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DST SYSTEMS INC  
Form 424B1  
June 10, 2004

FILED PURSUANT TO RULE 424(B) (1)  
REGISTRATION NO. 333-109130

PROSPECTUS

\$840,000,000

DST SYSTEMS, INC.

4.125% SERIES A CONVERTIBLE SENIOR DEBENTURES DUE 2023

3.625% SERIES B CONVERTIBLE SENIOR DEBENTURES DUE 2023

AND

COMMON STOCK ISSUABLE UPON CONVERSION OF THE DEBENTURES

This prospectus relates to \$540,000,000 aggregate principal amount of our 4.125% Series A Convertible Senior Debentures due 2023 and \$300,000,000 aggregate principal amount of our 3.625% Series B Convertible Senior Debentures due 2023. We originally issued and sold the debentures to Citigroup Global Markets Inc., Banc of America Securities, LLC, Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, Wachovia Capital Markets, LLC, Fleet Securities, Inc., U.S. Bancorp Piper Jaffray Inc., Deutsche Bank Securities Inc., Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc., Legg Mason Walker Wood, Incorporated, and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, in a private placement in August 2003. This prospectus will be used by selling security holders to resell their debentures and the common stock issuable upon conversion of the debentures.

The Series A debentures and the Series B debentures, which we refer to as the debentures, will bear regular cash interest on the original principal amount of each debenture at a rate of 4.125% per year on the Series A debentures and 3.625% per year on the Series B debentures. Regular cash interest will be payable semiannually in arrears on February 15 and August 15 of each year beginning February 15, 2004, until August 15, 2010 in the case of the Series A debentures and August 15, 2008 in the case of the Series B debentures. Beginning on August 15, 2010, in the case of the Series A debentures, and August 15, 2008, in the case of the Series B debentures, we will not pay regular cash interest on the debentures prior to maturity. Instead, the original principal amount of each debenture will increase at a rate of 4.125% per year on the Series A debentures and 3.625% per year on the Series B debentures, computed from August 15, 2010, in the case of the Series A debentures, and August 15, 2008, in the case of the Series B debentures, on a semiannual bond equivalent basis using a 360-day year composed of twelve 30-day months. On the maturity date of the debentures, a holder will receive, for each \$1,000 original principal amount of debentures, \$1,700.28 for the Series A debentures and \$1,714.09 for the Series B debentures. Beginning on August 20, 2015, in the case of the Series A debentures, and August 20, 2008, in the case of the Series B debentures, we will pay additional contingent interest on each series of debentures if the average trading price of that series of debentures is above a specified level during a specified period, as described in this prospectus. The debentures will be unsecured and will rank equally with all of our other existing and future unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness.

The debentures are convertible under certain circumstances by holders into shares of our common stock per \$1,000 original principal amount of debentures at an initial conversion rate of 20.3732 shares for the Series A debentures and 20.3732 shares of our common stock for the Series B debentures (each subject to adjustment in certain events). This is equivalent to an initial conversion price of \$49.08 per share for the Series A debentures and \$49.08 per share for the Series B debentures. Each series of debentures are convertible under any of the following circumstances: (1) the closing price of our common stock reaches a specified threshold, (2) the trading price per debenture falls below a specified

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threshold, (3) if we call the debentures for redemption or (4) upon the occurrence of specified corporate transactions, each as described in this prospectus. Upon conversion, we will have the right to deliver, in lieu of common stock, cash or any combination of cash and common stock.

The Series A debentures will mature on August 15, 2023. We may redeem some or all of the Series A debentures at any time on or after August 20, 2010 at the redemption price set forth herein in cash. Holders will have the right to require us to purchase the Series A debentures at a purchase price set forth herein on August 15, 2010, August 15, 2015 and August 15, 2020, or upon a fundamental change, as described in this prospectus. For purchases on August 15, 2010, we will pay the purchase price in cash. Thereafter, and upon any fundamental change, we can pay the purchase price at our option in cash, common stock or any combination of cash and common stock.

The Series B debentures will mature on August 15, 2023. We may redeem some or all of the Series B debentures at any time on or after August 20, 2008 at the redemption price set forth herein in cash. Holders will have the right to require us to purchase the Series A debentures at a purchase price set forth herein on August 15, 2008, August 15, 2013 and August 15, 2018, or upon a fundamental change, as described in this prospectus. For purchases on August 15, 2008, we will pay the purchase price in cash. Thereafter, and upon any fundamental change, we can pay the purchase price at our option in cash, common stock or any combination of cash and common stock.

The debentures are unsecured and rank equally with all of our other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness from time to time outstanding.

The debentures will be treated as contingent payment debt instruments that will be subject to special United States federal income tax rules. For discussion of the special tax rules governing contingent payment debt instruments, see "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations."

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "DST." The last reported sales price of our common stock on the New York Stock Exchange on June 8, 2004 was \$48.25 per share.

INVESTING IN THE DEBENTURES INVOLVES RISKS. SEE "RISK FACTORS" BEGINNING ON PAGE 12.

NEITHER THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION NOR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION HAS APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED OF THESE SECURITIES OR DETERMINED WHETHER THIS PROSPECTUS IS TRUTHFUL OR COMPLETE. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

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The date of this prospectus is June 9, 2004

YOU SHOULD RELY ONLY ON THE INFORMATION CONTAINED OR INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE IN THIS PROSPECTUS OR ANY PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT. WE HAVE NOT AUTHORIZED ANYONE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH DIFFERENT INFORMATION. YOU SHOULD NOT ASSUME THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS PROSPECTUS OR ANY PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT IS ACCURATE AS OF ANY DATE OTHER THAN THE DATE ON THE FRONT OF THAT DOCUMENT AND THAT ANY INFORMATION WE HAVE INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE IS ACCURATE ONLY AS OF THE DATE OF THE DOCUMENT INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE.

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## WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy statements and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which we refer to as the SEC. You may read and copy any document that we file at the SEC's public reference room at Room 1024, Judiciary Plaza, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference room. Our SEC filings are also available from the SEC's web site at <http://www.sec.gov>, and at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, which we refer to as the NYSE. For further information on obtaining copies of our public filings at the NYSE, you should call (212) 656-5060.

This prospectus "incorporates by reference" information that we have filed with the SEC under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, which we refer to as the Exchange Act. This means that we are disclosing important information to you by referring you to those documents. Any statement contained in this prospectus or in any document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus will be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus or any subsequently filed document which also is, or is deemed to be, incorporated by reference in this prospectus modifies or supersedes that statement. Any statement so modified or superseded will not be deemed, except as to modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus. We incorporate by reference the following documents listed below and any future filings made with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14, or 15(d) of the Exchange Act (other than Current Reports furnished under Item 9 of Form 8-K), until the initial purchasers sell all the debentures:

- o Our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003, and 10-K/A filed March 25, 2004;
- o Our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2004;
- o Our Proxy Statement(1), filed on March 26, 2004;

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(1) The information referred to in Item 402(a)(8) of Regulation S-K and paragraph (d)(3) of Item 7 of Schedule 14A promulgated by the SEC shall not be deemed to be specifically incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

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- o Appendix A (Share Exchange Agreement) to our special meeting proxy statement filed November 13, 2003;
- o The description of our common stock and related rights to purchase preferred stock contained in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed with the SEC on November 17, 1995, including any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description.

All documents subsequently filed by us pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act (excluding any information furnished pursuant to Item 9 or Item 12 on any current report on Form 8-K), prior to the termination of the offering, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus and to be a part hereof from the date of the filing of such document. In addition, all documents filed by us pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act (excluding any information furnished pursuant to Item 9 or Item 12 on any current report on Form 8-K) after the date of the initial registration statement and prior to effectiveness of the registration statement shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus and to be a part hereof from the date of the filing of such document. Any statement contained in a document incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for all purposes to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus, or in any other subsequently filed document which is also incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference, modifies or supersedes such statement. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus.

You may also request a copy of these filings and a copy of any or all documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus at no cost, by writing or telephoning us at the following address:

DST Systems, Inc.  
333 West 11th Street  
Kansas City, Missouri 64105  
Attn: DST Corporate Secretary  
(816) 435-4636

Our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and definitive proxy statements are also available to the public as soon as reasonably practicable after filing with the SEC on or through our website at [www.dstsystems.com](http://www.dstsystems.com). (We have included our website address as an inactive textural reference and do not intend it to be an active link to our website. Information on our website is not part of this prospectus.)

### SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus and the documents incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, which we refer to as the Securities Act, and Section 21E of the Exchange Act. Statements in this document and the documents incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein that are not historical facts, including statements about our beliefs and expectations, particularly regarding recent business and economic trends, the share exchange with Janus Capital Group Inc., which we refer to as Janus, the impact of litigation, dispositions, impairment charges, the integration of

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acquisitions and restructuring costs, constitute forward-looking statements. In some cases you can identify forward-looking statements by terms such as "may," "will," "should," "intend," "expect," "plan," "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "predict," "potential" or "continue," or the negative of such terms or other comparable terms. These statements are based on assumptions by DST's management at the time the statements are made including assumptions about risks and uncertainties faced by us. If any of management's assumptions prove incorrect or unanticipated circumstances arise, the actual results could differ materially from those anticipated by such forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made, and we undertake no obligation to update publicly any of them in light of new information or future events.

Differences could be caused by a number of factors or combination of factors. Such factors include, but are not limited to, those associated with our ability to attract new clients and retain existing clients; the financial success of our clients; the impact of technological developments; the successful completion of joint ventures which complement and expand our business capabilities; accounting or other fraud that may occur with respect to the financial statements or business of financial service providers or other clients of ours; changes in management strategies; changes in lines of business or markets; failure of anticipated opportunities to materialize; changes in the cost of necessary supplies; and changes in the economic, political or regulatory environments in the United States and/or the other countries where we now compete or may compete in the future.

Our liquidity could be adversely affected if we are unable to access capital or to raise proceeds from asset sales. Our financial condition and future results of operations could also be adversely affected if we recognize additional impairment charges due to future events or in the event of other adverse accounting-related developments.

At any given time we may be engaged in a number of preliminary discussions that may result in one or more joint ventures, acquisitions or dispositions. These opportunities require confidentiality and from time to time give rise to bidding scenarios that require quick responses by us. Although there is uncertainty that any of these discussions will result in definitive agreements or the completion of any transactions, the announcement of any such transaction may lead to increased volatility in the trading price of our securities.

Investors should evaluate any statements made by us in light of these important factors and the factors contained in the "Risk Factors" section.

### SUMMARY

THIS SUMMARY CONTAINS BASIC INFORMATION ABOUT US AND THIS OFFERING. BECAUSE IT IS A SUMMARY, IT DOES NOT CONTAIN ALL OF THE INFORMATION THAT YOU SHOULD CONSIDER BEFORE INVESTING. YOU SHOULD CAREFULLY READ THIS ENTIRE PROSPECTUS INCLUDING THE SECTION ENTITLED "RISK FACTORS" AND THE DOCUMENTS WE INCORPORATE BY REFERENCE TO FULLY UNDERSTAND THE TERMS OF THE DEBENTURES AS WELL AS THE TAX AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS THAT ARE IMPORTANT TO YOU IN MAKING A DECISION WHETHER TO INVEST IN THE DEBENTURES AND THE COMMON STOCK ISSUABLE UPON THEIR CONVERSION.

### OUR COMPANY

DST has several operating business units that offer sophisticated information processing and software services and products. These business units are reported as three operating segments:

- o Financial Services;

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- o Output Solutions; and
- o Customer Management.

In addition, investments in equity securities and certain financial interests and our real estate subsidiaries and affiliates have been aggregated into an Investments and Other segment. A summary of each of these segments follows:

### FINANCIAL SERVICES

Our Financial Services segment provides sophisticated information processing and computer software services and products primarily to mutual funds, investment managers, corporations, insurance companies, banks, brokers and financial planners. Our proprietary software systems include:

- o mutual fund shareowner and unit trust recordkeeping systems for U.S. and international mutual fund companies;
- o a defined-contribution participant recordkeeping system for the U.S. retirement plan market;
- o securities transfer systems offered to corporations, corporate trustees and transfer agents;
- o investment management systems offered to U.S. and international fund accountants and investment managers;
- o a workflow management and customer contact system offered to mutual funds, insurance companies, brokerage firms, banks, cable television operators and health care providers; and
- o record-keeping systems to support "managed account" investment products.

We also provide design, management and transaction processing services for customized consumer equipment maintenance and debt protection programs.

The segment distributes its services and products on a direct basis and through subsidiaries and joint venture affiliates in the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Europe, Australia, South Africa and Asia-Pacific and, to a lesser degree, distributes such services and products through various strategic alliances.

### OUTPUT SOLUTIONS

Our Output Solutions segment provides single source, integrated print and electronic communications solutions. In the United States, DST Output, LLC, our wholly owned subsidiary, provides customized and personalized bill and statement processing services, electronic bill payment and presentment solutions and computer output archival solutions which establish DST Output, LLC as a preferred service provider to customers of the Financial Services and Customer Management segments and other industries that value customer communications and require high quality, accurate and timely bill and statement processing.

The segment also offers its services to the Canadian and U.K. markets. DST Output Canada Inc., our wholly owned subsidiary, offers customer communications and document automation solutions to the Canadian market. DST International Output Limited, which was acquired in 2002, provides personalized paper and electronic communications, principally in the United Kingdom.

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The segment distributes its products directly in connection with the provision of certain Financial Services and Customer Management products and in connection with other providers of data processing services.

DST Output Marketing Services, Inc., referred to in this prospectus as OMS, was included in this segment until the time of the share exchange transaction described below under "--Recent Developments--Share Exchange Transaction."

### CUSTOMER MANAGEMENT

Our Customer Management segment provides customer management, billing and marketing solutions to the video/broadband, direct broadcast satellite, wire-line and Internet Protocol telephony, Internet and utility markets. The segment offers a comprehensive customer management and billing solution by providing core customer care products that are supplemented with the products and services offered from our other operating segments.

The segment distributes its services and products on a direct basis, through subsidiaries in North America, the United Kingdom and parts of Europe and with international alliance partners in other regions of the world.

### INVESTMENTS AND OTHER

The Investments and Other segment holds investments in equity securities and certain financial interests and our real estate subsidiaries and affiliates. We hold investments in equity securities with a market value of approximately \$1,152.9 million at March 31, 2004, including 12.8 million shares of State Street Corporation with a market value of approximately \$666.8 million and 8.6 million shares of Computer Sciences Corporation with a market value of approximately \$348.1 million. Additionally, the segment owns and operates real estate mostly in the United States and the United Kingdom, which is held primarily for lease to our other business segments.

### COMPANY INFORMATION

DST was originally established in 1969. Through a reorganization in August 1995, DST is now a corporation organized in the State of Delaware. Our principal executive offices are located at 333 West 11th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64105. Our telephone number is (816) 435-1000.

### SUMMARY OF THE OFFERING

For a more complete description of the terms of the debentures and the common stock issuable upon conversion of the debentures, see "Description of the Series A Debentures," "Description of the Series B Debentures" and "Description of Capital Stock.."

#### 4.125% SERIES A CONVERTIBLE SENIOR DEBENTURES

Issuer..... DST Systems, Inc.

Debentures Offered. \$540,000,000 aggregate original principal amount of 4.125% Series A Convertible Senior Debentures due 2023.

Maturity..... August 15, 2023, unless earlier redeemed, purchased or converted.

Interest..... The Series A debentures initially bear regular cash interest

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at an annual rate equal to 4.125% on the original principal amount. Regular cash interest will be payable semiannually in arrears on February 15 and August 15 of each year, each an interest payment date, beginning February 15, 2004, until August 15, 2010.

Beginning August 15, 2010, we will not pay regular cash interest on the Series A debentures prior to maturity. Instead, the original principal amount of each Series A debenture will increase daily at a rate of 4.125% per year to \$1,700.28, which is the full accreted principal amount payable at maturity for each \$1,000 original principal amount of Series A debentures. The accreted principal amount of a debenture will be computed from August 15, 2010 on a semiannual bond equivalent basis using a 360-day year composed of twelve 30-day months.

We will also pay contingent interest and liquidated damages on the Series A debentures under the circumstances described in this prospectus.

Ranking..... The Series A debentures are unsecured and rank equally in right of payment with all of our other existing and future unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness. The Series A debentures are effectively subordinated to existing and future indebtedness and other liabilities of our subsidiaries and to any of our secured indebtedness. As of March 31, 2004, we had outstanding approximately \$0 million of unsecured, unsubordinated indebtedness, and approximately \$618.6 million of secured indebtedness.

### Contingent

Interest..... Under certain circumstances, we will make additional payments of interest, referred to in this prospectus as "contingent interest."

For the period from August 20, 2010 to February 14, 2011, and thereafter for any six-month interest period from February 15 to August 14 or August 15 to February 14, we will pay contingent interest for such period if the average trading price of the Series A debentures for the applicable five trading-day reference period equals or exceeds 120% of the accreted principal amount of the Series A debentures. We will pay contingent interest on the interest payment date immediately following the applicable six-month interest period. The amount of contingent interest payable per Series A debenture in respect of any six-month interest period will be equal to 0.19% of the average trading price of a Series A debenture for the applicable five trading-day reference

period. The "five trading-day reference period" means the five trading days ending on the second trading day immediately preceding the relevant six-month interest period. For more information about contingent interest, see "Description of the Series A Debentures -- Contingent Interest."

Conversion Rights.. Holders may convert their Series A debentures into shares of our common stock under any of the following circumstances:



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- o during any calendar quarter after September 30, 2003 (and only during such calendar quarter) if the last reported sale price of our common stock for at least 20 trading days during the period of 30 consecutive trading days ending on the last trading day of the previous calendar quarter, is greater than or equal to 120% of the applicable conversion price, or
- o subject to certain exceptions, during the five business day period after any five consecutive trading-day period in which the trading price per \$1,000 original principal amount of Series A debentures for each day of that period was less than 95% of the product of the last reported sale price of our common stock and the conversion rate on each such day, or
- o if the Series A debentures have been called for redemption, or
- o upon the occurrence of specified corporate transactions described under "Description of the Series A Debentures -- Conversion Rights -- Conversion Upon Specified Corporate Transactions."

For each \$1,000 original principal amount of Series A debentures surrendered for conversion, you may convert your Series A debentures into 20.3732 shares of our common stock. This represents an initial conversion price of \$49.08 per share of common stock. As described in this prospectus, the conversion rate may be adjusted for certain reasons, including for any cash dividend or distribution in excess of \$0.0025 per quarter, but it will not be adjusted for accrued and unpaid cash interest, including contingent interest and liquidated damages, if any, or for accretion of the principal amount of the Series A debentures (except as otherwise described in this prospectus). Except as otherwise described in this prospectus, you will not receive any payment representing accrued and unpaid cash interest, including contingent interest, if any, or accretion of the principal amount upon conversion of a Series A debenture; however, we will pay accrued and unpaid liquidated damages, if any, to the conversion date in accordance with the registration rights agreement.

Upon conversion, we will have the right to deliver, in lieu of shares of our common stock, cash or a combination of cash and shares of our common stock. See "Description of Series A Debentures -- Conversion Rights -- Payment Upon Conversion."

Series A debentures called for redemption may be surrendered for conversion prior to the close of business on the business day immediately preceding the redemption date.

### Optional

Redemption..... Prior to August 20, 2010, the Series A debentures will not be redeemable by us. On or after August 20, 2010, we may redeem for cash all or part of the Series A debentures at any time, upon not less than 30 days nor more than 60 days notice before the redemption date, by mail to the trustee, the paying

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agent and each holder of Series A debentures, for a price equal to the accreted principal amount of the Series A debentures to be redeemed plus any accrued and unpaid cash interest, including contingent interest and liquidated damages, if any, to the redemption date. See "Description of the Series A Debentures-- Optional Redemption."

### Purchase of Series A Debentures by Us at the Option of the Holder.....

..... Holders have the right to require us to purchase all or any portion of their Series A debentures on August 15, 2010, August 15, 2015 and August 15, 2020. In each case, the purchase price will be equal to the accreted principal amount of the Series A debentures to be purchased plus any accrued and unpaid cash interest, including contingent interest and liquidated damages, if any, to such purchase date. See "Description of the Series A Debentures-- Purchase of Series A Debentures by Us at the Option of the Holder."

We will pay cash for all Series A debentures so purchased on August 15, 2010. For purchases on August 15, 2015 and August 15, 2020, we may pay the purchase price for any Series A debentures that we are required to purchase in cash, common stock, or any combination thereof. If we choose to pay all or part of the purchase price in shares of common stock, the shares will be valued at 97.5% of the market price (as defined) of our common stock as of the third business day prior to the purchase date.

Fundamental Change. If we undergo a Fundamental Change (as defined under "Description of the Series A Debentures-- Fundamental Change Requires Purchase of Series A Debentures by Us at the Option of the Holder"), holders will have the right, at their option, to require us to purchase all or any portion of their Series A debentures. The price we are required to pay is equal to the accreted principal amount of the Series A debentures to be purchased plus accrued and unpaid cash interest, including contingent interest and liquidated damages, if any, to the Fundamental Change purchase date. We may choose to pay the purchase price for any Series A debentures that you require us to purchase upon a Fundamental Change in cash, shares of our common stock or any combination of cash and shares. If we choose to pay all or part of the purchase price in shares of common stock, the shares will be valued at 97.5% of the market price (as defined) of our common stock as of the third business day prior to the purchase date. See "Description of the Series A Debentures-- Fundamental Change Requires Purchase of Series A Debentures by Us at the Option of the Holder."

Use of Proceeds.... We will not receive any proceeds from the sale by the selling security holders of the debentures or the common stock issuable upon conversion thereof. See "Use of Proceeds."

### Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations.....

..... Each holder agrees in the indenture to treat the Series A debentures as contingent payment debt instruments for U.S. federal income tax purposes. As a holder of Series A

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debentures, you will agree to accrue original issue discount on a constant yield to maturity basis at a rate comparable to the rate at which we would borrow in a noncontingent, nonconvertible borrowing, 8.4% compounded semi-annually. As a result, you will generally recognize taxable income in each year in excess of interest payments actually received that year. Additionally, you will generally be required to recognize ordinary income on

the gain, if any, realized on a sale, exchange, conversion or redemption of the Series A debentures. This gain will be measured by the sum of the amount of any cash and the fair market value of any shares of our common stock or other property received. A summary of the U.S. federal income tax consequences of ownership and disposition of Series A debentures and our common stock is described in this prospectus under the heading "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations." Owners of the Series A debentures should consult their tax advisors as to the U.S. federal, state, local, or other tax consequences of acquiring, owning and disposing of the Series A debentures and our common stock.

Trading..... The Series A debentures will not be listed on any securities exchange or included in any automated quotation system. No assurance can be given as to the development or liquidity of any trading market for the Series A debentures. Our common stock is listed on the NYSE under the symbol "DST." The Series A debentures have been approved for designation in the PORTALsm Market of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc.

### 3.625% SERIES B CONVERTIBLE SENIOR DEBENTURES

Issuer..... DST Systems, Inc.

Debentures Offered. \$300,000,000 aggregate original principal amount of 3.625% Series B Convertible Senior Debentures due 2023.

Maturity..... August 15, 2023, unless earlier redeemed, purchased or converted.

Interest..... The Series B debentures initially bear regular cash interest at an annual rate equal to 3.625% on the original principal amount. Regular cash interest will be payable semiannually in arrears on February 15 and August 15 of each year, each an interest payment date, beginning February 15, 2004, until August 15, 2008.

Beginning August 15, 2008, we will not pay regular cash interest on the Series B debentures prior to maturity. Instead, the original principal amount of each Series B debenture will increase daily at a rate of 3.625% per year to \$1,714.09, which is the full accreted principal amount payable at maturity for each \$1,000 original principal

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amount of Series B debentures. The accreted principal amount of a debenture will be computed from August 15, 2008 on a semiannual bond equivalent basis using a 360-day year composed of twelve 30-day months.

We will also pay contingent interest and liquidated damages on the Series B debentures under the circumstances described in this prospectus.

Ranking..... The Series B debentures are unsecured and rank equally in right of payment with all of our other existing and future unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness. The Series B debentures are effectively subordinated to existing and future indebtedness and other liabilities of our subsidiaries and to any of our secured indebtedness. As of March 31, 2004, we had outstanding approximately \$0 million of unsecured, unsubordinated indebtedness, and approximately \$618.6 million of secured indebtedness.

Contingent Interest..... Under certain circumstances, we will make additional payments of interest, referred to in this prospectus as "contingent interest." For the period from August 20, 2008 to February 14, 2009, and thereafter for any six-month interest period from February 15 to August 14 or August 15 to February 14, we will pay contingent interest for such period if the average trading price of the Series B debentures for the applicable five trading-day reference period equals or exceeds 120% of the accreted principal amount of the Series B debentures. We will pay contingent interest on the interest payment date immediately following the applicable six-month interest period. The amount of contingent interest payable per Series B debenture in respect of any six-month interest period will be equal to 0.19% of the average trading price of a Series B debenture for the applicable five trading-day reference period. The "five trading-day reference period" means the five trading days ending on the second trading day immediately preceding the relevant six-month interest period. For more information about contingent interest, see "Description of the Series B Debentures-- Contingent Interest."

Conversion Rights.. Holders may convert their Series B debentures into shares of our common stock under any of the following circumstances:

- o during any calendar quarter after September 30, 2003 (and only during such calendar quarter) if the last reported sale price of our common stock for at least 20 trading days during the period of 30 consecutive trading days ending on the last trading day of the previous calendar quarter, is greater than or equal to 120% of the applicable conversion price, or
- o subject to certain exceptions, during the five business day period after any five consecutive trading-day period in which the trading price per \$1,000 original principal amount of Series B debentures for each day of that period was less than 95% of the product of the last reported sale price of our common stock and the conversion rate on each such day; or

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- o if the Series B debentures have been called for redemption, or
- o upon the occurrence of specified corporate transactions described under "Description of the Series B Debentures -- Conversion Rights -- Conversion Upon Specified Corporate Transactions."

For each \$1,000 original principal amount of Series B debentures surrendered for conversion, you may convert your Series B debentures into 20.3732 shares of our common stock. This represents an initial conversion price of \$49.08 per share of common stock. As described in this prospectus, the conversion rate may be adjusted for certain reasons, including for any cash dividend or distribution in excess of \$0.0025 per quarter, but it will not be adjusted for accrued and unpaid interest, including contingent interest and liquidated damages, if any, or for accretion of the principal amount of the Series B debentures (except as otherwise described in this prospectus). Except as otherwise described in this prospectus, you will not receive any payment representing accrued and unpaid cash interest, including contingent interest, if any, or accretion of the principal amount upon conversion of a Series B debenture; however, we will pay accrued and unpaid liquidated damages, if any, to the conversion date in accordance with the registration rights agreement.

Upon conversion, we will have the right to deliver, in lieu of shares of our common stock, cash or a combination of cash and shares of our common stock. See "Description of Series B Debentures -- Conversion Rights -- Payment Upon Conversion."

Series B debentures called for redemption may be surrendered for conversion prior to the close of business on the business day immediately preceding the redemption date.

### Optional

Redemption..... Prior to August 20, 2008, the Series B debentures will not be redeemable by us. On or after August 20, 2008, we may redeem for cash all or part of the Series B debentures at any time, upon not less than 30 days nor more than 60 days notice before the redemption date, by mail to the trustee, the paying agent and each holder of Series B debentures, for a price equal to the accreted principal amount of the Series B debentures to be redeemed plus any accrued and unpaid cash interest, including contingent interest and liquidated

damages, if any, to the redemption date. See "Description of the Series B Debentures-- Optional Redemption."

### Purchase of Series B Debentures by Us at the Option of the Holder.....

..... Holders have the right to require us to purchase all or any portion of their Series B debentures on August 15, 2008, August 15, 2013 and August 15, 2018. In each case, the purchase price will be equal to the accreted principal amount of the Series B debentures to be purchased plus any

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accrued and unpaid cash interest, including contingent interest and liquidated damages, if any, to such purchase date. See "Description of the Series B Debentures-- Purchase of Series B Debentures by Us at the Option of the Holder."

We will pay cash for all Series B debentures so purchased on August 15, 2008. For purchases on August 15, 2013 and August 15, 2018, we may pay the purchase price for any Series B debentures that we are required to purchase in cash, common stock, or any combination thereof. If we choose to pay all or part of the purchase price in shares of common stock, the shares will be valued at 97.5% of the market price (as defined) of our common stock as of the third business day prior to the purchase date.

Fundamental Change. If we undergo a Fundamental Change (as defined under "Description of the Series B Debentures-- Fundamental Change Requires Purchase of Series B Debentures by Us at the Option of the Holder"), holders will have the right, at their option, to require us to purchase all or any portion of their Series B debentures. The price we are required to pay is equal to the accreted principal amount of the Series B debentures to be purchased plus accrued and unpaid cash interest, including contingent interest and liquidated damages, if any, to the Fundamental Change purchase date. We may choose to pay the purchase price for any Series B debentures that you require us to purchase upon a Fundamental Change in cash, shares of our common stock or any combination of cash and shares. If we choose to pay all or part of the purchase price in shares of common stock, the shares will be valued at 97.5% of the market price (as defined) of our common stock as of the third business day prior to the purchase date. See "Description of the Series B Debentures-- Fundamental Change Requires Purchase of Series B Debentures by Us at the Option of the Holder."

Use of Proceeds.... We will not receive any proceeds from the sale by the selling security holders of the debentures or the common stock issuable upon conversion thereof. See "Use of Proceeds."

Material U.S.

Federal Income Tax

Considerations..... Each holder agrees in the indenture to treat the Series B debentures as contingent payment debt instruments for U.S. federal income tax purposes. As a holder of Series B debentures, you will agree to accrue original issue discount on a constant yield to maturity basis at a rate comparable to the rate at which we would borrow in a noncontingent, nonconvertible borrowing, 8.4% compounded semi-annually. As a result, you will generally recognize taxable income in each year in excess of interest payments actually received that year. Additionally, you will generally be required to recognize ordinary income on the gain, if any, realized on a sale, exchange, conversion or redemption of the Series B debentures. This gain will be measured by the sum of the amount of any cash and the fair market value of any shares of our common stock or other property received. A summary of the U.S. federal income tax consequences of ownership and disposition of Series B debentures and our common stock is

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described in this prospectus under the heading "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations." Owners of the Series B debentures should consult their tax advisors as to the U.S. federal, state, local, or other tax consequences of acquiring, owning and disposing of the Series B debentures and our common stock.

Trading..... The Series B debentures will not be listed on any securities exchange or included in any automated quotation system. No assurance can be given as to the development or liquidity of any trading market for the Series B debentures. Our common stock is listed on the NYSE under the symbol "DST." The Series B debentures have been approved for designation in the PORTALsm Market of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc.

### RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

The following table shows the ratio of earnings to fixed charges for us and our consolidated subsidiaries for each of the periods indicated.

	THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2004	2003	YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002	2001	2000
	-----	----	----	----	----
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges.....	5.1	9.3(2)	9.0(2)	12.1(1)	12.1

In calculating the earnings to fixed charges ratio, earnings are the sum of earnings before income taxes and equity in earnings (losses) of equity investees, plus fixed charges. Fixed charges are the sum of interest on indebtedness, amortization of debt discount and expense and that portion of net rental expense deemed representative of the interest component.

(1) In 2001, we recognized a \$32.8 million pre-tax gain on the sale of our Portfolio Accounting Systems, which we refer to as PAS, business to State Street Corporation, which we refer to as State Street.

(2) In 2002 and 2003, we recorded costs associated with facility consolidations in our Output Solutions segment of \$12.0 million and \$2.6 million, respectively. In 2003, we recorded a gain from the sale of OMS of \$108.9 million and the additional cost associated with Option Reload Cancellation of \$15.9 million. Excluding these material items, the 2002 and 2003 ratio of earnings to fixed charges was 9.3 and 7.5, respectively.

### RISK FACTORS

YOU SHOULD CAREFULLY CONSIDER THE RISKS DESCRIBED BELOW BEFORE MAKING AN INVESTMENT DECISION. THE RISKS DESCRIBED BELOW ARE NOT THE ONLY ONES FACING US. ADDITIONAL RISKS NOT PRESENTLY KNOWN TO US OR THAT WE CURRENTLY DEEM IMMATERIAL MAY ALSO IMPAIR OUR BUSINESS OPERATIONS.

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OUR BUSINESS, FINANCIAL CONDITION OR RESULTS OF OPERATIONS COULD BE MATERIALLY ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY ANY OF THESE RISKS. THE TRADING PRICE OF THE DEBENTURES AND OUR COMMON STOCK COULD DECLINE DUE TO ANY OF THESE RISKS, AND YOU MAY LOSE ALL OR PART OF YOUR INVESTMENT.

THIS PROSPECTUS ALSO CONTAINS FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS THAT INVOLVE RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES. OUR ACTUAL RESULTS COULD DIFFER MATERIALLY FROM THOSE ANTICIPATED IN THESE FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS AS A RESULT OF CERTAIN FACTORS, INCLUDING THE RISKS FACED BY US DESCRIBED BELOW AND ELSEWHERE IN THIS PROSPECTUS.

### RISKS RELATED TO DST

OUR BUSINESS DEPENDS LARGELY ON CERTAIN INDUSTRIES. EVENTS THAT IMPACT THESE INDUSTRIES COULD HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.

We derive a substantial proportion of our consolidated revenues from the delivery of services and products to clients that are publicly traded corporations, mutual funds, investment managers, insurance companies, banks, brokers, or financial planners or are in the video/broadband, direct broadcast satellite, wire-line, wireless and cellular, debt protection, Internet protocol telephony, Internet, utility and other businesses. Consolidations which would decrease the number of potential clients in such businesses, events which would reduce the rate of growth in or negatively impact such businesses, events which would reduce the rate of growth in or negatively impact such businesses, or significant declines in the number of accounts or subscribers serviced by clients in such businesses could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations. In particular, recent consolidations and business conditions in the telecommunications industry have negatively affected the results of our Output Solutions segment.

Nearly 70% of our operating revenues in fiscal year 2003 were derived from mutual fund/investment management, securities transfer and other financial services industries. Approximately 45% of our operating revenues in fiscal year 2003 were derived from the mutual fund industry alone. As a result, our results of operations have been adversely affected by slower general market activity, reduced trading and reduced mutual fund investing. A continued deterioration in consumer confidence in mutual fund investing resulting in a reduction in such investing and in the number of mutual fund accounts serviced would have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

IF WE ARE NOT SUCCESSFUL IN COMPLETING THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION CURRENT TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS, IT COULD HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.

We are in the process of implementing and enhancing (a) a new stock transfer system, which we refer to as Fairway, that will replace the existing systems used by our wholly-owned subsidiary, EquiServe, Inc., to maintain corporate stock transfer records, and (b) a new subscriber management system, which we refer to as Concorde, that will replace the existing systems used by our wholly-owned subsidiaries, DST Interactive, Inc. and DST Innovis, Inc., to maintain cable and satellite TV subscriber records. Failure to successfully complete Fairway or Concorde development and implementation, to successfully convert existing clients to such systems, or to successfully complete and implement various other current technology projects could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

FAILURE OF OUR CLIENTS TO RENEW CONTRACTS, CANCELLATION OF CONTRACTS OR REDUCED UTILIZATION BY OUR CLIENTS COULD HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR FINANCIAL



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### CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.

Substantially all of our revenue is derived from the sale of services or products under long-term contracts with our clients. We do not have the unilateral option to extend the terms of such contracts upon their expiration. Certain of our service agreements contain "termination for convenience" clauses that enable clients to cancel the agreements by providing written notice to us a specified number of days prior to the desired termination date. Such clauses are sometimes coupled with a requirement for payment by the client of a fee in the event of termination for convenience. In addition, under certain of our agreements, the fees we receive are dependent on utilization rates for our services. The failure of clients to renew contracts, the cancellation of contracts or a reduction in usage by clients under any contracts could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations. In particular, our Output Solutions and Customer Management segments have suffered customer losses as a result of industry consolidation and competitive pressures.

OUR INDUSTRY IS VERY COMPETITIVE. IF WE ARE UNABLE TO COMPETE EFFECTIVELY, IT COULD HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.

We, our subsidiaries and our joint ventures encounter significant competition for our services and products from other third-party providers of similar services and products and from potential clients who chose not to outsource certain services we could provide. Our ability to compete effectively depends, in part, on the availability of capital and other resources, and some of these competitors have greater resources and greater access to capital than us. We also compete for shareowner accounting services with brokerage firms that perform sub-accounting services for the brokerage firms' customers who purchase or sell shares of mutual funds for which we serve as transfer agent. Such brokerage firms maintain only an "omnibus" account with us representing the aggregate number of shares of a mutual fund owned by the brokerage firms' customers, thus resulting in fewer mutual fund shareowner accounts being maintained by us. Any of these events could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations, including our gross profit margins. In addition, competitive factors could influence or alter our overall revenue mix between our various business segments.

WE MAY EXPERIENCE FLUCTUATIONS IN OUR QUARTERLY AND ANNUAL OPERATING RESULTS.

Our quarterly and annual operating results may fluctuate from quarter to quarter and year to year depending on various factors, including but not limited to the impact of significant start-up costs associated with initiating the delivery of contracted services to new clients, the hiring of additional staff, new product

development and other expenses, introduction of new products by competitors, pricing pressures, the evolving and unpredictable nature of the markets in which our products and services are sold, and general economic conditions.

OUR FUTURE SUCCESS DEPENDS IN PART ON ADAPTING OUR PRODUCTS AND SERVICES TO CHANGES IN TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE MARKETS IN WHICH OUR CLIENTS OPERATE. IF WE DO NOT UPDATE OUR PRODUCTS AND SERVICES OR DEVELOP NEW PRODUCTS AND SERVICES THAT ARE TIMELY DELIVERED TO AND WELL RECEIVED BY CLIENTS, THERE COULD BE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.

Our clients use computer technology-based products and services in the complex and rapidly changing markets in which they operate. The technology available to our clients, such as methods for the electronic dissemination of documents, is expanding. Our future success depends in part on our ability to

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continue to develop and adapt our technology, on a timely and cost effective basis, to meet clients' needs and demands for the latest technology. There can be no assurance that we will be able to respond adequately and in advance of our competitors to these technological demands or that more advanced technology, including technology for the electronic dissemination of documents, will not reduce or replace the need for certain of our products and services.

Similarly, certain of our clients provide services related to communications devices and/or the communications industry. The communications industry, and wireless communication devices in particular, are rapidly evolving. The future success of our business of providing administrative services to clients in the communications industry depends in part on our ability to continue to develop and adapt our services, on a timely and cost effective basis, to meet clients' needs and demands for administrative services appropriate to the latest communications technology.

We have expended considerable funds to develop products to serve new and rapidly changing markets. If such markets grow or converge more slowly than anticipated or our products and services fail to achieve market acceptance, there could be a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

WE HAVE SIGNIFICANT EQUITY INVESTMENTS. ANY SIGNIFICANT DECLINE IN THE VALUE OF OUR EQUITY INVESTMENTS COULD HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.

We significantly invest in available-for-sale equity securities of other companies. The value of such securities depends on the market for such securities and on changes in the markets in which such other companies operate. Any significant decline in the value of our equity investments could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations. As of March 31, 2004, the market value of such investments was \$1,152.9 million.

WE OWN, LEASE AND MANAGE REAL ESTATE, AND RELY ON OUR PROCESSING FACILITIES. ANY EVENT THAT CAUSES LONG-TERM DAMAGE TO THESE FACILITIES COULD HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.

Our processing services are primarily dependent on facilities housing central computer operations or in which information, image or bill and statement processing occur. Our mutual fund full service, corporate stock transfer and insurance, warranty and debt protection administrative service businesses are dependent on call centers in various locations. We own, lease and manage real estate. A natural disaster, terrorist act, or other calamity that causes long-term damage to our facilities, or economic or other events impacting the real estate markets in which we own, lease or manage real estate, could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

WE RELY ON INSURERS IN CONNECTION WITH THE INSURANCE, WARRANTY AND DEBT PROTECTION SERVICES WE PROVIDE TO CERTAIN CLIENTS. OUR FAILURE TO MAINTAIN RELATIONSHIPS WITH THESE INSURERS COULD HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.

Currently, our business of providing administrative services in connection with the insurance, warranty and debt protection services of our clients significantly depends upon our business relationships with one or more insurance companies that provide coverage necessary for the clients' products and services. Termination of the business relationships with these insurance companies could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations if we were unable to arrange alternative sources of coverage.

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OUR BUSINESS IS DEPENDENT ON SKILLED TECHNICAL PERSONNEL AND OUR SENIOR MANAGEMENT. IF WE ARE UNABLE TO RETAIN OR ATTRACT QUALIFIED TECHNICAL AND MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL, IT COULD HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.

Our operations and the continuing implementation of our business strategy depend upon the efforts of our technical personnel and senior management. Recruiting and retaining capable personnel, particularly those with expertise in the types of computer hardware and software utilized by us, are vital to our success. There is substantial competition for qualified technical and management personnel, and there can be no assurance that we will be able to attract or keep the qualified personnel we require. The loss of key personnel or the failure to hire qualified personnel could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

OUR BUSINESS STRATEGY INCLUDES A RELIANCE ON JOINT VENTURES. WE ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO EXERCISE CONTROL OVER THESE JOINT VENTURES WITHOUT THE CONCURRENCE OF OUR JOINT VENTURE PARTNERS.

Our business strategy for growth and expansion includes reliance on joint ventures. We derive part of our net income from our pro rata share in the earnings of these unconsolidated companies. Although we own significant equity interests in such companies and have representation on their boards of directors or governance structures, we are not in a position to exercise control over their operations, strategies or financial decisions without the concurrence of our equity partners. Our equity interests in Boston Financial Data Services, Inc., which we refer to as BFDS, Argus Health Systems, Inc., and International Financial Data Services Limited Partnership and International Financial Data Services Limited, which we refer to collectively as IFDS, are subject to contractual buy/sell arrangements that may restrict our ability to fully dispose of our interest in these companies and that under certain circumstances permit such companies to purchase our interest.

The other parties to our current and future joint venture arrangements may at any time have economic, business or legal interests or goals that are inconsistent with those of the joint venture or of us. In addition, if such other parties were unable to meet their economic or other obligations to such ventures, it could, depending upon the nature of such obligations, adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.

WE AND CERTAIN OF OUR SUBSIDIARIES, JOINT VENTURES AND CLIENTS ARE SUBJECT TO REGULATION BY VARIOUS REGULATORY AGENCIES. IF ANY OF OUR REGULATORY AUTHORIZATIONS OR THOSE OF OUR SUBSIDIARIES AND JOINT VENTURES ARE SUSPENDED OR REVOKED, IT COULD HAVE AN ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR RESULTS OF OPERATIONS. IN ADDITION, REGULATORY CHANGES THAT ADVERSELY AFFECT OUR CLIENTS, COULD HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.

As registered transfer agents, DST, our subsidiary, EquiServe, our indirect subsidiary, EquiServe Trust Company, N.A., which we refer to as EquiServe Trust, our joint venture, BFDS, and BFDS' subsidiary, National Financial Data Services, Inc., which we refer to collectively as our domestic transfer

agent businesses, are subject to the Exchange Act and to the rules and regulations of the SEC under the Exchange Act which require them to register with the SEC and which impose on them recordkeeping and reporting requirements. Certain of the operations and records of our domestic transfer agent businesses

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are subject to examination by the SEC and, as providers of services to financial institutions, to examination by bank and thrift regulatory agencies. In connection with its transfer agency business, EquiServe Trust serves as a limited purpose trust company subject to regulation of the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency. In addition, companies wholly owned by IFDS, which we refer to as IFDS transfer agent businesses, are subject to regulation of similar regulatory agencies in other countries. Any of the domestic transfer agent businesses or IFDS transfer agent businesses could have its regulatory authorizations suspended or revoked if it were to materially violate applicable regulations, which could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

Similarly, certain of our subsidiaries involved in the business of providing administrative services in connection with insurance and warranty products are licensed insurance agencies or licensed or registered service warranty providers and, as such, are subject to applicable state insurance and service warranty laws and to related rules and regulations. These laws and regulations impose on them recordkeeping, reporting, financial and other requirements and generally regulate the conduct of regulated business operations. In the event any of the subsidiaries materially violate any of these applicable laws or regulations, their regulatory authorizations could be suspended or revoked, which could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

Our existing and potential clients are subject to extensive regulation. Certain of our customers are subject to federal and state regulation of investment advisors and broker/dealers. Certain of our clients are also subject to federal and state regulations governing the privacy and use of the customer information that is collected and managed by our products and services. Certain of our revenue opportunities may depend on continued deregulation in the worldwide communications industry. Regulatory changes that adversely affect our existing and potential clients, or material violation of regulatory requirements by clients, could diminish the business prospects of such clients. If such conditions were to materially, adversely affect the business of a material client or a material group of our clients, such conditions could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

OUR FAILURE TO ADEQUATELY PROTECT OUR PROPRIETARY RIGHTS OR ANY SIGNIFICANT THIRD PARTY INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY INFRINGEMENT CLAIMS AGAINST US COULD HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.

We rely on a combination of copyright, trade secret and patent laws, nondisclosure agreements, and other contractual measures to protect our proprietary technology. There can be no assurance that these provisions will be adequate to protect our proprietary rights. There can be no assurance that third parties will not assert infringement claims against us or our clients or that such claims, if brought, would not have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

IF WE FAIL TO PROTECT THE SECURITY OF PROPRIETARY CUSTOMER INFORMATION, IT COULD HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.

Our business involves the electronic recordkeeping of proprietary information of our customers, and of the clients of such customers. We maintain systems and procedures to protect against unauthorized access to such information and against computer viruses, which we refer to as security systems, and there is no guarantee that the security systems are adequate to protect against all security breaches. Rapid advances in technology make it impossible to anticipate or be prepared to address all potential security threats. A material breach of our security systems could cause our customers to reconsider use of our services and products, affect our reputation, or otherwise have a

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material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

A PORTION OF OUR REVENUES ARE DERIVED FROM INTEREST EARNINGS AND A CHANGE IN INTEREST RATES COULD HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.

Our transfer agent businesses derive a certain amount of service revenue from investment earnings related to cash balances maintained in transfer agency customer bank accounts. The balances maintained in the bank accounts are subject to fluctuation. A change in interest rates could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

OUR NON-U.S. OPERATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO INHERENT RISKS AND THERE CAN BE NO ASSURANCE THAT THESE RISKS WILL NOT HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.

Consolidated revenues from our subsidiaries in Canada, Europe and elsewhere outside the U.S. account for a percentage of our revenues. Our current and proposed international business activities are subject to certain inherent risks, including, but not limited to, specific country, regional or global economic conditions, exchange rate fluctuation and its impact on liquidity, change in the national priorities of any given country, and cultural differences. There can be no assurance that such risks will not have a material adverse effect on our future international sales and, consequently, our financial condition and results of operations.

CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF OUR CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION AND OUR STOCKHOLDERS' RIGHTS PLAN COULD DELAY, DETER OR PREVENT A CHANGE OF CONTROL OF DST, EVEN IF IT WOULD BE BENEFICIAL TO OUR STOCKHOLDERS. IN ADDITION, CERTAIN CLIENT AGREEMENTS AND JOINT VENTURE AGREEMENTS HAVE PROVISIONS TRIGGERING CERTAIN RIGHTS OF THE OTHER PARTY IN THE EVENT OF A CHANGE IN CONTROL OF DST.

Some provisions of our certificate of incorporation could make it more difficult for a third party to acquire control of us, even if the change of control would be beneficial to certain stockholders. We have also adopted a stockholders' rights plan which could delay, deter or prevent a change in control of DST. A few of our client agreements allow the client to terminate its agreement or to obtain rights to use our software used in processing the client's data in the event of an acquisition or change of control of DST. In the event of a change in control of DST (as defined in the applicable plan or agreement), vesting of awards (including stock options, restricted stock, and rights to receive stock as deferred compensation) under our stock option and performance award plan will be automatically accelerated, certain limited rights related to stock options will become exercisable, and employment continuation provisions will apply under the employment agreements of certain executive officers. Certain of our joint venture agreements allow other parties to the joint venture to buy our joint venture interests in the event of a change of control of DST.

ISSUANCE OF OUR COMMON STOCK UNDER CERTAIN OF OUR PLANS COULD HAVE A POTENTIALLY DILUTIVE EFFECT ON OUR COMMON STOCK.

Under our employee stock purchase plan, employees have a right, subject to certain limits, to purchase our common stock at 85% of the lower of the average market price of the stock on the exercise date or the offering date. Under our stock option and performance award plan, we issue to directors and employees options to purchase shares of our common stock. Purchases under our employee stock purchase plan and exercises of options could have a potentially dilutive effect on our common stock.

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A change of control under our stockholder's rights plan would cause the issuance of rights to purchase 1/1000th shares of our preferred stock for each share of our common stock, or, in some circumstances, other securities of DST, which could have a potentially dilutive effect on our common stock.

### RISKS RELATED TO THE DEBENTURES

WE HAVE A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF INDEBTEDNESS AND OUR INDEBTEDNESS FURTHER INCREASED UPON CONSUMMATION OF THE EXCHANGE. THIS COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT OUR FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE AND IMPACT OUR ABILITY TO MAKE PAYMENTS ON THE DEBENTURES.

Since completion of the private offering of the debentures, we have a substantial amount of indebtedness. In addition, our indebtedness further increased upon consummation of the Exchange. Our level of indebtedness could have important consequences to the holders of the debentures. For example, it:

- o may limit our ability to obtain additional financing for working capital, capital expenditures or general corporate purposes;
- o will require us to dedicate a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to the payment of principal and interest on our indebtedness, reducing the funds available to us for other purposes including expansion through acquisitions, capital expenditures and expansion of our product offerings; and
- o may limit our flexibility to adjust to changing business and market conditions and make us more vulnerable to a downturn in general economic conditions as compared to our competitors.

Our ability to make scheduled payments or to refinance our obligations with respect to our indebtedness will depend on our financial and operating performance which, in turn, is subject to prevailing economic conditions and to financial, business and other factors beyond our control.

OUR STOCK PRICE HAS BEEN VOLATILE HISTORICALLY AND MAY CONTINUE TO BE VOLATILE. THE PRICE OF OUR COMMON STOCK, AND THEREFORE THE PRICE OF THE DEBENTURES, MAY FLUCTUATE SIGNIFICANTLY, WHICH MAY MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR HOLDERS TO RESELL THE DEBENTURES OR THE SHARES OF OUR COMMON STOCK ISSUABLE UPON CONVERSION OF THE DEBENTURES WHEN DESIRED OR AT ATTRACTIVE PRICES.

The market price for our common stock has been and may continue to be volatile. We expect our stock price to be subject to fluctuations as a result of a variety of factors, including factors beyond our control. These factors include:

- o quarterly fluctuations in our operating and financial results;
- o changes in financial estimates and recommendations by financial analysts;
- o fluctuations in the stock price and operating results of our competitors;
- o consolidations, dispositions, acquisitions and financings; and
- o general conditions in the industries in which we operate.

In addition, the stock markets in general, including the NYSE, recently have experienced significant price and trading fluctuations. These fluctuations have resulted in volatility in the market prices of securities that often has

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been unrelated or disproportionate to changes in operating performance. These broad market fluctuations may affect adversely the market prices of our common stock. In addition, sales of substantial amounts of common stock by us in the market, or the perception that such sales may occur, could also affect the price of our common stock. Because the debentures are convertible into shares of our common stock, volatility or depressed prices for our common stock could have a similar effect on the trading price of the

debentures. This may result in greater volatility in the trading prices of the debentures than would be expected for nonconvertible debt securities.

The price of our common stock could also be affected by possible sales of our common stock by investors who view the debentures as a more attractive means of equity participation in DST and by hedging or arbitrage trading activity that we expect to develop involving our common stock. The hedging or arbitrage could, in turn, affect the trading prices of the debentures.

THE CONDITIONAL CONVERSION FEATURE OF THE DEBENTURES COULD RESULT IN YOU RECEIVING LESS THAN THE VALUE OF THE COMMON STOCK INTO WHICH A DEBENTURE WOULD OTHERWISE BE CONVERTIBLE.

The debentures are convertible into shares of our common stock only if specified conditions are met. If the specific conditions for conversion are not met, you will not be able to convert your debentures, and you may not be able to receive the value of the common stock into which the debentures would otherwise be convertible.

CONVERSION OF THE DEBENTURES WILL DILUTE THE OWNERSHIP INTEREST OF EXISTING STOCKHOLDERS, INCLUDING HOLDERS WHO HAVE PREVIOUSLY CONVERTED THEIR DEBENTURES.

The conversion of some or all of the debentures will dilute the ownership interests of existing stockholders. Any sales in the public market of the common stock issuable upon such conversion could adversely affect prevailing market prices of our common stock. In addition, the existence of the debentures may encourage short selling by market participants because the conversion of the debentures could depress the price of our common stock.

AN ACTIVE TRADING MARKET MAY NOT DEVELOP FOR THE DEBENTURES.

The debentures are a new issue of securities with no established trading market and will not be listed on any securities exchange. Certain of the initial purchasers have informed us that they intend to make a market in the debentures. However, they are not obligated to do so and may cease their market-making activities at any time. In addition, such market-making activity will be subject to limits imposed by the Securities Act and the Exchange Act. We cannot assure you that an active trading market for the debentures will develop or as to the liquidity or sustainability of any such market, or the ability of holders to sell their debentures or the price at which holders of the debentures may be able to sell their debentures. If an active market for the debentures fails to develop or be sustained, the trading prices of the debentures could be adversely affected. Future trading prices of the debentures will also depend on many other factors, including, among other things, prevailing interest rates, the market for similar securities, the price of our common stock, our performance and other factors.

WE MAY NOT HAVE THE ABILITY TO RAISE THE FUNDS NECESSARY TO PURCHASE THE DEBENTURES UPON A FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE OR OTHER PURCHASE DATE, AS REQUIRED BY THE INDENTURE GOVERNING THE DEBENTURES.

Holders of the Series A debentures may require us to purchase their

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debentures on August 15, 2010, August 15, 2015 and August 15, 2020, although we may pay the purchase price in shares of our common stock after August 15, 2010. Holders of the Series B debentures may require us to purchase their debentures on August 15, 2008, August 15, 2013 and August 15, 2018, although we may pay the purchase price in shares of our common stock after August 15, 2008. In addition, holders of the debentures may also require us to purchase their debentures upon a Fundamental Change as described under "Description of the Series A Debentures -- Fundamental Change Requires Purchase of Series A Debentures by Us at the Option of the Holder" and "Description of the Series B Debentures -- Fundamental Change Requires Purchase of Series B Debentures by Us at the Option of the Holder." A Fundamental Change also may constitute an event of default under, and result in the acceleration of the maturity of, our other indebtedness or other

indebtedness that we may incur in the future. In addition, our revolving credit facility restricts the repurchase of the debentures for cash or stock if an event of default has occurred or would occur under our revolving credit facility as a result of such repurchase. In addition, we cannot assure you that we would have sufficient financial resources, or would be able to arrange financing, to pay the purchase price for the debentures tendered by holders. Failure by us to purchase the debentures when required will result in an event of default with respect to the debentures.

YOU SHOULD EVALUATE THE U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES OF OWNING THE DEBENTURES.

Each holder agrees in the indenture to treat the debentures as contingent payment debt instruments for U.S. federal income tax purposes, subject to the Treasury regulations governing contingent payment debt instruments, which we refer to as the CPDI regulations, and to be bound by our application of these regulations to the debentures, including our determinations of the comparable yield and projected payment schedule (as described under "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations"). Under the CPDI regulations, you will be required to accrue interest on a constant yield to maturity basis at a rate comparable to the rate at which we would borrow in a non-contingent, non-convertible fixed rate borrowing (subject to certain adjustments). As a result, you will generally recognize taxable income in excess of cash received while your debentures are outstanding. In addition, you will recognize ordinary income upon a sale, exchange, conversion or redemption of your debentures at a gain. In computing such gain, the amount realized by you will include the amount of any cash and the fair market value of any shares of our common stock or other property received. The proper application of the CPDI regulations to a holder of debentures is uncertain in a number of respects, and no assurance can be given that the Internal Revenue Service, which we refer to as the IRS, will not assert that the debentures should be treated differently or that the IRS will not prevail. A different treatment could affect the amount, timing and character of income, gain or loss in respect of an investment in the debentures. In particular, it might be determined that a holder should have accrued interest income at a higher or lower rate, should not have recognized income or gain upon conversion, or should have recognized capital gain upon a taxable disposition of the debentures. To understand how this may affect you, you should seek advice from your own tax advisor prior to purchasing the debentures. See "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations."

THE DEBENTURES ARE EFFECTIVELY SUBORDINATED TO EXISTING AND FUTURE INDEBTEDNESS AND OTHER LIABILITIES OF OUR SUBSIDIARIES.

We derive some of our revenues from, and hold some of our assets through, our subsidiaries. As a result, we will depend in part on distributions and advances from our subsidiaries in order to meet our payment obligations under the debentures and our other obligations. In general, these subsidiaries are



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separate and distinct legal entities and will have no obligation to pay any amounts due on our debt securities, including the debentures, or to provide us with funds for our payment obligations, whether by dividends, distributions, loans or otherwise. Our right to receive any assets of any subsidiary in the event of a bankruptcy or liquidation of the subsidiary, and therefore the right of our creditors to participate in those assets, will be effectively subordinated to the claims of that subsidiary's creditors, including trade creditors. In addition, even if we were a creditor of any subsidiary, our rights as a creditor would be subordinated to any indebtedness of that subsidiary senior to that held by us, including secured indebtedness to the extent of the assets securing such indebtedness.

IF YOU HOLD DEBENTURES, YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO ANY RIGHTS WITH RESPECT TO OUR COMMON STOCK, BUT YOU WILL BE SUBJECT TO ALL CHANGES MADE WITH RESPECT TO OUR COMMON STOCK.

If you hold debentures, you will not be entitled to any rights with respect to our common stock (including, without limitation, voting rights and rights to receive any dividends or other distributions on our common stock), but you will be subject to all changes affecting the common stock. You will only be entitled to rights on our common stock if and when we deliver shares of common stock to you upon conversion or

purchase of your debentures. For example, in the event that an amendment is proposed to our certificate of incorporation or bylaws requiring stockholder approval and the record date for determining the stockholders of record entitled to vote on the amendment occurs prior to your conversion, or our repurchase with stock, of debentures, you will not be entitled to vote on the amendment, although you will nevertheless be subject to any changes in the powers, preferences or special rights of our common stock.

WE MAY ISSUE ADDITIONAL SHARES OF COMMON STOCK AND THEREBY MATERIALLY AND ADVERSELY AFFECT THE PRICE OF OUR COMMON STOCK.

We are not restricted from issuing additional common stock during the life of the debentures and have no obligation to consider your interests for any reason. If we issue additional shares of common stock, it may materially and adversely affect the price of our common stock and, in turn, the price of the debentures.

THE CONVERSION RATE OF THE DEBENTURES MAY NOT BE ADJUSTED FOR ALL DILUTIVE EVENTS.

The conversion rate of the debentures is subject to adjustment for certain events including, but not limited to, the issuance of stock dividends on our common stock, the issuance of certain rights or warrants, subdivisions or combinations of our common stock, certain distributions of assets, debt securities, capital stock or cash to holders of our common stock and certain issuer tender or exchange offers as described under "Description of Series A Debentures -- Conversion Rights -- Conversion Rate Adjustments" and "Description of Series B Debentures -- Conversion Rights -- Conversion Rate Adjustments." The conversion rate will not be adjusted for other events, such as a third party tender or exchange offer or an issuance of common stock for cash, that may adversely affect the trading price of the debentures or the common stock. There can be no assurance that an event that adversely affects the value of the debentures, but does not result in an adjustment to the conversion rate, will not occur.

THE DEBENTURES DO NOT RESTRICT OUR ABILITY TO INCUR ADDITIONAL INDEBTEDNESS OR TO TAKE OTHER ACTIONS THAT COULD NEGATIVELY IMPACT HOLDERS OF THE DEBENTURES.

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We are not restricted under the terms of the indenture and the debentures from incurring additional indebtedness, including secured debt. In addition, the limited covenants applicable to the debentures do not require us to achieve or maintain any minimum financial results relating to our financial position or results of operations. Our ability to recapitalize, incur additional indebtedness and take a number of other actions that are not limited by the terms of the indenture and the debentures could have the effect of diminishing our ability to make payments on the debentures when due. In addition, we are not restricted from repurchasing subordinated indebtedness or common stock by the terms of the indenture and the debentures. If we issue other debt securities in the future, our debt service obligations will increase.

### USE OF PROCEEDS

We will not receive any proceeds from the sale by the selling security holders of the debentures or the common stock issuable upon conversion of the debentures. Please read "Selling Security Holders" for a list of the persons receiving proceeds from the sale of the debentures or the underlying common stock.

### DESCRIPTION OF THE SERIES A DEBENTURES

We issued \$540,000,000 aggregate principal amount of Series A debentures in a private placement on August 12, 2003. The Series A debentures were issued under an indenture between us and JPMorgan Chase Bank, as trustee. Copies of the indenture are available from us upon request. The following description of the Series A debentures is only a summary and is not intended to be comprehensive. For purposes of this "Description of the Series A Debentures," the terms "DST," "we," "our," "ours" and "us" refer only to DST Systems, Inc. and not to any of our subsidiaries.

### GENERAL

The Series A debentures are limited to \$540 million in aggregate original principal amount. The Series A debentures are issued in registered form without coupons only in denominations of \$1,000 original principal amount and integral multiples of \$1,000. We use the term "Series A debenture" in this offering memorandum to refer to each \$1,000 original principal amount of Series A debentures.

The Series A debentures will mature on August 15, 2023. On the maturity date of the Series A debentures, a holder will receive \$1,700.28, the accreted principal amount at maturity of a Series A debenture. The Series A debentures will bear regular cash interest at an annual rate equal to 4.125% per annum on the original principal amount from August 12, 2003, or from the most recent date to which interest has been paid or provided for, until August 15, 2010. During such period, interest will be payable semiannually in arrears on February 15 and August 15 of each year, each an interest payment date, beginning February 15, 2004, to the person in whose name a Series A debenture is registered at the close of business on the February 1 or August 1, as the case may be, immediately preceding the relevant interest payment date, each of which we refer to as a "record date."

Beginning August 15, 2010, we will not pay regular cash interest prior to maturity. Instead, the original principal amount of each Series A debenture will increase daily at a rate of 4.125% per year, to produce the accreted principal amount at maturity. Prior to August 15, 2010, the accreted principal amount of a

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Series A debenture will be the original principal amount, and beginning on August 15, 2010, the accreted principal amount will be computed on a semiannual bond equivalent basis using a 360-day year composed of twelve 30-day months.

If any date on which regular cash interest is payable, the maturity date, or any redemption date or purchase date (including upon the occurrence of a Fundamental Change, as described below) is not a business day, we will pay interest on the next business day (without any interest or other payment due on the delay). Regular cash interest on the Series A debentures will be calculated on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months. The term "business day," when used with respect to any place of payment for the Series A debentures, means a day other than a Saturday or a Sunday, a legal holiday or a day on which banking institutions or trust companies in that place of payment are authorized or obligated by law to close.

In addition, we will pay contingent interest on the Series A debentures under the circumstances described below under "-- Contingent Interest" and liquidated damages as set forth in the registration rights agreement.

Regular cash interest on Series A debentures will accrue from and including the date of issue or from and including the last date in respect of which interest has been paid, as the case may be, to, but excluding, the earlier of (i) August 15, 2010 and (ii) the interest payment date or a purchase date upon a Fundamental Change, as the case may be.

Holder may present Series A debentures for conversion at the office of the conversion agent and may present Series A debentures for exchange or for registration of transfer at the office or agency maintained by us for that purpose in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York. We will not charge a service charge for any exchange or registration of transfer of Series A debentures. However, we may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge payable for the registration of transfer or exchange. The trustee will serve as the initial conversion agent, paying agent, registrar and transfer agent for the Series A debentures. At any time, we may designate additional paying agents and transfer agents. However, at all times we will be required to maintain a paying agent and transfer agent for the Series A debentures in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York.

Any monies deposited with the trustee or any paying agent or then held by us in trust for the payment of principal and interest (including contingent interest and liquidated damages, if any) on the Series A debentures that remain unclaimed for two years after the date the payments became due and payable, shall, at our request, be repaid to us or released from trust, as applicable, and the holder of the Series A debenture shall thereafter look, as a general unsecured creditor, only to us for payment thereof.

### RANKING

The Series A debentures are our direct, unsecured and unsubordinated obligations. The Series A debentures rank equally in right of payment with all of our other existing and future unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness. In addition, the Series A debentures effectively rank junior to any secured indebtedness that we may incur to the extent of the assets securing such indebtedness. We currently conduct part of our operations through our subsidiaries. Claims of creditors of those subsidiaries, including trade creditors and secured creditors, will generally have a claim to the assets of our subsidiaries that is superior to the claims of our creditors, including holders of the Series A debentures.

As of March 31, 2004, we had outstanding approximately \$0.0 million of

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unsecured, unsubordinated indebtedness ranking equally in right of payment with the Series A debentures, and approximately \$503.2 million of secured indebtedness, excluding indebtedness of subsidiaries. As of March 31, 2004, our subsidiaries had approximately \$115.3 million of indebtedness outstanding, all of which ranks structurally senior to the Series A debentures. The indenture does not limit the amount of indebtedness we or our subsidiaries may incur.

### CONTINGENT INTEREST

For the period from August 20, 2010 to February 14, 2011, and thereafter for any six-month interest period measured from February 15 to August 14 or August 15 to February 14, we will pay contingent interest if the average trading price per Series A debenture for the applicable five trading-day reference period equals or exceeds 120% of the accreted principal amount of a Series A debenture. The "five trading-day reference period" means the five trading days ending on the second trading day immediately preceding the relevant six-month interest period.

The amount of contingent interest payable per Series A debenture in respect of the period from August 20, 2010 to February 14, 2011, and thereafter for any six-month interest period will be equal to 0.19% of the average trading price per Series A debenture for the applicable five trading-day reference period.

The record date and payment date for contingent interest, if any, will be the same as the regular record date and payment date, respectively, for the semi-annual interest payments on the Series A debentures.

The "trading price" is as defined under "-- Conversion Rights -- Conversion Upon Satisfaction of Trading Price Condition," provided that if at least one required bid for the Series A debentures is not obtained by the trustee, or in our reasonable judgment the bid quotations are not indicative of the secondary market value of the Series A debentures, then the trading price of the Series A debentures will equal (a) the then applicable conversion rate of the Series A debentures multiplied by (b) the average of the last reported sale prices of our common stock for the applicable five trading-day reference period.

The "last reported sale price" of our common stock on any date means the closing sale price per share (or, if no closing sale price is reported, the average of the bid and asked prices or, if more than one in either case, the average of the average bid and the average asked prices) on that date as reported in composite transactions for the principal U.S. securities exchange on which our common stock is traded or, if our common stock is not listed on a U.S. national or regional securities exchange, as reported by the Nasdaq National Market. The last reported sale price will be determined without reference to after-hours or extended market trading. If our common stock is not listed for trading on a U.S. national or regional securities exchange and not reported by the Nasdaq National Market on the relevant date, the "last reported sale price" will be the last quoted bid for our common stock in the over-the-counter market on the relevant date as reported by the National Quotation Bureau or similar organization. If our common stock is not so quoted, the "last reported sale price" will be the average of the midpoint of the last bid and ask prices for our common stock on the relevant date from each of at least three nationally recognized independent investment banking firms selected by us for this purpose.

"Trading day" means a day during which trading in securities generally occurs on the NYSE or, if our common stock is not listed on the NYSE, on the principal other U.S. national or regional securities exchange on which our common stock is then listed or, if our common stock is not listed on a U.S. national or regional securities exchange, on the Nasdaq National Market or, if our common stock is not reported by the Nasdaq National Market, on the principal

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other market on which our common stock is then traded.

We will notify the holders of the Series A debentures upon a determination that they will be entitled to receive contingent interest with respect to a semi-annual interest period. In connection with providing such notice, we will issue a press release and publish a notice containing information regarding the contingent interest determination in a newspaper of general circulation in The City of New York or publish the information on our web site or through such other public medium as we may use at that time.

### CONVERSION RIGHTS

Subject to the conditions and during the periods described below, holders may convert their Series A debentures into shares of our common stock initially at a conversion rate of 20.3732 shares of common stock per Series A debenture. The conversion price as of any date of determination is a dollar amount (initially \$49.08 per share of common stock) derived by dividing the accreted principal amount of a Series A debenture (which will be \$1,000 until August 15, 2010) by the conversion rate in effect on such date. The conversion rate and the corresponding conversion price in effect at any given time are referred to as the "applicable conversion rate" and the "applicable conversion price," respectively, and will be subject to adjustment as described below. A holder may convert fewer than all of such holder's Series A debentures so long as the Series A debentures converted are an integral multiple of \$1,000 original principal amount.

Upon conversion, we may choose to deliver, in lieu of shares of our common stock, cash or a combination of cash and shares of our common stock, as described below. For a discussion of the U.S. federal income tax consequences of conversion to a holder, see "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations."

Except as otherwise described below, you will not receive any cash payment representing accrued and unpaid cash interest, if any (including contingent interest, if any) or increases on the accreted principal

amount of the Series A debentures upon conversion of a Series A debenture and we will not adjust the conversion rate to account for the accrued and unpaid cash interest, if any (including contingent interest and liquidated damages, if any) or increases on the accreted principal amount of the Series A debentures. Upon conversion we will deliver to you cash or shares of our common stock, as described below. Delivery of cash or shares of common stock will be deemed to satisfy our obligation to pay the accreted principal amount of the Series A debentures, including accrued and unpaid cash interest, if any (including contingent interest, if any). Increases on the accreted principal amount and accrued and unpaid cash interest, if any (including contingent interest, if any) will be deemed paid in full rather than canceled, extinguished or forfeited. Notwithstanding conversion of any Series A debentures by a holder thereof, accrued and unpaid liquidated damages, if any, to the conversion date will be paid to such holder on the settlement date for such conversion.

If a holder converts Series A debentures, we will pay any documentary, stamp or similar issue or transfer tax due on the issuance of shares of our common stock upon the conversion, unless the tax is due because the holder requests the shares to be issued or delivered to a person other than the holder, in which case the holder will pay that tax.

To convert your Series A debenture into common stock you must do the following:

- o complete and manually sign the notice of conversion on the back of the

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Series A debenture or facsimile of the notice of conversion and deliver this notice to the conversion agent;

- o surrender the Series A debenture to the conversion agent;
- o if required, furnish appropriate endorsements and transfer documents;
- o if required, pay all transfer or similar taxes; and
- o if required, pay funds equal to interest, if any, (including contingent interest, if any) payable on the next interest payment date.

If your interest is a beneficial interest in a global Series A debenture, to convert you must comply with the last three requirements listed above and comply with the DTC's procedures for converting a beneficial interest in a global Series A debenture. The conversion date will be the date on which all of the foregoing requirements have been satisfied. Settlement of our obligation to deliver shares or cash with respect to a conversion will occur on the dates described below under "-- Payment Upon Conversion." A certificate for the number of full shares of our common stock into which any Series A debentures are converted, or cash in lieu thereof, together with any cash payment for fractional shares, will be delivered through the conversion agent, other than in the case of holders of Series A debentures in book-entry form, which shares or cash will be delivered in accordance with DTC customary practices.

If a holder has already delivered a purchase notice as described under either "-- Purchase of Series A Debentures by Us at the Option of the Holder" or "-- Fundamental Change Requires Purchase of Series A Debentures by Us at the Option of the Holder" with respect to a Series A debenture, however, the holder may not surrender that Series A debenture for conversion until the holder has withdrawn the purchase notice in accordance with the indenture.

Holders of Series A debentures at the close of business on a regular record date will receive payment of interest, if any, including contingent interest and liquidated damages, if any, payable on the corresponding interest payment date, notwithstanding the conversion of such Series A debentures at any time after the close of business on such regular record date. Series A Debentures surrendered for conversion by a holder during the period from the close of business on any regular record date to the opening of

business on the immediately following interest payment date must be accompanied by payment of an amount equal to the interest, if any, including contingent interest, if any, that the holder is to receive on the Series A debentures; provided, however, that no such payment need be made if (1) we have specified a redemption date that is after a record date and on or prior to the immediately following interest payment date, (2) we have specified a purchase date following a Fundamental Change that is during such period or (3) any overdue interest (including overdue contingent interest, if any) exists at the time of conversion with respect to such Series A debentures, to the extent of such overdue interest.

### PAYMENT UPON CONVERSION

CONVERSION ON OR PRIOR TO THE FINAL NOTICE DATE. In the event that we receive your notice of conversion on or prior to the day that is 20 days prior to stated maturity or, with respect to Series A debentures being redeemed, the applicable redemption date (the "final notice date"), the following procedures will apply:

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If we choose to satisfy all or any portion of our obligation to deliver common stock upon conversion (the "conversion obligation") in cash, we will notify you through the trustee of the dollar amount to be satisfied in cash (which must be expressed either as 100% of the conversion obligation or as a fixed dollar amount) at any time on or before the date that is two business days following receipt of your notice of conversion ("cash settlement notice period"). If we timely elect to pay cash for any portion of the shares otherwise issuable to you, you may retract the conversion notice at any time during the two business day period immediately following the cash settlement notice period ("conversion retraction period"). If no such election is made, no such retraction can be made (and a conversion notice shall be irrevocable).

Settlement amounts will be computed as follows:

- o If we elect to satisfy the entire conversion obligation in shares, we will deliver to you a number of shares, for each \$1,000 original principal amount of Series A debentures, equal to the applicable conversion rate. In addition, if on the date you submit your notice of conversion there exists a registration default as defined in the registration rights agreement, and the shares of common stock you will receive on conversion are neither registered under the Securities Act nor immediately freely saleable pursuant to Rule 144(k) under the Securities Act, we will deliver to you additional shares as liquidated damages (the "liquidated damages shares") equal to 3% of the applicable conversion rate for each \$1,000 original principal amount of Series A debentures. We will pay cash for all fractional shares of common stock. The cash payment for fractional shares will be based on the last reported sale price of our common stock on the trading day immediately prior to the conversion date.
- o If we elect to satisfy the entire conversion obligation in cash, we will deliver to you, for each \$1,000 original principal amount of Series A debentures, cash in an amount equal to the product of the applicable conversion rate and the average last reported sale price of our common stock for the 10 trading-day period beginning the day after the conversion retraction period (the "cash settlement averaging period").
- o If we elect to satisfy a fixed portion (other than 100%) of the conversion obligation in cash, we will deliver to you such cash amount ("cash amount") and a number of shares, for each \$1,000 original principal amount of Series A debentures, equal to the applicable conversion rate, plus liquidated damages shares, if any, minus the number of shares equal to the sum, for each day of the cash settlement averaging period, of (x) 10% of the cash amount, divided by (y) the last reported price of our common stock; provided, however, that the number of shares will not be less than zero. We will pay cash for all fractional shares of

common stock. The cash payment for fractional shares will be based on the last reported sale price of our common stock on the trading day immediately prior to the conversion date.

If we choose to satisfy all or any portion of the conversion obligation in cash and the conversion notice has not been retracted, then settlement (in cash and/or shares) will occur on the business day following the cash settlement averaging period. If we choose to satisfy the entire conversion obligation in shares of our common stock then settlement will occur on the third business day following the conversion date.

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CONVERSION AFTER THE FINAL NOTICE DATE. In the event that we receive your notice of conversion after the final notice date, we will not send individual notices of our election to satisfy all or any portion of the conversion obligation in cash. Instead, if we choose to satisfy all or any portion of the conversion obligation in cash after the final notice date, we will send, on or prior to final notice date, a single notice to the trustee of the dollar amount to be satisfied in cash (which must be expressed either as 100% of the conversion obligation or as a fixed dollar amount). Settlement amounts will be computed and settlement dates will be determined in the same manner as set forth above under "-- Conversion on or Prior to the Final Notice Date" except that the "cash settlement averaging period" shall be the 10 trading-day period beginning on the day after receipt of your notice of conversion. If we do not elect to satisfy all or any portion of the conversion obligation in cash, then settlement will occur on the first business day following the conversion date.

### CONDITIONS TO CONVERSION

Holders may surrender their Series A debentures for conversion into shares of our common stock prior to stated maturity only under the circumstances described below. For a discussion of the federal income tax consequences of a conversion of the Series A debentures into our common stock, see "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations."

CONVERSION UPON SATISFACTION OF SALE PRICE CONDITION. A holder may surrender any of its Series A debentures for conversion into shares of our common stock during any calendar quarter after September 30, 2003 (and only during such calendar quarter) if the last reported sale price of our common stock for at least 20 trading days during the period of 30 consecutive trading days ending on the last trading day of the previous calendar quarter is greater than or equal to 120% of the applicable conversion price (initially 120% of \$49.08, or \$58.90), which we refer to as the "conversion trigger price."

The applicable conversion price of a Series A debenture at any time is dependent upon the accreted principal amount of a Series A debenture at that time and therefore both the applicable conversion price and the conversion trigger price will increase following August 15, 2010 as the accreted principal amount of a Series A debenture increases. The following table sets forth the conversion trigger prices at August 15 of each year beginning 2010.

### CONVERSION TRIGGER PRICES\*

AUGUST 15,	APPLICABLE CONVERSION PRICE	CONVERSION TRIGGER PRICE
2010.....	\$49.08	\$58.90
2011.....	\$51.13	\$61.36
2012.....	\$53.26	\$63.91
2013.....	\$55.48	\$66.58
2014.....	\$57.79	\$69.35
2015.....	\$60.20	\$72.24
2016.....	\$62.71	\$75.25
2017.....	\$65.32	\$78.39
2018.....	\$68.05	\$81.65
2019.....	\$70.88	\$85.06
2020.....	\$73.84	\$88.60
2021.....	\$76.91	\$92.30
2022.....	\$80.12	\$96.14
2023.....	\$83.46	\$100.15

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\* This table assumes no events have occurred that would require an adjustment to the conversion rate.

CONVERSION UPON SATISFACTION OF TRADING PRICE CONDITION. A holder may surrender any of its Series A debentures for conversion into our common stock prior to the stated maturity during the five business days immediately following any five consecutive trading-day period in which the trading price per \$1,000 original principal amount of Series A debentures (as determined following a request by a holder of the Series A debentures in accordance with the procedures described below) for each day of that period was less than 95% of the product of the last reported sale price of our common stock and the applicable conversion rate of such Series A debentures on each such day; provided, however, that a holder may not convert Series A debentures in reliance on this provision after August 15, 2018 if on any trading day during such five consecutive trading-day period the last reported sale price of our common stock was between the applicable conversion price of the Series A debentures and 120% of the applicable conversion price of the Series A debentures.

The "trading price" of the Series A debentures on any date of determination means the average of the secondary market bid quotations per \$1,000 original principal amount of the Series A debentures obtained by the trustee for \$10,000,000 original principal amount of the Series A debentures at approximately 3:30 p.m., New York City time, on such determination date from three independent nationally recognized securities dealers we select; provided that if three such bids cannot reasonably be obtained by the trustee, but two such bids are obtained, then the average of the two bids shall be used, and if only one such bid can reasonably be obtained by the trustee, that one bid shall be used. If the trustee cannot reasonably obtain at least one bid for \$10,000,000 original principal amount of the Series A debentures from a nationally recognized securities dealer, or in our reasonable judgment, the bid quotations are not indicative of the secondary market value of \$1,000 original principal amount of the Series A debentures, then the trading price per \$1,000 original principal amount of the Series A debentures will be deemed to be less than 95% of the product of the last reported sale price of our common stock and the applicable conversion rate.

In connection with any conversion upon satisfaction of the above trading pricing condition, the trustee shall have no obligation to determine the trading price of the Series A debentures unless we have requested such determination; and we shall have no obligation to make such request unless a holder provides us with reasonable evidence that the trading price per \$1,000 original principal amount of the

Series A debentures would be less than 95% of the product of the last reported sale price of our common stock and the applicable conversion rate. At such time, we shall instruct the trustee to determine the trading price of the Series A debentures beginning on the next trading day and on each successive trading day until the trading price per \$1,000 original principal amount of the Series A debentures is greater than or equal to 95% of the product of the last reported sale price of our common stock and the applicable conversion rate.

CONVERSION UPON REDEMPTION. If we elect to redeem the Series A debentures, holders may convert Series A debentures into our common stock at any time prior to the close of business on the business day immediately preceding the redemption date, even if the Series A debentures are not otherwise convertible at such time.

CONVERSION UPON SPECIFIED CORPORATE TRANSACTIONS. If we elect to:

- o distribute to all holders of our common stock certain rights or

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warrants entitling them to purchase, for a period expiring within 60 days after the date of the distribution, shares of our common stock at a price per share of less than the market price of a share of our common stock on the record date for the distribution, or

- o distribute to all holders of our common stock our assets, debt securities or certain rights to purchase our securities, which distribution has a per share value as determined by our board of directors exceeding 10% of the last reported sale price of a share of our common stock on the trading day immediately preceding the declaration date for such distribution, we must notify the holders of the Series A debentures at least 20 business days prior to the ex-dividend date for such distribution. Once we have given such notice, holders may surrender their Series A debentures for conversion at any time until the earlier of the close of business on the business day immediately prior to the ex-dividend date or our announcement that such distribution will not take place, even if the Series A debentures are not otherwise convertible at such time; provided, however, that a holder may not exercise this right to convert if the holder may participate in the distribution without conversion. The "ex-dividend date" is the first date upon which a sale of the common stock, regular way on the relevant exchange or in the relevant market for our common stock, does not automatically transfer the right to receive the relevant dividend or distribution from the seller of the common stock to its buyer.

In addition, if we are party to a consolidation, merger or binding share exchange pursuant to which our common stock would be converted into cash, securities or other property, a holder may surrender Series A debentures for conversion at any time from and after the date which is 15 days prior to the anticipated effective date of the transaction until 15 days after the actual effective date of such transaction (or if such transaction constitutes a Fundamental Change, until the business day immediately preceding the applicable Fundamental Change purchase date). If we engage in certain reclassifications of our common stock or are a party to a consolidation, merger, binding share exchange or transfer of all or substantially all of our assets pursuant to which our common stock is converted into cash, securities or other property, then at the effective time of the transaction, the right to convert a Series A debenture into our common stock will be changed into a right to convert a Series A debenture into the kind and amount of cash, securities or other property that the holder would have received if the holder had converted its Series A debentures immediately prior to the transaction. If the transaction also constitutes a Fundamental Change, as defined below, a holder can require us to purchase all or a portion of its Series A debentures as described below under "-- Fundamental Change Requires Purchase of Series A Debentures by Us at the Option of the Holder."

The Exchange (described in "Summary--Recent Developments") does not constitute a specified corporate transaction permitting conversion.

### CONVERSION RATE ADJUSTMENTS

The applicable conversion rate will be subject to adjustment, without duplication, upon the occurrence of any of the following events:

- (1) the payment of dividends and other distributions on our common stock payable exclusively in shares of our common stock,
- (2) the distribution to all holders of our common stock of rights or warrants that allow the holders to purchase shares of our common stock for

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a period expiring within 60 days from the date of issuance of the rights or warrants at less than the market price on the record date for the determination of shareholders entitled to receive the rights or warrants,

(3) subdivisions or combinations of our common stock,

(4) distributions to all holders of our common stock of our assets, debt securities, shares of our capital stock or rights or warrants to purchase our securities (excluding