

Maiden Holdings, Ltd.
Form S-3
February 07, 2011

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 7, 2011
Registration Nos. 333- _____ and 333- _____

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

Form S-3
REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

Maiden Holdings, Ltd.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)
Bermuda 98-0570192
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

131 Front Street, 2nd Floor
Hamilton HM12 Bermuda
(441) 298-4900
(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

CT Corporation System
111 8th Avenue, 13th Floor
New York, New York 10011
(212) 590-9330
(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Maiden Holdings North America, Ltd.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)
Delaware 26-3541979
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

6000 Midlantic Drive, Suite 200S
Mount Laurel, New Jersey 08054
(856) 359-2400
(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

Lawrence F. Metz, Esq.
Secretary
Maiden Holdings North America, Ltd.

Edgar Filing: Maiden Holdings, Ltd. - Form S-3

6000 Midlantic Drive, Suite 200S
Mount Laurel, New Jersey 08054
(856) 359-2400

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

With a copy to:

Samir A. Gandhi, Esq.
Sidley Austin LLP
787 Seventh Avenue
New York, New York 10019
(212) 839-5300

Michael G. Frith
Conyers Dill & Pearman Limited
Clarendon House, 2 Church Street
PO BOX HM 666, Hamilton HM CX, Bermuda
(441) 295 1422

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Large accelerated filer " Accelerated filer p Non-accelerated filer " Smaller reporting company "

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Edgar Filing: Maiden Holdings, Ltd. - Form S-3

Title of each class of securities to be registered (1)	Amount to be registered (2)	Proposed maximum offering price per unit (2)(3)	Proposed maximum aggregate offering price (2)(4)	Amount of registration fee (5)
Maiden Holdings, Ltd.				
Common Shares, par value \$0.01				
Preference Shares				
Depository Shares Representing Preference Shares				
Guarantees of Debt Securities (6)				
Warrants				
Units (7)				
Maiden Holdings North America, Ltd.				
Debt Securities (6)				
Total	\$300,000,000	100%	\$300,000,000	\$34,830

- (1) These offered securities may be sold separately, together or as units with other offered securities.
- (2) Not specified as to each class of securities to be registered, pursuant to General Instruction II.D of Form S-3. The maximum aggregate offering price of the securities registered hereby will not exceed \$300,000,000. Such amount represents the principal amount of any debt securities issued at their principal amount, the issue price (rather than the principal amount) of any debt securities issued at an original issue discount, the liquidation preference (or, if different, the issue price) of any preference shares, the issue price of any common shares or warrants and the exercise price of any warrants or convertible securities.
- (3) The proposed maximum offering price per unit will be determined from time to time by the registrant in connection with the issuance of securities.
- (4) The proposed maximum aggregate offering price has been estimated for the sole purpose of computing the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), and excludes accrued interest, distributions and dividends, if any.
- (5) Calculated pursuant to Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act and General Instruction II.D of Form S-3, which permits the registration fee to be calculated on the basis of the proposed maximum aggregate offering price of all the securities listed.
- (6) Maiden Holdings, Ltd. will fully and unconditionally guarantee any debt securities registered hereunder by Maiden Holdings North America, Ltd. Pursuant to Rule 457(n), no registration fee is payable with respect to any such guarantees.
- (7) Any securities registered under this registration statement may be sold as units with other securities registered under this registration statement.

The registrants hereby amend this registration statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the registrants shall file a further amendment that specifically states that this registration statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act or until this registration statement shall become effective on such date as the Securities and Exchange Commission, acting pursuant to Section 8(a), may determine.

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

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED FEBRUARY 7, 2011

PROSPECTUS

\$300,000,000

Maiden Holdings, Ltd.
Common Shares
Preference Shares
Depositary Shares
Guarantees
Warrants
Units

Maiden Holdings North America, Ltd.
Debt Securities

By this prospectus, Maiden Holdings, Ltd. may offer common shares, preference shares, depositary shares, warrants and guarantees and Maiden Holdings North America, Ltd. may offer debt securities. The specific terms of these securities will be provided in supplements to this prospectus. The common shares of Maiden Holdings, Ltd. are listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "MHLA."

You should read this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement, as well as the risks contained in or described in the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any accompanying prospectus supplement, before you invest in the securities being offered under this prospectus.

The securities may be sold directly to you or through agents, underwriters and/or dealers that Maiden Holdings, Ltd. or Maiden Holdings North America, Ltd. may select, in each case on a continuous or delayed basis. If Maiden Holdings, Ltd. and/or Maiden Holdings North America, Ltd. use agents, underwriters or dealers to sell the securities, Maiden Holdings, Ltd. and/or Maiden Holdings North America, Ltd., as applicable, will name them and describe their compensation in the related prospectus supplement.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission, any state securities commission, the Register of Companies in Bermuda, the Bermuda Monetary Authority or any other regulatory body has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

This prospectus may not be used to sell securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

The date of this prospectus is _____, 2011.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS	1
RISK FACTORS	2
SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS	2
WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION	3
INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE	3
MAIDEN HOLDINGS, LTD.	4
MAIDEN HOLDINGS NORTH AMERICA, LTD.	5
USE OF PROCEEDS	5
RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES	5
DESCRIPTION OF COMMON SHARES	5
DESCRIPTION OF PREFERENCE SHARES	13
DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES	15
DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES	18
DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS	32
DESCRIPTION OF UNITS	33
PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION	34
LEGAL MATTERS	35
EXPERTS	35
ENFORCEABILITY OF CIVIL LIABILITIES UNDER U.S. FEDERAL SECURITIES LAWS	36

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we and Maiden NA filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) utilizing a “shelf registration” process. Under this shelf registration process, we and/or Maiden NA may, from time to time, sell any combination of the securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings up to a total initial offering price of \$300,000,000.

This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we and Maiden NA may offer. Each time we or Maiden NA offer any of the securities, we or Maiden NA will prepare a prospectus supplement that will contain certain specific information about the terms of that offering and the securities being offered thereby. The applicable prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement together with the additional information described under the heading “Incorporation of Certain Information by Reference” in this prospectus in their entirety.

The registration statement that contains this prospectus, and the exhibits to the registration statement, contain additional information about us, Maiden NA and the securities that we and Maiden NA may offer under this prospectus. Statements contained in this prospectus as to the contents of any contract or other document are not necessarily complete, and in each instance reference is made to the copy of that contract or other document filed as an exhibit to the registration statement, each such statement being qualified in all respects by that reference and the exhibits and schedules thereto. The registration statement and exhibits can be read at the SEC’s web site or at the SEC office mentioned under the heading “Where You Can Find More Information” in this prospectus.

We and Maiden NA may include agreements as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part. In reviewing such agreements, please remember they are included to provide you with information regarding their terms and are not intended to provide any other factual or disclosure information about us, Maiden NA or the other parties to the agreements. The agreements may contain representations and warranties by each of the parties to the applicable agreement. These representations and warranties have been made solely for the benefit of the other parties to the applicable agreement and:

- should not be treated as categorical statements of fact, but rather as a way of allocating the risk to one of the parties if those statements prove to be inaccurate;
- may have been qualified by disclosures that were made to the other party in connection with the negotiation of the applicable agreement, which disclosures would not necessarily be reflected in the agreement;
- may apply standards of materiality in a way that is different from what may be viewed as material to you or other investors in our or Maiden NA’s securities; and
- were made only as of the date of the applicable agreement or such other date or dates as may be specified in the agreement, are subject to more recent developments and therefore may no longer be accurate.

Consent under the Exchange Control Act 1972 (and its related regulations) has been obtained from the Bermuda Monetary Authority for the issue and transfer of our shares and other securities to and between persons resident and non-resident of Bermuda for exchange control purposes provided our shares remain listed on an appointed stock exchange, which includes The Nasdaq Stock Market Inc. In connection with any offering of securities made pursuant to this prospectus, this prospectus, and any applicable prospectus supplement issued hereunder, will be filed with the Registrar of Companies in Bermuda in accordance with Bermuda law. In granting such consent and in accepting this prospectus for filing, neither the Bermuda Monetary Authority nor the Registrar of Companies in Bermuda accepts any responsibility for our financial soundness or the correctness of any of the statements made or opinions expressed

in this prospectus.

1

References in this prospectus to “we,” “us,” “our,” “the Company” or “Maiden” or other similar terms mean Maiden Holdings Ltd. and its consolidated subsidiaries (including Maiden NA), unless we state otherwise or the context indicates otherwise. References in this prospectus to “Maiden NA” mean Maiden Holdings North America, Ltd. Additionally, in this prospectus, unless otherwise stated or the context otherwise requires, references to “dollars,” or “\$” are to United States dollars.

RISK FACTORS

Our business is subject to uncertainties and risks and an investment in the securities being offered under this prospectus involves risks. You should carefully consider and evaluate all of the information included and incorporated by reference in this prospectus, including the risk factors incorporated by reference from our most recent annual report on Form 10-K, as updated by our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and other SEC filings before investing in these securities. We may include additional risks related to the securities being offered in the prospectus supplement relating to that offering. It is possible that our business, financial condition, liquidity, results of operations and prospects could be materially adversely affected by any of these risks.

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Some of the information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and other written and oral statements made by us from time to time contain “forward-looking statements” as defined by the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements include in general statements both with respect to us and the insurance industry and generally are identified with the words “anticipate,” “believe,” “expect,” “predict,” “estimate,” “intend,” “plan,” “project,” “seek,” “potential,” “possible,” “could,” “might,” “may,” “should be,” “will continue,” “will likely result” and similar expressions. In light of the risks and uncertainties inherent in all forward-looking statements, the inclusion or incorporation by reference of such statements in this prospectus should not be considered as a representation by us or any other person that our objectives or plans or other matters described in any forward-looking statement will be achieved. These statements are based on current plans, estimates assumptions and expectations. Actual results may differ materially from those projected in such forward-looking statements and therefore you should not place undue reliance on them. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in such forward-looking statements are set forth under the heading “Risk Factors” in this prospectus and include but are not limited to:

- our results will fluctuate from period to period and may not be indicative of our long-term prospects;
- the property and casualty reinsurance and insurance markets may be affected by cyclical trends;
 - rating agencies may downgrade or withdraw our rating;
- loss of key executives could adversely impact our ability to implement our business strategy;
 - we may have difficulty integrating acquisitions;
- our use of reinsurance brokers in contract negotiations and production of business;
 - our inability to achieve our investment objectives; and

- our controlling shareholders' ability to determine the outcome of matters requiring shareholder approval.

We caution that the foregoing list of important factors is not intended to be and is not exhaustive. We undertake no obligation to update or revise publicly any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as may be required by law, and all subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements attributable to us or individuals acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by this paragraph. If one or more risks or uncertainties materialize, or if our underlying assumptions prove to be incorrect, actual results may vary materially from what we projected. Any forward-looking statements included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus reflect our current view with respect to future events and are subject to these and other risks, uncertainties and assumptions relating to our operations, results of operations, growth, strategy and liquidity. You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on the forward-looking statements which speak only to the dates on which they were made.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and periodic reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any document we file with the SEC at its Public Reference Room at 100 F Street N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the Public Reference Room. Our SEC filings are also available to the public from the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov> or from our website at <http://www.maiden.bm>. Our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics and our committee charters are also available on our website at <http://www.maiden.bm> or in print upon written request addressed to our corporate Secretary, Maiden Holdings, Ltd., 131 Front Street, 2nd Floor, Hamilton HM12 Bermuda. However, the information on our website does not constitute a part of, nor is it incorporated by reference in, this prospectus.

Maiden NA is a direct wholly-owned subsidiary of Maiden and is not currently subject to the information reporting requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act").

This prospectus forms part of a combined registration statement on Form S-3 filed by us and Maiden NA with the SEC under the Securities Act. As permitted by the SEC, this prospectus does not contain all the information in the registration statement filed with the SEC. For a more complete understanding of this offering, you should refer to the complete registration statement, including the exhibits thereto, on Form S-3 that may be obtained as described above. Statements contained in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement about the contents of any contract or other document are not necessarily complete. If we have filed any contract or other document as an exhibit to the registration statement or any other document incorporated by reference in the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part, you should read the exhibit for a more complete understanding of the document or matter involved. Each statement regarding a contract or other document is qualified in its entirety by reference to the actual document.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to "incorporate by reference" into this prospectus information which we file with the SEC. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to the documents containing that information and that such information will be regarded as an important part of this prospectus.

We incorporate by reference the information contained in the documents listed below (other than information that is deemed not to be filed):

· Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009;

· Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2010, June 30, 2010 and September 30, 2010; and

· Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on May 5, 2010, July 9, 2010, August 5, 2010, September 23, 2010 and November 4, 2010.

We also incorporate by reference any future filings we make with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, on or after the date of the filing of the registration statement and, in the case of any particular offering of securities, until such offering of securities is terminated (other than information in such documents that is deemed not to be filed). Our future filings with the SEC will automatically update and supersede any inconsistent information in this prospectus and in our other SEC filings and such outdated or inconsistent information will no longer be regarded as part of this prospectus.

Nothing in this prospectus shall be deemed to incorporate information furnished but not filed with the SEC pursuant to Item 2.02 or 7.01 of Form 8-K.

You may request a copy of any of these filings, at no cost, by writing or calling us at the following phone number or postal address:

Lawrence F. Metz, Esq.
Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary
131 Front Street, 2nd Floor
Hamilton HM12 Bermuda
(441) 298-4900

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement and any free writing prospectus we have prepared or authorized for use with respect to a particular offering of our securities under this prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different or additional information and, accordingly, you should not rely on any such information if it is provided to you. We are not making an offer to sell, or the solicitation of an offer to buy, any of these securities in any jurisdiction where an offer or sale is not permitted. You should not assume that the information contained in this prospectus or the applicable prospectus supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front cover of this prospectus or the applicable prospectus supplement, as the case may be, or that the information incorporated by reference herein and therein is accurate as of any date other than the date of the relevant report or other document in which such information is contained.

MAIDEN HOLDINGS, LTD.

We are a Bermuda-based holding company formed in June 2007, primarily focused on serving the needs of regional and specialty insurers in the United States and Europe by providing innovative reinsurance solutions designed to support their capital needs. We specialize in reinsurance solutions that optimize financing by providing coverage within the more predictable and actuarially credible lower layers of coverage and/or reinsuring risks that are believed to be lower hazard, more predictable and generally not susceptible to catastrophe claims. Our tailored solutions include a variety of value added services focused on helping our clients grow and prosper.

We provide reinsurance through our wholly owned subsidiaries and have operations in the United States, Bermuda, Europe and Australia. On a more limited basis, we also provide primary insurance through a wholly owned subsidiary on a surplus line basis focusing on non-catastrophe property and inland marine.

Our principal executive offices are located at 131 Front Street, 2nd Floor, Hamilton HM12 Bermuda, and our telephone number at that location is (441) 298-4900.

Our website address is <http://www.maiden.bm>. Information contained in our website is not a part of, nor is it incorporated by reference in, this prospectus.

MAIDEN HOLDINGS NORTH AMERICA, LTD.

Maiden NA is a direct wholly-owned subsidiary of Maiden and is a holding company that directly and indirectly owns all of Maiden's U.S. entities. Maiden NA has no operations or employees.

Maiden NA's principal executive offices are located at 6000 Midlantic Drive, Suite 200S Mount Laurel, New Jersey 08054, and its telephone number at that location is (856) 359-2400.

USE OF PROCEEDS

We and/or Maiden NA intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of the securities for general corporate purposes, unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

No shares of our preference shares were outstanding during the nine-months ended September 30, 2010 or during the years ended December 31, 2009, 2008 and 2007 (we had no operations in 2006 or 2005). Accordingly, the ratio of earnings to fixed charges and preference dividends is not separately stated from the ratio of earnings to fixed charges for each such periods in the below table. The below table indicates our ratio of earnings to fixed charges for each such period since our inception:

	Nine-Months Ended September 30, 2010	2009	Year Ended December 31,	
			2008	2007
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges(1)	2.89	2.81	N/A(2)	N/A(2)

(1) The ratio of earnings to fixed charges was computed by dividing earnings by fixed charges. For this purpose, "earnings" consists of pre-tax income plus fixed charges; and "fixed charges" consists of interest expense and debt amortization charges.

(2) For the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, we had no fixed charges.

DESCRIPTION OF COMMON SHARES

This section describes the general terms and provisions of our common shares that we may issue separately, upon exchange of a debt security, upon conversion of preference shares, upon exercise of an equity warrant or in connection with a unit. The description set forth below of our common shares is only a summary. You should also refer to our memorandum of association and bye-laws, which were filed with the SEC as exhibits to our registration statement on Form S-3 of which this prospectus forms a part.

We have an authorized share capital of \$1,500,000, which is divided into 150,000,000 shares of par value \$0.01 each.

As of February 3, 2011, there were 72,107,104 common shares outstanding held by 20 shareholders of record. This figure does not represent the actual number of beneficial owners of our common shares because shares are frequently

held in “street name” by securities dealers and others for the benefit of beneficial owners who may vote the shares.

Dividends

Holders of our common shares are entitled to receive dividends when, as and if declared by our Board of Directors out of funds legally available therefor, subject to any contractual restrictions on the payment of dividends and to any restrictions on the payment of dividends that we may be subject to imposed by the terms of any outstanding preference shares or debt securities.

Common Shares

Holders of our common shares will have no pre-emptive, redemption, conversion or sinking fund rights. Subject to the limitation on voting rights described below, holders of our common shares are entitled to one vote per share on all matters submitted to a vote of holders of our common shares. Most matters to be approved by holders of our common shares require approval by a simple majority vote. Under our bye-laws, the holders of at least a majority of the common shares voting in person or by proxy at a meeting must generally approve an amalgamation with another company. The Companies Act 1981 of Bermuda (the “Companies Act”) provides that a resolution to remove our auditor before the expiration of its term of office must be approved by at least two-thirds of the votes cast at a meeting of our shareholders. The quorum for general meetings of our shareholders is two or more persons holding or representing a majority of the outstanding common shares on an unadjusted basis. Our board of directors has the power to approve our discontinuation from Bermuda to another jurisdiction. Under our bye-laws, the rights attached to any class of our shares, common or preferred, may be varied with the consent in writing of the holders of at least a majority of the issued shares of that class or with the sanction of a resolution passed by a majority of the votes cast at a separate general meeting of the holders of the shares of the class.

In the event of our liquidation, dissolution or winding-up, the holders of shares are entitled to share equally and ratably in our assets, if any, remaining after the payment of all our debts and liabilities and the liquidation preference of any outstanding preferred shares. All outstanding shares are fully paid and non-assessable. Authorized but unissued shares may, subject to any rights attaching to existing shares, be issued at any time and at the discretion of the board of directors without the approval of our shareholders, with such rights, preferences and limitations as the board may determine.

Limitation on Voting Rights

In general, and except as provided under our bye-laws and as provided below, the common shareholders have one vote for each common share held by them and are entitled to vote, on a non-cumulative basis, at all meetings of shareholders. However, if, and so long as, the shares of a shareholder are treated as “controlled shares” (as determined pursuant to sections 957 and 958 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”)) of any U.S. Person (that owns shares directly or indirectly through non-U.S. entities) and such controlled shares constitute 9.5% or more of the votes conferred by our issued shares, the voting rights with respect to the controlled shares owned by such U.S. Person will be limited, in the aggregate, to a voting power of less than 9.5%, under a formula specified in our bye-laws. The formula is applied repeatedly until the voting power of all 9.5% U.S. Shareholders has been reduced to less than 9.5%. In addition, our board may limit a shareholder’s voting rights when it deems it appropriate to do so to (i) avoid the existence of any 9.5% U.S. Shareholder; and (ii) avoid certain material adverse tax, legal or regulatory consequences to us, any of our subsidiaries or any direct or indirect shareholder or its affiliates. “Controlled shares” include, among other things, all shares that such U.S. Person is deemed to own directly, indirectly or constructively (within the meaning of section 958 of the Code). The amount of any reduction of votes that occurs by operation of the above limitations will generally be reallocated proportionately amongst other shareholders whose shares were not “controlled shares” of the 9.5% U.S. Shareholder so long as such reallocation does not cause any person to become a 9.5% U.S. Shareholder.

Under these provisions, certain shareholders may have their voting rights limited, while other shareholders may have voting rights in excess of one vote per share. Moreover, these provisions could have the effect of reducing the votes of certain shareholders who would not otherwise be subject to the 9.5% limitation by virtue of their direct share ownership.

We are authorized to require any shareholder to provide information as to that shareholder's beneficial share ownership, the names of persons having beneficial ownership of the shareholder's shares, relationships with other shareholders or any other facts the directors may deem relevant to a determination of the number of common shares attributable to any person. If any holder fails to respond to this request or submits incomplete or inaccurate information, we may, in our sole discretion, eliminate the shareholder's voting rights. Pursuant to our bye-laws, a shareholder must give notice within ten days of the date the shareholder acquires actual knowledge that it is the direct or indirect holder of controlled shares of 9.5% or more of the voting power of all our issued and outstanding shares. No shareholder will be liable to any other shareholder or to us for any losses or damages resulting from the shareholder's failure to respond to, or submission of incomplete or inaccurate information in response to, a request from us for information as to the shareholder's beneficial share ownership or from the shareholder's failure to give the notice described in the previous sentence. All information provided by the shareholder will be treated by us as confidential information and will be used by us solely for the purpose of establishing whether any 9.5% U.S. Shareholder exists (except as otherwise required by applicable law or regulation).

If Maiden is required or entitled to vote at an annual or special general meeting (or to act by unanimous written consent in lieu of a general meeting) of any directly held non-U.S. subsidiary (including Maiden Insurance), the Maiden directors would refer the subject matter of the vote to the Maiden shareholders and seek direction from such shareholders as to how the Maiden directors should vote on the resolution proposed by the non-U.S. subsidiary. In such cases, the voting rights of Maiden's shareholders will be subject to the same restriction on voting power as set forth above. Substantially similar provisions are contained in the bye-laws (or equivalent governing documents) of the non-U.S. subsidiaries.

Restrictions on Transfer, Issuance and Repurchase

Our directors may decline to register the transfer of any shares if they have reason to believe that such transfer may expose us or any direct or indirect shareholder or its affiliates to non-de minimis adverse tax, legal or regulatory consequences in any jurisdiction. Similarly, we could be restricted from issuing or repurchasing shares if our directors believe that such issuance or repurchase may result in a non-de minimis adverse tax, legal or regulatory consequence to us or any direct or indirect shareholder or its affiliates.

Our directors also may, in their absolute discretion, decline to register the transfer of any shares if they have reason to believe that registration of the transfer under the Securities Act or under any U.S. state securities laws or under the laws of any other jurisdiction is required and such registration has not been duly effected. In addition, our directors may decline to approve or register a transfer of shares unless all applicable consents, authorizations, permissions or approvals of any governmental body or agency in Bermuda, the United States or any other applicable jurisdiction required to be obtained prior to such transfer shall have been obtained.

We are authorized to request information from any holder or prospective acquirer of shares as necessary to give effect to the transfer, issuance and repurchase restrictions described above, and may decline to effect any transaction if complete and accurate information is not received as requested.

Conyers Dill & Pearman Limited, our Bermuda counsel, has advised us that while the precise form of the restrictions on transfer contained in our bye-laws is untested, as a matter of general principle, restrictions on transfers are enforceable under Bermuda law and are not uncommon. A proposed transferee will be permitted to dispose of any shares purchased that violate the restrictions and as to the transfer of which registration is refused. The proposed transferor of those shares will be deemed to own those shares for dividend, voting and reporting purposes until a transfer of such shares has been registered on our shareholders register.

If the directors refuse to register a transfer for any reason, they must notify the proposed transferor and transferee within three months of such refusal. Our bye-laws also provide that our board of directors may suspend the registration of transfers for any reason and for such periods as it may determine, provided that it may not suspend the registration of transfers for more than 45 days in any period of 365 consecutive days.

The voting restrictions and restrictions on transfer described above may have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change in control of Maiden.

Bye-laws

Our bye-laws provide for our corporate governance, including the establishment of share rights, modification of those rights, issuance of share certificates, calls on shares which are not fully paid, forfeiture of shares, the transfer of shares, alterations of capital, the calling and conduct of general meetings, proxies, the appointment and removal of directors, conduct and power of directors, the payment of dividends, the appointment of an auditor and our winding-up.

Our bye-laws provide that shareholders may only remove a director for cause prior to the expiration of that director's term at a meeting of shareholders at which a majority of the holders of shares voting thereon vote in favor of that action.

Our bye-laws may only be amended by a resolution adopted by the board of directors and by resolution of the shareholders.

Transfer Agent

Our registrar and transfer agent for the shares is American Stock Transfer & Trust Company.

Listing

Our common shares are listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "MHLD."

Differences in Corporate Law

The Companies Act differs in certain material respects from laws generally applicable to U.S. corporations and their shareholders. Set forth below is a summary of certain significant provisions of the Companies Act (including modifications adopted pursuant to our bye-laws) applicable to us, which differ in certain respects from provisions of Delaware corporate law, which is the law that governs many U.S. public companies. The following statements are summaries, and do not purport to deal with all aspects of Bermuda law that may be relevant to us and our shareholders.

Duties of Directors

Under Bermuda law, at common law, members of a board of directors owe a fiduciary duty to the company to act in good faith in their dealings with or on behalf of the company and exercise their powers and fulfill the duties of their office honestly. This duty has the following essential elements:

- a duty to act in good faith in the best interests of the company;
- a duty not to make a personal profit from opportunities that arise from the office of director;
 - a duty to avoid conflicts of interest; and
- a duty to exercise powers for the purpose for which such powers were intended.

The Companies Act imposes a duty on directors and officers of a Bermuda company:

- act honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of the company; and
- to exercise the care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent person would exercise in comparable circumstances.

In addition, the Companies Act imposes various duties on officers of a company with respect to certain matters of management and administration of the company.

The Companies Act provides that in any proceedings for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust against any officer, if it appears to a court that such officer is or may be liable in respect of the negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust, but that he has acted honestly and reasonably, and that, having regard to all the circumstances of the case, including those connected with his appointment, he ought fairly to be excused for the negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust, that court may relieve him, either wholly or partly, from any liability on such terms as the court may think fit. This provision has been interpreted to apply only to actions brought by or on behalf of the company against such officer. Our bye-laws, however, provide that shareholders waive all claims or rights of action that they might have, individually or in the right of Maiden, against any director or officer of us for any act or failure to act in the performance of such director's or officer's duties, except this waiver does not extend to any claims or rights of action that arise out of fraud or dishonesty on the part of such director or officer.

Under Delaware law, the business and affairs of a corporation are managed by or under the direction of its board of directors. In exercising their powers, directors are charged with a fiduciary duty of care to protect the interests of the corporation and a fiduciary duty of loyalty to act in the best interests of its shareholders.

The duty of care requires that directors act in an informed and deliberative manner and inform themselves, prior to making a business decision, of all material information reasonably available to them. The duty of care also requires that directors exercise care in overseeing and investigating the conduct of corporate employees. The duty of loyalty may be summarized as the duty to act in good faith, not out of self-interest, and in a manner which the director reasonably believes to be in the best interests of the shareholders.

A party challenging the propriety of a decision of a board of directors bears the burden of rebutting the applicability of the presumptions afforded to directors by the "business judgment rule." If the presumption is not rebutted, the business judgment rule attaches to protect the directors and their decisions, and their business judgments will not be second-guessed. Where, however, the presumption is rebutted, the directors bear the burden of demonstrating the

entire fairness of the relevant transaction. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Delaware courts subject directors' conduct to enhanced scrutiny in respect of defensive actions taken in response to a threat to corporate control and approval of a transaction resulting in a sale of control of the corporation.

Dividends

Bermuda law does not permit payment of dividends or distributions of contributed surplus by a company if there are reasonable grounds for believing that the company, after the payment is made, would be unable to pay its liabilities as they become due, or that the realizable value of the company's assets would be less, as a result of the payment, than the aggregate of its liabilities and its issued share capital and share premium accounts. The excess of the consideration paid on issue of shares over the aggregate par value of such shares must (except in certain limited circumstances) be credited to a share premium account. Share premium may be distributed in certain limited circumstances, for example to pay up unissued shares which may be distributed to shareholders in proportion to their holdings, but is otherwise subject to limitation. In addition, our ability to pay dividends is subject to Bermuda insurance laws and regulatory constraints.

Under Delaware law, subject to any restrictions contained in the company's certificate of incorporation, a company may pay dividends out of surplus or, if there is no surplus, out of net profits for the fiscal year in which the dividend is declared and for the preceding fiscal year. Delaware law also provides that dividends may not be paid out of net profits at any time when capital is less than the capital represented by the outstanding stock of all classes having a preference upon the distribution of assets.

Mergers and Similar Arrangements

The amalgamation of a Bermuda company with another company or corporation (other than certain affiliated companies) requires the amalgamation agreement to be approved by the company's board of directors and by its shareholders. Under our bye-laws, we may, with the approval of at least majority of the votes cast at a general meeting of our shareholders at which a quorum is present, amalgamate with another Bermuda company or with a body incorporated outside Bermuda. In the case of an amalgamation, a shareholder may apply to a Bermuda court for a proper valuation of such shareholder's shares if such shareholder is not satisfied that fair value has been paid for such shares. Under Delaware law, with certain exceptions, a merger, consolidation or sale of all or substantially all the assets of a corporation must be approved by the board of directors and the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares entitled to vote thereon. Under Delaware law, a shareholder of a corporation participating in certain major corporate transactions may, under certain circumstances, be entitled to appraisal rights pursuant to which the shareholder may receive cash in the amount of the fair value of the shares held by that shareholder (as determined by a court) in lieu of the consideration that the shareholder would otherwise receive in the transaction. Delaware law does not provide shareholders of a corporation with voting or appraisal rights when the corporation acquires another business through the issuance of its stock or other consideration (i) in exchange for the assets of the business to be acquired; (ii) in exchange for the outstanding stock of the corporation to be acquired; (iii) in a merger of the corporation to be acquired with a subsidiary of the acquiring corporation; or (iv) in a merger in which the corporation's certificate of incorporation is not amended and the corporation issues less than 20% of its common shares outstanding prior to the merger.

Takeovers

Bermuda law provides that where an offer is made for shares of another company and, within four months of the offer, the holders of not less than 90% of the shares which are the subject of the offer (other than shares held by or for the offeror or its subsidiaries) accept, the offeror may by notice require the nontendering shareholders to transfer their shares on the terms of the offer. Dissenting shareholders may apply to the court within one month of the notice objecting to the transfer. The test is one of fairness to the body of the shareholders and not to individuals and the burden is on the dissenting shareholder to prove unfairness, not merely that the scheme is open to criticism. Delaware law provides that a parent corporation, by resolution of its board of directors and without any shareholder vote, may merge with any subsidiary of which it owns at least 90% of the outstanding shares of each class of stock that is

entitled to vote on the transaction. Upon any such merger, dissenting shareholders of the subsidiary would have appraisal rights.

Interested Directors

Bermuda law and our bye-laws provide that if a director has an interest in a material contract or proposed material contract with us or any of our subsidiaries or has a material interest in any person that is a party to such a contract, the director must disclose the nature of that interest at the first opportunity either at a meeting of directors or in writing to the directors. Our bye-laws provide that, after a director has made such a declaration of interest, he is allowed to be counted for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present and to vote on a transaction in which he has an interest, unless disqualified from doing so by the chairman of the relevant board meeting. Under Delaware law such transaction would not be voidable if (i) the material facts as to such interested director's relationship or interests are disclosed to or are known by the board of directors and the board in good faith authorizes the transaction by the affirmative vote of a majority of the disinterested directors, (ii) such material facts are disclosed to or are known by the shareholders entitled to vote on such transaction and the transaction is specifically approved in good faith by vote of the majority of shares entitled to vote thereon or (iii) the transaction is fair as to the corporation as of the time it is authorized, approved or ratified. Under Delaware law, such interested director could be held liable for a transaction in which such director derived an improper personal benefit.

Shareholder's Suit

The rights of shareholders under Bermuda law are not as extensive as the rights of shareholders under legislation or judicial precedent in many U.S. jurisdictions. Class actions and derivative actions are generally not available to shareholders under the laws of Bermuda. However, the Bermuda courts ordinarily would be expected to follow English case law precedent, which would permit a shareholder to commence an action in our name to remedy a wrong done to us where the act complained of is alleged to be beyond our corporate power or is illegal or would result in the violation of our memorandum of association or bye-laws. Furthermore, consideration would be given by the court to acts that are alleged to constitute a fraud against the minority shareholders or where an act requires the approval of a greater percentage of shareholders than actually approved it. The winning party in such an action generally would be able to recover a portion of attorneys' fees incurred in connection with such action. Our bye-laws provide that shareholders waive all claims or rights of action that they might have, individually or in the right of Maiden, against any of our directors or officers for any act or failure to act in the performance of such director's or officer's duties, except with respect to any fraud or dishonesty of such director or officer. Class actions and derivative actions generally are available to shareholders under Delaware law for, among other things, breach of fiduciary duty, corporate waste and actions not taken in accordance with applicable law. In such actions, the court has discretion to permit the winning party to recover attorneys' fees incurred in connection with such action.

Indemnification of Directors and Officers

Our bye-laws indemnify our directors and officers in their capacity as such in respect of any loss arising or liability attaching to them by virtue of any rule of law in respect of any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust of which a director or officer may be guilty in relation to us other than in respect of his own fraud or dishonesty, which is the maximum extent of indemnification permitted under the Companies Act. Under Delaware law, a corporation may indemnify a director or officer of the corporation against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred in defense of an action, suit or proceeding by reason of such position if (i) the director or officer acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation and (ii) with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, if the director or officer had no reasonable cause to believe his conduct was unlawful. Under our bye-laws, each of our shareholders agrees to waive any claim or right of action, other than those involving fraud or dishonesty, against us or any of our officers or directors. In addition, we have entered into indemnification agreements with our directors and officers.

Inspection of Corporate Records

Members of the general public have the right to inspect our public documents available at the office of the Registrar of Companies in Bermuda, which includes our memorandum of association (including our objects and powers) and alterations to our memorandum of association, including any increase or reduction of our authorized capital. Our shareholders have the additional right to inspect our bye-laws, minutes of general meetings and our audited financial statements, which must be presented to the annual general meeting of shareholders. Our register of shareholders is also open to inspection by shareholders and to members of the public without charge. We are required to maintain a share register in Bermuda but may establish a branch register outside Bermuda. We are required to keep at our registered office a register of our directors and officers which is open for inspection by members of the public without charge. Bermuda law does not, however, provide a general right for shareholders to inspect or obtain copies of any other corporate records. Delaware law permits any shareholder to inspect or obtain copies of a corporation's shareholder list and its other books and records for any purpose reasonably related to such person's interest as a shareholder.

Enforcement of Judgments and Other Matters

We have been advised by Conyers Dill & Pearman Limited, our Bermuda counsel, that there is doubt as to whether the courts of Bermuda would enforce (i) judgments of U.S. courts obtained in actions against us or our directors and officers who may reside outside the United States, as well as the experts named in this prospectus who reside outside the United States, predicated upon the civil liability provisions of the U.S. federal securities laws and (ii) original actions brought in Bermuda against us or our directors and officers, as well as the experts named in this prospectus who reside outside the United States predicated solely upon U.S. federal securities laws. There is no treaty in effect between the United States and Bermuda providing for such enforcement, and there are grounds upon which Bermuda courts may not enforce judgments of U.S. courts. Certain remedies available under the laws of U.S. jurisdictions, including certain remedies available under the U.S. federal securities laws, would not be allowed in Bermuda courts as contrary to Bermuda's public policy.

Insurance Regulations Concerning Change of Control

State insurance laws intended primarily for the protection of policyholders contain certain requirements that must be met prior to any change of control of an insurance company or insurance holding company that is domiciled, or in some cases, having such substantial business that it is deemed commercially domiciled, in that state. These requirements may include the advance filing of specific information with the state insurance commission, a public hearing on the matter, and review and approval of the change of control by the state agencies. We have insurance subsidiaries domiciled or commercially domiciled in Missouri and North Carolina. Under the insurance laws in these states, "control" is presumed to exist through the ownership of 10% or more of the voting securities of an insurance company or any company that controls the insurance company. Any purchase of our shares that would result in the purchaser owning more than 10% of our voting securities will be presumed to result in the acquisition of control of our insurance subsidiaries and require prior regulatory approval.

DESCRIPTION OF PREFERENCE SHARES

This section describes the general terms and provisions of the preference shares that we may issue separately, upon exchange of a debt security, upon exercise of an equity warrant or in connection with a depositary share or unit. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the specific terms, or modify the general terms, of any preference shares offered through that prospectus supplement and any special federal income tax consequences of those preference shares.

General

Our bye-laws authorize our board of directors, subject to any limitations prescribed by law, to issue preference shares in one or more series without shareholder approval. As of February 3, 2011, we had no preference shares outstanding. Each series of preference shares will have the rights, preferences, privileges and restrictions, including voting rights, dividend rights, conversion rights, redemption privileges and liquidation preferences, as will be determined by the board of directors. The purpose of authorizing the board of directors to issue preference shares and determine its rights and preferences is to eliminate delays and uncertainties associated with a shareholder vote on specific issuances. The issuance of preference shares, while providing desirable flexibility in connection with possible acquisition and other corporate purposes, could have the effect of making it more difficult for a third party to acquire, or discourage a third party from acquiring, a majority of our outstanding voting shares. Our board of directors may issue preference shares with voting and conversion rights that could adversely affect the voting power of the holders of our common shares. There are no current agreements or understandings for the issuance of preference shares and our board of directors has no present intention to issue any preference shares.

The preference shares will be, when issued, fully paid and nonassessable. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, each series will rank on a parity as to dividends and distributions in the event of a liquidation with each other series of preference shares and, in all cases, will be senior to our common shares.

Dividend Rights

Unless otherwise set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, holders of our preference shares of each series will be entitled to receive, when, as and if declared by our board of directors, out of our assets legally available therefor, cash dividends at the rates and on the dates as set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. Holders of our preference shares will be entitled to receive dividends in preference to and in priority over dividends on common shares and may be cumulative or non-cumulative as determined by our board of directors. We will generally be able to pay dividends and distribute assets to holders of our preference shares only if we have satisfied our obligations on our debt that is then due and payable.

If the applicable prospectus supplement so provides, as long as any preference shares are outstanding, no dividends will be declared or paid or any distributions will be made on our common shares unless the accrued dividends on each series of preference shares have been declared and paid.

Each series of preference shares will be entitled to dividends as described in the applicable prospectus supplement. Different series of preference shares may be entitled to dividends at different dividend rates or based upon different methods of determination. Except as provided in the applicable prospectus supplement, no series of preference shares will be entitled to participate in our earnings or assets.

Liquidation Preference

Upon any dissolution, liquidation or “winding up” of Maiden, the holders of each series of preference shares will be entitled to receive out of our assets, whether from capital, surplus or earnings, and before any distribution of any assets is made on common shares, the amount per share fixed by the board of directors for that series of preference shares, as reflected in the applicable prospectus supplement, plus unpaid dividends, if any, to the date fixed for distribution. Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, holders of our preference shares will be entitled to no further participation in any distribution made in conjunction with any dissolution, liquidation or “winding up.”

Redemption

A series of preference shares may be redeemable, in whole or in part, at our option, and may be subject to mandatory redemption in connection with a sinking fund. The terms, times, redemption prices and types of consideration of the redemption will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. The applicable prospectus supplement will also specify the number of shares of the series that we will redeem in each year commencing after a specified date, at a specified redemption price per share, together with an amount equal to any accrued and unpaid dividends to the date of redemption.

If, after giving notice of redemption to the holders of a series of preference shares, we deposit with a designated bank funds sufficient to redeem the series of preference shares, then from and after the deposit, all shares called for redemption will no longer be outstanding for any purpose, other than the right to receive the redemption price and the right, if applicable, to convert the preference shares into our common shares or other securities prior to the date fixed for redemption.

Except as indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the preference shares are not subject to any mandatory redemption at the option of the holder.

Sinking Fund

The applicable prospectus supplement for any series of preference shares will state the terms, if any, of a sinking fund for the purchase or redemption of that series.

Conversion and Exchange

The applicable prospectus supplement for any ser