

GHL Acquisition Corp.
Form PRER14A
August 14, 2009

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

SCHEDULE 14A

(Rule 14a-101)

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT
SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION
Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement
 Confidential, For Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
 Definitive Proxy Statement
 Definitive Additional Materials
 Soliciting Material Pursuant to § 240.14a-12

GHL ACQUISITION CORP.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if Other Than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- No fee required.
 Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.
(1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

(2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

\$8.92 per share of GHQ common stock based on the average of the high and low prices reported on the NYSE
Alternext U.S. on _____

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

Edgar Filing: GHL Acquisition Corp. - Form PRER14A

(5)

Total fee paid:

Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the form or schedule and the date of its filing.

(1)

Amount previously paid:

(2)

Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3)

Filing Party:

(4)

Date Filed:

GHL ACQUISITION CORP.
300 Park Avenue, 23rd Floor
New York, NY 10022

, 2009

Dear Stockholder:

You are cordially invited to attend a special meeting of the stockholders of GHL Acquisition Corp. (“GHQ”) relating to our proposed acquisition of Iridium Holdings LLC (“Iridium Holdings”). The special meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on _____, 2009, at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, 301 Park Avenue, New York, NY.

At the special meeting, you will be asked to consider and vote upon the following proposals:

1. _____ to approve our acquisition of Iridium Holdings (the “acquisition”) pursuant to the Transaction Agreement dated as of September 22, 2008 among GHQ, Iridium Holdings and the sellers listed on the signature pages thereof, as amended on April 28, 2009 (the “transaction agreement”), and the related transactions contemplated by the transaction agreement (the “acquisition proposal”);
2. _____ to approve an amended and restated certificate of incorporation for GHQ (the “proposed certificate”), to be effective upon completion of the acquisition (the “certificate proposal”), to, among other things:
 - change our name to “Iridium Communications Inc.”;
 - permit our continued existence after February 14, 2010;
 - increase the number of our authorized shares of common stock; and
 - eliminate the different classes of our board of directors;
3. _____ to approve the issuance of shares of our common stock in the acquisition and related transactions that would result in an increase in our outstanding common stock by more than 20% (the “share issuance proposal”);
4. _____ to adopt a proposed stock incentive plan, to be effective upon completion of the acquisition (the “stock incentive plan proposal”); and
5. _____ to adopt a proposal to authorize the adjournment of the special meeting to a later date or dates, including, if necessary, to solicit additional proxies in favor of the foregoing proposals if there are not sufficient votes in favor of any of these proposals (the “adjournment proposal”).

The approval of the acquisition proposal is conditioned upon the approval of the certificate proposal, the share issuance proposal and the stock incentive plan proposal, but not the adjournment proposal. The approval of the certificate proposal, the share issuance proposal and the stock incentive plan proposal, but not the adjournment proposal, is conditioned upon the approval of the acquisition proposal. The adjournment proposal does not require the approval of any other proposal to be effective.

Our board of directors has fixed the close of business on _____, 2009 as the record date for the determination of stockholders entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the special meeting and at any adjournments or postponements thereof. Record holders of GHQ warrants do not have voting rights.

Edgar Filing: GHL Acquisition Corp. - Form PRER14A

Stockholders holding a majority of our issued and outstanding common stock (whether or not held by public stockholders) at the close of business on the record date must be present, in person or by proxy, to constitute a

quorum, and a quorum is required to approve our proposals. In addition, approval of the acquisition proposal requires that holders of a majority of the common stock voted by all holders of common stock issued in our initial public offering (such holders, the “public stockholders”) must vote, in person or by proxy, in favor of the acquisition proposal, but the acquisition proposal cannot be approved if public stockholders owning 30% or more of the common stock issued in our initial public offering (“IPO”) vote against the acquisition proposal and properly exercise their conversion rights. In connection with the vote on the acquisition proposal and the certificate proposal, Greenhill & Co., Inc. (“Greenhill” or our “founding stockholder”) and GHQ’s directors to whom founding stockholder’s units were transferred (collectively, our “initial stockholders”) have agreed to vote their shares in accordance with the majority of common stock voted by the public stockholders.

Assuming the acquisition proposal is approved by the requisite vote of our stockholders, the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of our common stock is required to approve our certificate proposal, and the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares of our common stock that are present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote at the special meeting is required to approve the share issuance proposal, the stock incentive plan proposal and the adjournment proposal.

You have the right, subject to the limitation described in the next sentence, to convert any shares that you own that were sold in our IPO into cash if you vote against the acquisition proposal and the acquisition proposal is approved and the acquisition is completed. To the extent you, together with any of your affiliates or any other person with whom you are acting in concert or as a partnership, syndicate or other group for the purpose of acquiring, holding or disposing of your GHQ securities, own collectively more than 10% of the shares that were sold in our IPO, you and they will be limited to seeking conversion rights for only up to 10% of the IPO shares. If you properly exercise your conversion rights, you will be entitled to receive a conversion price per share equal to the aggregate amount then on deposit in our trust account (before payment of deferred underwriting discounts and commissions and including interest earned on their pro rata portion of our trust account, net of income taxes payable on such interest, net of franchise taxes and net of interest income of up to \$5.0 million, subject to certain adjustments, on the trust account balance previously released to us to fund our working capital requirements), calculated as of two business days prior to the proposed completion of the acquisition, divided by the number of shares sold in our IPO. As of June 30, 2009, the per-share conversion price would have been approximately \$10.02 without taking into account any interest or expenses accrued after such date.

You may request conversion of your shares at any time after the mailing of this proxy statement by following the procedures described in this proxy statement, but the request will not be granted unless you vote against the acquisition proposal and the acquisition proposal is approved and the acquisition is completed. Voting against the acquisition proposal alone will not result in the conversion of your shares into a pro rata share of the trust account; to convert your shares, you must also follow the specific procedures for conversion set forth in this proxy statement. See “The Special Meeting — Conversion Rights” on page 120. Prior to exercising your conversion rights, you should verify the market price of GHQ’s common stock, as you may receive higher proceeds from the sale of your common stock in the public market than from exercising your conversion rights if the market price per share is higher than the conversion price.

GHQ units, common shares and warrants are listed and traded on the NYSE Alternext US LLC (“NYSE Alternext U.S.”) under the trading symbol GHQ.U, GHQ and GHQ.WS, respectively. On August 3, 2009, the closing price of GHQ units, common stock and warrants were, respectively, \$11.50, \$9.81 and \$1.73.

AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION OF THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF ALL OF THE PROPOSALS, OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED ALL OF THE PROPOSALS AND UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT YOU VOTE “FOR” EACH OF THE PROPOSALS.

YOUR VOTE IS VERY IMPORTANT. WHETHER OR NOT YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE SPECIAL MEETING, PLEASE PROMPTLY VOTE YOUR SHARES AND SUBMIT YOUR PROXY BY COMPLETING, SIGNING, DATING AND RETURNING YOUR PROXY FORM IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE. IF YOU RETURN A PROXY WITH YOUR SIGNATURE BUT WITHOUT AN INDICATION OF HOW YOU WISH TO VOTE ON ANY PROPOSAL, YOUR PROXY WILL BE VOTED "FOR" EACH SUCH PROPOSAL. EVEN IF YOU RETURN THE PROXY, YOU MAY ATTEND THE SPECIAL MEETING AND VOTE YOUR SHARES IN PERSON.

The accompanying proxy statement contains detailed information regarding the acquisition and related transactions, including each of our proposals. The proxy statement also provides detailed information about Iridium Holdings because, upon completion of the acquisition, Iridium Holdings will become a subsidiary of GHQ.

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO READ THIS ENTIRE PROXY STATEMENT CAREFULLY, INCLUDING THE SECTION DISCUSSING "RISK FACTORS," FOR A DISCUSSION OF VARIOUS FACTORS THAT YOU SHOULD CONSIDER IN CONNECTION WITH OUR PROPOSED ACQUISITION.

Sincerely,

Scott L. Bok
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

NEITHER THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION NOR ANY STATE SECURITIES REGULATORY AGENCY HAS APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED THE TRANSACTIONS DESCRIBED IN THIS PROXY STATEMENT OR ANY OF THE SECURITIES TO BE ISSUED IN THE ACQUISITION, PASSED UPON THE MERITS OR FAIRNESS OF THE ACQUISITION OR RELATED TRANSACTIONS OR PASSED UPON THE ADEQUACY OR ACCURACY OF THE DISCLOSURE IN THIS PROXY STATEMENT. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY CONSTITUTES A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

This proxy statement is dated _____, 2009 and is first being mailed to GHQ stockholders on or about _____, 2009.

GHL ACQUISITION CORP.
300 Park Avenue, 23rd Floor
New York, NY 10022

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

TO BE HELD ON _____, 2009

To the Stockholders of GHL Acquisition Corp.:

You are cordially invited to attend a special meeting of the stockholders of GHL Acquisition Corp. (“GHQ”) relating to our proposed acquisition of Iridium Holdings LLC (“Iridium Holdings”). The special meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on _____, 2009, at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, 301 Park Avenue, New York, NY.

At the special meeting, you will be asked to consider and vote upon the following proposals:

1. _____ to approve our acquisition of Iridium Holdings (the “acquisition”) pursuant to the Transaction Agreement dated as of September 22, 2008 among GHQ, Iridium Holdings and the sellers listed on the signature pages thereof, as amended on April 28, 2009 (the “transaction agreement”), and the related transactions contemplated by the transaction agreement (the “acquisition proposal”);
2. _____ to approve an amended and restated certificate of incorporation for GHQ (the “proposed certificate”), to be effective upon completion of the acquisition (the “certificate proposal”), to, among other things:
 - change our name to “Iridium Communications Inc.”;
 - permit our continued existence after February 14, 2010;
 - increase the number of our authorized shares of common stock; and
 - eliminate the different classes of our board of directors;
3. _____ to approve the issuance of shares of our common stock in the acquisition and related transactions that would result in an increase in our outstanding common stock by more than 20% (the “share issuance proposal”);
4. _____ to adopt a proposed stock incentive plan, to be effective upon completion of the acquisition (the “stock incentive plan proposal”); and
5. _____ to adopt a proposal to authorize the adjournment of the special meeting to a later date or dates, including, if necessary, to solicit additional proxies in favor of the foregoing proposals if there are not sufficient votes in favor of any of these proposals (the “adjournment proposal”).

The approval of the acquisition proposal is conditioned upon the approval of the certificate proposal, the share issuance proposal and the stock incentive plan proposal, but not the adjournment proposal. The approval of the certificate proposal, the share issuance proposal and the stock incentive plan proposal, but not the adjournment proposal, is conditioned upon the approval of the acquisition proposal. The adjournment proposal does not require the approval of any other proposal to be effective.

Our board of directors has fixed the close of business on _____, 2009 as the record date for the determination of stockholders entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the special meeting and at any adjournments or postponements thereof. Record holders of GHQ warrants do not have voting rights.

Your vote is important. Whether or not you plan to attend the special meeting, please complete, sign, date and return your proxy card as soon as possible to ensure that your shares are represented at the special meeting or, if

you are a stockholder of record of our common stock on the record date, you may cast your vote in person at the special meeting. If your shares are held in an account at a brokerage firm or bank, you must instruct your broker or bank on how to vote your shares. If you do not vote or do not instruct your broker or bank how to vote, it will have the same effect as voting against the acquisition proposal and the certificate proposal.

Any proxy may be revoked at any time prior to its exercise by delivery of a later dated proxy. By authorizing your proxy promptly, you can help us avoid the expense of further proxy solicitations.

Your attention is directed to the proxy statement accompanying this notice (including the annexes thereto) for a more complete description of the proposed acquisition and related transactions and each of our proposals. We encourage you to read this proxy statement carefully. If you have any questions or need assistance voting your shares, please call our proxy solicitor, MacKenzie Partners, Inc. at (800) 322-2885 or by email at proxy@mackenziepartners.com.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

Jodi B. Ganz
Secretary

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<u>SUMMARY TERM SHEET</u>	1
<u>QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE ACQUISITION</u>	4
<u>WHO CAN HELP ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS</u>	10
<u>SUMMARY OF PROXY STATEMENT</u>	11
<u>SELECTED HISTORICAL FINANCIAL DATA OF GHQ</u>	24
<u>SELECTED HISTORICAL FINANCIAL DATA OF IRIDIUM HOLDINGS</u>	25
<u>SELECTED UNAUDITED PRO FORMA CONDENSED COMBINED FINANCIAL DATA</u>	28
<u>CAUTIONARY STATEMENT CONCERNING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	38
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	39
<u>PROPOSAL I – APPROVAL OF THE ACQUISITION</u>	66
<u>General</u>	66
<u>Background of the Acquisition</u>	66
<u>Factors Considered by the Iridium Holdings Board in Approving the Acquisition</u>	74
<u>Factors Considered by the GHQ Board in Approving the Acquisition</u>	75
<u>GHQ Senior Management Team and Board of Directors</u>	80
<u>Recommendation of the GHQ Board; Additional Considerations of the GHQ Board</u>	80
<u>Accounting Treatment</u>	82
<u>Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations for Holders Exercising Conversion Rights</u>	82
<u>Regulatory Matters</u>	84
<u>No Appraisal or Dissenters’ Rights</u>	86
<u>Consequences if Acquisition Proposal Is Not Approved</u>	86
<u>Necessity of Stockholder Approval</u>	86
<u>Required Vote</u>	86
<u>Recommendation of GHQ’s Board of Directors</u>	86
<u>Federal Securities Laws Consequences</u>	86
<u>Stock Transfer Restrictions</u>	86
<u>PROPOSAL II – APPROVAL OF THE AMENDED AND RESTATED CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION</u>	89
<u>Necessity of Stockholder Approval</u>	90
<u>Required Vote</u>	90
<u>Recommendation</u>	90
<u>PROPOSAL III – APPROVAL OF THE SHARE ISSUANCE PROPOSAL</u>	91
<u>Share Issuance Proposal</u>	91
<u>Necessity of Stockholder Approval</u>	91
<u>Required Vote</u>	91
<u>Recommendation</u>	91
<u>PROPOSAL IV – ADOPTION OF THE STOCK INCENTIVE PLAN</u>	92
<u>Summary of the Iridium Communications Inc. 2009 Stock Incentive Plan</u>	92
<u>U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences</u>	95
<u>New Plan Benefits</u>	96
<u>Necessity of Stockholder Approval</u>	96
<u>Required Vote</u>	96
<u>Recommendation</u>	97

<u>PROPOSAL V – ADOPTION OF THE ADJOURNMENT PROPOSAL</u>	98
<u>Adjournment Proposal</u>	98
<u>Required Vote</u>	98
<u>Recommendation</u>	98
<u>MARKET PRICE OF GHQ COMMON STOCK</u>	99
<u>INTERESTS OF CERTAIN PERSONS IN THE ACQUISITION</u>	100
<u>THE TRANSACTION AGREEMENT</u>	101
<u>OTHER TRANSACTION AGREEMENTS</u>	115
<u>Note Purchase Agreement</u>	115
<u>Registration Rights Agreement</u>	115
<u>Pledge Agreements</u>	116
<u>Letter Agreements</u>	116
<u>THE SPECIAL MEETING</u>	117
<u>General</u>	117
<u>Date, Time and Place</u>	117
<u>Purpose of the Special Meeting</u>	117
<u>Recommendation of the GHQ Board</u>	117
<u>Record Date; Who Is Entitled to Vote</u>	118
<u>Quorum</u>	118
<u>Voting Your Shares</u>	118
<u>Who Can Answer Your Questions About Voting Your Shares</u>	118
<u>No Additional Matters May Be Presented at the Special Meeting</u>	118
<u>Revoking Your Proxy</u>	119
<u>Vote Required of GHQ’s Stockholders</u>	119
<u>Abstentions and Broker Non-Votes</u>	119
<u>Conversion Rights</u>	120