

GARDNER DENVER INC
 Form S-3
 January 31, 2005

AS FILED WITH THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION ON JANUARY 31, 2005

Registration Statement No. 333-_____
 Post-Effective Amendment No. 1 to Registration Statement No. 333-109086

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549
FORM S-3
Registration Statement
Under the
Securities Act of 1933

GARDNER DENVER, INC.

(Exact name of each registrant as specified in its respective charter)

Delaware

76-0419383

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

1800 Gardner Expressway
Quincy, Illinois 62301
(217) 222-5400

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

Copies to:

Tracy D. Pagliara, Esq.

Denis P. McCusker, Esq.

Vice President, Administration, General Counsel & Secretary

Bryan Cave LLP

Gardner Denver, Inc.

One Metropolitan Square, Suite 3600

1800 Gardner Expressway

St. Louis, Missouri 63102

Quincy, Illinois 62301

314-259-2455

(Name and address of agent for service)

Fax 314-259-2020

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

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

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

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

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

If delivery of the prospectus is expected to be made pursuant to Rule 434, please check the following box.

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

| Title of each class of securities to be registered | Proposed maximum aggregate offering price(1)(2) | Amount of registration fee |
|---|---|----------------------------|
| Debt Securities (3) Preferred Stock (3) Common Stock (3)(4) Warrants (5) | \$184,525,000 | \$21,718.59 |

- Represents the aggregate initial offering price of all securities sold. Amounts represent United States Dollars or the equivalent thereof in foreign currencies.
- Estimated solely for purposes of calculating the registration fee in accordance with Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act of 1933 and exclusive of accrued interest and dividends, if any.
- Also includes such indeterminate number of shares of Preferred Stock and Common Stock or amount of Debt Securities as may be issued upon conversion of or exchange for any Debt Securities and Preferred Stock that provide for conversion into or exchange for other securities. No separate consideration will be received for the Preferred Stock or Common Stock or amount of Debt Securities issuable upon such conversion or exchange. Also consists of such indeterminate number of shares of Common Stock, Preferred Stock or other securities of Gardner Denver as may be issuable upon settlement of Warrants.

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- (4) Includes associated preferred stock purchase rights. The associated preferred stock purchase rights do not trade separately from the underlying Common Stock and, therefore, do not carry a separate price or necessitate an additional registration fee.
- (5) The warrants may be combined with Debt Securities or Preferred Stock registered under this registration statement and sold as units. Pursuant to Rule 429 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the prospectus contained herein will also be used in connection with Registration Statement No. 333-109086 previously filed by the Company on Form S-3 on September 24, 2003. This Registration Statement, which is a new registration statement, also constitutes Post-Effective Amendment No. 1 to Registration Statement No. 333-109086 and such Amendment shall become effective concurrently with the effectiveness of this Registration Statement in accordance with Section 8(c) of the Securities Act of 1933.

The Registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until this Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

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

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED JANUARY 31, 2005

\$250,000,000

Gardner Denver, Inc.

**Debt Securities
Preferred Stock
Common Stock
Warrants**

This prospectus describes securities which we may offer and sell at various times. A more detailed description of the securities is contained in this prospectus under Description of Debt Securities, Description of our Capital Stock, and Description of Warrants and Warrant Units.

- The securities may be our senior and senior subordinated debt securities, shares of our preferred or common stock or warrants or warrant units.
- The securities to be issued under this prospectus may be offered as separate series or issuances at an aggregate initial public offering price not to exceed \$250,000,000 (or the equivalent amount in other currencies).

We will determine the terms of each series of securities (including, as applicable, the specific designation, aggregate principal amount, interest rates, dividend rates, maturity, redemption provisions, ranking and other terms) at the time of sale, and we will describe those terms in a prospectus supplement which we will deliver together with this prospectus at the time of the sale.

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange and trades under the ticker symbol GDI. Each prospectus supplement offering any other securities will state whether those securities are listed or will be listed on any national securities exchange.

We may offer the securities in amounts, at prices and on terms determined at the time of the offering. We may sell securities directly to you or through underwriters, dealers or agents. More information about the way we will distribute the securities is under the heading Plan of Distribution. Information about the underwriters, dealers or agents who will participate in any particular sale of securities will be in the prospectus supplement relating to that series of securities.

Investing in the securities involves risks. Before purchasing the securities, see the information under Risk Factors in the prospectus supplement provided in connection with the offer and sale of any securities.

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

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The date of this prospectus is _____, 2005.

We have not authorized anyone to give any information or to make any representations concerning the offering of the securities except that which is in this prospectus or in the prospectus supplement which is delivered with this prospectus, or which is referred to under Where You Can Find More Information. If anyone gives or makes any other information or representation, you should not rely on it. This prospectus is not an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities other than the securities which are referred to in the prospectus supplement. This prospectus is not an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy securities in any circumstances in which the offer or solicitation is unlawful. You should not interpret the delivery of this prospectus, or any sale of securities, as an indication that there has been no change in our affairs since the date of this prospectus. You should also be aware that information in this prospectus may change after this date.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | | | |
|--|----|--|----|
| <u>Where You Can Find More Information</u> | i | <u>Description of our Capital Stock</u> | 10 |
| <u>Forward-Looking Statements</u> | ii | <u>Description of Warrants and Warrant Units</u> | 15 |
| <u>Information About Gardner Denver</u> | 1 | <u>Plan of Distribution</u> | 16 |
| <u>Use of Proceeds</u> | 2 | <u>Legal Opinion</u> | 16 |
| <u>Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges</u> | 2 | <u>Experts</u> | 17 |
| <u>Description of Debt Securities</u> | 3 | | |

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy statements and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). You may read and copy any of these documents at the SEC s public reference rooms in Washington, D.C., New York, New York and Chicago, Illinois. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference rooms. Our SEC filings are also available to the public at the SEC s Internet website at <http://www.sec.gov>. The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information we file with them, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents.

This prospectus is part of a registration statement we filed with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus, and later information that we file with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and any future filings made with the SEC (File No. 001-13215) under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14, or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (other than those made pursuant to Item 9 or Item 12 of Form 8-K or other information furnished to the SEC) after January 31, 2005, the date we first filed the registration statement to which this prospectus relates, until we sell all of the securities:

- Our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003.
- Our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, June 30 and September 30, 2004.
- Our Current Reports on Form 8-K dated January 13, March 11, March 24, September 2, October 28 and November 17, 2004 and January 21, 2005.
- The description of our preferred stock purchase rights contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A/A1 dated August 25, 1997 and in our Current Report on Form 8-K dated January 21, 2005.
- The description of our common stock contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A dated July 25, 1997.

You may receive a copy of any of these filings, at no cost, by writing or calling the Investor Relations Department, Gardner Denver, Inc., 1800 Gardner Expressway, Quincy, Illinois 62301, telephone 217-222-5400. You can also find information about the Company at our Internet website at <http://www.gardnerdenver.com>.

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement to register the securities under the Securities Act of 1933. This prospectus omits certain information contained in the registration statement, as permitted by SEC rules. You may obtain copies of the registration statement, including exhibits, as noted in the first paragraph above.

i

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements that we include in a prospectus supplement, as well as certain information incorporated by reference which is referred to under the heading Where You Can Find More Information, constitute forward-looking statements as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and are made in reliance upon the safe harbor of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. As a general matter, forward-looking statements are those focused upon anticipated events or trends and expectations and beliefs relating to matters that are not historical in nature and are subject to uncertainties. Our Quarterly Report for the quarter ended September 30, 2004, which is incorporated herein by reference, describes certain factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by forward-looking statements.

INFORMATION ABOUT GARDNER DENVER

We believe we are one of the leading designers, manufacturers and marketers of engineered stationary air compressors, liquid ring pumps and blowers for various industrial and transportation applications and of pumps used in the petroleum and industrial markets and other fluid transfer equipment serving chemical, petroleum and food industries. In 2003, we had revenues of approximately \$440 million, of which approximately 84% were derived from sales of compressed air products while approximately 16% were from sales of pump products.

Approximately 58% of our total revenues in 2003 were derived from sales in the United States and approximately 42% were from sales to customers in various countries outside the United States. Of the total non-U.S. sales, approximately 52% were to Europe, 22% to Asia, 15% to Canada, 9% to Latin America and 2% to other regions. Since 1996, we have completed 17 acquisitions, growing our revenues from approximately \$176 million, at the time of our spin-off from Cooper Industries, Inc., to \$440 million in 2003. Of the 17 acquisitions, the two largest were completed in 2004 with the acquisition of Syltone plc (Syltone) and nash_elmo Holdings, LLC (Nash Elmo) in January and September of 2004, respectively. Revenues in 2003, on an unaudited pro-forma basis, as if the acquisitions of both Syltone and Nash Elmo had each occurred on January 1, 2003, would have been \$783 million.

Syltone is one of the world's largest manufacturers of equipment used for loading and unloading liquid and dry bulk products on commercial transportation vehicles. This equipment includes compressors, blowers and other ancillary products that are complementary to our product line. Syltone is also one of the world's largest manufacturers of fluid transfer equipment (including loading arms, swivel joints, couplers and valves) used to load and unload ships, tank trucks and rail cars.

Nash Elmo is a leading global manufacturer of industrial vacuum pumps and side channel blowers serving the worldwide industrial vacuum equipment market. Prior to the acquisition, Nash Elmo was primarily split between two businesses, liquid ring pumps and side channel blowers. Both businesses' products are complementary to the Compressor and Vacuum Products segment's existing product portfolio.

Subsequent to the acquisition of Nash Elmo and Syltone, the Company continues to be organized based upon the products and services it offers and has four operating divisions: Compressor, Blower, Liquid Ring Pump and Fluid Transfer. These divisions comprise two reportable segments, Compressor and Vacuum Products (formerly Compressed Air Products) and Fluid Transfer Products. The Compressor, Blower (which now includes the Syltone transportation-related activities and Nash Elmo's side channel blower business) and Liquid Ring Pump (consisting of Nash Elmo's liquid ring pump business) Divisions are aggregated into one reportable segment (Compressor and Vacuum Products). During the third quarter of 2004, the Company's former Pump and Fluid Transfer (which consisted of the Syltone fluid transfer-related activities) Divisions were combined into one division, Fluid Transfer. These two divisions were previously aggregated into one reportable segment (Fluid Transfer Products) primarily due to the same factors as noted above, and thus, there has been no change to the Fluid Transfer Products segment.

Through our Compressor and Vacuum Products segment, we design, manufacture, market and service rotary screw, reciprocating, sliding vane and centrifugal compressors, positive displacement, centrifugal and side channel blowers, liquid ring pumps and engineered systems utilizing these products. Stationary air compressors are used in manufacturing, process applications and materials handling, and to power air tools and equipment. Blowers are used primarily in pneumatic conveying, wastewater aeration, numerous applications in industrial manufacturing and engineered vacuum systems. Liquid ring pumps are used in many different vacuum applications and engineered systems, such as water removal, distilling, reacting, efficiency improvement, lifting and handling, and filtering, principally in the pulp and paper, industrial manufacturing, chemical and power industries.

Through our Fluid Transfer Products segment we design, manufacture, market and service a diverse group of pumps, water jetting systems and related aftermarket parts used in oil and natural gas production, well servicing and drilling and industrial cleaning and maintenance and other fluid transfer equipment serving chemical, petroleum, and food industries.

With the acquisition of Syltone and Nash Elmo in 2004, we now have 30 manufacturing facilities throughout the world that use advanced manufacturing, quality assurance and testing equipment geared to specific products being manufactured. Most of the facilities use computer aided numerical control tools and manufacturing techniques that concentrate the equipment necessary to produce similar products in one area of the plant (cell manufacturing).

We sell our products through independent distributors and sales representatives and directly to original equipment manufacturers (OEMs), engineering firms and end users. A direct sales force is used to service OEM and engineering firm accounts because these typically require more technical assistance, shipment scheduling and product service.

Our executive offices are located at 1800 Gardner Expressway, Quincy, Illinois 62301 and our telephone number is 217-222-5400.

You can obtain additional information about us in the reports and other documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus. See [Where You Can Find More Information](#).

USE OF PROCEEDS

Except as we may indicate otherwise in the prospectus supplement which accompanies this prospectus, we intend to use the proceeds of the securities for acquisitions, capital expenditures, repayment of borrowings, working capital and other general corporate purposes. Before we use the proceeds for these purposes, we may invest them in short-term investments. If we decide to use the proceeds from a particular offering of securities for a specific purpose, we will describe that purpose in the related prospectus supplement.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

The following table shows the ratio of our earnings to fixed charges for the periods indicated. We have computed these ratios by dividing earnings available for fixed charges (income before income taxes plus fixed charges) by fixed charges (interest expense plus that portion of rental expenses deemed to represent interest).

| | For the Nine Months Ended September 30, | | For the Year Ended | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|------|--------------------|------|------|------|------|
| | 2004 | 2003 | 2003 | 2002 | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 |
| Ratio of earnings to fixed charges | 5.7 | 5.8 | 6.0 | 4.9 | 5.5 | 4.5 | 5.3 |

DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

This section describes some of the general terms of the debt securities. The prospectus supplement describes the particular terms of any debt securities we are offering. The prospectus supplement also indicates the extent, if any, to which these general provisions may not apply to the debt securities being offered. The debt securities will be either senior debt securities or senior subordinated debt securities. If you would like more information on these provisions, you may review the Indentures which appear as exhibits to the registration statement we have filed with the SEC. See [Where You Can Find More Information](#).

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We will issue the senior debt securities and the senior subordinated debt under two separate indentures between us and The Bank of New York Trust Company, NA, formerly known as BNY Midwest Trust Company, as trustee. We are summarizing certain important provisions of the debt securities and these indentures. This is not a complete description of the important terms. You should refer to the specific terms of each indenture for a complete statement of the terms of the indentures and the debt securities issuable thereunder. When we use capitalized terms which we do not define here, those terms have the meanings given in the indentures. Unless otherwise indicated, when we use references to Sections, we mean Sections in both of the indentures.

General

The indentures do not limit the amount of debt securities that we may issue under the indentures, nor do they limit other debt that we may issue. The debt securities will be our unsecured general obligations. The senior debt securities will rank *pari passu* with all of our other unsecured and unsubordinated obligations. The senior subordinated debt securities will be unsecured and will be subordinate and junior in priority of payment to some of our other indebtedness to the extent described in the related prospectus supplement. None of our subsidiaries will have any obligation to guarantee or otherwise pay amounts due under the securities. We may issue senior debt securities and senior subordinated debt securities at various times in different series, each of which may have different terms. If we so indicate in the prospectus supplement for any series, we may treat a subsequent offering of debt securities as a part of the same series as that series.

The prospectus supplement relating to the particular series of debt securities we are offering includes the following information concerning those debt securities:

- The title of the debt securities.
- The total principal amount of the series of debt securities, and whether we may treat a subsequent offering of debt securities as a part of the same series as that series.
- Whether the debt securities are senior debt securities or senior subordinated debt securities and the terms of subordination, if applicable.
- The date on which the principal and interest will be paid, any rights we may have to extend the maturity of the debt securities and any rights the holders may have to require payment of the debt securities at any time.
- The interest rate on the debt securities. We may specify a fixed rate or a variable rate, or a rate to be determined under procedures we will describe in the prospectus supplement, and the interest rate may be subject to adjustment.
- The date or dates from which interest will accrete or accrue, the dates on which we will pay interest on the debt securities and the regular record dates for determining the holders who are entitled to receive the interest payments.
- Where payments on the debt securities will be made, if it is other than the office mentioned under "Payments on Debt Securities; Transfers" below.

- If applicable, the prices at which we may redeem all or a part of the debt securities and the time periods during which we may make the redemptions at our option or at your option. The redemptions may be made under a sinking fund or otherwise.
- Any obligation we may have to redeem, purchase or repay any of the debt securities under a sinking fund or otherwise or at the option of the holder, and the prices, time periods and other terms which would apply.
- The terms, if any, on which the debt securities may be convertible into or exchangeable for common stock or other of our securities. Such conversion may be mandatory, at the option of the holder, or at our option, and the number any type of our securities to be received by the holders on such conversion may be subject to adjustment.
- Any additional or different events of default or covenants that will apply to the debt securities.
- The amounts we would be required to pay if the maturity of the debt securities is accelerated, if it is less than the principal amount.
- If we will make payments on the debt securities in any currency other than U.S. dollars, the currencies in which we will make the payments.
- If applicable, the terms under which we or a holder may elect that payments on the debt securities be made in a currency other than U.S. dollars.
- If amounts payable on the debt securities may be determined by a currency or other index, information on how the payments will be determined.
- The amount of discount or premium with which such debt securities will be issued.
- Any other special terms that may apply to the debt securities.

Payments on Debt Securities; Transfers

We will make payments on the debt securities to the persons in whose names the securities are registered at the close of business on the record date for the interest payments. As explained under "Book-Entry Debt Securities" below, the Depository Trust Company or its nominee will be the initial registered holder unless the prospectus supplement provides otherwise.

Unless we indicate otherwise in the prospectus supplement, we will make payments on the debt securities at the trustee's office, which is now located at 2 North LaSalle Street, Suite 1020, Chicago, Illinois. Transfers of debt securities can be made at the same offices.

Form and Denominations

Unless we otherwise indicate in the prospectus supplement:

- We will issue the debt securities of each series only in registered form without coupons in denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiple thereof.
- We will not charge any fee to register any transfer or exchange of the debt securities, except for taxes or other governmental charges, if any.

Certain Restrictions

Creation of Secured Indebtedness

Under the senior indenture, we and our Restricted Subsidiaries (defined below) may not create, assume, guarantee or permit to exist any indebtedness for borrowed money which is secured by a pledge of, or a mortgage or lien on, any Principal Plants (defined below) or on any of our Restricted Subsidiaries' capital stock, unless we also provide equal and ratable security for the senior debt securities. A Restricted Subsidiary is a subsidiary which owns or operates a Principal Plant, unless it is

4

incorporated or has its principal place of business outside the United States, and any other subsidiary which we elect to treat as a Restricted Subsidiary. A Principal Plant is any of our production facilities, but does not include a facility which our board of directors determines shall not be treated as a Principal Plant, as long as all such plants which are determined not to be Principal Plants, taken together, are not of material importance to our and our subsidiaries total business. Our board of directors may change any such designation of a facility as a Principal Plant or as excluded from the category of Principal Plant at varying times, subject to the limit described in the preceding sentence.

The restriction described in the preceding paragraph does not apply to:

- purchase money liens, including liens for indebtedness incurred in connection with the acquisition or construction of a Principal Plant (so long as we incur the indebtedness within 180 days after the acquisition or completion of construction of such Principal Plant),
- liens existing on property when we acquire it,
- liens on property of a Restricted Subsidiary when it becomes a Restricted Subsidiary,
- liens to secure the cost of development or construction of property, or improvements of property, and which are released or satisfied within 180 days after completion of the development or construction,
- liens in connection with the acquisition or construction of Principal Plants or additions thereto financed by tax-exempt securities,
- liens securing indebtedness to us or a wholly-owned Restricted Subsidiary by a Restricted Subsidiary,
- liens existing at the date of the senior indenture,
- liens on property of a corporation existing at the time such corporation is merged with or consolidated with us or a Restricted Subsidiary, or at the time we or a Restricted Subsidiary acquires all or substantially all of the properties of such corporation,
- liens in favor of the United States government or any U.S. state government incurred in connection with financing the acquisition or construction of properties pursuant to a statute or a contract with any such governmental body, or
- extensions, renewals or replacements of the liens referred to above.

There is an additional exception described below under "Basket Amount."

Sale Leaseback Financings

Under the senior indenture, neither we nor any Restricted Subsidiary may enter into any sale and leaseback transaction involving a Principal Plant, except a sale by us to a Restricted Subsidiary or a sale by a Restricted Subsidiary to us or another Restricted Subsidiary or a

lease not exceeding three years, by the end of which we intend to discontinue use of the property, unless:

- the net proceeds of the sale are at least equal to the fair market value of the property, and
- within 180 days of the transfer we repay Funded Debt (defined below) and/or make expenditures for the expansion, construction or acquisition of a Principal Plant at least equal to the net proceeds of the sale.

There is an additional exception described below under *Basket Amount*.

Basket Amount

In addition to the exceptions described above under *Creation of Secured Indebtedness* and *Sale Leaseback Financings*, the senior indenture allows additional secured indebtedness and additional sale leaseback financings as long as the total of the additional indebtedness and the fair market value of the property transferred in the additional sale leaseback financings when added to the permitted Funded Debt described below, does not exceed 10% of our consolidated total assets.

Limitation on Funded Debt of Restricted Subsidiaries

Under the senior indenture, we may not permit any Restricted Subsidiary to create, assume or incur any Funded Debt other than:

- Funded Debt secured by a mortgage, pledge or lien which is permitted under the provisions described above under *Creation of Secured Indebtedness*,
- Funded Debt owed to us or any wholly-owned Restricted Subsidiary,
- Funded Debt of a corporation existing at the time it becomes a Restricted Subsidiary,
- Funded Debt created in connection with, or with a view to, compliance with the requirements of any program, law, statute or regulation of any federal, state or local governmental authority and applicable to the Restricted Subsidiary and providing financial or tax benefits to the Restricted Subsidiary which are not available directly to us, or not available on as favorable terms,
- guarantees existing at the date of the senior indenture, and
- other Funded Debt which, when added to outstanding secured debt and sale-leaseback financings permitted under the provision described under "Basket Amount" above, does not exceed 10% of our consolidated total assets.

Funded Debt means indebtedness for money borrowed and indebtedness represented by notes, debentures and other similar evidences of indebtedness, including purchase money indebtedness, having a maturity of more than twelve months from the date of determination or having a maturity of less than twelve months but by its terms being renewable or extendible beyond twelve months at our option, subject only to conditions which we are then capable of fulfilling, and guarantees of similar indebtedness of others, except that Funded Debt does not include:

- Any indebtedness of a person held in treasury by that person; or
- Any indebtedness with respect to which sufficient money has been deposited or set aside in trust to pay the indebtedness; or
- Certain contingent obligations in respect of indebtedness of other persons, such as keep-well, maintenance of working capital or earnings or similar agreements.

Merger

We may not consolidate with or merge into any other corporation or transfer or lease our properties and assets substantially as an entirety unless certain conditions are met, including the assumption of the securities by any successor corporation.

Modification or Amendment of the Indenture

We may modify and amend either indenture if the holders of a majority in principal amount of the applicable outstanding debt securities give their consent, except that no supplemental indenture may reduce the principal amount of or interest or premium payable on any debt security, change the maturity date or dates of principal, the interest payment dates or other terms of payment, or reduce the percentage

of holders necessary to approve a modification or amendment of the indenture, without the consent of each holder of such outstanding debt securities affected by the supplemental indenture.

We and the Trustee may amend an indenture without the holders' consent for certain specified purposes, including any change which is not otherwise inconsistent with the indenture and which does not materially adversely affect the holders' interests.

Defeasance

The indentures include provisions allowing defeasance of the debt securities of any series. In order to defease debt securities, we would deposit with the trustee or another trustee money or securities which are direct obligations of or guaranteed by the United States of America sufficient to make all payments on those debt securities. If we make a defeasance deposit with respect to your debt securities, we may elect either:

- to be discharged from all our obligations on your debt securities, except for our obligations to register transfers and exchanges, to replace temporary or mutilated, destroyed, lost or stolen debt securities, to maintain an office or agency in respect of the debt securities and to hold monies for payment in trust; or
- to be released from the restrictions described above relating to liens, sale-leaseback transactions, Funded Debt of Restricted Subsidiaries and certain other restrictions and obligations contained in the indentures (specifically not including, however, our obligation to pay the principal of or interest on any debt securities).

To establish the trust, we must deliver to the Trustee an opinion of our counsel that the holders of the debt securities will not recognize gain or loss for Federal income tax purposes as a result of the defeasance and will be subject to Federal income tax on the same amount, in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if the defeasance had not occurred.

Events of Default, Notice and Waiver

An event of default in respect of any series of debt securities means:

- default for 30 days in any payment of interest;
- default in payment of principal or premium when due;
- default in payment of any sinking fund amount in accordance with the terms of such debt security;
- default in performance of or breach of any covenant in the indenture which applies to the series which continues for 60 days after notice to us by the Trustee or by the holders of 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of the affected series;
- default in our payment of indebtedness which we have incurred or guaranteed exceeding \$30 million or acceleration of the maturity such indebtedness exceeding \$30 million;
- certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency and reorganization; and
- any other events which are designated as Events of Default in respect of that series.

If an event of default occurs and is continuing (other than with respect to certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or similar Event of Default) in respect of one or more series of debt securities, either the Trustee or the holders of 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of those series may declare the principal of and accrued interest, if any, on all securities of those series to be due and payable. If a bankruptcy, insolvency or similar Event of Default occurs with respect to us, all

7

outstanding debt securities will be due and payable without notice or any other action on the part of the trustee or any holder.

Within 60 days after a default in respect of any series of debt securities, the Trustee must give to the holders of the debt securities of that series notice of all uncured and unwaived defaults by us known to it. However, except in the case of default in payment, the Trustee may withhold the notice if it in good faith determines that it is in the interest of the holders. The term "default" means, for this purpose, the occurrence of any event that, upon notice or lapse of time, would be an Event of Default.

Before the Trustee is required to exercise rights under the indentures at the request of holders, it is entitled to be indemnified by the holders, subject to its duty, during an Event of Default, to act with the required standard of care.

Subject to the Trustee's duty during a default to act with the required standard of care, the Trustee has the right to be indemnified by the holders of debt securities issued under the indentures before proceeding to exercise any right or power under the indenture at the request of the holders. The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding securities of any series (voting as a single class) may direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the Trustee or exercising any trust or power conferred upon the

Trustee in respect of the securities of that series.

The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding securities of all series affected by a default (voting as a single class) may, on behalf of the holders of all that securities, waive the default except a default in payment of the principal of or premium, if any, or interest on any security. The holders of a majority in principal amount of outstanding securities of all series entitled to the benefits thereof (voting as a single class) may waive compliance with certain covenants under the indenture. We will furnish to the Trustee, annually, a statement as to the fulfillment by us of our obligations under the indentures.

Regarding the Trustee

The Bank of New York Trust Company, NA, formerly known as BNY Midwest Trust Company is the Trustee under both of the indentures. Its affiliate, The Bank of New York, is a party to our credit agreement under which it has committed to lend us up to \$20 million, and it may provide other banking services to us.

Governing Law

The indentures and the debt securities will be governed by and construed in accordance with the internal laws of the State of New York.

Book-Entry Debt Securities

The prospectus supplement will indicate whether we are issuing the related debt securities as book-entry securities. Book-entry securities of a series will be issued in the form of one or more global notes that will be deposited with the Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, and will evidence all of the debt securities of that series. This means that we will not issue certificates to each holder. We will issue one or more global securities to DTC, which will keep a computerized record of its participants (for example, your broker) whose clients have purchased the debt securities. The participant will then keep a record of its clients who own the debt securities. Unless it is exchanged in whole or in part for a security evidenced by individual certificates, a global security may not be transferred, except that DTC, its nominees and their successors may transfer a global security as a whole to one another. Beneficial interests in global securities will be shown on, and transfers of beneficial interests in global notes will be made only through, records maintained by DTC and its participants. Each person owning a beneficial interest in a global security must rely on the procedures of DTC and, if the person is not a participant, on the procedures of the participant through which the person owns its interest to exercise any rights of a holder of debt securities under the applicable Indenture.

8

We will make payments on each series of book-entry debt securities to DTC or its nominee, as the sole registered owner and holder of the global security. Neither we nor the Trustee nor any of their agents will be responsible or liable for any aspect of DTC's records relating to or payments made on account of beneficial ownership interests in a global security or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any of DTC's records relating to the beneficial ownership interests.

DTC has informed us that, when it receives any payment on a global security, it will immediately, on its book-entry registration and transfer system, credit the accounts of participants with payments in amounts proportionate to their beneficial interests in the global security as shown on DTC's records. Payments by participants to you, as an owner of a beneficial interest in the global security, will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices (as is now the case with securities held for customer accounts registered in street name) and will be the sole responsibility of the participants.

A global security representing a series will be exchanged for certificated debt securities of that series if (a) DTC notifies us that it is unwilling or unable to continue as Depository or if DTC ceases to be a clearing agency registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and we don't appoint a successor within 90 days or (b) we decide that the global security shall be exchangeable. If that occurs, we will issue debt securities of that series in certificated form in exchange for the global security. An owner of a beneficial interest in the global security then will be entitled to physical delivery of a certificate for debt securities of the series equal in principal amount to that beneficial interest and to have those debt securities registered in its name. We would issue the certificates for the debt securities in denominations of \$1,000 or any larger amount that is an integral multiple thereof, and we would issue them in registered form only, without coupons.

DTC has advised us that it is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a banking organization within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a clearing corporation within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a clearing agency registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 Act. DTC was created to hold the securities of its participants and to facilitate the clearance and settlement of securities transactions among its participants through electronic book-entry changes in accounts of the participants, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of securities certificates. DTC's participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations, and certain other organizations, some of whom (and/or their representatives) own DTC. Access to DTC's book-entry system is also available to others, such as banks, brokers, dealers and trust

companies that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a participant, either directly or indirectly. The rules applicable to DTC and its participants are on file with the SEC. No fees or costs of DTC will be charged to you.

DESCRIPTION OF OUR CAPITAL STOCK

Our certificate of incorporation authorizes the issuance of up to 50,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$.01 per share, and 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$.01 per share, of which we have designated 500,000 shares as Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock in connection with our shareholder rights plan discussed below. See Amended and Restated Rights Agreement Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock. As of January 21, 2005, there were 19,954,832 shares of common stock outstanding, and no shares of preferred stock were outstanding.

The following summary is not complete and is qualified by reference to the applicable provisions of Delaware law and our certificate of incorporation, by-laws and the amended and restated rights agreement dated as of January 17, 2005, between Gardner Denver, Inc. and National City Bank, as rights agent. This is not a complete description of the important terms of Delaware law, our certificate of incorporation, by-laws or the rights agreement. If you would like more information on the provisions of our certificate of incorporation, by-laws or the rights agreement, you may review our certificate of incorporation, our by-laws and our rights agreement, each of which is incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the registration statement we have filed with the SEC. See Where You Can Find More Information.

Common Stock

The holders of our common stock are entitled to one vote for each share they own on all matters voted on by our stockholders. The common stock does not have cumulative voting rights. Subject to any preferential or other rights of any outstanding series of preferred stock that may be designated by our board of directors, the holders of common stock will be entitled to such dividends as may be declared by our Board, and upon liquidation will be entitled to receive their pro rata portion of our assets available for distribution to the holders of common stock. All of the outstanding shares of common stock are fully paid and nonassessable. Holders of common stock have no preemptive rights to purchase or subscribe for any stock or other securities and there are no conversion rights or redemption or sinking fund provisions with respect to our common stock. The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is National City Bank.

Preferred Stock

Our board of directors has the authority to issue the preferred stock in one or more series and to fix certain of the rights, preferences, privileges and restrictions applicable to such series, including the annual dividend rate, the time of payment for dividends, whether such dividends shall be cumulative or non-cumulative, and the date or dates from which any cumulative dividends will begin to accrue, redemption terms (including sinking fund provisions), redemption price or prices, liquidation preferences, the extent of the voting powers, if any, and conversion rights. In connection with the adoption of a shareholder rights plan, we have designated 500,000 shares of preferred stock as Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock. See Amended and Restated Rights Agreement Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock. The prospectus supplement will describe the specific terms of any preferred stock we are offering.

Certain Provisions of Delaware Law, Our Certificate of Incorporation and By-Laws

General.

Delaware law, our certificate of incorporation and our by-laws contain provisions that could make it more difficult for someone to acquire control of us by means of a tender offer, open market purchases, a proxy contest or otherwise.

Classified Board of Directors; Removal of Directors.

Our by-laws provide that we shall have at least three and not more than nine directors, with the exact numbers of directors to be determined from time to time by a majority of our entire board of directors. We now have eight directors. The directors are divided into three classes, as nearly equal in number as is possible, serving staggered three-year terms. With a classified board of directors, at least two annual meetings of stockholders, instead of one, is generally required to effect a change in a majority of the

Board's members. As a result, the classification of the Board may discourage proxy contests for the election of directors, unsolicited tender offers or purchases of a substantial block of the common stock because it could prevent an acquiror from obtaining control of the board of directors in a relatively short period of time. In addition, pursuant to Delaware law and our certificate of incorporation, a director or the entire board of directors may be removed only for cause and only by the affirmative vote of holders of at least a majority of the outstanding shares of common stock entitled to vote. As a result, a classified board of directors delays stockholders who disagree with the policies of the board of directors from replacing directors, unless they can demonstrate that the directors should be removed for cause and obtain the requisite vote.

Filling Vacancies on the Board.

Our by-laws provide that, subject to the rights of holders of any shares of preferred stock, vacancies on the board of directors may be filled only by a majority of the board of directors then in office, even if less than a quorum, or by the sole remaining director. Accordingly, the Board could temporarily prevent any stockholder from obtaining majority representation on the board of directors by enlarging the board of directors and filling the new directorships with its own nominees.

No Stockholder Action by Written Consent; Special Meetings.

Stockholder action can be taken only at an annual or special meeting of stockholders. Stockholder action by written consent in lieu of a meeting is prohibited. The special meetings of stockholders may be called only by the President or Secretary upon the request of a majority of the entire board of directors or upon the request, in writing, of stockholders owning a majority of the issued capital stock entitled to vote at such meeting. Business conducted at any special meeting is limited to the purposes specified in the written notice of the meeting. The provision prohibiting stockholder action by written consent may delay consideration of a stockholder proposal until the next annual meeting (unless a special meeting is called). These provisions prevent the holders of a majority of the voting power of the outstanding shares of stock entitled to vote generally in the election of directors from using the written consent procedure to take stockholder action and from taking action by consent without giving all the stockholders entitled to vote on a proposed action the opportunity to participate.

Advance Notice Provisions for Stockholder Nominations and Stockholder Proposals.

Our by-laws establish an advance notice procedure with regard to the nomination, other than by or at the direction of the board of directors, of candidates for directors and with regard to business to be brought before an annual or special meeting of stockholders. The nomination procedure provides that, subject to any rights of holders of preferred stock, only persons who are nominated by or at the direction of the board of directors or by a stockholder who has given timely written notice to the Secretary prior to the meeting at which directors are to be elected will be eligible for election as directors. The business procedure provides that at an annual or special meeting only such business may be conducted as has been specified in the notice of meeting, brought before the meeting by or at the direction of the board of directors or by a stockholder who has given timely written notice to our Secretary of such stockholder's intention to bring such business before the meeting. If the officer presiding at a meeting determines that a person was not nominated in accordance with the nomination procedure, the nomination shall be disregarded. If the presiding officer determines that business was not brought before the meeting in accordance with the business procedure, the business will not be transacted. Although the by-laws do not give the Board any power to approve or disapprove stockholder nominations for the election of directors or proposals for action, they may have the effect of precluding a contest for the election of directors or the consideration of stockholder proposals if the proper procedures are not followed, and of discouraging or deterring a third party from conducting a solicitation of proxies to elect its own slate of directors or to approve its proposal without regard to whether consideration of such nominees or proposals might be harmful or beneficial to us and our stockholders.

Delaware Anti-Takeover Law.

We are subject to Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law regulating corporate takeovers. Section 203, subject to certain exceptions, prohibits a Delaware corporation from engaging in any business combination with any interested stockholder for a period of three years following the date that such stockholder became an interested stockholder unless:

- prior to such date, the board of directors of the corporation approved either the business combination or the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder;
- upon consummation of the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder, the interested stockholder owned at least 85% of the voting stock of the corporation outstanding at the time the transaction commenced, excluding those shares owned by persons who are directors and also officers, and employee stock plans in which employee participants do not have the right to determine confidentially whether shares held subject to the plan will be tendered in a tender or exchange offer; or
- on or subsequent to such date, the business combination is approved by the board of directors and authorized at an annual or special meeting of stockholders, and not by written consent, by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the outstanding voting stock that is not owned by the interested stockholder.

In general, Section 203 defines *business combination* to include mergers or consolidations between a Delaware corporation and an interested stockholder, transactions with an interested stockholder involving the assets or stock of the corporation or its majority-owned subsidiaries and transactions which increase an interested stockholder's percentage ownership of stock. In general, Section 203 defines an *interested stockholder* as any entity or person beneficially owning 15% or more of the outstanding voting stock of the corporation and any entity or person affiliated with or controlling or controlled by such entity or person.

Amendment of Certain Certificate of Incorporation and By-Law Provisions.

Under Delaware law, stockholders have the right to adopt, amend or repeal the by-laws of a corporation. In addition, if the certificate of incorporation so provides, the by-laws may be amended by the board of directors. Our certificate of incorporation provides that our by-laws may be amended by the affirmative vote of the majority of the board of directors.

The by-laws provide that the stockholders may amend the by-laws by an affirmative vote of the majority entitled to vote, provided, however, the affirmative vote of the holders of at least 80% of our outstanding shares entitled to vote is required to amend provisions relating to special meetings, number, election and term of the board of directors, and amending the by-laws. Provisions set forth in our certificate of incorporation relating to the removal of directors and the prohibition of stockholder action without a meeting may be amended only by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least 80% of our outstanding shares.

Amended and Restated Rights Agreement

Under our stockholder rights plan, we authorized the issuance of one preferred stock purchase right for each outstanding share of common stock. The amended and restated rights agreement between the Company and National City Bank, as rights agent, contains the terms of the stockholder rights plan. The summary description of the rights agreement and the Series A Junior Preferred Stock set forth below does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the rights agreement and the certificate of designation for the Series A Junior Preferred Stock, which are incorporated by reference into this registration statement.

12

Exercisability of Rights.

Under the rights agreement, each share of our common stock carries with it an associated right. When exercisable, each right entitles the registered holder to purchase from us one one-hundredth of a share of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock, par value \$.01, at a purchase price of \$145 per one-one hundredth of a share, subject to certain adjustments. For a description of the terms of the Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock. See *Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock*.

The rights will not become exercisable until the earlier of: (i) 10 business days following a public announcement that a person or group of affiliated or associated persons (an *Acquiring Person*) has acquired, or obtained the right to acquire beneficial ownership of 15% or more of the outstanding shares of common stock (the *Stock Acquisition Date*), or (ii) 10 business days (or such later date as the board of directors shall determine) following the commencement of a tender or exchange offer that would result in a person or group beneficially owning 15% or more of such outstanding shares of common stock (the *Tender Offer Date*) (the earlier of the dates described in (i) and (ii) is referred to as a *Distribution Date*). The rights will expire at the close of business on January 31, 2015, unless earlier redeemed by us as described below.

Until a right is exercised, the holder of the right will have no rights as a stockholder, including the right to vote or to receive dividends.

Flip In Feature.

In the event (i) we are the surviving corporation in a merger or other business combination with an Acquiring Person (or any associate or affiliate thereof) and our common stock remains outstanding and unchanged, (ii) any person becomes the beneficial owner of 15% or more of the then outstanding shares of our common stock (except pursuant to (A) certain consolidations or mergers involving us or sales or transfers of the combined assets or earning power of us and our subsidiaries or (B) an offer for all of the outstanding shares of common stock at a price and upon terms and conditions determined by a majority of the board of directors to be in our and our stockholders best interest), or (iii) there occurs a reclassification of securities, a recapitalization or any of certain business combinations or other transactions (other than certain consolidations and mergers involving us and sales or transfers of the combined assets or earning power of us and our subsidiaries) involving us or any of our subsidiaries which has the effect of increasing by more than 1% the proportionate share of any class of our outstanding equity securities or any of our subsidiaries beneficially owned by an Acquiring Person (or any associate or affiliate there), each holder of a right (other than an Acquiring Person, certain related parties and transferees) will thereafter have the right to receive, upon exercise, common stock (or, in certain circumstances, cash, property or other securities) having a value equal to two times the exercise price of the right. Following the occurrence of any of the events set forth in this paragraph, all rights that are, or (under certain circumstances specified in the rights agreement) were, beneficially owned by any Acquiring Person will be null and void.

Flip Over Feature

If at any time following the Stock Acquisition Date:

- We are acquired in a merger or business combination transaction in which we are not the surviving corporation;
- We are the surviving corporation in a consolidation or merger pursuant to which all or part of the outstanding shares of common stock are changed into or exchanged for stock or other securities of any other person or cash or any other property; or
- more than 50% of the combined assets or earning power of our and our subsidiaries is sold or transferred (in each case other than certain consolidations with, mergers with and into, or sales of assets or earning power by or to our subsidiaries as specified in the rights agreement),

each holder of a right shall thereafter have the right to receive, upon exercise thereof, common stock of the acquiring company having a value equal to two times the exercise price of the right.

In order to prevent dilution, the purchase price payable, the number and kind of shares covered by each right and the number of rights outstanding are subject to adjustment from time to time in accordance with the terms of the rights agreement.

Redemption of Rights

Generally, at any time until 10 business days following the Stock Acquisition Date, we may redeem the rights in whole, but not in part, at a price of \$.01 per right (payable in cash, shares of common stock or other consideration deemed appropriate by the board of directors). Immediately upon the action of the board of directors ordering redemption of the rights, the rights will terminate and the only right of the holders of rights will be to receive the \$.01 redemption price.

Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock

Each share of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock purchased upon exercise of the rights will be entitled to a minimum preferential quarterly dividend payment equal to the greater of (i) \$2.50 per share, and (ii) 100 times the dividend, if any, declared per share of common stock. In the event of liquidation, the holders of the Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock will be entitled to a minimum preferential liquidation payment equal to 100 times the par value per share plus an amount equal to accrued and unpaid dividends and distributions to the date of such payment. Each share of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock will have 100 votes and, except as otherwise provided in the certificate of incorporation or applicable law, will vote together with the common stock. In the event of any merger, consolidation or other transaction in which shares of common stock are exchanged, each share of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock will be entitled to receive 100 times the amount per share of common stock received in such merger, consolidation or other transaction. These rights are protected by customary anti-dilution provisions. The shares of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock will, if issued, be junior to any other series of preferred stock authorized and issued by us, unless the terms of the series provide otherwise. Because of the nature of the Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock's dividend, liquidation and voting rights, the value of one one-hundredth of a share of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock purchasable upon the exercise of each right should approximate the value of one share of common stock.

Indemnification Agreements and Insurance

We maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was our director, officer, employee or agent, or is or was our director or officer serving at our request as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other enterprise against certain claims asserted against him or her and liabilities incurred by him or her in any such capacity, or arising out of his or her status as such, whether or not we would have the power or the obligation to indemnify him against such liability under the provisions of our certificate of incorporation and by-laws.

We have entered into indemnification agreements with each of our executive officers and directors. The indemnification agreements require us to indemnify the officers and directors to the fullest extent permitted by law and to advance to the executive officers and directors all related expenses, subject to reimbursement if it is subsequently determined that indemnification is not permitted. We must also indemnify and advance all expenses incurred by executive officers and directors seeking to enforce their rights under the indemnification agreements, and cover executive officers and directors under our directors' and officers' liability insurance. Although the form of indemnification agreement offers substantially the same scope of coverage afforded by provisions in our certificate of incorporation and by-laws, it provides greater assurance to directors and officers that indemnification will be available, because, as a contract, it cannot be modified unilaterally in the future by the board of directors or by the stockholders to eliminate the rights it provides. Such unilateral action is possible with respect to the relevant provisions of the by-laws, at least as to prospective elimination of such rights.

14

DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS AND WARRANT UNITS

We may issue warrants, including warrants to purchase debt securities, common stock or preferred stock or any combination of the foregoing. Warrants may be issued independently or as part of a unit with any other securities and may be attached to or separate from the underlying securities. The warrants will be issued under warrant agreements to be entered into between us and a bank or trust company, as warrant agent, as detailed in the prospectus supplement relating to warrants being offered.

A prospectus supplement relating to any warrants being offered will include specific terms relating to the offering, including a description of any other securities sold together with the warrants. Such terms will include:

- the title of the warrants;
- the aggregate number of the warrants;
- the price or prices at which the warrants will be issued;
- the currencies in which the price or prices of the warrants may be payable;
- the designation, amount, and terms of the debt securities, common stock or preferred stock purchasable upon exercise of the warrants and procedures by which those numbers may be adjusted;
- the designation and terms of the other offered securities, if any, with which the warrants are issued and the number of the warrants issued with each security;
- if applicable, the date on and after which the warrants and the offered securities purchasable upon exercise of the warrants will be separately transferable;
- the price or prices at which the offered securities purchasable upon exercise of the warrants may be purchased;
- the date on which the right to exercise the warrants shall commence and the date on which the right shall expire;
- the minimum or maximum amount of the warrants that may be exercised at any one time;
- any terms relating to the modification of the warrants, including adjustments in the exercise price;
- information with respect to book-entry procedures, if any;
- a discussion of any material federal income tax considerations; and
- any other material terms of the warrants, including terms, procedures, and limitations relating to the transferability, exchange, exercise or redemption of the warrants.

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the specific terms of any warrant units.

The descriptions of the warrant agreements in this prospectus and in any prospectus supplement are summaries of the applicable provisions of the applicable agreements. These descriptions do not restate those agreements in their entirety and do not contain all of the information that you may find useful. We urge you to read the applicable agreements because they, and not the summaries, define your rights as holders of the warrants or any warrant units. For more information, please review the form of the relevant agreements, which will be filed with the SEC promptly after the offering of the warrants or warrant units and will be available as described in the heading [Where You Can Find More](#)

Information above.

15

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the securities to or through one or more underwriters or dealers, and also may sell the securities directly to other purchasers or through agents. These firms may also act as our agents in the sale of the securities. Only underwriters named in the prospectus supplement will be considered as underwriters of the securities offered by the prospectus supplement.

We may distribute the securities at different times in one or more transactions. We may sell the securities at fixed prices, which may change, at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to the prevailing market prices or at negotiated prices.

In connection with the sale of the securities, underwriters may receive compensation from us or from purchasers of the securities in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions. Underwriters, dealers and agents that participate in the distribution of the securities may be deemed to be underwriters. Discounts or commissions they receive and any profit on their resale of the securities may be considered underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act of 1933. We will identify any underwriter or agent, and we will describe any compensation, in the prospectus supplement.

We may agree to indemnify underwriters, dealers and agents who participate in the distribution of the securities against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933.

We may authorize dealers or other persons who act as our agents to solicit offers by certain institutions to purchase the securities from us under contracts which provide for payment and delivery on a future date. We may enter into these contracts with commercial and savings banks, insurance companies, pension funds, investment companies, educational and charitable institutions and others. If we enter into these agreements concerning any series of securities, we will indicate that in the prospectus supplement.

In connection with an offering of the securities, underwriters may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the price of the securities. Specifically, underwriters may over-allot in connection with the offering, creating a syndicate short position in the securities for their own account. In addition, underwriters may bid for, and purchase, securities in the open market to cover short positions or to stabilize the price of the securities. Finally, underwriters may reclaim selling concessions allowed for distributing the securities in the offering if the underwriters repurchase previously distributed securities in transactions to cover short positions, in stabilization transactions or otherwise. Any of these activities may stabilize or maintain the market price of the securities above independent market levels. Underwriters are not required to engage in any of these activities and may end any of these activities at any time.

Each series of securities (other than our common stock) offered will be a new issue of securities and will have no established trading market. The securities (other than our common stock) may or may not be listed on a national securities exchange. No assurance can be given as to the liquidity of or the existence of trading markets for any securities offered (other than with respect to our common stock).

LEGAL OPINION

Bryan Cave LLP, St. Louis, Missouri, as our counsel, will opine upon the legality of the securities.

16

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements and schedule of Gardner Denver, Inc. as of December 31, 2003 and 2002 and for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002, have been incorporated by reference herein in reliance upon the reports of KPMG LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing. The audit report for Gardner Denver, Inc. covering the December 31, 2003 consolidated financial statements refers to the adoption of Statement of

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Financial Accounting Standards No. 142, Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets, in the year ending December 31, 2002.

The consolidated financial statements of Syltone plc and subsidiaries as of 31 March 2003 and 2002, and for the years ended 31 March 2003 and 2002, have been incorporated by reference herein in reliance upon the report of KPMG Audit Plc, independent auditors, incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The consolidated financial statements of nash_elmo Holdings LLC and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2003 and for the year then ended, have been incorporated by reference herein in reliance upon the report of KPMG LLP, independent auditors, incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

Arthur Andersen LLP, our former independent auditors, have audited the consolidated financial statements and schedule of Gardner Denver, Inc. as of December 31, 2001, and for the year ended December 31, 2001, as set forth in their report. We have incorporated by reference our consolidated financial statements and schedule in this prospectus and elsewhere in the registration statement from our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003 in reliance on Arthur Andersen LLP's report.

On August 31, 2002, Arthur Andersen ceased practicing before the SEC. We have been unable to obtain, after reasonable efforts, the written consent of Arthur Andersen LLP to our naming it as an expert and as having audited such consolidated financial statements, and including its audit report in this prospectus. The cessation of Arthur Andersen's practice and the absence of such written consent from Arthur Andersen may limit your ability to recover damages from Arthur Andersen LLP under Section 11 of the Securities Act for any untrue statements of a material fact contained in the financial statements audited by Arthur Andersen LLP or any omissions to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading.

On June 26, 2002, our board of directors, based on a recommendation of the Audit and Finance Committee, dismissed Arthur Andersen LLP as our independent public accountants and approved the selection of KPMG LLP to serve as our independent public accountants for the year ending December 31, 2002.

Arthur Andersen LLP's reports on our financial statements for the past two years did not contain an adverse opinion or disclaimer of opinion, nor were they qualified or modified as to uncertainty, audit scope or accounting principles.

In connection with the audits for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2001 and through June 26, 2002, there were no disagreements with Arthur Andersen LLP on any matter of accounting principles or practices, financial statement disclosure, or auditing scope or procedure, which disagreements, if not resolved to the satisfaction of Arthur Andersen LLP, would have caused Arthur Andersen LLP to make reference thereto in its report on our financial statements for such years. Also, during those years, there have been no reportable events, as such term is used in Item 304(a)(1)(v) of Regulation S-K.

17

PART II INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS

Item 14. Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution

The following table sets forth estimated expenses in connection with the issuance and distribution of the securities being registered, assuming one issuance of securities:

| | | |
|------------------------|----|--------|
| Registration Fee | \$ | 20,660 |
| Printing and Engraving | | * |
| Trustee's Charges | | * |
| Accounting Fees | | * |
| Rating Agency Fees | | * |
| Legal Fees | | * |
| Miscellaneous | | * |
| Total | \$ | * |

* Estimated

Item 15. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

The Delaware General Corporation Law permits the indemnification by a Delaware corporation of its directors, officers, employees and other agents against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement in connection with specified actions, suits or proceedings, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than derivative actions which are by or in the right of the corporation) if they acted in good faith and in a manner they reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe their conduct was unlawful. A similar standard of care is applicable in the case of derivative actions, except that indemnification only extends to expenses (including attorneys' fees) incurred in connection with defense or settlement of such an action and requires court approval before there can be any indemnification where the person seeking indemnification has been found liable to the corporation.

Our certificate of incorporation provides that each person who was or is made a party to, or is involved in, any action, suit or proceeding by reason of the fact that he or she is or was our director or officer (or was serving at our request as a director or officer for another entity) while serving in such capacity will be indemnified and held harmless by us to the full extent authorized or permitted by Delaware law. The certificate of incorporation also provides that no director will be personally liable to us or our stockholders for monetary damages for any breach of fiduciary duty by such a director as a director to the full extent authorized or permitted by Delaware law. A director, however, will be liable to the extent provided by applicable law for:

1. any breach of the director's duty of loyalty to us or our stockholders;
2. acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law;
3. violations of Section 174 of the Delaware General Corporation Law; or
4. any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit.

II-1

Item 16. Exhibits.

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 1.1 | Form of Underwriting Agreement relating to Debt Securities of Gardner Denver, Inc.* |
| 1.2 | Form of Underwriting Agreement relating to Equity/Warrants of Gardner Denver, Inc.* |
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| 4.1 | Amended and Restated Rights Agreement dated as of January 17, 2005, between Gardner Denver, Inc. and National City Bank, as Rights Agent, filed as Exhibit 4.1 to Gardner Denver, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K, dated January 21, 2005 (File No. 001-13215), and incorporated herein by reference. |
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| 4.3 | Form of Senior Subordinated Indenture between Gardner Denver, Inc. and The Bank of New York Trust Company, NA, formerly known as BNY Midwest Trust Company, as Trustee, relating to Senior Subordinated Debt Securities (including form of Senior Subordinated Debt Security) filed as Exhibit 4.3 to Gardner Denver, Inc.'s Registration Statement on Form S-3, dated September 24, 2003 (File No. 333-109086), and incorporated herein by reference. |
| 4.4 | Form of Preferred Stock - Any amendment to Gardner Denver's Certificate of Incorporation authorizing the creation of any series of Preferred Stock representing such shares of Preferred Stock setting forth the rights, preferences and designations thereof will be filed as an exhibit subsequently included or incorporated by reference herein. |
| 4.5 | Form of Warrant Agreement.* |

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| 5.1 | Opinion of Bryan Cave LLP, counsel to the Registrant, as to the validity of the Securities being registered.* |
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| 23.1 | <u>Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.</u> |
| 23.2 | <u>Independent Auditors' Consent.</u> |
| 23.3 | <u>Independent Auditors' Consent.</u> |
| 24.1 | Powers of Attorney executed by certain of the officers and directors of the Registrant (included in signature pages). |
| 25.1 | <u>Form T-1, Statement of Eligibility under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, of The Bank of New York Trust Company, NA, as Trustee under the Senior Indenture.</u> |
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*

To be filed by amendment

II-2

Item 17. Undertakings.

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

1. To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made of the securities registered hereby, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement (i) to include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933; (ii) to reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement; notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the Calculation of Registration Fee table in the effective registration statement; and (iii) to include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement; *provided, however*, that the undertakings set forth in subparagraphs (i) and (ii) above do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in this registration statement.

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

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

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

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers, and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the provisions described under Item 15 above, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it

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Frank J. Hansen

/s/ Raymond R. Hipp

Director

January 27, 2005

Raymond R. Hipp

II-4

/s/ Thomas M. McKenna

Director

January 27, 2005

Thomas M. McKenna

/s/ David D. Petratis

Director

January 27, 2005

David D. Petratis

/s/ Diane K. Schumacher

Director

January 31, 2005

Diane K. Schumacher

/s/ Richard L. Thompson

Director

January 27, 2005

Richard L. Thompson

II-5

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

**Exhibit
Number**

Description of Exhibit

- | | |
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