STONEPATH GROUP INC Form S-1 October 28, 2005

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As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 28, 2005

Registration No. 333-

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## FORM S-1

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

# STONEPATH GROUP, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

4731

(Primary Standard Industrial Classification Code Number) 65-0867684

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

World Trade Center 2200 Alaskan Way, Suite 200 Seattle, Washington 98121 (206) 336-5400

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

Mr. Robert Arovas, President Stonepath Group, Inc. World Trade Center 2200 Alaskan Way, Suite 200 Seattle, Washington 98121 (206) 336-5400 Fax (206) 336-5401

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

Please Address a Copy of All Communications to:
Brian S. North, Esquire
Buchanan Ingersoll PC
1835 Market Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103
(215) 665-8700

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

If any of the securities being registered on this form are being 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, check the following box. ý

If this form is filed to register additional securities for an offering 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.

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

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

Pursuant to Rule 416 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this registration statement also includes additional shares of common stock issuable upon stock splits, stock dividends or similar transactions.

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

### CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered(1)	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Share(2)	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price(2)	Amount of Registration Fee	
Common Stock, \$0.001 par value per share	15,481,482	\$0.85	\$13,159,260	\$1,548.84	

- Represents shares of common stock which may be sold by certain selling shareholders.
- Estimated solely for the purpose of determining the registration fee in accordance with Rule 457(c) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. The price per share information is based upon the average of the high and low sale prices of Stonepath Group, Inc., Common Stock, par value \$0.001 per share, as reported on The American Stock Exchange on October 26, 2005.

### PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS

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

Subject to Completion October 28, 2005

### **Prospectus**

## STONEPATH GROUP, INC.

### 15,481,482 shares of common stock

The selling shareholders identified in this prospectus may offer and sell up to 15,481,482 shares of our common stock which we may issue to them upon exercise of certain convertible securities, exchangeable securities, and warrants issued to them in private placement transactions. The selling shareholders may sell all or a portion of their shares through public or private transactions at prevailing market prices or at privately negotiated prices.

We will not receive any part of the proceeds from sales of these shares by the selling shareholders. However, we may receive the exercise price of the warrants held by them and we will retire any debt associated with the convertible and exchangeable securities upon their conversion into, or exchange for, shares of our common stock.

Our common stock is listed on the American Stock Exchange under the symbol "STG." On October 26, 2005, the last sale price of our common stock reported on the American Stock Exchange was \$0.85.

INVESTING IN OUR COMMON STOCK INVOLVES A HIGH DEGREE OF RISK, SEE "RISK FACTORS" BEGINNING ON PAGE 4 OF THIS PROSPECTUS.

NEITHER THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION NOR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION HAS APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED OF THESE SECURITIES OR PASSED UPON THE ADEQUACY OR ACCURACY OF THIS PROSPECTUS. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

The date of this prospectus is October [ ], 2005.

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### ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. You should rely only on the information provided in this prospectus and incorporated by reference in this prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with information different from that contained or incorporated by reference into this prospectus. The selling shareholders are offering to sell, and seeking offers to buy, shares of common stock only in jurisdictions where offers and sales are permitted. The information in this prospectus is accurate only as of the date of this prospectus, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus or of any sale of common stock. The rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission may require us to update this prospectus in the future.

### PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary highlights information contained elsewhere in this prospectus. However, it may not contain all of the information that is important to you. You should carefully read the entire prospectus, particularly the risks of investing in our securities discussed under "Risk Factors" and including the documents incorporated by reference.

## **Our Company**

We are a non-asset-based third-party logistics services company providing supply chain solutions on a global basis. We offer a full range of time-definite transportation and distribution solutions through our Domestic Services platform which manages and arranges the movement of raw materials, supplies, components and finished goods for our customers. These services are offered through our domestic air and ground freight forwarding business. We also offer a full range of international logistics services including international air and ocean transportation as well as customs house brokerage services through our International Services platform. In addition to these core services, we provide a broad range of value-added supply chain management services, including warehousing, order fulfillment and inventory management solutions. We serve a customer base of manufacturers, distributors and national retail chains through a network of offices in 22 major metropolitan areas in North America and Puerto Rico, 17 locations in the Asia Pacific region, six locations in Brazil and one location in Europe, as well as through an extensive network of independent carriers and service partners strategically located throughout the world.

Our objective is to build a leading global logistics services organization that integrates established logistics companies with innovative technologies. To that end, we have built our network through a combination of synergistic acquisitions and the organic expansion of our existing operations.

We have completed the acquisition of 16 logistics companies. However, our current domestic credit facility requires the lender's consent for further acquisitions. If and when our acquisition program is permitted to resume, we do not expect it to continue at its historic pace because of our desire to optimize our existing footprints of offices and services.

### **Our Address and Phone Number**

Our executive offices are located at World Trade Center, 2200 Alaskan Way, Suite 200, Seattle, Washington 98121 and our telephone number is (206) 336-5400. Our Internet address is *www.stonepath.com*. Information contained on our website should not be considered part of this prospectus.

## The Offering

The selling shareholders identified in this prospectus may offer and sell up to 15,481,482 shares of our common stock which we may issue to them upon exercise of certain convertible securities, exchangeable securities, and warrants issued to them in private placement transactions. The selling shareholders may sell

all or a portion of their shares through public or private transactions at prevailing market prices or at privately negotiated prices.

We will not receive any part of the proceeds from sales of these shares by the selling shareholders. However, we may receive the exercise price of the warrants held by them and we will retire any debt associated with the convertible and exchangeable securities upon their conversion into, or exchange for, shares of our common stock.

Our common stock is listed on the American Stock Exchange under the symbol "STG."

## RISK FACTORS

An investment in our common stock involves a high degree of risk, including the risks described below. You should carefully consider these risk factors and the other information in this prospectus before making an investment decision. The risks described below are the material risks we believe are associated with an investment in our common stock. If any of the following events do occur, our business, operating results and financial condition could be adversely affected. This prospectus also contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Our actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements as a result of a number of factors, including the risks described below and elsewhere in this prospectus. You should read the section entitled "Forward-looking Statements" for a further discussion of these factors.

## We have not been profitable in four out of the last five years.

We incurred net losses of \$13.0 million in 2004, \$0.8 million in 2003, \$17.5 million in 2001 and \$36.2 million in 2000. Since the adoption of our new business model of delivering non-asset-based third-party logistics services in 2001, we have incurred losses from continuing operations of \$13.0 million in 2004 and \$0.5 million in 2003. Although our 2004 results include restructuring and excess earn-out charges of \$7.4 million, our ability to achieve profitability on a continuing basis in the future is dependent upon (a) the results of the efforts we began in the fourth quarter of 2004 to further integrate our business operations, (b) our ability to pass along added costs to customers, including escalating fuel charges, (c) our ability to improve our buying processes to reduce the costs of carrier services, (d) our ability to implement a new freight forwarding information system, and (e) our ability to retain and attract talented and experienced personnel in the future. There is no assurance that those results will achieve their intended effect or that we will be able to effectuate such actions.

If we are unable to profitably manage and integrate the companies we acquire or are unable to acquire additional companies, we will not achieve our growth and profit objectives.

Our goal is to build a global logistics services organization. Realizing this goal will require the acquisition of a number of diverse companies in the logistics industry covering a variety of geographic regions and specialized service offerings. There can be no assurance that, if we are able to make further acquisitions, we will be able to identify, acquire or profitably manage additional businesses or successfully integrate any acquired businesses without substantial costs, delays or other operational or financial problems. Further, acquisitions involve a number of risks, including possible adverse effects on our operating results, diversion of management resources, failure to retain key personnel, and risks associated with unanticipated liabilities, some or all of which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

We are unable to make further acquisitions without the consent of the lender under our domestic credit facility.

Our current domestic credit facility requires the lender's consent for further acquisitions. This may limit or slow our ability to achieve the critical mass we may need to achieve our strategic objectives.

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Additional long-term and equity financing will be required to implement our business and acquisition strategies and meet our existing earn-out obligations.

We believe that additional capital will be required to execute our strategy in the future as well as fund existing obligations from prior acquisitions. We intend to obtain that additional capital through a combination of debt and equity financing. There is no assurance that any such debt or equity can be raised on a cost effective basis or within the timeframe necessary to implement our strategy or to meet our existing obligations. In the event that our common stock does not attain a sufficient market value and potential acquisition candidates are otherwise unwilling to accept our securities as part of the purchase price for the sale of their businesses, our acquisition program will be in jeopardy.

Due to our acquisition strategy, our earnings will be adversely affected by non-cash charges relating to the amortization of intangibles.

Under applicable accounting standards, purchasers are required to allocate the total consideration paid in a business combination to the identified acquired assets and liabilities based on their fair values at the time of acquisition. The excess of the consideration paid in a business combination over the fair value of the identifiable tangible assets acquired is to be allocated among identifiable intangible assets and goodwill. The amount allocated to goodwill is not subject to amortization. However, it is tested at least annually for impairment. The amount allocated to identifiable intangibles, such as customer relationships and the like, is amortized over the life of these intangible assets. This subjects us to periodic charges against our earnings to the extent of the amortization incurred for that period. Because our business strategy focuses on growth through acquisitions, our future earnings will be subject to greater non-cash amortization charges than a company whose earnings are derived organically. As a result, we will experience an increase in non-cash charges related to the amortization of intangible assets acquired in our acquisitions. This will create the appearance, based on our consolidated financial statements, that our intangible assets are diminishing in value, when in fact they may be increasing because we are growing the value of our intangible assets (e.g., customer relationships).

Since we are not obligated to follow any particular criteria or standards for acquisition candidates, shareholders must rely solely on our ability to identify, evaluate and complete acquisitions.

Even though we have developed general acquisition guidelines, we are not obligated to follow any particular operating, financial, geographic or other criteria in evaluating candidates for potential acquisitions or business combinations. We target companies, in growing markets, which we believe will provide the best potential for long-term financial return for our shareholders and we determine the purchase price and other terms and conditions of acquisitions. Our shareholders will not have the opportunity to evaluate the relevant economic, financial and other information that we will use and consider in deciding whether or not to enter into a particular transaction.

## The scarcity of, and competition for, acquisition opportunities makes it more difficult to complete acquisitions.

There are a limited number of operating companies available for acquisition which we consider desirable. In addition, there is a high level of competition to acquire these operating companies. A large number of established and well-financed entities are active in acquiring the type of companies we believe are desirable. Many of these entities have significantly greater financial resources than we have. Consequently, we are at a competitive disadvantage in negotiating and executing possible acquisitions of these businesses. Even if we are able to successfully compete with these entities, this competition may affect the terms of completed transactions and, as a result, we may pay more than we expected for potential acquisitions. We may find it difficult to identify operating companies that complement our strategy, and even if we identify a company that complements our strategy, we may be unable to complete an acquisition of such a company for many reasons, including:

a failure to agree on the terms necessary for a transaction, such as purchase price;

a failure to get our existing lender to approve an identified acquisition;

incompatibility of operating strategies and management philosophies;

competition from other acquirers of operating companies;

insufficient capital to acquire a profitable logistics company; and

the unwillingness of a potential acquiree to work with our management or our affiliated companies.

We will not be able to successfully implement our business plan if we are unable to successfully compete with other entities in acquiring the companies we target.

## The issuance of additional securities may cause additional dilution to the interests of our existing shareholders.

The additional financing required to fund our acquisition strategy and other capital needs may require us to issue additional shares of common stock or common stock equivalents to generate the required financing. The issuance of such securities will further increase the number of shares outstanding and further dilute the interests of our existing shareholders. We may issue more shares of common stock for this purpose without prior notice to our shareholders.

We may also issue securities to, among other things, facilitate a business combination, acquire assets or stock of another business, compensate employees or consultants or for other valid business reasons at the discretion of our Board of Directors, which could further dilute the interests of our existing shareholders.

The exercise or conversion of our outstanding options, warrants or other convertible securities or any derivative securities we issue in the future will result in the dilution of our existing shareholders and may create downward pressure on the trading price of our common stock.

We are currently authorized to issue 100,000,000 shares of common stock. As of October 26, 2005, we had 43,712,726 outstanding shares of common stock. We may in the future issue up to 28,682,266 additional shares of our common stock upon conversion or exercise of existing outstanding convertible securities, options and warrants in accordance with the following schedule:

	Number of Shares	Proceeds
Options outstanding under our stock option plan	11,948,784 \$	18,019,685
Shares issuable upon conversion of Convertible Note	9,259,259(1)	
Shares issuable upon exchange of subsidiary Preferred Shares	3,444,445(2)	
Non-plan options	552,000	920,750
Warrants	3,477,778	10,952,889
Total	28,682,266 \$	29,893,324

<sup>(1)</sup>Does not include shares which may be issued upon conversion of accrued interest or fees payable under the Convertible Note.

Includes 2,777,778 shares of common stock issuable upon exchange of preferred shares of Stonepath Holdings (Hong Kong) Limited ("Preferred Shares") now outstanding and an additional 666,667 shares of common stock which may be issued upon exchange of additional Preferred Shares which may be issued as pay-in-kind dividends on the Preferred Shares during the first two years after the date of their initial issuance. Does not include additional shares of common stock which may be issued in exchange for Preferred Shares issued as pay-in-kind dividends after such two-year period.

Under the terms of our domestic credit facility, once the outstanding \$10.0 million minimum borrowing note, or any subsequent minimum borrowing note in that amount, has been fully converted into shares of our common stock during the three year term of that facility, a new \$10.0 million minimum borrowing note will be issued convertible into shares of our common stock at a conversion price equal to 115% of the average market price for the ten trading days preceding the issuance of that minimum borrowing note.

Even though the aggregate exercise of these securities could generate material proceeds for us, the issuance of these additional shares of common stock would result in the dilution of the ownership interests of our existing common shareholders and the market price of our common stock could be adversely affected.

### We rely on a small number of large customers, the loss of which would have a negative effect on our results of operations.

Even though our customer base is diversifying as we grow, it remains concentrated. For the year ended December 31, 2004 our largest customer, Best Buy Co., Inc. ("Best Buy"), a national retail chain, accounted for approximately 13% of our total revenue. Our next five largest customers accounted for approximately 16% of our total revenue, with none of these customers accounting for 10% or more of our total revenue. We believe the risk posed by this concentration is mitigated by our longstanding and continuing relationships with these customers and we are confident that these relationships will remain ongoing for the foreseeable future. In March 2005, the Company entered into a new three-year contract with Best Buy. Consistent with prior agreements, there are no volume commitments within the agreement. We intend to continue to provide superior service to all of our customers and have no expectation that revenue from any of these customers will be reduced as a result of any factors within our control. However, adverse conditions in the industries of our customers could cause us to lose a significant customer or experience a decrease in shipment volume. Either of these events could negatively impact us. Our immediate plans, however, are to reduce our dependence on any particular customer or customers by increasing our sales and customer base by, among other things, diversifying our service offerings and continuing with our growth strategy.

# The risks associated with international operations could adversely affect our operations and ability to grow outside of the United States.

A significant portion of our revenue is derived from our international operations and the growth of those operations is an important part of our business strategy. Our current international operations are focused on the shipment of goods into and out of the United States and are dependent on the volume of international trade with the United States. Our strategic plan contemplates the growth of those operations as well as expanding into the transportation of goods wholly outside of the United States. The following factors could adversely affect our current international operations as well as the growth of those operations:

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wars, civil unrest, acts of terrorism and other conflicts exist in certain international markets;

export restrictions, tariffs, licenses and other trade barriers can adversely affect the international trade serviced by our international operations;

managing distant operations with different local market conditions and practices is more difficult than managing domestic operations;

differing technology standards in other countries present difficulties and incremental expense in integrating our services across international markets;

complex foreign laws and treaties can adversely affect our ability to compete; and

our ability to repatriate funds may be limited by tax ramifications and foreign exchange controls.

Terrorist attacks and other acts of violence or war may affect any market on which our shares trade, the markets in which we operate, our operations and our profitability.

Terrorist acts or acts of war or armed conflict could negatively affect our operations in a number of ways. Any of these acts could result in increased volatility in or damage to the United States and worldwide financial markets and economy. Acts of terrorism or armed conflict, and the uncertainty caused by such conflicts, could cause an overall reduction in worldwide sales of goods and corresponding shipments of goods. This would have a negative effect on our operations. Also, terrorist activities similar to the type experienced on September 11, 2001 could result in another halt of trading of securities on the American Stock Exchange, which could also have an adverse effect on the trading price of our shares and overall market capitalization.

# We depend on the continued service of certain executive officers. We can not assure you that we will be able to retain these persons.

For the foreseeable future, our success will depend largely on the continued services of Dennis L. Pelino, our Chairman, Jason F. Totah, our Chief Executive Officer, and Robert Arovas, our President, because of their collective industry knowledge, marketing skills and relationships with major vendors and customers. We have employment agreements with each of these individuals which contain a non-competition covenant which survives their actual term of employment. Nevertheless, should any of these individuals leave the Company, it could have a material adverse effect on our future results of operations.

## We face intense competition in our industry.

The freight forwarding, logistics and supply chain management industry is intensely competitive and is expected to remain so for the foreseeable future. We face competition from a number of companies, including many that have significantly greater financial, technical and marketing resources. There are a large number of companies competing in one or more segments of the industry, although the number of firms with a global network that offer a full complement of freight forwarding and supply chain management services is more limited. Depending on the location of the customer and the scope of services requested, we must compete against both the niche players and larger entities. In addition, customers increasingly are turning to competitive bidding situations involving bids from a number of competitors, including competitors that are larger than we are.

## Our stock price may be volatile due to factors under, as well as out of, our control.

The market price of our common stock has been highly volatile. Some factors that may affect the market price in the future include:

actual or anticipated fluctuations in our operating results;

announcements of technological innovations or new commercial products or services by us or our competitors;

a continued weakening of general market conditions which in turn could have a depressive effect on the volume of goods shipped and shipments that we manage or arrange;

acts of global terrorism or armed conflicts; and

changes in recommendations or earnings estimates by securities analysts.

Furthermore, the stock market has historically experienced volatility which has particularly affected the market prices of securities of many companies with a small market capitalization and which sometimes has been unrelated to the operating performances of such companies.

Our cash flow will be adversely affected in the future once we make use of our consolidated net operating loss carryforward available to offset future taxable income.

We have accumulated a net operating loss carryforward for federal income tax purposes. As of December 31, 2004, approximately \$47.0 million of these losses were available to offset our taxable income until the losses are fully utilized. Once these available losses have been utilized, our cash flows will be affected accordingly. We do not anticipate paying federal income taxes in the near future as we expect that our existing net operating loss carryforward should be sufficient to offset any taxable income that is generated. However, additional sales of our securities could have the effect of significantly limiting our ability to utilize our existing net operating loss carryforward in the future.

If we fail to improve our management information and financial reporting systems, we may experience an adverse effect on our operations and financial condition.

Our management information and financial reporting systems need to be improved. Failure to enhance these systems could delay our receipt of management and financial information at the consolidated level which could disrupt our operations or impair our ability to monitor our operations and have a negative effect on our financial condition. We have completed our first assessment of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2004. In making our assessment of internal control over financial reporting, management used the criteria issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission in "Internal Control-Integrated Framework." We have concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was not effective as of December 31, 2004 based on that criteria.

Because we are a holding company, we depend on receiving distributions from our subsidiaries and we could be harmed if such distributions could not be made in the future.

We are a holding company and all of our operations are conducted through subsidiaries. Consequently, we rely on dividends or advances from our subsidiaries. The ability of our subsidiaries to pay dividends and our ability to receive distributions from those subsidiaries are subject to applicable local law and other restrictions including, but not limited to, applicable tax and exchange control laws. Such laws and restrictions could limit the payment of dividends and distributions to us which would restrict our ability to continue operations.

We believe our industry is consolidating and if we cannot gain sufficient market presence, we may not be able to compete successfully against larger global companies.

We believe the market trend within our industry is towards consolidation of the niche players into larger companies which are attempting to increase global operations through the acquisition of regional and local freight forwarders. If we cannot gain sufficient market presence or otherwise establish a successful strategy in our industry, we may not be able to compete successfully against larger companies in our industry with global operations.

We may be required to incur material expenses in defending or resolving outstanding lawsuits which would adversely affect our results of operations.

We are a defendant in a number of legal proceedings, including those we have identified as material in our periodic Securities and Exchange Commission filings. Although we believe that the claims asserted in these proceedings are without merit, and we intend to vigorously defend these matters, we could incur material expenses in the defense and resolution of these matters. Since we have not established any reserves in connection with these claims, any such liability would be recorded as an expense in the period

incurred or estimated. This amount, even if not material to our overall financial condition, could adversely affect our results of operations in the period recorded.

## We have a limited operating history upon which you can evaluate our prospects.

During 2001, we discontinued our former business model of developing early-stage technology businesses, and adopted a new model of delivering non-asset-based third-party logistics services. The first acquisition under our new business model occurred on October 5, 2001. Subsequent acquisitions were completed during 2002, 2003 and 2004. As a result, we have a limited operating history under our current business model. Even though we are managed by senior executives with significant experience in the industry, our limited operating history makes it difficult to predict the longer-term success of our business model.

# Provisions of our charter and applicable Delaware law may make it more difficult to complete a contested takeover of our company.

Certain provisions of our certificate of incorporation and the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware (the "GCL") could deter a change in our management or render more difficult an attempt to obtain control of us, even if such a proposal is favored by a majority of our shareholders. For example, we are subject to the provisions of the GCL that prohibit a public Delaware corporation from engaging in a broad range of business combinations with a person who, together with affiliates and associates, owns 15% or more of the corporation's outstanding voting shares (an "interested shareholder") for three years after the person became an interested shareholder, unless the business combination is approved in a prescribed manner. Finally, our certificate of incorporation includes undesignated preferred stock, which may enable our Board of Directors to discourage an attempt to obtain control of us by means of a tender offer, proxy contest, merger or otherwise.

### FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. We have based these forward-looking statements on our current expectations and projections about future events. These forward-looking statements are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and assumptions about us and our subsidiaries that may cause our actual results, levels of activity, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as "may," "will," "should," "could," "would," "expect," "plan," "anticipate," "believe," "continue," "estimate," "project," "intend," or the negative of such terms or other similar expressions. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date made. We undertake no obligation to publicly release the result of any revision of these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date they are made or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events. You should also know that such statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions. Many of these risks and uncertainties are set forth in the "Risk Factors" section of this prospectus and in our other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Should any of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should any of our assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may differ materially from those included within the forward-looking statements.

#### USE OF PROCEEDS

We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of common stock by the selling shareholders. However, we may receive the exercise price of the warrants held by them and we will retire any debt associated with the convertible and exchangeable securities upon their conversion into, or exchange for, shares of our common stock.

#### SELLING SHAREHOLDERS

On September 9, 2005, we completed a financing in a private placement transaction with Laurus Master Fund, Ltd. ("Laurus") in connection with the refinancing of our domestic credit facility. The financing included the issuance of a \$10.0 million note to Laurus. The principal amount of that note is convertible into 9,259,259 shares of our common stock at a conversion price of \$1.08 per share. We also issued a warrant to Laurus which is exercisable for 2,500,000 shares of our common stock for a period of five years, at an exercise price which varies with the number of shares purchased under that warrant. The exercise price is \$1.13 for the first 900,000 shares purchased, \$1.41 for the next 700,000 shares purchased, \$4.70 for the next 450,000 shares purchased, and \$7.52 for the last 450,000 shares purchased.

On October 26, 2005, we and our subsidiary, Stonepath Holdings (Hong Kong) Limited ("Asia Holdings"), completed a private placement transaction with Hong Kong League Central Credit Union in which \$3.0 million of the indebtedness of Asia Holdings was exchanged for 30,000 Preferred Shares of Asia Holdings. In connection with that transaction, we entered into an agreement which provides the holders of the Preferred Shares with the right to exchange the Preferred Shares for an aggregate 2,777,778 shares of our common stock. We also issued warrants to purchase 277,778 shares of our common stock to Hong Kong League Central Credit Union in that transaction which are exercisable for a four-year period at an exercise price of \$1.13 per share.

The following table sets forth the name of the selling shareholders, the number of shares of common stock beneficially owned by them as of the date of this prospectus and the number of shares of our common stock which may be offered for sale pursuant to this prospectus by the selling shareholders. The table also sets forth any material relationship between the Company and each selling shareholder based upon information currently available to the Company and the number of shares beneficially owned and the percentage ownership of each selling shareholder after the offering. This table has been prepared based on

the assumption that 43,712,726 shares of common stock will be outstanding as of the date of this prospectus.

Name	Number of Shares of Common Stock Before Offering(1)	Percentage Before Offering	Number of Shares Offered Hereby(1)	Number of Shares of Common Stock After Offering	Percentage After Offering
Laurus Master Fund, Ltd c/o Laurus Capital Management, LLC 825 Third Avenue, 14 <sup>th</sup> Floor New York, New York 10022	11,759,259(2)	21.20%(2)	11,759,259(2)	0	0%
Hong Kong League Central Credit Union Party Room I-2, G/F Kam Wah House Choi Hung Estate Kowloon, Hong Kong	3,722,223(3)	7.85%(3)	3,722,223(3)	0	0%
Total	15,481,482		15,481,482		

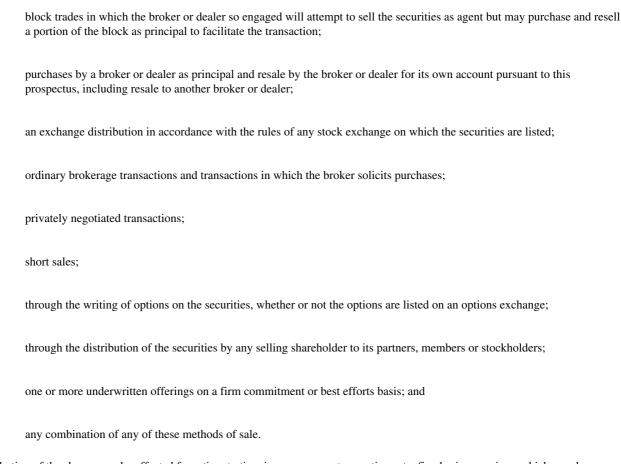
- (1)

  Does not include an indeterminate number of additional shares that may be registered and issued in accordance with Rule 416 under the Securities Act to prevent dilution of the common stock resulting from stock splits, stock dividends, or other events.
- Includes 9,259,259 shares of common stock that may be issued from time to time upon conversion of principal over the term of a convertible note and 2,500,000 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of a warrant. The convertible note and warrant each limit the number of shares of common stock that may be received upon conversion or exercise to the difference between 4.99% of our outstanding common stock and the number of shares beneficially owned by the holder. This 4.99% limitation may be terminated by the holder upon the occurrence and continuation of an event of default under the convertible note or upon 75 days prior to writen notice to us. The total number of shares issuable upon conversion of the principal of the convertible note and exercise of the warrant are being registered pursuant to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. Laurus Capital Management, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, may be deemed a control person of Laurus. David Grin and Eugene Grin are the principals of Laurus Capital Management, LLC and their address is 825 Third Avenue, 14th Floor, New York, New York 10022. David Grin and Eugene Grin disclaim the beneficial ownership of the shares beneficially owned by Laurus Master Fund, Ltd.
- Consists of 2,777,778 shares of common stock that may be issued from time to time upon exchange of 30,000 Preferred Shares of Asia Holdings that are now outstanding, 666,667 shares of common stock that may be issued upon exchange of Preferred Shares which may be issued as pay-in-kind dividends during the first two years after the date of the initial issuance, and 277,778 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of warrants.

### PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

The securities covered by this prospectus were purchased or acquired by the selling shareholders in the ordinary course of their business. At the time the securities were purchased or acquired by the selling shareholders, the selling shareholders had no agreements, understandings, directly or indirectly, with any person to distribute the securities. The selling shareholders, or their respective pledges, donees, transferees, or any of their successors in interest selling shares received from a named selling shareholder as a gift, partnership distribution or other non-sale related transfer after the date of this prospectus (all of whom may be selling shareholders), may sell the securities from time to time on any stock exchange or automated interdealer quotation system on which the securities are listed or quoted, in the over-the-counter market, in privately negotiated transactions or otherwise, at fixed prices that may be changed, at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to prevailing market prices or at prices otherwise negotiated.

The selling shareholders may sell the securities by one or more of the following methods, without limitation:



The distribution of the shares may be effected from time to time in one or more transactions at a fixed price or prices, which may be changed, at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to such prevailing market prices or at negotiated prices. We do not know of any arrangements by the selling shareholders for the sale of any of the securities.

The selling shareholders may engage brokers and dealers, and any brokers or dealers may arrange for other brokers or dealers to participate in effecting sales of the securities. These brokers, dealers or underwriters may act as principals, or as an agent of a selling shareholder. Broker-dealers may agree with a selling shareholder to sell a specified number of the securities at a stipulated price per security. If the broker-dealer is unable to sell securities acting as agent for a selling shareholder, it may purchase as principal any unsold securities at the stipulated price. Broker-dealers who acquire securities as principals may thereafter resell the securities from time to time in transactions in any stock exchange or automated interdealer quotation system on which the securities are then listed or quoted, at prices and on terms then prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to the then-current market price or in negotiated transactions. Broker-dealers may use block transactions and sales to and through broker-dealers, including transactions of the nature described above. Assuming that required holding periods and other criteria are

satisfied, the selling shareholders may also sell the securities in accordance with Rule 144 under the Securities Act of 1933 rather than pursuant to this prospectus, regardless of whether the securities are covered by this prospectus.

To the extent required under the Securities Act of 1933, the aggregate amount of any selling shareholder securities being offered and the terms of the offering, the names of any agents, brokers, dealers or underwriters and any applicable commission with respect to a particular offer will be set forth in a post-effective amendment or an accompanying prospectus supplement. Any underwriters, dealers, brokers or agents participating in the distribution of the securities may receive compensation in the form of underwriting discounts, concessions, commissions or fees from a selling shareholder and/or purchasers of selling shareholders' securities, for whom they may act (which compensation as to a particular broker-dealer might be in excess of customary commissions).

The selling shareholders and any underwriters, brokers, dealers or agents that participate in the distribution of the securities may be deemed to be "underwriters" within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933, and any discounts, concessions, commissions or fees received by them and any profit on the resale of the securities sold by them may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions.

The selling shareholders may enter into hedging transactions with third parties, which may in turn engage in short sales of the securities in the course of hedging the position they assume. The selling shareholders may also enter into short positions or other derivative transactions relating to the securities, or interests in the securities, and deliver the securities, or interests in the securities, to close out their short or other positions or otherwise settle short sales or other transactions, or loan or pledge the securities, or interests in the securities, to third parties that in turn may dispose of these securities.

We have agreed to indemnify in certain circumstances certain of the selling shareholders against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933. The selling shareholders have agreed to indemnify us in certain circumstances against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933. Insofar as we are permitted to indemnify the selling shareholders for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933, we have been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission, such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and is unenforceable.

The selling shareholders and other persons participating in the sale or distribution of the securities will be subject to applicable provisions of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and the rules and regulations thereunder, including Regulation M. Under those rules and regulations, they

may not engage in any stabilization activity in connection with our securities;

must furnish each broker which offers common stock covered by this prospectus with the number of copies of this prospectus which are required by each broker; and

may not bid for or purchase any of our securities or attempt to induce any person to purchase any of our securities other than as permitted under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of the shares by the selling shareholders, although we may receive the exercise price of the warrants held by them. We will pay the expenses of preparing this prospectus and the related registration statement.

We can not assure you that the selling shareholders will sell all or any portion of the securities offered hereby.

## DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

#### General

We are authorized to issue 100,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$.001 per share, 43,712,726 of which were outstanding on October 26, 2005 and 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$.001 per share, none of which are outstanding on the date of this prospectus.

The following discussion, which describes all material terms of our capital stock, is qualified in its entirety by reference to our certificate of incorporation and bylaws, copies of which are filed as exhibits to this registration statement.

#### Common Stock

The holders of our common stock are entitled to one vote for each share held of record on all matters to be voted on by the stockholders. There is no cumulative voting with respect to the election of directors. Accordingly, holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of our common stock can elect all members of our Board of Directors, and holders of the remaining shares by themselves cannot elect any member of the Board of Directors.

The holders of our common stock are entitled to receive dividends in the discretion of our Board of Directors. We may only pay dividends out of funds legally available for this purpose. In the event of the liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Company, the holders of our common stock are entitled to share ratably in all assets remaining available for distribution to them after payment of liabilities and after provision has been made for each class of stock, if any, having preference over our common stock. Holders of shares of our common stock, as such, have no conversion, preemptive or other subscription rights, and there are no redemptive provisions applicable to our common stock. All of the outstanding shares of our common stock are fully paid and nonassessable.

## **Preferred Stock**

Our certificate of incorporation provides that our Board of Directors may establish one or more classes or series of preferred stock having such number of shares and relative voting rights, designation, dividend rates, liquidation and other rights, preferences and limitations as may be fixed by them without further stockholder approval. The holders of our preferred stock may be entitled to preferences over common stockholders with respect to dividends, liquidation, dissolution or our winding up in such amounts as are established by our Board of Directors' resolutions issuing such shares.

### THE COMPANY

#### Overview

We are a non-asset-based third-party logistics services company providing supply chain solutions on a global basis. We offer a full range of time-definite transportation and distribution solutions through our Domestic Services platform which manages and arranges the movement of raw materials, supplies, components and finished goods for our customers. These services are offered through our domestic air and ground freight forwarding business. We also offer a full range of international logistics services including international air and ocean transportation as well as customs house brokerage services through our International Services platform. In addition to these core services, we provide a broad range of value-added supply chain management services, including warehousing, order fulfillment and inventory management solutions. We serve a customer base of manufacturers, distributors and national retail chains through a network of offices in 22 major metropolitan areas in North America and Puerto Rico, 17 locations in the Asia Pacific region, six locations in Brazil and one in Europe, as well as through an extensive network of independent carriers and service partners strategically located throughout the world.

Our objective is to build a leading global logistics services organization that integrates established logistics companies with innovative technologies. To that end, we are extending our network through a combination of synergistic acquisitions and the organic expansion of our existing operations.

Our acquisition strategy focuses on acquiring and integrating logistics businesses that will enhance operations within our current market areas as well as extend our network to targeted locations in Asia, South America, Europe and the Middle East. We select acquisition targets based upon their ability to demonstrate: (1) historic levels of profitability; (2) a proven record of delivering superior time-definite distribution and other value-added services; (3) an established customer base of large and mid-sized companies; and (4) opportunities for significant growth within strategic segments of our business.

As we integrate these companies, we intend to create additional stockholder value by: (1) improving productivity by adopting enhanced technologies and business processes; (2) improving transportation margins by leveraging our growing purchasing power; (3) enhancing the opportunity for organic growth by cross-selling and offering expanded services; and (4) implementing standard management reporting systems.

Our strategy is designed to take advantage of shifting market dynamics. The third-party logistics industry continues to grow as an increasing number of businesses outsource their logistics functions to more cost effectively manage and extract value from their supply chains. Also, we believe the industry is positioned for further consolidation since it remains highly fragmented, and since customers are demanding the types of sophisticated and broad reaching services that can more effectively be handled by larger and more diverse organizations.

We have completed the acquisition of 16 logistics companies. The initial phase of our acquisition strategy was to develop a U.S.-based platform of service offerings. We accomplished this through the acquisition of M.G.R., Inc. (d/b/a "Air Plus") on October 5, 2001 and Global Transportation Services, Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiary, Global Container Line, Inc. (collectively "Stonepath Logistics International Services, Inc." or "SLIS") on April 4, 2002. Founded in 1990, Air Plus is a leading time-definite logistics company providing a full range of domestic transportation and distribution solutions including warehousing and order fulfillment. Air Plus services a customer base of manufacturers, distributors and national retail chains through its network of offices in North America and an extensive network of over 200 agents. Founded in 1985, SLIS provides a full range of international transportation and logistics solutions to a customer base of manufacturers and national retail chains. SLIS also provides customs brokerage, ocean forwarding, NVOCC services, consolidation and deconsolidation services, air import and export services and warehousing and distribution services.

The next phase of our acquisition strategy was to supplement the organic growth of our organization through targeted "add-on" acquisitions that were intended to fill a strategic industry niche and offer complementary services to our existing customer base. We accomplished this by acquiring United American Acquisitions and Management, Inc. d/b/a United American Freight Services, Inc. ("United American") on May 30, 2002, Transport Specialists, Inc. ("TSI") on October 1, 2002, Transportation Rail Warehousing Logistics, Inc. ("TRWL") on January 31, 2003, Regroup Express LLC ("Regroup") on June 20, 2003 and Customs Services International, Inc. ("CSI") on July 16, 2003. United American, based in the Detroit, Michigan area, provides us with a division that supports the automotive industry, while both TSI and Regroup, based in Northern Virginia, and TRWL, based in Portland, Maine, service government agencies and the defense sector. CSI provides a full range of international freight forwarding and customs brokerage services out of its offices in Miami, Florida and El Paso, Texas, with a focus on Latin America, Europe and Asia.

In 2003 and 2004, we completed a series of acquisitions that increased our presence in Asia with the goal of building Stonepath into a leading worldwide integrated logistics service organization. On August 8, 2003, we acquired a controlling interest in the Singapore and Cambodia based operations of the G-Link Group of companies, a regional logistics business headquartered in Singapore, with offices throughout Southeast Asia. We then acquired three Malaysian-based offices of G-Link in December 2003. During December 2003, we also acquired controlling interests in East Ocean Logistics Ltd., a Hong Kong-based company that specializes in international ocean freight services, Planet Logistics Pte. Ltd., a Singapore-based company that focuses on international and intra-Asia air cargo services, and Group Logistics Pte. Ltd., a start-up providing air cargo services in Shanghai, PRC. On February 9, 2004, we increased our presence in Shanghai by acquiring a majority interest in Shaanxi Sunshine Cargo Services International Company, Ltd. ("Shaanxi"), a Class A licensed freight forwarder headquartered in Shanghai that has been operated by founder and President Andy Tsai since 1993. Shaanxi provides a wide range of customized transportation and logistics services and supply chain solutions, including global freight forwarding, warehousing and distribution services, shipping services and special freight handling.

Our existing domestic credit facility requires the lender's consent for further acquisitions. If and when our acquisition program is permitted to resume, we do not expect it to continue at its historic pace because of benefits that can be derived by optimizing our existing footprints of offices and services.

There are a variety of risks associated with our ability to achieve our strategic objectives, including our ability to obtain additional capital, our ability to achieve profitability, our ability to acquire and profitably manage additional businesses, our current reliance on a small number of key customers, the risks inherent in international operations, and the intense competition in our industry for customers and for the acquisition of additional businesses. For a more detailed discussion of these risks, see the "Risk Factors" section of this prospectus.

# **Industry Overview**

Businesses are increasingly focused on identifying ways to more efficiently manage their supply chains an operational necessity as products are sourced and distributed globally, and a financial requirement as organizations have discovered the fiscal benefits of streamlining their logistics processes providing an increased demand and opportunity for freight transportation and logistics providers. Companies increasingly strive to minimize inventory levels, reduce order and cash-to-cash cycle lengths, perform manufacturing and assembly operations in lowest cost locations and distribute their products throughout global markets, often requiring expedited or time-definite shipment services. Furthermore, customers increasingly cite an efficient supply chain as a critical element in improving their financial performance. To remain competitive, successful companies need to not only achieve success in their core businesses, they must execute quickly and accurately.

To accomplish their goals, businesses turn to organizations providing a broad array of transportation supply chain services. These service providers consist of freight forwarders, customs brokers, warehouse operators and other value-added logistics service providers. They also have the option of utilizing asset-based providers who offer their services primarily through their own fleets of trucks, aircraft and vessels.

We believe that non-asset-based carriers are able to serve customers less expensively and with greater flexibility than asset-based providers because they select from various transportation options in routing customer shipments. To be competitive, these non-asset-based service providers must possess experienced and talented personnel armed with state-of-the-art technology and the ability to provide global supply chain management services to be responsive to the marketplace. Many logistics providers are now providing their customers with customized solutions for the planning and management of complex supply chains. The demand for these solutions has risen as companies continue to outsource non-core competencies, globally source goods and materials and focus on managing the overall cost of their supply chain. These trends are further facilitated by the rapid growth of technology including the growth of Web-based track and trace technology, and the ability to create electronic interfaces between the systems of service providers and their customers.

We believe we can differentiate ourselves by focusing on time-definite supply chain solutions with capabilities across virtually every mode of transportation, as well as combining these services with other value-added logistics services, including pick-and-pack services, merge-in-transit, inventory control, Web-based order management, warehousing and reverse logistics solutions. We also believe that we have a competitive advantage resulting from our extensive knowledge of logistics markets, information systems, the experience of our logistics managers and the market information we possess from our diverse customer base.

We believe that the third-party logistics industry in general, and that time-definite distribution in particular, is poised for continued growth. The growth in the use of third-party logistics services is being driven by a number of factors, including:

Outsourcing of Non-Core Activities. Companies are increasingly outsourcing freight forwarding, warehousing and other supply chain activities to allow them to focus on their core competencies. From managing purchase orders to the timely delivery of products, companies turn to third-party logistics providers ("3PLs") to manage these functions at a lower cost and more efficiently.

Globalization of Trade. As barriers to international trade are reduced or eliminated, companies are increasingly sourcing their parts, supplies and raw materials from the most cost competitive suppliers throughout the world. This places a greater emphasis on international freight management and just-in-time delivery capabilities. Outsourcing of manufacturing functions to, or locating company-owned manufacturing facilities in, low cost areas of the world also results in increased volumes of world trade.

Increased Need for Time-Definite Delivery. The need for just-in-time and other time-definite delivery has increased as a result of the globalization of manufacturing, greater implementation of demand-driven supply chains, the shortening of product cycles and the increasing value of individual shipments. Many businesses recognize that increased spending on time-definite supply chain management services can decrease overall manufacturing and distribution costs, reduce capital requirements, allow them to manage their working capital more efficiently by reducing inventory levels and inventory loss and improve service to their customers.

Consolidation of Logistics Function. As companies try to develop "partnering" relationships with fewer suppliers, they are reducing the number of freight forwarders and supply chain management providers they use. This trend places greater pressure on regional or local freight forwarders and supply chain management providers to grow or become aligned with a global network. Larger freight forwarders and supply chain management providers benefit from economies of scale which

enable them to negotiate reduced transportation rates with the carriers actually providing the transportation services, improve their mix of cargo to achieve desired densities and to allocate their overhead over a larger volume of transactions. Globally-integrated freight forwarders and supply chain management providers are better situated to provide a full complement of services, including pick-up and delivery, shipment via air, sea and/or ground transport, warehousing and distribution, and customs brokerage.

Increased Significance of Technology. Advances in technology are placing a premium on decreased transaction times and increased business-to-business activity. Companies have recognized the benefits of being able to transact business electronically. Accordingly, businesses increasingly are seeking the assistance of supply chain service providers with sophisticated information technology systems which facilitate real-time transaction processing and Web-based shipment monitoring.

The growing emphasis on just-in-time inventory control processes has added to the complexity and need for time-definite and other value-added supply-chain services. We believe that we can continue to differentiate ourselves by combining our time-definite transportation solutions with other complementary supply chain solutions. We expect to benefit from the intense corporate focus on lower-cost services, which will positively impact those providers who have the ability to leverage relationships with numerous carriers and shippers. We also believe that we are well positioned to take advantage of the growing trend toward international freight services and time-definite domestic ground services, both of which have increased in demand during the most recent economic cycle.

## **Our Strategic Objectives**

Our Business Strategy

Our objective is to provide customers with comprehensive value-added logistics solutions on a global scale. We plan to achieve this goal through a combination of growth through acquisition and continued organic growth. We intend to carry out the following strategies:

Enter New and Expand Existing Markets through Acquisitions. If and when we are permitted to do so, we intend to pursue additional acquisitions, although at a far slower pace than we have in the past, to enhance our position in our current markets and to acquire operations in new markets. We anticipate expanding into new and existing markets by acquiring well-established logistics organizations that are leaders in their regional markets. In particular, we intend to focus our acquisition strategy on candidates that have historic levels of profitability, a proven record of delivering superior time-definite distribution and other value-added services, an established customer base of large and mid-sized companies and opportunities for significant growth within strategic segments of our business.

Continue Organic Growth. A key component of our strategy is to continue the organic growth of our existing business as well as the business of the companies we intend to acquire. We expect that we can continue to fuel internal growth by cross-selling our domestic and international capabilities to our existing customer base and deploying supply chain technologies that will drive new customer acquisitions. As our organization grows and matures, we are able to share opportunities throughout our organization and increase joint selling efforts. We share our experiences and personnel throughout the organization to enhance local expertise and optimize our organization's capabilities. We believe these activities will increase our network's growth well beyond the growth available to each of our businesses on a stand-alone basis.

Our Acquisition Strategy

We believe there are many attractive acquisition candidates in our industry because of the highly fragmented composition of the marketplace, the industry participants' need for capital and their owners' desire for liquidity.

We plan to continue to expand our Domestic and International Services platforms in the United States through "add-on" acquisitions of other companies with complementary geographical and logistics service offerings. These "add-on" acquisitions are generally expected to have pre-tax operating earnings of \$1.0 million to \$3.0 million. Companies in this range of earnings may be receptive to our acquisition program since they are often too small to be identified as acquisition targets by larger public companies or to independently attempt their own public offerings. In addition, we intend to continue to pursue "platform" acquisitions to expand in targeted markets in Asia, South America, Europe and the Middle East which will further enable our global supply-chain service capabilities and improve our overall profitability. We believe that our combined domestic and international capabilities will provide a significant competitive advantage in the marketplace.

A "platform" acquisition is defined by us as one that creates a significant new capability for the Company, or entry into a new global geography. When completing a platform acquisition, we would expect to retain the management as well as the operating, sales and technical personnel of the acquired company to maintain continuity of operations and customer service. The objective would be to increase an acquired company's revenue and improve its profitability by implementing our operating strategies for internal growth, internal controls and management controls.

An "add-on" acquisition, on the other hand, will more likely be regional in nature, will be smaller than a platform acquisition and will enable us to offer additional services or expand into new regional markets, or serve new industries. When justified by the size and service offerings of an add-on acquisition, we expect to retain the management, along with the operating, sales and technical personnel of the acquired company, while seeking to improve that company's profitability by implementing our operating strategies for internal growth, internal controls and management controls. In most instances where there is overlap of geographic coverage, operations acquired by add-on acquisitions will be integrated into our existing operations in that market, resulting in the elimination of duplicative overhead and operating costs.

We believe, given lender approval of proposed acquisitions, that we are well positioned to successfully pursue our acquisition strategy due to: (i) the highly fragmented composition of the market; (ii) our strategy for creating an organization with global reach, which should enhance an acquired company's ability to compete in its local and regional market through an expansion of offered services and lower operating costs; (iii) the potential for increased profitability as a result of our centralization of certain administrative functions, greater purchasing power, and economies of scale; (iv) our standing as a public corporation; (v) our management strategy and controls, which should, in most cases, enable the acquired company's management to remain involved in the operation of the business; and (vi) the ability of our experienced management to identify acquisition opportunities.

Our Operating Strategy

Foster a Disciplined Entrepreneurial Environment. A key element of our operating strategy is to foster a disciplined environment while maintaining an entrepreneurial culture for our employees. We intend to foster this environment by continuing to build on the reputations and customer relationships of acquired companies. We are also implementing a global management reporting and control system requiring each business to implement Company-wide controls, policies and management accountabilities. A disciplined entrepreneurial business atmosphere should allow our regional offices to quickly and creatively respond to local market demands and enhance our ability to motivate, attract and retain managers to maximize growth and profitability.

Develop and Maintain Strong Customer Relationships. We seek to develop and maintain strong, interactive customer relationships by anticipating and focusing on our customers' needs. We emphasize a relationship-oriented approach to business, rather than a commodity or assignment-oriented approach used by many of our competitors. To develop close customer relationships, we regularly meet with existing and prospective customers to help design and execute solutions for their supply chain strategies. We believe that this relationship-oriented approach results in greater customer satisfaction and reduced business development expense.

Centralize Administrative Functions. We seek to maximize our operational efficiencies by integrating general and administrative functions at the corporate level, thereby reducing or eliminating redundant functions and facilities at acquired companies. This enables us to quickly realize potential savings and synergies, efficiently control and monitor our operations and allows acquired companies to focus on growing their sales and operations.

*Enhance Our Capital Structure.* As we approach the next stage of our development, we need to augment our capital structure. This may take the form of subordinated debt, convertible preferred stock and common stock, among others. Such an enhanced capital structure will permit continued expansion, but at a far slower pace than it has in the past. This growth will expand our services in existing markets and expand our global reach.

## **Operations**

Our primary business operations involve obtaining shipment or material orders from customers, creating and delivering a wide range of logistics solutions to meet customers' specific requirements for transportation and related services, and arranging and monitoring all aspects of material flow activity utilizing advanced information technology systems. These logistics solutions include domestic and international freight forwarding, customs brokerage and door-to-door delivery services using a wide range of transportation modes, including air, ocean and truck as well as customs brokerage, warehousing and other value-added services, such as inventory control, assembly, distribution and installation for manufacturers and retailers of commercial and consumer products.

As a non-asset-based logistics provider, we arrange for and subcontract services on a non-committed basis to airlines, motor carriers, express companies, steamship lines and warehousing and distribution operators. By concentrating on network-based solutions, we avoid competition with logistics providers that offer dedicated outsourcing solutions for single elements of the supply chain. Such dedicated logistics companies typically provide expensive, customized infrastructure and systems for a customer's specific application and, as a result, dedicated solutions that are generally asset-intensive, inflexible and invariably localized to address only one or two steps in the supply chain. Our network-based services leverage common infrastructure and technology systems so that solutions are scalable, replicable and require a minimum amount of customization (typically only at the interface with the customer). This non-asset ownership approach maximizes our flexibility in creating and delivering a wide range of end-to-end logistics solutions on a global basis while simultaneously allowing us to exercise significant control over the quality and cost of the transportation services provided.

Within the logistics industry, we target specific markets in which we believe we can achieve a competitive advantage and/or which are growing rapidly. For example, in the freight forwarding market, we arrange for the transportation of cargo that is generally larger and more complex than shipments handled by integrated carriers such as United Parcel Service, Inc. and FedEx Corporation. In addition, we provide specialized combinations of services that traditional freight forwarders cannot cost-effectively provide, including time-definite delivery requirements, direct-to-store distribution and merge-in-transit movement of products from various vendors in a single coordinated delivery to, and/or installation at, the end-user.

Our services are broadly classified into the following categories:

Freight Forwarding Services. We offer domestic and international air, ocean and ground freight forwarding for shipments that require special handling or are generally larger than shipments handled by integrated carriers of primarily small parcels such as United Parcel Service, Inc. and FedEx Corporation. Our basic freight forwarding business is complemented by customized and information technology-based options to meet customers' specific needs. Our Domestic Services organization offers same day, one, two and three to five day service along with expedited ground service within North America and Puerto Rico through our network of asset-based carriers. On a limited basis, we also provide motor carrier services through one of our own affiliates. Internationally we offer a wide range of services from expedited air to multi-modal options through our network of owned or agent offices throughout the world. In a few markets in Asia, the Company offers co-loading services to the freight forwarding marketplace.

Customs Brokerage Services. Our International Services organization provides customs brokerage services. Within each country, the rules and regulations vary along with the level of expertise that is required to perform the customs brokerage services. Our customs brokers and support staff have substantial knowledge of the complex tariff laws and customs regulations governing the payment of duty and taxes, as well as valuation and import restrictions in their respective countries.

Warehousing and Other Value-added Services. Our warehousing services primarily relate to storing goods and materials to meet our customers' production or distribution schedules. Other value-added services include receiving, deconsolidation and decontainerization, sorting, put away, consolidation, assembly, inspection services, cargo loading and unloading, assembly of freight, customer inventory control and protective packing and storage, order processing and customer-directed invoicing. We receive storage charges for use of our warehouses and fees for our other services.

*Time-Definite Transportation.* We specialize in complex, time-definite delivery of product to many destinations around the world and all North American destinations. These include high-volume, complex multi-destination consolidation programs for catalog, retail and other shippers. We have special programs focused on high value and breakable freight utilizing all modes of transportation.

Other value-added services provided by us include:

Direct-to-store logistics for retail customers involving coordination of product received directly from manufacturers and dividing large shipments from manufacturers into numerous smaller shipments for delivery directly to retail outlets or distribution centers to meet time-definite product launch dates.

Turn-key product management services for retailers including comprehensive vendor compliance management, central delivery and distribution centers close to consumption, inventory forecasting, replenishment and management all on the Web.

Merge-in-transit logistics involving movement of products from various vendors at multiple locations to a Company facility and the subsequent merger of the various deliveries into a single coordinated delivery to the final destination. Such services are useful to retailers where deliveries

from diverse sources are organized and distributed to maximize efficiency of their sales and marketing programs.

Web-based fulfillment solutions providing order management as well as the subsequent pick, pack and shipment for our customers.

Turn-key supply chain and logistics outsourcing projects where we operate one or more warehouses or the entire end-to-end supply chain. We provide sophisticated systems that supply global location, status and ownership of parts/SKUs and enable the timely cross border customs clearance and placement desired by the final consumer of the goods.

Value-added, high-speed, time-definite, total-destination programs that include packaging, transportation, unpacking and placement of new products and equipment.

Packaging, transportation, unpacking and stand installation for domestic trade shows and major expositions.

Reverse logistics involving the return of products from end users to manufacturers, retailers, resellers or remanufacturers, including verification of working order, defect analysis, serial number tracking and inventory management.

#### **Information Systems**

A key component of our growth strategy is the regular enhancement of our information systems and ultimate migration of the information systems of our acquired companies to a common set of back-office and customer facing applications. We believe that the ability to provide accurate, real-time information on the status of shipments and the status, ownership and details of the accompanying inventory is paramount to our customers. We believe that our efforts in this area will provide competitive service advantages, new customers and an increase of business from existing accounts. In addition, we believe that centralizing our back-office operations and using our transportation management system to automate the rating, routing, tender and financial settlement processes for transportation movements will drive significant productivity improvement across our network.

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