adviser s other clients as otherwise permissible under regulatory guidance, applicable regulations and the allocation policy of H.I.G. Capital and our investment adviser. Under this allocation policy, a calculation based on the type of investment would be applied to determine the amount of each opportunity to be allocated to us. This allocation policy would be periodically reviewed by our investment adviser and approved by our independent directors. We expect that these determinations will be made similarly for other accounts sponsored or managed by our investment adviser and its affiliates. If sufficient securities or loan amounts are available to satisfy our and each such account s proposed demand, we expect that the opportunity will be allocated in accordance with our investment adviser s pre-transaction determination. Where there is an insufficient amount of an investment opportunity to satisfy us and other accounts sponsored or managed by our investment adviser or its affiliates, the allocation policy further provides that allocations among us and such other accounts will generally be made pro rata based on the amount that each such party would have invested if sufficient securities or loan amounts were available. However, we can offer no assurance that investment opportunities will be allocated to us fairly or equitably in the short-term or over time.

In situations where co-investment with other accounts managed by our investment adviser or its affiliates is not permitted or appropriate, H.I.G. Capital and our investment adviser will need to decide which client will proceed with the investment. Our investment adviser s allocation policy provides, in such circumstances, for investments to be allocated on a random or rotational basis to assure that all clients have fair and equitable access to such investment opportunities. Moreover, except in certain circumstances, we will be unable to invest in any issuer in which a fund managed by our investment adviser or its affiliates has previously invested. Similar restrictions limit our ability to transact business with our officers or directors or their affiliates. These restrictions may limit the scope of investment opportunities that would otherwise be available to us.

See Risk Factors Risks Relating to our Business and Structure There are significant potential conflicts of interest related to the investment committee, our investment adviser and its affiliates, including their obligations to other clients, that could affect our investment returns and Certain Relationships.

## **Risk Factors**

Investing in us involves a high degree of risk and you could lose all or part of your investment. We refer to certain of these risks below.

We have a limited operating history.

The lack of experience of our investment adviser in operating under the constraints imposed on us as a business development company and RIC may hinder the achievement of our investment objectives. The Notes will be unsecured and therefore will be effectively subordinated to any secured indebtedness we have currently incurred or may incur in the future.

The Indenture under which the Notes will be issued will contain limited protection for holders of the Notes.



An active trading market for the Notes may not develop, which could limit the market price of the Notes or your ability to sell them. We do not intend to have the Notes rated. If a rating agency assigns the Notes a non-investment grade rating or the Notes are not rated, the Notes may be subject

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to greater price volatility than similar securities without such a rating. Below investment grade securities, which are often referred to as junk bonds, are viewed as speculative investments because of concerns with respect to the issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal.

There are significant potential conflicts of interest related to the investment committee, our investment adviser and its affiliates, including their obligations to other clients, that could affect our investment returns.

We are subject to risks associated with small-cap companies.

See Risk Factors beginning on page 13 for more information on these and other risks you should carefully consider before deciding to invest in our securities.

## **Company Information**

Our principal executive offices are located at 1450 Brickell Avenue, 31<sup>st</sup> Floor, Miami, Florida 33131, telephone number (305) 381-6999. Our corporate website is located at [www.whitehorsefinance.com](http://www.whitehorsefinance.com). Information on our website is not incorporated into or a part of this prospectus.

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# SPECIFIC TERMS OF THE NOTES AND THE OFFERING

*This section outlines the specific legal and financial terms of the Notes. You should read this section together with the more general description of the Notes later in this prospectus under the heading "Description of Our Notes" before investing in the Notes. Capitalized terms used in this prospectus and not otherwise defined shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this prospectus or in the indenture governing the Notes.*

Issuer	WhiteHorse Finance, Inc.
Title of the securities	6.50% Senior Notes due 2020
Initial aggregate principal amount being offered	\$30,000,000
Over-allotment option	The underwriters may also purchase from us up to an additional \$4,500,000 aggregate principal amount of Notes to cover over-allotments, if any, within 30 days of the date of this prospectus.
Initial public offering price	100% of the aggregate principal amount.
Principal payable at maturity	100% of the aggregate principal amount; the principal amount of each Note will be payable on its stated maturity date at the office of the Paying Agent, Registrar and Transfer Agent for the Notes or at such other office in New York City as we may designate.
Use of proceeds	We expect to use the net proceeds from selling the senior notes pursuant to this prospectus to reduce outstanding obligations under our Unsecured Term Loan. See "Use of Proceeds."
Type of Note	Fixed rate note
Listing	The Notes have been approved for quotation on The NASDAQ Global Select Market, subject to official notice of issuance, under the symbol "WHFBL".
Interest rate	6.50% per year
Day count basis	360-day year of twelve 30-day months,
Original issue date	July 23, 2013
Stated maturity date	July 31, 2020
Date interest starts accruing	July 23, 2013
Interest payment dates	Every March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31, commencing September 30, 2013. If an interest payment date falls on a non-business day, the applicable interest payment will be made on the next business day and no additional interest will accrue as a result of such delayed payment.
Interest periods	

The initial interest period will be the period from and including July 23, 2013 to, but excluding September 30, 2013, and the subsequent interest periods will be the periods from and including an interest payment date to, but excluding, the next interest payment date or the stated maturity date, as the case may be.

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Regular record dates for interest

Every March 15, June 15, September 15, and December 15, commencing September 15, 2013; if a record date for interest is a non-business day, then that record date will be the next business day.

Specified currency

U.S. Dollars

Place of payment

The City of New York

Ranking of Notes

The Notes will be our direct senior unsecured obligations and will rank:

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equally in right of payment with our other outstanding and future senior unsecured, unsubordinated indebtedness (as described under Description of Our Notes Ranking of Notes );

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senior to our Unsecured Term Loan, which, by its terms, is expressly subordinated in right of payment to the Notes (as described under Description of Our Notes Ranking of Notes );

-  
senior to any of our future indebtedness that expressly states it is subordinated to the Notes (as described under Description of Our Notes Ranking of Notes );

-  
effectively rank behind all of our existing and future secured indebtedness (including indebtedness that is initially unsecured in respect of which we subsequently grant security) in right of payment, to the extent of the value of the assets securing such indebtedness, including our Credit Facility (as described under Description of Our Notes Ranking of Notes ); and

-  
structurally subordinated to any existing and future indebtedness of any of our subsidiaries, financing vehicles, or similar entities (as described under Description of Our Notes Ranking of Notes ).

Denominations

We will issue the Notes in denominations of \$25 and integral multiples of \$25 in excess thereof.

Business day

Each Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday that is not a day on which banking institutions in The City of New York are authorized or required by law or executive order to close.

Optional redemption

The Notes may be redeemed in whole or in part at any time or from time to time at our option on or after July 31, 2016, upon not less than 30 days nor more than 60 days written notice by mail prior to the date fixed for redemption thereof, at a redemption price of \$25 per Note plus accrued and unpaid interest payments otherwise payable for the then-current quarterly interest period accrued to but not including the date fixed for redemption.

You may be prevented from exchanging or transferring the Notes when they are subject to redemption. In case any Notes are to be redeemed in part only, the redemption notice will provide that, upon surrender of such Note, you will receive, without a charge, a new Note or Notes of authorized

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denominations representing the principal amount of your remaining unredeemed Notes.

Any exercise of our option to redeem the Notes will be done in compliance with the 1940 Act and the related rules, regulations and interpretations, to the extent applicable.

If we redeem only some of the Notes, the Trustee will determine the method for selection of the particular Notes to be redeemed, in accordance with the 1940 Act, to the extent applicable. Unless we default in payment of the redemption price, on and after the date of redemption interest will cease to accrue on the Notes called for redemption.

Sinking fund

The Notes will not be subject to any sinking fund.

Repayment at option of Holders

Holders will not have the option to have the Notes repaid prior to the stated maturity date.

Defeasance

The Notes are subject to defeasance by us, which means that, subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions, including depositing in trust for the benefit of the holders of the Notes a combination of money and U.S. government or U.S. government agency notes or bonds that, by their terms, will generate enough cash to make interest, principal and any other payments on the Notes on their various due dates, we can legally release ourselves from all payment and other obligations on the Notes.

Covenant defeasance

The Notes are subject to covenant defeasance by us, which means that, subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions, including depositing in trust for the benefit of the holders of the Notes a combination of money and U.S. government or U.S. government agency notes or bonds that, by their terms, will generate enough cash to make interest, principal and any other payments on the Notes on their various due dates, we will be released from some of the restrictive covenants in the Indenture.

Form of Notes

The Notes will be represented by global securities that will be deposited and registered in the name of DTC or its nominee. This means that, except in limited circumstances, you will not receive certificates for the Notes. Beneficial interests in the Notes will be represented through book-entry accounts of financial institutions acting on behalf of beneficial owners as direct and indirect participants in DTC. Investors may elect to hold interests in the Notes through either DTC, if they are a participant, or indirectly through organizations that are participants in DTC.

Trustee, Paying Agent, Registrar and Transfer Agent

American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC

Certain Covenants

The Notes will be issued under an indenture dated as of July 23, 2013, or the Indenture, between us and American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC, trustee. The terms of the Notes and Indenture will restrict us as follows:

For as long as the Notes remain outstanding, we will not violate, whether or not we are subject to,

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Section 18(a)(1)(A), as modified by Section 61(a)(1), of the 1940 Act, each as in effect from time to time, or any successor provisions but giving effect to any exemptive relief granted to the Company by the SEC. See Risk Factors Risks Relating to this Offering Pending legislation may allow us to incur additional debt. ; and

If at any time we are not subject to the reporting requirements of Sections 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act to file periodic reports with the SEC, we agree to furnish to holders of the Notes and the Trustee for as long as the Notes remain outstanding (1) our audited annual consolidated financial statements within 90 days of the end of our fiscal year and (2) our unaudited interim consolidated financial statements within 45 days of the end of each fiscal quarter (other than our fourth fiscal quarter). All such financial statements will be prepared in all material aspects in accordance with applicable U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, or GAAP.

Events of Default

As described under Description of Our Notes Events of Default, Events of Default with respect to the Notes include the following:

We do not pay the principal of, or any premium on, the Notes on the due date.

We do not pay interest on the Notes within 30 days of the due date.

Global Clearance and Settlement Procedures

Interests in the Notes will trade in DTC's Same Day Funds Settlement System, and any permitted secondary market trading activity in such Notes will, therefore, be required by DTC to be settled in immediately available funds. None of the Company, the Trustee or the Paying Agent will have any responsibility for the performance by DTC or its participants or indirect participants of their respective obligations under the rules and procedures governing their operations.

Available information

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form N-2 under the Securities Act, which contains additional information about us and the Notes being offered by this prospectus. We file periodic reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. This information is available at the SEC's public reference room in Washington, D.C. and on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

We maintain a website at [www.whitehorsefinance.com](http://www.whitehorsefinance.com) and intend to make all of our annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information available, free of charge, on or through our website. You may also obtain such information by contacting us, in writing at: WhiteHorse Finance, 1450 Brickell Avenue, 31<sup>st</sup> Floor, Miami, Florida 33131, Attention: Investor Relations, or by telephone at (305) 381-6999.

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## **RISK FACTORS**

*Before you invest in our securities, you should be aware of various risks, including those described below. You should carefully consider these risk factors, together with all of the other information included in this prospectus, before you decide whether to make an investment in our securities. The risks set out below are not the only risks we face. If any of the following events occur, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be materially adversely affected. In such case, our net asset value and the trading price value of our Notes could decline, and you may lose all or part of your investment.*

### **Risks Relating to our Business and Structure**

#### **We have a limited operating history.**

We were organized in December 2011 and closed our IPO on December 10, 2012. We are subject to all of the business risks and uncertainties associated with any new business, including the risk that we will not achieve our investment objectives and that the value of your investment could decline substantially. We anticipate that it will take us six to 12 months following the date of our IPO to invest substantially all of the net proceeds of the IPO and the Concurrent Private Placement in accordance with our investment objectives and strategies, in part because privately negotiated investments in illiquid securities or private small-cap companies require substantial due diligence and structuring. During this period, we intend to invest the remaining net proceeds of the IPO and the Concurrent Private Placement in short-term investments, such as cash and cash equivalents. We expect we will earn yields substantially lower than the interest income that we anticipate receiving from investments in the future. As a result, any distributions we make during this period may be substantially lower than the distributions that we expect to pay when our portfolio is fully invested.

#### **The lack of experience of our investment adviser in operating under the constraints imposed on us as a business development company and RIC may hinder the achievement of our investment objectives.**

The 1940 Act and the Code impose numerous constraints on the operations of business development companies and RICs that do not apply to other investment vehicles managed by H.I.G. Capital and its affiliates. Business development companies are required, for example, to invest at least 70% of their total assets primarily in securities of U.S. private or thinly traded public companies, cash, cash equivalents, U.S. government securities and other high-quality debt instruments that mature in one year or less from the date of investment. Subject to certain exceptions for follow-on investments and distressed companies, an investment in an issuer that has outstanding securities listed on a national securities exchange may be treated as qualifying assets only if such issuer has a common equity market capitalization that is less than \$250 million at the time of such investment. Moreover, qualification for taxation as a RIC requires satisfaction of source-of-income, asset diversification and distribution requirements. While our investment adviser has experience investing in securities of U.S. private or thinly traded public companies, neither we nor our investment adviser has any experience operating under these constraints, which may hinder our ability to take advantage of attractive investment opportunities and to achieve our investment objectives. As a result, we cannot assure you that our investment adviser will be able to operate our business under these constraints. Any failure to do so could subject us to enforcement action by the SEC, cause us to fail to satisfy the requirements associated with RIC status, cause us to fail the 70% eligible portfolio company test described above or otherwise have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.



We may be precluded from investing in what we believe are attractive investments if such investments are not qualifying assets for purposes of the 1940 Act. If we do not invest a sufficient portion of our assets in qualifying assets, we could violate the 1940 Act provisions applicable to business development companies and possibly lose our status as a business development company, which would have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. Similarly, these rules could prevent us from making follow-on investments in existing portfolio companies (which could result in the dilution of our position) or could require us to dispose of investments at inopportune times in order to comply with the 1940 Act. If we need to dispose of such investments quickly, it may be difficult to dispose of such investments on favorable terms, or at all. For example, we may have difficulty in finding a buyer, and, even if we do find a buyer, we may have to sell the investments for less than we could have received if we were able to sell them at a later time.

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**We depend upon key personnel of H.I.G. Capital, our investment adviser and its affiliates.**

We are an externally managed business development company, and therefore we do not have any internal management capacity or employees. We depend on the diligence, skill and network of business contacts of our investment adviser to achieve our investment objectives. We expect that our investment adviser will evaluate, negotiate, structure, close and monitor our investments in accordance with the terms of the Investment Advisory Agreement.

Our investment adviser is an affiliate of H.I.G. Capital and will, in turn, depend upon access to the investment professionals and other resources of H.I.G. Capital and its affiliates to fulfill its obligations to us under the Investment Advisory Agreement. WhiteHorse Advisers will also depend on H.I.G. Capital to obtain access to deal flow generated by the professionals of H.I.G. Capital. Under the Staffing Agreement, an affiliate of H.I.G. Capital has agreed to provide our investment adviser with the resources necessary to fulfill these obligations. The Staffing Agreement provides that the affiliate will make available to WhiteHorse Advisers experienced investment professionals and access to the senior investment personnel of H.I.G. Capital for purposes of evaluating, negotiating, structuring, closing and monitoring our investments. We are not a party to the Staffing Agreement and cannot assure you that the affiliate of H.I.G. Capital will fulfill its obligations under the agreement. If the affiliate fails to perform, we cannot assure you that our investment adviser will enforce the Staffing Agreement, that such agreement will not be terminated by either party or that we will continue to have access to the investment professionals of H.I.G. Capital and its affiliates or their market knowledge and deal flow.

We depend upon the senior professionals of H.I.G. Capital to maintain relationships with sources of investment opportunities, and we intend to rely to a significant extent upon these relationships. We cannot assure you that these individuals will continue to provide investment advice to us. If these individuals, including the members of the investment committee, are no longer employed by our investment adviser or an affiliate of our investment adviser, or fail to maintain existing relationships or develop new relationships with other sources of investment opportunities, we may not be able to grow our investment portfolio. In addition, individuals with whom the senior professionals of H.I.G. Capital have relationships are not obligated to provide us with investment opportunities, and we can offer no assurance that these relationships will generate investment opportunities for us in the future.

**Our business model depends to a significant extent upon H.I.G. Capital's proprietary deal-flow network of informal and unconventional potential deal sources in the small-cap business community. Any inability of H.I.G. Capital to maintain or develop this network, or the failure of this network to generate investment opportunities, could adversely affect our business.**

We depend upon H.I.G. Capital to maintain its extensive, proprietary small-cap deal sourcing network, and we expect to rely to a significant extent upon this network to provide us with investment opportunities. This network of informal and unconventional deal sources in the small-cap business community includes accountants, attorneys, brokers, insurance agents, consultants and financial advisors who have access to small-cap companies. If H.I.G. Capital fails to maintain such sourcing network, or to develop new relationships with other sources of investment opportunities, we will not be able to grow our investment portfolio. In addition, individuals with whom H.I.G. Capital has relationships are not obligated to provide us with investment opportunities, and we can offer no assurance that these relationships will generate investment opportunities for us in the future.

**If our investment adviser is unable to manage our investments effectively, we may be unable to achieve our investment objectives.**

Our ability to achieve our investment objectives will depend on our ability to manage our business and to grow our business. This will depend, in turn, on our investment adviser's ability to identify, invest in and monitor companies that meet our investment criteria. This, in turn, will depend on the ability of H.I.G. Capital to identify, invest in and monitor companies that meet our investment criteria. The achievement of our investment objectives on a cost-effective basis will depend upon our investment adviser's execution of our investment process, its ability to provide competent, attentive and efficient services to us and our access to financing on acceptable terms. Our investment adviser has substantial responsibilities under the Investment

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Advisory Agreement. The personnel of H.I.G. Capital who are made available to our investment adviser under the Staffing Agreement are engaged in other business activities and may be called upon to provide managerial assistance to our portfolio companies, either of which activities could distract them, divert their time and attention such that they could no longer dedicate a significant portion of their time to our businesses or otherwise slow our rate of investment.

Any failure to manage our business and our future growth effectively could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

**We may not replicate the historical results achieved by other entities managed or sponsored by members of the investment committee or by H.I.G. Capital or its affiliates.**

Our primary focus in making investments generally differs from that of existing investment funds, accounts or other investment vehicles that are or have been managed by members of the investment committee or sponsored by H.I.G. Capital or its affiliates. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results, and there can be no assurance that we will achieve comparable results. In addition, investors in our securities are not acquiring an interest in any such investment funds, accounts or other investment vehicles that are or have been managed by members of the investment committee or sponsored by H.I.G. Capital or its affiliates. While we may consider co-investing in portfolio investments with other investment funds, accounts or investment vehicles managed by members of the investment committee or sponsored by H.I.G. Capital or its affiliates, our ability to make such investments will be limited by the 1940 Act, including, potentially, requiring the prior approval of our independent directors and, in some cases, exemptive relief from the SEC. We have submitted an application for exemptive relief in relation to certain joint transactions. We can offer no assurance that we will obtain such approvals or exemptive relief or develop opportunities that comply with such limitations. We also cannot assure you that we will replicate the historical results achieved by members of the investment committee, and we caution you that our investment returns could be substantially lower than the returns achieved by them in prior periods. Additionally, all or a portion of the prior results may have been achieved in particular market conditions which may never be repeated.

**The competitive market for investment opportunities in which we operate may limit our investment opportunities.**

A number of entities compete with us to make the types of investments that we make in small-cap companies. We compete with public and private funds, including other business development companies, commercial and investment banks, commercial financing companies, specialty finance companies, hedge funds and, to the extent they provide an alternative form of financing, private equity funds. Some of our potential competitors are larger and have greater financial, technical and marketing resources than we do. For example, some competitors may have a lower cost of funds and access to funding sources that are not available to us. In addition, some of our competitors have higher risk tolerances or different risk assessments, which could allow them to consider a wider variety of investments and establish more relationships than us. Furthermore, many of our competitors are not subject to the regulatory restrictions that the 1940 Act will impose on us as a business development company. We cannot assure you that the competitive pressures we face will not have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. Also, as a result of this competition, we may not be able to take advantage of attractive investment opportunities and we can offer no assurance that we will be able to identify and make investments that are consistent with our investment objectives.

Participants in our industry compete on several factors, including price, flexibility in transaction structuring, customer service, reputation, market knowledge and speed in decision-making. We do not seek to compete primarily based on

the interest rates we offer, and we believe that some of our competitors may make loans with interest rates that are lower than the rates we offer. We may lose investment opportunities if we do not match our competitors' pricing, terms and structure. However, if we match our competitors' pricing, terms and structure, we may reduce our net investment income and increase our risk of loss.

**We are currently operating in a period of global capital markets disruption and instability.**

Since mid-2007, the global capital markets have experienced volatility and disruption, and the U.S. economy was in a recession for several consecutive calendar quarters during this period. Disruptions in the capital markets have resulted in increased spreads between the yields realized on higher risk securities and

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those realized on securities perceived to be risk-free, resulting in illiquidity in parts of the capital markets. A prolonged period of market illiquidity or uncertainty regarding U.S. government spending levels, including negotiation of federal spending cuts, and implementation of global fiscal austerity measures may have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows. Unfavorable economic conditions, including future recessions, also could affect our investment valuations, increase our funding costs, limit our access to the capital markets or result in a decision by lenders not to extend credit to us or our portfolio companies. These events could limit our investment originations, limit our ability to grow and negatively impact our operating results.

We do not know how long the financial markets will continue to be affected by these events and cannot predict the effects of these or similar events in the future on the U.S. economy and securities markets or on our investments. We monitor developments and seek to manage our investments in a manner consistent with achieving our investment objectives, but we cannot assure you we will be successful.

**We have elected to be treated as a RIC. If we are unable to qualify as a RIC, we will be subject to corporate-level income tax.**

We have elected to be treated as a RIC under the Code. To qualify as a RIC under the Code and obtain RIC tax benefits, we must meet certain income source, asset diversification and annual distribution requirements. The annual distribution requirement for a RIC is satisfied if we distribute at least 90% of our ordinary income and realized net short-term capital gains in excess of realized net long-term capital losses, if any, to our stockholders on an annual basis. To the extent we use preferred stock or debt financing in the future, we may be subject to certain asset coverage ratio requirements under the 1940 Act and financial covenants under preferred stock or loan and credit agreements that could, under certain circumstances, restrict us from making distributions necessary to qualify for RIC tax benefits. If we fail to make sufficient distributions, as a result of contractual restrictions in the Credit Facility, the Unsecured Term Loan or otherwise, we may become subject to corporate-level income tax. To qualify as a RIC, we must also meet certain asset diversification requirements at the end of each calendar quarter. Failure to meet these tests may result in our having to dispose of certain investments quickly in order to prevent the loss of RIC status. Because we anticipate that most of our investments will be in the debt of relatively illiquid small-cap private companies, any such dispositions could be made at disadvantageous prices and may result in substantial losses. If we fail to qualify for RIC tax benefits for any reason and remain or become subject to corporate income tax, the resulting corporate taxes could substantially reduce our net assets, the amount of income available for distribution and the amount of our distributions. Such a failure would have a material adverse effect on us and our investors.

**We may have difficulty paying our required distributions if we recognize income before or without receiving cash representing such income.**

As a RIC, we must distribute to our stockholders at least 90% of our ordinary income and realized net short-term capital gains in excess of realized net long-term capital losses, if any. For U.S. federal income tax purposes, we may be required to include in income certain amounts that we have not yet received in cash, such as original issue discount, which may arise if we receive warrants in connection with the making of a loan, or PIK interest, which represents contractual interest added to the loan balance and due at the end of the loan term. Such original issue discount, which could be significant relative to our overall investment assets, and increases in loan balances as a result of PIK interest would be included in income before we receive any corresponding cash payments. We also may be required to include in income certain other amounts that we do not receive in cash. In addition, after the expiration of the reinvestment period under the Credit Facility on September 27, 2014, we must use asset sales and repayment proceeds, if any (including any realized gains), to pay down any outstanding debt and certain other amounts prior to distributing cash from WhiteHorse Warehouse to us. Also, if we do not meet certain coverage tests under the Credit Facility or if an

event of default and acceleration occurs under the Credit Facility, then income and capital gains which would otherwise be distributable by us to our stockholders could be diverted to pay down debt or other amounts due under the Credit Facility.

As a result, we may have difficulty meeting the minimum distribution requirement for RICs. Accordingly, we may have to sell some of our investments at times we would not consider advantageous, raise additional

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debt or equity capital or reduce new investment originations to meet these distribution requirements. If we are not able to obtain cash from other sources, we may fail to qualify for RIC tax benefits and thus be subject to corporate-level income tax. See Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations.

If our distributions exceed our current and accumulated earnings and profits, such excess distributions will be treated first as a return of capital to the extent of a stockholder's tax basis in his or her shares and then as capital gain. A return of capital is a return of the original capital invested by a stockholder rather than of our income or gains. Reducing a stockholder's tax basis will have the effect of increasing his or her gain (or reducing loss) on a subsequent sale of shares.

**PIK interest payments we receive will increase our assets under management and, as a result, will increase the amount of base management fees payable by us to our investment adviser.**

Certain of our debt investments may contain provisions providing for the payment of PIK interest. PIK interest increases in the loan balance of the underlying loan, and our receipt of PIK interest increases our assets under management. Because the base management fee that we pay to our investment adviser is based on the value of our consolidated gross assets, PIK interest increases the base management fee we pay. This increase in loan balance increases our pre-incentive fee net investment income and the incentive fees that we pay to our investment adviser.

**Regulations governing our operation as a business development company will affect our ability to, and the way in which we, raise additional debt or equity capital.**

In the future, we expect that we will require a substantial amount of capital in addition to the proceeds of this offering. We have issued, and may in the future issue, debt securities or preferred stock and/or borrow money from banks or other financial institutions, which we refer to collectively as senior securities. Under the provisions of the 1940 Act, we are permitted as a business development company to issue senior securities only in amounts such that our asset coverage, as defined in the 1940 Act, equals at least 200% after each issuance of senior securities. If the value of our assets declines, we may be unable to satisfy this test and would be restricted from further borrowings until such time as we regain compliance. In addition, covenants in our debt agreements existing at such time may require us to repay a portion of our indebtedness, which could require us to sell a portion of our assets to make such repayment.

When we issue senior securities, we are exposed to typical risks associated with leverage, including an increased risk of loss. If we issue preferred stock, such securities would rank senior to common stock in our capital structure, and preferred stockholders would have separate voting rights, dividend and liquidation rights and possibly other rights, preferences or privileges more favorable than those granted to holders of our common stock. Furthermore, the issuance of preferred stock could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a transaction or a change of control that might involve a premium price for our common stockholders or otherwise be in your best interest.

Our board may decide to issue common stock to finance our operations rather than issuing debt or other senior securities. As a business development company, we are not generally able to issue and sell our common stock at a price below current net asset value per share. We may, however, issue or sell our common stock at a price below the current net asset value of the common stock, or sell warrants, options or rights to acquire such common stock at a price below the current net asset value of the common stock if our board determines that such sale is in the best interests of us and our stockholders, and our stockholders approve such sale within 12 months prior to such sale. In

PIK interest payments we receive will increase our assets under management and, as a result, will increase the am



any such case, the price at which our securities are to be issued and sold may not be less than a price which, in the determination of our board, closely approximates the market value of such securities (less any distributing commission or discount). We also may conduct rights offerings at prices per share less than the net asset value per share, subject to the requirements of the 1940 Act. If we raise additional funds by issuing additional common stock or senior securities convertible into, or exchangeable for, our common stock, the percentage ownership of our stockholders at that time would decrease, and our stockholders may experience dilution.

In addition to issuing securities to raise capital as described above, we may in the future seek to securitize our loans to generate cash for funding new investments. To securitize loans, we may create one or more wholly owned subsidiaries and sell and contribute a pool of loans to such subsidiaries. This could

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include the sale or other issuance of debt by such subsidiaries on a non-recourse basis to purchasers who we would expect to be willing to accept a lower interest rate to invest in investment grade-rated debt secured by such loan pools, and we would retain all or a portion of the equity in any such subsidiary. If we cannot securitize part of our loan portfolio, this could limit our ability to grow our business, fully execute our business strategy and increase our earnings. Moreover, the successful securitization of part of our loan portfolio might expose us to losses as the loans we are not able to securitize will tend to be those that are riskier and more apt to generate losses.

**Any failure on our part to maintain our status as a business development company would reduce our operating flexibility.**

If we do not remain a business development company, we might be regulated as a closed-end investment company under the 1940 Act, which would subject us to substantially more regulatory restrictions under the 1940 Act and correspondingly decrease our operating flexibility.

**We intend to finance our investments with borrowed money, which will magnify the potential for gain or loss on amounts invested and may increase the risk of investing in us.**

The use of leverage magnifies the potential for gain or loss on amounts invested. We have incurred leverage through the Credit Facility and the Unsecured Term Loan and, from time to time, we intend to incur additional leverage to the extent permitted under the 1940 Act. The use of leverage is generally considered a speculative investment technique and increases the risks associated with investing in our securities. In the future, we may also borrow from, and issue senior securities to, banks, insurance companies and other lenders. Holders of these senior securities have and will have fixed dollar claims on our assets that are superior to the claims of our common stockholders, and we would expect such holders to seek recovery against our assets in the event of a default. WhiteHorse Warehouse has pledged, and expects to continue to pledge, all or substantially all of its assets. WhiteHorse Warehouse has granted, and may in the future grant, a security interest in all or a portion of its assets under the Credit Facility. In addition, under the terms of the Credit Facility, we must use the net proceeds of any investments that we sell to repay amounts then due with respect to our debt and certain other amounts owing under the Credit Facility before applying such net proceeds to other uses, such as distributing them to our stockholders.

If the value of our assets decreases, leveraging would cause our net asset value to decline more sharply than had we not leveraged, thereby magnifying losses or eliminating our equity stake in a leveraged investment. Similarly, any decrease in our revenue or income will cause our net income to decline more sharply than had we not borrowed. Such a decline would negatively affect our ability to make dividend payments on our common stock. Our ability to service our debt will depend largely on our financial performance and will be subject to prevailing economic conditions and competitive pressures. In addition, our common stockholders will bear the burden of any increase in our expenses as a result of our use of leverage, including interest expenses and any increase in the management fee payable to our investment adviser.

As a business development company, we are required to meet a coverage ratio of total assets to total borrowings and other senior securities, which is calculated based on all of our outstanding borrowings and any preferred stock, of at least 200%. If this ratio declines below 200%, we cannot incur additional debt and could be required to sell a portion of our investments to repay some debt when it is disadvantageous to do so. This could have a material adverse effect on our operations, and we may not make distributions. The amount of leverage that we employ will depend on our investment adviser's and our board's assessment of market and other factors at the time of any proposed borrowing. We

cannot assure you that we will be able to maintain our borrowings under the Credit Facility and the Unsecured Term Loan or obtain other credit at all or on terms acceptable to us.

In addition, the Credit Facility and the Unsecured Term Loan impose, and the terms of any other indebtedness that we incur in the future could impose, financial and operating covenants that restrict our business activities, including limitations that may hinder our ability to finance additional loans and investments or make the distributions required to maintain our status as a RIC under the Code.

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Based on our outstanding indebtedness of \$141.3 million as of March 31, 2013 and the effective annual interest rate of 2.82% as of that date, our investment portfolio must experience an annual return of at least 1.70% to cover our annual interest payments.

### **We are subject to the risk of an event of default and acceleration under the Unsecured Term Loan, which would have a material adverse effect on us.**

On November 8, 2012, we entered into the Unsecured Term Loan and borrowed \$90.0 million under that loan, which creates risks for us.

There are several circumstances under which an event of default may occur under the Unsecured Term Loan, such as failure to pay the principal of, or interest on, the Unsecured Term Loan, certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization occur or a payment default under certain of our other debt obligations.

Upon the occurrence of an event of default, the lenders under the Unsecured Term Loan may exercise customary remedies, including declaring all amounts due and payable under the Unsecured Term Loan. Any of these developments would have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

### **We are subject to risks associated with the Credit Facility.**

On September 27, 2012, WhiteHorse Warehouse, our wholly owned subsidiary, entered into the Credit Facility. As a result of the Credit Facility, we are subject to a variety of risks, including those set forth below.

### **Our interests in WhiteHorse Warehouse are subordinated.**

We own 100% of the equity interests in WhiteHorse Warehouse and have agreed under the Risk Retention Letter to continue to own all of such equity interests for the life of the Credit Facility. We consolidate the financial statements of WhiteHorse Warehouse in our consolidated financial statements and treat the indebtedness of WhiteHorse Warehouse as our leverage for purposes of compliance with the 1940 Act. Our equity interests in WhiteHorse Warehouse are subordinated in priority of payment to its obligations to its debt holders and its service providers. All of these persons have claims superior to our claims as equity interest holder in any liquidation of WhiteHorse Warehouse.

### **We may not receive cash from WhiteHorse Warehouse.**

We expect to receive cash from WhiteHorse Warehouse as distributions on our equity interests in WhiteHorse Warehouse. In addition, WhiteHorse Warehouse may make payments to us in our capacity as its collateral manager. We will receive distributions on our equity interests in WhiteHorse Warehouse only to the extent cash is available and permitted to be distributed under the Credit Facility. WhiteHorse Warehouse may not receive sufficient cash to make equity distributions, in which case we would not be entitled to receive equity distributions from WhiteHorse Warehouse and, as a result, we would be unable to make distributions to our stockholders in amounts sufficient to maintain our status as a RIC, or at all. Limitations under the Credit Facility will impair our ability to sell investments owned by WhiteHorse Warehouse, and we may not be able to sell such investments. These limitations include prior satisfaction of certain coverage tests and collateral quality tests, the minimum price at which we may sell such investments and the amount of investments we may sell within a certain timeframe.

We are subject to the risk of an event of default and acceleration under the Unsecured Term Loan, which could have

Under the Credit Facility, there are two coverage tests that WhiteHorse Warehouse must meet on specified compliance dates in order to permit WhiteHorse Warehouse to make new borrowings under the Credit Facility and to make equity distributions to us in the ordinary course – an interest coverage test and an overcollateralization test. To meet the interest coverage test, WhiteHorse Warehouse must receive interest payments on the loans it holds in an aggregate amount equal to greater than 200% of the interest payable to the Lender plus certain capped fees, expenses and indemnities. The overcollateralization test compares, at any given time, the borrowing base under the Credit Facility to (1) the aggregate outstanding principal amount of all Lender advances, (2) the excess of certain unfunded commitments on loans over the amount reserved with respect to such loans and (3) the amount due for any unsettled purchases of loans at such time. To meet the

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overcollateralization test, this ratio must exceed a minimum specified amount set forth in the Credit Facility and related documentation. If either of these coverage tests is not met on a compliance date, then WhiteHorse Warehouse must apply cash available under the priority of payments in the Credit Facility to pay down principal under the Credit Facility and the Collateral Manager may then make deposits into an unfunded commitment reserve account until such coverage tests are satisfied. If we fail to receive cash from WhiteHorse Warehouse, we may be unable to make distributions to our stockholders in amounts sufficient to maintain our status as a RIC, or at all. Limitations under the Credit Facility will impair our ability to sell investments owned by WhiteHorse Warehouse, and we may not be able to sell such investments.

### **WhiteHorse Warehouse may experience an event of default and acceleration under the Credit Facility, which would have a material adverse effect on us.**

There are several circumstances under which an event of default may occur under the Credit Facility, some of which relate to the performance of the assets of WhiteHorse Warehouse or the performance by WhiteHorse Warehouse of its obligations under the Credit Facility. The Credit Facility also includes certain customary events of default, such as (1) a breach of representations, warranties or covenants by us as collateral manager or by WhiteHorse Warehouse under the Credit Facility or failure on our part, or on the part of WhiteHorse Warehouse, to perform such obligations, (2) if we become insolvent, (3) if neither we, an affiliate approved by the required lenders under the Credit Facility or any successor collateral manager appointed in accordance with the Collateral Management Agreement is collateral manager, (4) if certain change of control events occur with respect to us or WhiteHorse Warehouse, as further described in this prospectus, or (5) if we, one of our executive officers or certain of our affiliates commits a specified bad act. The occurrence of an event of default could, among other consequences, (a) prevent us from making distributions to our stockholders sufficient to maintain our status as a RIC, or at all, (b) terminate the reinvestment period under the Credit Facility, if it is then in effect, and (c) permit the facility agent to assume the management of WhiteHorse Warehouse's portfolio and to direct the liquidation of its assets. Any of these developments could or would have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. Upon the occurrence of an event of default, the Lender may exercise customary remedies, including declaring all amounts due and payable under the Credit Facility, blocking distributions in respect of the equity of WhiteHorse Warehouse or selling assets, including selling assets at a lower price than what might otherwise be achieved in an orderly liquidation.

### **The ability of WhiteHorse Warehouse to purchase and sell investments is limited.**

The Credit Facility restricts the collateral manager's ability to purchase and sell investments for WhiteHorse Warehouse. As a result, the collateral manager may be unable to purchase or sell investments or take other actions that might be in our best interests, which could impair our performance and result in losses. During the reinvestment period, WhiteHorse Warehouse will have the ability to borrow funds for the acquisition of investments that meet the eligibility criteria set forth in the Credit Facility. Such funds may be repaid and re-borrowed during the reinvestment period, subject to compliance with the terms of the Credit Facility.

### **We may lose the ability to manage WhiteHorse Warehouse even if we continue to own its equity.**

If an event of default occurs under the Credit Facility or if we resign or are terminated for cause as collateral manager under the Collateral Management Agreement, we may no longer manage the WhiteHorse Warehouse portfolio

WhiteHorse Warehouse may experience an event of default and acceleration under the Credit Facility, which would

investments even though we are required to continue to own the equity interests in WhiteHorse Warehouse. If an agent for the Lender or the successor collateral manager does not manage WhiteHorse Warehouse's portfolio in the same manner that we would have, our performance may not meet expectations and result in losses.

**If the Lender under the Credit Facility is still a commercial paper conduit, it may not be obligated to advance amounts to us under the Credit Facility.**

For so long as the Lender under the Credit Facility is a commercial paper conduit, the Lender is not obligated to advance amounts under the Credit Facility to us unless the following circumstances occur: (1) if the Lender has funds that may be used to fund advances under the Credit Facility and those funds are not

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required to repay commercial paper notes or other short term funding backing the commercial paper notes issued by a limited purpose entity providing funding or financing to the Lender when due and (2) after giving effect to any advance made under the Credit Facility, the Lender (or limited purpose entity that finances the Lender) could issue commercial paper to refinance all of the Lender's outstanding commercial paper (assuming it has all matured at such time) or all of the commercial paper of the Lender (or the limited purpose entity that finances such Lender) is paid in full.

**We are exposed to risks associated with changes in interest rates, and since we intend to use debt to finance our investments, changes in interest rates may affect our cost of capital and net investment income.**

Interest rate fluctuations may have a substantial negative impact on our investments, the value of our common stock and our rate of return on invested capital. Since we use debt to finance investments, our net investment income depends, in part, upon the difference between the rate at which we borrow funds and the rate at which we invest those funds. As a result, we can offer no assurance that a significant change in market interest rates will not have a material adverse effect on our net investment income. In periods of rising interest rates when we have debt outstanding, our cost of funds will increase, which could reduce our net investment income. Conversely, in periods of falling interest rates, the probability that our loans and other investments in portfolio companies will be pre-paid increases. In such event, we can offer no assurance that we will be able to make new loans on the same terms, or at all. If we cannot make new loans on terms that are the same or better than the investments that are repaid, then our results of operations and financial condition will be adversely affected. We expect that our investments will be financed primarily with equity and long-term debt. We may use interest rate risk management techniques in an effort to limit our exposure to interest rate fluctuations. These techniques may include various interest rate hedging activities to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act. These activities may limit our ability to participate in the benefits of lower interest rates with respect to the hedged portfolio. Adverse developments resulting from changes in interest rates or hedging transactions could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. Additionally, our ability to engage in hedging transactions may also be adversely affected by recent rules adopted by the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission, or the CFTC, unless we register with the CFTC as a commodity pool operator.

You should also be aware that a rise in the general level of interest rates can be expected to lead to higher interest rates applicable to our debt investments. Accordingly, an increase in interest rates would make it easier for us to meet or exceed the incentive fee Hurdle Rate and may result in a substantial increase in the amount of incentive fees payable to our investment adviser with respect to Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income. Also, an increase in interest rates available to investors could make investment in our common stock less attractive if we are not able to increase our dividend rate, which could reduce the market value of our common stock.

**There are significant potential conflicts of interest related to the investment committee, our investment adviser and its affiliates, including their obligations to other clients, that could affect our investment returns.**

As a result of our arrangements with H.I.G. Capital, our investment adviser and the investment committee, there may be times when H.I.G. Capital, our investment adviser or such persons have interests that differ from those of our stockholders, giving rise to a conflict of interest.

The members of the investment committee serve or may serve as officers, directors or principals of entities that operate in the same or a related line of business as we do, or of investment funds managed by our investment adviser

If the Lender under the Credit Facility is still a commercial paper conduit, it may not be obligated to advance the amount



or its affiliates. Similarly, our investment adviser or its affiliates may have other clients with similar, different or competing investment objectives. In serving in these multiple capacities, they may have obligations to other clients or investors in those entities, the fulfillment of which may not be in the best interests of us or our stockholders. For example, the members of the investment committee have, and will continue to have, management responsibilities for other investment funds, accounts or other investment vehicles managed or sponsored by our investment adviser and its affiliates. Our investment objectives may overlap with the investment objectives of such affiliated investment funds, accounts or other investment vehicles. As a result, those individuals may face conflicts in the allocation of investment opportunities among us and other investment funds or accounts advised by or affiliated with our investment adviser.

Our investment

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adviser will seek to allocate investment opportunities among eligible accounts in a manner that is fair and equitable over time and consistent with its allocation policy. However, we can offer no assurance that such opportunities will be allocated to us fairly or equitably in the short-term or over time. Where we are able to co-invest consistent with the requirements of the 1940 Act, if sufficient securities or loan amounts are available to satisfy our and each such account's proposed demand, the opportunity will be allocated in accordance with our investment adviser's pre-transaction determination. If there is an insufficient amount of an investment opportunity to satisfy our demand and that of other accounts sponsored or managed by our investment adviser or its affiliates, the allocation policy further provides that allocations among us and such other accounts will generally be made pro rata based on the amount that each such party would have invested if sufficient loan amounts were available. However, there can be no assurance that we will be able to participate in all suitable investment opportunities. Where we are unable to co-invest consistent with the requirements of the 1940 Act, our investment adviser's allocation policy provides for investments to be allocated on a random or rotational basis to assure that all of its clients have fair and equitable access to such investment opportunities.

**Because we expect to distribute substantially all of our ordinary income and net realized capital gains to our stockholders, we will need additional capital to finance our growth and such capital may not be available on favorable terms, or at all.**

We will need additional capital to fund growth in our investment portfolio once we have fully invested the proceeds of the IPO and the Concurrent Private Placement. In addition to the Notes we are offering in this offering, the Credit Facility and the Unsecured Term Loan, we may issue debt or equity securities or borrow from financial institutions in order to obtain additional capital. Unfavorable economic conditions could increase our funding costs, limit our access to the capital markets or result in a decision by lenders not to extend credit to us. A reduction in the availability of new capital could limit our ability to grow. We will be required to distribute at least 90% of our ordinary income and realized net short-term capital gains in excess of realized net long-term capital losses, if any, to our stockholders to maintain our RIC status. As a result, these earnings will not be available to fund new investments. If we fail to obtain additional capital to fund new investments, this could limit our ability to grow, which may have an adverse effect on the value of our securities.

**The investment committee, our investment adviser or its affiliates may, from time to time, possess material non-public information, limiting our investment discretion.**

Principals of our investment adviser and its affiliates and members of the investment committee may serve as directors of, or in a similar capacity with, companies in which we invest, the securities of which are purchased or sold on our behalf. Although we intend that the majority of our investments will be made in non-public securities, if we obtain material non-public information with respect to public companies, or we become subject to trading restrictions under the internal trading policies of those companies or as a result of applicable law or regulations, we could be prohibited for a period of time from purchasing or selling the securities of such companies, and this prohibition may have an adverse effect on us.

**Our incentive fee structure may create incentives for our investment adviser that are not fully aligned with the interests of our stockholders and may induce our investment adviser to make speculative investments.**

Because we expect to distribute substantially all of our ordinary income and net realized capital gains to our stockholders

In the course of our investing activities, we will pay management and incentive fees to our investment adviser. The incentive fee payable by us to our investment adviser may create an incentive for our investment adviser to make investments on our behalf that are risky or more speculative than would be the case in the absence of such compensation arrangement. The management fee is based on our consolidated gross assets. As a result, investors in our common stock will invest on a gross basis and receive distributions on a net basis after expenses, resulting in a lower rate of return than one might achieve through direct investments. Because the management fee is based on our consolidated gross assets, our investment adviser will benefit when we incur debt or use leverage. The use of leverage will increase the likelihood of default, which would disfavor the holders of our common stock, including investors in this offering.

Under the incentive fee structure, our investment adviser may benefit when capital gains are recognized and, because our investment adviser determines when a holding is sold, our investment adviser controls the

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timing of the recognition of such capital gains. Our board is charged with protecting our interests by monitoring how our investment adviser addresses these and other conflicts of interest associated with its management services and compensation. While they are not expected to review or approve each investment or realization, our independent directors will periodically review our investment adviser's services and fees as well as its portfolio management decisions and portfolio performance. In connection with these reviews, our independent directors will consider whether such fees and our expenses (including those related to leverage) remain appropriate. As a result of this arrangement, our investment adviser or its affiliates may from time to time have interests that differ from those of our stockholders, giving rise to a conflict.

In addition, under the terms of the Incentive Fee Cap and Deferral Mechanism, the amount of incentive fees earned by our investment adviser will depend, in part, upon the timing of capital gains or losses in our investment portfolio, as well as the timing of our recognition of income. Depending on the circumstances, there may be a lag of as long as 12 fiscal quarters between the occurrence of an event giving rise to an obligation to pay incentive fees to the investment adviser and the payment of such incentive fees.

Unlike that portion of the incentive fee based on income, there is no Hurdle Rate applicable to the incentive fee based on net capital gains. As a result, our investment adviser may seek to invest more capital in investments that are likely to result in capital gains as compared to income producing securities. This practice could result in our investing in more speculative securities than would otherwise be the case, which could result in higher investment losses, particularly during economic downturns.

### **The valuation process for certain of our portfolio holdings creates a conflict of interest.**

Many of our portfolio investments are expected to be made in the form of securities that are not publicly traded. As a result, our board will determine the fair value of these securities in good faith as described elsewhere in this prospectus. In connection with that determination, investment professionals from our investment adviser will provide our board with portfolio company valuations based upon the most recent portfolio company financial statements available and projected financial results of each portfolio company. In addition, certain members of our board, including Messrs. John Bolduc and Jay Carvell, have an indirect pecuniary interest in our investment adviser. The participation of our investment adviser's investment professionals in our valuation process, and the indirect pecuniary interest in our investment adviser by certain members of our board, could result in a conflict of interest as the management fee paid to our investment adviser is based, in part, on our consolidated gross assets.

### **Conflicts related to other arrangements with our investment adviser or its affiliates.**

We have entered into a license agreement with an affiliate of H.I.G. Capital under which we have been granted a non-exclusive, royalty-free license to use the name WhiteHorse. See The Adviser and the Administrator License Agreement. In addition, we will pay to WhiteHorse Administration our allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by WhiteHorse Administration in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, such as rent and our allocable portion of the cost of our chief financial officer, chief operating officer and chief compliance officer along with their respective staffs. This will create conflicts of interest that our board must monitor.

**The Investment Advisory Agreement with WhiteHorse Advisers and the Administration Agreement with WhiteHorse Administration were not negotiated on an arm s-length basis and may not be as favorable to us as if they had been negotiated with an unaffiliated third party.**

The Investment Advisory Agreement and the Administration Agreement were negotiated between related parties. Consequently, their terms, including fees payable to our investment adviser, may not be as favorable to us as if they had been negotiated with an unaffiliated third party. In addition, we may choose not to enforce, or to enforce less vigorously, our rights and remedies under these agreements because of our desire to maintain our ongoing relationship with our investment adviser, our administrator and their respective affiliates. Any such decision, however, would breach our fiduciary obligations to our stockholders.

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**Our ability to enter into transactions with our affiliates will be restricted, which may limit the scope of investments available to us.**

We are prohibited under the 1940 Act from participating in certain transactions with our affiliates without the prior approval of our independent directors and, in some cases, of the SEC. Any person that owns, directly or indirectly, five percent or more of our outstanding voting securities will be our affiliate for purposes of the 1940 Act, and we are generally prohibited from buying or selling any security from or to, or entering into certain joint transactions (which could include investments in the same portfolio company) with such affiliates, absent the prior approval of our independent directors. Our investment adviser and its affiliates, including persons that control, are controlled by or are under common control with, us or our investment adviser, are also considered to be our affiliates under the 1940 Act, and we are generally prohibited from buying or selling any security from or to, or entering into joint transactions with such affiliates without prior approval of our independent directors and, in some cases, exemptive relief from the SEC.

We may, however, invest alongside our investment adviser's and its affiliates' other clients in certain circumstances where doing so is consistent with applicable law and SEC staff interpretations. For example, we may invest alongside such accounts consistent with guidance promulgated by the staff of the SEC permitting us and such other accounts to purchase interests in a single class of privately placed securities so long as certain conditions are met, including that our investment adviser, acting on our behalf and on behalf of other clients, negotiates no term other than price. We may also invest alongside our investment adviser's other clients as otherwise permissible under regulatory guidance, applicable regulations and the allocation policy of H.I.G. Capital and our investment adviser. Under this allocation policy, a fixed calculation, based on the type of investment, will be applied to determine the amount of each opportunity to be allocated to us. This allocation policy will be periodically reviewed by our investment adviser and approved by our independent directors. We expect that these determinations will be made similarly for other accounts sponsored or managed by our investment adviser and its affiliates. If sufficient securities or loan amounts are available to satisfy our and each such account's proposed demand, we expect that the opportunity will be allocated in accordance with our investment adviser's pre-transaction determination. Where there is an insufficient amount of an investment opportunity to satisfy us and other accounts sponsored or managed by our investment adviser or its affiliates, the allocation policy further provides that allocations among us and such other accounts will generally be made pro rata based on the amount that each such party would have invested if sufficient securities or loan amounts were available. However, we can offer no assurance that investment opportunities will be allocated to us fairly or equitably in the short-term or over time.

In situations where co-investment with other accounts managed by our investment adviser or its affiliates is not permitted or appropriate, H.I.G. Capital and our investment adviser will need to decide which client will proceed with the investment. Our investment adviser's allocation policy provides, in such circumstances, for investments to be allocated on a random or rotational basis to assure that all clients have fair and equitable access to such investment opportunities. Moreover, except in certain circumstances, we will be unable to invest in any issuer in which a fund managed by our investment adviser or its affiliates has previously invested. Similar restrictions limit our ability to transact business with our officers or directors or their affiliates. These restrictions may limit the scope of investment opportunities that would otherwise be available to us.

**Our ability to participate in follow-on investments or to sell or otherwise exit investments in which investment funds, accounts or investment vehicles managed by H.I.G. Capital also has an investment may be restricted.**

We may be considered affiliates with respect to certain of our portfolio companies because certain investment funds,

accounts or investment vehicles managed by H.I.G. Capital also hold interests in these portfolio companies and, as such, these interests may be considered a joint enterprise under the 1940 Act. To the extent that our interests in these portfolio companies may need to be restructured in the future or to the extent that we choose to participate in follow-on investments or to exit certain of these transactions, our ability to do so will be limited. We have submitted an application for exemptive relief in relation to certain joint transactions; however, there is no assurance that we will obtain relief that would permit us to negotiate future restructurings or other transactions that may be considered a joint enterprise.

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**Many of our portfolio investments will be recorded at fair value as determined in good faith by our board. As a result, there will be uncertainty as to the value of our portfolio investments.**

Many of our portfolio investments will take the form of securities that are not publicly traded. The fair value of securities and other investments that are not publicly traded may not be readily determinable, and we value these securities at fair value as determined in good faith by our board, including to reflect significant events affecting the value of our securities. As discussed in more detail under Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Critical Accounting Policies, most, if not all, of our investments (other than cash and cash equivalents) are classified as Level 3 under Accounting Standards Codification, or ASC, Topic 820, Fair Value Measurement. This means that our portfolio valuations are based on unobservable inputs and our own assumptions about how market participants would price the asset or liability in question. Inputs into the determination of fair value of our portfolio investments requires significant management judgment or estimation.

Even if observable market data are available, such information may be the result of consensus pricing information or broker quotes, which include a disclaimer that the broker would not be held to such a price in an actual transaction.

Consensus pricing is a methodology for the determination of fair value based on quotations from market makers. These quotations include a disclaimer that the market maker would not be held to such a price in an actual transaction.

The non-binding nature of consensus pricing and/or quotes accompanied by disclaimers materially reduces the reliability of such information. We have retained the services of one or more independent service providers to periodically review the valuation of these securities. The types of factors that the board may take into account in determining the fair value of our investments generally include, as appropriate, comparison to publicly traded securities including such factors as yield, maturity and measures of credit quality, the enterprise value of a portfolio company, the nature and realizable value of any collateral, the portfolio company's ability to make payments and its earnings and discounted cash flow, the markets in which the portfolio company does business and other relevant factors. Because such valuations, and particularly valuations of private securities and private companies, are inherently uncertain, may fluctuate over short periods of time and may be based on estimates, our determinations of fair value may differ materially from the values that would have been used if a ready market for these securities existed. In addition, the determination of fair value and thus the amount of unrealized losses we may incur in any year, is, to a degree, subjective, in that it is based on unobservable inputs and certain assumptions. Our net asset value could be adversely affected if our determinations regarding the fair value of our investments were materially higher than the values that we ultimately realize upon the disposal of such securities.

We adjust quarterly the valuation of our portfolio to reflect our board's determination of the fair value of each investment in our portfolio. Any changes in fair value are recorded in our statement of operations as a net change in unrealized appreciation or depreciation.

**The lack of liquidity in our investments may adversely affect our business, and price declines and illiquidity in the corporate debt markets may adversely affect the fair value of our portfolio investments, reducing our net asset value through increased net unrealized depreciation.**

We will generally make investments in private companies. Substantially all of these investments will be subject to legal and other restrictions on resale or will otherwise be less liquid than publicly traded securities. The illiquidity of our investments may make it difficult for us to sell such investments if the need arises. As a business development company, we are required to carry our investments at market value or, if no market value is ascertainable, at fair value

Many of our portfolio investments will be recorded at fair value as determined in good faith by our board. ~~As~~ a result



as determined in good faith by our board of directors under our valuation policy and process. As part of the valuation process, we may take into account the following types of factors, if relevant, in determining the fair value of our investments:

- a comparison of the portfolio company's securities to publicly traded securities;
- the enterprise value of a portfolio company;
- the nature and realizable value of any collateral;
- the portfolio company's ability to make payments and its earnings;
- the markets in which the portfolio company does business; and

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changes in the interest rate environment and the credit markets generally that may affect the price at which similar investments may be made in the future and other relevant factors.

When an external event such as a purchase transaction, public offering or subsequent equity sale occurs, we use the pricing indicated by the external event to corroborate our valuation. We record decreases in the market values or fair values of our investments as unrealized depreciation. Declines in prices and liquidity in the corporate debt markets may result in significant net unrealized depreciation in our portfolio. The effect of all of these factors on our portfolio may reduce our net asset value by increasing net unrealized depreciation in our portfolio. Depending on market conditions, we could incur substantial realized losses and may suffer additional unrealized losses in future periods, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

In addition, we may face other restrictions on our ability to liquidate an investment in a portfolio company to the extent that we have material non-public information regarding such portfolio company or if an investment is held by one of our subsidiaries and is subject to contractual limitations on sale, such as the limitations on transfer of assets under certain circumstances under the Credit Facility.

### **We may experience fluctuations in our quarterly results.**

We could experience fluctuations in our quarterly operating results due to a number of factors, including the interest rate payable on the senior securities we acquire, the default rate on such securities, the level of our expenses, variations in, and the timing of the recognition of, realized and unrealized gains or losses, the degree to which we encounter competition in our markets and general economic conditions. As a result of these factors, results for any prior period should not be relied upon as being indicative of performance in future periods.

### **Changes in laws or regulations governing our operations may adversely affect our business or cause us to alter our business strategy.**

We and our portfolio companies will be subject to regulation at the local, state and federal level. We are also subject to federal, state and local laws and regulations and are subject to judicial and administrative decisions that affect our operations, including maximum interest rates, fees and other charges, disclosures to portfolio companies, the terms of secured transactions, collection and foreclosure proceedings and other trade practices. If these laws, regulations or decisions change, or if we expand our business into additional jurisdictions, we may have to incur significant expenses in order to comply or we might have to restrict our operations. New legislation may be enacted or new interpretations, rulings or regulations could be adopted, including those governing the types of investments we or our portfolio companies are permitted to make, any of which could harm us and our stockholders, potentially with retroactive effect. In particular, in July 2010, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, or the Dodd-Frank Act, became law. The scope of the Dodd-Frank Act impacts many aspects of the financial services industry, and it requires the development and adoption of many implementing regulations that will continue for several years following its enactment. The effects of the Dodd-Frank Act on the financial services industry will depend, in large part, upon the extent to which regulators exercise the authority granted to them and the approaches taken in implementing regulations. The Dodd-Frank Act, including rules implementing its provisions and the interpretation of those rules, along with other legislative and regulatory proposals directed at the financial services industry or affecting taxation that are proposed or pending in the U.S. Congress, may negatively impact the operations, cash flows or financial condition of us or our portfolio companies, impose additional costs on us or our portfolio companies, intensify the regulatory supervision of us or our portfolio companies or otherwise adversely affect our business or the business of our portfolio companies. In addition, if we do not comply with applicable laws and regulations, we could lose any licenses that we then hold for the conduct of our business and may be subject to civil fines and criminal penalties.

Additionally, changes to the laws and regulations governing our operations related to permitted investments may cause us to alter our investment strategy in order to avail ourselves of new or different opportunities. Such changes could result in material differences to the strategies and plans set forth in this prospectus and may shift our investment focus from the areas of expertise of our investment adviser to other types of investments in which our investment adviser may have little or no expertise or experience. Any such changes, if they occur, could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and the value of your investment.

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**Our board may change our investment objectives, operating policies and strategies without prior notice or stockholder approval.**

Our board has the authority to modify or waive certain of our operating policies and strategies without prior notice and without stockholder approval (except as required by the 1940 Act). However, absent stockholder approval, we may not change the nature of our business so as to cease to be, or withdraw our election as, a business development company. We cannot predict the effect any changes to our current operating policies and strategies would have on our business, operating results and value of our stock. Nevertheless, the effects of any such changes may adversely affect our business and impact our ability to make distributions.

**Risks Related to our Investments**

**Our investments may be risky, and you could lose all or part of your investment.**

We invest primarily in (1) first lien senior secured loans, (2) second lien senior secured loans, (3) one-stop senior secured or unitranche loans, (4) subordinated or mezzanine loans and (5) to a lesser extent, selected equity co-investments, in each case in small-cap companies in North America. The portfolio companies in which we invest usually have, or may be permitted to incur, other debt that ranks equally with, or senior to, the debt securities in which we invest. By their terms, such debt instruments may provide that the holders are entitled to receive payment of interest or principal on or before the dates on which we are entitled to receive payments in respect of the debt securities in which we invest. Also, in the event of insolvency, liquidation, dissolution, reorganization or bankruptcy of a portfolio company, holders of debt instruments ranking senior to our investment in that portfolio company would typically be entitled to receive payment in full before we receive any distribution in respect of our investment. After repaying senior creditors, the portfolio company may not have sufficient assets to repay its obligation to us in full, or at all. In the case of debt ranking equally with debt securities in which we invest, we would have to share any distributions on an equal and ratable basis with other creditors holding such debt in the event of an insolvency, liquidation, dissolution, reorganization or bankruptcy of the relevant portfolio company.

We have invested, and expect in the future to invest, in securities that are rated below investment grade by rating agencies or that may be rated below investment grade if they were so rated. Below investment grade securities, which are often referred to as junk bonds, are viewed as speculative investments because of concerns with respect to the issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal.

*Secured Loans.* When we extend first lien senior secured, second lien senior secured and unitranche loans, we will generally take a security interest in the available assets of these portfolio companies, including the equity interests of their subsidiaries. We expect this security interest to help mitigate the risk that we will not be repaid. However, there is a risk that the collateral securing our loans may decrease in value over time, may be difficult to sell in a timely manner, may be difficult to appraise and may fluctuate in value based upon the success of the business and market conditions, including as a result of the inability of the portfolio company to raise additional capital. Also, in the case of first lien loans, our lien may be subordinated to claims of other creditors and, in the case of second lien loans, our lien will be subordinated to claims of other creditors. In addition, deterioration in a portfolio company's financial condition and prospects, including its inability to raise additional capital, may be accompanied by deterioration in the value of the collateral for the loan. Consequently, the fact that a loan is secured does not guarantee that we will receive principal and interest payments according to the loan's terms, or at all, or that we will be able to collect on the loan should we be forced to enforce our remedies.

The rights we may have with respect to the collateral securing loans we make to our portfolio companies with senior debt outstanding may also be limited pursuant to the terms of one or more intercreditor agreements that we enter into with the holders of such senior debt. Under a typical intercreditor agreement, at any time that obligations that benefit from first-priority liens are outstanding, any of the following actions that may be taken in respect of the collateral will be at the direction of the holders of the obligations secured by the first-priority liens:

the ability to commence enforcement proceedings against the collateral;  
the ability to control the conduct of such proceedings;

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the approval of amendments to collateral documents;  
releases of liens on the collateral; and  
waivers of past defaults under collateral documents.

We may not have the ability to control or direct such actions, even if our rights are adversely affected.

*Mezzanine Loans; Unsecured Loans.* Our mezzanine investments will generally be subordinated to senior loans and will generally be unsecured. This may result in greater risk and volatility or a loss of principal. These investments may involve additional risks that could adversely affect our investment returns. To the extent interest payments associated with such debt are deferred, such debt may be subject to greater fluctuations in valuations, and such debt could subject us and our stockholders to non-cash income as described above under Risk Factors We may have difficulty paying our required distributions if we recognize income before or without receiving cash representing such income. Since, generally, we will not receive any substantial repayments of principal prior to the maturity of our mezzanine debt investments, such investments are riskier than amortizing loans.

There can be no assurance that the proceeds, if any, from sales of collateral securing other loans of a portfolio company would be sufficient to satisfy our unsecured obligations after payment in full of all secured loan obligations.

If such proceeds were not sufficient to repay the outstanding secured loan obligations, then our unsecured claims would rank equally with the unpaid portion of such secured creditors' claims against the portfolio company's remaining assets, if any.

*Equity Investments.* We may make selected equity investments. In addition, when we invest in first lien, second lien, unitranche or mezzanine loans, we may acquire warrants to purchase equity securities. Our goal is ultimately to dispose of these equity interests and realize gains upon our disposition of such interests. However, the equity interests we receive may not appreciate in value and, in fact, may decline in value. Accordingly, we may not be able to realize gains from our equity interests, and any gains that we do realize on the disposition of any equity interests may not be sufficient to offset any other losses we experience.

## **We are subject to risks associated with small-cap companies.**

Investing in small-cap companies involves a number of significant risks, including:

these companies may have limited financial resources and may be unable to meet their obligations under their debt securities that we hold, which may be accompanied by a deterioration in the value of any collateral and a reduction in the likelihood of us realizing any guarantees we may have obtained in connection with our investment;

they typically have shorter operating histories, narrower product lines and smaller market shares than larger businesses, which tend to render them more vulnerable to competitors' actions and changing market conditions, as well as general economic downturns;

they are more likely to depend on the management talents and efforts of a small group of persons; therefore, the death, disability, resignation or termination of one or more of these persons could have a material adverse impact on our portfolio company and, in turn, on us;

generally little public information exists about these companies, and we are required to rely on our investment adviser to obtain adequate information to evaluate the potential returns from investing in these companies;

they generally have less predictable operating results, may from time to time be parties to litigation, may be engaged in rapidly changing businesses with products subject to a substantial risk of obsolescence and may require substantial additional capital to support their operations, finance expansion or maintain their competitive position. In addition, our executive officers, directors and our investment adviser may, in the ordinary course of business, be named as defendants in litigation arising from our investments in the portfolio companies; and

they may have difficulty accessing the capital markets to meet future capital needs, which may limit their ability to grow or to repay their outstanding indebtedness upon maturity.

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**We are a non-diversified investment company within the meaning of the 1940 Act, and, therefore, we are not limited with respect to the proportion of our assets that may be invested in securities of a single issuer. Our portfolio is concentrated in a limited number of portfolio companies and industries, which subjects us to a risk of significant loss if any of these companies defaults on its obligations under any of its debt instruments or if there is a downturn in a particular industry.**

We are classified as a non-diversified investment company within the meaning of the 1940 Act, which means that we are not limited by the 1940 Act with respect to the proportion of our assets that we may invest in securities of a single issuer. To the extent that we assume large positions in the securities of a small number of issuers, our net asset value may fluctuate to a greater extent than that of a diversified investment company as a result of changes in the financial condition or the market's assessment of the issuer. We may also be more susceptible to any single economic or regulatory occurrence than a diversified investment company. Beyond the asset diversification requirements associated with our qualification as a RIC under the Code and certain contractual diversification requirements imposed on us under the Credit Facility or other agreements, we do not have fixed guidelines for diversification, and our investments are and could be in the future concentrated in relatively few portfolio companies and industries. As a result, the aggregate returns we realize may be significantly adversely affected if a small number of investments perform poorly or if we need to write down the value of any one investment. Additionally, while we are not targeting any specific industries, our investments may be concentrated in relatively few industries. As a result, a downturn in any particular industry in which we are invested could also significantly impact the aggregate returns we realize.

**We may hold the debt securities of leveraged companies that may, due to the significant volatility of such companies, enter into bankruptcy proceedings.**

Leveraged companies may experience bankruptcy or similar financial distress. The bankruptcy process has a number of significant inherent risks. Many events in a bankruptcy proceeding are the product of contested matters and adversary proceedings and are beyond the control of the creditors. A bankruptcy filing by an issuer may adversely and permanently affect the issuer. If the proceeding is converted to a liquidation, the value of the issuer may not equal the liquidation value that was believed to exist at the time of our investment. The duration of a bankruptcy proceeding is also difficult to predict, and a creditor's return on investment can be adversely affected by delays until a plan of reorganization or liquidation ultimately becomes effective. The administrative costs in connection with a bankruptcy proceeding are frequently high and would be paid out of the debtor's estate prior to any return to creditors. Because the standards for classification of claims under bankruptcy law are vague, our influence with respect to the class of securities or other obligations we own may be lost by increases in the number and amount of claims in the same class or by different classification and treatment. In the early stages of the bankruptcy process, it is often difficult to estimate the extent of, or even to identify, any contingent claims that might be made. In addition, certain claims that have priority by law (for example, claims for taxes) may be substantial, eroding the value of any recovery by holders of other securities of the bankrupt entity.

Depending on the facts and circumstances of our investments and the extent of our involvement in the management of a portfolio company, upon the bankruptcy of a portfolio company, a bankruptcy court may recharacterize our debt investments as equity interests and subordinate all or a portion of our claim to that of other creditors. This could occur even though we may have structured our investment as senior debt.

We are a non-diversified investment company within the meaning of the 1940 Act, and, therefore, we are 56t limited



**Economic recessions or downturns could impair the ability of our portfolio companies to repay loans and increase our costs, which, in turn, could increase our non-performing assets, decrease the value of our portfolio, reduce our volume of new loans and otherwise harm our operating results.**

The U.S. economy and that of most other countries have recently been in a recessionary period. Many of our portfolio companies may be susceptible to economic slowdowns or recessions and may be unable to repay our loans during these periods. Therefore, our non-performing assets are likely to increase and the value of our portfolio is likely to decrease during these periods. Adverse economic conditions also may decrease the value of collateral securing some of our loans and the value of our equity investments. Economic slowdowns or recessions could lead to financial losses in our portfolio and a decrease in revenues, net income and assets. Unfavorable economic conditions also could increase our funding costs, limit our access to the capital markets

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or result in a decision by lenders not to extend credit to us. These events could prevent us from making new investments, increase credit losses and harm our operating results, which could have an adverse effect on our results of operations.

**We may be subject to risks associated with syndicated loans.**

From time to time, we may acquire interests in syndicated loans. Under the documentation for such loans, a financial institution or other entity typically is designated as the administrative agent and/or collateral agent. This agent is granted a lien on any collateral on behalf of the other lenders and distributes payments on the indebtedness as they are received. The agent is the party responsible for administering and enforcing the loan and generally may take actions only in accordance with the instructions of a majority or two-thirds in commitments and/or principal amount of the associated indebtedness. In most cases, we do not expect to hold a sufficient amount of the indebtedness to be able to compel any actions by the agent. For example, in many cases, our investments may represent less than the amount of associated indebtedness sufficient to compel such actions or represent subordinated debt that is precluded from acting and, consequently, we would only be able to direct such actions if instructions from us were made in conjunction with other holders of associated indebtedness that together with us compose the requisite percentage of the related indebtedness then entitled to take action. Conversely, if holders of the required amount of the associated indebtedness (not including amounts held by us) desire to take certain actions, such actions may be taken even if we did not support such actions. Furthermore, if an investment is subordinated to one or more senior loans made to the applicable obligor, our ability to exercise such rights may be subordinated to the exercise of such rights by the senior lenders.

Accordingly, we may be precluded from directing such actions unless we act together with other holders of the indebtedness. If we are unable to direct such actions, we cannot assure you that the actions taken will be in our best interests.

If an investment is a syndicated revolving loan or delayed drawdown loan, other lenders may fail to satisfy their full contractual funding commitments for such loan, which could create a breach of contract, result in a lawsuit by the obligor against the lenders and adversely affect the fair market value of our investment.

There is a risk that a loan agent may become bankrupt or insolvent. Such an event would delay, and possibly impair, any enforcement actions undertaken by holders of the associated indebtedness, including attempts to realize upon the collateral securing the associated indebtedness and/or direct the agent to take actions against the related obligor or the collateral securing the associated indebtedness and actions to realize on proceeds of payments made by obligors that are in the possession or control of any other financial institution. In addition, we may be unable to remove the agent in circumstances in which removal would be in our best interests. Moreover, agent loans typically allow for the agent to resign with certain advance notice.

**Our failure to make follow-on investments in our portfolio companies could impair the value of our portfolio, and our ability to make follow-on investments in certain portfolio companies may be restricted.**

Following an initial investment in a portfolio company, we may make additional investments in that portfolio company as follow-on investments, in order to:

increase or maintain in whole or in part our equity ownership percentage;  
exercise warrants, options or convertible securities that were acquired in the original or subsequent financing; or  
attempt to preserve or enhance the value of our investment.

We will have the discretion to make any follow-on investments, subject to the availability of capital resources, the limitations of the 1940 Act, the requirements associated with our status as a RIC and contractual requirements imposed on us under the Credit Facility or otherwise. We may elect not to make follow-on investments or otherwise lack sufficient funds to make those investments. The failure to make follow-on investments may, in some circumstances, jeopardize the continued viability of a portfolio company and our initial investment, or may result in a missed opportunity for us to increase our participation in a successful operation. Even if we have sufficient capital to make a desired follow-on investment, we may elect not to make a follow-on investment because we do not want to increase our exposure to the portfolio

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company, because we prefer other opportunities or because we are inhibited by compliance with business development company requirements, our contractual requirements or the desire to maintain our tax status.

**Because we will generally not hold controlling equity interests in our portfolio companies, we will not be in a position to exercise control over our portfolio companies or to prevent decisions by management of our portfolio companies that could decrease the value of our investments.**

Although we may do so in the future, we do not currently anticipate taking controlling equity positions in our portfolio companies. In addition, we may not be in a position to control any portfolio company by investing in its debt securities. As a result, we will be subject to the risk that a portfolio company may make business decisions with which we disagree, and the stockholders and management of a portfolio company may take risks or otherwise act in ways that are adverse to our interests. Due to the lack of liquidity for the debt and equity investments that we will typically hold in our portfolio companies, we may not be able to dispose of our investments in the event we disagree with the actions of a portfolio company, and we may therefore suffer a decrease in the value of our investments.

**Defaults by our portfolio companies will harm our operating results.**

A portfolio company's failure to satisfy financial or operating covenants imposed by us or other lenders could lead to defaults and, potentially, termination of its loans and foreclosure on its assets. This could trigger cross-defaults under other agreements and jeopardize such portfolio company's ability to meet its obligations under the debt or equity securities that we hold. We may incur expenses to the extent necessary to seek recovery upon default or to negotiate new terms, which may include the waiver of certain financial covenants, with a defaulting portfolio company. A payment default on a loan to a portfolio company or a default leading to the acceleration of debt of a portfolio company could cause the loan to such portfolio company held by us to become, or to be deemed to be, a defaulted obligation under the Credit Facility. This, in turn, could result in a coverage test under the Credit Facility not being met and the diversion of distributions of assets held by WhiteHorse Warehouse to pay down debt under the Credit Facility rather than to make distributions. Such a portfolio company default could also lead to an event of default and acceleration under the Credit Facility and liquidation by the related lender of the assets securing the Credit Facility. Any such diversion of cash flow or any event of default could result in our being unable to make distributions to our stockholders in amounts sufficient to maintain our status as a RIC, or at all, and could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

**Our investment adviser's liability will be limited under the Investment Advisory Agreement, and we have agreed to indemnify our investment adviser against certain liabilities, which may lead our investment adviser to act in a riskier manner on our behalf than it would when acting for its own account.**

Under the Investment Advisory Agreement, our investment adviser will not assume any responsibility to us other than to render the services called for under that agreement, and it will not be responsible for any action of our board in following or declining to follow our investment adviser's advice or recommendations. Our investment adviser maintains a contractual, as opposed to a fiduciary, relationship with us. Under the terms of the Investment Advisory Agreement, our investment adviser, its officers, members, personnel and any person controlling or controlled by our investment adviser will not be liable to us, any subsidiary of ours, our directors, our stockholders or any subsidiary's stockholders or partners for acts or omissions performed in accordance with and pursuant to the Investment Advisory

Because we will generally not hold controlling equity interests in our portfolio companies, we will not be in a position

Agreement, except those resulting from acts constituting gross negligence, willful misconduct, bad faith or reckless disregard of our investment adviser's duties under the Investment Advisory Agreement. In addition, we have agreed to indemnify our investment adviser and each of its officers, directors, members, managers and employees from and against any claims or liabilities, including reasonable legal fees and other expenses reasonably incurred, arising out of or in connection with our business and operations or any action taken or omitted on our behalf pursuant to authority granted by the Investment Advisory Agreement, except where attributable to gross negligence, willful misconduct, bad faith or reckless disregard of such person's duties under the Investment Advisory Agreement. These protections may lead our investment adviser to act in a riskier manner when acting on our behalf than it would when acting for its own account.

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**Our investment adviser may be paid incentive compensation even if we incur a net loss, and we cannot recover any portion of the incentive fee previously paid.**

Our investment adviser is entitled to incentive compensation for each fiscal quarter in an amount equal to a percentage of our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income, subject to the Hurdle Rate, a catch-up provision and the Incentive Fee Cap and Deferral Mechanism. Our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income excludes realized and unrealized capital losses that we may incur in the fiscal quarter, even if such capital losses result in a net loss for that quarter. Thus, we may be required to pay our investment adviser incentive compensation for a fiscal quarter even if we incur a net loss. In addition, if we pay the capital gains portion of the incentive fee and thereafter experience additional realized capital losses or unrealized capital depreciation, we will not be able to recover any portion of the incentive fee previously paid.

**Our portfolio companies may prepay loans, which prepayment may reduce our yields if capital returned cannot be invested in transactions with equal or greater expected yields.**

The loans in our investment portfolio may be prepayable at any time. It is not clear at this time when each loan may be prepaid. Whether a loan is prepaid will depend both on the continued positive performance of the portfolio company and the existence of favorable financing market conditions that allow such company the ability to replace existing financing with less expensive capital. As market conditions change, we do not know when, and if, prepayment may be possible for each portfolio company. In the case of some of these loans, having the loan prepaid may reduce the achievable yield for us if the capital returned cannot be invested in transactions with equal or greater expected yields, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

**The disposition of our investments may result in contingent liabilities.**

We currently expect that a significant portion of our investments will involve private securities. In connection with the disposition of an investment in a private company, we may be required to make representations about the business and financial affairs of the portfolio company typical of those made in connection with the sale of a business. We may also be required to indemnify the purchasers of such investment to the extent that any such representations turn out to be inaccurate or with respect to certain potential liabilities. These arrangements may result in contingent liabilities that ultimately yield funding obligations that must be satisfied through our return of certain distributions previously made to us.

**We may expose ourselves to risks if we engage in hedging transactions.**

If we engage in hedging transactions, we may expose ourselves to risks associated with such transactions. We may borrow under a credit facility in currencies selected to minimize our foreign currency exposure or use instruments such as forward contracts, currency options and interest rate swaps, caps, collars and floors to seek to hedge against fluctuations in the relative values of our portfolio positions from changes in currency exchange rates and market interest rates. Hedging against a decline in the values of our portfolio positions caused by these risks does not eliminate the possibility of fluctuations in the values of such positions or prevent losses if the values of such positions decline for other reasons. Such hedging transactions may also limit the opportunity for gain if the values of the underlying portfolio positions should increase. Moreover, it may not be possible to hedge against an exchange rate or interest rate fluctuation that is so generally anticipated that we are not able to enter into a hedging transaction at an

Our investment adviser may be paid incentive compensation even if we incur a net loss, and we cannot recover any

acceptable price. Our ability to engage in hedging transactions may also be adversely affected by recent rules adopted by the CFTC.

While we may enter into such transactions to seek to reduce currency exchange rate and interest rate risks, unanticipated changes in currency exchange rates or interest rates may result in poorer overall investment performance than if we had not engaged in any such hedging transactions. In addition, the degree of correlation between price movements of the instruments used in a hedging strategy and price movements in the portfolio positions being hedged may vary. Moreover, for a variety of reasons, we may not seek to establish a perfect correlation between such hedging instruments and the portfolio holdings being hedged. Any such imperfect correlation may prevent us from achieving the intended hedge and expose us to risk of loss. In addition, it may not be possible to hedge fully or perfectly against currency fluctuations affecting the value of securities denominated in non-U.S. currencies because the value of those securities is likely to fluctuate as a result of factors not related to currency fluctuations.

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**Provisions of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, our certificate of incorporation and bylaws and the Credit Facility could deter takeover attempts and have an adverse effect on the price of our common stock.**

The General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, or the DGCL, contains provisions that may discourage, delay or make more difficult a change in control of us or the removal of our directors. Our certificate of incorporation and bylaws contain provisions that limit liability and provide for indemnification of our directors and officers. These provisions and others also may have the effect of deterring hostile takeovers or delaying changes in control or management. We are subject to Section 203 of the DGCL, the application of which is subject to any applicable requirements of the 1940 Act. This section generally prohibits us from engaging in mergers and other business combinations with stockholders that beneficially own 15% or more of our voting stock, or with their affiliates, unless our directors or stockholders approve the business combination in the prescribed manner. Our board may adopt a resolution exempting from Section 203 of the DGCL any business combination between us and any other person, subject to prior approval of such business combination by our board, including approval by a majority of our directors who are not interested persons. If the resolution exempting business combinations is repealed or our board does not approve a business combination, Section 203 of the DGCL may discourage third parties from trying to acquire control of us and increase the difficulty of consummating such an offer.

We have also adopted measures that may make it difficult for a third party to obtain control of us, including provisions of our certificate of incorporation classifying our board in three classes serving staggered three-year terms and provisions of our certificate of incorporation authorizing our board to classify or reclassify shares of our preferred stock in one or more classes or series, to cause the issuance of additional shares of our stock and to amend our certificate of incorporation, without stockholder approval, to increase or decrease the number of shares of stock that we have authority to issue. These provisions, as well as other provisions of our certificate of incorporation and bylaws, may delay, defer or prevent a transaction or a change in control that might otherwise be in the best interests of our stockholders. In addition, if we issue preferred stock, such securities would rank senior to common stock in our capital structure, resulting in preferred stockholders having separate voting rights, dividend and liquidation rights, and possibly other rights, preferences or privileges more favorable than those granted to holders of our common stock.

If we or one of our affiliates approved by the Lender is no longer the collateral manager under the Credit Facility or if certain change of control events occur, then an event of default will occur under the Credit Facility which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. A change of control under the Credit Facility occurs if (1) WhiteHorse Warehouse ceases to be our wholly owned subsidiary, (2) Anthony Tamer and Sami Mnaymneh, together, cease to own beneficially the power to vote a majority of the equity interests having direct or indirect ordinary voting power in our investment adviser and certain of its affiliates or (3) H.I.G. Capital Management, Inc., either directly or through its wholly owned subsidiaries or certain affiliates, ceases to provide all or substantially all of the personnel, investment committee and other services necessary for us to perform our duties as collateral manager under the Credit Facility documents. The occurrence of an event of default could result in us being unable to make distributions to our stockholders sufficient to maintain our status as a RIC or at all, terminates the reinvestment period if then in effect, permits the facility agent on behalf of the Lender to take over management of WhiteHorse Warehouse's portfolio and to direct the liquidation of its assets, all of which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.



**WhiteHorse Advisers can resign as our investment adviser on 60 days notice, and we may not be able to find a suitable replacement within that time, resulting in a disruption in our operations that could adversely affect our financial condition, business, results of operations and cash flows.**

WhiteHorse Advisers has the right, under the Investment Advisory Agreement, to resign at any time upon not less than 60 days written notice, whether we have found a replacement or not. If our investment adviser resigns, we may not be able to find a new investment adviser or hire internal management with similar expertise and ability to provide the same or equivalent services on acceptable terms within 60 days, or at all. If we are unable to do so quickly, our operations are likely to experience a disruption, our financial condition, business and results of operations as well as our ability to pay distributions are likely to be adversely affected and the market price of our Notes may decline. In addition, the coordination of our internal management and

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investment activities is likely to suffer if we are unable to identify and reach an agreement with a single institution or group of executives having the expertise possessed by our investment adviser and its affiliates. Even if we are able to retain comparable management, whether internal or external, the integration of such management and their lack of familiarity with our investment objectives may result in additional costs and time delays that may adversely affect our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

**WhiteHorse Administration can resign from its role as our administrator on 60 days notice, and we may not be able to find a suitable replacement within that time, resulting in a disruption in our operations that could adversely affect our financial condition, business, results of operations and cash flows.**

WhiteHorse Administration has the right under the Administration Agreement to resign at any time upon not less than 60 days written notice, whether we have found a replacement or not. If WhiteHorse Administration resigns, we may not be able to find a new administrator or hire internal management with similar expertise and ability to provide the same or equivalent services on acceptable terms within 60 days, or at all. If we are unable to do so quickly, our operations are likely to experience a disruption, our financial condition, business and results of operations as well as our ability to pay distributions are likely to be adversely affected. In addition, the coordination of our internal management and administrative activities is likely to suffer if we are unable to identify and reach an agreement with a service provider or individuals with the expertise possessed by WhiteHorse Administration. Even if we are able to retain a comparable service provider or individuals to perform such services, whether internal or external, their integration into our business and lack of familiarity with our operations may result in additional costs and time delays that may adversely affect our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows, and the value of an investment in our securities may decline.

**Investments in securities of foreign companies, if any, may involve significant risks in addition to the risks inherent in U.S. investments.**

We may make investments in securities of foreign companies. Investing in foreign companies may expose us to additional risks not typically associated with investing in U.S. companies. These risks include changes in exchange control regulations, political and social instability, expropriation, imposition of foreign taxes, less liquid markets and less available information than is generally the case in the United States, higher transaction costs, less government supervision of exchanges, brokers and issuers, less developed bankruptcy laws, difficulty in enforcing contractual obligations, lack of uniform accounting and auditing standards and greater price volatility.

In addition, any investments that we make that are denominated in a foreign currency will be subject to the risk that the value of a particular currency will change in relation to one or more other currencies. Among the factors that may affect currency values are trade balances, the level of short-term interest rates, differences in relative values of similar assets in different currencies, long-term opportunities for investment and capital appreciation, and political developments. We may employ hedging techniques to minimize these risks, but we can offer no assurance that we will, in fact, hedge currency risk, or, that if we do, such strategies will be effective.

**We incur significant costs as a result of being a publicly traded company.**

As a publicly traded company, we incur legal, accounting and other expenses, including costs associated with the periodic reporting requirements applicable to a company whose securities are registered under the Exchange Act, as well as additional corporate governance requirements, including requirements under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002,

or the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, and other rules implemented by the SEC.

**We are an emerging growth company, and we do not know if such status will make our common stock less attractive to investors.**

We currently are, and following the completion of this offering expect to remain, an emerging growth company, as defined in the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act, or the JOBS Act, signed into law on April 5, 2012 until the earliest of:

the last day of our fiscal year ending December 31, 2017;  
the year in which our total annual gross revenues first exceed \$1 billion;

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the date on which we have, during the prior three-year period, issued more than \$1 billion in non-convertible debt; and

the last day of a fiscal year in which we (1) have an aggregate worldwide market value of our common stock held by non-affiliates of \$700 million or more, computed at the end of each fiscal year as of the last business day of our most recently completed second fiscal quarter, and (2) have been an Exchange Act reporting company for at least one year (and filed at least one annual report under the Exchange Act).

Although we are still evaluating the JOBS Act, we currently intend to take advantage of some or all of the reduced regulatory and disclosure requirements permitted by the JOBS Act and, as a result, some investors may consider our common stock less attractive, which could reduce the market value of our common stock. For example, while we are an emerging growth company, we will take advantage of exemption from the provisions of Section 404(b) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act requiring that our independent registered public accounting firm provide an attestation report on the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting and the extended transition period available to emerging growth companies to comply with new or revised accounting standards until those standards are applicable to private companies. As a result, our financial statements may not be comparable to the financial statements of issuers who are required to comply with the effective dates for new or revised accounting standards that are applicable to public companies. This may increase the risk that material weaknesses or other deficiencies in our internal control over financial reporting go undetected.

**Efforts to comply with Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act will involve significant expenditures, and non-compliance with Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act may adversely affect us and the market price of our securities.**

Under current SEC rules, after completion of this offering, we will be required to report on our internal control over financial reporting pursuant to Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, and related rules and regulations of the SEC, and under the JOBS Act. Thereafter, we will be required to review on an annual basis our internal control over financial reporting, and on a quarterly and annual basis to evaluate and disclose changes in our internal control over financial reporting.

As a result, we expect to incur additional expenses in the near term that may negatively impact our financial performance and our ability to make distributions. This process also will result in a diversion of management's time and attention. We cannot be certain as to the timing of completion of our evaluation, testing and remediation actions or the impact of the same on our operations, and we may not be able to ensure that the process is effective or that our internal control over financial reporting is or will be effective in a timely manner. In the event that we are unable to maintain or achieve compliance with Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and related rules, we and the market price of our securities may be adversely affected.

**We are highly dependent on information systems and systems failures could significantly disrupt our business, which may, in turn, negatively affect the market price of our common stock and our ability to pay dividends to our stockholders.**

Our business is highly dependent on the communications and information systems of H.I.G. Capital, to which we have access through our administrator, WhiteHorse Administration. In addition, certain of these systems are provided to H.I.G. Capital by third-party service providers. Any failure or interruption of such systems, including as a result of the termination of an agreement with any such third-party service provider, could cause delays or other problems in our

We are an emerging growth company, and we do not know if such status will make our common stock less attractive

activities. This, in turn, could have a material adverse effect on our operating results and negatively affect the market price of our common stock and our ability to pay dividends to our stockholders.

## **Risks Relating to this Offering**

**The Notes will be unsecured and therefore will be effectively subordinated to any secured indebtedness we have currently incurred or may incur in the future.**

The Notes will not be secured by any of our assets or any of the assets of our subsidiaries and will rank equally in right of payment with all of our existing and future unsubordinated, unsecured senior indebtedness.

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As a result, the Notes are effectively subordinated to any secured indebtedness we or our subsidiaries have currently incurred and may incur in the future (or any indebtedness that is initially unsecured to which we subsequently grant security) to the extent of the value of the assets securing such indebtedness. In any liquidation, dissolution, bankruptcy or other similar proceeding, the holders of any of our existing or future secured indebtedness and the secured indebtedness of our subsidiaries may assert rights against the assets pledged to secure that indebtedness in order to receive full payment of their indebtedness before the assets may be used to pay other creditors, including the holders of the Notes. As of March 31, 2013 and December 31, 2012, we had \$51.3 million outstanding under the Credit Facility. The Credit Facility is secured by all of the assets of WhiteHorse Warehouse, which included 13 loans with a fair value of \$196.8 million as of March 31, 2013 and seven loans with a fair value of \$144.1 million as of December 31, 2012. The indebtedness under the Credit Facility is therefore effectively senior in right of payment to the Notes to the extent of the value of such assets.

### **The Notes will be structurally subordinated to the indebtedness and other liabilities of our subsidiaries.**

The Notes are obligations exclusively of WhiteHorse Finance, Inc. and not of any of our subsidiaries. None of our subsidiaries is or acts as a guarantor of the Notes, and the Notes are not required to be guaranteed by any subsidiaries we may acquire or establish in the future.

Except to the extent we are a creditor with recognized claims against our subsidiaries, all claims of creditors (including holders of preferred stock, if any, of our subsidiaries) will have priority over our equity interests in such subsidiaries (and therefore the claims of our creditors, including holders of the Notes) with respect to the assets of such subsidiaries. Even if we are recognized as a creditor of one or more of our subsidiaries, our claims would still be effectively subordinated to any security interests in the assets of any such subsidiary and to any indebtedness or other liabilities of any such subsidiary senior to our claims. Consequently, the Notes will be structurally subordinated to all indebtedness and other liabilities (including trade payables) of our subsidiary and any subsidiaries that we may in the future acquire or establish. In addition, our subsidiaries may incur substantial additional indebtedness in the future, all of which would be structurally senior to the Notes.

### **The Indenture under which the Notes will be issued will contain limited protection for holders of the Notes.**

The Indenture under which the Notes will be issued offers limited protection to holders of the Notes. The terms of the Indenture and the Notes do not restrict our or any of our subsidiaries' ability to engage in, or otherwise be a party to, a variety of corporate transactions, circumstances or events that could have an adverse impact on your investment in the Notes. In particular, the terms of the Indenture and the Notes will not place any restrictions on our or our subsidiaries' ability to:

issue securities or otherwise incur additional indebtedness or other obligations, including (1) any indebtedness or other obligations that would be equal in right of payment to the Notes, (2) any indebtedness or other obligations that would be secured and therefore rank effectively senior in right of payment to the Notes to the extent of the values of the assets securing such debt, (3) indebtedness of ours that is guaranteed by one or more of our subsidiaries and which therefore would rank structurally senior to the Notes and (4) securities, indebtedness or other obligations issued or incurred by our subsidiaries that would be senior in right of payment to our equity interests in our subsidiaries and therefore would rank structurally senior in right of payment to the Notes with respect to the assets of our subsidiaries, in each case other than an incurrence of indebtedness or other obligation that would cause a violation of the asset coverage requirement under Section 18(a)(1)(A) as modified by Section 61(a)(1) of the 1940 Act or any successor

The Notes will be unsecured and therefore will be effectively subordinated to any secured indebtedness we have cur

provisions;

pay dividends on, or purchase or redeem or make any payments in respect of, capital stock or other securities ranking junior in right of payment to the Notes;

sell assets (other than certain limited restrictions on our ability to consolidate, merge or sell all or substantially all of our assets);

enter into transactions with affiliates;

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create liens (including liens on the shares of our subsidiaries) or enter into sale and leaseback transactions;  
make investments; or  
create restrictions on the payment of dividends or other amounts to us from our subsidiaries.  
In addition, the Indenture will not require us to offer to purchase the Notes in connection with a change of control or any other event.

Furthermore, the terms of the Indenture and the Notes do not protect holders of the Notes in the event that we experience changes (including significant adverse changes) in our financial condition, results of operations or credit ratings, as they do not require that we or our subsidiaries adhere to any financial tests or ratios or specified levels of net worth, revenues, income, cash flow or liquidity, except as required under the 1940 Act.

Our ability to recapitalize, incur additional debt and take a number of other actions that are not limited by the terms of the Notes may have important consequences for you as a holder of the Notes, including making it more difficult for us to satisfy our obligations with respect to the Notes or negatively affecting the trading value of the Notes.

Certain of our current debt instruments include more protections for their holders than the Indenture and the Notes. In addition, other debt we issue or incur in the future could contain more protections for its holders than the Indenture and the Notes, including additional covenants and events of default. The issuance or incurrence of any such debt with incremental protections could affect the market for and trading levels and prices of the Notes.

**An active trading market for the Notes may not develop, which could limit the market price of the Notes or your ability to sell them. We do not intend to have the Notes rated. If a rating agency assigns the Notes a non-investment grade rating or the Notes are not rated, the Notes may be subject to greater price volatility than similar securities without such a rating. Below investment grade securities, which are often referred to as junk bonds, are viewed as speculative investments because of concerns with respect to the issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal.**

The Notes are a new issue of debt securities for which currently there is no trading market. Although the Notes have been approved for quotation on The NASDAQ Global Select Market, subject to official notice of issuance, we cannot provide any assurances that an active trading market will develop for the Notes or that you will be able to sell your Notes. If the Notes are traded after their initial issuance, they may trade at a discount from their initial offering price depending on prevailing interest rates, the market for similar securities, our credit ratings, general economic conditions, our financial condition, performance and prospects and other factors. If a rating agency assigns the Notes a non-investment grade rating, the Notes may be subject to greater price volatility than securities of similar maturity without such a non-investment grade rating. Below investment grade securities, which are often referred to as junk bonds, are viewed as speculative investments because of concerns with respect to the issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal. The underwriters may discontinue any market-making in the Notes at any time in their sole discretion. Accordingly, we cannot assure you that a liquid trading market will develop for the Notes, that you will be able to sell your Notes at a particular time or that the price you receive when you sell will be favorable. To the extent an active trading market does not develop, the liquidity and trading price for the Notes may be harmed. Accordingly, you may be required to bear the financial risk of an investment in the Notes for an indefinite period of time.

An active trading market for the Notes may not develop, which could limit the market price of the Notes or your ability



**We may choose to redeem the Notes when prevailing interest rates are relatively low.**

On or after July 31, 2016, we may choose to redeem the Notes from time to time, especially when prevailing interest rates are lower than the rate borne by the Notes. If prevailing rates are lower at the time of redemption, you would not be able to reinvest the redemption proceeds in a comparable security at an effective interest rate as high as the interest rate on the Notes being redeemed. Our redemption right also may adversely impact your ability to sell the Notes as the optional redemption date or period approaches.

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**Pending legislation may allow us to incur additional leverage.**

As a business development company, under the 1940 Act, generally we are not permitted to incur indebtedness unless immediately after such borrowing we have an asset coverage for total borrowings of at least 200% (*i.e.*, the amount of debt may not exceed 50% of the value of our assets). We have agreed in the covenant in the Indenture not to violate this section of the 1940 Act, whether or not we continue to be subject to such provision, but giving effect, in either case, to any exemptive relief granted to us by the SEC. Recent legislation introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives, if passed, would modify this section of the 1940 Act and increase the amount of debt that business development companies may incur. As a result, we may be able to incur additional indebtedness in the future and, therefore, your risk associated with an investment in the Notes may increase.

**FATCA withholding may apply to payments to certain foreign entities.**

Payments made under the Notes to a foreign financial institution or non-financial foreign entity (including such an institution or entity acting as an intermediary) may be subject to a U.S. withholding tax of 30% under a law (commonly known as FATCA ) that was enacted in 2010. This tax may apply to certain payments of interest as well as payments made upon maturity, redemption, or sale of the Notes, unless the foreign financial institution or non-financial foreign entity complies with certain information reporting, withholding, identification, certification and related requirements imposed by FATCA. You should consult your own tax advisors regarding FATCA and how it may affect your investment in the Notes.

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## **SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

Some of the statements in this prospectus constitute forward-looking statements, which relate to future events or our future performance or financial condition. The forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus involve risks and uncertainties, including statements as to:

our future operating results;  
changes in political, economic or industry conditions, the interest rate environment or conditions affecting the financial and capital markets, which could result in changes to the value of our assets;  
our business prospects and the prospects of our prospective portfolio companies;  
our ability to consummate new investments and the impact of such investments;  
the impact of increased competition;  
our contractual arrangements and relationships with third parties;  
our dependence on general economic conditions and their impact on the industries in which we invest;  
the ability of our prospective portfolio companies to achieve their objectives;  
the relative and absolute performance of our investment adviser;  
our expected financings and investments;  
our ability to pay dividends or make distributions;  
the adequacy of our cash resources and working capital;  
the timing of cash flows, if any, from the operations of our prospective portfolio companies; and  
the impact of future acquisitions and divestitures.

We use words such as anticipates, believes, expects, intends and similar expressions to identify forward-looking statements. Our actual results could differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements for any reason, including the factors set forth in Risk Factors and elsewhere in this prospectus.

We have based the forward-looking statements included in this prospectus on information available to us on the date of this prospectus, and we assume no obligation to update any such forward-looking statements. Although we undertake no obligation to revise or update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, you are advised to consult any additional disclosures that we may make directly to you or through reports that we file with the SEC, including annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and current reports on Form 8-K.

You should understand that under Sections 27A(b)(2)(B) and (D) of the Securities Act and Sections 21E(b)(2)(B) and (D) of the Exchange Act, the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 do not apply to statements made in connection with this offering or any periodic reports we file under the Exchange Act.

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## **USE OF PROCEEDS**

We estimate that the net proceeds we will receive from the sale of the \$30 million aggregate principal amount of the Notes in this offering will be approximately \$28.8 million (or approximately \$33.2 million if the underwriters fully exercise their option to purchase additional Notes), in each case based on a public offering price of 100% of par, after deducting the underwriting discounts and commissions of \$0.9 million (or approximately \$1.0 million if the underwriters fully exercise their option to purchase additional Notes) and estimated offering expenses of approximately \$0.3 million (or \$0.25 per Note) payable by us.

We expect to use the net proceeds from selling securities pursuant to this prospectus to reduce outstanding obligations under our Unsecured Term Loan. As of March 31, 2013, we had \$90 million outstanding on our Unsecured Term Loan, which is subject to customary covenants and obligations. At March 31, 2013, our Unsecured Term Loan carried interest at an annualized rate of 2.95%. The stated maturity date of our Unsecured Term Loan is July 3, 2014. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Financial Condition, Liquidity and Capital Resources—Unsecured Term Loan for more information.

TABLE OF CONTENTS**CAPITALIZATION**

The following table sets forth, as of March 31, 2013:

the actual consolidated capitalization of WhiteHorse Finance;  
the as-adjusted consolidated capitalization of WhiteHorse Finance to reflect the effects of the sale of \$30 million aggregate principal amount of Notes in this offering based on a public offering price of 100% of par, after deducting the underwriting discounts and commissions of \$0.9 million payable by us and estimated offering expenses of approximately \$0.3 million (or \$0.25 per Note) payable by us.

This as-adjusted information is illustrative only; our capitalization following the completion of this offering is subject to further adjustments. You should read this table together with Use of Proceeds for more information. You should also read this table with our consolidated financial statements and related notes thereto, in conjunction with Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in this prospectus for more information.

	As of March 31, 2013	
	Actual	As adjusted for the offering <sup>(1)</sup>
	(Unaudited)	
	(dollars in thousands except per unit and per share data)	
Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$136,642	\$ 135,441
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	1,100	1,100
Investments at fair value	233,157	233,157
Deferred financing costs	3,066	4,267
Other assets	4,430	4,430
Total assets	\$378,395	\$ 378,395
Liabilities:		
Credit facility	\$51,250	\$ 51,250
Unsecured term loan	90,000	60,000
Senior Notes offered hereby		30,000
Distributions payable	5,313	5,313
Management fees payable	2,030	2,030
Other liabilities	2,558	2,558
Total liabilities	\$151,151	\$ 151,151
Net assets:		
Common stock, par value \$0.001 per share; 100,000,000 shares authorized; 14,965,624 shares issued and outstanding	\$15	\$ 15
Paid-in capital in excess of par	228,466	228,466
Capital distributions in excess of net income	(140 )	(140 )
Net realized loss on investments	(71 )	(71 )
Net unrealized depreciation on investments	(1,026 )	(1,026 )
Total net assets	227,244	227,244

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Total liabilities and net assets	\$378,395	\$ 378,395
Net asset value per share	\$15.18	\$ 15.18

(1) Adjusts the actual information to give effect to this offering and the application of the proceeds from such security issuances, as described under Use of Proceeds.

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The selected financial and other information below should be read in conjunction with our Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and our consolidated financial statements and the related notes thereto. We have derived the financial information at December 31, 2012 and for the year then ended from our consolidated financial statements that were audited by Crowe Horwath LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm. We have derived the financial information at March 31, 2013 and for the three months then ended from our unaudited financial statements.

	Three months ended March 31, 2013 (Unaudited)	Year ended December 31, 2012
	(dollars in thousands, except per share data)	
Income statement data:		
Total investment income	\$ 8,382	\$ 44,793
Total expenses	4,373	2,592
Net investment income	4,009	42,201
Net realized loss on investments		(2,754 )
Net change in unrealized appreciation on investments	(501 )	111
Net increase in net assets resulting from operations	3,508	39,558
Distributions payable	5,313	1,616
Other data:		
Net investment yield <sup>(1)</sup>	7.1 %	16.2 %
Number of portfolio companies at period end	12	8

	As of March 31, 2013 (Unaudited)	As of December 31, 2012
	(dollars in thousands, except per share data)	
Balance sheet data:		
Investments, fair value	\$ 233,157	\$ 180,488
Cash and cash equivalents	136,642	156,123
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	1,100	31,646
Total assets	378,395	373,282
Credit facility	51,250	51,250
Unsecured term loan	90,000	90,000
Total liabilities	151,151	144,233
Total net asset value	227,244	229,049
Per share data:		
Net asset value (at period end)	\$ 15.18	\$ 15.30

(1) Net investment yield is calculated based on net investment income, which includes interest income and excludes realized and unrealized gains on investments, divided by weighted average net assets.

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The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, certain consolidated quarterly financial information. This information is derived from the Company's unaudited financial statements which include, in the opinion of management, all normal recurring adjustments which management considers necessary for a fair presentation of the results for such periods. The results for any quarter are not necessarily indicative of results for future periods.

	2013	2012			
	Q1	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1
Total investment income	\$8,382	\$15,932	\$10,212	\$9,500	\$9,149
Net investment income	4,009	13,727	10,147	9,356	8,971
Net realized and unrealized (loss) gain on investments	(501 )	(5,753 )	1,019	1,891	200
Net increase in net assets resulting from operations	3,508	7,975	11,166	11,246	9,171

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TABLE OF CONTENTS**RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES**

For the three months ended March 31, 2013 and the year ended December 31, 2012, the ratios of earnings to fixed charges of the Company, computed as set forth below, were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2013	For the Year Ended December 31, 2012, as Adjusted <sup>(1)</sup>
Earnings to Fixed Charges <sup>(2)</sup>	2.6	7.2

For purposes of computing the ratios of earnings to fixed charges, earnings represent net increase in stockholders equity resulting from operations plus (or minus) income tax expense (benefit) including excise tax expense plus fixed charges. Fixed charges include interest and Credit Facility and Unsecured Term Loan fees expense and amortization of debt issuance costs.

Adjusts fixed charges incurred for the year ended December 31, 2012 to reflect interest and Credit Facility expense (1) and amortization of debt issuance costs as if our borrowing under the Credit Facility and Unsecured Term Loan had taken place on January 1, 2012.

(2) Earnings include net realized and unrealized gains or losses. Net realized and unrealized gains or losses can vary substantially from period to period.

Excluding the net unrealized gains or losses, the earnings to fixed charges ratio would be 2.9 for the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 7.2 for the year ended December 31, 2012.

Excluding the net realized and unrealized gains or losses, the earnings to fixed charges ratio would be 2.9 for the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 7.7 for the year ended December 31, 2012.

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# MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

*The following discussion and other parts of this prospectus contain forward-looking information that involves risks and uncertainties. The discussion and analysis contained in this section refers to the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of WhiteHorse Finance, Inc. Please see Risk Factors and Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements for a discussion of the uncertainties, risks and assumptions associated with this discussion and analysis. Our actual results could differ materially from those anticipated by such forward-looking information due to factors discussed under Risk Factors and Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements appearing elsewhere in this prospectus.*

## Overview

We are an externally managed, non-diversified, closed-end management investment company that has elected to be treated as a business development company under the 1940 Act. In addition, for tax purposes, we elected to be treated as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code.

We were formed on December 28, 2011 and commenced operations on January 1, 2012. We were originally capitalized with approximately \$176.3 million of contributed assets from H.I.G. Bayside Debt & LBO Fund II, L.P. and H.I.G. Bayside Loan Opportunity Fund II, L.P., each of which is an affiliate of H.I.G. Capital. These assets were contributed as of January 1, 2012 in exchange for 11,752,383 units in WhiteHorse Finance, LLC. In December 2012, as part of the BDC Conversion, all outstanding units were converted to 7,826,284 shares of our common stock.

In December 2012, we also priced our IPO, selling 6,666,667 shares at a public offering price of \$15.00 per share. Our shares are listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol WHF. Concurrent with the IPO, certain of our directors and officers, the managers of our investment adviser and their immediate family members or entities owned by, or family trusts for the benefit of, such persons, purchased an additional 472,673 shares through the Concurrent Private Placement at \$15.00 per share.

We are a direct lender targeting debt investments in privately held, small-cap companies located in North America. We define the small-cap market as those companies with enterprise values between \$50 million and \$350 million. Our investment objective is to generate attractive risk-adjusted returns primarily by originating and investing in senior secured loans, including first lien and second lien facilities, to performing small-cap companies across a broad range of industries that typically carry a floating interest rate based on LIBOR plus a spread and have a term of three to six years. While we focus principally on originating senior secured loans to small-cap companies, we may also opportunistically make investments at other levels of a company's capital structure, including mezzanine loans or equity interests, and in companies outside of the small-cap market, to the extent we believe the investment presents an opportunity to achieve an attractive risk-adjusted return. We also may receive warrants to purchase common stock in connection with our debt investments. We generate current income through the receipt of interest payments, as well as origination and other fees, capital appreciation and dividends.

Our investment activities are managed by WhiteHorse Advisers and supervised by our board of directors, a majority of whom are independent of us, WhiteHorse Advisers and its affiliates. Under the Investment Advisory Agreement, we have agreed to pay WhiteHorse Advisers an annual base management fee based on our average consolidated gross

assets as well as an incentive fee based on our investment performance. We have also entered into the Administration Agreement with WhiteHorse Administration. Under the Administration Agreement, we have agreed to reimburse WhiteHorse Administration for our allocable portion (subject to the review and approval of our independent directors) of overhead and other expenses incurred by WhiteHorse Administration in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement.

As of March 31, 2013, our investment portfolio consisted of senior secured loans across 14 positions with an aggregate fair value of approximately \$233.2 million and a principal balance outstanding of approximately \$235.2 million. As of December 31, 2012, our investment portfolio consisted of senior secured loans across eight positions with an aggregate fair value of approximately \$180.5 million and a principal balance outstanding of approximately \$181.6 million. At both dates, the majority of our portfolio comprised senior secured loans to small-cap borrowers.

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### **Revenues**

We generate revenue in the form of interest payable on the debt securities that we hold and capital gains and distributions, if any, on the portfolio company investments that we originated or acquire. Our debt investments, whether in the form of senior secured loans or mezzanine loans, typically have terms of three to six years and bear interest at a fixed or floating rate based on LIBOR. Interest on debt securities is generally payable monthly or quarterly, with the amortization of principal generally being deferred for several years from the date of the initial investment. In some cases, we also defer payments of interest for the first few years after our investment. The principal amount of the debt securities and any accrued but unpaid interest generally becomes due at the maturity date.

In addition, we generate revenue in the form of commitment, origination, structuring or diligence fees, fees for providing managerial assistance and possibly consulting fees. We capitalize loan origination fees, original issue discount and market discount, and we then amortize such amounts as interest income. Upon the prepayment of a loan or debt security, we record any unamortized loan origination fees as interest income. We record prepayment premiums on loans and debt securities as interest income when we receive such amounts.

### **Expenses**

Our primary operating expenses include (1) investment advisory fees to WhiteHorse Advisers; (2) our allocable portion of overhead expenses under the Administration Agreement; (3) the interest expense on our outstanding debt; and (4) other operating costs as detailed below. Our investment advisory fees compensate our investment adviser for its work in identifying, evaluating, negotiating, consummating and monitoring our investments. See The Adviser and the Administrator .

We bear all other costs and expenses of our operations and transactions, including:

our organization;

calculating our net asset value and net asset value per share (including the costs and expenses of independent valuation firms);

fees and expenses, including travel expenses, incurred by WhiteHorse Advisers or payable to third parties in performing due diligence on prospective portfolio companies, monitoring our investments and, if necessary, enforcing our rights;

the costs of all future offerings of common shares and other securities, and other incurrences of debt;

the base management fee and any incentive fee;

distributions on our shares;

transfer agent and custody fees and expenses;

amounts payable to third parties relating to, or associated with, evaluating, making and disposing of investments;

brokerage fees and commissions;

registration fees;

listing fees;

taxes;

independent directors fees and expenses;

costs associated with our reporting and compliance obligations under the 1940 Act and applicable U.S. federal and state securities laws;

the costs of any reports, proxy statements or other notices to our stockholders, including printing costs;

costs of holding stockholder meetings;

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our fidelity bond;

directors and officers/errors and omissions liability insurance and any other insurance premiums;

litigation, indemnification and other non-recurring or extraordinary expenses;

direct costs and expenses of administration and operation, including audit and legal costs;

fees and expenses associated with marketing efforts, including deal sourcing and marketing to financial sponsors;

dues, fees and charges of any trade association of which we are a member; and

all other expenses reasonably incurred by us or WhiteHorse Administration in connection with administering our business, including rent and our allocable portion of the costs and expenses of our chief compliance officer, chief financial officer and chief operating officer along with their respective staffs.

## **Recent Developments**

On May 22, 2013, we declared a distribution of \$0.355 per share in respect to the quarter ending June 30, 2013. The distribution will be payable on July 3, 2013 to stockholders of record as of June 21, 2013.

On July 9, 2013, we entered into an agreement with the lenders thereto, which amended the terms of the Unsecured Term Loan to subordinate the Unsecured Term Loan to the Notes in right of payment.

## **Consolidated Results of Operations**

The consolidated results of operations for the three months ended March 31, 2013 are not directly comparable to the same period ended March 31, 2012, since such period reflects a portfolio prior to the BDC Conversion and prior to the execution of our Investment Advisory Agreement, Administration Agreement and debt agreements.

### **Investment Income**

Investment income totaled approximately \$8.4 million and approximately \$9.1 million, respectively, for the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012, primarily attributable to interest and fees earned from investments in portfolio companies. Total investments at fair value and their amortized cost were approximately \$233.2 million and approximately \$233.5 million, respectively, at March 31, 2013, compared to approximately \$241.6 million and approximately \$241.4 million, respectively, at March 31, 2012. During the three months ended March 31, 2013, we experienced some downward pressure on interest rates in connection with our new originations, and we expect this spread compression to persist in future quarters due to an active lending market and improved financial results for prospective borrowers.

Investment income for the year ended December 31, 2012 was approximately \$44.8 million and was primarily attributable to interest earned from investments in portfolio companies and interest earned on cash and cash equivalents.

### **Operating Expenses**

Expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012 were approximately \$4.4 million and approximately \$0.3 million, respectively. Interest expense on our Credit Facility (as defined below) and Unsecured Term Loan (as defined below) for the three months ended March 31, 2013 totaled approximately \$1.4 million. Base management fees and performance-base incentive fees for the same period totaled approximately \$1.1 million and approximately \$1.0 million, respectively. In accordance with the Investment Advisory Agreement, cash and cash equivalents were excluded from the calculation of base management fees. Administrative fees for the three months ended March 31, 2013 totaled approximately \$0.4 million. Absent refinancing, we expect our interest rate expenses to remain relatively

stable in future periods.

We did not incur any interest expense, investment advisory fees or administrative fees during the three months ended March 31, 2012, because the Investment Advisory Agreement, Administration Agreement and debt agreements were not in effect during that period.

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We incurred no organization costs for the three months ended March 31, 2013, while organization costs related to our initial start up totaled approximately \$0.1 million for three months ended March 31, 2012. Remaining expenses of approximately \$0.6 million and approximately \$0.2 million, respectively, were incurred during the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012, and were comprised mostly of general and administrative expenses. We expect our general and administrative expenses to decline as a percentage of net investment income as our total assets increase.

Expenses for the year ended December 31, 2012 totaled \$2.6 million. Interest expenses on the Credit Facility and the Unsecured Term Loan for the same period totaled approximately \$1.1 million. Base management fees for the same period totaled approximately \$0.3 million and were calculated at an annual rate of 2.00% of consolidated gross assets.

In accordance with the Investment Advisory Agreement, cash and cash equivalents were excluded from the calculation of base management fees for the quarter ended December 31, 2012. Organization costs totaled approximately \$0.4 million for the same period. Remaining expenses of approximately \$0.8 million were comprised mostly of general and administrative expenses.

### **Net Realized and Unrealized Losses on Investments**

There were no realized gains or losses for the three months ended March 31, 2013 or 2012.

For the three months ended March 31, 2013, we incurred net unrealized depreciation of approximately \$0.5 million, due to the accretion of discounts and negative credit related adjustments which caused a reduction in fair value.

For the three months ended March 31, 2012, we experienced net unrealized appreciation of approximately \$0.2 million, due to positive credit related adjustments.

During the year ended December 31, 2012, we had approximately \$2.6 million in net realized and unrealized losses. These losses were attributable primarily to assets distributed to the Initial Members prior to the completion of the BDC Conversion.

## **Financial Condition, Liquidity and Capital Resources**

As a business development company, we distribute substantially all of our net income to our stockholders. We generate cash primarily from offerings of securities, the Credit Facility, the Unsecured Term Loan and cash flows from operations, including interest earned from the temporary investment of cash in U.S. government securities and other high-quality debt investments that mature in one year or less. We expect to fund a portion of our investments through future borrowings under the Credit Facility. In the future, we may obtain borrowings under other credit facilities and issuances of senior securities. We may also borrow funds to the extent we determine that additional capital would allow us to take advantage of additional investment opportunities, if the market for debt financing presents attractively priced debt financing opportunities or if our board of directors determines that leveraging our portfolio would be in our best interest and the best interests of our stockholders.

Restricted cash and cash equivalents include amounts that are collected and held by the trustee appointed as custodian of the assets securing our Credit Facility. Restricted cash is held by the trustee for the payment of interest expense and principal on the outstanding borrowings or reinvestment into new assets. Restricted cash that is not principal in nature is transferred to unrestricted cash accounts by the trustee once a quarter after the payment of operating expenses and amounts due under the Credit Facility.



Net cash used in operating activities during the three months ended March 31, 2013 was approximately \$17.9 million. Our primary use of cash in operating activities consisted of the settlement of investment acquisitions of approximately \$53.0 million, primarily funded by restricted cash and cash equivalents of approximately \$30.5 million and net investment income of approximately \$4.0 million.

Net cash provided by operating activities during the three months ended March 31, 2012 was approximately \$9.8 million. The primary source of cash was net investment income of approximately \$8.8 million and approximately \$5.9 million of principal repayments, offset by changes in operating assets and liabilities.

Net cash used in financing activities during the three months ended March 31, 2013 consisted of the payment of distributions to common stockholders of approximately \$1.6 million.

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Net cash used in financing activities during the three months ended March 31, 2012 (prior to the BDC Conversion) consisted of distributions of approximately \$5.6 million to members.

As of March 31, 2013, we had cash and cash equivalents resources of approximately \$137.7 million, including approximately \$1.1 million of restricted cash. As of the same date, we had approximately \$98.7 million undrawn under the Credit Facility. Our ability to draw down undrawn funds under the Credit Facility is determined by collateral and portfolio quality requirements stipulated in the credit and security agreement. As of March 31, 2013, the Company had approximately \$13.7 million available to be drawn under the Credit Facility based on these requirements.

As of December 31, 2012, we had cash and cash equivalents resources of approximately \$187.8 million, including approximately \$31.6 million of restricted cash. As of the same date, we had approximately \$98.7 million undrawn under the Credit Facility and had approximately \$4.5 million available to be drawn under the Credit Facility based on the collateral and portfolio quality requirements stipulated in the credit and security agreement.

We monitor and, to the extent practicable, intend to maintain a leverage ratio that is consistent with the leverage ratio maintained by other listed business development companies.

### **Credit Facility**

In September 2012, WhiteHorse Warehouse, our wholly owned subsidiary, entered into a \$150 million secured revolving credit facility, or the Credit Facility, with an asset-backed commercial paper conduit, for which Natixis, New York Branch, provides liquidity support, to finance the business of WhiteHorse Warehouse in acquiring, managing and financing loans consistent with our investment strategy. On September 27, 2012, WhiteHorse Warehouse drew approximately \$51.3 million under that facility. As of March 31, 2013 and December 31, 2012, we had approximately \$51.3 million in outstanding borrowings under the Credit Facility and, based on the collateral and portfolio requirements stipulated in the Credit Facility agreement, approximately \$13.7 million and \$4.5 million, respectively, were available to be drawn. The Credit Facility is secured by all of the assets of WhiteHorse Warehouse, which included 13 loans with a fair value of approximately \$196.8 million as of March 31, 2013 and seven loans with a fair value of approximately \$144.1 million as of December 31, 2012.

The Credit Facility includes customary events of default for credit facilities of this nature, including breaches of representations, warranties or covenants by WhiteHorse Warehouse or by us, insolvency events affecting WhiteHorse Warehouse or us, the occurrence of a change in control, failure to maintain certain overcollateralization ratios required under the Credit Facility, if we or an approved affiliate or successor collateral manager cease to act as collateral manager, if we or one of our executive officers commits fraud or is indicted for a felony with respect to the Credit Facility or if we, one of our investment advisory affiliates or any of their respective executive officers commits fraud or is indicted for a felony in the performance of similar investment advisory services for others.

All amounts outstanding under the Credit Facility are scheduled to mature on September 27, 2020. Other than as described below in this paragraph, each loan made under the Credit Facility bears interest at an applicable commercial paper rate plus 2.25% (if the lender is a commercial conduit which has funded the loan through the issuance of commercial paper) or at LIBOR plus 2.75% (if the lender is not a commercial paper conduit or has not otherwise funded the loan through the issuance of commercial paper). We also incur a commitment fee of 1.00% per annum on any undrawn balance. Our ability to draw under the Credit Facility is scheduled to terminate 24 months after the closing date of the Credit Facility. At the expiration of the reinvestment period on September 27, 2014, the interest rate will increase by 0.50%. Following an event of default, the interest rate applicable on obligations under the Credit Facility that are not paid when due will increase by 2.00% per annum. If the commercial paper rate or LIBOR cannot

be determined or it is illegal for a lender to charge such rate, then the interest rate applicable under the Credit Facility will be a base rate equal to the highest of the prime rate as announced in The Wall Street Journal, the federal funds rate plus 0.50% or a specified LIBOR, in each case as defined in the Credit Facility.

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### In connection with the Credit Facility:

we and WhiteHorse Warehouse entered into a loan sale agreement, or the Loan Sale Agreement, under which we transferred some of the loans that we had originated or acquired and that met certain objective criteria, and pursuant to which we expect to contribute, or transfer through partial equity contributions and partial cash sales, additional loans in the future that meet these criteria, to WhiteHorse Warehouse;

we and WhiteHorse Warehouse entered into a collateral management agreement, or the Collateral Management Agreement, pursuant to which we have agreed to act as collateral manager for WhiteHorse Warehouse; and we entered into a risk retention letter, or the Risk Retention Letter, under which we have agreed to own (A) an unhedged net equity interest in WhiteHorse Warehouse equal to at least 5% of its aggregate assets and (B) all of the equity interests in WhiteHorse Warehouse and to take any further actions that may be necessary to comply with a directive promulgated by the European Union relating to certain securitization transactions. These obligations will continue for the life of the Credit Facility.

If we fail to perform our obligations under the Credit Facility or the related Loan Sale Agreement and Collateral Management Agreement, an event of default may occur under the Credit Facility, which could cause the Lender to accelerate all of the outstanding debt and other obligations under the Credit Facility or to exercise other remedies under the Credit Facility. Any such developments could have a material adverse effect on our financial conditions and results of operations.

If we fail to perform our obligations under the Credit Facility or the related loan sale agreement and collateral management agreement, an event of default may occur under the Credit Facility, which could cause the Lender to accelerate all of the outstanding debt and other obligations under the Credit Facility or to exercise other remedies under the Credit Facility. Any such developments could have a material adverse effect on our financial conditions and results of operations.

If any of our contractual obligations discussed above is terminated, our costs under new agreements that we enter into may increase. In addition, we will likely incur significant time and expense in locating alternative parties to provide the services we expect to receive under our Investment Advisory Agreement and our Administration Agreement. Any new investment management agreement would also be subject to approval by our stockholders.

### **Unsecured Term Loan**

On November 8, 2012, we entered into the Unsecured Term Loan. On July 9, 2013, we entered into an agreement with the lenders thereto, which amended the terms of the Unsecured Term Loan to subordinate the Unsecured Term Loan to the Notes in right of payment. The Unsecured Term Loan has a stated maturity date of July 3, 2014. Under the terms of the Unsecured Term Loan, with respect to which we pledged no collateral to the lenders, we are required to pay interest monthly at an annual rate of LIBOR plus 2.75% per year, except at our option and under certain other circumstances at one of several other interest rates. The Unsecured Term Loan is subject to customary covenants and events of default, such as failure to pay the principal of, or interest on, the Unsecured Term Loan, certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization occur or a payment default under certain of our other debt obligations. The

Unsecured Term Loan includes customary restrictions that limit our ability to pay dividends under certain circumstances, to merge with another entity unless we are the surviving entity following the merger and to amend our organizational documents. Loan Fund II has guaranteed our obligation to make payments under the Unsecured Term Loan. Loan Fund II, as the guarantor of the Unsecured Term Loan, has the right to require the lenders to assign the loan to it under certain circumstances. We are permitted to prepay amounts outstanding under the Unsecured Term Loan in whole or in part without penalty.

### **Distributions**

Prior to the BDC Conversion and our IPO, we distributed \$267.8 million to the Initial Members. The distributions were in the form of (1) \$164.0 million in cash funded by the proceeds from the Credit Facility and the Unsecured Term Loan as well as cash we generated in the ordinary course of our business and (2) the

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distribution of all of our investments and the associated interest receivable balances in three portfolio companies, which had a fair value of \$103.8 million as of the distribution dates. These distributions represented, in effect, a return of capital, a reduction in the initial equity contribution by the Initial Members, and the replacement of such equity contribution with debt capital from unaffiliated third parties.

On December 28, 2012, after the completion of the BDC Conversion and our IPO, we declared a distribution of \$0.108 per share for a total distribution of \$1.6 million. The distribution was paid to stockholders on January 8, 2013.

On March 22, 2013, we declared a distribution of \$0.355 per share for a total distribution of \$5.3 million. The distribution, which was paid to stockholders on April 3, 2013 to stockholders of record as of March 22, 2013, included a return of capital for tax purposes of approximately \$0.01 per share based on current earnings for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2013. The specific tax characteristics of the distribution will be reported to stockholders on Form 1099-DIV after the end of the calendar year 2013 and in our periodic reports with the SEC. Stockholders should read any written disclosure accompanying a distribution payment carefully and should not assume that the source of any distribution is our ordinary income or gains.

### **Initial Public Offering and Concurrent Private Placement**

In December 2012, we completed our IPO and Concurrent Private Placement in which we sold an aggregate of 7,139,340 shares of our common stock at a price of \$15.00 per share, resulting in net proceeds to us of approximately \$99.6 million.

## **Portfolio Investments and Yield**

As of March 31, 2013, our investment portfolio consisted of senior secured loans across 14 positions with an aggregate fair value of approximately \$233.2 million and a principal balance outstanding of approximately \$235.2 million. As of that date, the majority of our portfolio was comprised of senior secured loans to small-cap borrowers. As of March 31, 2013, our portfolio had an average investment size of approximately \$16.8 million, with investment sizes ranging from \$1.0 million to \$60.9 million and a weighted average unlevered cash current yield of 14.6%.

As of December 31, 2012, our investment portfolio consisted of senior secured loans across eight positions with an aggregate fair value of approximately \$180.5 million and a principal balance outstanding of approximately \$181.6 million. As of that date, the majority of our portfolio was comprised of senior secured loans to small-cap borrowers.

As of December 31, 2012, our portfolio had an average investment size of \$22.7 million, with investment sizes ranging from \$1.4 million to \$60.9 million and a weighted average unlevered cash current yield of 14.2%.

We actively monitor and manage our portfolio with regard to individual company performance as well as general market conditions. Investment decisions on new originations generally include an analysis of the impact of the new loan on our broader portfolio, including a top-down assessment of portfolio diversification and risk exposure. This assessment includes a review of portfolio concentration by issuer, industry, geography and type of credit as well as an evaluation of our portfolio's exposure to macroeconomic factors and cyclical trends.

## **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

We may become a party to financial instruments with off-balance sheet risk in the normal course of our business to meet the financial needs of our portfolio companies. These instruments may include commitments to extend credit and involve, elements of liquidity and credit risk in excess of the amount recognized on the statements of assets and

liabilities. During the three months ended March 31, 2013, we funded commitments of approximately \$1.1 million that were outstanding as of December 31, 2012 and had no additional commitments to fund investments as of March 31, 2013.

## Distributions

In order to qualify as a RIC and to avoid corporate-level tax on income, we must distribute to our stockholders at least 90% of our ordinary income and realized net short-term capital gains in excess of realized net long-term capital losses, if any, out of the assets legally available for distribution. In order to

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avoid certain excise taxes imposed on RICs, we must distribute during each calendar year an amount at least equal to the sum of (1) 98% of our ordinary income for the calendar year, (2) 98.2% of our capital gains in excess of capital losses for the one-year period ending on October 31 of the calendar year and (3) any ordinary income and net capital gains for preceding years that were not distributed during such years on which we paid no U.S. federal income tax.

During the three months ended March 31, 2013, we declared to stockholders distributions of \$0.355 per share for total distributions of \$5.3 million. The timing and amount of our quarterly distributions, if any, are determined by our board of directors.

While we intend to make distributions on a quarterly basis to our stockholders out of assets legally available for distribution, we may not be able to achieve operating results that will allow us to make distributions at a specific level or to increase the amount of our distributions from time to time. In addition, we may be limited in our ability to make distributions due to the asset coverage requirements applicable to us as a business development company under the 1940 Act. If we do not distribute a certain percentage of our income annually, we will suffer adverse tax consequences, including the possible loss of our qualification as a RIC. We cannot assure stockholders that they will receive any distributions.

To the extent our taxable earnings fall below the total amount of our distributions for that fiscal year, a portion of those distributions may be deemed a return of capital to our stockholders for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Thus, the source of a distribution to our stockholders may be the original capital invested by the stockholder rather than our income or gains. Stockholders should read any written disclosure accompanying a distribution payment carefully and should not assume that the source of any distribution is our ordinary income or gains.

We have adopted an opt out dividend reinvestment plan for our common stockholders. As a result, if we declare a distribution, then stockholders cash distributions will be automatically reinvested in additional shares of our common stock unless a stockholder specifically opts out of our dividend reinvestment plan. If a stockholder opts out, that stockholder will receive cash distributions. Although distributions paid in the form of additional shares of our common stock will generally be subject to U.S. federal, state and local taxes in the same manner as cash distributions, stockholders participating in our dividend reinvestment plan will not receive any corresponding cash distributions with which to pay any such applicable taxes.

## Contractual Obligations

A summary of our significant contractual payment obligations as of March 31, 2013 is as follows:

	Payments Due by Period (In millions)				
	Total	Less Than 1 Year	1 3 Years	3 5 Years	More Than 5 Years
Credit Facility	\$ 51.3	\$	\$	\$	\$ 51.3
Unsecured Term Loan	90.0		90.0		
Total contractual obligations	\$ 141.3	\$	\$ 90.0	\$	\$ 51.3

As of March 31, 2013, we had approximately \$98.7 million of unused borrowing capacity under the Credit Facility, of which approximately \$13.7 million was available to be drawn under the Credit Facility.



We entered into the Investment Advisory Agreement with WhiteHorse Advisers in accordance with the 1940 Act. The Investment Advisory Agreement became effective upon the pricing of the IPO. Under the Investment Advisory Agreement, WhiteHorse Advisers manages our day-to-day investment operations and provides us with access to personnel and an investment committee and certain other resources so that we may fulfill our obligation to act as collateral manager of WhiteHorse Warehouse under the Credit Facility. Payments under the Investment Advisory Agreement in future periods will equal the sum of (1) a management fee equal to 2% of the value of our consolidated gross assets and (2) an incentive fee based on our performance. See Related Party Transactions Investment Advisory Agreement in Note 5 to the consolidated financial statements.

We also entered into the Administration Agreement with WhiteHorse Administration on December 4, 2012. Pursuant to the Administration Agreement, WhiteHorse Administration furnishes us with office facilities

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and administrative services necessary to conduct our day-to-day operations. WhiteHorse Administration also furnishes us with the resources necessary for us to act as collateral manager to WhiteHorse Warehouse under the Credit Facility. If requested to provide managerial assistance to our portfolio companies, WhiteHorse Administration will be paid an additional amount based on the services provided, which amount will not, in any case, exceed the amount we receive from the portfolio companies for such services. Payments under the Administration Agreement are based upon our allocable portion of WhiteHorse Administration's overhead expenses in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, including rent and our allocable portion of the costs of our chief compliance officer, chief financial officer and chief operating officer along with their respective staffs.

## **Related Party Transactions**

We have entered into a number of business relationships with affiliated or related parties, including the following:

WhiteHorse Advisers manages the day-to-day operations of, and provides investment management services to, us pursuant to the Investment Advisory Agreement.

WhiteHorse Administration provides us with the office facilities and administrative services, including access to the resources necessary for us to perform our obligations as collateral manager of WhiteHorse Warehouse under the Credit Facility, pursuant to the Administration Agreement.

We have entered into a license agreement with an affiliate of H.I.G. Capital pursuant to which we have been granted a non-exclusive, royalty-free license to use the WhiteHorse name.

Concurrent with the closing of our IPO, certain of our directors and officers, the managers of our investment adviser and their immediate family members or entities owned by, or family trusts for the benefit of, such persons, purchased an additional 472,673 shares through the Concurrent Private Placement for proceeds to us of approximately \$7 million. We received the full proceeds from the sale of these shares, and no underwriting discounts or commissions were paid in respect of these shares.

WhiteHorse Advisers or its affiliates may have other clients with similar, different or competing investment objectives. In serving in these multiple capacities, WhiteHorse Advisers or its affiliates may have obligations to other clients or investors in those entities, the fulfillment of which may not be in the best interests of us or our stockholders.

As a result, WhiteHorse Advisers or its affiliates may face conflicts in the allocation of investment opportunities among us and other investment funds or accounts advised by or affiliated with WhiteHorse Advisers. WhiteHorse Advisers or its affiliates will seek to allocate investment opportunities among eligible accounts in a manner that is fair and equitable over time and consistent with its allocation policy. However, we can offer no assurance that such opportunities will be allocated to us fairly or equitably in the short-term or over time.

## **Critical Accounting Policies**

The preparation of our financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses. Changes in the economic environment, financial markets and any other parameters used in determining such estimates could cause actual results to differ. We have identified the following as critical accounting policies.

### **Valuation of Portfolio Investments**

We value our investments in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification, or ASC, 820. ASC 820 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value and expands disclosures about assets and liabilities measured at fair value. ASC 820's definition of fair value focuses on exit price in the principal, or most advantageous, market

and prioritizes the use of market-based inputs over entity-specific inputs within a measurement of fair value.

Our portfolio consists primarily of debt investments. These investments are valued at their bid quotations obtained from unaffiliated market makers, other financial institutions that trade in similar investments or based

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on prices provided by independent third party pricing services. For investments where there are no available bid quotations, fair value is derived using proprietary models that consider the analyses of independent valuation agents as well as credit risk, liquidity, market credit spreads and other applicable factors for similar transactions.

Due to the nature of our strategy, our portfolio includes relatively illiquid investments that are privately held. Valuations of privately held investments are inherently uncertain, may fluctuate over short periods of time and may be based on estimates. The determination of fair value may differ materially from the values that would have been used if a ready market for these investments existed. Our net asset value could be materially affected if the determinations regarding the fair value of our investments were materially higher or lower than the values that we ultimately realize upon the disposal of such investments.

Our board of directors is ultimately and solely responsible for determining the fair value of the portfolio investments that are not publicly traded, whose market prices are not readily available on a quarterly basis in good faith or any other situation where portfolio investments require a fair value determination.

The valuation process is conducted at the end of each fiscal quarter, with a portion of our valuations of portfolio companies without market quotations subject to review by one or more independent valuation firms each quarter. When an external event occurs with respect to one of our portfolio companies, such as a purchase transaction, public offering or subsequent equity sale, we expect to use the pricing indicated by such external event to corroborate our valuation.

With respect to investments for which market quotations are not readily available, our board of directors undertakes a multi-step valuation process each quarter, as described below:

Our quarterly valuation process begins with each portfolio company or investment being initially valued by investment professionals of our investment adviser responsible for credit monitoring. Preliminary valuation conclusions are then documented and discussed with our investment committee and our investment adviser.

The audit committee of the board of directors reviews these preliminary valuations.

At least once annually, the valuation for each portfolio investment is reviewed by an independent valuation firm. The board of directors discusses valuations and determines the fair value of each investment in our portfolio in good faith.

Fair value is the price that would be received in the sale of an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Where available, fair value is based on observable market prices or parameters, or derived from such prices or parameters. Where observable prices or inputs are not available, valuation models are applied. These valuation models involve some level of management estimation and judgment, the degree of which is dependent on the price transparency for the instruments or market and the instruments complexity. Our fair value analysis includes an analysis of the value of any unfunded loan commitments. Financial investments recorded at fair value in the consolidated financial statements are categorized for disclosure purposes based upon the level of judgment associated with the inputs used to measure their value. The valuation hierarchical levels are based upon the transparency of the inputs to the valuation of the investment as of the measurement date. The three levels are defined as follows:

*Level 1:* Quoted prices (unadjusted) for identical assets or liabilities in active public markets that the entity has the ability to access as of the measurement date.

*Level 2:* Significant other observable inputs other than Level 1 prices such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities; quoted prices in markets that are not active; or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by

observable market data.

*Level 3:* Significant unobservable inputs that reflect a reporting entity's own assumptions about what market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability.

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In certain cases, the inputs used to measure fair value may fall into different levels of the fair value hierarchy. In such cases, a financial instrument's categorization within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Our assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgment, and considers factors specific to the financial instrument.

Fair value for each investment is derived using a combination of valuation methodologies that, in the judgment of the investment committee of the investment adviser are most relevant to such investment, including, without limitation, being based on one or more of the following: (i) market prices obtained from market makers for which the investment committee has deemed there to be enough breadth (number of quotes) and depth (firm bids) to be indicative of fair value, (ii) the price paid or realized in a completed transaction or binding offer received in an arms-length transaction, (iii) a discounted cash flow analysis, (iv) the guideline public company method, (v) the similar transaction method or (vi) the option pricing method.

### **Investment Transactions and Related Investment Income and Expense**

We record our investment transactions on a trade date basis, which is the date when we have determined that all material terms have been defined for the transactions. These transactions could possibly settle on a subsequent date depending on the transaction type. All related revenue and expenses attributable to these transactions are reflected on our consolidated statement of operations commencing on the trade date unless otherwise specified by the transaction documents. Realized gains and losses on investment transactions are recorded on the specific identification method.

We accrue interest income if we expect that ultimately we will be able to collect it. Generally, when an interest payment default occurs on a loan in our portfolio, or if our management otherwise believes that the issuer of the loan will not be able to service the loan and other obligations, we place the loan on non-accrual status and will cease recognizing interest income on that loan until all principal and interest is current through payment or until a restructuring occurs, such that the interest income is deemed to be collectible. However, we remain contractually entitled to this interest. We may make exceptions to this policy if the loan has sufficient collateral value and is in the process of collection. Accrued interest is written off when it becomes probable that such interest will not be collected and the amount of uncollectible interest can be reasonably estimated. Any original issue discounts, as well as any other purchase discounts or premiums on debt investments, are accreted or amortized to interest income or expense, respectively, over the maturity periods of the investments.

Interest expense is recorded on an accrual basis. Certain expenses related to legal and tax consultation, due diligence, rating fees, valuation expenses and independent collateral appraisals may arise when we make certain investments.

These expenses are recognized in the consolidated statement of operations as they are incurred.

### **Loan Origination, Facility, Commitment and Amendment Fees**

We may receive fees in addition to interest income from the loans during the life of the investment. We may receive origination fees upon the origination of an investment. We defer these origination fees and deduct them from the cost basis of the investment and subsequently accrete them into income over the term of the loan. We may receive facility, commitment and amendment fees, which are paid to us on an ongoing basis. We accrue facility fees, sometimes referred to as asset management fees, as a percentage periodic fee on the base amount (either the funded facility amount or the committed principal amount). Commitment fees are based upon the undrawn portion committed by us and we record them on an accrual basis. Amendment fees are paid in connection with loan amendments and waivers and we account for them upon completion of the amendments or waivers, generally when such fees are receivable. We include any such fees in interest income on the consolidated statement of operations.



TABLE OF CONTENTS**Senior Securities**

Information about our senior securities is shown in the following table as of the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012 and has been derived from our consolidated financial statements, which were audited by Crowe Horwath LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm.

Class and Year	Total Amount Outstanding Exclusive of Treasury Securities	Asset Coverage per Unit <sup>(1)</sup>	Involuntary Liquidating Preference per Unit <sup>(2)</sup>	Average Market Value per Unit <sup>(3)</sup>
<b><u>Credit Facility</u></b>				
December 31, 2012	\$ 51,250	2,622	N/A	N/A
<b><u>Unsecured Term Loan</u></b>				
December 31, 2012	\$ 90,000	2,622	N/A	N/A

(1) The asset coverage ratio for a class of senior securities representing indebtedness is calculated as our consolidated total assets, less all liabilities and indebtedness not represented by senior securities, divided by senior securities representing indebtedness. This asset coverage ratio is multiplied by \$1,000 to determine the Asset Coverage per Unit.

(2) The amount to which such class of senior security would be entitled upon the involuntary liquidation of the issuer in preference to any security junior to it.

(3) Not applicable, as senior securities are not registered for public trading.

**Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk**

We are subject to financial market risks, including changes in interest rates. During the period covered by our financial statements, many of the loans in our portfolio had floating interest rates, and we expect that many of our loans to portfolio companies in the future will also have floating interest rates. These loans are usually based on a floating rate based on LIBOR that resets quarterly to the applicable LIBOR rate. Interest rate fluctuations may have a substantial negative impact on our investments, the value of our common stock and our rate of return on invested capital. Since we plan to use debt to finance investments, our net investment income will depend, in part, upon the difference between the rate at which we borrow funds and the rate at which we invest those funds. As a result, we can offer no assurance that a significant change in market interest rates will not have a material adverse effect on our net investment income.

Assuming that the balance sheet as of March 31, 2013 were to remain constant and that no actions are taken to alter our existing interest rate sensitivity, a hypothetical immediate 1% change in interest rates would not significantly impact the value of our portfolio. As of March 31, 2013, all of the floating rate investments in our portfolio had an interest rate floor. Variable-rate investments subject to a floor generally reset periodically to the applicable floor and, in the case of investments in our portfolio, quarterly to a floor based on LIBOR, only if the floor exceeds the index. Under these loans, we do not benefit from increases in interest rates until such rates exceed the floor and thereafter benefit from market rates above any such floor.

Although management believes that this analysis is indicative of our existing sensitivity to interest rate changes, it does not adjust for changes in the credit markets, the size, credit quality or composition of the assets in our portfolio



and other business developments, including borrowing, that could affect net increase in net assets resulting from operations, or net income. It also does not adjust for the effect of the time-lag between a change in the relevant interest rate index and the rate adjustment under the applicable loan. Accordingly, we can offer no assurances that actual results would not differ materially from the statement above.

We may in the future hedge against interest rate fluctuations by using standard hedging instruments such as futures, options and forward contracts to the extent permitted under the 1940 Act and applicable commodities laws. While hedging activities may insulate us against adverse changes in interest rates, they may also limit our ability to participate in the benefits of lower interest rates with respect to the investments in our portfolio with fixed interest rates.

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## THE COMPANY

We are an externally managed, non-diversified, closed-end management investment company that has elected to be treated as a business development company under the 1940 Act. We also intend to be treated a RIC, for tax purposes, under the Code commencing with our taxable year ended December 31, 2012.

We are a direct lender targeting debt investments in privately held, small-cap companies located in North America. We define the small-cap market as those companies with enterprise values between \$50 million and \$350 million. Our investment objective is to generate attractive risk-adjusted returns primarily by originating and investing in senior secured loans, including first lien and second lien facilities, to performing small-cap companies across a broad range of industries that typically carry a floating interest rate based on LIBOR plus a spread and have a term of three-to-six years. While we focus principally on originating senior secured loans to small-cap companies, we may also make opportunistic investments at other levels of a company's capital structure, including mezzanine loans or equity interests, and in companies outside of the small-cap market, to the extent we believe the investment presents an opportunity to achieve an attractive risk-adjusted return. We also may receive warrants to purchase common stock in connection with our debt investments. We generate current income through the receipt of interest payments, as well as origination and other fees, capital appreciation and dividends.

We have invested, and expect in the future to invest, in securities that are rated below investment grade by rating agencies or that may be rated below investment grade if they were so rated. Below investment grade securities, which are often referred to as junk bonds, are viewed as speculative investments because of concerns with respect to the issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal.

As of March 31, 2013, our investment portfolio consisted of senior secured loans across 14 positions with an aggregate fair value of \$233.2 million and a principal balance outstanding of \$235.2 million. As of December 31, 2012, our investment portfolio consisted of senior secured loans across eight positions with an aggregate fair value of \$180.5 million and a principal balance outstanding of \$181.6 million. As of March 31, 2013 and December 31, 2012, the majority of our portfolio comprised senior secured loans to small-cap borrowers. As of March 31, 2013, our portfolio had an average investment size of \$16.8 million, with investment sizes ranging from \$1.0 million to \$60.9 million, a weighted average unlevered cash current yield of 14.6%, and a yield to maturity of 16.6%, with yields to maturity ranging from 8.2% to 30.4%. As of December 31, 2012, our portfolio had an average investment size of \$22.7 million, with investment sizes ranging from \$1.4 million to \$60.9 million, a weighted average unlevered cash current yield of 14.2% and a yield to maturity of 17.9%, with yields to maturity ranging from 9.7% to 30.4%. Yield to maturity is calculated based on the cost of purchased investments or the fair value of contributed investments, in each case on the date, as applicable; and uses the relevant published LIBOR curve as of such date; and assumes (i) all scheduled interest payments are made as scheduled and (ii) each investment is held to maturity with no prepayments or losses and is repaid at par upon maturity. As of March 31, 2013, the weighted average remaining term of our debt investments was approximately 2.5 years, with remaining terms ranging from 0.3 years to 5.3 years. As of December 31, 2012, the weighted average remaining term of our debt investments was approximately 2.3 years, with remaining terms ranging from 0.5 years to 4.0 years.

We believe that market inefficiencies and an imbalance between the supply of and demand for capital in the small-cap credit market creates an attractive investment opportunity through the origination of primary loans. It is our belief that unsophisticated marketing processes often employed by small-cap companies seeking debt capital as well as a lack of coverage and speed of execution at many investment firms often result in these loans being priced and structured less efficiently than loans to larger companies. Additionally, we believe the persistent scarcity of capital available to small-cap companies relative to strong demand for such loans has also contributed to more favorable transaction

structures for lenders. As a result of these factors, we believe that, relative to loans made to large companies, loans made to small-cap companies are more likely to offer attractive economics in the form of interest rates, fees, and prepayment penalties as well as increased security features in the form of stricter covenants and higher quality collateral. By utilizing the experience and expertise of H.I.G. Capital in the small-cap market, we believe that we are well positioned to capitalize on these market dynamics to achieve attractive risk-adjusted returns for investors.

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## **H.I.G. Capital**

H.I.G. Capital is one of the leading global alternative asset managers focused on the small-cap market, both in the United States and Europe. H.I.G. Capital was founded in 1993 and, over the past 19 years, has grown by continually enhancing its strategic investment capabilities into additional asset classes within the small-cap market. As of March 31, 2013, H.I.G. Capital managed approximately \$12 billion of capital through a number of buyout, credit-oriented and growth capital funds each of which is focused on the small-cap market. As of such date, H.I.G. Capital operated through domestic offices in Miami, New York, Boston, San Francisco, Dallas, Atlanta and Chicago and international offices in London, Hamburg, Paris, Madrid and Rio de Janeiro, with approximately 260 investment professionals with the operating, strategy and investing experience to execute the firm's value-added small-cap investment strategy.

H.I.G. Capital's investment professionals share a common investment philosophy built around a highly analytical, private equity-like framework of rigorous business assessment, extensive due diligence and a disciplined risk valuation methodology that guides credit investment decisions. In addition, H.I.G. Capital has a network of over 180 current and former controlled portfolio companies and an administrative staff of approximately 140 employees as of March 31, 2013, including in-house legal, compliance, accounting and information technology professionals. Further, over the past 19 years, H.I.G. Capital has built an extensive and proprietary network of informal and unconventional deal sources in the small-cap business community consisting of accountants, attorneys, brokers, insurance agents, consultants and financial advisors who have access to small-cap companies. We believe that H.I.G. Capital, as an experienced small-cap investor, has a demonstrated ability to identify, source, analyze, invest and monitor investments in the small-cap market.

H.I.G. Capital has significant investment experience in the small-cap credit market. As of March 31, 2013, H.I.G. Capital's credit platform managed over \$5 billion of capital across multiple investment funds supported by 78 dedicated credit investment professionals. These investment professionals bring a depth of experience and skills across a broad range of industries and transaction types, including primary loan originations, secondary debt purchases and special situations and distressed debt investing.

## **Our Investment Adviser**

Our investment activities are managed by our investment adviser, H.I.G. WhiteHorse Advisers, LLC. H.I.G. WhiteHorse Advisers, LLC is an affiliate of H.I.G. Capital. Our investment adviser is responsible for sourcing potential investments, conducting research and diligence on prospective companies, analyzing investment opportunities, structuring our investments and monitoring our portfolio companies on an ongoing basis. Our investment adviser was organized in Delaware and is a registered investment adviser under the Advisers Act. Under the Investment Advisory Agreement, we pay our investment adviser a base management fee and an incentive fee for its services. See [The Adviser and the Administrator Investment Advisory Agreement](#) for a discussion of the base management fee and incentive fee that we have agreed to pay our investment adviser. Prior to the completion of the IPO, we were provided with investment management services under the interim investment advisory agreement, which was terminated effective December 4, 2012 and was replaced by the Investment Advisory Agreement.

Our investment adviser has entered into the Staffing Agreement with an affiliate of H.I.G. Capital under which the affiliate has agreed to make experienced investment professionals available to our investment adviser and to provide access to the senior investment personnel of H.I.G. Capital. We believe that the Staffing Agreement provides our investment adviser with access to deal flow generated by H.I.G. Capital in the ordinary course of business and commits certain members of H.I.G. Capital's investment committee to serve as members of the investment committee.

In addition, the affiliate of H.I.G. Capital is obligated under the Staffing Agreement to allocate investment opportunities among its managed affiliates fairly and equitably over time in accordance with its allocation policy. See

Certain Relationships Investment Advisory Agreement. Our investment adviser takes advantage of the significant deal origination, credit underwriting, due diligence, investment structuring, execution, portfolio management and monitoring experience of H.I.G. Capital's senior investment professionals.

The investment committee oversees our investment activities and is led by senior investment professionals of H.I.G. Capital with an average of more than 20 years of investment experience as of

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March 31, 2013. These professionals have extensive experience investing in the small-cap credit market, having collectively invested in more than 1,000 loans.

### **WhiteHorse Administration**

WhiteHorse Administration, LLC, an affiliate of our investment adviser, provides certain administrative services and facilities necessary for us to operate, including, office facilities and equipment and clerical, bookkeeping and record-keeping services. WhiteHorse Administration oversees our financial reporting as well as prepares our reports to stockholders and reports required to be filed with the SEC. WhiteHorse Administration also manages the determination and publication of our net asset value and the preparation and filing of our tax returns and generally monitors the payment of our expenses and the performance of administrative and professional services rendered to us by others, including under the Staffing Agreement. WhiteHorse Administration may retain third parties to assist in providing administrative services to us. To the extent that WhiteHorse Administration outsources any of its functions, we will pay the fees associated with such functions on a direct basis without any profit to WhiteHorse Administration.

### **Market Opportunity**

We believe that market inefficiencies and an imbalance between the supply of and demand for capital in the small-cap credit market create an attractive investment opportunity through the origination of primary loans for the following reasons:

*Specialized Lending Requirements.* We believe that several factors render traditional banks and providers of credit ill-suited to lend to small-cap companies. For example, based on the experience of our investment adviser, lending to small-cap companies: (1) is generally more labor intensive than lending to larger companies due to fewer management resources at small-cap companies and often fragmented information available regarding such companies, particularly where no financial sponsor is involved, (2) requires more rigorous due diligence and underwriting practices than lending to larger companies, and (3) requires a substantial network of deal sources to identify appropriate opportunities because such borrowers often do not engage a financial advisor, or engage smaller, less sophisticated financial advisors focused on the small-cap market. As a result, only a limited segment of the lending community has historically served small- cap borrowers.

*Reduced Lending by Commercial Banks.* Recent regulatory changes, including the Dodd-Frank Act, and the introduction of new international capital and liquidity requirements under the Basel III Accords, or Basel III, in addition to the continued ownership of legacy non-performing assets, have significantly curtailed banks' lending capacity. In response, we believe that many commercial lenders have de-emphasized their service and product offerings to small-cap companies in favor of lending, managing capital markets transactions and providing other non-lending services to their larger customers. We expect bank lending to small-cap companies to continue to be constrained for several years as Basel III rules phase in and rules and regulations are promulgated and interpreted under the Dodd-Frank Act. The chart below shows that the lending activity of smaller U.S. commercial banks (defined as banks with \$100 million to \$1.0 billion in assets), which we believe lend to the small-cap space, remains constrained and has continued to contract since the 2008 crisis. In addition, the number of FDIC insured commercial banks and savings institutions has declined from 2000 through December 31, 2012. We believe that the relative decline in competition will drive a higher volume of deal flow to us.



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*Reduced Credit Supply from Non-Bank Lenders.* We believe lending to small-cap companies from non-bank lenders will also be constrained as many of those lenders have gone out of business, exited the market or are winding down. Numerous hedge funds previously active in leveraged loans have disappeared or contracted during the recent financial market crisis, while others exited the lending market due to asset-liability mismatches. Other non-bank lenders exited lending due to balance sheet pressures. Additionally, the reduction in new issuance of collateralized loan obligations, or CLOs, has reduced liquidity in the small-cap loan market. Along with the constraints in bank lending, this situation provides a promising environment in which to originate loans to small-cap companies.

*Significant Demand for Credit.* We believe that, despite the constrained supply situation, demand for debt financing from small-cap companies will remain strong. Small-cap companies consistently require credit to support investments and growth initiatives and to finance acquisitions. In addition, we believe there will be substantial demand for refinancings as a large amount of the corporate debt issued to small-cap borrowers prior to the 2008 crisis is scheduled to mature in the next few years. When combined with the decreased availability of debt financing for companies described above, these factors should increase lending opportunities for us.

*Inefficient Market.* We believe there are a number of inefficiencies in the small-cap credit market that should allow us to achieve a superior risk-return profile relative to other types of loans. For example, small-cap borrowers may not hire a financial advisor, or may hire a financial advisor with lesser capabilities relative to larger advisors. Therefore, small-cap borrowers typically may not receive multiple financing offers and may be less sophisticated in negotiating the terms of their financing. Moreover, the simpler capital structures frequently found in small-cap companies facilitate lenders negotiating enhanced protections and



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encountering fewer intercreditor issues. In addition, small-cap lenders face less competition than lenders to larger companies. As a result, small-cap lenders frequently have greater flexibility in structuring favorable transactions.

### **Competitive Strengths**

We believe we are well-positioned to take advantage of opportunities in the small-cap market due to the following competitive strengths:

*Leading Small-Cap Market Position.* H.I.G. Capital is one of the leading global alternative asset managers focused on the small-cap market. With approximately \$12 billion of capital under management as of March 31, 2013 and 19 years of investment experience focused primarily on small-cap companies, H.I.G. Capital believes it has a specialized knowledge of the small-cap marketplace and an expertise in evaluating the issues and opportunities facing small-cap companies throughout economic cycles. H.I.G. Capital's investment professionals share a common investment philosophy tailored to small-cap companies and built around a highly analytical, private equity-like framework of rigorous business assessment, extensive due diligence and a disciplined risk valuation methodology that guides investment decisions.

*Large and Experienced Team with Substantial Resources.* Our investment adviser has access through the Staffing Agreement to the resources and expertise of H.I.G. Capital's more than 390 employees in twelve offices across the United States, Europe and South America as of March 31, 2013. As of such date, H.I.G. Capital had approximately 260 experienced investment professionals, including 78 professionals dedicated to debt investing. We believe the size of H.I.G. Capital's investment team provides a number of advantages, including the resources needed to diligently evaluate a large number of investment opportunities and rigorously monitor our investments, as well as access to in-house specialized industry knowledge and situational experience. In addition, H.I.G. Capital has a network of over 180 current and former controlled portfolio companies, an in-house team of operators and strategy consultants (that we believe can provide support in evaluating strategic issues), and an administrative staff of approximately 140 employees, including H.I.G. Capital's in-house legal, compliance, accounting and information technology professionals. We believe that the quality of these resources provides a significant advantage and will contribute to the strength of our business.

*Extensive Deal Sourcing Infrastructure.* We believe that, given the inefficiencies of the small-cap market, finding smaller companies that represent attractive debt investment opportunities requires a different sourcing network than that used for investing in larger companies. Through the Staffing Agreement, our investment adviser expects to have access to H.I.G. Capital's extensive proprietary deal flow network of informal and unconventional potential deal sources in the small-cap business community, including accountants, attorneys, brokers, insurance agents, consultants and financial advisors who have access to small-cap companies. This sourcing network has been built over the past 19 years, as H.I.G. Capital has focused its growth on increasing and improving its strategic capabilities for investing in the small-cap market. Unlike other private equity firms that have grown vertically during this timeframe by raising larger funds focused on investing in larger companies, H.I.G. Capital has expanded horizontally by creating more funds and strategies centered on the small-cap market. As a result, we believe H.I.G. Capital has established itself as a go to investor for small-cap companies. H.I.G. Capital's approximately 260 investment professionals are actively involved in sourcing opportunities. In addition, H.I.G. Capital's in-house business development group of 15 dedicated deal sourcing professionals, as of March 31, 2013, remains in close contact with potential sources of opportunities through an outbound calling program. We believe H.I.G. Capital's extensive deal sourcing infrastructure provides us access to investment opportunities that may not be available to many of our competitors.

*Deep Credit Expertise:* We believe we will benefit from H.I.G. Capital's extensive small-cap credit experience in evaluating, structuring and monitoring our investments. As of March 31, 2013, H.I.G. Capital's credit platform managed over \$5 billion of capital across multiple investment funds supported by 78 dedicated credit investment professionals. These investment professionals have invested in more than 1,000 loans and bring a depth of experience and skills across a broad range of industries and transaction types, including primary loan originations, secondary debt purchases and special situations and distressed debt investments. We believe this credit experience will allow us to achieve attractive risk-adjusted returns. For example, our

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investment adviser's experience in distressed debt investing should provide us with expertise in credit documentation, loan structuring and restructuring negotiations to help protect our investments and maximize our recovery value to the extent a portfolio company does not perform as expected.

*Disciplined Investment and Underwriting Process.* Through its 19 years of investment experience, we believe H.I.G. Capital has developed a disciplined investment process entailing intensive bottom-up company-level fundamental analysis which we utilize in order to generate attractive risk-adjusted returns while preserving downside protection. This thorough due diligence process includes analyzing the following key target company criteria: (1) cash flow generation; (2) underlying asset valuation; (3) competitive position; (4) industry dynamics and (5) strength of management. Each investment is reviewed by the investment committee, which is comprised of senior investment professionals of H.I.G. Capital with an average of more than 20 years of investment experience as of March 31, 2013. This investment committee process brings the experience and perspectives of the committee members to the analysis and consideration of each investment. Subsequently, if an underwriting commitment is approved, our investment adviser will seek to structure and document the loan to protect us from risks identified in the due diligence process. Our investment adviser actively monitors and manages our investment portfolio, including engaging in frequent discussions with management regarding company performance as well as general market conditions.

## **Investment Strategy/Guidelines**

Our investment strategy is to generate current income and capital appreciation primarily by originating secured loans.

Our typical investment size ranges from \$10 million to \$50 million. We primarily target borrowers in the United States with enterprise values of \$50 million to \$350 million across a broad range of industries. We use the proceeds of our loans for a variety of purposes, including refinancings of existing debt, acquisition financing or providing working capital to support growth or realignment. We focus principally on originating senior secured loans to performing privately held small-cap companies across a broad range of industries that typically carry a floating interest rate based on LIBOR and have a term of three-to-six years. While we focus principally on originating senior secured loans to small-cap companies, we may also opportunistically make investments at other levels of a company's capital structure, including in mezzanine loans or equity interests, and in companies outside of the small-cap market, to the extent we believe an investment presents an opportunity to achieve an attractive risk-adjusted return. We also may receive warrants to purchase common stock in connection with our debt investments. We generate current income through the receipt of interest payments, origination and other fees, and dividends. Our typical loans carry a floating interest rate based on LIBOR plus a spread, have with a term of three to six years, are secured by all tangible and intangible assets of the borrower and include covenants, monitoring and information rights in favor of the lender.

Target businesses typically exhibit some or all of the following characteristics:

- Enterprise value of between \$50 million and \$350 million;
- organized in the United States;
- an experienced management team;
- stable and predictable free cash flows;
- discernible downside protection through recurring revenue or strong tangible asset coverage;
- products and services with distinctive competitive advantages or other barriers to entry;
- low technology and market risk; and
- strong customer relationships

While we believe that the criteria listed above are important in identifying and investing in prospective portfolio companies, not all of these criteria will be met by each prospective portfolio company. See Regulation Qualifying Assets.



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## Investment Process Overview

*Sourcing.* We believe that identifying small-cap companies that represent attractive debt investment opportunities requires a different sourcing network than is required for investments in larger companies. Whereas larger companies typically hire an investment bank to help develop marketing materials and run a financing process involving a large number of potential lenders to ensure pricing is determined by the market, small-cap companies typically do not have the resources to hire large financial advisors or investment banks. While these small-cap lending opportunities are far less competitive, they are more difficult to source.

Our deal flow and idea generation for small-cap investments primarily originates from H.I.G. Capital's existing and extensive network of informal and unconventional deal sources in the small-cap business community. Built over the past 19 years, this deal sourcing network includes accountants, attorneys, brokers, insurance agents, consultants and financial advisors who have access to small-cap companies. While other alternative asset managers have grown vertically during this timeframe by raising funds focused on investing in larger companies, H.I.G. Capital has expanded horizontally by creating more funds and strategies centered on the small-cap market. As a result, we believe H.I.G. Capital has established itself as a go-to investor for small-cap companies and their financial advisors across asset classes.

The contacts in H.I.G. Capital's network generally operate outside of the structured investment banking infrastructure and typically play a limited introductory role to the companies and their management teams. In addition, H.I.G. Capital promotes a culture in which sourcing is considered a focus for all of its approximately 260 investment professionals in each of its twelve offices, from analysts to managing directors. Lastly, H.I.G. Capital's in-house business development group of 15 dedicated deal sourcing professionals supplements this effort through an outbound calling program.

*Due Diligence.* We believe that the cornerstone of generating attractive risk-adjusted returns is a thorough due diligence process. We utilize the same methodology to evaluate potential investments that H.I.G. Capital has used over the past 19 years, which includes employing a highly analytical, private equity-like framework for rigorously assessing companies, extensive due diligence and a disciplined risk valuation methodology that guides investment decisions. As part of every transaction we consider, we analyze the following key target company criteria: (1) cash flow generation, (2) underlying asset valuation, (3) competitive position, (4) industry dynamics and (5) strength of management. In addition, our due diligence process for small-cap companies will typically entail:

- a thorough review of historical and pro forma financial information;
- on-site visits with management;
- a review of loan documents and material contracts;
- third-party quality of earnings accounting due diligence, when appropriate;
- research relating to the company's business, industry, markets, products and services of competitors;
- background checks on key managers; and
- the commission of third-party market studies, when appropriate.

During the due diligence process, we utilize the significant resources across the broad H.I.G. Capital platform, including the sector expertise of the firm's team of approximately 260 investment professionals, its industry contacts, and H.I.G. Capital's network of over 180 current and former controlled portfolio companies. We believe that our access to these significant resources provides a great deal of supplementary information that should enable us to evaluate opportunities more quickly and effectively than our competitors. Furthermore, H.I.G. Capital has a team of in-house operators and strategy consultants that can provide support in evaluating strategic issues. Legal and financial due diligence may also be conducted by attorneys and independent accountants as well as other outside advisers, as

appropriate.

*Structuring Originations.* Our investment adviser's team has substantial expertise in structuring and documenting loans originated to small-cap companies. Our investment adviser works with outside counsel to structure loans with strong creditor protections and contractual controls over borrower operations. Our investment adviser works to obtain extensive operating and financial covenants, detailed reporting

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