

GOLDMAN SACHS GROUP INC
Form 424B2
September 05, 2018
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Registration Statement No. 333-219206

GS Finance Corp.

\$17,795,000

Trigger Callable Contingent Yield Notes due 2022

guaranteed by

The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.

The notes do not pay a fixed coupon and may pay no coupon on a coupon payment date. The amount that you will be paid on your notes is based on the performances of the S&P 500® Index, the Russell 2000® Index and the EURO STOXX 50® Index. Subject to our redemption right, the notes will mature on the stated maturity date (September 6, 2022). We may redeem your notes on any coupon payment date on or after December 4, 2018, regardless of the performance of the indices, at a price equal to the face amount of your notes *plus* any coupon then due.

Unless previously redeemed, if the closing level of each index is *greater than or equal to 70.00%* of its initial index level (the initial levels are 2,901.52 with respect to the S&P 500® Index, 1,740.753 with respect to the Russell 2000® Index and 3,392.90 with respect to the EURO STOXX 50® Index) on every trading day during the preceding quarterly observation period, you will receive on the applicable coupon payment date a coupon of \$0.23975 for each \$10 face amount of your notes. A quarterly observation period is the period from but excluding an observation end date (or the trade date, in the case of the first period) to and including the next succeeding observation end date. Coupon payment dates are the dates specified on page S-6 of this prospectus supplement. **If the closing level of any index on any trading day during the preceding quarterly observation period is *less than 70.00%* of its initial index level, you will not receive a coupon payment on the applicable coupon payment date.**

Unless previously redeemed, the amount that you will be paid on your notes at maturity, in addition to the final coupon, if any, is based on the performance of the *lesser* performing index (the index with the lowest index return). The index return for each index is the percentage increase or decrease in the final index level of such index on the final observation end date from its initial index level.

At maturity, for each \$10 face amount of your notes outstanding, you will receive, in addition to any coupon payment then due, an amount in cash equal to:

- if the final index level of each index is *greater than* or *equal to* 60.00% of its initial index level, \$10; or
- if the final index level of any index is *less than* 60.00% of its initial index level, the *sum* of (i) \$10 *plus* (ii) the *product* of (a) the *lesser* performing index return *times* (b) \$10. **You will receive *less than* 60.00% of the face amount of your notes and you will not receive a final coupon.**

The maximum return on your notes is 2.3975% quarterly (or 9.59% per annum). You will not receive more than the face amount of your notes at maturity *plus* the final coupon, if any. If the final index level of any index has declined by more than 40.00% from the initial index level of such index, regardless of the performance of the other two indices, you will receive *less than* the face amount of your notes. At maturity you could receive significantly less than the face amount of your notes.

You should read the disclosure herein to better understand the terms and risks of your investment, including the credit risk of GS Finance Corp. and The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. See page S-12.

The estimated value of your notes at the time the terms of your notes are set on the trade date is equal to approximately \$9.82 per \$10 face amount. For a discussion of the estimated value and the price at which Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC would initially buy or sell your notes, if it makes a market in the notes, see the following page.

Original issue date:	September 6, 2018	Original issue price:	100% of the face amount
Underwriting discount:	1.30% of face amount*	Net proceeds to the issuer:	98.70% of the face amount

*UBS Financial Services Inc., the selling agent, will receive a selling concession not in excess of 1.00% of the face amount.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any other regulatory body has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense. The notes are not bank deposits and are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency, nor are they obligations of, or guaranteed by, a bank.

Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC

UBS Financial Services Inc.
Selling Agent

Prospectus Supplement No. 4,225 August 31, 2018

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The issue price, underwriting discount and net proceeds listed above relate to the notes we sell initially. We may decide to sell additional notes after the date of this prospectus supplement, at issue prices and with underwriting discounts and net proceeds that differ from the amounts set forth above. The return (whether positive or negative) on your investment in notes will depend in part on the issue price you pay for such notes.

GS Finance Corp. may use this prospectus in the initial sale of the notes. In addition, Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC, or any other affiliate of GS Finance Corp., may use this prospectus in a market-making transaction in a note after its initial sale. **Unless GS Finance Corp. or its agent informs the purchaser otherwise in the confirmation of sale, this prospectus is being used in a market-making transaction.**

Estimated Value of Your Notes
<p><i>The estimated value of your notes at the time the terms of your notes are set on the trade date (as determined by reference to pricing models used by Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC (GS&Co.) and taking into account our credit spreads) is equal to approximately \$9.82 per \$10 face amount, which is less than the original issue price. The value of your notes at any time will reflect many factors and cannot be predicted; however, the price (not including GS&Co. s customary bid and ask spreads) at which GS&Co. would initially buy or sell notes (if it makes a market, which it is not obligated to do) and the value that GS&Co. will initially use for account statements and otherwise is equal to approximately the estimated value of your notes at the time of pricing, plus an additional amount (initially equal to \$0.13 per \$10 face amount).</i></p>
<p><i>Prior to November 30, 2018, the price (not including GS&Co. s customary bid and ask spreads) at which GS&Co. would buy or sell your notes (if it makes a market, which it is not obligated to do) will equal approximately the sum of (a) the then-current estimated value of your notes (as determined by reference to GS&Co. s pricing models) plus (b) any remaining additional amount (the additional amount will decline to zero on a straight-line basis over the period from the time of pricing through November 29, 2018). On and after November 30, 2018, the price (not including GS&Co. s customary bid and ask spreads) at which GS&Co. would buy or sell your notes (if it makes a market) will equal approximately the then-current estimated value of your notes determined by reference to such pricing models.</i></p>

About Your Notes
<p>The notes are part of the Medium-Term Notes, Series E program of GS Finance Corp. and are fully and unconditionally guaranteed by The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. This prospectus includes this prospectus supplement and the accompanying documents listed below. This prospectus supplement constitutes a supplement to the documents listed below and should be read in conjunction with such documents:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Prospectus supplement dated July 10, 2017</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Prospectus dated July 10, 2017</u>

The information in this prospectus supplement supersedes any conflicting information in the documents listed above. In addition, some of the terms or features described in the listed documents may not apply to your notes.

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FINAL TERMS	
Issuer:	GS Finance Corp.
Guarantor:	The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.
Early redemption right:	we have the right to redeem your notes at our option, in whole but not in part, on each coupon payment date on or after December 4, 2018 at a price equal to 100% of the face amount plus any coupon then due, subject to at least two business days' prior notice
Index/Initial index level:	S&P 500® Index / 2,901.52
Index/Initial index level:	Russell 2000® Index / 1,740.753
Index/Initial index level:	EURO STOXX 50® Index / 3,392.90
Trade date:	August 31, 2018
Original issue date:	September 6, 2018
Determination date:	August 31, 2022
Stated maturity date:	unless the notes are previously redeemed, September 6, 2022
Cash settlement amount (in addition to any coupon payment then due):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • if the final index level of the lesser performing index is <i>greater than or equal to</i> its downside threshold, \$10; or • if the final index level of the lesser performing index is <i>less than</i> its downside threshold, the <i>sum</i> of (1) \$10 <i>plus</i> (2) the <i>product</i> of (i) \$10 <i>times</i> (ii) the lesser performing index return
Contingent coupon:	\$0.23975/quarter (9.59% p.a.)
Downside threshold:	1,740.912 with respect to the S&P 500® Index, 1,044.452 with respect to the Russell 2000® Index and 2,035.74 with respect to the EURO STOXX 50® Index (in each case, 60.00% of such index's initial index level (rounded to the nearest one-thousandth))
Coupon barrier:	2,031.064 with respect to the S&P 500® Index, 1,218.527 with respect to the Russell 2000® Index and 2,375.03 with respect to the EURO STOXX 50® Index (in each case, 70.00% of such index's initial index level (rounded to the nearest one-thousandth))
Final index level:	with respect to each index, the closing level of such index on the determination date, except in the limited circumstances described under Specific Terms of Your Notes Consequences of a Market Disruption Event or a Non-Trading Day on page S-28
Closing level:	with respect to each index on any trading day, the closing level of such index as further described under Specific Terms of Your Notes Special Calculation Provisions Closing Level on page S-31
Quarterly observation period:	the period from but excluding each observation end date (or the trade date, in the case of the first quarterly observation period) to and including the next succeeding observation end date excluding any date or dates on which the calculation agent determines that a market disruption event with respect to any index occurs or is continuing or that the calculation agent determines is not a trading day with respect to any index, as further described under Specific Terms of Your Notes Payment of a Contingent Coupon Quarterly Observation Periods on page S-26. Although the quarterly observation periods occur quarterly, there may not be an equal number of trading days in each quarterly observation period
Index return:	with respect to each index on the determination date, the <i>quotient</i> of (i) the final index level <i>minus</i> the initial index level <i>divided by</i> (ii) the initial index level, expressed as a positive or negative percentage

Lesser performing index:	the index with the lowest index return
Lesser performing index return:	the index return of the lesser performing index
Face amount:	\$10 per note
Original issue price:	100% of the face amount
CUSIP / ISIN:	36255U778 / US36255U7789
No listing:	the offered notes will not be listed or displayed on any securities exchange or interdealer market quotation system

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Observation End Dates*	Coupon Payment Dates**
November 30, 2018	December 4, 2018
February 28, 2019	March 4, 2019
May 31, 2019	June 4, 2019
August 30, 2019	September 4, 2019
November 29, 2019	December 3, 2019
February 28, 2020	March 3, 2020
May 29, 2020	June 2, 2020
August 28, 2020	September 2, 2020
November 30, 2020	December 2, 2020
February 26, 2021	March 2, 2021
May 28, 2021	June 2, 2021
August 31, 2021	September 2, 2021
November 30, 2021	December 2, 2021
February 28, 2022	March 2, 2022
May 31, 2022	June 2, 2022
August 31, 2022	September 6, 2022

*Subject to adjustment as described under Specific Terms of Your Notes Observation End Dates on page S-28 of this prospectus supplement

**Subject to adjustment as described under Specific Terms of Your Notes Coupon and Coupon Payment Dates on page S-28 of this prospectus supplement

This is the first date on which your notes may be redeemed.

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SUMMARY INFORMATION

We refer to the notes we are offering by this prospectus supplement as the offered notes or the notes. Each of the offered notes has the terms described below and under Specific Terms of Your Notes on page S-25. Please note that in this prospectus supplement, references to GS Finance Corp., we, our and us mean only GS Finance Corp. and do not include its subsidiaries or affiliates, references to The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., our parent company, mean only The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. and do not include its subsidiaries or affiliates and references to Goldman Sachs mean The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. together with its consolidated subsidiaries and affiliates, including us. Also, references to the accompanying prospectus mean the accompanying prospectus, dated July 10, 2017, and references to the accompanying prospectus supplement mean the accompanying prospectus supplement, dated July 10, 2017, for Medium-Term Notes, Series E, in each case of GS Finance Corp. and The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. References to the indenture in this prospectus supplement mean the senior debt indenture, dated as of October 10, 2008, as supplemented by the First Supplemental Indenture, dated as of February 20, 2015, each among us, as issuer, The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., as guarantor, and The Bank of New York Mellon, as trustee. This indenture, as so supplemented and as further supplemented thereafter, is referred to as the GSFC 2008 indenture in the accompanying prospectus supplement.

Key Terms

Issuer: GS Finance Corp.

Guarantor: The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.

Indices: the S&P 500® Index (Bloomberg symbol, SPX Index), as published by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, the Russell 2000® Index (Bloomberg symbol, RTY Index), as published by FTSE Russell, and the EURO STOXX 50® Index (Bloomberg symbol, SX5E Index), as sponsored and maintained by STOXX Limited; see The Indices on page S-35

Specified currency: U.S. dollars (\$)

Face amount: each note will have a face amount equal to \$10 and integral multiples of \$10 in excess thereof; \$17,795,000 in the aggregate for all the offered notes; the aggregate face amount of the offered notes may be increased if the issuer, at its sole option, decides to sell an additional amount of the offered notes on a date subsequent to the date of this prospectus supplement

Denominations: \$10 and integral multiples of \$10 in excess thereof

Minimum purchase amount: In connection with the initial offering of the notes, the minimum face amount of notes that may be purchased by any investor is \$1,000

Supplemental plan of distribution: GS Finance Corp. has agreed to sell to Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC (GS&Co.), and GS&Co. has agreed to purchase from GS Finance Corp., the aggregate face amount of the offered notes specified on the front cover of this prospectus supplement. GS&Co. proposes initially to offer the notes to the public at the original issue price set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement, and to UBS Financial Services Inc. at such price less a concession not in excess of 1.00% of the face amount. See Supplemental Plan of Distribution on page S-63

Purchase at amount other than face amount: the amount we will pay you for your notes on the stated maturity date or upon any early redemption of your notes will not be adjusted based on the issue price you pay for your notes, so if you acquire notes at a premium (or discount) to face amount and hold them to the stated maturity date or date of early redemption, it could affect your investment in a number of ways. The return on your investment in such notes will be lower (or higher) than it would have been had you purchased the notes at face amount. See Additional Risk Factors Specific to Your Notes If You Purchase Your Notes at a Premium to Face Amount, the Return on Your Investment Will Be Lower Than the Return on Notes Purchased at Face Amount and the Impact of Certain Key Terms of the Notes Will Be Negatively Affected on page S-17 of this prospectus supplement

Supplemental discussion of U.S. federal income tax consequences: you will be obligated pursuant to the terms of the notes in the absence of a change in law, an administrative determination or a judicial ruling to the contrary to characterize each note for all tax purposes as an income-bearing pre-paid derivative contract in respect of the indices, as described under Supplemental Discussion of Federal

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Income Tax Consequences herein. Pursuant to this approach, it is the opinion of Sidley Austin LLP that it is likely that any coupon payment will be taxed as ordinary income in accordance with your regular method of accounting for U.S. federal income tax purposes. If you are a United States alien holder of the notes, we intend to withhold on coupon payments made to you at a 30% rate or at a lower rate specified by an applicable income tax treaty. In addition, upon the sale, exchange, redemption or maturity of your notes, it would be reasonable for you to recognize capital gain or loss equal to the difference, if any, between the amount of cash you receive at such time (excluding amounts attributable to any coupon payment) and your tax basis in your notes.

Cash settlement amount (on the stated maturity date): subject to our early redemption right, for each \$10 face amount of your notes, we will pay you on the stated maturity date, in addition to any coupon payment then due, an amount in cash equal to:

- if the final index level of the lesser performing index is *greater than or equal to* its downside threshold, \$10; or
- if the final index level of the lesser performing index is *less than* its downside threshold, the *sum* of (1) \$10 *plus* (2) the *product* of (i) \$10 *times* (ii) the lesser performing index return

Downside threshold: 1,740.912 with respect to the S&P 500® Index, 1,044.452 with respect to the Russell 2000® Index and 2,035.74 with respect to the EURO STOXX 50® Index (in each case, 60.00% of such index's initial index level (rounded to the nearest one-thousandth))

Early redemption right: we have the right to redeem your notes at our option, in whole but not in part, on each coupon payment date or after December 4, 2018 at a price equal to 100% of the face amount plus any coupon then due, subject to at least two business days' prior notice

Lesser performing index return: the index return of the lesser performing index

Lesser performing index: the index with the lowest index return

Coupon: subject to our early redemption right, on each coupon payment date, for each \$10 face amount of your notes, we will pay you an amount in cash equal to:

- if the closing level of each index on every trading day during the preceding quarterly observation

period is *greater than* or *equal to* its coupon barrier, \$0.23975 (2.3975% quarterly or 9.59% per annum); or

- if the closing level of any index on any trading day during the preceding quarterly observation period is *less than* its coupon barrier, \$0.00

No coupon payment or return of principal is guaranteed. As discussed above, we will not pay a coupon on a coupon payment date if the closing level of any index is less than its coupon barrier on any trading day during the preceding quarterly observation period. Also, although quarterly observation periods and coupon payment dates occur quarterly, there may not be an equal number of trading days in each quarterly observation period and there may not be an equal number of days between coupon payment dates. However, the way in which the coupon is determined will not vary based on the actual number of trading days in any quarterly observation period or the actual number of days between coupon payment dates.

Quarterly observation period: the period from but excluding each observation end date (or the trade date, in the case of the first quarterly observation period) to and including the next succeeding observation end date *excluding* any date or dates on which the calculation agent determines that a market disruption event with respect to any index occurs or is continuing or that the calculation agent determines is not a trading day with respect to any index, as further described under **Specific Terms of Your Notes Payment of a Contingent Coupon Quarterly Observation Periods** on page S-26. Although the quarterly observation periods occur quarterly, there may not be an equal number of trading days in each quarterly observation period.

Coupon barrier: 2,031.064 with respect to the S&P 500® Index, 1,218.527 with respect to the Russell 2000® Index and 2,375.03 with respect to the EURO STOXX 50® Index (in each case, 70.00% of such index's initial index level (rounded to the nearest one-thousandth))

Initial index level: 2,901.52 with respect to the S&P 500® Index, 1,740.753 with respect to the Russell 2000® Index and 3,392.90 with respect to the EURO STOXX 50® Index (in each case, the closing level of such index on the trade date)

Final index level: with respect to each index, the closing level of such index on the determination date, except in the limited circumstances described under **Specific Terms of Your Notes Consequences of a Market Disruption Event or a Non-Trading Day** on page S-28

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Closing level: with respect to each index on any trading day, the closing level of such index, as further described under Specific Terms of Your Notes Special Calculation Provisions Closing Level on page S-31

Index return: with respect to each index on the determination date, the *quotient* of (i) the final index level *minus* the initial index level *divided by* (ii) the initial index level, expressed as a positive or negative percentage

Defeasance: not applicable

No listing: the offered notes will not be listed or displayed on any securities exchange or interdealer market quotation system

Business day: as described under Specific Terms of Your Notes Special Calculation Provisions Business Day on page S-30

Trading day: as described under Specific Terms of Your Notes Special Calculation Provisions Trading Day on page S-30

Trade date: August 31, 2018

Original issue date: September 6, 2018

Determination date: August 31, 2022, subject to adjustment as described under Specific Terms of Your Notes Payment of Principal on Stated Maturity Date Determination Date on page S-27

Stated maturity date: September 6, 2022, subject to our redemption right and to adjustment as described under Specific Terms of Your Notes Payment of Principal on Stated Maturity Date Stated Maturity Date on page S-27

Observation end dates: the dates specified as such in the table under **Coupon payment dates** below, subject to adjustment as described under **Specific Terms of Your Notes** **Observation End Dates** on page S-28. Although the observation end dates occur quarterly, there may not be an equal number of days between observation end dates.

Coupon payment dates: the dates specified in the table below, subject to adjustment as described under **Specific Terms of Your Notes** **Coupon and Coupon Payment Dates** on page S-28. Although the coupon payment dates occur quarterly, there may not be an equal number of days between coupon payment dates.

Observation End Dates	Coupon Payment Dates
November 30, 2018	December 4, 2018
February 28, 2019	March 4, 2019
May 31, 2019	June 4, 2019
August 30, 2019	September 4, 2019
November 29, 2019	December 3, 2019
February 28, 2020	March 3, 2020
May 29, 2020	June 2, 2020
August 28, 2020	September 2, 2020
November 30, 2020	December 2, 2020
February 26, 2021	March 2, 2021
May 28, 2021	June 2, 2021
August 31, 2021	September 2, 2021
November 30, 2021	December 2, 2021
February 28, 2022	March 2, 2022
May 31, 2022	June 2, 2022
August 31, 2022	September 6, 2022

This is the first date on which your notes may be redeemed.

Regular record dates: the scheduled business day immediately preceding the day on which payment is to be made (as such payment date may be adjusted)

Calculation agent: GS&Co.

CUSIP no.: 36255U778

ISIN no.: US36255U7789

FDIC: the notes are not bank deposits and are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency, nor are they obligations of, or guaranteed by, a bank

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The following examples are provided for purposes of illustration only. They should not be taken as an indication or prediction of future investment results and are intended merely to illustrate (i) the impact that various hypothetical closing levels of the indices during a quarterly observation period could have on the coupon payable, if any, on the related coupon payment date and (ii) the impact that the various hypothetical closing levels of the lesser performing index on the determination date could have on the cash settlement amount at maturity assuming all other variables remain constant.

The examples below are based on a range of index levels of the lesser performing index that are entirely hypothetical; no one can predict what the index level of any index will be on any day throughout the life of your notes, what the closing level of any index will be on any trading day during any quarterly observation period and what the final index level of the lesser performing index will be on the determination date. The indices have been highly volatile in the past meaning that the index levels have changed substantially in relatively short periods and their performance cannot be predicted for any future period.

The information in the following examples reflects the hypothetical rates of return on the offered notes assuming that they are purchased on the original issue date at the face amount and held to the stated maturity date or date of early redemption. If you sell your notes in a secondary market prior to the stated maturity date, your return will depend upon the market value of your notes at the time of sale, which may be affected by a number of factors that are not reflected in the examples below such as interest rates, the volatility of the indices, the creditworthiness of GS Finance Corp., as issuer, and the creditworthiness of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., as guarantor. In addition, the estimated value of your notes at the time the terms of your notes are set on the trade date (as determined by reference to pricing models used by GS&Co.) is less than the original issue price of your notes. For more information on the estimated value of your notes, see *Additional Risk Factors Specific to Your Notes – The Estimated Value of Your Notes At the Time the Terms of Your Notes Are Set On the Trade Date (as Determined By Reference to Pricing Models Used By GS&Co.) Is Less Than the Original Issue Price Of Your Notes* on page S-12 of this prospectus supplement. The information in the examples also reflect the key terms and assumptions in the box below.

Key Terms and Assumptions

Face amount	\$10
Initial index level of the S&P 500® Index	2,901.52
Initial index level of the Russell 2000® Index	1,740.753
Initial index level of the EURO STOXX 50® Index	3,392.90
Downside threshold	1,740.912 with respect to the S&P 500® Index, 1,044.452 with respect to the Russell 2000® Index and 2,035.74 with respect to the EURO STOXX 50® Index (in each case, 60.00% of such index's initial index level (rounded to the nearest one-thousandth))

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Coupon barrier	2,031.064 with respect to the S&P 500® Index, 1,218.527 with respect to the Russell 2000® Index and 2,375.03 with respect to the EURO STOXX 50® Index (in each case, 70.00% of such index's initial index level (rounded to the nearest one-thousandth))
Coupon	\$0.23975 (2.3975% quarterly or 9.59% per annum)

Neither a market disruption event nor a non-trading day occurs during any quarterly observation period or on the originally scheduled determination date

No change in or affecting any of the index stocks or the method by which the applicable index sponsor calculates any index

Notes purchased on original issue date at the face amount and held to the stated maturity date

For these reasons, the actual performance of the indices over the life of your notes, the actual index levels on any trading day during a quarterly observation period, as well as the coupon payable, if any, on each coupon payment date, may bear little relation to the hypothetical examples shown below or to the historical index levels shown elsewhere in this prospectus supplement. For information about the index levels during recent periods, see "The Indices - Historical Closing Levels of the Indices" on page S-54. Before investing in the notes, you should consult publicly available information to determine the index levels between the date of this prospectus supplement and the date of your purchase of the notes.

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Also, the hypothetical examples shown below do not take into account the effects of applicable taxes. Because of the U.S. tax treatment applicable to your notes, tax liabilities could affect the after-tax rate of return on your notes to a comparatively greater extent than the after-tax return on the index stocks.

Hypothetical Coupon Payments

With respect to each \$10 face amount of notes, the examples below show hypothetical coupons, if any, that we would pay on a coupon payment date if the lowest closing levels of the indices during the applicable quarterly observation period were the hypothetical closing levels shown.

Scenario 1

Hypothetical Quarterly Observation Period	Lowest Hypothetical Closing Level of the S&P 500® Index During the Applicable Quarterly Observation Period	Lowest Hypothetical Closing Level of the Russell 2000® Index During the Applicable Quarterly Observation Period	Lowest Hypothetical Closing Level of the EURO STOXX 50® Index During the Applicable Quarterly Observation Period	Hypothetical Coupon Paid on Related Coupon Payment Date
First	2,500	650	3,200	\$0.000
Second	1,700	600	2,000	\$0.000
Third	2,200	1,250	3,600	\$0.23975
Fourth	1,000	1,100	3,000	\$0.000
Fifth	2,100	1,300	2,900	\$0.23975
Sixth	1,700	625	2,800	\$0.000
Seventh	2,200	1,800	3,000	\$0.23975
Eighth	1,300	700	1,700	\$0.000
Ninth	2,400	500	2,000	\$0.000
Tenth	1,200	650	3,400	\$0.000
Eleventh	2,000	1,500	1,700	\$0.000
Twelfth-Sixteenth	1,200	1,380	3,100	\$0.000
			Total Hypothetical Coupons Paid	\$0.71925

In Scenario 1, we do not exercise our early redemption right and the lowest hypothetical closing level of each index fluctuates compared to its initial index level during the applicable quarterly observation period. Because the lowest hypothetical closing level of each index during the third, fifth and seventh hypothetical quarterly observation periods is *greater than or equal to* its coupon barrier, coupons are paid on the three related coupon payment dates

and the total of the hypothetical coupons paid in Scenario 1 is \$0.71925. Because the lowest hypothetical closing level of at least one of the indices during the twelfth hypothetical quarterly observation period is *less than* its coupon barrier, no coupon will be paid at maturity. In addition, no coupon will be paid on any other coupon payment date relating to a quarterly observation period where the hypothetical closing level of any index on any trading day in such quarterly observation period is less than its coupon barrier. The overall return on your notes may be zero or less.

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Hypothetical Quarterly Observation Period	Lowest Hypothetical Closing Level of the S&P 500® Index During the Applicable Quarterly Observation Period	Lowest Hypothetical Closing Level of the Russell 2000® Index During the Applicable Quarterly Observation Period	Lowest Hypothetical Closing Level of the EURO STOXX 50® Index During the Applicable Quarterly Observation Period	Hypothetical Coupon Paid on Related Coupon Payment Date
First	1,100	1,400	3,700	\$0.000
Second	1,050	1,200	2,700	\$0.000
Third	1,000	1,500	2,750	\$0.000
Fourth	1,100	1,200	2,800	\$0.000
Fifth	1,050	1,200	2,650	\$0.000
Sixth	1,000	1,200	2,700	\$0.000
Seventh	1,000	1,300	2,800	\$0.000
Eighth	1,100	1,200	2,650	\$0.000
Ninth	950	1,800	2,900	\$0.000
Tenth	1,000	1,300	2,750	\$0.000
Eleventh	1,500	1,500	2,800	\$0.000
Twelfth-Sixteenth	1,200	1,380	3,100	\$0.000
			Total Hypothetical Coupons Paid	\$0.000

In Scenario 2, we do not exercise our early redemption right and the lowest hypothetical closing level of the S&P 500® Index is less than its initial index level during each hypothetical quarterly observation period and the lowest hypothetical closing level of each of the Russell 2000® Index and the EURO STOXX 50® Index fluctuates above and below its initial index level during the hypothetical quarterly observation periods. Because in each case the lowest hypothetical closing level of the S&P 500® Index during each of the quarterly observation periods is less than its coupon barrier, you will not receive a coupon payment on any hypothetical coupon payment date, even though the lowest hypothetical closing level of each of the Russell 2000® Index and the EURO STOXX 50® Index is above its coupon barrier during each hypothetical quarterly observation period. Therefore, the total of the hypothetical coupons paid in Scenario 2 is \$0.000. The overall return on your notes will be zero or less.

Scenario 3

Hypothetical Quarterly Observation Period	Lowest Hypothetical Closing Level of the S&P 500® Index During the Applicable Quarterly Observation Period	Lowest Hypothetical Closing Level of the Russell 2000® Index During the Applicable Quarterly Observation Period	Lowest Hypothetical Closing Level of the EURO STOXX 50® Index During the Applicable Quarterly Observation Period	Hypothetical Coupon Paid on Related Coupon Payment Date
First	3,000	1,900	3,800	\$0.23975
			Total Hypothetical Coupons Paid	\$0.23975

In Scenario 3, the lowest hypothetical closing level of each index during the first hypothetical quarterly observation period is *greater than* or *equal to* its coupon barrier. In addition, we exercise our early redemption right with respect to the first hypothetical coupon payment date (which is also the first hypothetical date with respect to which we could exercise such right). Therefore, on such hypothetical coupon payment date, in addition to the hypothetical coupon of \$0.23975, you will receive an amount in cash equal to \$10 for each \$10 face amount of your notes and your notes will be redeemed.

Table of Contents**Hypothetical Cash Settlement Amount at Maturity**

If we have **not** redeemed the notes early, the cash settlement amount we would deliver for each \$10 face amount of your notes on the stated maturity date will depend on the performance of the lesser performing index on the determination date, as shown in the table below. The table below assumes that **we have not redeemed the notes early** and reflects hypothetical cash settlement amounts that you could receive on the stated maturity date.

The levels in the left column of the table below represent hypothetical final index levels of the lesser performing index and are expressed as percentages of the initial index level of the lesser performing index. The amounts in the right column represent the hypothetical cash settlement amounts, based on the corresponding hypothetical final index level of the lesser performing index (expressed as a percentage of the initial index level of the lesser performing index), and are expressed as percentages of the face amount of a note (rounded to the nearest one-thousandth of a percent). Thus, a hypothetical cash settlement amount of 100.000% means that the value of the cash payment that we would deliver for each \$10 of the outstanding face amount of the offered notes on the stated maturity date would equal 100.000% of the face amount of a note, based on the corresponding hypothetical final index level of the lesser performing index (expressed as a percentage of the initial index level of the lesser performing index) and the assumptions noted above.

We Have Not Redeemed the Notes Early

Hypothetical Final Index Level of the Lesser Performing Index (as Percentage of Initial Index Level)	Hypothetical Cash Settlement Amount at Maturity if We Have <u>Not</u> Redeemed the Notes Early* (as Percentage of Face Amount)
175.000%	100.000%
150.000%	100.000%
125.000%	100.000%
100.000%	100.000%
90.000%	100.000%
80.000%	100.000%
70.000%	100.000%
60.000%	100.000%
59.999%	59.999%
50.000%	50.000%
45.000%	45.000%
25.000%	25.000%
10.000%	10.000%
0.000%	0.000%

*Does not include the final coupon, if any

If, for example, we have not redeemed the notes early and the final index level of the lesser performing index were determined to be 25.000% of its initial index level, the cash settlement amount that we would deliver on your notes at maturity would be 25.000% of the face amount of your notes, as shown in the table above. As a result, if you purchased your notes on the original issue date at the face amount and held them to the stated maturity date, you would lose 75.000% of your investment excluding any coupons

you may have received over the term of the notes (if you purchased your notes at a premium to face amount you would lose a correspondingly higher percentage of your investment). In addition, if the final index level of the lesser performing index were determined to be 80.000% of its initial index level, the cash settlement amount that we would deliver on your notes at maturity would be 100.000% of the face amount of your notes, as shown in the table above. Because the final index level of the lesser performing index is greater than or equal to its downside threshold, if you held your notes to the stated maturity date, you would receive \$10 for each \$10 face amount of your notes. Alternatively, if the final index level of the lesser performing index were determined to be 175.000% of its initial index level, the cash settlement amount that we would deliver on your notes at maturity would be limited to 100.000% of each \$10 face amount of your notes, as shown in the table above. As a result, if you held your notes to the stated maturity date, you would not benefit from any increase in the final index level over the initial index level.

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The cash settlement amounts shown above are entirely hypothetical; they are based on market prices for the index stocks that may not be achieved on the determination date and on assumptions that may prove to be erroneous. The actual market value of your notes on the stated maturity date or at any other time, including any time you may wish to sell your notes, may bear little relation to the hypothetical cash settlement amounts shown above, and these amounts should not be viewed as an indication of the financial return on an investment in the offered notes. The hypothetical cash settlement amounts on notes held to the stated maturity date in the examples above assume you purchased your notes at their face amount and have not been adjusted to reflect the actual issue price you pay for your notes. The return on your investment (whether positive or negative) in your notes will be affected by the amount you pay for your notes. If you purchase your notes for a price other than the face amount, the return on your investment will differ from, and may be significantly lower than, the hypothetical returns suggested by the above examples. Please read Additional Risk Factors Specific to Your Notes – The Market Value of Your Notes May Be Influenced by Many Unpredictable Factors on page S-17.

Payments on the notes are economically equivalent to the amounts that would be paid on a combination of other instruments. For example, payments on the notes are economically equivalent to a combination of a bond bought by the holder and one or more options entered into between the holder and us. Therefore, the terms of the notes may be impacted by the various factors mentioned under Additional Risk Factors Specific to Your Notes – The Market Value of Your Notes May Be Influenced by Many Unpredictable Factors on page S-17. The discussion in this paragraph does not modify or affect the terms of the notes or the U.S. federal income tax treatment of the notes, as described elsewhere in this prospectus supplement.

We cannot predict the actual closing levels of the indices on any day, the final index levels of the indices or what the market value of your notes will be on any particular trading day, nor can we predict the relationship between the closing levels of the indices and the market value of your notes at any time prior to the stated maturity date. The actual coupon payment, if any, that you, as a holder of the notes, will receive on each coupon payment date, the actual amount that you will receive at maturity, if any, and the rate of return on the offered notes will depend on whether or not the notes are redeemed and on the actual closing levels of the indices and the actual final index levels determined by the calculation agent as described above. Moreover, the assumptions on which the hypothetical examples are based may turn out to be inaccurate. Consequently, the coupon to be paid in respect of your notes, if any, and the cash amount to be paid in respect of your notes on the stated maturity date, if any, may be very different from the information reflected in the examples above.

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ADDITIONAL RISK FACTORS SPECIFIC TO YOUR NOTES

An investment in your notes is subject to the risks described below, as well as the risks and considerations described in the accompanying prospectus and in the accompanying prospectus supplement. You should carefully review these risks and considerations as well as the terms of the notes described herein and in the accompanying prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement. Your notes are a riskier investment than ordinary debt securities. Also, your notes are not equivalent to investing directly in the index stocks, i.e., with respect to an index to which your notes are linked, the stocks comprising such index. You should carefully consider whether the offered notes are suited to your particular circumstances.

The Estimated Value of Your Notes At the Time the Terms of Your Notes Are Set On the Trade Date (as Determined By Reference to Pricing Models Used By GS&Co.) Is Less Than the Original Issue Price Of Your Notes

The original issue price for your notes exceeds the estimated value of your notes as of the time the terms of your notes are set on the trade date, as determined by reference to GS&Co.'s pricing models and taking into account our credit spreads. Such estimated value on the trade date is set forth above under "Estimated Value of Your Notes"; after the trade date, the estimated value as determined by reference to these models will be affected by changes in market conditions, the creditworthiness of GS Finance Corp., as issuer, the creditworthiness of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., as guarantor, and other relevant factors. The price at which GS&Co. would initially buy or sell your notes (if GS&Co. makes a market, which it is not obligated to do), and the value that GS&Co. will initially use for account statements and otherwise, also exceeds the estimated value of your notes as determined by reference to these models. As agreed by GS&Co. and the distribution participants, this excess (i.e., the additional amount described under "Estimated Value of Your Notes") will decline to zero on a straight line basis over the period from the date hereof through the applicable date set forth above under "Estimated Value of Your Notes". Thereafter, if GS&Co. buys or sells your notes it will do so at prices that reflect the estimated value determined by reference to such pricing models at that time. The price at which GS&Co. will buy or sell your notes at any time also will reflect its then current bid and ask spread for similar sized trades of structured notes.

In estimating the value of your notes as of the time the terms of your notes are set on the trade date, as disclosed above under "Estimated Value of Your Notes", GS&Co.'s pricing models consider certain variables, including principally our credit spreads, interest rates (forecasted, current and historical rates), volatility, price-sensitivity analysis and the time to maturity of the notes. These pricing models are proprietary and rely in part on certain assumptions about future events, which may prove to be incorrect. As a result, the actual value you would receive if you sold your notes in the secondary market, if any, to others may differ, perhaps materially, from the estimated value of your notes determined by reference to our models due to, among other things, any differences in pricing models or assumptions used by others. See "The Market Value of Your Notes May Be Influenced by Many Unpredictable Factors" below.

The difference between the estimated value of your notes as of the time the terms of your notes are set on the trade date and the original issue price is a result of certain factors, including principally the underwriting discount and commissions, the expenses

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incurred in creating, documenting and marketing the notes, and an estimate of the difference between the amounts we pay to GS&Co. and the amounts GS&Co. pays to us in connection with your notes. We pay to GS&Co. amounts based on what we would pay to holders of a non-structured note with a similar maturity. In return for such payment, GS&Co. pays to us the amounts we owe under your notes.

In addition to the factors discussed above, the value and quoted price of your notes at any time will reflect many factors and cannot be predicted. If GS&Co. makes a market in the notes, the price quoted by GS&Co. would reflect any changes in market conditions and other relevant factors, including any deterioration in our creditworthiness or perceived creditworthiness or the creditworthiness or perceived creditworthiness of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. These changes may adversely affect the value of your notes, including the price you may receive for your notes in any market making transaction. To the extent that GS&Co. makes a market in the notes, the quoted price will reflect the estimated value determined by

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reference to GS&Co.'s pricing models at that time, plus or minus its then current bid and ask spread for similar sized trades of structured notes (and subject to the declining excess amount described above).

Furthermore, if you sell your notes, you will likely be charged a commission for secondary market transactions, or the price will likely reflect a dealer discount. This commission or discount will further reduce the proceeds you would receive for your notes in a secondary market sale.

There is no assurance that GS&Co. or any other party will be willing to purchase your notes at any price and, in this regard, GS&Co. is not obligated to make a market in the notes. See "Your Notes May Not Have an Active Trading Market" below.

The Notes Are Subject to the Credit Risk of the Issuer and the Guarantor

Although the coupons (if any) and return on the notes will be based on the performance of each index, the payment of any amount due on the notes is subject to the credit risk of GS Finance Corp., as issuer of the notes, and the credit risk of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., as guarantor of the notes. The notes are our unsecured obligations. Investors are dependent on our ability to pay all amounts due on the notes, and therefore investors are subject to our credit risk and to changes in the market's view of our creditworthiness. Similarly, investors are dependent on the ability of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., as guarantor of the notes, to pay all amounts due on the notes, and therefore are also subject to its credit risk and to changes in the market's view of its creditworthiness. See "Description of the Notes We May Offer" Information About Our Medium-Term Notes, Series E Program "How the Notes Rank Against Other Debt" on page S-4 of the accompanying prospectus supplement and "Description of Debt Securities We May Offer" Guarantee by The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. on page 42 of the accompanying prospectus.

You May Lose Your Entire Investment in the Notes

You can lose your entire investment in the notes. Assuming we do not redeem your notes early, the cash settlement amount on your notes, if any, on the stated maturity date will be based on the performance of the lesser performing of the S&P 500® Index, the Russell 2000® Index and the EURO STOXX 50® Index as measured from their initial index levels to their closing levels on the determination date. If the final index level of the lesser performing index for your notes is *less than* its downside threshold, you will have a loss for each \$10 of the face amount of your notes equal to the *product* of the lesser performing index return *times* \$10. Thus, you may lose your entire investment in the notes, which would include any premium to face amount you paid when you purchased the notes.

Also, the application of the downside threshold applies only at maturity and the market price of your notes prior to the stated maturity date may be significantly lower than the purchase price you pay for your notes. Consequently, if you sell your notes before the stated maturity date, you may receive far less than the

amount of your investment in the notes.

The Return on Your Notes May Change Significantly Despite Only a Small Change in the Level of the Lesser Performing Index

If your notes are not redeemed and the final index level of the lesser performing index is less than its downside threshold, you will receive less than the face amount of your notes and you could lose all or a substantial portion of your investment in the notes. This means that while a drop of up to 40.00% between the initial index level and the final index level of the lesser performing index will not result in a loss of principal on the notes, a decrease in the final index level of the lesser performing index to less than 60.00% of its initial index level will result in a loss of a significant portion of the face amount of the notes despite only a small change in the level of the lesser performing index.

You May Not Receive a Coupon on Any Coupon Payment Date and the Potential to Receive a Coupon on a Coupon Payment Date May Terminate at Any Time During the Applicable Quarterly Observation Period

You will be paid a coupon on a coupon payment date only if the closing level of each index is *equal to* or *greater than* its coupon barrier on each trading day during the preceding quarterly observation period. If the closing level of any index on any trading day during the applicable quarterly observation period is less than its coupon barrier, you will not receive a coupon payment on the applicable coupon payment date. This will be the case even if the closing level of each other index is above its coupon barrier on each trading day

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during the applicable quarterly observation period and even if the closing level of that index is above its coupon barrier on every other day during the applicable quarterly observation period. If this occurs during every quarterly observation period, whether due to changes in the levels of one or more than one of the indices, the overall return you earn on your notes will be zero or less and such return will be less than you would have earned by investing in a note that bears interest at the prevailing market rate.

Because the Notes Are Linked to the Performance of the Lesser Performing Index, You Have a Greater Risk of Receiving No Quarterly Coupons and Sustaining a Significant Loss on Your Investment Than If the Notes Were Linked to Just One Index

The risk that you will not receive any quarterly coupons, or that you will suffer a significant loss on your investment, is greater if you invest in the notes as opposed to substantially similar notes that are linked to the performance of just one index. With three indices, it is more likely that an index will close below its coupon barrier on any trading day during a quarterly observation period, or below its downside threshold on the determination date, than if the notes were linked to only one index. Therefore, it is more likely that you will not receive any quarterly coupons and that you will suffer a significant loss on your investment.

Movements in the values of the indices may be correlated or uncorrelated at different times during the term of the notes and, if there is correlation, such correlation may be positive (the indices move in the same direction) or negative (the indices move in reverse directions). You should not take the historical correlation (or lack thereof) of the indices as an indication of the future correlation, if any, of the indices. Such correlation could have an adverse effect on your return on the notes. For example, if one index is negatively correlated with the other indices during the quarterly observation period or on the determination date, as applicable, and the level of such index increases, it is likely that the other indices will decrease and such decrease could cause one or both of the other indices to close below its coupon barrier during the quarterly observation period or below its downside threshold on the determination date. In addition, although the correlation of the indices performance may change over the term of the notes, the coupon is determined, in part, based on the correlation of the indices performance at the time when the terms of the notes are finalized. As discussed below in **A Higher Coupon, a Lower Coupon Barrier and/or a Lower Downside Threshold May Reflect Greater Expected Volatility of the Indices, and Greater Expected Volatility Generally Indicates An Increased Risk of Declines in the Levels of the Indices and, Potentially, a Significant Loss at Maturity**, higher coupons indicate a greater potential for missed coupons and for a loss on your investment at maturity, which are risks generally associated with indices that have lower correlation. In addition, other factors and inputs other than correlation may impact how the terms of the notes are set and the performance of the notes.

A Higher Coupon, a Lower Coupon Barrier and/or a Lower Downside Threshold May Reflect Greater Expected Volatility of the Indices, and Greater Expected Volatility Generally Indicates An Increased Risk of Declines in the Levels of the Indices and, Potentially, a Significant Loss at Maturity

The economic terms for the notes, including the coupon, the coupon barrier and the downside threshold, are based, in part, on the expected volatility of each index at the time the terms of the notes are set. Volatility refers to the frequency and magnitude of changes in the levels of the indices.

Higher expected volatility with respect to each index as of the trade date generally indicates a greater expectation as of that date that (i) the final index level of the lesser performing index could ultimately be less than its downside threshold on the determination date, which would result in a loss of a significant portion or all of your investment in the notes, or (ii) the closing level of any index on any trading day during the preceding quarterly observation period will be less than its coupon barrier, which would result in the nonpayment of the coupon. At the time the terms of the notes are set, higher expected volatility will generally be reflected in a higher coupon, a lower coupon barrier and/or a lower downside threshold, as compared to otherwise comparable notes issued by the same issuer with the same maturity (taking into account any ability of the issuer to redeem the notes prior to maturity) but with one or more different indices. **However, there is no guarantee that the higher coupon, lower coupon barrier or lower downside threshold set for your notes on the trade date will adequately compensate you, from a risk-potential reward perspective, for the greater risk of receiving no coupon on any coupon payment date or of losing some or all of your investment in the notes.**

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A relatively higher coupon (as compared to otherwise comparable securities), which would increase the positive return if the closing level of each index is greater than or equal to its coupon barrier on every trading day during the preceding quarterly observation period, or a relatively lower coupon barrier, which would increase the amount that an index could decrease during the preceding quarterly observation period before the notes become ineligible for a particular coupon payment, may generally indicate an increased risk that the level of each index will decrease substantially, which would result in the nonpayment of the coupon on some or all of the coupon payment dates.

Similarly, a relatively lower downside threshold (as compared to otherwise comparable securities), which would increase the buffer against the loss of principal, may generally indicate an increased risk that the level of each index will decrease substantially. This would result in a significant loss at maturity if the final index level of any index is less than its downside threshold. Further, a relatively lower downside threshold may not indicate that the notes have a greater likelihood of a return of principal at maturity based on the performance of each index.

You should not take the historical volatility of any index as an indication of its future volatility. You should be willing to accept the downside market risk of each index and the potential to not receive some coupons and to lose a significant portion or all of your investment in the notes.

We Are Able to Redeem Your Notes at Our Option

On any quarterly coupon payment date on or after December 4, 2018, we will be permitted to redeem your notes at our option. Even if we do not exercise our option to redeem your notes, our ability to do so may adversely affect the value of your notes. It is our sole option whether to redeem your notes prior to maturity and we may or may not exercise this option for any reason. Many factors may influence the likelihood of your notes being redeemed. In general, your notes are more likely to be redeemed when prevailing interest rates are lower than the applicable coupon payable on a coupon payment date. In addition, we will be more likely to redeem the notes when we expect the closing level of each index to be greater than or equal to its coupon barrier on every trading day during the applicable quarterly observation period. On the other hand, we will be less likely to redeem the notes when we expect the closing level of any index to be less than its (i) coupon barrier on any trading day during the applicable quarterly observation period or (ii) downside threshold on the determination date, such that you will receive no coupons and/or that you will suffer a significant loss on your initial investment in the notes at maturity. Because of this redemption option, the term of your notes could be anywhere between three months and forty-two months. You may not be able to reinvest the proceeds from an investment in the notes at a comparable return for a similar level of risk in the event the notes are redeemed prior to maturity, particularly if the notes are redeemed in the low interest rate environment described above.

The Coupon Does Not Reflect the Actual Performance of the Indices

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On any coupon payment date, you will receive a coupon only if the level of each index is equal to or above its coupon barrier on every trading day during the preceding quarterly observation period. The coupon for each quarterly coupon payment date is different from, and may be less than, a coupon that is based on the performance of an index between the trade date and any observation end date or between two observation end dates. You will not participate in any appreciation of any index. Accordingly, the coupons, if any, on the notes may be less than the return you could earn on another instrument linked to one of the indices that pays coupons based on the performance of such index from the trade date to any observation end date or from observation end date to observation end date. In addition, although the quarterly observation periods and coupon payment dates occur quarterly, there may not be an equal number of trading days in each quarterly observation period and there may not be an equal number of days between coupon payment dates. However, the way in which the coupon is determined will not vary based on the actual number of trading days in any quarterly observation period or the actual number of days between coupon payment dates.

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The Cash Settlement Amount Will Be Based Solely on the Lesser Performing Index

The cash settlement amount will be based on the lesser performing index without regard to the performance of the other indices. As a result, you could lose all or some of your initial investment if the lesser performing index return is negative, even if there is an increase in the level of any (or all) of the other indices. This could be the case even if the other indices increased by an amount greater than the decrease in the lesser performing index.

You Are Exposed to the Market Risk of Each Index

Your return on the notes will be contingent upon the independent performance of each of the S&P 500® Index, the Russell 2000® Index and the EURO STOXX 50® Index. Unlike an instrument with a return linked to a basket of assets, in which risk is mitigated and diversified among all of the components of the basket, you will be fully exposed to the risks related to each index. Poor performance by any one of the indices over the term of the notes may negatively affect your return and will not be offset or mitigated by positive performance by the other indices.

To receive any coupon payment, each index must close at or above its coupon barrier on every trading day during the preceding quarterly observation period. To receive any contingent repayment of principal at maturity, each index must close at or above its downside threshold on the determination date. In addition, if not redeemed prior to maturity, you will incur a loss proportionate to the negative return of the lesser performing index even if the other indices appreciate during the term of the notes. Accordingly, your investment is subject to the market risk of each index.

Movements in the values of the indices may be correlated or uncorrelated at different times during the term of the notes. Any such correlation may be positive (the indices move in the same direction) or negative (the indices move in reverse directions), and such correlation (or lack thereof) could have an adverse effect on your return on the notes. If the performance of the indices is not correlated or is negatively correlated, the risk of not receiving a coupon and of incurring a significant loss of principal at maturity generally increases.

For example, the likelihood that one of the indices will close below its coupon barrier on any trading day during the preceding quarterly observation period, and/or its downside threshold on the determination date, generally will increase when the movements in the values of the indices are negatively correlated. This results in a greater likelihood that a coupon will not be paid during the term of the notes and/or that there will be a significant loss of principal at maturity if the notes are not previously redeemed.

However, even if the indices have a higher positive correlation, one or more of those indices might close below its coupon barrier on any trading day during the preceding quarterly observation period or its downside threshold on the determination date, as each of the indices may decrease in value together.

The coupon and the downside threshold are determined, in part, based on the correlations of the indices' performance at the time when the terms of the notes are set on the trade date. A higher coupon, a lower coupon barrier and/or a lower downside threshold (as compared to otherwise comparable securities) are generally associated with more negative correlation, which reflects a greater likelihood that a coupon will not be paid and that there will be a loss on your investment at maturity. **However, there is no guarantee that the higher coupon, lower coupon barrier or lower downside threshold set for your notes on the trade date will adequately compensate you, from a risk-potential reward perspective, for the greater risk of receiving no coupon on any coupon payment date or of losing some or all of your investment in the notes.**

The correlations referenced in setting the terms of the notes are based on the future expected correlation of the indices as determined by us and are not derived from the daily levels of the indices over the period set forth under Correlation of the Indices. Other factors and inputs other than correlation may also impact how the terms of the notes are set and the performance of the notes.

The greater the number of indices to which a note is linked, generally the more likely it is that one of the indices will close below its coupon barrier or its downside threshold, resulting in a greater likelihood that a coupon will not be paid during the terms of the notes and that there will be a significant loss of principal at maturity.

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The Market Value of Your Notes May Be Influenced by Many Unpredictable Factors

When we refer to the market value of your notes, we mean the value that you could receive for your notes if you chose to sell them in the open market before the stated maturity date. A number of factors, many of which are beyond our control and impact the value of bonds and options generally, will influence the market value of your notes, including:

- the levels of the indices;
- the volatility i.e., the frequency and magnitude of changes in the closing levels of the indices;
- the dividend rates of the index stocks;
- economic, financial, regulatory, political, military and other events that affect stock markets generally and the index stocks, and which may affect the closing levels of the indices;
- the actual and expected positive or negative correlation between the indices, or the actual or expected absence of any such correlation;
- interest rates and yield rates in the market;
- the time remaining until your notes mature; and
- our creditworthiness and the creditworthiness of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., whether actual or perceived, and including actual or anticipated upgrades or downgrades in our credit ratings or the credit ratings of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. or changes in other credit measures.

These factors, and many other factors, will influence the price you will receive if you sell your notes before maturity, including the price you may receive for your notes in any market making transaction. If you sell your notes before maturity, you may receive less than the face amount of your notes or the amount you may receive at maturity.

You cannot predict the future performance of the indices based on their historical performance. The actual performance of the indices over the life of the offered notes, the cash settlement amount paid on the stated maturity date, as well as the coupon payable, if any, on each coupon payment date, may bear little or no relation to the historical closing levels of the indices or to the hypothetical examples shown elsewhere in this prospectus supplement.

Your Notes May Not Have an Active Trading Market

Your notes will not be listed or displayed on any securities exchange or included in any interdealer market quotation system, and there may be little or no secondary market for your notes. Even if a secondary market for your notes develops, it may not provide significant liquidity and we expect that transaction costs in any secondary market would be high. As a result, the difference between bid and asked prices for your notes in any secondary market could be substantial.

If You Purchase Your Notes at a Premium to Face Amount, the Return on Your Investment Will Be Lower Than the Return on Notes Purchased at Face Amount and the Impact of Certain Key Terms of the Notes Will Be Negatively Affected

The cash settlement amount you will be paid for your notes on the stated maturity date, if any, or the amount we will pay you upon any early redemption of your notes, will not be adjusted based on the issue price you pay for the notes. If you purchase notes at a price that differs from the face amount of the notes, then the return on your investment in such notes held to the stated maturity date or date of early redemption will differ from, and may be substantially less than, the return on notes purchased at face amount. If you purchase your notes at a premium to face amount and hold them to the stated maturity date or date of early redemption, the return on your investment in the notes will be lower than it would have been had you purchased the notes at face amount or a discount to face amount.

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If the Levels of the Indices Change, the Market Value of Your Notes May Not Change in the Same Manner

The price of your notes may move differently than the performance of the indices. Changes in the levels of the indices may not result in a comparable change in the market value of your notes. Even if the closing level of each index is *greater than* or *equal to* its coupon barrier during some portion of the life of the notes, the market value of your notes may not reflect this. We discuss some of the reasons for this disparity under [The Market Value of Your Notes May Be Influenced by Many Unpredictable Factors](#) above.

Anticipated Hedging Activities by Goldman Sachs or Our Distributors May Negatively Impact Investors in the Notes and Cause Our Interests and Those of Our Clients and Counterparties to be Contrary to Those of Investors in the Notes

Goldman Sachs expects to hedge our obligations under the notes by purchasing listed or over-the-counter options, futures and/or other instruments linked to the indices or the index stocks. Goldman Sachs also expects to adjust the hedge by, among other things, purchasing or selling any of the foregoing, and perhaps other instruments linked to the indices or the index stocks, at any time and from time to time, and to unwind the hedge by selling any of the foregoing on or before the determination date for your notes. Alternatively, Goldman Sachs may hedge all or part of our obligations under the notes with unaffiliated distributors of the notes which we expect will undertake similar market activity. Goldman Sachs may also enter into, adjust and unwind hedging transactions relating to other index-linked notes whose returns are linked to changes in the levels of the indices or the index stocks, as applicable.

In addition to entering into such transactions itself, or distributors entering into such transactions, Goldman Sachs may structure such transactions for its clients or counterparties, or otherwise advise or assist clients or counterparties in entering into such transactions. These activities may be undertaken to achieve a variety of objectives, including: permitting other purchasers of the notes or other securities to hedge their investment in whole or in part; facilitating transactions for other clients or counterparties that may have business objectives or investment strategies that are inconsistent with or contrary to those of investors in the notes; hedging the exposure of Goldman Sachs to the notes including any interest in the notes that it reacquires or retains as part of the offering process, through its market-making activities or otherwise; enabling Goldman Sachs to comply with its internal risk limits or otherwise manage firmwide, business unit or product risk; and/or enabling Goldman Sachs to take directional views as to relevant markets on behalf of itself or its clients or counterparties that are inconsistent with or contrary to the views and objectives of the investors in the notes.

Any of these hedging or other activities may adversely affect the levels of the indices directly or indirectly by affecting the price of the index stocks and therefore the market value of your notes and the amount we will pay on your notes, if any. In addition, you should expect that these transactions will cause Goldman Sachs or its clients, counterparties or distributors to have economic interests and incentives that do not align with, and that may be directly contrary to, those of an investor in the notes. Neither Goldman Sachs nor any distributor will have any obligation to take, refrain from taking or cease taking any action with respect to these transactions based on the potential effect on an investor in the notes, and may receive substantial returns on hedging or other activities while the value of your notes declines. In addition, if the distributor from which you purchase notes is to conduct hedging activities in connection with the notes, that distributor may otherwise profit in connection with such hedging activities and such profit, if any, will be in addition to the compensation that the distributor receives for the sale of the notes to you. You should be aware that the potential to earn fees in connection with hedging activities may create a further incentive for the distributor to sell the notes to you in addition to the compensation they would receive for the sale of the notes.

Goldman Sachs Trading and Investment Activities for its Own Account or for its Clients, Could Negatively Impact Investors in the Notes

Goldman Sachs is a global investment banking, securities and investment management firm that provides a wide range of financial services to a substantial and diversified client base that includes corporations, financial institutions, governments and individuals. As such, it acts as an investor, investment banker, research provider, investment manager, investment advisor, market maker, trader, prime broker and lender. In those and other capacities, Goldman Sachs purchases, sells or holds a broad array of

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investments, actively trades securities, derivatives, loans, commodities, currencies, credit default swaps, indices, baskets and other financial instruments and products for its own account or for the accounts of its customers, and will have other direct or indirect interests, in the global fixed income, currency, commodity, equity, bank loan and other markets. Any of Goldman Sachs' financial market activities may, individually or in the aggregate, have an adverse effect on the market for your notes, and you should expect that the interests of Goldman Sachs or its clients or counterparties will at times be adverse to those of investors in the notes.

Goldman Sachs regularly offers a wide array of securities, financial instruments and other products into the marketplace, including existing or new products that are similar to your notes, or similar or linked to the indices or index stocks. Investors in the notes should expect that Goldman Sachs will offer securities, financial instruments, and other products that will compete with the notes for liquidity, research coverage or otherwise.

Goldman Sachs' Market-Making Activities Could Negatively Impact Investors in the Notes

Goldman Sachs actively makes markets in and trades financial instruments for its own account and for the accounts of customers. These financial instruments include debt and equity securities, currencies, commodities, bank loans, indices, baskets and other products. Goldman Sachs' activities include, among other things, executing large block trades and taking long and short positions directly and indirectly, through derivative instruments or otherwise. The securities and instruments in which Goldman Sachs takes positions, or expects to take positions, include securities and instruments of an index or index stocks, securities and instruments similar to or linked to the foregoing or the currencies in which they are denominated. Market making is an activity where Goldman Sachs buys and sells on behalf of customers, or for its own account, to satisfy the expected demand of customers. By its nature, market making involves facilitating transactions among market participants that have differing views of securities and instruments. As a result, you should expect that Goldman Sachs will take positions that are inconsistent with, or adverse to, the investment objectives of investors in the notes.

If Goldman Sachs becomes a holder of any securities of the indices or index stocks in its capacity as a market-maker or otherwise, any actions that it takes in its capacity as securityholder, including voting or provision of consents, will not necessarily be aligned with, and may be inconsistent with, the interests of investors in the notes.

You Should Expect That Goldman Sachs Personnel Will Take Research Positions, or Otherwise Make Recommendations, Provide Investment Advice or Market Color or Encourage Trading Strategies That Might Negatively Impact Investors in the Notes

Goldman Sachs and its personnel, including its sales and trading, investment research and investment management personnel, regularly make investment recommendations, provide market color or trading ideas, or publish or express independent views in respect of a wide range of markets, issuers, securities and instruments. They regularly implement, or recommend to clients that they implement, various investment strategies relating to these markets, issuers, securities and instruments. These strategies include, for example, buying or selling credit protection against a default or other event involving an issuer or financial instrument. Any of these recommendations and views may be negative with respect to the indices or index stocks or other securities or instruments similar to or linked to the foregoing or result in trading strategies that have a negative impact on the market for any such securities or instruments, particularly in illiquid markets. In addition, you should expect that personnel in the trading and investing businesses of Goldman Sachs will have or develop independent views of the indices or index stocks, the relevant industry or other market trends, which may not be aligned with the views and objectives of investors in the notes.

Goldman Sachs Regularly Provides Services to, or Otherwise Has Business Relationships with, a Broad Client Base, Which May Include the Sponsors of an Index or the Issuers of the Index Stocks or Other Entities That Are Involved in the Transaction

Goldman Sachs regularly provides financial advisory, investment advisory and transactional services to a substantial and diversified client base, and you should assume that Goldman Sachs will, at present or in the future, provide such services or otherwise engage in transactions with, among others, the sponsors of the indices or the issuers of the index stocks, or transact in securities or instruments or with parties that are

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directly or indirectly related to the foregoing. These services could include making loans to or equity investments in those companies, providing financial advisory or other investment banking services, or issuing research reports. You should expect that Goldman Sachs, in providing such services, engaging in such transactions, or acting for its own account, may take actions that have direct or indirect effects on the indices or index stocks, as applicable, and that such actions could be adverse to the interests of investors in the notes. In addition, in connection with these activities, certain Goldman Sachs personnel may have access to confidential material non-public information about these parties that would not be disclosed to Goldman Sachs employees that were not working on such transactions as Goldman Sachs has established internal information barriers that are designed to preserve the confidentiality of non-public information. Therefore, any such confidential material non-public information would not be shared with Goldman Sachs employees involved in structuring, selling or making markets in the notes or with investors in the notes.

In this offering, as well as in all other circumstances in which Goldman Sachs receives any fees or other compensation in any form relating to services provided to or transactions with any other party, no accounting, offset or payment in respect of the notes will be required or made; Goldman Sachs will be entitled to retain all such fees and other amounts, and no fees or other compensation payable by any party or indirectly by holders of the notes will be reduced by reason of receipt by Goldman Sachs of any such other fees or other amounts.

The Offering of the Notes May Reduce an Existing Exposure of Goldman Sachs or Facilitate a Transaction or Position That Serves the Objectives of Goldman Sachs or Other Parties

A completed offering may reduce Goldman Sachs' existing exposure to the indices or index stocks, securities and instruments similar to or linked to the foregoing or the currencies in which they are denominated, including exposure gained through hedging transactions in anticipation of this offering. An offering of notes will effectively transfer a portion of Goldman Sachs' exposure (and indirectly transfer the exposure of Goldman Sachs' hedging or other counterparties) to investors in the notes.

The terms of the offering (including the selection of the indices or index stocks, and the establishment of other transaction terms) may have been selected in order to serve the investment or other objectives of Goldman Sachs or another client or counterparty of Goldman Sachs. In such a case, Goldman Sachs would typically receive the input of other parties that are involved in or otherwise have an interest in the offering, transactions hedged by the offering, or related transactions. The incentives of these other parties would normally differ from and in many cases be contrary to those of investors in the notes.

Other Investors in the Notes May Not Have the Same Interests as You

Other investors in the notes are not required to take into account the interests of any other investor in exercising remedies or voting or other rights in their capacity as securityholders or in making requests or recommendations to Goldman Sachs as to the establishment of other transaction terms. The interests of other investors may, in some circumstances, be adverse to your interests. For example, certain investors may take short positions (directly or indirectly through derivative transactions) on assets that are the same or similar to your notes, index, index stocks or other similar securities, which may adversely impact the market for or value of your notes.

The Policies of an Index Sponsor and Changes that Affect an Index or the Index Stocks Comprising an Index Could Affect the Coupons Payable on Your Notes, if Any, or the Cash Settlement Amount on the Stated Maturity Date and the Market Value of Your Notes

The policies of an index sponsor concerning the calculation of the level of an index, additions, deletions or substitutions of the index stocks comprising such index, and the manner in which changes affecting such index stocks or their issuers, such as stock dividends, reorganizations or mergers, are reflected in the index level, could affect the level of such index and, therefore, the coupon payable on your notes, if any, on any coupon payment date and the market value of your notes before that date. The coupons payable on your notes, if any, and their market value could also be affected if an index sponsor changes these policies, for example, by changing the manner in which it calculates the index level, or if the index sponsor discontinues or suspends calculation or publication of such index level, in which case it may become difficult to determine the market value of your notes. If events such as these occur, the calculation agent which initially will be GS&Co., our affiliate may determine the applicable index levels on any such date and thus the amount payable on any coupon payment date, if any, or the cash settlement amount on the stated maturity date

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in a manner it considers appropriate, in its sole discretion. We describe the discretion that the calculation agent will have in determining the applicable index levels on any trading day, an observation end date or the determination date and the coupons payable on your notes, if any, or the cash settlement amount more fully under [Specific Terms of Your Notes](#) [Discontinuance or Modification of an Index](#) and [Specific Terms of Your Notes](#) [Role of Calculation Agent](#) below.

The Return on Your Notes Will Not Reflect Any Dividends Paid on the Index Stocks

The applicable index sponsor calculates the level of an index by reference to the prices of the index stocks, without taking account of the value of dividends paid on those index stocks. Therefore, the return on your notes will not reflect the return you would realize if you actually owned the index stocks included in each index and received the dividends paid on those index stocks. You will not receive any dividends that may be paid on any of the index stocks by the index stock issuers. See [You Have No Shareholder Rights or Rights to Receive Any Index Stock](#) below for additional information.

Except to the Extent The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. Is One of the Companies Whose Common Stock Comprises the S&P 500® Index, There Is No Affiliation Between the Index Stock Issuers or the Index Sponsors and Us

The common stock of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. is one of the index stocks comprising the S&P 500® Index. We are not otherwise affiliated with the issuers of the index stocks or the index sponsors. As we have told you above, however, we or our affiliates may currently or from time to time in the future own securities of, or engage in business with the index sponsors or the index stock issuers. Neither we nor any of our affiliates have participated in the preparation of any publicly available information or made any due diligence investigation or inquiry with respect to the indices or any of the other index stock issuers. You, as an investor in your notes, should make your own investigation into the indices and the index stock issuers. See [The Indices](#) below for additional information about each index.

Neither the index sponsors nor any of the other index stock issuers are involved in the offering of your notes in any way and none of them have any obligation of any sort with respect to your notes. Thus, neither the index sponsors nor any of the other index stock issuers have any obligation to take your interests into consideration for any reason, including in taking any corporate actions that might affect the market value of your notes.

You Have No Shareholder Rights or Rights to Receive Any Index Stock

Investing in your notes will not make you a holder of any of the index stocks. Neither you nor any other holder or owner of your notes will have any rights with respect to the index stocks, including any voting rights, any right to receive dividends or other distributions, any rights to make a claim against the index stocks or any other rights of a holder of the index stocks. Your notes will be paid in cash, as will any coupon payments, and you will have no right to receive delivery of any index stocks.

Past Index Performance is No Guide to Future Performance

The actual performance of the indices over the life of the notes, as well as the amount payable at maturity, if any, may bear little relation to the historical closing levels of the indices or to the hypothetical return examples set forth elsewhere in this prospectus supplement. We cannot predict the future performance of the indices.

Your Notes Are Linked to the EURO STOXX 50® Index, Which Is Comprised of Index Stocks That Are Traded in a Foreign Currency But Not Adjusted to Reflect Their U.S. Dollar Value, And, Therefore, the Return on Your Notes Will Not Be Adjusted for Changes in the Foreign Currency Exchange Rate

Your notes are linked to the EURO STOXX 50® Index whose index stocks are traded in a foreign currency but not adjusted to reflect their U.S. dollar value. The amount payable on your notes will not be adjusted for changes in the euro/U.S. dollar exchange rate. The amount payable will be based solely upon the overall change in the level of the EURO STOXX 50® Index. Changes in foreign currency exchange rates, however, may reflect changes in the economy of the foreign countries in which the index's component stocks are listed that, in turn, may affect the level of the EURO STOXX 50® Index.

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An Investment in the Offered Notes Is Subject to Risks Associated with Foreign Securities

The value of your notes is linked, in part, to an underlying index that is comprised of stocks from one or more foreign securities markets. Investments linked to the value of foreign equity securities involve particular risks. Any foreign securities market may be less liquid, more volatile and affected by global or domestic market developments in a different way than are the U.S. securities market or other foreign securities markets. Both government intervention in a foreign securities market, either directly or indirectly, and cross-shareholdings in foreign companies, may affect trading prices and volumes in that market. Also, there is generally less publicly available information about foreign companies than about those U.S. companies that are subject to the reporting requirements of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Further, foreign companies are subject to accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards and requirements that differ from those applicable to U.S. reporting companies.

The prices of securities in a foreign country are subject to political, economic, financial and social factors that are unique to such foreign country's geographical region. These factors include: recent changes, or the possibility of future changes, in the applicable foreign government's economic and fiscal policies; the possible implementation of, or changes in, currency exchange laws or other laws or restrictions applicable to foreign companies or investments in foreign equity securities; fluctuations, or the possibility of fluctuations, in currency exchange rates; and the possibility of outbreaks of hostility, political instability, natural disaster or adverse public health developments. The United Kingdom has voted to leave the European Union (popularly known as Brexit). The effect of Brexit is uncertain, and Brexit has and may continue to contribute to volatility in the prices of securities of companies located in Europe and currency exchange rates, including the valuation of the euro and British pound in particular. Any one of these factors, or the combination of more than one of these factors, could negatively affect such foreign securities market and the price of securities therein. Further, geographical regions may react to global factors in different ways, which may cause the prices of securities in a foreign securities market to fluctuate in a way that differs from those of securities in the U.S. securities market or other foreign securities markets. Foreign economies may also differ from the U.S. economy in important respects, including growth of gross national product, rate of inflation, capital reinvestment, resources and self-sufficiency, which may have a positive or negative effect on foreign securities prices. See [The Indices](#) [The EURO STOXX 50® Index](#) below for additional information.

As Calculation Agent, GS&Co. Will Have the Authority to Make Determinations that Could Affect the Value of Your Notes

As calculation agent for your notes, GS&Co. will have discretion in making certain determinations that affect your notes, including determining: the closing levels of the indices on any trading day during a quarterly observation period, which we will use to determine the coupon, if any, we will pay on any applicable coupon payment date; the final index level of the lesser performing index on the determination date, which we will use to determine the amount we must pay on the stated maturity date; the trading days during each quarterly observation period; whether to exclude a trading day during an observation period due to a market disruption event; whether to postpone an observation end date or the determination date because of a market disruption event or a non-trading day; the observation end dates; the trading days; the coupon payment dates; and the stated maturity date. The calculation agent also has discretion in making certain adjustments relating to a discontinuation or modification of the indices. See [Specific Terms of Your Notes](#) [Discontinuance or Modification of an Index](#) below. The exercise of this discretion by GS&Co. could adversely affect the value of your notes and may present GS&Co. with a conflict of interest. We may change the calculation agent at any time without notice and GS&Co. may resign as calculation agent at any time upon 60 days' written notice to us.

The Calculation Agent Can Postpone an Observation End Date or the Determination Date, as the Case May Be, If a Market Disruption Event or a Non-Trading Day Occurs or is Continuing

If the calculation agent determines that, on a date that would otherwise be an observation end date or the determination date, a market disruption event has occurred or is continuing with respect to an index or that day is not a trading day with respect to any index, such observation end date or the determination date will be postponed as provided under *Specific Terms of Your Notes Observation End Dates* and *Specific Terms of Your Notes Determination Date*, as applicable. In no case, however, will the observation end date or the determination date be postponed to a date later than the corresponding

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originally scheduled coupon payment date or the originally scheduled stated maturity date, as applicable, or if the corresponding originally scheduled coupon payment date or the originally scheduled stated maturity date is not a business day, later than the first business day after the corresponding originally scheduled coupon payment date or the originally scheduled stated maturity date. Moreover, if an observation end date or the determination date, as applicable, is postponed to the last possible day, but the market disruption event has not ceased by that day or that day is not a trading day, that day will nevertheless be the observation end date or the determination date, as applicable, for the corresponding coupon payment date or stated maturity date. In such a case, the calculation agent will determine the applicable closing levels or final index levels for such observation end date or the determination date based on the procedures described under **Specific Terms of Your Notes** **Consequences of a Market Disruption Event** or a **Non-Trading Day** below.

We May Sell an Additional Aggregate Face Amount of the Notes at a Different Issue Price

At our sole option, we may decide to sell an additional aggregate face amount of the notes subsequent to the date of this prospectus supplement. The issue price of the notes in the subsequent sale may differ substantially (higher or lower) from the issue price you paid as provided on the cover of this prospectus supplement.

There are Small-Capitalization Stock Risks Associated with the Russell 2000® Index

The Russell 2000® Index is comprised of stocks of companies that may be considered small capitalization companies. These companies often have greater stock price volatility, lower trading volume and less liquidity than large capitalization companies and therefore the Russell 2000® Index may be more volatile than an index in which a greater percentage of the constituent stocks are issued by large-capitalization companies.

Certain Considerations for Insurance Companies and Employee Benefit Plans

Any insurance company or fiduciary of a pension plan or other employee benefit plan that is subject to the prohibited transaction rules of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended, which we call **ERISA**, or the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, including an IRA or a Keogh plan (or a governmental plan to which similar prohibitions apply), and that is considering purchasing the offered notes with the assets of the insurance company or the assets of such a plan, should consult with its counsel regarding whether the purchase or holding of the offered notes could become a prohibited transaction under ERISA, the Internal Revenue Code or any substantially similar prohibition in light of the representations a purchaser or holder in any of the above categories is deemed to make by purchasing and holding the offered notes. This is discussed in more detail under **Employee Retirement Income Security Act** below.

The Tax Consequences of an Investment in Your Notes Are Uncertain

The tax consequences of an investment in your notes are uncertain, both as to the timing and character of any inclusion in income in respect of your notes.

The Internal Revenue Service announced on December 7, 2007 that it is considering issuing guidance regarding the tax treatment of an instrument such as your notes, and any such guidance could adversely affect the value and the tax treatment of your notes. Among other things, the Internal Revenue Service may decide to require the holders to accrue ordinary income on a current basis and recognize ordinary income on payment at maturity, and could subject non-U.S. investors to withholding tax. Furthermore, in 2007, legislation was introduced in Congress that, if enacted, would have required holders that acquired instruments such as your notes after the bill was enacted to accrue interest income over the term of such instruments. It is not possible to predict whether a similar or identical bill will be enacted in the future, or whether any such bill would affect the tax treatment of your notes. We describe these developments in more detail under Supplemental Discussion of Federal Income Tax Consequences United States Holders Possible Change in Law below. You should consult your tax advisor about this matter. Except to the extent otherwise provided by law, GS Finance Corp. intends to continue treating the notes for U.S. federal income tax purposes in accordance with the treatment described under Supplemental Discussion of Federal Income Tax Consequences on page S-57 below unless and until such time as Congress, the Treasury Department or the Internal Revenue Service determine that some other treatment is more appropriate. Please also consult your tax advisor concerning the U.S. federal income tax and any other applicable tax consequences to you of owning your notes in your particular circumstances.

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Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) Withholding May Apply to Payments on Your Notes, Including as a Result of the Failure of the Bank or Broker Through Which You Hold the Notes to Provide Information to Tax Authorities

Please see the discussion under [United States Taxation](#) [Taxation of Debt Securities](#) [Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act \(FATCA\) Withholding](#) in the accompanying prospectus for a description of the applicability of FATCA to payments made on your notes.

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SPECIFIC TERMS OF YOUR NOTES

We refer to the notes we are offering by this prospectus supplement as the offered notes or the notes . Please note that in this prospectus supplement, references to GS Finance Corp. , we , our and us mean only GS Finance Corp. and do not include its subsidiaries or affiliates, references to The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. , our parent company, mean only The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. and do not include its subsidiaries or affiliates and references to Goldman Sachs mean The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. together with its consolidated subsidiaries and affiliates, including us. Also, references to the accompanying prospectus mean the accompanying prospectus, dated July 10, 2017, and references to the accompanying prospectus supplement mean the accompanying prospectus supplement, dated July 10, 2017, for Medium-Term Notes, Series E, in each case of GS Finance Corp. and The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. Please note that in this section entitled Specific Terms of Your Notes , references to holders mean those who own notes registered in their own names, on the books that we or the trustee maintain for this purpose, and not those who own beneficial interests in notes registered in street name or in notes issued in book-entry form through The Depository Trust Company. Please review the special considerations that apply to owners of beneficial interests in the accompanying prospectus, under Legal Ownership and Book-Entry Issuance .

The offered notes are part of a series of debt securities, entitled Medium-Term Notes, Series E , that we may issue under the indenture from time to time as described in the accompanying prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectus. The offered notes are also indexed debt securities , as defined in the accompanying prospectus.

This prospectus supplement summarizes specific financial and other terms that apply to the offered notes, including your notes; terms that apply generally to all Series E medium-term notes are described in Description of Notes We May Offer in the accompanying prospectus supplement. The terms described here supplement those described in the accompanying prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and, if the terms described here are inconsistent with those described there, the terms described here are controlling.

In addition to those terms described under Summary Information in this prospectus supplement, the following terms will apply to your notes:

Specified currency:

- U.S. dollars (\$)

Form of note:

- global form only: yes, at DTC
- non-global form available: no

Denominations: each note registered in the name of a holder must have a face amount of \$10 or an integral multiple of \$10 in excess thereof

Defeasance applies as follows:

- full defeasance: no
- covenant defeasance: no

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Other terms:

- the default amount will be payable on any acceleration of the maturity of your notes as described under **Special Calculation Provisions** below
- a business day for your notes will not be the same as a business day for our other Series E medium-term notes, as described under **Special Calculation Provisions** below
- a trading day for your notes will be as described under **Special Calculation Provisions** below

Please note that the information about the settlement or trade date, issue price, discount or commission and net proceeds to GS Finance Corp. on the front cover page or elsewhere in this prospectus supplement relates only to the initial issuance and sale of the offered notes. We may decide to sell additional notes on one or more dates after the date of this prospectus supplement, at issue prices and with underwriting discounts and net proceeds that differ from the amounts set forth on the front cover page or elsewhere in this prospectus supplement. If you have purchased your notes in a market-making transaction after the initial issuance and sale of the offered notes, any such relevant information about the sale to you will be provided in a separate confirmation of sale.

We describe the terms of your notes in more detail below.

Index, Index Sponsor and Index Stocks

In this prospectus supplement, when we refer to an index, we mean either the S&P 500® Index, the Russell 2000® Index or the EURO STOXX 50® Index specified on the front cover page, or any successor index, as each may be modified, replaced or adjusted from time to time as described under **Discontinuance or Modification of an Index** below. When we refer to an index sponsor as of any time, we mean the entity, including any successor sponsor, that determines and publishes the applicable index as then in effect. When we refer to the index stocks of an index as of any time, we mean the stocks that comprise the index as then in effect, after giving effect to any additions, deletions or substitutions.

Payment of a Contingent Coupon

Subject to our redemption right, on each coupon payment date, for each \$10 face amount of your notes, we will pay you an amount in cash equal to:

- if the closing level of each index on every trading day during the preceding quarterly observation period is *greater than* or *equal to* its coupon barrier, \$0.23975 (2.3975% quarterly or 9.59% per annum); or
- if the closing level of any index on any trading day during the preceding quarterly observation period is *less than* its coupon barrier, \$0.00.

The coupon barrier is 2,031.064 with respect to the S&P 500® Index, 1,218.527 with respect to the Russell 2000® Index and 2,375.03 with respect to the EURO STOXX 50® Index (in each case, 70.00% of such index's initial index level (rounded to the nearest one-thousandth)).

A quarterly observation period is the period from but excluding each observation end date (or the trade date, in the case of the first quarterly observation period) to and including the next succeeding observation end date *excluding* any date or dates on which the calculation agent determines that a market disruption event with respect to any index occurs or is continuing or that the calculation agent determines is not a trading day with respect to any index. Notwithstanding the immediately preceding sentence, if the calculation agent determines that, with respect to any index, a market disruption event occurs or is continuing on the observation end date for the applicable quarterly observation period or that day is not otherwise a trading day, the observation end date, and therefore the last day for such quarterly observation period, will be postponed as provided under Observation End Dates below.

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Payment of Principal on Stated Maturity Date

Subject to our early redemption right, for each \$10 face amount of your notes, we will pay you on the stated maturity date, in addition to any coupon payment then due, an amount in cash equal to:

- if the final index level of the lesser performing index is *greater than or equal to* its downside threshold, \$10; or
- if the final index level of the lesser performing index is *less than* its downside threshold, the *sum of* (1) \$10 *plus* (2) the *product* of (i) \$10 *times* (ii) the lesser performing index return.

The downside threshold is 1,740.912 with respect to the S&P 500® Index, 1,044.452 with respect to the Russell 2000® Index and 2,035.74 with respect to the EURO STOXX 50® Index (in each case, 60.00% of such index's initial index level (rounded to the nearest one-thousandth)).

With respect to each index, the index return is calculated by *subtracting* the initial index level from the final index level and *dividing* the result by the initial index level, with the quotient expressed as a percentage. The lesser performing index is the index with the lowest index return. The lesser performing index return is the index return of the lesser performing index.

The initial index level is 2,901.52 with respect to the S&P 500® Index, 1,740.753 with respect to the Russell 2000® Index and 3,392.90 with respect to the EURO STOXX 50® Index (in each case, the closing level of such index on the trade date). With respect to each index, the calculation agent will determine the final index level, which will be the closing level of such index on the determination date. However, the calculation agent will have discretion to adjust the closing level on any observation end date or the determination date or to determine it in a different manner as described under **Consequences of a Market Disruption Event or a Non-Trading Day** and **Discontinuance or Modification of an Index** below.

Stated Maturity Date

The stated maturity date is September 6, 2022, unless that day is not a business day, in which case the stated maturity date will be postponed to the next following business day. If the determination date is postponed as described under **Determination Date** below, the stated maturity date will be postponed by the same number of business day(s) from but excluding the originally scheduled determination date to and including

the actual determination date.

Determination Date

The determination date is August 31, 2022, unless the calculation agent determines that, with respect to an index, a market disruption event occurs or is continuing on that day or that day is not otherwise a trading day.

In the event the originally scheduled determination date is a non-trading day with respect to any index, the determination date will be the first day thereafter that is a trading day for all indices (the first qualified trading day) provided that no market disruption event occurs or is continuing with respect to an index on that day. If a market disruption event with respect to an index occurs or is continuing on the originally scheduled determination date or the first qualified trading day, the determination date will be the first following trading day on which the calculation agent determines that each index has had at least one trading day (from and including the originally scheduled determination date or the first qualified trading day, as applicable) on which no market disruption event has occurred or is continuing and the closing level of each index will be determined on or prior to the postponed determination date as set forth under Consequences of a Market Disruption Event or a Non-Trading Day below. (In such case, the determination date may differ from the date on which the level of an index is determined for the purpose of the calculations to be performed on the determination date.) In no event, however, will the determination date be postponed to a date later than the originally scheduled stated maturity date or, if the originally scheduled stated maturity date is not a business day, later than the first business day after the originally scheduled stated maturity date, either due to the occurrence of serial non-trading days or due to the occurrence of one or more market disruption events. On such last possible determination date, if a market disruption event occurs or is continuing with respect to an index that has not yet had such a trading day on which no market disruption event has occurred or is continuing or if such last possible day is not a trading day with respect to such index, that day will nevertheless be the determination date.

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Coupon and Coupon Payment Dates

The coupons will be calculated and paid as described in this prospectus supplement.

The coupons on the offered notes will be paid on the coupon payment dates (the dates specified in the table under Summary Information Key Terms Coupon payment dates on page S-6, unless, for any such coupon payment date, that day is not a business day, in which case such coupon payment date will be postponed to the next following business day; if an observation end date is postponed as described under Observation End Dates below, such coupon payment date will be postponed by the same number of business day(s) from but excluding the applicable originally scheduled observation end date to and including the actual observation end date). Although the coupon payment dates occur quarterly, there may not be an equal number of days between coupon payment dates.

Observation End Dates

The observation end dates are as specified in the table under Summary Information Key Terms Coupon payment dates on page S-6, commencing on November 30, 2018 and ending on August 31, 2022, unless the calculation agent determines that, with respect to any index, a market disruption event occurs or is continuing on that day or that day is not otherwise a trading day. In the event the originally scheduled observation end date is a non-trading day with respect to an index, the observation end date will be the first day thereafter that is a trading day for all indices (the first qualified coupon trading day) provided that no market disruption event occurs or is continuing for an index on that day. If a market disruption event with respect to an index occurs or is continuing on the originally scheduled observation end date or the first qualified coupon trading day, the observation end date will be the first following trading day on which the calculation agent determines that each index has had at least one trading day (from and including the originally scheduled observation end date or the first qualified coupon trading date, as applicable) on which no market disruption event has occurred or is continuing and the closing level of each index for that observation end date will be determined on or prior to the postponed observation end date as set forth under Consequences of a Market Disruption Event or a Non-Trading Day below. (In such case, the observation end date may differ from the date on which the level of an index is determined for the purpose of the calculations to be performed on the observation end date.) In no event, however, will the observation end date be postponed to a date later than the originally scheduled coupon payment date or, if the originally scheduled coupon payment date is not a business day, later than the first business day after the originally scheduled coupon payment date, either due to the occurrence of serial non-trading days or due to the occurrence of one or more market disruption events. On such last possible observation end date applicable to the relevant coupon payment date, if a market disruption event occurs or is continuing with respect to an index that has not yet had such a trading day on which no market disruption event has occurred or is continuing or if such last possible day is not a trading day with respect to such index, that day will nevertheless be the observation end date. Although the observation end dates occur quarterly, there may not be an equal number of days between observation end dates.

Consequences of a Market Disruption Event or a Non-Trading Day

With respect to any index, if a market disruption event occurs or is continuing on a day that would otherwise be an observation end date or the determination date, or such day is not a trading day, then such observation end date or the determination date will be postponed as described under Observation End Dates or Determination Date above. If any observation end date or the determination date is postponed to the last possible date due to the occurrence of serial non-trading days, the level of each index will be the calculation agent's assessment of such level, in good faith and in its sole discretion, on such last possible postponed observation end date or determination date, as applicable.

If any observation end date or the determination date is postponed due to a market disruption event with respect to any index, the closing level of each index with respect to such observation end date or the final index level with respect to the determination date, as applicable, will be calculated based on (i) for any index that is not affected by a market disruption event on (A) the applicable originally scheduled observation

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end date or the first qualified coupon trading day thereafter (if applicable) or (B) the originally scheduled determination date or the first qualified trading day thereafter (if applicable), the closing level of the index on that date, (ii) for any index that is affected by a market disruption event on (A) the applicable originally scheduled observation end date or the first qualified coupon trading day thereafter (if applicable) or (B) the originally scheduled determination date or the first qualified trading day thereafter (if applicable), the closing level of the index on the first following trading day on which no market disruption event exists for such index and (iii) the calculation agent's assessment, in good faith and in its sole discretion, of the level of any index on the last possible postponed observation end date or determination date, as applicable, with respect to such index as to which a market disruption event continues through the last possible postponed observation end date or determination date. As a result, this could result in the closing level on any observation end date or final index level on the determination date of each index being determined on different calendar dates.

For the avoidance of doubt, once the closing level for an index is determined for an observation end date or determination date, the occurrence of a later market disruption event or non-trading day will not alter such calculation.

Discontinuance or Modification of an Index

If an index sponsor discontinues publication of an index and such index sponsor or anyone else publishes a substitute index that the calculation agent determines is comparable to such index, or if the calculation agent designates a substitute index, then the calculation agent will determine the coupon payable, if any, on the relevant coupon payment date or the cash settlement amount on the stated maturity date by reference to the substitute index. We refer to any substitute index approved by the calculation agent as a successor index.

If the calculation agent determines during a quarterly observation period or the determination date, as applicable, that the publication of an index is discontinued and there is no successor index, the calculation agent will determine the coupon or the cash settlement amount, as applicable, on the related coupon payment date or the stated maturity date, as applicable, by a computation methodology that the calculation agent determines will as closely as reasonably possible replicate such index.

If the calculation agent determines that an index, the index stocks comprising that index or the method of calculating that index is changed at any time in any respect including any split or reverse split and any addition, deletion or substitution and any reweighting or rebalancing of the index or of the index stocks and whether the change is made by the index sponsor under its existing policies or following a modification of those policies, is due to the publication of a successor index, is due to events affecting one or more of the index stocks or their issuers or is due to any other reason and is not otherwise reflected in the level of the index by the index sponsor pursuant to the then-current index methodology of the index, then the calculation agent will be permitted (but not required) to make such adjustments in such index or the method of its calculation as it believes are appropriate to ensure that the levels of such index used to determine the coupon or cash settlement amount, as applicable, on the related coupon payment date or the stated maturity date, as applicable, is equitable.

All determinations and adjustments to be made by the calculation agent with respect to an index may be made by the calculation agent in its sole discretion. The calculation agent is not obligated to make any such adjustments.

Default Amount on Acceleration

If an event of default occurs and the maturity of your notes is accelerated, we will pay the default amount in respect of the principal of your notes at the maturity, instead of the amount payable on the stated maturity date as described earlier. We describe the default amount under Special Calculation Provisions below.

For the purpose of determining whether the holders of our Series E medium-term notes, which include your notes, are entitled to take any action under the indenture, we will treat the outstanding face amount of each of your notes as the outstanding principal amount of that note. Although the terms of your notes differ from those of the other Series E medium-term notes, holders of specified percentages in principal amount of all Series E medium-term notes, together in some cases with other series of our debt securities, will be

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able to take action affecting all the Series E medium-term notes, including your notes, except with respect to certain Series E medium-term notes if the terms of such notes specify that the holders of specified percentages in principal amount of all of such notes must also consent to such action. This action may involve changing some of the terms that apply to the Series E medium-term notes, accelerating the maturity of the Series E medium-term notes after a default or waiving some of our obligations under the indenture. In addition, certain changes to the indenture and the notes that only affect certain debt securities may be made with the approval of holders of a majority in principal amount of such affected debt securities. We discuss these matters in the accompanying prospectus under **Description of Debt Securities We May Offer**, **Default, Remedies and Waiver of Default** and **Modification of the Debt Indentures and Waiver of Covenants**.

Manner of Payment

Any payment or delivery on your notes at maturity will be made to an account designated by the holder of your notes and approved by us, or at the office of the trustee in New York City, but only when your notes are surrendered to the trustee at that office. We also may make any payment or delivery in accordance with the applicable procedures of the depository.

Modified Business Day

As described in the accompanying prospectus, any payment on your notes that would otherwise be due on a day that is not a business day may instead be paid on the next day that is a business day, with the same effect as if paid on the original due date. For your notes, however, the term business day may have a different meaning than it does for other Series E medium-term notes. We discuss this term under **Special Calculation Provisions** below.

Role of Calculation Agent

The calculation agent in its sole discretion will make all determinations regarding each index, the observation end dates, the coupon payment dates, the regular record dates, the coupon, if any, on each coupon payment date, each index return, the closing levels of the indices on each observation end date, each final index level, the determination date, business days, trading days, postponement of a coupon payment date, the stated maturity date and the amount of cash payable on your notes at maturity. Absent manifest error, all determinations of the calculation agent will be final and binding on you and us, without any liability on the part of the calculation agent.

Please note that GS&Co., our affiliate, is currently serving as the calculation agent as of the date of this prospectus supplement. We may change the calculation agent for your notes at any time after the date of this prospectus supplement without notice and GS&Co. may resign as calculation agent at any time upon 60 days' written notice to us.

Our Early Redemption Right

We may redeem your notes, at our option, in whole but not in part, on each coupon payment date on or after December 4, 2018, for an amount equal to 100% of the face amount plus any coupon then due.

If we choose to exercise our early redemption right described in this prospectus supplement, we will notify the holder of your notes and the trustee by giving at least two business days' prior notice. The day we give the notice, which will be a business day, will be the redemption notice date and the immediately following coupon payment date, which we will state in the redemption notice, will be the redemption date. We will not give a redemption notice that results in a redemption date later than the stated maturity date.

If we give the holder a redemption notice, we will redeem the entire outstanding face amount of your notes as follows. On the redemption date, we will pay to the holder of record on the scheduled business day immediately preceding the redemption date 100% of the face amount in cash, together with any coupon then due, in the manner described under *Manner of Payment* above.

Special Calculation Provisions

Business Day

When we refer to a business day with respect to your notes, we mean a day that is a New York business day as described under *Description of Debt Securities We May Offer - Calculations of Interest on Debt Securities - Business Days* on page 21 in the accompanying prospectus. A day is a scheduled business day if, as of the trade date, such day is scheduled to be a New York business day.

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Trading Day

When we refer to a trading day with respect to an index, we mean (i) with respect to the S&P 500® Index and the Russell 2000® Index, a day on which the respective principal securities markets for all of the index stocks are open for trading, the index sponsor is open for business and such index is calculated and published by the index sponsor and (ii) with respect to the EURO STOXX 50® Index, a day on which such index is calculated and published by the index sponsor, regardless of whether one or more of the principal securities markets for the index stocks are closed on that day, if the index sponsor publishes the level of such index on that day.

Closing Level

When we refer to the closing level of the S&P 500® Index and the EURO STOXX 50® Index on any trading day, we mean the official closing level of such index or any successor index published by the index sponsor on such trading day for such index.

When we refer to the closing level of the Russell 2000® Index on any trading day, we mean the closing level of that index or any successor index reported by Bloomberg Financial Services, or any successor reporting service we may select, on such trading day for that index. Currently, whereas the index sponsor publishes the official closing level of the index to six decimal places, Bloomberg Financial Services reports the closing level to fewer decimal places. As a result, the closing level of the Russell 2000® Index reported by Bloomberg Financial Services may be lower or higher than the official closing level of the Russell 2000® Index published by the index sponsor.

Default Amount

The default amount for your notes on any day (except as provided in the last sentence under **Default Quotation Period** below), will be an amount in the specified currency for the face amount of your notes, equal to the cost of having a qualified financial institution, of the kind and selected as described below, expressly assume all of our payment and other obligations with respect to your notes as of that day and as if no default or acceleration had occurred, or to undertake other obligations providing substantially equivalent economic value to you with respect to your notes. That cost will equal:

- the lowest amount that a qualified financial institution would charge to effect this assumption or undertaking, *plus*

- the reasonable expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees, incurred by the holder of your notes in preparing any documentation necessary for this assumption or undertaking.

During the default quotation period for your notes, which we describe below, the holder and/or we or the calculation agent may request a qualified financial institution to provide a quotation of the amount it would charge to effect this assumption or undertaking. If either party obtains a quotation, it must notify the other party in writing of the quotation. The amount referred to in the first bullet point above will equal the lowest or, if there is only one, the only quotation obtained, and as to which notice is so given, during the default quotation period. With respect to any quotation, however, the party not obtaining the quotation may object, on reasonable and significant grounds, to the assumption or undertaking by the qualified financial institution providing the quotation and notify the other party in writing of those grounds within two business days after the last day of the default quotation period, in which case that quotation will be disregarded in determining the default amount.

Default Quotation Period

The default quotation period is the period beginning on the day the default amount first becomes due and ending on the third business day after that day, unless:

- no quotation of the kind referred to above is obtained, or
- every quotation of that kind obtained is objected to within five business days after the day the default amount first becomes due.

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If either of these two events occurs, the default quotation period will continue until the third business day after the first business day on which prompt notice of a quotation is given as described above. If that quotation is objected to as described above within five business days after that first business day, however, the default quotation period will continue as described in the prior sentence and this sentence.

In any event, if the default quotation period and the subsequent two business day objection period have not ended before the determination date, then the default amount will equal the principal amount of your notes.

Qualified Financial Institutions

For the purpose of determining the default amount at any time, a qualified financial institution must be a financial institution organized under the laws of any jurisdiction in the United States of America, Europe or Japan, which at tha