

Solar Capital Ltd.
Form 497
May 13, 2010
Table of Contents

The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. The selling stockholders 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 is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

**Filed Pursuant to Rule 497
Registration Statement No. 333-147937**

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION DATED MAY 12, 2010

PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

(to Prospectus dated May 12, 2010)

5,890,123 Shares

Solar Capital Ltd.

Common Stock

We are an externally managed finance company. Our investment objective is to generate both current income and capital appreciation through debt and equity investments. We invest primarily in leveraged companies, including middle-market companies, in the form of senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities.

We were formed in February 2007 as Solar Capital LLC, a Maryland limited liability company, and commenced operations in March 2007. On February 9, 2010, Solar Capital LLC was merged with and into Solar Capital Ltd., an externally managed, non-diversified, closed-end management investment company that has elected to be treated as a business development company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, or the 1940 Act. We are managed by Solar Capital Partners, LLC. Solar Capital Management, LLC provides the administrative services necessary for us to operate.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

This is an offering of 5,890,123 shares of our common stock by the selling stockholders named in this prospectus supplement. See **Selling Stockholders**. We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of shares of common stock by the selling stockholders, including pursuant to any exercise by the underwriters of their option to purchase additional shares.

Our common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol **SLRC**. On May 11, 2010, the last reported sales price on the NASDAQ Global Select Market for our common stock was \$23.50 per share.

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus contains important information about us that a prospective investor should know before investing in our common stock. Please read this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus before investing and keep it for future reference. We are required to file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information about us with the Securities and Exchange Commission. This information is available free of charge by contacting us by mail at 500 Park Avenue, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10022, by telephone at (212) 993-1670 or on our website at <http://www.solarcapltd.com>. The Securities and Exchange Commission also maintains a website at <http://www.sec.gov> that contains such information. Information contained on our website is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, and you should not consider that information to be part of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

An investment in our common stock is very risky and highly speculative. Shares of closed-end investment companies, including business development companies, frequently trade at a discount to their net asset value. In addition, the companies in which we invest are subject to special risks. See Risk Factors beginning on page 16 of the accompanying prospectus to read about factors you should consider, including the risk of leverage, before investing in our common stock.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

	Per Share	Total(1)
Public Offering Price	\$	\$
Sales Load (Underwriting Discounts and Commissions)	\$	\$
Proceeds to Selling Stockholders (before expenses) (2)	\$	\$

- (1) The selling stockholders have granted the underwriters a 30-day option, which we refer to as the over-allotment option, to purchase from the selling stockholders up to an additional 883,519 shares of our common stock at the public offering price, less underwriting discounts and commissions (sales load). If the over-allotment option is exercised in full, the total public offering price will be \$ _____ and the total underwriting discounts and commissions (sales load) will be \$ _____. We will not receive any proceeds from this offering. All underwriting discounts and commissions (sales load) will be borne by the selling stockholders identified in this prospectus supplement. See **Underwriting**.
- (2) We estimate that we will incur approximately \$386,545 in offering expenses in connection with this offering. Stockholders will indirectly bear such expenses as investors in Solar Capital Ltd.

The underwriters expect to deliver the shares on or about _____, 2010.

Joint Book-Running Managers

Citi
Morgan Stanley

J.P. Morgan
Deutsche Bank Securities

SunTrust Robinson Humphrey

Co-Managers

BMO Capital Markets

BB&T Capital Markets
A division of Scott & Stringfellow, LLC

RBC Capital Markets

Ladenburg Thalmann & Co. Inc.

, 2010

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

	Page
<u>Prospectus Supplement Summary</u>	S-1
<u>Offering</u>	S-9
<u>Fees and Expenses</u>	S-12
<u>Forward-Looking Statements and Projections</u>	S-14
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	S-15
<u>Selling Stockholders</u>	S-16
<u>Underwriting</u>	S-18
<u>Legal Matters</u>	S-21
<u>Available Information</u>	S-22

PROSPECTUS

	Page
<u>Summary</u>	1
<u>Fees and Expenses</u>	12
<u>Selected Financial and Other Data</u>	14
<u>Risk Factors</u>	16
<u>Forward-Looking Statements and Projections</u>	30
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	31
<u>Distributions</u>	31
<u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	32
<u>Senior Securities</u>	47
<u>Business</u>	48
<u>Portfolio Companies</u>	62
<u>Management</u>	66
<u>Portfolio Management</u>	73
<u>Investment Advisory and Management Agreement</u>	74
<u>Administration Agreement</u>	80
<u>License Agreement</u>	80
<u>Certain Relationships and Transactions</u>	81
<u>Control Persons and Principal Stockholders</u>	82
<u>Regulation as a Business Development Company</u>	83
<u>Determination of Net Asset Value</u>	88
<u>Dividend Reinvestment Plan</u>	90
<u>Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations</u>	92
<u>Description of Securities</u>	99
<u>Shares Eligible for Future Sale</u>	106
<u>Selling Stockholders</u>	108
<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	112
<u>Custodian, Transfer and Dividend Paying Agent and Registrar</u>	114

<u>Brokerage Allocation and Other Practices</u>	114
<u>Legal Matters</u>	114
<u>Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u>	114
<u>Available Information</u>	115
<u>Index to Financial Statements</u>	F-1

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. Neither we nor the underwriters have authorized any other person to provide you with different information from that contained in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus do not constitute an offer to sell, or a solicitation of an offer to buy, any shares of our common stock by any person in any jurisdiction where it is unlawful for that person to make such an offer or solicitation or to any person in any jurisdiction to whom it is unlawful to make such an offer or solicitation. The information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is complete and accurate only as of their respective dates, regardless of the time of their delivery or sale of our common stock. This prospectus supplement supersedes the accompanying prospectus to the extent it contains information different from or additional to the information in that prospectus.

This document is in two parts. The first part is this prospectus supplement, which describes the terms of this offering of common stock and also adds to and updates information contained in the accompanying prospectus. The second part is the accompanying prospectus, which gives more general information and disclosure. To the extent the information contained in this prospectus supplement differs from the information contained in the accompanying prospectus, the information in this prospectus supplement shall control. You should read this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus together with the additional information described under the heading, *Available Information* before investing in our common stock.

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

This summary highlights some of the information in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. It is not complete and may not contain all of the information that you may want to consider. You should read carefully the more detailed information set forth under "Risk Factors" and the other information included in the accompanying prospectus and the documents to which we have referred.

We were formed in February 2007 as Solar Capital LLC, a Maryland limited liability company, and commenced operations in March 2007. On February 9, 2010, Solar Capital LLC was merged with and into Solar Capital Ltd., a Maryland corporation, which we refer to as the "Solar Capital Merger," concurrent with the pricing of our initial public offering. Except where the context suggests otherwise, the terms "we," "us," "our" and "Solar Capital" refer to Solar Capital LLC prior to the Solar Capital Merger, and Solar Capital Ltd. after the Solar Capital Merger. In addition, the terms "Solar Capital Partners" or "investment adviser" refer to Solar Capital Partners, LLC, and "Solar Capital Management" or the "administrator" refers to Solar Capital Management, LLC.

In this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, we use the term "leveraged" to refer to companies of any size with non-investment grade debt outstanding or, if not explicitly rated, those which we believe would be rated as non-investment grade based on their leverage levels and other terms. In addition, we use the term "middle-market" to refer to companies with annual revenues between \$50 million and \$1 billion.

As part of the Solar Capital Merger, approximately 26.65 million shares and \$125 million in senior unsecured notes (the "Senior Unsecured Notes") were issued to the existing unitholders of Solar Capital LLC. Michael S. Gross, our Chief Executive Officer, and Bruce Spohler, our Chief Operating Officer, collectively purchased 600,000 shares of our common stock in connection with the consummation of our initial public offering. The shares were sold to Messrs. Gross and Spohler at the same offering price paid by investors in our initial public offering pursuant to a private placement transaction exempt from registration under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act (the "Concurrent Private Placement").

Solar Capital

Solar Capital Ltd., a Maryland corporation formed in November 2007, is a closed-end, externally managed, non-diversified management investment company that has elected to be treated as a business development company ("BDC") under the 1940 Act. In addition, for tax purposes we have elected to be treated as a regulated investment company ("RIC") under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code").

On February 9, 2010 we priced our initial public offering, selling 5.68 million shares, including the underwriters' over-allotment, at a price of \$18.50 per share. Concurrent with our initial public offering, management purchased an additional 0.6 million shares through the Concurrent Private Placement, also at \$18.50 per share.

Immediately prior to our initial public offering, through a series of transactions Solar Capital LLC merged with and into Solar Capital Ltd., leaving Solar Capital Ltd. as the surviving entity. Solar Capital Ltd. issued an aggregate of approximately 26.65 million shares of common stock and \$125 million in Senior Unsecured Notes to the existing Solar Capital LLC unit holders in connection with the Solar Capital Merger. Solar Capital Ltd. had

S-1

Table of Contents

no assets or operations prior to completion of the Solar Capital Merger and as a result, the books and records of Solar Capital LLC have become the books and records of the surviving entity.

Solar Capital LLC, a Maryland limited liability company, was formed in February 2007 and conducted a private placement of units of membership interest (units) in March 2007, at such time a total of 81.70 million units were outstanding. Solar Capital Investors, LLC, an entity funded by the management of Solar Capital Partners, the Company's investment adviser, acquired approximately 3.33 million units in connection with the initial private placement. In addition, in connection with the initial private placement, certain funds managed by Magnetar Financial LLC (Magnetar) and certain entities affiliated therewith (collectively, the Magnetar entities), acquired approximately 35.00 million units.

Our investment objective is to generate both current income and capital appreciation through debt and equity investments. We invest primarily in leveraged middle market companies in the form of senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities. From time to time, we may also invest in public companies that are thinly traded. Our business model is focused primarily on the direct origination of investments through portfolio companies or their financial sponsors. Our investments generally range between \$20 million and \$100 million each, although we expect that this investment size will vary proportionately with the size of our capital base. We are managed by Solar Capital Partners. Solar Capital Management provides the administrative services necessary for us to operate. In addition, we may invest a portion of our portfolio in other types of investments, which we refer to as opportunistic investments, which are not our primary focus but are intended to enhance our overall returns. These investments may include, but are not limited to, direct investments in public companies that are not thinly traded and securities of leveraged companies located in select countries outside of the United States.

As of March 31, 2010, our long term investments totaled \$839.0 million and our net asset value was \$730.4 million. Our portfolio was comprised of debt and equity investments in 33 portfolio companies and our income producing assets, which represent 92.2% of our total portfolio, had a weighted average annualized yield on a fair value basis of approximately 13.9%. Also as of March 31, 2010, the companies in our portfolio for which we had debt investments were levered 4.9 times EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization) through our investment tranche on a fair value weighted average basis. Our debt investments had a fair value weighted average price of 93.9 percent of par value.

During the three months ended March 31, 2010, we originated approximately \$44.6 million of investments in one new and one existing portfolio company. We also received principal repayments of approximately \$95.1 million and sold securities in 3 portfolio companies for approximately \$20.5 million. Since March 31, 2010, we have received proceeds of approximately \$50 million from the early repayment of debt investments in two portfolio companies.

About Solar Capital Partners

Solar Capital Partners is controlled by Michael S. Gross, our chairman and chief executive officer, and is led by Mr. Gross and Bruce Spohler, our chief operating officer, and is supported by a team of 12 dedicated investment professionals, including Brian Gerson, Cedric Henley and David Mait. We refer to Messrs. Gross, Spohler, Gerson, Henley and Mait as Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals. Solar Capital Partners' investment team has extensive experience in the private equity and leveraged lending industries, as well as significant contacts with financial sponsors operating in those industries. The investment team led by Messrs. Gross and Spohler has invested in 54 different portfolio companies for Solar Capital, which investments involved an aggregate of more than 46 different financial sponsors, through March 31, 2010. Since Solar Capital's inception, these investment professionals have used their relationships in the middle-market financial sponsor and financial intermediary community to originate direct investment opportunities.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

Mr. Gross, the former chairman and chief executive officer of Apollo Investment Corporation, a publicly traded business development company that he founded, has over 20 years of experience in the private equity,

S-2

Table of Contents

distressed debt and mezzanine lending businesses and has been involved in originating, structuring, negotiating, consummating and managing private equity, distressed debt and mezzanine lending transactions.

Mr. Gross is also a founder and a former senior partner of Apollo Management, L.P., a leading private equity firm. During his tenure at Apollo Management, L.P., Mr. Gross was a member of the investment committee that was responsible for overseeing more than \$13 billion of investments in over 150 companies. Between February 2004 and February 2006, Mr. Gross was the president and chief executive officer of Apollo Investment Corporation, a publicly traded business development company that he founded and on whose board of directors and investment committee he served as chairman from February 2004 to July 2006. Under his management, Apollo Investment Corporation raised approximately \$930 million in gross proceeds in an initial public offering in April 2004, built a dedicated investment team and infrastructure and invested approximately \$2.3 billion in over 65 companies in conjunction with 50 different private equity sponsors. Mr. Gross was also the managing partner of Apollo Distressed Investment Fund, L.P., an investment fund he founded in 2003 to invest principally in debt and other securities of leveraged companies.

Mr. Gross also currently serves on the boards of directors of three public companies, and in the past has served on the boards of directors of more than 20 public and private companies. As a result, Mr. Gross has developed an extensive network of private equity sponsor relationships as well as relationships with management teams of public and private companies, investment bankers, attorneys and accountants that we believe should provide us with significant business opportunities.

We also rely on the more than 20 years of experience of Mr. Spohler, who has served as our chief operating officer and a partner of Solar Capital Partners since inception. Previously, Mr. Spohler was a managing director and a former co-head of U.S. Leveraged Finance for CIBC World Markets. He held numerous senior roles at CIBC World Markets, including serving on the U.S. Management Committee, Global Executive Committee and the Deals Committee, which approves all of CIBC World Markets' U.S. corporate finance debt capital decisions. During Mr. Spohler's tenure, he was responsible for senior loan, high yield and mezzanine origination and execution, as well as CIBC World Markets' below investment grade loan portfolio in the United States. As a co-head of U.S. Leveraged Finance, Mr. Spohler oversaw over 300 capital raising and merger and acquisition transactions, comprising over \$40 billion in market capitalization.

In addition to Messrs. Gross and Spohler, Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals include Messrs. Gerson, Henley and Mait, each of whom has extensive experience in originating, evaluating and structuring investments in the types of middle-market companies we currently target. Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals have an average of over 20 years of experience in the private equity and leveraged lending industries.

Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals have been active participants in the primary and secondary leveraged credit markets throughout their careers. They have effectively managed portfolios of distressed and mezzanine debt as well as other investment types. The depth of their experience and credit market expertise has led them through various stages of the economic cycle as well as several market disruptions.

Market Opportunity

Solar Capital invests primarily in senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities of leveraged companies organized and located in the United States. We believe that the size of the leveraged company market, coupled with the demands of these companies for flexible sources of capital at attractive terms and rates, create an attractive investment environment for us.

Middle-market companies have faced increasing difficulty in accessing the capital markets. While many middle-market companies were formerly able to raise funds by issuing high-yield bonds, we believe this

S-3

Table of Contents

approach to financing has become more difficult in recent years as institutional investors have sought to invest in larger, more liquid offerings. In addition, many private finance companies that, until recently, financed their lending and investing activities through securitization transactions have lost that source of funding and cut back lending significantly.

There is a large pool of uninvested private equity capital likely to seek additional capital to support their private investments. We believe there is a large pool of uninvested private equity capital available to middle-market companies. While we expect the rate of investment to be slower than in prior periods, we expect that private equity firms will continue to be active investors in middle-market companies and that these private equity firms will seek to supplement their investments with senior and junior debt securities and loans and equity co-investments from other sources, such as Solar Capital.

Middle-market companies are increasingly seeking private sources for debt and equity capital. We believe that many middle-market companies prefer to execute transactions with private capital providers such as Solar Capital, rather than execute high-yield bond or equity transactions in the public markets, which may necessitate increased financial and regulatory compliance and reporting obligations. We expect that the volume of domestic public-to-private transactions, as well as the number of companies selecting a sale alternative versus raising capital in the public equity markets as a means of increasing liquidity, will remain large.

Consolidation among commercial banks has reduced the focus on middle-market business. We believe that many senior lenders have de-emphasized their service and product offerings to middle-market companies in favor of lending to large corporate clients, managing capital markets transactions and providing other non-credit services to their customers. We believe this has resulted in fewer key players and the reduced availability of debt capital to the companies we target.

Current disruptions within the credit markets generally have brought a reduction in competition and a more lender-friendly environment. Current credit market dislocation has caused many of the alternative methods of obtaining middle-market debt financing to significantly decrease in scope and availability while demand for financings has remained robust. We believe the segment's strong growth prospects, combined with the growing demand for the capital and corporate finance and advisory services we offer, creates an attractive investment environment for us.

Furthermore, we believe that given the credit market uncertainty, Solar Capital has a greater opportunity to move beyond middle-market deals into larger transactions, as banks are less willing to commit capital. We believe these larger deals can be structured with more attractive terms such as lower leverage, higher yields, better covenants, and longer duration than was typical before the current market dislocation.

Therefore, we believe that there is an opportunity to invest in senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities of leveraged companies and that we are well positioned to serve this market.

Competitive Advantages and Strategy

We believe that we have the following competitive advantages over other providers of financing to leveraged companies:

Management Expertise

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

As managing partner, Mr. Gross has principal management responsibility for Solar Capital Partners, to which he currently dedicates substantially all of his time. Mr. Gross has over 20 years of experience in leveraged finance, private equity and distressed debt investing. Mr. Spohler, our chief operating officer and a partner of Solar Capital Partners, has over 20 years of experience in evaluating and executing leverage finance transactions.

S-4

Table of Contents

We believe that Messrs. Gross and Spohler have developed a strong reputation in the capital markets, and that this experience provides us with a competitive advantage in identifying and investing in leveraged companies with the potential to generate returns. We believe that our investment team has extensive experience in the private equity and leveraged lending industries, as well as significant contacts with financial sponsors operating in those industries. We believe that our investment team has a proven track record of valuing companies and assets and negotiating transactions.

In addition to Messrs. Gross and Spohler, Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals include Messrs. Gerson, Henley and Mait, each of whom has extensive experience in originating, evaluating and structuring investments in the types of middle-market companies we currently target. Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals have an average of over 20 years of experience in the private equity and leveraged lending industries.

Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals have been active participants in the primary and secondary leveraged credit markets throughout their careers. They have effectively managed portfolios of distressed and mezzanine debt as well as other investment types. The depth of their experience and credit market expertise has led them through various stages of the economic cycle as well as several market disruptions.

Investment Portfolio

Our portfolio investments consist of portfolio companies that have strong cash flows and have maintained financial and operating performance despite the recent economic climate. As of March 31, 2010, 100% of our total portfolio value was comprised of performing assets. The majority of our assets have been seasoned, which has allowed us to gain a solid understanding of our borrowers and the industries in which they compete. Additionally, over time, we have established productive relationships with our portfolio companies.

Investment Capacity

The proceeds from our initial public offering and the Concurrent Private Placement, the borrowing capacity under our credit facility and the expected repayments of existing investments provide us with a substantial amount of capital available for deployment into new investment opportunities. We believe we are well positioned for the current marketplace. We believe that in the current economic environment financing needs of many companies will increase while funding options are limited, allowing us to capitalize on favorable investment opportunities.

Solar Capital's Limited Leverage

As of March 31, 2010, our outstanding debt was approximately 13.5% of total assets, making us one of the least levered publicly traded business development companies. We believe our relatively low level of leverage provides us with a competitive advantage, allowing us to anticipate providing a consistent dividend to our investors as proceeds from our investments are available for reinvestment as opposed to being consumed by debt repayment. To the extent borrowing conditions improve and leverage becomes available on more attractive terms, we may increase our relative level of debt in the future. However, we do not currently anticipate operating with a substantial amount of debt relative to our total assets. Furthermore, by maintaining prudent leverage levels, we believe we will be better positioned to weather future market downturns.

Proprietary Sourcing and Origination

We believe that Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals' longstanding relationships with financial sponsors, commercial and investment banks, management teams and other financial intermediaries provide us with a strong pipeline of proprietary origination opportunities. We believe the broad expertise of Solar

S-5

Table of Contents

Capital Partners' senior investment professionals and their ability to draw upon their average of 20 years of investment experience enable us to identify, assess and structure investments successfully. We expect to continue leveraging the relationships Mr. Gross established while sourcing and originating investments at Apollo Investment Corporation as well as the financial sponsor relationships Mr. Spohler developed while he was a co-head of CIBC World Markets' U.S. Leveraged Finance Group.

Our investment team's strong relationship network is enhanced by the collaborative role Solar Capital plays in the private equity industry. We offer tailored solutions to our portfolio companies, and we believe that this role provides us with greater deal flow as opposed to being viewed as a competitor bidding for control stakes. Because Solar Capital is not associated with a private equity firm, we are not precluded from partnering with most of the top tier financial sponsors.

These direct investments enable us to perform more in-depth due diligence and play an active role in structuring financings. We believe that effectuating the transaction terms and having greater insight into a portfolio company's operations and financial picture assist Solar Capital in minimizing downside potential, while reinforcing Solar Capital as a trusted partner who delivers comprehensive financing solutions. Since our inception, Solar Capital Partners has sourced investments in 54 different portfolio companies for Solar Capital, which investments involved an aggregate of more than 46 different financial sponsors, through March 31, 2010.

Versatile Transaction Structuring and Flexibility of Capital

We believe our senior investment professionals' broad expertise and ability to draw upon their extensive experience enable us to identify, assess and structure investments successfully across all levels of a company's capital structure and to manage potential risk and return at all stages of the economic cycle. While we will be subject to significant regulation as a business development company, we will not be subject to many of the regulatory limitations that govern traditional lending institutions such as banks. As a result, we believe that we can be more flexible than such lending institutions in selecting and structuring investments, adjusting investment criteria, transaction structures and, in some cases, the types of securities in which we invest. We believe financial sponsors, management teams and investment banks see this flexibility as a benefit, making us an attractive financing partner. We believe that this approach enables us to procure attractive investment opportunities throughout the economic cycle so that we can make investments consistent with our stated investment objective even during turbulent periods in the capital markets.

Emphasis on Achieving Strong Risk-Adjusted Returns

Solar Capital Partners uses a disciplined investment and risk management process that emphasizes a rigorous fundamental research and analysis framework. Solar Capital Partners seeks to build our portfolio on a bottom-up basis, choosing and sizing individual positions based on their relative risk/reward profiles as a function of the associated downside risk, volatility, correlation with the existing portfolio and liquidity. At the same time, Solar Capital Partners takes into consideration a variety of factors in managing our portfolio and imposes portfolio-based risk constraints promoting a more diverse portfolio of investments and limiting issuer and industry concentration. Our value-oriented investment philosophy focuses on preserving capital and ensuring that our investments have an appropriate return profile in relation to risk. When market conditions make it difficult for us to invest according to our criteria, we are highly selective in deploying our capital. We do not pursue short-term origination targets. We believe this approach enables us to build an attractive investment portfolio that meets our return and value criteria over the long term.

We believe it is critical to conduct extensive due diligence on investment targets. In evaluating new investments we, through Solar Capital Partners, conduct a rigorous due diligence process that draws upon investment experience, industry expertise and network of contacts of our senior investment professionals, as well

Table of Contents

as the other members of our investment team. Among other things, our due diligence is designed to ensure that a prospective portfolio company will be able to meet its debt service obligations.

We have the ability to invest across an issuer's capital structure, which we believe enables us to provide comprehensive financing solutions for our portfolio companies, as well as access the best risk-adjusted opportunities. The overall transaction size and product mix is based upon the needs of the customer, as well as our risk-return hurdles. We also focus on downside protection and preservation of capital throughout the structuring process.

Deep Industry Focus with Substantial Information Flow

We concentrate our investing activities in industries characterized by strong cash flow and in which Solar Capital Partners' investment professionals have deep investment experience. During his time with the Apollo entities, Mr. Gross oversaw investments in over 200 companies in 20 industries. As a result of their investment experience, Messrs. Gross and Spohler, together with Solar Capital Partners' other investment professionals, have long-term relationships with management consultants and management teams in the industries we target, as well as substantial information concerning those industries. Solar Capital Partners' investment team also has significant experience in evaluating and making investments in the industries we target. We believe that the in-depth experience of Solar Capital Partners' investment team in investing throughout various stages of the economic cycle provides our investment adviser with access to ongoing market insights in addition to a powerful asset for investment sourcing. See *Business Investments* in the accompanying prospectus.

Longer Investment Horizon

Unlike private equity and venture capital funds, we will not be subject to standard periodic capital return requirements. Such requirements typically stipulate that the capital of these funds, together with any capital gains on such invested funds, can only be invested once and must be returned to investors after a pre-agreed time period. We believe that our flexibility to make investments with a long-term view and without the capital return requirements of traditional private investment vehicles provides us with the opportunity to generate favorable returns on invested capital and enables us to be a better long-term partner for our portfolio companies.

Risk Factors

The value of our assets, as well as the market price of our shares, will fluctuate. Our investments may be risky, and you may lose all or part of your investment in us. Investing in Solar Capital involves other risks, including the following:

We have a limited operating history of only three years;

We are dependent upon Solar Capital Partners' key personnel for our future success;

We operate in a highly competitive market for investment opportunities;

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

The lack of liquidity in our investments may adversely affect our business;

We may borrow money, which would magnify the potential for gain or loss on amounts invested and may increase the risk of investing in us;

To the extent we use debt to finance our investments, changes in interest rates will affect our cost of capital and net investment income;

There will be uncertainty as to the value of our portfolio investments;

We may experience fluctuations in our quarterly results;

S-7

Table of Contents

We will become subject to corporate-level income tax on all of our income if we are unable to qualify as a regulated investment company, or RIC, under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, which we refer to as the Code, which would have a material adverse effect on our financial performance;

We cannot assure you that the market price of shares of our common stock will not remain below our net asset value per share;

Our common stock price may be volatile and may decrease substantially;

There is a risk that our stockholders may not receive distributions or that our distributions may not grow over time;

Sales of substantial amounts of our common stock in the public market may have an adverse effect on the market price of our common stock; and

Regulations governing our operation as a business development company affect our ability to, and the way in which we, raise additional capital. As a business development company, the necessity of raising additional capital may expose us to risks, including the typical risks associated with leverage.

See **Risk Factors** beginning on page 16 of the accompanying prospectus and the other information included in the accompanying prospectus, for additional discussion of factors you should carefully consider before deciding to invest in shares of our common stock.

Operating and Regulatory Structure

Immediately prior to the pricing of our initial public offering, Solar Capital LLC was merged with and into Solar Capital Ltd., a Maryland corporation that is an externally managed, non-diversified closed-end management investment company which has elected to be treated as a business development company under the 1940 Act. As a business development company, we are required to meet regulatory tests, including the requirement to invest at least 70% of our total assets in qualifying assets. Qualifying assets generally include, among other things, securities of eligible portfolio companies. Eligible portfolio companies generally include U.S. companies that are not investment companies and that do not have securities listed on a national exchange. See **Regulation as a Business Development Company** in the accompanying prospectus. We may also borrow funds to make investments. In addition, we intend to elect to be treated for federal income tax purposes, and intend to qualify annually thereafter, as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code. See **Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations** in the accompanying prospectus.

Our investment activities are managed by Solar Capital Partners and supervised by our board of directors. Solar Capital Partners is an investment adviser that is registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended, or the Advisers Act. Under our investment advisory and management agreement, which we refer to as the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, we have agreed to pay Solar Capital Partners an annual base management fee based on our gross assets as well as an incentive fee based on our performance. See **Investment Advisory and Management Agreement** in the accompanying prospectus. We have also entered into an administration agreement, which we refer to as the Administration Agreement, under which we have agreed to reimburse Solar Capital Management for the allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by Solar Capital Management in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, including furnishing us with office facilities, equipment and clerical, bookkeeping and record keeping services at such facilities, as well as providing us with other administrative services. See **Administration Agreement** in the accompanying prospectus.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

Our Corporate Information

Our offices are located at 500 Park Avenue, 5th Floor, New York, New York 10022, and our telephone number is (212) 993-1670.

S-8

Table of Contents

THE OFFERING

Common Stock Offered by the Selling Shareholders	5,890,123 shares plus 883,519 shares issuable pursuant to the over-allotment granted to the underwriters.
Common Stock Currently Outstanding	Approximately 33,030,641 shares.
Use of Proceeds	We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of the shares of common stock covered by this prospectus supplement.
Distributions	To the extent that we have income available, we intend to distribute quarterly dividends to our stockholders. The amount of our dividends, if any, will be determined by our board of directors. Any dividends to our stockholders will be declared out of assets legally available for distribution. Our first quarterly dividend of \$0.34 per share was paid on April 1, 2010 to holders of record as of March 18, 2010. On May 4, 2010, the Board of Directors declared a dividend of \$0.60 per share payable on July 2, 2010 to stockholders of record on June 17, 2010. Shares offered in this prospectus supplement will be entitled to receive this dividend payment. We anticipate that the dividend will be paid from post-offering taxable earnings, including interest and capital gains generated by our investment portfolio. However, if we do not generate sufficient taxable earnings during the year, the dividend may constitute a return of capital. The specific tax characteristics of our dividends will be reported to shareholders after the end of each calendar year.
Taxation	We intend to elect to be treated for federal income tax purposes, and intend to qualify annually thereafter, as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code. As a RIC, we generally will not have to pay corporate-level federal income taxes on any ordinary income or capital gains that we distribute to our stockholders as dividends. To obtain and maintain our RIC tax treatment, we must meet specified source-of-income and asset diversification requirements and distribute annually at least 90% of our ordinary income and realized net short-term capital gains in excess of realized net long-term capital losses, if any. See Distributions and Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations in the accompanying prospectus.
Investment Advisory Fees	We pay Solar Capital Partners a fee for its services under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement consisting of two components a base management fee and an incentive fee. The base management fee is calculated at an annual rate of 2.00% of our gross assets, which includes any borrowings for investment purposes. The incentive fee consists of two parts. The first part is calculated and payable quarterly in arrears and equals 20% of our pre-incentive fee net investment income for the immediately preceding quarter, subject to a preferred return, or hurdle, and a catch up feature.

Table of Contents

The second part is determined and payable in arrears as of the end of each calendar year (or upon termination of the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement) in an amount equal to 20% of our realized capital gains, if any, on a cumulative basis from inception through the end of each calendar year, computed net of all realized capital losses and unrealized capital depreciation on a cumulative basis, less the aggregate amount of any previously paid capital gain incentive fees. See [Investment Advisory and Management Agreement](#) in the accompanying prospectus.

Administration Agreement

We reimburse Solar Capital Management for the allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by Solar Capital Management in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, including furnishing us with office facilities, equipment and clerical, bookkeeping and record keeping services at such facilities, as well as providing us with other administrative services. In addition, we reimburse Solar Capital Management for the fees and expenses associated with performing compliance functions, and our allocable portion of the compensation of our chief financial officer and any administrative support staff. See [Administration Agreement](#) in the accompanying prospectus.

Trading

Shares of closed-end investment companies frequently trade at a discount to their net asset value. The risk that our shares may trade at a discount to our net asset value is separate and distinct from the risk that our net asset value per share may decline. We cannot predict whether our shares will trade above, at or below net asset value.

License Agreement

We have entered into a license agreement with Solar Capital Partners, pursuant to which Solar Capital Partners has agreed to grant us a non-exclusive license to use the name Solar Capital. See [License Agreement](#) in the accompanying prospectus.

Dividend Reinvestment Plan

We have adopted an [opt out](#) dividend reinvestment plan. If your shares of common stock are registered in your own name, your distributions will automatically be reinvested under our dividend reinvestment plan in additional whole and fractional shares of common stock, unless you [opt out](#) of our dividend reinvestment plan so as to receive cash dividends by delivering a written notice to our plan administrator. If your shares are held in the name of a broker or other nominee, you should contact the broker or nominee for details regarding opting out of our dividend reinvestment plan. Stockholders who receive distributions in the form of stock will be subject to the same federal, state and local tax consequences as stockholders who elect to receive their distributions in cash. See [Dividend Reinvestment Plan](#) in the accompanying prospectus.

Certain Anti-Takeover Measures

Our charter and bylaws, as well as certain statutory and regulatory requirements, contain certain provisions that may have the effect of discouraging a third party from making an acquisition proposal for us.

Table of Contents

These anti-takeover provisions may inhibit a change in control in circumstances that could give the holders of our common stock the opportunity to realize a premium over the market price for our common stock. See "Description of Securities" in the accompanying prospectus.

Available Information

We are required to file periodic reports, current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. This information is available at the SEC's public reference room at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20549 and on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. The public may obtain information on the operation of the SEC's public reference room by calling the SEC at (202) 551-8090. This information is also available free of charge by contacting us at Solar Capital Ltd., 500 Park Avenue, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10022, by telephone at (212) 993-1670 or on our website at <http://www.solarcapltd.com>.

Table of Contents**FEES AND EXPENSES**

The following table is intended to assist you in understanding the costs and expenses that you will bear directly or indirectly. We caution you that some of the percentages indicated in the table below are estimates and may vary. Except where the context suggests otherwise, whenever this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus contains a reference to fees or expenses paid by us or Solar Capital, or that we will pay fees or expenses, you will indirectly bear such fees or expenses as an investor in Solar Capital Ltd.

Stockholder transaction expenses:

Sales load borne by us (as a percentage of offering price)	None (1)
Offering expenses borne by us (as a percentage of offering price)	0.28%(2)
Dividend reinvestment plan expenses	None (3)

Total stockholder transaction expenses (as a percentage of offering price)	0.28%(2)
--	----------

Annual expenses (as a percentage of net assets attributable to common stock):

Base management fee	2.39%(4)
Incentive fees payable under our Investment Advisory and Management Agreement	2.89%(5)
Interest payments on borrowed funds	2.07%(6)
Other expenses (estimated)	0.88%(7)

Total annual expenses (estimated)	8.23%
-----------------------------------	-------

Example

The following example demonstrates the projected dollar amount of total cumulative expenses that would be incurred over various periods with respect to a hypothetical investment in our common stock. In calculating the following expense amounts, we have assumed that our annual operating expenses would remain at the levels set forth in the table above and have excluded performance-based incentive fees. See Note 6 below for additional information regarding certain assumptions regarding our level of leverage.

	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
You would pay the following expenses on a \$1,000 investment, assuming a 5% annual return	\$ 56	\$ 162	\$ 267	\$ 527

- (1) All underwriting discounts and commissions (sales load) will be borne by the selling stockholders.
- (2) The offering expenses of this offering are estimated to be approximately \$386,545. The offering expenses as a percentage of the offering price of shares to be sold in this offering is based on the last reported sales price of our common stock on the NASDAQ Global Select Market on May 11, 2010.
- (3) The expenses of the dividend reinvestment plan are included in other expenses.
- (4) Our base management fee under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement is based on our gross assets, which is defined as all the assets of Solar Capital, including those acquired using borrowings for investment purposes, and assumes the base management fee remains consistent with the annualized fee incurred for the three months ended March 31, 2010. See Investment Advisory and Management Agreement in the accompanying prospectus.
- (5) Assumes that annual incentive fees earned by our investment adviser, Solar Capital Partners, remain consistent with the annualized incentive fees earned by Solar Capital Partners for the three months ended March 31, 2010. The incentive fee consists of two parts:

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

The first part, which is payable quarterly in arrears, equals 20% of the excess, if any, of our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income that exceeds a 1.75% quarterly (7.00% annualized) hurdle rate, which we refer to as the Hurdle, subject to a catch-up provision measured at the end of each calendar quarter. The first part of the incentive fee is computed and paid on income that may include interest that is accrued but not yet received in cash. The operation of the first part of the incentive fee for each quarter is as follows:

no incentive fee is payable to our investment adviser in any calendar quarter in which our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income does not exceed the Hurdle of 1.75%;

S-12

Table of Contents

100% of our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income with respect to that portion of such Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income, if any, that exceeds the Hurdle but is less than 2.1875% in any calendar quarter (8.75% annualized) is payable to our investment adviser. We refer to this portion of our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income (which exceeds the Hurdle but is less than 2.1875%) as the catch-up. The catch-up is meant to provide our investment adviser with 20% of our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income, as if a Hurdle did not apply when our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income exceeds 2.1875% in any calendar quarter; and 20% of the amount of our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income, if any, that exceeds 2.1875% in any calendar quarter (8.75% annualized) is payable to our investment adviser (once the Hurdle is reached and the catch-up is achieved, 20% of all Pre-Incentive Fee Investment Income thereafter is allocated to our investment adviser).

The second part of the incentive fee equals 20% of our Incentive Fee Capital Gains, if any, which equals our realized capital gains on a cumulative basis from inception through the end of each calendar year, computed net of all realized capital losses and unrealized capital depreciation on a cumulative basis, less the aggregate amount of any previously paid capital gain incentive fees. The second part of the incentive fee is payable, in arrears, at the end of each calendar year (or upon termination of the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, as of the termination date). For a more detailed discussion of the calculation of this fee, see Investment Advisory and Management Agreement in the accompanying prospectus.

- (6) We may borrow funds from time to time to make investments to the extent we determine that the economic situation is conducive to doing so. The costs associated with our outstanding borrowings are indirectly born by our investors. For purposes of this section, we have computed interest expense using the average balance outstanding during the year ended, and the LIBOR rate on, March 31, 2010 and the interest rate on our amended and restated Senior Secured Revolving Credit Facility of LIBOR plus 3.25%. We have also included the estimated amortization of fees incurred in establishing our amended and restated Senior Secured Revolving Credit Facility. We also have approximately \$125 million of the Senior Unsecured Notes outstanding. For purposes of this section we have included estimated annual interest expense as well as the amortization of any deferred costs associated with the Senior Unsecured Notes. As of March 31, 2010, we had no borrowings outstanding and \$270 million remaining available to us under our revolving credit facility. We may also issue preferred stock, subject to our compliance with applicable requirements under the 1940 Act.
- (7) Other expenses are based on the annualized amounts for the three months ended March 31, 2010 and include our overhead expenses, including payments under our Administration Agreement based on our allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by Solar Capital Management in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement. See Administration Agreement in the accompanying prospectus.

The example and the expenses in the tables above should not be considered a representation of our future expenses, and actual expenses may be greater or less than those shown. While the example assumes, as required by the SEC, a 5% annual return, our performance will vary and may result in a return greater or less than 5%. The incentive fee under the Investment Management Agreement, which, assuming a 5% annual return, would either not be payable or would have an insignificant impact on the expense amounts shown above, is not included in the example. This illustration assumes that we will not realize any capital gains (computed net of all realized capital losses and unrealized capital depreciation) in any of the indicated time periods. If we achieve sufficient returns on our investments, including through the realization of capital gains, to trigger an incentive fee of a material amount, our expenses and returns to our investors would be higher. In addition, the example assumes no sales load and estimated offering expenses of \$386,545. Also, while the example assumes reinvestment of all dividends at net asset value, participants in our dividend reinvestment plan will receive a number of shares of our common stock, determined by dividing the total dollar amount of the dividend payable to a participant by the market price per share of our common stock at the close of trading on the dividend payment date, which may be at, above or below net asset value. See Dividend Reinvestment Plan in the accompanying prospectus for additional information regarding our dividend reinvestment plan.

Table of Contents

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS AND PROJECTIONS

This prospectus supplement contains forward-looking statements that involve substantial risks and uncertainties. These forward-looking statements are not historical facts, but rather are based on current expectations, estimates and projections about Solar Capital, our current and prospective portfolio investments, our industry, our beliefs, and our assumptions. Words such as anticipates, expects, intends, plans, believes, seeks, estimates, would, should, targets, projects, and variations of these words and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to risks, uncertainties, and other factors, some of which are beyond our control and difficult to predict and could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or forecasted in the forward-looking statements, including without limitation:

an economic downturn could impair our portfolio companies' ability to continue to operate, which could lead to the loss of some or all of our investments in such portfolio companies;

a contraction of available credit and/or an inability to access the equity markets could impair our lending and investment activities;

interest rate volatility could adversely affect our results, particularly if we elect to use leverage as part of our investment strategy;

currency fluctuations could adversely affect the results of our investments in foreign companies, particularly to the extent that we receive payments denominated in foreign currency rather than U.S. dollars; and

the risks, uncertainties and other factors we identify in Risk Factors and elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and in our filings with the SEC.

Although we believe that the assumptions on which these forward-looking statements are based are reasonable, any of those assumptions could prove to be inaccurate, and as a result, the forward-looking statements based on those assumptions also could be inaccurate. In light of these and other uncertainties, the inclusion of a projection or forward-looking statement in this prospectus supplement should not be regarded as a representation by us that our plans and objectives will be achieved. These risks and uncertainties include those described or identified in Risk Factors and elsewhere in this prospectus supplement. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which apply only as of the date of this prospectus supplement. The forward-looking statements and projections contained in this prospectus supplement are excluded from the safe harbor protection provided by Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act.

Table of Contents

USE OF PROCEEDS

We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of the shares of common stock covered by this prospectus supplement.

S-15

Table of Contents**SELLING STOCKHOLDERS**

The following table sets forth:

The name of each selling stockholder;

The number of shares of common stock and the percentage of the total shares of common stock outstanding that each selling stockholder beneficially owned as of May 11, 2010;

The number of shares of common stock beneficially owned by each selling stockholder that are being offered under this prospectus supplement; and

The number of shares of common stock and the percentage of total shares of common stock outstanding to be beneficially owned by each selling stockholder following the offering contemplated by this prospectus supplement.

The information regarding the identity of the selling stockholders and their affiliations, including their beneficial ownership of shares of our common stock, is based solely on information provided by or on behalf of the selling stockholders.

Name	Shares Beneficially Owned Prior to Offering(1)		Number of Shares Being Offered	Number of Shares Subject to Over-Allotment Option	Shares Beneficially Owned After Offering(2)			
	Number	Percent			Number	Percent	Number with Over-Allotment Option	Percent with Over-Allotment Option
MAGNETAR CAPITAL FUND LP(3)	1,572,750	4.76%	395,220	76,752	1,177,530	3.56%	1,100,778	3.33%
MAGNETAR CAPITAL MASTER FUND, LTD(3)	6,291,000	19.05%	1,669,035	324,130	4,621,965	13.99%	4,297,835	13.01%
CHARLES FREDERIC & CO SILVER CREEK LOW VOL STRATEGIES HOLDINGS LLC(4)	410,479	1.24%	343,727	66,752	66,752	*	*	*
CHARLES FREDERIC & CO FOR SILVER CREEK SPECIAL OPP FUND II LP(4)	589,885	1.79%	493,957	95,928	95,928	*	*	*
CHARLES FREDERIC & CO SILVER CREEK LOW VOL FUND A LLC(4)	478,246	1.45%	400,473	77,773	77,773	*	*	*
CHARLES FREDERIC & CO SILVER CREEK LOW VOL CO HOLDINGS, LTD(4)	128,199	*	107,351	20,848	20,848	*	*	*
SOROS STRATEGIC PARTNERS LP(5)	1,361,052	4.12%	1,139,716	221,336	221,336	*	*	*
APOGEE FUND LTD (Satellite)	132,237	*	132,237			*	*	*
SATELLITE FUND II LP	251,858	*	251,858			*	*	*
SATELLITE FUND IV LP	51,959	*	51,959			*	*	*
SATELLITE OVERSEAS FUND IX LTD	63,562	*	63,562			*	*	*
SATELLITE OVERSEAS FUND LTD	655,176	1.98%	655,176			*	*	*
SATELLITE OVERSEAS FUND V LTD	57,320	*	57,320			*	*	*
SATELLITE OVERSEAS FUND VI LTD	18,967	*	18,967			*	*	*
SATELLITE OVERSEAS FUND VII LTD	29,549	*	29,549			*	*	*
SATELLITE OVERSEAS FUND VIII LTD	80,016	*	80,016			*	*	*
Total	12,172,255	36.85%	5,890,123	883,519	6,282,132	19.02%	5,398,613	16.34%

* Less than 1%.

- (1) Beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with Rule 13d-3 under the Exchange Act.
- (2) Applicable percentage of ownership is based on 33,030,641 shares of our common stock outstanding on May 11, 2010.

S-16

Table of Contents

- (3) This entity is controlled and/or managed by Magnetar Financial LLC or its affiliates.
- (4) This entity is controlled by Silver Creek Capital Management LLC.
- (5) Soros Strategic Partners LP (SSP) is a Delaware limited partnership. SFM Participation II LLC, a Nevis limited liability company (SFMP II), serves as general partner of SSP. SFM AH LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (SFM AH), serves as manager of SFMP II. Soros Fund Management LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (SFM LLC), serves as manager of SFM AH. Mr. George Soros serves as Chairman of SFM LLC, Mr. Robert Soros serves as Deputy Chairman of SFM LLC and Mr. Jonathan Soros serves as President and Deputy Chairman of SFM LLC. Each has their principal office at 888 Seventh Avenue, 33rd Floor, New York, New York 10106. The foregoing information was derived, in part, from certain publicly available reports, statements and schedules filed with the SEC.

S-17

Table of Contents**UNDERWRITING**

Citigroup Global Markets Inc., J.P. Morgan Securities Inc., Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated, Deutsche Bank Securities Inc., and SunTrust Robinson Humphrey, Inc. are acting as joint bookrunning managers of the offering and as representatives of the underwriters named below. Subject to the terms and conditions stated in the underwriting agreement dated the date of this prospectus supplement, each underwriter named below has agreed to purchase, and the selling stockholders have agreed to sell to that underwriter, the number of shares set forth opposite the underwriter's name.

Underwriter	Number of Shares
Citigroup Global Markets Inc.	
J.P. Morgan Securities Inc.	
Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated	
Deutsche Bank Securities Inc.	
SunTrust Robinson Humphrey, Inc.	
BMO Capital Markets Corp.	
BB&T Capital Markets, a division of Scott & Stringfellow, LLC	
RBC Capital Markets Corporation	
Ladenburg Thalmann & Co. Inc.	
 Total	

The underwriting agreement provides that the obligations of the underwriters to purchase the shares included in this offering are subject to approval of legal matters by counsel and to other conditions. The underwriters are obligated to purchase all the shares (other than those covered by the over-allotment option described below) if they purchase any of the shares.

The underwriters propose to offer some of the shares directly to the public at the public offering price set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement and some of the shares to dealers at the public offering price less a concession not to exceed \$ _____ per share. If all of the shares are not sold at the initial offering price, the representatives may change the public offering price and the other selling terms. The representatives have advised us that the underwriters do not intend to confirm sales to discretionary accounts.

The selling stockholders have granted to the underwriters an option, exercisable for 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement, to purchase from the selling stockholders up to 883,519 additional shares of common stock at the public offering price less the underwriting discount. The underwriters may exercise the option solely for the purpose of covering over-allotments, if any, in connection with this offering. To the extent the option is exercised, each underwriter must purchase a number of additional shares approximately proportionate to that underwriter's initial purchase commitment.

In connection with this offering, the Magnetar entities have agreed that, until February 10, 2011, they will not, without our prior written consent, dispose of or hedge an aggregate of 3,931,875 shares of our common stock or securities convertible or exchangeable for shares of our common stock. We may in our sole discretion release the Magnetar entities from this lock-up agreement at any time without notice. Each of the selling stockholders named in this prospectus supplement (including the Magnetar entities) have also agreed that for a period of 90 days from the date of this offering, they will not, without the prior written consent of Citigroup Global Markets Inc. and J.P. Morgan Securities Inc., dispose of or hedge any shares of our common stock or securities convertible or exchangeable for shares of our common stock. We and each of our officers and directors, including Messrs. Gross and Spohler, have agreed to similar lock-up restrictions for a period of 90 days from the date of this

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

offering. Such lock-up restrictions do not supplement, replace, or otherwise amend any lock-up agreements previously entered into by us, by the selling stockholders (other than the Magnetar entities) or by our officers and directors with Citigroup Global Markets Inc. or J.P. Morgan Securities Inc. Citigroup Global Markets Inc. and J.P. Morgan Securities Inc., in their sole discretion, may release any of the securities subject to a lock-up agreement to which they are a party at any time without notice.

S-18

Table of Contents

Our common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol SLRC .

The following table shows the underwriting discounts and commissions that the selling stockholders are to pay to the underwriters in connection with this offering. These amounts are shown assuming both no exercise and full exercise of the underwriters' option to purchase from the selling stockholders additional shares of common stock. This offering will conform with the requirements set forth in Financial Industry Regulatory Authority Rule 2310. In compliance with such requirements, the underwriting discounts and commissions in connection with the sale of securities will not exceed 8% of gross proceeds of this offering.

	Paid by the Selling Stockholders	
	No Exercise	Full Exercise
Per share	\$	\$
Total	\$	\$

In connection with the offering, one or more of the underwriters may purchase and sell shares of common stock in the open market. These transactions may include short sales, syndicate covering transactions and stabilizing transactions. Short sales involve syndicate sales of common stock in excess of the number of shares to be purchased by the underwriters in the offering, which creates a syndicate short position. Covered short sales are sales of shares made in an amount up to the number of shares represented by the underwriters' over-allotment option. In determining the source of shares to close out the covered syndicate short position, the underwriters will consider, among other things, the price of shares available for purchase in the open market as compared to the price at which they may purchase shares through the over-allotment option. Transactions to close out the covered syndicate short involve either purchases of the common stock in the open market after the distribution has been completed or the exercise of the over-allotment option. The underwriters may also make naked short sales of shares in excess of the over-allotment option. The underwriters must close out any naked short position by purchasing shares of common stock in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of the shares in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering. Stabilizing transactions consist of bids for or purchases of shares in the open market while the offering is in progress.

The underwriters may also impose a penalty bid. Penalty bids permit the underwriters to reclaim a selling concession from a syndicate member when Citigroup Global Markets Inc. or J.P. Morgan Securities Inc. repurchases shares originally sold by that syndicate member in order to cover syndicate short positions or make stabilizing purchases.

Any of these activities may have the effect of preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the common stock. They may also cause the price of the common stock to be higher than the price that would otherwise exist in the open market in the absence of these transactions. The underwriters may conduct these transactions on the NASDAQ Global Select Market or in the over-the-counter market, or otherwise. If the underwriters commence any of these transactions, they may discontinue them at any time.

We estimate that our portion of the total expenses of this offering will be \$386,545.

The underwriters have performed investment banking and advisory services for us and our affiliates from time to time for which they have received customary fees and expenses. The underwriters may, from time to time, engage in transactions with and perform services for us and our affiliates in the ordinary course of their business. Each of the underwriters (other than Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. and Ladenburg Thalmann & Co. Inc.) acted as underwriters in our initial public offering.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

Citibank, N.A., an affiliate of Citigroup Global Markets Inc., is a lender and administrative agent under our Credit Facility. In addition, Citigroup Global Markets Inc. acted as the sole lead bookrunner and the sole lead arranger for the amendment of our Credit Facility in February 2010. Citigroup Global Markets Inc. and J. P.

S-19

Table of Contents

Morgan Securities Inc. provided structuring services related to the distribution of our Senior Unsecured Notes to certain equity holders in connection with the Solar Capital Merger. Affiliates of J.P. Morgan Securities Inc., Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated, SunTrust Robinson Humphrey, Inc. and BMO Capital Markets Corp. are lenders under our Credit Facility. In addition, an affiliate of Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. intends to commit additional capacity to our Credit Facility.

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus in electronic format may be made available on the websites maintained by one or more of the underwriters. Other than the prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus in electronic format, the information on any such underwriter's website is not part of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. The representatives may agree to allocate a number of shares to underwriters for sale to their online brokerage account holders. The representatives will allocate shares to underwriters that may make Internet distributions on the same basis as other allocations. In addition, shares may be sold by the underwriters to securities dealers who resell shares to online brokerage account holders.

We have agreed to indemnify the underwriters against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribute to payments the underwriters may be required to make because of any of those liabilities.

In the ordinary course of their various business activities, the Underwriters and their respective affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers and may at any time hold long and short positions in such securities and instruments. Such investment and securities activities may involve securities and instruments of ours.

The principal business address of Citigroup Global Markets Inc. is 388 Greenwich Street, New York, NY 10013. The principal business address of J.P. Morgan Securities Inc. is 383 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10179.

Table of Contents

LEGAL MATTERS

Certain legal matters in connection with the securities offered hereby will be passed upon for us by Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP, Washington, DC, and Venable LLP, Baltimore, Maryland. Certain legal matters in connection with the securities offered hereby will be passed upon for the underwriters by Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, New York, New York.

S-21

Table of Contents

AVAILABLE INFORMATION

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form N-2, together with all amendments and related exhibits, under the Securities Act, with respect to our shares of common stock offered by this prospectus supplement. The registration statement contains additional information about us and our shares of common stock being offered by this prospectus supplement.

We are required to file with or submit to the SEC annual, quarterly and current periodic reports, proxy statements and other information meeting the informational requirements of the Exchange Act. You may inspect and copy these reports, proxy statements and other information, as well as the registration statement and related exhibits and schedules, at the Public Reference Room of the SEC at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20549. You may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC maintains an Internet site that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information filed electronically by us with the SEC which are available on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. Copies of these reports, proxy and information statements and other information may be obtained, after paying a duplicating fee, by electronic request at the following e-mail address: publicinfo@sec.gov, or by writing to the SEC's Public Reference Section, Washington, D.C. 20549. This information will also be available free of charge by contacting us at Solar Capital Ltd., 500 Park Avenue, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10022, by telephone at (212) 993-1670, or on our website at <http://www.solarcapltd.com>.

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS

27,327,475 Shares

Solar Capital Ltd.

Common Stock

We are an externally managed finance company. Our investment objective is to generate both current income and capital appreciation through debt and equity investments. We invest primarily in leveraged companies, including middle-market companies, in the form of senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities.

We were formed in February 2007 as Solar Capital LLC, a Maryland limited liability company, and commenced operations in March 2007. On February 9, 2010, Solar Capital LLC was merged with and into Solar Capital Ltd., an externally managed, non-diversified, closed-end management investment company that has elected to be treated as a business development company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, or the 1940 Act. We are managed by Solar Capital Partners, LLC. Solar Capital Management, LLC provides the administrative services necessary for us to operate.

The selling stockholders named in this prospectus are subject to lock-up agreements. This registration statement has been filed to register the resale of the approximately 26.65 million shares of common stock issued to Solar Capital LLC unit holders prior to our initial public offering, the 0.60 million shares purchased by management in a private offering concurrent with our initial public offering, and shares distributed pursuant to our dividend reinvestment plan in relation to the aforementioned shares. We have committed to use our commercially reasonable efforts to obtain effectiveness of this registration statement within 120 days from the date of our initial public offering. Assuming effectiveness of this registration statement, approximately 17.5 million shares, 4.9 million shares, and 4.9 million shares of common stock will generally be free of resale restrictions upon the expiration of lock-up periods of 120 days, 180 days and 365 days from the date of our initial public offering, respectively.

Upon the expiration of these lock-up periods, the selling stockholders named in this prospectus may offer, from time to time, up to 27,327,475 shares of our common stock. The selling stockholders may sell the shares held for their own account or the shares may be sold by donees, transferees, pledgees or other successors in interest that receive such shares from the selling stockholders as a gift or other non-sale related transfer. The shares of common stock may be offered at prices and on terms to be described in one or more supplements to this prospectus.

Our common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol SLRC. On May 7, 2010, the last reported sales price on the NASDAQ Global Select Market for our common stock was \$21.74 per share.

This prospectus contains important information about us that a prospective investor should know before investing in our common stock. Please read this prospectus before investing and keep it for future reference. We are required to file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information about us with the Securities and Exchange Commission. This information is available free of charge by contacting us by mail at 500 Park Avenue, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10022, by telephone at (212) 993-1670 or on our website at <http://www.solarcapltd.com>. The Securities and Exchange Commission also maintains a website at <http://www.sec.gov> that contains such information. Information contained on our website is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus, and you should not consider that information to be part of this prospectus.

An investment in our common stock is very risky and highly speculative. Shares of closed-end investment companies, including business development companies, frequently trade at a discount to their net asset value. In addition, the companies in which we invest are subject to special risks. See Risk Factors beginning on page 16 to read about factors you should consider, including the risk of leverage, before investing in our common stock.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

This prospectus may not be used to consummate sales of shares of common stock unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

May 12, 2010

Table of Contents

We have not authorized any dealer, salesman or other person to give any information or to make any representation other than those contained in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement, if any, to this prospectus. You must not rely upon any information or representation not contained in this prospectus or any such supplements as if we had authorized it. This prospectus and any such supplements do not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of any offer to buy any security other than the registered securities to which they relate, nor do they constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities in any jurisdiction to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such an offer or solicitation in such jurisdiction. The information contained in this prospectus and any such supplements is accurate as of the dates on their covers.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<u>Summary</u>	1
<u>Fees and Expenses</u>	12
<u>Selected Financial and Other Data</u>	14
<u>Risk Factors</u>	16
<u>Forward-Looking Statements and Projections</u>	30
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	31
<u>Distributions</u>	31
<u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	32
<u>Senior Securities</u>	47
<u>Business</u>	48
<u>Portfolio Companies</u>	62
<u>Management</u>	66
<u>Portfolio Management</u>	73
<u>Investment Advisory and Management Agreement</u>	74
<u>Administration Agreement</u>	80
<u>License Agreement</u>	80
<u>Certain Relationships and Transactions</u>	81
<u>Control Persons and Principal Stockholders</u>	82
<u>Regulation as a Business Development Company</u>	83
<u>Determination of Net Asset Value</u>	88
<u>Dividend Reinvestment Plan</u>	90
<u>Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations</u>	92
<u>Description of Securities</u>	99
<u>Shares Eligible for Future Sale</u>	106
<u>Selling Stockholders</u>	108
<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	112
<u>Custodian, Transfer and Dividend Paying Agent and Registrar</u>	114
<u>Brokerage Allocation and Other Practices</u>	114
<u>Legal Matters</u>	114
<u>Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u>	114
<u>Available Information</u>	115
<u>Index to Financial Statements</u>	F-1

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, using the shelf registration process. Under the shelf registration process, which constitutes a delayed offering in reliance on Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, the selling stockholders named herein may offer, from time to time, up to an aggregate of 27,327,475 shares of our common stock on the terms to be determined at the time of the offering. Shares of our common stock may be offered by the selling stockholders at prices and on terms described in one or more supplements to this prospectus. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the shares of our common stock that the selling stockholders may offer. Each time a selling stockholder uses this prospectus to offer shares of our common stock, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering. A prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. Please carefully read this prospectus and any such supplements together with the additional information described under Available Information and in the Summary and Risk Factors sections before you make an investment decision. A prospectus supplement may also add to, update or change information contained in this prospectus.

Table of Contents

SUMMARY

This summary highlights some of the information in this prospectus. It is not complete and may not contain all of the information that you may want to consider. You should read carefully the more detailed information set forth under Risk Factors and the other information included in this prospectus and the documents to which we have referred.

We were formed in February 2007 as Solar Capital LLC, a Maryland limited liability company, and commenced operations in March 2007. On February 9, 2010, Solar Capital LLC was merged with and into Solar Capital Ltd., a Maryland corporation, which we refer to as the Solar Capital Merger, concurrent with the pricing of our initial public offering. Except where the context suggests otherwise, the terms we, us, our and Solar Capital refer to Solar Capital LLC prior to the Solar Capital Merger, and Solar Capital Ltd. after the Solar Capital Merger. In addition, the terms Solar Capital Partners or investment adviser refer to Solar Capital Partners, LLC, and Solar Capital Management or the administrator refers to Solar Capital Management, LLC.

In this prospectus, we use the term leveraged to refer to companies of any size with non-investment grade debt outstanding or, if not explicitly rated, those which we believe would be rated as non-investment grade based on their leverage levels and other terms. In addition, we use the term middle-market to refer to companies with annual revenues between \$50 million and \$1 billion.

As part of the Solar Capital Merger, approximately 26.65 million shares and \$125 million in senior unsecured notes (the Senior Unsecured Notes) were issued to the existing unitholders of Solar Capital LLC. Michael S. Gross, our Chief Executive Officer, and Bruce Spohler, our Chief Operating Officer, collectively purchased 600,000 shares of our common stock in connection with the consummation of our initial public offering. The shares were sold to Messrs. Gross and Spohler at the same offering price paid by investors in our initial public offering pursuant to a private placement transaction exempt from registration under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act (the

Concurrent Private Placement). The shares being offered in this prospectus are the approximately 26.65 million shares issued in the Solar Capital Merger and the 600,000 shares issued in the Concurrent Private Placement, together with 80,163 shares issued thereon under our dividend reinvestment plan.

Solar Capital

Solar Capital Ltd., a Maryland corporation formed in November 2007, is a closed-end, externally managed, non-diversified management investment company that has elected to be treated as a business development company (BDC) under the 1940 Act. In addition, for tax purposes we have elected to be treated as a regulated investment company (RIC) under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code).

On February 9, 2010 we priced our initial public offering, selling 5.68 million shares, including the underwriters over-allotment, at a price of \$18.50 per share. Concurrent with our initial public offering, management purchased an additional 0.6 million shares through the Concurrent Private Placement, also at \$18.50 per share.

Immediately prior to our initial public offering, through a series of transactions Solar Capital LLC merged with and into Solar Capital Ltd., leaving Solar Capital Ltd. as the surviving entity. Solar Capital Ltd. issued an aggregate of approximately 26.65 million shares of common stock and \$125 million in Senior Unsecured Notes to the existing Solar Capital LLC unit holders in connection with the Solar Capital Merger. Solar

Capital Ltd. had

1

Table of Contents

no assets or operations prior to completion of the Solar Capital Merger and as a result, the books and records of Solar Capital LLC have become the books and records of the surviving entity.

Solar Capital LLC, a Maryland limited liability company, was formed in February 2007 and conducted a private placement of units of membership interest (units) in March 2007, at such time a total of 81.70 million units were outstanding. Solar Capital Investors, LLC, an entity funded by the management of Solar Capital Partners, the Company's investment adviser, acquired approximately 3.33 million units in connection with the initial private placement. In addition, in connection with the initial private placement, certain funds managed by Magnetar Financial LLC (Magnetar) and certain entities affiliated therewith (collectively, the Magnetar entities), acquired approximately 35.00 million units.

Our investment objective is to generate both current income and capital appreciation through debt and equity investments. We invest primarily in leveraged middle market companies in the form of senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities. From time to time, we may also invest in public companies that are thinly traded. Our business model is focused primarily on the direct origination of investments through portfolio companies or their financial sponsors. Our investments generally range between \$20 million and \$100 million each, although we expect that this investment size will vary proportionately with the size of our capital base. We are managed by Solar Capital Partners. Solar Capital Management provides the administrative services necessary for us to operate. In addition, we may invest a portion of our portfolio in other types of investments, which we refer to as opportunistic investments, which are not our primary focus but are intended to enhance our overall returns. These investments may include, but are not limited to, direct investments in public companies that are not thinly traded and securities of leveraged companies located in select countries outside of the United States.

As of March 31, 2010, our long term investments totaled \$839.0 million and our net asset value was \$730.4 million. Our portfolio was comprised of debt and equity investments in 33 portfolio companies and our income producing assets, which represent 92.2% of our total portfolio, had a weighted average annualized yield on a fair value basis of approximately 13.9%.

During the three months ended March 31, 2010, we originated approximately \$44.6 million of investments in one new and one existing portfolio company. We also received principal repayments of approximately \$95.1 million and sold securities in 3 portfolio companies for approximately \$20.5 million.

About Solar Capital Partners

Solar Capital Partners is controlled by Michael S. Gross, our chairman and chief executive officer, and is led by Mr. Gross and Bruce Spohler, our chief operating officer, and is supported by a team of 12 dedicated investment professionals, including Brian Gerson, Cedric Henley and David Mait. We refer to Messrs. Gross, Spohler, Gerson, Henley and Mait as Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals. Solar Capital Partners' investment team has extensive experience in the private equity and leveraged lending industries, as well as significant contacts with financial sponsors operating in those industries. The investment team led by Messrs. Gross and Spohler has invested in 54 different portfolio companies for Solar Capital, which investments involved an aggregate of more than 46 different financial sponsors, through March 31, 2010. Since Solar Capital's inception, these investment professionals have used their relationships in the middle-market financial sponsor and financial intermediary community to originate direct investment opportunities.

Mr. Gross, the former chairman and chief executive officer of Apollo Investment Corporation, a publicly traded business development company that he founded, has over 20 years of experience in the private equity, distressed debt and mezzanine lending businesses and has been involved in originating, structuring, negotiating, consummating and managing private equity, distressed debt and mezzanine lending transactions.

Table of Contents

Mr. Gross is also a founder and a former senior partner of Apollo Management, L.P., a leading private equity firm. During his tenure at Apollo Management, L.P., Mr. Gross was a member of the investment committee that was responsible for overseeing more than \$13 billion of investments in over 150 companies. Between February 2004 and February 2006, Mr. Gross was the president and chief executive officer of Apollo Investment Corporation, a publicly traded business development company that he founded and on whose board of directors and investment committee he served as chairman from February 2004 to July 2006. Under his management, Apollo Investment Corporation raised approximately \$930 million in gross proceeds in an initial public offering in April 2004, built a dedicated investment team and infrastructure and invested approximately \$2.3 billion in over 65 companies in conjunction with 50 different private equity sponsors. Mr. Gross was also the managing partner of Apollo Distressed Investment Fund, L.P., an investment fund he founded in 2003 to invest principally in debt and other securities of leveraged companies.

Mr. Gross also currently serves on the boards of directors of three public companies, and in the past has served on the boards of directors of more than 20 public and private companies. As a result, Mr. Gross has developed an extensive network of private equity sponsor relationships as well as relationships with management teams of public and private companies, investment bankers, attorneys and accountants that we believe should provide us with significant business opportunities.

We also rely on the more than 20 years of experience of Mr. Spohler, who has served as our chief operating officer and a partner of Solar Capital Partners since inception. Previously, Mr. Spohler was a managing director and a former co-head of U.S. Leveraged Finance for CIBC World Markets. He held numerous senior roles at CIBC World Markets, including serving on the U.S. Management Committee, Global Executive Committee and the Deals Committee, which approves all of CIBC World Markets' U.S. corporate finance debt capital decisions. During Mr. Spohler's tenure, he was responsible for senior loan, high yield and mezzanine origination and execution, as well as CIBC World Markets' below investment grade loan portfolio in the United States. As a co-head of U.S. Leveraged Finance, Mr. Spohler oversaw over 300 capital raising and merger and acquisition transactions, comprising over \$40 billion in market capitalization.

In addition to Messrs. Gross and Spohler, Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals include Messrs. Gerson, Henley and Mait, each of whom has extensive experience in originating, evaluating and structuring investments in the types of middle-market companies we currently target. Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals have an average of over 20 years of experience in the private equity and leveraged lending industries.

Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals have been active participants in the primary and secondary leveraged credit markets throughout their careers. They have effectively managed portfolios of distressed and mezzanine debt as well as other investment types. The depth of their experience and credit market expertise has led them through various stages of the economic cycle as well as several market disruptions.

Market Opportunity

Solar Capital invests primarily in senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities of leveraged companies organized and located in the United States. We believe that the size of the leveraged company market, coupled with the demands of these companies for flexible sources of capital at attractive terms and rates, create an attractive investment environment for us.

Middle-market companies have faced increasing difficulty in accessing the capital markets. While many middle-market companies were formerly able to raise funds by issuing high-yield bonds, we believe this approach to financing has become more difficult in recent years as institutional investors have sought to

Table of Contents

invest in larger, more liquid offerings. In addition, many private finance companies that, until recently, financed their lending and investing activities through securitization transactions have lost that source of funding and cut back lending significantly.

There is a large pool of uninvested private equity capital likely to seek additional capital to support their private investments. We believe there is a large pool of uninvested private equity capital available to middle-market companies. While we expect the rate of investment to be slower than in prior periods, we expect that private equity firms will continue to be active investors in middle-market companies and that these private equity firms will seek to supplement their investments with senior and junior debt securities and loans and equity co-investments from other sources, such as Solar Capital.

Middle-market companies are increasingly seeking private sources for debt and equity capital. We believe that many middle-market companies prefer to execute transactions with private capital providers such as Solar Capital, rather than execute high-yield bond or equity transactions in the public markets, which may necessitate increased financial and regulatory compliance and reporting obligations. We expect that the volume of domestic public-to-private transactions, as well as the number of companies selecting a sale alternative versus raising capital in the public equity markets as a means of increasing liquidity, will remain large.

Consolidation among commercial banks has reduced the focus on middle-market business. We believe that many senior lenders have de-emphasized their service and product offerings to middle-market companies in favor of lending to large corporate clients, managing capital markets transactions and providing other non-credit services to their customers. We believe this has resulted in fewer key players and the reduced availability of debt capital to the companies we target.

Current disruptions within the credit markets generally have brought a reduction in competition and a more lender-friendly environment. Current credit market dislocation has caused many of the alternative methods of obtaining middle-market debt financing to significantly decrease in scope and availability while demand for financings has remained robust. We believe the segment's strong growth prospects, combined with the growing demand for the capital and corporate finance and advisory services we offer, creates an attractive investment environment for us.

Furthermore, we believe that given the credit market uncertainty, Solar Capital has a greater opportunity to move beyond middle-market deals into larger transactions, as banks are less willing to commit capital. We believe these larger deals can be structured with more attractive terms such as lower leverage, higher yields, better covenants, and longer duration than was typical before the current market dislocation.

Therefore, we believe that there is an opportunity to invest in senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities of leveraged companies and that we are well positioned to serve this market.

Competitive Advantages and Strategy

We believe that we have the following competitive advantages over other providers of financing to leveraged companies:

Management Expertise

As managing partner, Mr. Gross has principal management responsibility for Solar Capital Partners, to which he currently dedicates substantially all of his time. Mr. Gross has over 20 years of experience in leveraged finance, private equity and distressed debt investing.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

Mr. Spohler, our chief operating officer and a partner of Solar Capital Partners, has over 20 years of experience in evaluating and executing leverage finance transactions.

Table of Contents

We believe that Messrs. Gross and Spohler have developed a strong reputation in the capital markets, and that this experience provides us with a competitive advantage in identifying and investing in leveraged companies with the potential to generate returns. We believe that our investment team has extensive experience in the private equity and leveraged lending industries, as well as significant contacts with financial sponsors operating in those industries. We believe that our investment team has a proven track record of valuing companies and assets and negotiating transactions.

In addition to Messrs. Gross and Spohler, Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals include Messrs. Gerson, Henley and Mait, each of whom has extensive experience in originating, evaluating and structuring investments in the types of middle-market companies we currently target. Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals have an average of over 20 years of experience in the private equity and leveraged lending industries.

Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals have been active participants in the primary and secondary leveraged credit markets throughout their careers. They have effectively managed portfolios of distressed and mezzanine debt as well as other investment types. The depth of their experience and credit market expertise has led them through various stages of the economic cycle as well as several market disruptions.

Investment Portfolio

Our portfolio investments consist of portfolio companies that have strong cash flows and have maintained financial and operating performance despite the recent economic climate. As of March 31, 2010, 100% of our total portfolio value was comprised of performing assets. The majority of our assets have been seasoned, which has allowed us to gain a solid understanding of our borrowers and the industries in which they compete. Additionally, over time, we have established productive relationships with our portfolio companies.

Investment Capacity

The proceeds from our initial public offering and the Concurrent Private Placement, the borrowing capacity under our credit facility and the expected repayments of existing investments provide us with a substantial amount of capital available for deployment into new investment opportunities. We believe we are well positioned for the current marketplace. We believe that in the current economic environment financing needs of many companies will increase while funding options are limited, allowing us to capitalize on favorable investment opportunities.

Solar Capital's Limited Leverage

As of March 31, 2010, our outstanding debt was approximately 13.5% of total assets, making us one of the least levered publicly traded business development companies. We believe our relatively low level of leverage provides us with a competitive advantage, allowing us to anticipate providing a consistent dividend to our investors as proceeds from our investments are available for reinvestment as opposed to being consumed by debt repayment. To the extent borrowing conditions improve and leverage becomes available on more attractive terms, we may increase our relative level of debt in the future. However, we do not currently anticipate operating with a substantial amount of debt relative to our total assets. Furthermore, by maintaining prudent leverage levels, we believe we will be better positioned to weather future market downturns.

Proprietary Sourcing and Origination

We believe that Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals' longstanding relationships with financial sponsors, commercial and investment banks, management teams and other financial intermediaries provide us with a strong pipeline of proprietary origination opportunities. We believe the broad expertise of Solar

Table of Contents

Capital Partners' senior investment professionals and their ability to draw upon their average of 20 years of investment experience enable us to identify, assess and structure investments successfully. We expect to continue leveraging the relationships Mr. Gross established while sourcing and originating investments at Apollo Investment Corporation as well as the financial sponsor relationships Mr. Spohler developed while he was a co-head of CIBC World Markets' U.S. Leveraged Finance Group.

Our investment team's strong relationship network is enhanced by the collaborative role Solar Capital plays in the private equity industry. We offer tailored solutions to our portfolio companies, and we believe that this role provides us with greater deal flow as opposed to being viewed as a competitor bidding for control stakes. Because Solar Capital is not associated with a private equity firm, we are not precluded from partnering with most of the top tier financial sponsors.

These direct investments enable us to perform more in-depth due diligence and play an active role in structuring financings. We believe that effectuating the transaction terms and having greater insight into a portfolio company's operations and financial picture assist Solar Capital in minimizing downside potential, while reinforcing Solar Capital as a trusted partner who delivers comprehensive financing solutions. Since our inception, Solar Capital Partners has sourced investments in 54 different portfolio companies for Solar Capital, which investments involved an aggregate of more than 46 different financial sponsors, through March 31, 2010.

Versatile Transaction Structuring and Flexibility of Capital

We believe our senior investment professionals' broad expertise and ability to draw upon their extensive experience enable us to identify, assess and structure investments successfully across all levels of a company's capital structure and to manage potential risk and return at all stages of the economic cycle. While we will be subject to significant regulation as a business development company, we will not be subject to many of the regulatory limitations that govern traditional lending institutions such as banks. As a result, we believe that we can be more flexible than such lending institutions in selecting and structuring investments, adjusting investment criteria, transaction structures and, in some cases, the types of securities in which we invest. We believe financial sponsors, management teams and investment banks see this flexibility as a benefit, making us an attractive financing partner. We believe that this approach enables us to procure attractive investment opportunities throughout the economic cycle so that we can make investments consistent with our stated investment objective even during turbulent periods in the capital markets.

Emphasis on Achieving Strong Risk-Adjusted Returns

Solar Capital Partners uses a disciplined investment and risk management process that emphasizes a rigorous fundamental research and analysis framework. Solar Capital Partners seeks to build our portfolio on a bottom-up basis, choosing and sizing individual positions based on their relative risk/reward profiles as a function of the associated downside risk, volatility, correlation with the existing portfolio and liquidity. At the same time, Solar Capital Partners takes into consideration a variety of factors in managing our portfolio and imposes portfolio-based risk constraints promoting a more diverse portfolio of investments and limiting issuer and industry concentration. Our value-oriented investment philosophy focuses on preserving capital and ensuring that our investments have an appropriate return profile in relation to risk. When market conditions make it difficult for us to invest according to our criteria, we are highly selective in deploying our capital. We do not pursue short-term origination targets. We believe this approach enables us to build an attractive investment portfolio that meets our return and value criteria over the long term.

We believe it is critical to conduct extensive due diligence on investment targets. In evaluating new investments we, through Solar Capital Partners, conduct a rigorous due diligence process that draws upon investment experience, industry expertise and network of contacts of our senior investment professionals, as well

Table of Contents

as the other members of our investment team. Among other things, our due diligence is designed to ensure that a prospective portfolio company will be able to meet its debt service obligations.

We have the ability to invest across an issuer's capital structure, which we believe enables us to provide comprehensive financing solutions for our portfolio companies, as well as access the best risk-adjusted opportunities. The overall transaction size and product mix is based upon the needs of the customer, as well as our risk-return hurdles. We also focus on downside protection and preservation of capital throughout the structuring process.

Deep Industry Focus with Substantial Information Flow

We concentrate our investing activities in industries characterized by strong cash flow and in which Solar Capital Partners' investment professionals have deep investment experience. During his time with the Apollo entities, Mr. Gross oversaw investments in over 200 companies in 20 industries. As a result of their investment experience, Messrs. Gross and Spohler, together with Solar Capital Partners' other investment professionals, have long-term relationships with management consultants and management teams in the industries we target, as well as substantial information concerning those industries. Solar Capital Partners' investment team also has significant experience in evaluating and making investments in the industries we target. We believe that the in-depth experience of Solar Capital Partners' investment team in investing throughout various stages of the economic cycle provides our investment adviser with access to ongoing market insights in addition to a powerful asset for investment sourcing. See *Business Investments*.

Longer Investment Horizon

Unlike private equity and venture capital funds, we will not be subject to standard periodic capital return requirements. Such requirements typically stipulate that the capital of these funds, together with any capital gains on such invested funds, can only be invested once and must be returned to investors after a pre-agreed time period. We believe that our flexibility to make investments with a long-term view and without the capital return requirements of traditional private investment vehicles provides us with the opportunity to generate favorable returns on invested capital and enables us to be a better long-term partner for our portfolio companies.

Risk Factors

The value of our assets, as well as the market price of our shares, will fluctuate. Our investments may be risky, and you may lose all or part of your investment in us. Investing in Solar Capital involves other risks, including the following:

We have a limited operating history of only three years;

We are dependent upon Solar Capital Partners' key personnel for our future success;

We operate in a highly competitive market for investment opportunities;

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

The lack of liquidity in our investments may adversely affect our business;

We may borrow money, which would magnify the potential for gain or loss on amounts invested and may increase the risk of investing in us;

To the extent we use debt to finance our investments, changes in interest rates will affect our cost of capital and net investment income;

There will be uncertainty as to the value of our portfolio investments;

Table of Contents

We may experience fluctuations in our quarterly results;

We will become subject to corporate-level income tax on all of our income if we are unable to qualify as a regulated investment company, or RIC, under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, which we refer to as the Code, which would have a material adverse effect on our financial performance;

We cannot assure you that the market price of shares of our common stock will not remain below our net asset value per share;

Our common stock price may be volatile and may decrease substantially;

There is a risk that our stockholders may not receive distributions or that our distributions may not grow over time;

Sales of substantial amounts of our common stock in the public market may have an adverse effect on the market price of our common stock; and

Regulations governing our operation as a business development company affect our ability to, and the way in which we, raise additional capital. As a business development company, the necessity of raising additional capital may expose us to risks, including the typical risks associated with leverage.

See **Risk Factors** beginning on page 16, and the other information included in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement, for additional discussion of factors you should carefully consider before deciding to invest in shares of our common stock.

Operating and Regulatory Structure

Immediately prior to the pricing of our initial public offering, Solar Capital LLC was merged with and into Solar Capital Ltd., a Maryland corporation that is an externally managed, non-diversified closed-end management investment company which has elected to be treated as a business development company under the 1940 Act. As a business development company, we are required to meet regulatory tests, including the requirement to invest at least 70% of our total assets in qualifying assets. Qualifying assets generally include, among other things, securities of eligible portfolio companies. Eligible portfolio companies generally include U.S. companies that are not investment companies and that do not have securities listed on a national exchange. See **Regulation as a Business Development Company**. We may also borrow funds to make investments. In addition, we intend to elect to be treated for federal income tax purposes, and intend to qualify annually thereafter, as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code. See **Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations**.

Our investment activities are managed by Solar Capital Partners and supervised by our board of directors. Solar Capital Partners is an investment adviser that is registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended, or the Advisers Act. Under our investment advisory and management agreement, which we refer to as the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, we have agreed to pay Solar Capital Partners an annual base management fee based on our gross assets as well as an incentive fee based on our performance. See **Investment Advisory and Management Agreement**. We have also entered into an administration agreement, which we refer to as the Administration Agreement, under which we have agreed to reimburse Solar Capital Management for the allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by Solar Capital Management in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, including furnishing us with office facilities, equipment and clerical, bookkeeping and record keeping services at such facilities, as well as providing us with other administrative services. See **Administration Agreement**.

Our Corporate Information

Our offices are located at 500 Park Avenue, 5th Floor, New York, New York 10022, and our telephone number is (212) 993-1670.

Table of Contents

THE OFFERING

Common Stock Offered by the Selling Shareholders	27,327,475 shares
Common Stock Currently Outstanding	Approximately 33,030,641 shares.
Use of Proceeds	We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of the shares of common stock covered by this prospectus.
Distributions	To the extent that we have income available, we intend to distribute quarterly dividends to our stockholders. The amount of our dividends, if any, will be determined by our board of directors. Any dividends to our stockholders will be declared out of assets legally available for distribution. Our first quarterly dividend of \$0.34 per share was paid on April 1, 2010 to holders of record as of March 18, 2010. On May 4, 2010, the Board of Directors declared a dividend of \$0.60 per share payable on July 2, 2010 to stockholders of record on June 17, 2010. Shares offered in this prospectus will be entitled to receive this dividend payment. We anticipate that the dividend will be paid from post-offering taxable earnings, including interest and capital gains generated by our investment portfolio. However, if we do not generate sufficient taxable earnings during the year, the dividend may constitute a return of capital. The specific tax characteristics of our dividends will be reported to shareholders after the end of each calendar year.
Taxation	We intend to elect to be treated for federal income tax purposes, and intend to qualify annually thereafter, as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code. As a RIC, we generally will not have to pay corporate-level federal income taxes on any ordinary income or capital gains that we distribute to our stockholders as dividends. To obtain and maintain our RIC tax treatment, we must meet specified source-of-income and asset diversification requirements and distribute annually at least 90% of our ordinary income and realized net short-term capital gains in excess of realized net long-term capital losses, if any. See Distributions and Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations.
Investment Advisory Fees	We pay Solar Capital Partners a fee for its services under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement consisting of two components a base management fee and an incentive fee. The base management fee is calculated at an annual rate of 2.00% of our gross assets, which includes any borrowings for investment purposes. The incentive fee consists of two parts. The first part is calculated and payable quarterly in arrears and equals 20% of our pre-incentive fee net investment income for the immediately preceding quarter, subject to a preferred return, or hurdle, and a catch up feature.

Table of Contents

The second part is determined and payable in arrears as of the end of each calendar year (or upon termination of the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement) in an amount equal to 20% of our realized capital gains, if any, on a cumulative basis from inception through the end of each calendar year, computed net of all realized capital losses and unrealized capital depreciation on a cumulative basis, less the aggregate amount of any previously paid capital gain incentive fees. See Investment Advisory and Management Agreement.

Administration Agreement

We reimburse Solar Capital Management for the allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by Solar Capital Management in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, including furnishing us with office facilities, equipment and clerical, bookkeeping and record keeping services at such facilities, as well as providing us with other administrative services. In addition, we reimburse Solar Capital Management for the fees and expenses associated with performing compliance functions, and our allocable portion of the compensation of our chief financial officer and any administrative support staff. See Administration Agreement.

Trading

Shares of closed-end investment companies frequently trade at a discount to their net asset value. The risk that our shares may trade at a discount to our net asset value is separate and distinct from the risk that our net asset value per share may decline. We cannot predict whether our shares will trade above, at or below net asset value.

License Agreement

We have entered into a license agreement with Solar Capital Partners, pursuant to which Solar Capital Partners has agreed to grant us a non-exclusive license to use the name Solar Capital. See License Agreement.

Dividend Reinvestment Plan

We have adopted an opt out dividend reinvestment plan. If your shares of common stock are registered in your own name, your distributions will automatically be reinvested under our dividend reinvestment plan in additional whole and fractional shares of common stock, unless you opt out of our dividend reinvestment plan so as to receive cash dividends by delivering a written notice to our plan administrator. If your shares are held in the name of a broker or other nominee, you should contact the broker or nominee for details regarding opting out of our dividend reinvestment plan. Stockholders who receive distributions in the form of stock will be subject to the same federal, state and local tax consequences as stockholders who elect to receive their distributions in cash. See Dividend Reinvestment Plan.

Certain Anti-Takeover Measures

Our charter and bylaws, as well as certain statutory and regulatory requirements, contain certain provisions that may have the effect of discouraging a third party from making an acquisition proposal for us.

Table of Contents

These anti-takeover provisions may inhibit a change in control in circumstances that could give the holders of our common stock the opportunity to realize a premium over the market price for our common stock. See Description of Securities.

Available Information

We are required to file periodic reports, current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. This information is available at the SEC's public reference room at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20549 and on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. The public may obtain information on the operation of the SEC's public reference room by calling the SEC at (202) 551-8090. This information is also available free of charge by contacting us at Solar Capital Ltd., 500 Park Avenue, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10022, by telephone at (212) 993-1670 or on our website at <http://www.solarcapltd.com>.

Table of Contents**FEES AND EXPENSES**

The following table is intended to assist you in understanding the costs and expenses that you will bear directly or indirectly. We caution you that some of the percentages indicated in the table below are estimates and may vary. Except where the context suggests otherwise, whenever this prospectus contains a reference to fees or expenses paid by us or Solar Capital, or that we will pay fees or expenses, you will indirectly bear such fees or expenses as an investor in Solar Capital Ltd.

Stockholder transaction expenses:

Sales load (as a percentage of offering price)	%(1)
Offering expenses borne by us (as a percentage of offering price)	%(2)
Dividend reinvestment plan expenses	None (3)

Total stockholder transaction expenses (as a percentage of offering price)	%(2)
--	------

Annual expenses (as a percentage of net assets attributable to common stock):

Base management fee	2.39%(4)
Incentive fees payable under our Investment Advisory and Management Agreement	2.89%(5)
Interest payments on borrowed funds	2.07%(6)
Other expenses (estimated)	0.88%(7)

Total annual expenses (estimated)	8.23%
-----------------------------------	-------

Example

The following example demonstrates the projected dollar amount of total cumulative expenses that would be incurred over various periods with respect to a hypothetical investment in our common stock. In calculating the following expense amounts, we have assumed that our annual operating expenses would remain at the levels set forth in the table above and have excluded performance-based incentive fees. See Note 6 below for additional information regarding certain assumptions regarding our level of leverage. In the event that shares to which this prospectus relates are sold to or through underwriters, a corresponding prospectus supplement will restate this example to reflect the applicable sales load.

	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
You would pay the following expenses on a \$1,000 investment, assuming a 5% annual return	\$ 53	\$ 160	\$ 265	\$ 526

- (1) In the event that the shares of common stock to which this prospectus relates are sold to or through underwriters, a corresponding prospectus supplement will disclose the applicable sales load.
- (2) The prospectus supplement corresponding to each offering will disclose the applicable offering expenses and total stockholder transaction expenses.
- (3) The expenses of the dividend reinvestment plan are included in other expenses.
- (4) Our base management fee under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement is based on our gross assets, which is defined as all the assets of Solar Capital, including those acquired using borrowings for investment purposes, and assumes the base management fee remains consistent with the annualized fee incurred for the three months ended March 31, 2010. See Investment Advisory and Management Agreement.
- (5) Assumes that annual incentive fees earned by our investment adviser, Solar Capital Partners, remain consistent with the annualized incentive fees earned by Solar Capital Partners for the three months ended March 31, 2010. The incentive fee consists of two parts:

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

The first part, which is payable quarterly in arrears, equals 20% of the excess, if any, of our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income that exceeds a 1.75% quarterly (7.00% annualized) hurdle rate, which we refer to as the Hurdle, subject to a catch-up provision measured at the end of each calendar quarter. The first part of the incentive fee is computed and paid on income that may include interest that is accrued but not yet received in cash. The operation of the first part of the incentive fee for each quarter is as follows:

no incentive fee is payable to our investment adviser in any calendar quarter in which our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income does not exceed the Hurdle of 1.75%;

Table of Contents

100% of our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income with respect to that portion of such Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income, if any, that exceeds the Hurdle but is less than 2.1875% in any calendar quarter (8.75% annualized) is payable to our investment adviser. We refer to this portion of our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income (which exceeds the Hurdle but is less than 2.1875%) as the catch-up. The catch-up is meant to provide our investment adviser with 20% of our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income, as if a Hurdle did not apply when our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income exceeds 2.1875% in any calendar quarter; and 20% of the amount of our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income, if any, that exceeds 2.1875% in any calendar quarter (8.75% annualized) is payable to our investment adviser (once the Hurdle is reached and the catch-up is achieved, 20% of all Pre-Incentive Fee Investment Income thereafter is allocated to our investment adviser).

The second part of the incentive fee equals 20% of our Incentive Fee Capital Gains, if any, which equals our realized capital gains on a cumulative basis from inception through the end of each calendar year, computed net of all realized capital losses and unrealized capital depreciation on a cumulative basis, less the aggregate amount of any previously paid capital gain incentive fees. The second part of the incentive fee is payable, in arrears, at the end of each calendar year (or upon termination of the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, as of the termination date). For a more detailed discussion of the calculation of this fee, see Investment Advisory and Management Agreement.

- (6) We may borrow funds from time to time to make investments to the extent we determine that the economic situation is conducive to doing so. The costs associated with our outstanding borrowings are indirectly born by our investors. For purposes of this section, we have computed interest expense using the average balance outstanding during the year ended, and the LIBOR rate on, March 31, 2010 and the interest rate on our amended and restated Senior Secured Revolving Credit Facility of LIBOR plus 3.25%. We have also included the estimated amortization of fees incurred in establishing our amended and restated Senior Secured Revolving Credit Facility. We also have approximately \$125 million of the Senior Unsecured Notes outstanding. For purposes of this section we have included estimated annual interest expense as well as the amortization of any deferred costs associated with the Senior Unsecured Notes. As of March 31, 2010, we had no borrowings outstanding and \$270 million remaining available to us under our revolving credit facility. We may also issue preferred stock, subject to our compliance with applicable requirements under the 1940 Act.
- (7) Other expenses are based on the annualized amounts for the three months ended March 31, 2010 and include our overhead expenses, including payments under our Administration Agreement based on our allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by Solar Capital Management in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement. See Administration Agreement.

The example and the expenses in the tables above should not be considered a representation of our future expenses, and actual expenses may be greater or less than those shown. While the example assumes, as required by the SEC, a 5% annual return, our performance will vary and may result in a return greater or less than 5%. The incentive fee under the Investment Management Agreement, which, assuming a 5% annual return, would either not be payable or would have an insignificant impact on the expense amounts shown above, is not included in the example. This illustration assumes that we will not realize any capital gains (computed net of all realized capital losses and unrealized capital depreciation) in any of the indicated time periods. If we achieve sufficient returns on our investments, including through the realization of capital gains, to trigger an incentive fee of a material amount, our expenses and returns to our investors would be higher. In addition, the example assumes no sales load. Also, while the example assumes reinvestment of all dividends at net asset value, participants in our dividend reinvestment plan will receive a number of shares of our common stock, determined by dividing the total dollar amount of the dividend payable to a participant by the market price per share of our common stock at the close of trading on the dividend payment date, which may be at, above or below net asset value. See Dividend Reinvestment Plan for additional information regarding our dividend reinvestment plan.

Table of Contents**SELECTED FINANCIAL AND OTHER DATA**

The selected financial and other data below should be read in conjunction with our Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and the financial statements and notes thereto. Financial information is presented for the period from March 13, 2007 (inception) through December 31, 2007, for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2008 and 2009, and for the three months ended March 31, 2010. Financial information for the periods ending 2007, 2008 and 2009 has been derived from our financial statements that were audited by KPMG LLP (KPMG), an independent registered public accounting firm. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations below for more information.

	Three months ended March 31, 2010 (unaudited) (dollars in thousands)	Year ended December 31, 2009 (dollars in thousands)	Year ended December 31, 2008 (dollars in thousands)	Period from March 13, 2007 (inception) through December 31, 2007 (dollars in thousands)
Income statement data:				
Total investment income	\$ 35,310	\$ 109,670	\$ 133,959	\$ 78,455
Total expenses	14,199	42,408	46,560	25,461
Net investment income	21,111	67,262	87,399	52,994
Net realized loss	(22,243)	(264,898)	(937)	(10,489)
Net change in unrealized gain (loss)	63,136	284,572	(492,290)	6,595
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	62,004	86,936	(405,828)	49,100
Other data:				
Weighted average annualized yield on income producing investments:				
On fair value(1)(4)	13.9%	14.8%	17.1%	12.9%
On cost(2)(4)	13.3%	13.7%	11.9%	12.7%
Number of portfolio companies at period end(4)	33	36	44	38
	As of March 31, 2010 (unaudited) (dollars in thousands)	As of December 31, 2009 (dollars in thousands)	As of December 31, 2008 (dollars in thousands)	As of December 31, 2007 (dollars in thousands)
Balance sheet data:				
Total investment portfolio	\$ 838,956	\$ 863,140	\$ 768,215	\$ 1,178,736
Total cash and cash equivalents	60,363	5,675	65,841	169,692
Total assets	928,743	885,421	873,026	1,396,545
Credit facility payable		88,114		
Senior unsecured notes	125,000			
Net assets	730,379	697,903	852,673	1,258,501
Per share data:(3)				
Net asset value per share	22.18	21.24	25.95	38.30
Net investment income	0.64	2.05	2.66	1.62
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	1.26	0.60	(15.01)	(0.12)
Dividends and distributions declared	(0.34)	(7.36)		
Offering costs	(0.29)			
Effect of dilution	(0.33)			

Table of Contents

- (1) Throughout this document, the weighted average yield on income producing investments is computed as the (a) annual stated interest on accruing loans and debt securities plus the annual amortization of loan origination fees, original issue discount, and market discount on accruing loans and debt securities, plus the effective interest yield on preferred shares divided by (b) total income producing investments at fair value. The weighted average yield is computed as of the balance sheet date and excludes assets on non-accrual status or on a cost recovery basis as of such date.
- (2) For this calculation, the weighted average yield on income producing investments is computed as the (a) annual stated interest on accruing loans and debt securities plus the annual amortization of loan origination fees, original issue discount, and market discount on accruing loans and debt securities, plus the effective interest yield on preferred shares divided by (b) total income producing investments at cost. The weighted average yield is computed as of the balance sheet date and excludes assets on non-accrual status or on a cost recovery basis as of such date.
- (3) The number of shares used to calculate weighted average shares for use in computations on a per share basis have been decreased retroactively by a factor of approximately 0.4022 for all periods prior to February 9, 2010. This factor represents the effective impact of the reduction in shares resulting from the Solar Capital Merger. The per share calculations are based on 32,860,454 weighted average shares outstanding as of December 31, 2009, 2008, and 2007 and 32,928,257 shares and 32,553,322 weighted average shares outstanding as of March 31, 2010.
- (4) Unaudited.

Selected Quarterly Financial Data (Unaudited)**(dollar amounts in thousands, except per share data)**

	2009			
	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1
Total investment income	\$ 28,456	\$ 27,785	\$ 25,252	\$ 28,177
Net investment income (loss)	\$ 17,685	\$ 16,383	\$ 16,099	\$ 17,095
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	\$ 22,271	\$ 22,181	\$ 17,899	\$ (42,677)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	\$ 39,956	\$ 38,564	\$ 33,998	\$ (25,582)
Earnings per share(1)	\$ 1.22	\$ 1.17	\$ 1.04	\$ (0.78)
Net asset value per share at the end of the quarter(2)	\$ 21.24	\$ 22.30	\$ 23.61	\$ 22.57
	2008			
	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1
Total investment income	\$ 38,035	\$ 32,464	\$ 32,367	\$ 31,093
Net investment income (loss)	\$ 22,080	\$ 21,990	\$ 21,305	\$ 22,024
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	\$ (339,193)	\$ (108,641)	\$ 17,680	\$ (63,073)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	\$ (317,113)	\$ (86,651)	\$ 38,985	\$ (41,049)
Earnings per share(1)	\$ (9.65)	\$ (2.64)	\$ 1.19	\$ (1.25)
Net asset value per share at the end of the quarter(2)	\$ 25.95	\$ 35.60	\$ 38.24	\$ 37.05

- (1) Based on 32,860,454 weighted average shares of Solar Capital Ltd. outstanding during each respective quarter.
- (2) Based on 32,860,454 shares of Solar Capital Ltd. outstanding as of the end of the respective quarter.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

Before you invest in our common stock, you should be aware of various risks, including those described below. You should carefully consider these risk factors, together with all of the other information included in this prospectus, before you decide whether to make an investment in our common stock. The risks set out below are not the only risks we face. If any of the following events occur, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be materially adversely affected. In such case, our net asset value could decline, and you may lose all or part of your investment.

Risks Related to Our Investments

We operate in a highly competitive market for investment opportunities.

A number of entities compete with us to make the types of investments that we target in leveraged companies. We compete with public and private funds, commercial and investment banks, commercial financing companies and, to the extent they provide an alternative form of financing, private equity funds. Additionally, because competition for investment opportunities generally has increased during the past several years among alternative investment vehicles, such as hedge funds, those entities have begun to invest in areas they have not traditionally invested in, including making investments in leveraged companies. As a result of these new entrants, competition for investment opportunities at leveraged companies has generally intensified during the past several years, and we expect the trend to continue after the current recession has ended. Many of our potential competitors are substantially larger and have considerably greater financial, technical and marketing resources than we do. For example, some competitors may have a lower cost of funds and access to funding sources that are not available to us. In addition, some of our competitors may have higher risk tolerances or different risk assessments than we do, which could allow them to consider a wider variety of investments and establish more relationships than us. Furthermore, many of our competitors are not subject to the regulatory restrictions that the 1940 Act imposes on us. We cannot assure you that the competitive pressures we face will not have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. Also, as a result of this competition, we may not be able to take advantage of attractive investment opportunities from time to time, and we can offer no assurance that we will be able to identify and make investments that are consistent with our investment objective.

We do not seek to compete primarily based on the interest rates we will offer, and we believe that some of our competitors may make loans with interest rates that will be comparable to or lower than the rates we offer. We may lose investment opportunities if we do not match our competitors' pricing, terms and structure. However, if we match our competitors' pricing, terms and structure, we may experience decreased net interest income and increased risk of credit loss.

Our investments are very risky and highly speculative.

We invest primarily in senior secured term loans, mezzanine debt and select equity investments issued by leveraged companies.

Senior Secured Loans. When we make a senior secured term loan investment in a portfolio company, we generally take a security interest in the available assets of the portfolio company, including the equity interests of its subsidiaries, which we expect to help mitigate the risk that we will not be repaid. However, there is a risk that the collateral securing our loans may decrease in value over time, may be difficult to sell in a timely manner, may

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

be difficult to appraise and may fluctuate in value based upon the success of the business and market conditions, including as a result of the inability of the portfolio company to raise additional capital, and, in some circumstances, our lien could be subordinated to claims of other creditors. In addition, deterioration in a portfolio company's financial condition and prospects, including its inability to raise additional capital, may be accompanied by deterioration in the value of the collateral for the loan. Consequently, the fact that a loan is secured does not guarantee that we will receive principal and interest payments according to the loan's terms, or at all, or that we will be able to collect on the loan should we be forced to enforce our remedies.

Table of Contents

Mezzanine Loans. Our mezzanine debt investments are generally subordinated to senior loans and are generally unsecured. As such, other creditors may rank senior to us in the event of an insolvency. This may result in an above average amount of risk and loss of principal.

Equity Investments. When we invest in senior secured loans or mezzanine loans, we may acquire equity securities as well. In addition, we may invest directly in the equity securities of portfolio companies. Our goal is ultimately to dispose of such equity interests and realize gains upon our disposition of such interests. However, the equity interests we receive may not appreciate in value and, in fact, may decline in value. Accordingly, we may not be able to realize gains from our equity interests, and any gains that we do realize on the disposition of any equity interests may not be sufficient to offset any other losses we experience.

In addition, investing in middle-market companies involves a number of significant risks, including:

these companies may have limited financial resources and may be unable to meet their obligations under their debt securities that we hold, which may be accompanied by a deterioration in the value of any collateral and a reduction in the likelihood of us realizing any guarantees we may have obtained in connection with our investment;

they typically have shorter operating histories, narrower product lines and smaller market shares than larger businesses, which tend to render them more vulnerable to competitors' actions and market conditions, as well as general economic downturns;

they are more likely to depend on the management talents and efforts of a small group of persons; therefore, the death, disability, resignation or termination of one or more of these persons could have a material adverse impact on our portfolio company and, in turn, on us;

they generally have less predictable operating results, may from time to time be parties to litigation, may be engaged in rapidly changing businesses with products subject to a substantial risk of obsolescence, and may require substantial additional capital to support their operations, finance expansion or maintain their competitive position. In addition, our executive officers, directors and our investment adviser may, in the ordinary course of business, be named as defendants in litigation arising from our investments in the portfolio companies; and

they may have difficulty accessing the capital markets to meet future capital needs, which may limit their ability to grow or to repay their outstanding indebtedness upon maturity.

The lack of liquidity in our investments may adversely affect our business.

We generally make investments in private companies. Substantially all of these securities are subject to legal and other restrictions on resale or will otherwise be less liquid than publicly traded securities. The illiquidity of our investments may make it difficult for us to sell such investments if the need arises. In addition, if we are required to liquidate all or a portion of our portfolio quickly, we may realize significantly less than the value at which we have previously recorded our investments. In addition, we may face other restrictions on our ability to liquidate an investment in a portfolio company to the extent that we have material non-public information regarding such portfolio company.

Our portfolio may be concentrated in a limited number of portfolio companies and industries, which will subject us to a risk of significant loss if any of these companies defaults on its obligations under any of its debt instruments or if there is a downturn in a particular industry.

Our portfolio may be concentrated in a limited number of portfolio companies and industries. Beyond the asset diversification requirements associated with our qualification as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code, we do not have fixed guidelines for diversification, and while we are not targeting any specific industries, our investments may be concentrated in relatively few industries. As a result, the aggregate returns we realize may be significantly adversely affected if a small number of investments perform poorly or if we need to write down the

Table of Contents

value of any one investment. Additionally, a downturn in any particular industry in which we are invested could also significantly impact the aggregate returns we realize.

We are currently in a period of capital markets disruption and recession and we do not expect these conditions to improve in the near future.

The U.S. capital markets have been experiencing extreme volatility and disruption for more than 2 years and the U.S. economy is currently in a period of recession. Disruptions in the capital markets have increased the spread between the yields realized on risk-free and higher risk securities, resulting in illiquidity in parts of the capital markets. We believe these conditions may continue for a prolonged period of time or worsen in the future. A prolonged period of market illiquidity may have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. Unfavorable economic conditions could also increase our funding costs, limit our access to the capital markets or result in a decision by lenders not to extend credit to us. These events could limit our investment originations, limit our ability to grow and negatively impact our operating results.

The current economic recession could impair our portfolio companies and harm our operating results.

Certain of our portfolio companies may be susceptible to the current recession and may be unable to repay our loans during this period. Therefore, our non-performing assets may increase and the value of our portfolio may decrease during this period. The current adverse economic conditions also may decrease the value of collateral securing some of our loans and the value of our equity investments. The current recession could lead to financial losses in our portfolio and a decrease in revenues, net income and the value of our assets.

A portfolio company's failure to satisfy financial or operating covenants imposed by us or other lenders could lead to defaults and, potentially, termination of its loans and foreclosure on its secured assets, which could trigger cross-defaults under other agreements and jeopardize our portfolio company's ability to meet its obligations under the debt securities that we hold. We may incur expenses to the extent necessary to seek recovery upon default or to negotiate new terms with a defaulting portfolio company. In addition, if one of our portfolio companies were to go bankrupt, even though we may have structured our interest as senior debt, depending on the facts and circumstances, including the extent to which we actually provided managerial assistance to that portfolio company, a bankruptcy court might recharacterize our debt holding and subordinate all or a portion of our claim to that of other creditors.

Price declines and illiquidity in the corporate debt markets have adversely affected, and may continue to adversely affect, the fair value of our portfolio investments, reducing our net asset value through increased net unrealized depreciation.

As a BDC, we are required to carry our investments at market value or, if no market value is ascertainable, at fair value as determined in good faith by or under the direction of our board of directors. Decreases in the market values or fair values of our investments are recorded as unrealized depreciation. The continuing unprecedented declines in prices and liquidity in the corporate debt markets have resulted in significant net unrealized depreciation in our portfolio, reducing our net asset value. Depending on market conditions, we could continue to incur substantial losses in future periods, which could further reduce our net asset value and have a material adverse impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our failure to make follow-on investments in our portfolio companies could impair the value of our portfolio.

Following an initial investment in a portfolio company, we may make additional investments in that portfolio company as follow-on investments, in order to: (i) increase or maintain in whole or in part our equity ownership percentage; (ii) exercise warrants, options or convertible securities that were acquired in the original or subsequent financing; or (iii) attempt to preserve or enhance the value of our investment. We may elect not to make follow-on investments or otherwise lack sufficient funds to make those investments. We will have the

Table of Contents

discretion to make any follow-on investments, subject to the availability of capital resources. The failure to make follow-on investments may, in some circumstances, jeopardize the continued viability of a portfolio company and our initial investment, or may result in a missed opportunity for us to increase our participation in a successful operation. Even if we have sufficient capital to make a desired follow-on investment, we may elect not to make a follow-on investment because we may not want to increase our concentration of risk, either because we prefer other opportunities or because we are subject to BDC requirements that would prevent such follow-on investments or the desire to maintain our RIC tax status.

Because we generally do not hold controlling equity interests in our portfolio companies, we may not be in a position to exercise control over our portfolio companies or to prevent decisions by management of our portfolio companies that could decrease the value of our investments.

Although we may do so in the future, we do not currently hold controlling equity positions in our portfolio companies. As a result, we are subject to the risk that a portfolio company may make business decisions with which we disagree, and that the management and/or stockholders of a portfolio company may take risks or otherwise act in ways that are adverse to our interests. Due to the lack of liquidity of the debt and equity investments that we typically hold in our portfolio companies, we may not be able to dispose of our investments in the event we disagree with the actions of a portfolio company and may therefore suffer a decrease in the value of our investments.

An investment strategy focused primarily on privately held companies presents certain challenges, including the lack of available information about these companies, a dependence on the talents and efforts of only a few key portfolio company personnel and a greater vulnerability to economic downturns.

We invest primarily in privately held companies. Generally, little public information exists about these companies, and we are required to rely on the ability of Solar Capital Partners' investment professionals to obtain adequate information to evaluate the potential returns from investing in these companies. If we are unable to uncover all material information about these companies, we may not make a fully informed investment decision, and we may lose money on our investments. Also, privately held companies frequently have less diverse product lines and smaller market presence than larger competitors. These factors could adversely affect our investment returns as compared to companies investing primarily in the securities of public companies.

Our portfolio companies may incur debt that ranks equally with, or senior to, our investments in such companies.

We invest primarily in senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities issued by our portfolio companies. Our portfolio companies typically have, or may be permitted to incur, other debt that ranks equally with, or senior to, the debt securities in which we invest. By their terms, such debt instruments may provide that the holders are entitled to receive payment of interest or principal on or before the dates on which we are entitled to receive payments in respect of the debt securities in which we invest. Also, in the event of insolvency, liquidation, dissolution, reorganization or bankruptcy of a portfolio company, holders of debt instruments ranking senior to our investment in that portfolio company would typically be entitled to receive payment in full before we receive any distribution in respect of our investment. After repaying such senior creditors, such portfolio company may not have any remaining assets to use for repaying its obligation to us. In the case of debt ranking equally with debt securities in which we invest, we would have to share on an equal basis any distributions with other creditors holding such debt in the event of an insolvency, liquidation, dissolution, reorganization or bankruptcy of the relevant portfolio company.

Our investments in foreign securities may involve significant risks in addition to the risks inherent in U.S. investments.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

Our investment strategy contemplates potential investments in debt securities of foreign companies. Investing in foreign companies may expose us to additional risks not typically associated with investing in U.S.

Table of Contents

companies. These risks include changes in exchange control regulations, political and social instability, expropriation, imposition of foreign taxes, less liquid markets and less available information than is generally the case in the United States, higher transaction costs, less government supervision of exchanges, brokers and issuers, less developed bankruptcy laws, difficulty in enforcing contractual obligations, lack of uniform accounting and auditing standards and greater price volatility.

Although most of our investments will be U.S. dollar-denominated, any investments denominated in a foreign currency will be subject to the risk that the value of a particular currency will change in relation to one or more other currencies. Among the factors that may affect currency values are trade balances, the level of short-term interest rates, differences in relative values of similar assets in different currencies, long-term opportunities for investment and capital appreciation, and political developments. We may employ hedging techniques to minimize these risks, but we can offer no assurance that we will, in fact, hedge currency risk, or that if we do, such strategies will be effective.

We may expose ourselves to risks if we engage in hedging transactions.

If we engage in hedging transactions, we may expose ourselves to risks associated with such transactions. We may utilize instruments such as forward contracts, currency options and interest rate swaps, caps, collars and floors to seek to hedge against fluctuations in the relative values of our portfolio positions from changes in currency exchange rates and market interest rates. Hedging against a decline in the values of our portfolio positions does not eliminate the possibility of fluctuations in the values of such positions or prevent losses if the values of such positions decline. However, such hedging can establish other positions designed to gain from those same developments, thereby offsetting the decline in the value of such portfolio positions. Such hedging transaction may also limit the opportunity for gain if the values of the underlying portfolio positions should increase. It may not be possible to hedge against an exchange rate or interest rate fluctuation that is so generally anticipated that we are not able to enter into a hedging transaction at an acceptable price. Moreover, for a variety of reasons, we may not seek to establish a perfect correlation between such hedging instruments and the portfolio holdings being hedged. Any such imperfect correlation may prevent us from achieving the intended hedge and expose us to risk of loss. In addition, it may not be possible to hedge fully or perfectly against currency fluctuations affecting the value of securities denominated in non-U.S. currencies because the value of those securities is likely to fluctuate as a result of factors not related to currency fluctuations.

Our investment adviser may not be able to achieve the same or similar returns as those achieved by our senior investment professionals while they were employed at prior positions.

Although in the past Mr. Gross held senior positions at a number of investment firms, including Apollo Investment Corporation and Apollo Management, L.P., Mr. Gross' track record and achievements are not necessarily indicative of future results that will be achieved by our investment adviser. In his role at such other firms, Mr. Gross was part of an investment team, and he was not solely responsible for generating investment ideas. In addition, such investment teams arrived at investment decisions by consensus.

Risks Relating to an Investment in Our Securities

Our shares may trade at a substantial discount from net asset value and may continue to do so over the long term.

Shares of closed-end investment companies have frequently traded at a market price that is less than the net asset value that is attributable to those shares. In part as a result of the current economic environment and increasing pressure within the financial sector of which we are a part,

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

our common stock has traded below our net asset value per share since the pricing of our initial public offering on February 9, 2010. The possibility that our shares of common stock will trade at a substantial discount from net asset value over the long term is separate and distinct from the risk that our net asset value will decrease. We cannot predict whether shares of our common stock will trade above, at or below our net asset value. If our common stock trades below its net asset value, we will generally not be able to issue additional shares or sell our common stock at its market price without first obtaining the approval for such issuance from our stockholders and our independent directors. If additional funds are not available to us, we could be forced to curtail or cease our new lending and investment activities, and our net asset value could decrease and our level of distributions could be impacted.

Table of Contents

Our common stock price may be volatile and may decrease substantially.

The trading price of our common stock may fluctuate substantially. The price of our common stock that will prevail in the market may be higher or lower than the price you pay, depending on many factors, some of which are beyond our control and may not be directly related to our operating performance. These factors include, but are not limited to, the following:

price and volume fluctuations in the overall stock market from time to time;

investor demand for our shares;

significant volatility in the market price and trading volume of securities of business development companies or other companies in our sector, which are not necessarily related to the operating performance of these companies;

changes in regulatory policies or tax guidelines with respect to RICs or business development companies;

failure to qualify as a RIC, or the loss of RIC status;

any shortfall in revenue or net income or any increase in losses from levels expected by investors or securities analysts;

changes, or perceived changes, in the value of our portfolio investments;

departures of Solar Capital Partners' key personnel;

operating performance of companies comparable to us; or

general economic conditions and trends and other external factors.

In the past, following periods of volatility in the market price of a company's securities, securities class action litigation has often been brought against that company. Due to the potential volatility of our stock price once a market for our stock is established, we may become the target of securities litigation in the future. Securities litigation could result in substantial costs and divert management's attention and resources from our business.

There is a risk that our stockholders may not receive distributions or that our distributions may not grow over time.

We intend to make distributions on a quarterly basis to our stockholders out of assets legally available for distribution. We cannot assure you that we will achieve investment results that will allow us to make a specified level of cash distributions or year-to-year increases in cash

distributions. In addition, due to the asset coverage test applicable to us as a business development company, we may be limited in our ability to make distributions.

Sales of substantial amounts of our common stock in the public market may have an adverse effect on the market price of our common stock.

All of the approximately 26.65 million shares of our common stock that were issued to holders of equity interests of Solar Capital LLC in the Solar Capital Merger and the 600,000 shares that were issued to Messrs. Gross and Spohler in a private placement transaction concurrent with our initial public offering are subject to lock-up periods ranging from 120 to 365 days. Upon expiration of these lock-up periods, or earlier upon the consent of Citigroup Global Markets Inc. or J.P. Morgan Securities Inc., such shares will generally be freely tradable in the public market, subject to the provisions of Rule 144 promulgated under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act). Sales of substantial amounts of our common stock, or the availability of such common stock for sale, could adversely affect the prevailing market prices for our common stock. If this occurs and continues, it could impair our ability to raise additional capital through the sale of securities should we desire to do so.

Table of Contents

Risks Relating to Our Business and Structure

We have an operating history of only three years.

We were formed in February 2007 and commenced operations in March 2007. As a result of our relatively short operating history, we are subject to many of the business risks and uncertainties associated with more recently formed businesses, including the risk that we will not achieve our investment objective and that the value of your investment could decline substantially.

We are dependent upon Solar Capital Partners' key personnel for our future success.

We depend on the diligence, skill and network of business contacts of Messrs. Gross and Spohler, who serve as the managing member and a partner of Solar Capital Partners, respectively, and who lead Solar Capital Partners' investment team. Messrs. Gross and Spohler, together with the other dedicated investment professionals available to Solar Capital Partners, evaluate, negotiate, structure, close and monitor our investments. Our future success will depend on the continued service of Messrs. Gross and Spohler and the other investment professionals available to Solar Capital Partners. We cannot assure you that unforeseen business, medical, personal or other circumstances would not lead any such individual to terminate his relationship with us. The loss of Mr. Gross or Mr. Spohler, or any of the other senior investment professionals who serve on Solar Capital Partners' investment team, could have a material adverse effect on our ability to achieve our investment objective as well as on our financial condition and results of operations. In addition, we can offer no assurance that Solar Capital Partners will remain our investment adviser.

The senior investment professionals of Solar Capital Partners are and may in the future become affiliated with entities engaged in business activities similar to those intended to be conducted by us, and may have conflicts of interest in allocating their time. We expect that Messrs. Gross and Spohler will dedicate a significant portion of their time to the activities of Solar Capital; however, they may be engaged in other business activities which could divert their time and attention in the future.

An extended continuation of the disruption in the capital markets and the credit markets could negatively affect our business.

As a BDC, we must maintain our ability to raise additional capital for investment purposes. Without sufficient access to the capital markets or credit markets, we may be forced to curtail our business operations or we may not be able to pursue new business opportunities. Since the middle of 2007, the capital markets and the credit markets have been experiencing extreme volatility and disruption and, accordingly, there has been and will continue to be uncertainty in the financial markets in general. Ongoing disruptive conditions in the financial industry and the impact of new legislation in response to those conditions could restrict our business operations and could adversely impact our results of operations and financial condition.

If the fair value of our assets declines substantially, we may fail to maintain the asset coverage ratios imposed upon us by the 1940 Act. Any such failure would affect our ability to issue senior securities, including borrowings, and pay dividends, which could materially impair our business operations. Our liquidity could be impaired further by an inability to access the capital markets or to draw on our credit facilities. For example, we cannot be certain that we will be able to renew our credit facilities as they mature or to consummate new borrowing facilities to provide capital for normal operations, including new originations. Reflecting concern about the stability of the financial markets, many lenders and institutional investors have reduced or ceased providing funding to borrowers. This market turmoil and tightening of credit have led to

increased market volatility and widespread reduction of business activity generally.

If we are unable to renew or replace such facilities and consummate new facilities on commercially reasonable terms, our liquidity will be reduced significantly. If we are unable to repay amounts outstanding under such facilities and are declared in default or are unable to renew or refinance these facilities, we would not be

Table of Contents

able to initiate significant originations or to operate our business in the normal course. These situations may arise due to circumstances that we may be unable to control, such as inaccessibility to the credit markets, a severe decline in the value of the U.S. dollar, a further economic downturn or an operational problem that affects third parties or us, and could materially damage our business. Moreover, we are unable to predict when economic and market conditions may become more favorable. Even if such conditions improve broadly and significantly over the long term, adverse conditions in particular sectors of the financial markets could adversely impact our business.

Our financial condition and results of operations will depend on our ability to manage future growth effectively.

Our ability to achieve our investment objective and to grow depends on Solar Capital Partners' ability to identify, invest in and monitor companies that meet our investment criteria.

Accomplishing this result on a cost-effective basis is largely a function of Solar Capital Partners' structuring of the investment process, its ability to provide competent, attentive and efficient services to us and its ability to access financing for us on acceptable terms. The investment team of Solar Capital Partners has substantial responsibilities under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, and they may also be called upon to provide managerial assistance to our portfolio companies as the principals of our administrator. Such demands on their time may distract them or slow our rate of investment. In order to grow, we and Solar Capital Partners will need to retain, train, supervise and manage new investment professionals. However, we can offer no assurance that any such investment professionals will contribute effectively to the work of the investment adviser. Any failure to manage our future growth effectively could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Any failure on our part to maintain our status as a BDC would reduce our operating flexibility.

The 1940 Act imposes numerous constraints on the operations of BDCs. For example, BDCs are required to invest at least 70% of their total assets in specified types of securities, primarily in private companies or thinly-traded U.S. public companies, cash, cash equivalents, U.S. government securities and other high quality debt investments that mature in one year or less. Furthermore, any failure to comply with the requirements imposed on BDCs by the 1940 Act could cause the SEC to bring an enforcement action against us and/or expose us to claims of private litigants. In addition, upon approval of a majority of our stockholders, we may elect to withdraw our status as a BDC. If we decide to withdraw our election, or if we otherwise fail to qualify, or maintain our qualification, as a BDC, we may be subject to the substantially greater regulation under the 1940 Act as a closed-end investment company. Compliance with such regulations would significantly decrease our operating flexibility, and could significantly increase our costs of doing business.

Regulations governing our operation as a BDC affect our ability to, and the way in which we, raise additional capital. As a BDC, the necessity of raising additional capital may expose us to risks, including the typical risks associated with leverage.

We may issue debt securities or preferred stock and/or borrow money from banks or other financial institutions, which we refer to collectively as senior securities, up to the maximum amount permitted by the 1940 Act. Under the provisions of the 1940 Act, we will be permitted, as a BDC, to issue senior securities in amounts such that our asset coverage ratio, as defined in the 1940 Act, equals at least 200% of gross assets less all liabilities and indebtedness not represented by senior securities, after each issuance of senior securities. If the value of our assets declines, we may be unable to satisfy this test. If that happens, we may be required to sell a portion of our investments and, depending on the nature of our leverage, repay a portion of our indebtedness at a time when such sales may be disadvantageous. Also, any amounts that we use to service our indebtedness would not be available for distributions to our common stockholders. Furthermore, as a result of issuing senior securities, we would also be exposed to typical risks associated with leverage, including an increased risk of loss.

Table of Contents

As of March 31, 2010, we had no borrowings outstanding under our revolving credit facility and approximately \$125 million of Senior Unsecured Notes. If we issue preferred stock, the preferred stock would rank senior to common stock in our capital structure, preferred stockholders would have separate voting rights on certain matters and might have other rights, preferences, or privileges more favorable than those of our common stockholders, and the issuance of preferred stock could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a transaction or a change of control that might involve a premium price for holders of our common stock or otherwise be in your best interest.

We are not generally able to issue and sell our common stock at a price below net asset value per share. We may, however, sell our common stock, or warrants, options or rights to acquire our common stock, at a price below the then-current net asset value per share of our common stock if our board of directors determines that such sale is in the best interests of Solar Capital and its stockholders, and our stockholders approve such sale. In any such case, the price at which our securities are to be issued and sold may not be less than a price that, in the determination of our board of directors, closely approximates the market value of such securities (less any distributing commission or discount). If we raise additional funds by issuing more common stock or senior securities convertible into, or exchangeable for, our common stock, then the percentage ownership of our stockholders at that time will decrease, and you might experience dilution.

We may borrow money, which would magnify the potential for gain or loss on amounts invested and may increase the risk of investing in us.

The use of leverage magnifies the potential for gain or loss on amounts invested and, therefore, increases the risks associated with investing in our securities. As of March 31, 2010, we had no borrowings outstanding under our revolving credit facility and approximately \$125 million of Senior Unsecured Notes. We may borrow from and issue senior debt securities to banks, insurance companies and other lenders in the future. Lenders of these senior securities, including our revolving credit facility and our outstanding senior unsecured notes, will have fixed dollar claims on our assets that are superior to the claims of our common stockholders, and we would expect such lenders to seek recovery against our assets in the event of a default. If the value of our assets decreases, leveraging would cause net asset value to decline more sharply than it otherwise would have had we not leveraged. Similarly, any decrease in our income would cause net income to decline more sharply than it would have had we not borrowed. Such a decline could also negatively affect our ability to make dividend payments on our common stock. Leverage is generally considered a speculative investment technique. Our ability to service any debt that we incur will depend largely on our financial performance and will be subject to prevailing economic conditions and competitive pressures. Moreover, as the management fee payable to our investment adviser, Solar Capital Partners, will be payable based on our gross assets, including those assets acquired through the use of leverage, Solar Capital Partners will have a financial incentive to incur leverage which may not be consistent with our stockholders interests. In addition, our common stockholders will bear the burden of any increase in our expenses as a result of leverage, including any increase in the management fee payable to Solar Capital Partners.

As a BDC, we generally are required to meet a coverage ratio of total assets to total borrowings and other senior securities, which include all of our borrowings and any preferred stock that we may issue in the future, of at least 200%. If this ratio declines below 200%, we may not be able to incur additional debt and could be required by law to sell a portion of our investments to repay some debt when it is disadvantageous to do so, which could have a material adverse effect on our operations, and we may not be able to make distributions. The amount of leverage that we employ will depend on our investment adviser's and our board of directors' assessment of market and other factors at the time of any proposed borrowing. We cannot assure you that we will be able to obtain credit at all or on terms acceptable to us.

In addition, our revolving credit facility and our outstanding senior unsecured notes impose, and any other debt facility into which we may enter would likely impose financial and operating covenants that restrict our business activities, including limitations that could hinder our ability to finance additional loans and investments or to make the distributions required to maintain our status as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code.

Table of Contents

As of March 31, 2010, we had no borrowings outstanding under our revolving credit facility and approximately \$125 million of Senior Unsecured Notes.

Illustration. The following table illustrates the effect of leverage on returns from an investment in our common stock assuming various annual returns on the portfolio, net of expenses. The calculations in the table below are hypothetical and actual returns may be higher or lower than those appearing in the table below.

	Assumed total return on our portfolio (net of expenses)				
	(10)%	(5)%	0%	5%	10%
Corresponding return to stockholder ⁽¹⁾	(12.92)%	(7.14)%	(1.36)%	4.42%	10.19%

- (1) Assumes \$928.7 million in total assets and \$125 million in total debt outstanding, which reflects our total assets and total debt outstanding as of March 31, 2010, and a cost of funds of 8.75%. Excludes non-leverage related liabilities.

To the extent we use debt to finance our investments, changes in interest rates will affect our cost of capital and net investment income.

To the extent we borrow money to make investments, our net investment income will depend, in part, upon the difference between the rate at which we borrow funds and the rate at which we invest those funds. As a result, we can offer no assurance that a significant change in market interest rates will not have a material adverse effect on our net investment income in the event we use debt to finance our investments. In periods of rising interest rates, our cost of funds would increase, which could reduce our net investment income. We expect that our long-term fixed-rate investments will be financed primarily with equity and long-term debt. We may use interest rate risk management techniques in an effort to limit our exposure to interest rate fluctuations. Such techniques may include various interest rate hedging activities to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act.

You should also be aware that a rise in the general level of interest rates can be expected to lead to higher interest rates applicable to our debt investments. Accordingly, an increase in interest rates would make it easier for us to meet or exceed the incentive fee hurdle rate and may result in a substantial increase of the amount of incentive fees payable to our investment adviser with respect to our pre-incentive fee net investment income.

As of March 31, 2010, we had no borrowings outstanding under our revolving credit facility and approximately \$125 million of Senior Unsecured Notes.

There will be uncertainty as to the value of our portfolio investments.

A large percentage of our portfolio investments are in the form of securities that are not publicly traded. The fair value of securities and other investments that are not publicly traded may not be readily determinable. We value these securities on a quarterly basis in accordance with our valuation policy, which is at all times consistent with GAAP. Our board of directors utilizes the services of third-party valuation firms to aid it in determining the fair value of these securities. The board of directors discusses valuations and determines the fair value in good faith based on the input of our investment adviser and the respective third-party valuation firms. The factors that may be considered in fair value pricing our

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

investments include the nature and realizable value of any collateral, the portfolio company's ability to make payments and its earnings, the markets in which the portfolio company does business, comparisons to publicly traded companies, discounted cash flow and other relevant factors. Because such valuations, and particularly valuations of private securities and private companies, are inherently uncertain, may fluctuate over short periods of time and may be based on estimates, our determinations of fair value may differ materially from the values that would have been used if a ready market for these securities existed. Our net asset value could be adversely affected if our determinations regarding the fair value of our investments were materially higher than the values that we ultimately realize upon the disposal of such securities.

Table of Contents

We may experience fluctuations in our quarterly results.

We could experience fluctuations in our quarterly operating results due to a number of factors, including the interest rate payable on the debt securities we acquire, the default rate on such securities, the level of our expenses, variations in and the timing of the recognition of realized and unrealized gains or losses, the degree to which we encounter competition in our markets and general economic conditions. As a result of these factors, results for any period should not be relied upon as being indicative of performance in future periods.

There are significant potential conflicts of interest which could impact our investment returns.

Our executive officers and directors, as well as the current and future partners of our investment adviser, Solar Capital Partners, may serve as officers, directors or principals of entities that operate in the same or a related line of business as we do. Accordingly, they may have obligations to investors in those entities, the fulfillment of which obligations might not be in the best interests of us or our stockholders. In addition, we note that any affiliated investment vehicle formed in the future and managed by our investment adviser or its affiliates may, notwithstanding different stated investment objectives, have overlapping investment objectives with our own and, accordingly, may invest in asset classes similar to those targeted by us. As a result, Solar Capital Partners may face conflicts in allocating investment opportunities between us and such other entities. Although Solar Capital Partners will endeavor to allocate investment opportunities in a fair and equitable manner, it is possible that, in the future, we may not be given the opportunity to participate in investments made by investment funds managed by our investment adviser or an investment manager affiliated with our investment adviser. In any such case, when Solar Capital Partners identifies an investment, it will be forced to choose which investment fund should make the investment.

If our investment adviser forms other affiliates in the future, we may co-invest on a concurrent basis with such other affiliates, subject to compliance with applicable regulations and regulatory guidance and our allocation procedures.

In the course of our investing activities, we pay management and incentive fees to Solar Capital Partners and reimburse Solar Capital Partners for certain expenses it incurs. As a result, investors in our common stock will invest on a gross basis and receive distributions on a net basis after expenses, resulting in a lower rate of return than an investor might achieve through direct investments. Accordingly, there may be times when the management team of Solar Capital Partners has interests that differ from those of our stockholders, giving rise to a conflict.

We have entered into a royalty-free license agreement with our investment adviser, pursuant to which our investment adviser has granted us a non-exclusive license to use the name Solar Capital. Under the license agreement, we have the right to use the Solar Capital name for so long as Solar Capital Partners or one of its affiliates remains our investment adviser. In addition, we pay Solar Capital Management, an affiliate of Solar Capital Partners, our allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by Solar Capital Management in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, including rent, the fees and expenses associated with performing compliance functions, and our allocable portion of the compensation of our chief financial officer and any administrative support staff. These arrangements create conflicts of interest that our board of directors must monitor.

Our relationship with Magnetar may create conflicts of interest.

Certain funds managed by Magnetar, which we refer to as the Magnetar entities, own as of May 10, 2010, either directly or indirectly, 23.81% of our outstanding shares of common stock. Magnetar also provides certain services to Solar Capital Partners and Solar Capital Management, and is

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

reimbursed by Solar Capital Partners and Solar Capital Management for the expenses it incurs in connection with providing such services.

Table of Contents

Our incentive fee may induce Solar Capital Partners to pursue speculative investments.

The incentive fee payable by us to Solar Capital Partners may create an incentive for Solar Capital Partners to pursue investments on our behalf that are riskier or more speculative than would be the case in the absence of such compensation arrangement. The incentive fee payable to our investment adviser is calculated based on a percentage of our return on invested capital. This may encourage our investment adviser to use leverage to increase the return on our investments. Under certain circumstances, the use of leverage may increase the likelihood of default, which would impair the value of our common stock. In addition, the investment adviser receives the incentive fee based, in part, upon net capital gains realized on our investments. Unlike that portion of the incentive fee based on income, there is no hurdle rate applicable to the portion of the incentive fee based on net capital gains. As a result, the investment adviser may have a tendency to invest more capital in investments that are likely to result in capital gains as compared to income producing securities. Such a practice could result in our investing in more speculative securities than would otherwise be the case, which could result in higher investment losses, particularly during economic downturns.

The incentive fee payable by us to our investment adviser also may induce Solar Capital Partners to invest on our behalf in instruments that have a deferred interest feature, even if such deferred payments would not provide cash necessary to enable us to pay current distributions to our shareholders. Under these investments, we would accrue interest over the life of the investment but would not receive the cash income from the investment until the end of the term. Our net investment income used to calculate the income portion of our investment fee, however, includes accrued interest. Thus, a portion of this incentive fee would be based on income that we have not yet received in cash. In addition, the catch-up portion of the incentive fee may encourage Solar Capital Partners to accelerate or defer interest payable by portfolio companies from one calendar quarter to another, potentially resulting in fluctuations in timing and dividend amounts.

We may invest, to the extent permitted by law, in the securities and instruments of other investment companies, including private funds, and, to the extent we so invest, will bear our ratable share of any such investment company's expenses, including management and performance fees. We will also remain obligated to pay management and incentive fees to Solar Capital Partners with respect to the assets invested in the securities and instruments of other investment companies. With respect to each of these investments, each of our stockholders will bear his or her share of the management and incentive fee of Solar Capital Partners as well as indirectly bearing the management and performance fees and other expenses of any investment companies in which we invest.

We will become subject to corporate-level income tax if we are unable to qualify and maintain our qualification as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Code.

Although we intend to elect to be treated as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code for 2010 and succeeding tax years, no assurance can be given that we will be able to qualify for and maintain RIC status. To obtain and maintain RIC tax treatment under the Code, we must meet the following annual distribution, income source and asset diversification requirements.

The annual distribution requirement for a RIC will be satisfied if we distribute to our stockholders on an annual basis at least 90% of our net ordinary income and realized net short-term capital gains in excess of realized net long-term capital losses, if any. Because we may use debt financing, we are subject to certain asset coverage ratio requirements under the 1940 Act and financial covenants under loan and credit agreements that could, under certain circumstances, restrict us from making distributions necessary to satisfy the distribution requirement. If we are unable to obtain cash from other sources, we could fail to qualify for RIC tax treatment and thus become subject to corporate-level income tax.

The income source requirement will be satisfied if we obtain at least 90% of our income for each year from dividends, interest, gains from the sale of stock or securities or similar sources.

The asset diversification requirement will be satisfied if we meet certain asset diversification requirements at the end of each quarter of our taxable year. Failure to meet those requirements may result in our having

Table of Contents

to dispose of certain investments quickly in order to prevent the loss of RIC status. Because most of our investments will be in private companies, and therefore will be relatively illiquid, any such dispositions could be made at disadvantageous prices and could result in substantial losses.

If we fail to qualify for RIC tax treatment for any reason and remain or become subject to corporate income tax, the resulting corporate taxes could substantially reduce our net assets, the amount of income available for distribution and the amount of our distributions.

We may have difficulty satisfying the annual distribution requirement in order to qualify and maintain RIC status if we recognize income before or without receiving cash representing such income.

For federal income tax purposes, we will include in income certain amounts that we have not yet received in cash, such as original issue discount, which may arise if we receive warrants in connection with the making of a loan or possibly in other circumstances, or contracted payment in kind, or PIK, interest, which represents contractual interest added to the loan balance and due at the end of the loan term. We also may be required to include in income certain other amounts that we will not receive in cash.

Because in certain cases we may recognize income before or without receiving cash representing such income, we may have difficulty satisfying the annual distribution requirement applicable to RICs. Accordingly, we may have to sell some of our investments at times we would not consider advantageous, raise additional debt or equity capital or reduce new investments to meet these distribution requirements. If we are not able to obtain cash from other sources, we may fail to qualify for RIC tax treatment and thus be subject to corporate-level income tax.

Our board of directors is authorized to reclassify any unissued shares of common stock into one or more classes of preferred stock, which could convey special rights and privileges to its owners.

Under Maryland General Corporation Law and our charter, our board of directors is authorized to classify and reclassify any authorized but unissued shares of stock into one or more classes of stock, including preferred stock. Prior to issuance of shares of each class or series, the board of directors is required by Maryland law and our charter to set the terms, preferences, conversion or other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends or other distributions, qualifications and terms or conditions of redemption for each class or series. Thus, the board of directors could authorize the issuance of shares of preferred stock with terms and conditions which could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a transaction or a change in control that might involve a premium price for holders of our common stock or otherwise be in their best interest. The cost of any such reclassification would be borne by our existing common stockholders. Certain matters under the 1940 Act require the separate vote of the holders of any issued and outstanding preferred stock. For example, holders of preferred stock would vote separately from the holders of common stock on a proposal to cease operations as a BDC. In addition, the 1940 Act provides that holders of preferred stock are entitled to vote separately from holders of common stock to elect two preferred stock directors. We currently have no plans to issue preferred stock. The issuance of preferred shares convertible into shares of common stock might also reduce the net income and net asset value per share of our common stock upon conversion, provided, that we will only be permitted to issue such convertible preferred stock to the extent we comply with the requirements of Section 61 of the 1940 Act, including obtaining common stockholder approval. These effects, among others, could have an adverse effect on your investment in our common stock.

Provisions of the Maryland General Corporation Law and of our charter and bylaws could deter takeover attempts and have an adverse impact on the price of our common stock.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

The Maryland General Corporation Law and our charter and bylaws contain provisions that may discourage, delay or make more difficult a change in control of Solar Capital or the removal of our directors. We are subject to the Maryland Business Combination Act, subject to any applicable requirements of the 1940 Act. Our board of

Table of Contents

directors has adopted a resolution exempting from the Business Combination Act any business combination between us and any other person, subject to prior approval of such business combination by our board, including approval by a majority of our disinterested directors. If the resolution exempting business combinations is repealed or our board does not approve a business combination, the Business Combination Act may discourage third parties from trying to acquire control of us and increase the difficulty of consummating such an offer. Our bylaws exempt from the Maryland Control Share Acquisition Act acquisitions of our stock by any person. If we amend our bylaws to repeal the exemption from the Control Share Acquisition Act, the Control Share Acquisition Act also may make it more difficult for a third party to obtain control of us and increase the difficulty of consummating such a transaction.

We have also adopted measures that may make it difficult for a third party to obtain control of us, including provisions of our charter classifying our board of directors in three classes serving staggered three-year terms, and authorizing our board of directors to classify or reclassify shares of our stock in one or more classes or series, to cause the issuance of additional shares of our stock, to amend our charter without stockholder approval and to increase or decrease the number of shares of stock that we have authority to issue. These provisions, as well as other provisions of our charter and bylaws, may delay, defer or prevent a transaction or a change in control that might otherwise be in the best interests of our stockholders.

Our board of directors may change our investment objective, operating policies and strategies without prior notice or stockholder approval.

Our board of directors has the authority to modify or waive certain of our operating policies and strategies without prior notice (except as required by the 1940 Act) and without stockholder approval. However, absent stockholder approval, we may not change the nature of our business so as to cease to be, or withdraw our election as, a BDC. We cannot predict the effect any changes to our current operating policies and strategies would have on our business, operating results and value of our stock. Nevertheless, the effects may adversely affect our business and impact our ability to make distributions.

Changes in laws or regulations governing our operations may adversely affect our business.

We and our portfolio companies are subject to regulation by laws at the local, state and federal levels. These laws and regulations, as well as their interpretation, may be changed from time to time. Accordingly, any change in these laws or regulations could have a material adverse affect on our business.

Our investment adviser can resign on 60 days' notice, and we may not be able to find a suitable replacement within that time, resulting in a disruption in our operations that could adversely affect our financial condition, business and results of operations.

Our investment adviser has the right, under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, to resign at any time upon not less than 60 days' written notice, whether we have found a replacement or not. If our investment adviser resigns, we may not be able to find a new investment adviser or hire internal management with similar expertise and ability to provide the same or equivalent services on acceptable terms within 60 days, or at all. If we are unable to do so quickly, our operations are likely to experience a disruption, our financial condition, business and results of operations as well as our ability to pay distributions are likely to be adversely affected and the market price of our shares may decline. In addition, the coordination of our internal management and investment activities is likely to suffer if we are unable to identify and reach an agreement with a single institution or group of executives having the expertise possessed by our investment adviser and its affiliates. Even if we are able to retain comparable management, whether internal or external, the integration of such management and their lack of familiarity with our investment objective may result in additional costs and time delays that may adversely affect our financial condition, business and results of operations.

Table of Contents

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS AND PROJECTIONS

This prospectus contains forward-looking statements that involve substantial risks and uncertainties. These forward-looking statements are not historical facts, but rather are based on current expectations, estimates and projections about Solar Capital, our current and prospective portfolio investments, our industry, our beliefs, and our assumptions. Words such as anticipates, expects, intends, plans, believes, seeks, estimate, should, targets, projects, and variations of these words and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to risks, uncertainties, and other factors, some of which are beyond our control and difficult to predict and could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or forecasted in the forward-looking statements, including without limitation:

an economic downturn could impair our portfolio companies' ability to continue to operate, which could lead to the loss of some or all of our investments in such portfolio companies;

a contraction of available credit and/or an inability to access the equity markets could impair our lending and investment activities;

interest rate volatility could adversely affect our results, particularly if we elect to use leverage as part of our investment strategy;

currency fluctuations could adversely affect the results of our investments in foreign companies, particularly to the extent that we receive payments denominated in foreign currency rather than U.S. dollars; and

the risks, uncertainties and other factors we identify in Risk Factors and elsewhere in this prospectus and in our filings with the SEC.

Although we believe that the assumptions on which these forward-looking statements are based are reasonable, any of those assumptions could prove to be inaccurate, and as a result, the forward-looking statements based on those assumptions also could be inaccurate. In light of these and other uncertainties, the inclusion of a projection or forward-looking statement in this prospectus should not be regarded as a representation by us that our plans and objectives will be achieved. These risks and uncertainties include those described or identified in Risk Factors and elsewhere in this prospectus. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which apply only as of the date of this prospectus. The forward-looking statements and projections contained in this prospectus are excluded from the safe harbor protection provided by Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act.

Table of Contents

USE OF PROCEEDS

We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of the shares of common stock covered by this prospectus.

DISTRIBUTIONS

We intend to distribute quarterly dividends to our stockholders. Our quarterly dividends, if any, will be determined by our board of directors.

On May 4, 2010, our Board of Directors declared a second quarter dividend of \$0.60 per share, payable on July 2, 2010 to stockholders of record on June 17, 2010.

We intend to elect to be taxed as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code. To obtain and maintain our RIC status, we must distribute at least 90% of our ordinary income and realized net short-term capital gains in excess of realized net long-term capital losses, if any, out of the assets legally available for distribution. In addition, although we currently intend to distribute realized net capital gains (*i.e.*, net long-term capital gains in excess of short-term capital losses), if any, at least annually, out of the assets legally available for such distributions, we may in the future decide to retain such capital gains for investment.

We maintain an opt out dividend reinvestment plan for our common stockholders. As a result, if we declare a dividend, then stockholders cash dividends will be automatically reinvested in additional shares of our common stock, unless they specifically opt out of the dividend reinvestment plan so as to receive cash dividends.

We may not be able to achieve operating results that will allow us to make dividends and distributions at a specific level or to increase the amount of these dividends and distributions from time to time. In addition, we may be limited in our ability to make dividends and distributions due to the asset coverage test for borrowings when applicable to us as a BDC under the 1940 Act and due to provisions in current and future credit facilities. If we do not distribute a certain percentage of our income annually, we will suffer adverse tax consequences, including possible loss of our RIC status. We cannot assure stockholders that they will receive any dividends and distributions or dividends and distributions at a particular level.

All dividends declared in cash payable to stockholders that are participants in our dividend reinvestment plan are generally automatically reinvested in shares of our common stock. As a result, stockholders that do not participate in the dividend reinvestment plan may experience dilution over time. Stockholders who do not elect to receive dividends in shares of common stock may experience accretion to the net asset value of their shares if our shares are trading at a premium and dilution if our shares are trading at a discount. The level of accretion or discount would depend on various factors, including the proportion of our stockholders who participate in the plan, the level of premium or discount at which our shares are trading and the amount of the dividend payable to a stockholder.

Table of Contents

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF
FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

The information contained in this section should be read in conjunction with the Selected Financial and Other Data and our Financial Statements and notes thereto appearing elsewhere in this prospectus.

Overview

Solar Capital Ltd., a Maryland corporation formed in November 2007, is a closed-end, externally managed, non-diversified management investment company that has elected to be treated as a BDC under the 1940 Act. In addition, for tax purposes the Company intends to elect to be treated as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code.

On February 9, 2010, we priced our initial public offering selling 5.68 million shares, including the underwriters over-allotment, at a price of \$18.50 per share. Net of underwriting fees we raised a total of \$97.7 million and our shares began to trade on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the ticker "SLRC". In addition, we sold 0.60 million shares at \$18.50 in the Concurrent Private Placement.

Immediately prior to our initial public offering, through a series of transactions Solar Capital LLC merged with and into Solar Capital Ltd., leaving Solar Capital Ltd. as the surviving entity. Solar Capital Ltd. issued an aggregate of approximately 26.65 million shares of common stock and \$125 million in Senior Unsecured Notes to the existing Solar Capital LLC unit holders in connection with the Solar Capital Merger. Solar Capital Ltd. had no assets or operations prior to completion of the Solar Capital Merger and as a result, the books and records of Solar Capital LLC have become the books and records of the surviving entity.

Solar Capital LLC, a Maryland limited liability company, was formed in February 2007 and conducted a private placement of units in March 2007, at such time a total of 81.70 million units were outstanding. Solar Capital Investors, LLC, an entity funded by the management of Solar Capital Partners, the Company's investment adviser, acquired approximately 3.33 million units in connection with the initial private placement. In addition, in connection with the initial private placement, certain funds managed by Magnetar and certain entities affiliated therewith, acquired approximately 35.00 million units.

Our investment objective is to generate both current income and capital appreciation through debt and equity investments. We invest primarily in leveraged middle market companies in the form of senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities. From time to time, we may also invest in public companies that are thinly traded. Our business model is focused primarily on the direct origination of investments through portfolio companies or their financial sponsors. Our investments generally range between \$20 million and \$100 million each, although we expect that this investment size will vary proportionately with the size of our capital base. We are managed by Solar Capital Partners. Solar Capital Management provides the administrative services necessary for us to operate.

In addition, we may invest a portion of our portfolio in other types of investments, which we refer to as opportunistic investments, which are not our primary focus but are intended to enhance our overall returns. These investments may include, but are not limited to, direct investments in public companies that are not thinly traded and securities of leveraged companies located in select countries outside of the United States.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

As of March 31, 2010, our long term investments totaled \$839.0 million and our net asset value was \$730.4 million. Our portfolio was comprised of debt and equity investments in 33 portfolio companies and our income producing assets, which represent 92.2% of our total portfolio, had a weighted average annualized yield on a fair value basis of approximately 13.9%.

Table of Contents

Recent Developments

Dividend

On May 4, 2010, our Board of Directors declared a second quarter dividend of \$0.60 per share, payable on July 2, 2010 to stockholders of record on June 17, 2010.

Current Market Environment

There have been significant developments in the worldwide capital markets recently. We have entered into a period of disruption as evidenced by a lack of liquidity in the debt capital markets, significant write-offs in the financial services sector, the re-pricing of credit risk in the broadly syndicated credit market and the failure of certain major financial institutions. Despite actions of the U.S. federal government and foreign governments, these events have contributed to worsening general economic conditions that are materially and adversely impacting the broader financial and credit markets and reducing the availability of debt and equity capital for the market as a whole.

These recent events have temporarily, and in some cases permanently, forced a number of capital providers to reduce or even eliminate their exposure to leveraged loans and bonds. As a result, the market has experienced significant contraction in liquidity over the last year and lenders that remain active in the market have, to date, benefited from a broad re-pricing of risk, rationalization of leverage levels, and generally favorable deal terms.

As a result of the continuing credit crisis, the spread between the yields realized on risk-free and higher risk securities has increased, resulting in illiquidity in parts of the capital markets. These conditions, as well as the current recession, may continue for a prolonged period of time or worsen in the future. A prolonged period of market illiquidity may have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations. Unfavorable economic conditions could also increase our funding costs, limit our access to the capital markets or result in a decision by lenders not to extend credit to us. These events could limit our investment originations, limit our ability to grow and negatively impact our operating results.

Critical Accounting Policies

The preparation of financial statements and related disclosures in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and revenues and expenses during the periods reported. Actual results could materially differ from those estimates. We have identified the following items as critical accounting policies.

Valuation of Portfolio Investments

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

We conduct the valuation of our assets, pursuant to which our net asset value is determined, at all times consistent with GAAP, and the 1940 Act. Our valuation procedures are set forth in more detail below:

Securities for which market quotations are readily available on an exchange are valued at the closing price on the day of valuation. We may also obtain quotes with respect to certain of our investments from pricing services or brokers or dealers in order to value assets. When doing so, we determine whether the quote obtained is sufficient according to GAAP to determine the fair value of the security. If determined adequate, we use the quote obtained.

Securities for which reliable market quotations are not readily available or for which the pricing source does not provide a valuation or methodology or provides a valuation or methodology that, in the judgment of our investment adviser or board of directors, does not represent fair value, shall be valued as follows: (i) each portfolio company or investment is initially valued by the investment professionals responsible for the portfolio

Table of Contents

investment; (ii) preliminary valuation conclusions are documented and discussed with our senior management; (iii) independent third-party valuation firms engaged by, or on behalf of, the board of directors will conduct independent appraisals and review management's preliminary valuations and make their own assessment for all material assets; (iv) the board of directors will discuss valuations and determine the fair value of each investment in our portfolio in good faith based on the input of the investment adviser and, where appropriate, the respective third-party valuation firms.

The recommendation of fair value will generally be based on the following factors, as relevant:

the nature and realizable value of any collateral;

the portfolio company's ability to make payments;

the portfolio company's earnings and discounted cash flow;

the markets in which the issuer does business; and

comparisons to publicly traded securities.

Securities for which market quotations are not readily available or for which a pricing source is not sufficient may include, but are not limited to, the following:

private placements and restricted securities that do not have an active trading market;

securities whose trading has been suspended or for which market quotes are no longer available;

debt securities that have recently gone into default and for which there is no current market;

securities whose prices are stale;

securities affected by significant events; and

securities that the investment adviser believes were priced incorrectly.

Determination of fair value involves subjective judgments and estimates. Accordingly, the notes to our financial statements express the uncertainty with respect to the possible effect of such valuations, and any change in such valuations, on our financial statements.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

GAAP fair value measurement guidance classifies the inputs used to measure these fair values into the following hierarchy:

Level 1. Financial assets and liabilities whose values are based on unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in an active market that the Company has the ability to access (examples include active exchange-traded equity securities and exchange-traded derivatives).

Level 2. Financial assets and liabilities whose values are based on quoted prices in markets that are not active or model inputs that are observable either directly or indirectly for substantially the full term of the asset or liability. Level 2 inputs include the following:

- a) Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
- b) Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in non-active markets (examples include corporate and municipal bonds, which trade infrequently);
- c) Pricing models whose inputs are observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability (examples include most over-the-counter derivatives, including foreign exchange forward contracts); and
- d) Pricing models whose inputs are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data through correlation or other means for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

Table of Contents

Level 3. Financial assets and liabilities whose values are based on prices or valuation techniques that require inputs that are both unobservable and significant to the overall fair value measurement. These inputs reflect management's own assumptions about the assumptions a market participant would use in pricing the asset or liability (examples include certain of our private debt and equity investments) and long-dated or complex derivatives (including certain equity and currency derivatives).

At March 31, 2010 the fair value of investments classified as Level 3 was \$768.2 million or 83% of total assets. No assets were transferred into Level 3 during the three months ended March 31, 2010.

At December 31, 2009 the fair value of investments classified as Level 3 was \$794.7 million or 90% of total assets. One investment with a fair value of \$33.8 million was transferred into Level 3 from Level 2 during 2009 because there were no longer third party market quotes available for use in its valuation.

Revenue Recognition

Our revenue recognition policies are as follows:

Sales: Gains or losses on the sale of investments are calculated by using the specific identification method.

Interest Income: Interest income, adjusted for amortization of premium and accretion of discount, is recorded on an accrual basis. Origination, closing and/or commitment fees associated with investments in portfolio companies are accreted into interest income over the respective terms of the applicable loans. Upon the prepayment of a loan or debt security, any prepayment penalties and unamortized loan origination, closing and commitment fees are recorded as part of interest income. We have loans in our portfolio that contain a PIK provision. PIK interest is accrued at the contractual rates and added to the loan principal on the reset dates. For us to maintain our status as a RIC, substantially all of this income must be paid out to stockholders in the form of dividends, even though we have not collected any cash with respect to PIK securities.

Non-accrual: Loans are placed on non-accrual status when principal or interest payments are past due 30 days or more or when there is reasonable doubt that principal or interest will be collected. Accrued interest is generally reversed when a loan is placed on non-accrual status. Interest payments received on non-accrual loans may be recognized as income or applied to principal depending upon management's judgment about ultimate collectability of principal. Non-accrual loans are restored to accrual status when past due principal and interest is paid and, in management's judgment, are likely to remain current.

New Accounting Pronouncements and Accounting Standards Updates

Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

We adopted the accounting updates to ASC 820, Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures Topic, which clarify how to estimate fair value when the volume and level of activity for the asset or liability have significantly decreased, circumstances that indicate a transaction is not orderly, and how to determine the fair value of a liability. It emphasizes that even if there has been a significant decrease in the volume and level of activity for the asset or liability and regardless of the valuation technique used, the objective of a fair value measurement remains the same that the fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction (that is, not a forced liquidation or distressed sale) between market participants at the measurement date under current market conditions. The adoption of these updates did not have a material impact on our financial statements.

In January 2010, the FASB issued an update to ASC 820, which will require additional disclosures about inputs into valuation techniques, disclosures about significant transfers into or out of Levels 1 and 2, and disaggregation of purchases, sales, issuances, and settlements in the Level 3 rollforward disclosure. The guidance is effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2009 except for the

Table of Contents

disclosures about purchases, sales issuances, and settlements in the roll forward of activity in Level 3 fair value measurements. Those disclosures are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2010, and for interim periods within those fiscal years.

Derivatives and Hedging

We adopted the accounting update to ASC 815, Derivative and Hedging Topic, which requires qualitative disclosures about objectives and strategies for using derivatives, quantitative disclosures about fair values and

amounts of gains and losses on derivative contracts and disclosures about credit-risk-related contingent features in derivative agreements. The adoption did not have a material impact on our financial statements.

Subsequent Events

We adopted ASC 855, Subsequent Events Topic, which requires that management evaluate events and transactions that may occur for potential recognition or disclosure in the financial statements after the balance sheet date through the date the financial statements are issued and clarifies the circumstances under which such events or transactions must be recognized in the financial statements. The adoption did not have a material impact on our financial statements.

Per Share Computations

For periods prior to February 9, 2010, the share count used in all share-based computations, including NAV per share and earnings per share, has been decreased retroactively by a factor of approximately 0.4022, representing the rate at which shares of Solar Capital Ltd common stock were exchanged for units of Solar Capital LLC prior to the initial public offering.

Portfolio Investments at March 31, 2010

At March 31, 2010, we had investments in securities of 33 portfolio companies with a total fair value of approximately \$839.0 million. During the quarter ended March 31, 2010, we originated approximately \$44.6 million of investments in one new and one existing portfolio company. We also received principal repayments of approximately \$95.1 million and sold securities in 3 portfolio companies for approximately \$20.5 million. At December 31, 2009 we had investments in securities of 36 portfolio companies with a total fair value of approximately \$863.1 million. During the quarter ended March 31, 2009, we invested approximately \$2.5 million in one existing portfolio company, had approximately \$0.2 million in debt repayments in 3 portfolio companies, and a sale of securities in 1 portfolio company for approximately \$8.9 million.

In addition, for the three months ended March 31, 2010 we had net unrealized and realized gains on 27 portfolio company investments totaling approximately \$43.7 million, which was offset by net unrealized and realized losses on 8 portfolio company investments totaling approximately \$6.5 million. For the three months ended March 31, 2009 we had net unrealized and realized gains on 13 portfolio company investments totaling

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

approximately \$28.2 million, which was offset by net unrealized and realized losses on 29 portfolio company investments totaling approximately \$73.6 million. At March 31, 2010, we had investments in debt and preferred securities of 27 portfolio companies, totaling approximately \$788.1 million, and equity investments in 9 portfolio companies, totaling approximately \$50.9 million. At December 31, 2009, we had investments in debt and preferred securities of 31 portfolio companies, totaling approximately \$805.5 million, and equity investments in 10 portfolio companies, totaling approximately \$57.6 million.

Table of Contents

The following table shows the fair value of our portfolio of investments by asset class as of March 31, 2010 and December 31, 2009:

(in thousands)	March 31, 2010 (unaudited)		December 31, 2009	
	Cost	Fair Value	Cost	Fair Value
Bank Debt/Senior Secured Loans	\$ 151,942	\$ 146,007	\$ 170,896	\$ 163,499
Subordinated Debt/Corporate Notes	710,616	641,999	778,163	641,992
Preferred Equity	39	40	39	40
Common Equity/Partnership Interests/Warrants	112,696	50,910	114,890	57,609
Total	\$ 975,293	\$ 838,956	\$ 1,063,988	\$ 863,140

As of March 31, 2010, the weighted average yield on income producing investments in our portfolio was approximately 13.9%, compared to 14.8% at December 31, 2009. The decrease in yield this quarter was primarily due to the increase in fair value of assets since December 2009.

As of March 31, 2010, there were no investments on non-accrual status. Of the non-accrual assets at December 31, 2009, assets of two portfolio companies were sold prior to the IPO and the third was exchanged for equity of the portfolio company in a restructuring. In addition we had 3 assets, with a total market value of \$14.2 million, that were performing but cash interest payments have been applied as principal payments (cost-recovery assets), rather than being included in interest income because management believes, at this time, it is unlikely there will be full repayment of principal.

Portfolio Investments 2009 Annual

The total value of our investments was approximately \$863.1 million at December 31, 2009, \$768.2 million at December 31, 2008, and \$1.2 billion at December 31, 2007. During the year ended December 31, 2009, we originated approximately \$134.2 million of investments in 3 new portfolio companies and approximately \$29.6 million in 4 existing portfolio companies. For the year ended December 31, 2008, we originated approximately \$157.7 million of investments in 6 new portfolio companies and approximately \$35.6 million in existing portfolio companies. From March 13, 2007 (inception) through December 31, 2007, referred to as our 2007 operating period, we originated approximately \$846 million all from new investments in 27 portfolio companies. The foregoing amounts are in addition to the approximately \$478 million of portfolio investments, originated by certain investment professionals at Magnetar who are currently a part of Solar Capital Partners' investment team, that we acquired from the Magnetar entities prior to and immediately following the initial private placement.

In certain instances, we receive payments on our debt investments based on scheduled amortization of the outstanding balances. In addition, we may receive repayments of certain debt investments prior to their scheduled maturity date. The frequency or volume of these repayments may fluctuate significantly from period to period. Our portfolio activity also reflects sales of securities. For the year ended December 31, 2009, we received proceeds of approximately \$38.6 million from principal repayments and approximately \$78.3 million in sales of securities in 12 portfolio companies. For the year ended December 31, 2008, we had approximately \$92.2 million of debt repayments in 7 portfolio companies and sales of securities in 5 portfolio companies of approximately \$35.6 million.

In addition, for the year ended December 31, 2009 we had net unrealized and realized gains on 31 portfolio company investments totaling approximately \$140.8 million, which was offset by net unrealized and realized losses on 16 portfolio company investments totaling

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

approximately \$106.6 million. During the year ended December 31, 2008, we had unrealized appreciation on 1 portfolio company investment totaling approximately \$7.1 million, which was more than offset by unrealized depreciation on 43 portfolio company investments totaling approximately \$503.4 million. During the year ended December 31, 2008 we also had a realized loss of \$16.9 million, a majority of which was from 1 portfolio company.

Table of Contents

At December 31, 2009, we had investments in debt and preferred securities of 31 portfolio companies, totaling approximately \$805.5 million, and equity investments in 10 portfolio companies, totaling approximately \$57.6 million. At December 31, 2008, we had investments in debt and preferred securities of 36 portfolio companies, totaling approximately \$685 million, and equity investments, including options, in 17 portfolio companies, totaling approximately \$83.2 million.

The following table shows the fair value of our portfolio of investments by asset class as of December 31, 2009, 2008 and 2007:

	December 31, 2009		December 31, 2008		December 31, 2007	
	Cost	Fair Value	Cost	Fair Value	Cost	Fair Value
Bank Debt/Senior Secured Loans	\$ 170,896	\$ 163,499	\$ 250,473	\$ 146,907	\$ 312,077	\$ 302,628
Subordinated Debt/Corporate Notes	778,163	641,992	751,116	531,949	619,203	617,738
Preferred Equity	39	40	61,101	6,145	55,299	55,299
Common Equity/Partnership Interests/Warrants	114,890	57,609	194,044	76,016	184,336	203,071
Put/Call Options Purchased or Written				7,198		
Total	\$ 1,063,988	\$ 863,140	\$ 1,256,734	\$ 768,215	\$ 1,170,915	\$ 1,178,736

As of December 31, 2009, and December 31, 2008, the weighted average yield on income producing investments in our portfolio was approximately 14.8% and 17.1%, respectively. The weighted average yield on income producing investments was lower as of December 31, 2009 due to the increase in fair value of these assets since December 2008 and a decline in the average LIBOR rates applicable to our LIBOR-based income producing assets.

As of December 31, 2009 we had 3 portfolio companies on non-accrual status that all had a fair value of zero. In addition we had 3 assets that were performing but interest payments are being applied as principal payments, rather than being included in interest income because management believes, at this time, it is unlikely there will be full repayment of principal.

Results of Operations for the Quarter Ended March 31, 2010 compared to the Quarter Ended March 31, 2009**Revenue**

	Three Months Ended March 31,		% Change
	2010	2009	
Investment income	\$ 35,310	\$ 28,177	25%

The increase in investment income for the three months ended March 31, 2010 compared to the three months ended March 31, 2009 was primarily due to prepayment premiums received and accelerated amortization of fees as a result of debt assets repaying before maturity. This increase was partially offset by lower average LIBOR rates, a lower average invested balance and interest not recognized on the cost-recovery assets. Three month LIBOR rates fell below 0.25% preceding the first quarter of 2010 compared to comparable rates near 1.5% heading into the first quarter of 2009.

Table of Contents**Expenses**

	Three Months Ended March 31,		% Change
	2010	2009	
	(in thousands)		
Performance-based incentive fee	\$ 5,279	\$ 4,274	24%
Investment advisory and management fees	4,366	4,073	7%
Interest and other credit facility expenses	2,951	731	304%
Administrative service fee	453	604	(25%)
Other general and administrative expenses	1,069	921	16%
 Total operating expenses	 \$ 14,118	 \$ 10,603	 33%

The performance-based incentive fee was higher for the three months ended March 31, 2010 primarily due higher investment income resulting from prepayment premiums received and accelerated amortization of fees as a result of debt assets repaying before maturity. Investment advisory and management fees, which are calculated based on average gross assets, were comparable period over period.

Interest and other credit facility expenses were higher for the three months ended March 31, 2010 primarily due to higher average debt balances outstanding during the period, including the newly issued Senior Unsecured Notes, and higher fee amortization expense related to the establishment of the Senior Unsecured Notes and the amended and restated credit facility during the quarter. In addition, the amendment to our credit facility on February 12, 2010 increased the base rate spread by 1.00% during the first quarter of 2009.

The combination of administrative service fees and other general and administrative expenses was comparable period over period.

Net Realized and Unrealized Gains and Losses

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2010	2009
	(in thousands)	
Net realized (loss) investments	\$ (27,331)	\$ (22,656)
Net realized gain forward contracts	1,552	8,948
Net realized gain (loss) foreign currency exchange	3,536	(29)
Net unrealized gain (loss) investments	64,511	(22,832)
Net unrealized (loss) forward contracts	(771)	(5,700)
Net unrealized (loss) foreign currency exchange	(604)	(408)
 Total realized and unrealized gain (loss)	 \$ 40,893	 \$ (42,677)

The combination of the net realized and unrealized gains or losses on investments resulted in a net gain of \$37.1 million for the first quarter of 2010 compared to a net loss of \$45.5 million for the same period in 2009. The net gain during the first quarter of 2010 was primarily due to increases in the fair value of our portfolio assets during the period as well as realizations in excess of prior valuations. The net increase in the fair

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

value of our portfolio assets was primarily due to continued credit improvement in the portfolio, the tightening of credit spreads in the high yield market and anticipated near-term realizations. The net loss during the first quarter of 2009 was primarily due to overall weakening in the economy during period resulting in lower portfolio asset values.

The realization of gains or losses previously recognized as unrealized gains or losses has no impact on current period earnings. During the three months ended March 31, 2010, losses were realized on the sale or exchange of three debt assets and were partially offset by gains on the sale of one equity investment. During the three months ended March 31, 2009, losses were realized upon the bankruptcy of one portfolio company.

Table of Contents

We have exposure to foreign currencies (Euro, British Pounds and Australian dollars) through various investments. Those investments are converted into U.S. dollars at the balance sheet date, and as such, we are exposed to movements in exchange rates. To limit our exposure to movements in exchange rates we enter into foreign exchange forward contracts or borrow under our multi-currency revolving credit facility in those currencies. For the first quarter of 2010 the total net realized and unrealized gain on forward contracts and foreign currency exchange was \$3.7 million compared to \$2.8 million for the same line items in the first quarter of 2009. This is due to a greater relative strengthening of the U.S. dollar during the first quarter 2010 compared to the same period in 2009.

Results of Operations for the Year Ended December 31, 2009 compared to the Year Ended December 31, 2008*Revenue*

	For the Year Ended December 31,		%
	2009	2008	Change
	(in thousands)		
Investment income	\$ 109,670	\$ 133,959	(18)%

The decrease in investment income for the year ended December 31, 2009 compared to the year ended December 31, 2008 was primarily due to the placement of certain assets on nonaccrual status and lower average LIBOR rates. In addition, call premiums paid as a result of debt assets repaying before maturity were \$0.8 million in 2009 compared to \$5.6 million in 2008. This was partially offset by an increase in income from the amortization of market and original issues discounts to \$6.5 million in 2009 compared to \$1.7 million in 2008.

Expenses

	Year Ended December 31,		%
	2009	2008	Change
	(in thousands)		
Performance-based incentive fee	\$ 16,815	\$ 9,008	87%
Investment advisory and management fees	16,738	24,297	(31)%
Interest and other credit facility expenses	2,636	3,343	(21)%
Administrative service fee	2,020	3,430	(41)%
Other general and administrative expenses	3,971	4,853	(18)%
 Total operating expenses	 \$ 42,180	 \$ 44,931	 (6)%

Investment advisory and management fees, which are calculated based on average gross assets, were lower in 2009 primarily due to the reduced average fair value of our investment portfolio. The performance-based incentive fee was higher in 2009 primarily because the return on the fair value of net assets exceeded the 8.75% annualized hurdle rate for the entire year, rather than a part of the year. (See Investment Advisory Fees in Item 1. Business, for the details on these calculations.) Total expenses decreased by approximately \$2.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 compared to the same period in 2008.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

Interest and other credit facility expenses were lower in 2009 compared to 2008 due to lower average LIBOR rates and because a large portion of the amortization of set-up costs associated with the facilities ended in the first quarter of 2009 as the Company's other credit facility (the Warehouse Facility) expired. This was partially offset by an increase in the average debt outstanding on the Credit Facility to \$29.0 million in 2009 compared to \$10.3 million in 2008 and an increase in the margin on the Credit Facility to BR plus 2.50% and ABR plus 1.50% from BR plus 1.375% and ABR plus 0.00% in an amendment to the Credit Facility on September 25, 2009.

Table of Contents

The decrease in administrative service fees and other general and administrative expenses in 2009 compared to 2008 is primarily due to a reduction in corporate overhead and a decrease in unincorporated business tax.

Net Realized and Unrealized Gains and Losses

	Year Ended December 31,	
	2009	2008
	(in thousands)	
Net realized gain (loss) investments	\$ (253,394)	\$ (16,878)
Net realized gain (loss) forward contracts	(12,608)	13,086
Net realized loss foreign currency exchange	1,104	2,915
Net unrealized gain (loss) investments	287,671	(496,340)
Net unrealized gain forward contracts	(2,583)	4,087
Net unrealized gain (loss) foreign currency exchange	(516)	(37)
Total net realized and unrealized gain (loss) before taxes	\$ 19,674	\$ (493,167)

The net realized loss on investments during 2009 was primarily due to the realization of losses reflected in the mark-to-market of the portfolio during 2008. Four common and preferred equity positions that had a combined fair value of \$8.2 million at December 31, 2008 resulted in a realized loss of \$121.6 million in 2009. Six debt investments that had a combined fair value of \$55.3 million at December 31, 2008 also resulted in a realized loss of \$123.7 million during 2009.

The increase in unrealized gains on investments for 2009 was primarily due to the recognition of realized losses previously recorded as unrealized losses and an increase in the fair value of our assets during 2009 compared to an overall weakening in the economy during the same period in 2008.

The combination of the net realized loss and net unrealized gain on investments in 2009 resulted in a net gain of \$34.3 million due to the increase in the fair value of our portfolio. The combination of the same line items in 2008 resulted in a net loss of \$513.2 million in 2008 due to the decrease in the fair value of our portfolio.

Additionally, we have exposure to foreign currencies (Euro, British Pounds and Australian dollars) through various investments. Those investments are converted into U.S. dollars at the balance sheet date, and as such, we are exposed to movements in exchange rates. To limit our exposure to movements in exchange rates we enter into foreign exchange forward contracts or borrow under our multi-currency revolving credit facility in those currencies. For 2009 the relative weakening of the U.S. dollar resulted in net realized/unrealized losses on forward contracts compared to a relative strengthening of the U.S. dollar in the same period in 2008 which resulted in net realized/unrealized gains on forward contracts.

Income Tax

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

	Year Ended December 31,		% Change
	2009 (in thousands)	2008	
Income tax expense on net investment income	\$ 228	\$ 1,692	(87)%
Income tax expense (benefit) on realized gain (loss)		60	(100)%
Total income tax expense (benefit)	\$ 228	\$ 2,242	

Table of Contents

Solar Capital LLC was subject to New York City unincorporated business tax (UBT), which is imposed on the business income of every unincorporated business that is carried on in New York City. The UBT is imposed for each taxable year at a rate of 4 percent of taxable income that is allocable to New York City. There was no UBT for 2009 and the estimated 2008 UBT was approximately \$1.6 million.

We are also subject to taxes in Luxembourg, through Solar Capital Luxembourg I S.a.r.l., a wholly-owned subsidiary. Under the laws of Luxembourg, we pay a corporate income tax and a municipal business tax on our subsidiary's taxable income.

As a U.S. corporation, Solar Capital Ltd., is not subject to unincorporated business tax.

Results of Operations for the Year Ended December 31, 2008 compared to the Period from March 13, 2007 (inception) to December 31, 2007*Revenue*

	Year Ended December 31, 2008	Period From March 13 inception) to December 31, 2007	%
	(in thousands)		Change
Investment income	\$ 133,959	\$ 78,455	71%

The increase in interest income for the year ended December 31, 2008 compared to the period ended December 31, 2007 was primarily due to twelve months of income during 2008 versus a partial year in 2007 and a higher average invested balance versus outstanding cash during 2008. The average cash balance during the period ended December 31, 2007 was \$530.3 million compared to \$40.3 million in 2008.

Operating Expenses

	Year Ended December 31, 2008	Period From March 13 (inception) to December 31, 2007	%
	(in thousands)		Change
Investment advisory and management fees	\$ 24,297	\$ 19,719	23%
Performance-based incentive fee	9,008		
Interest and other credit facility expenses	3,343		
Administrative service fee	3,430	1,474	133%
Other general and administrative expenses	4,853	3,579	36%
Total operating expenses	\$ 44,931	\$ 24,772	81%

Almost two-thirds of the \$20.2 million increase in total operating expenses during 2008 was attributable to the recognition of the performance-based incentive fee, as the respective hurdle rates were surpassed, and increased interest and other credit facility expenses related to credit facilities established during 2008. Investment advisory and management fees were higher in 2008 primarily because 2008 included a full year of expense versus a partial year in 2007. Other general and administrative expenses and administrative service fees also increased during 2008 due to the partial year comparison and the build out of our corporate infrastructure.

Table of Contents**Net Realized and Unrealized Gains and Losses**

	Year Ended December 31, 2008	Period From March 13 (inception) to December 31, 2007
	(in thousands)	
Net realized gain (loss) investments	\$ (16,878)	\$ (3,557)
Net realized gain (loss) forward contracts	13,086	(7,125)
Net realized gain (loss) foreign currency exchange	2,915	12
Net unrealized gain (loss) investments	(496,340)	7,821
Net unrealized gain (loss) forward contracts	4,087	(1,235)
Net unrealized gain (loss) foreign currency exchange	(37)	9
Total net realized and unrealized gain (loss) before taxes	\$ (493,167)	\$ (4,075)

The increase in unrealized losses on investments for the year ended December 31, 2008 was primarily due to significantly lower fair value determinations on many of our investments. Lower fair values were driven primarily by the general market dislocation, illiquidity in the capital markets, and lower market prices for comparable publicly traded debt. Fair values were lower across all investment types.

We have exposure to foreign currencies (Euro, British Pounds and Australian dollars) through various investments. These investments are converted into U.S. dollars at the balance sheet date, exposing us to movements in exchange rates. To limit our exposure to fluctuations in exchange rates, we enter into foreign exchange forward contracts or borrow in those currencies under our multi-currency revolving credit facility. For the year ended December 31, 2008, the strengthening of the U.S. dollar resulted in net realized and unrealized gains from forward contracts of \$13.1 million and \$4.1 million, respectively, and a \$2.9 million gain on the repayment of foreign denominated borrowings. For the period ended December 31, 2007, the relative weakening of the U.S. dollar resulted in net realized and unrealized losses.

Income Tax

	Year Ended December 31, 2008	Period From March 13 (inception) to December 31, 2007	%
	(in thousands)		Change
Income tax expense on net investment income	\$ 1,629	\$ 689	136%
Income tax expense (benefit) on realized gain (loss)	60	(181)	133%
Total income tax expense (benefit)	\$ 1,689	\$ 508	

Solar Capital LLC was subject to New York City unincorporated business tax (UBT), which is imposed on the business income of every unincorporated business that is carried on in New York City. The UBT is imposed for each taxable year at a rate of 4 percent of taxable income that is allocable to New York City. Estimated UBT for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007 was approximately \$1.6 million and \$0.4 million, respectively.

We are also subject to taxes in Luxembourg, through Solar Capital Luxembourg I S.a.r.l., a wholly-owned subsidiary. Under the laws of Luxembourg, we pay a corporate income tax and a municipal business tax on our subsidiary's taxable income.

Table of Contents

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Our liquidity is generated and generally available through our multi-currency \$270 million revolving credit facility maturing in February 2013, from cash flows from operations, investment sales of liquid assets, repayments of senior and subordinated loans, income earned on investments and cash equivalents, and we expect through periodic follow-on equity offerings. On February 9, 2010, we priced our initial public offering selling 5.68 million shares, including the underwriters over-allotment, at a price of \$18.50 per share. Net of underwriting fees we raised a total of \$97.7 million and our shares began to trade on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the ticker `SLRC`. In addition, we sold 0.60 million shares at \$18.50 in the Concurrent Private Placement to management. The primary use of our liquidity is expected to be for repayment of indebtedness, investments in portfolio companies, cash distributions to our shareholders or for other general corporate purposes.

At March 31, 2010 and December 31, 2009, we had cash and cash equivalents of approximately \$60.4 million and \$5.7 million, respectively. Cash provided by operating activities for the quarters ended March 31, 2010 and 2009 was approximately \$107.7 million and \$19.6 million, respectively. We expect that all current liquidity needs will be met with cash flows from operations and other activities.

Credit Facility and Senior Unsecured Notes

Credit Facility. In February 2010, Solar Capital Ltd. amended and restated its Senior Secured Revolving Credit Facility (the *Credit Facility*) with Citibank, N.A. and various lenders. Citibank, N.A. also serves as administrative agent for the lenders. Citigroup Global Markets Inc. acted as the sole lead bookrunner and the sole lead arranger for the Credit Facility. Under the terms of the Credit Facility, the lenders agreed to extend credit to Solar Capital in an aggregate principal or face amount not exceeding \$270 million at any one time outstanding. The Credit Facility also allows the Company and the lenders to provide for a commitment increase to an amount not greater than \$600 million. The Credit Facility is a three-year multi-currency revolving facility (with a stated maturity date in February 2013) and is secured by substantially all of the assets of Solar Capital's investment portfolio. Interest rate options include Base Rate (*BR*) loans, indexed to currency specific LIBOR, and Alternate Base Rate (*ABR*) loans, indexed to the Prime or Fed Funds rates. Borrowings bear interest at a rate per annum equal to the BR plus 3.25% and ABR plus 2.25%. The Credit Facility contains certain customary affirmative and negative covenants and events of default, including the occurrence of a change of control. In addition, the Credit Facility contains certain financial covenants that among other things, requires the Company to maintain a minimum shareholder's equity, a minimum leverage ratio and a minimum debt to total assets ratio. The Credit Facility will be used to supplement Solar Capital's equity capital to make additional investments and for other general corporate purposes.

Senior Unsecured Notes. In February 2010, Solar Capital Ltd. issued \$125 million of Senior Unsecured Notes. The Senior Unsecured Notes bear interest at a rate of 8.75% per annum, are payable quarterly in cash, and will mature in February 2014. The Senior Unsecured Notes are redeemable at any time, in whole or in part, at a price of 100% of their principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest to the date of redemption. Further, we must use the net cash proceeds from the issuance of any other senior unsecured notes either to redeem or make an offer to purchase the outstanding Senior Unsecured Notes at a price of 100% of their principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest to the date of redemption. The Senior Unsecured Notes subject us to customary covenants, including, among other things, (i) a requirement to maintain an asset coverage ratio of 2.00 to 1.00; (ii) a requirement that in the event of a change of control (as defined in the agreement governing the Senior Unsecured Notes) we will be required to offer to repurchase the Senior Unsecured Notes at a price of 101% of their principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest to the date of repurchase; and (iii) a restriction on incurring any debt on a junior lien basis, or any debt that is contractually subordinated in right of payment to any other debt unless it is also subordinated to the Senior Unsecured Notes on substantially identical terms. The agreement under which the Senior Unsecured Notes were issued contains customary events of default.

Table of Contents

Certain covenants may restrict our business activities, including limitations that could hinder our ability to finance additional loans and investments or to make the distributions required to maintain our status as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code.

Contractual Obligations

The table below presents a summary of our significant contractual payment obligations as of March 31, 2010:

(in millions)	Total	Payments due by period			More Than 5 Years
		Less than 1 Year	1-3 Years	3-5 Years	
Senior secured revolving credit facility(1)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Senior Unsecured Notes	\$ 125.0	\$	\$	\$ 125.0	\$

(1) As of March 31, 2010, we had \$270.0 million of unused borrowing capacity under our credit facility.

The table below presents a summary of our significant contractual payment obligations as of December 31, 2009:

(in millions)	Total	Payments due by period			More than 5 years
		Less than 1 year	1-3 years	3-5 years	
Senior secured revolving credit facility(1)	\$ 88.1		\$ 88.1		

(1) As of December 31, 2009, we had \$111.9 million of unused borrowing capacity under our credit facility.

We have certain commitments pursuant to our Investment Advisory and Management Agreement entered into with Solar Capital Partners. We have agreed to pay a fee for investment advisory and management services consisting of two components a base management fee and an incentive fee. Payments under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement are equal to (1) a percentage of the value of our average gross assets and (2) a two-part incentive fee. See Item 1. Business Investment Advisory and Management Agreement. We have also entered into a contract with Solar Capital Management to serve as our administrator. Payments under the Administration Agreement are equal to an amount based upon our allocable portion of Solar Capital Management's overhead in performing its obligation under the agreement, including rent, fees, and other expenses inclusive of our allocable portion of the compensation of our chief financial officer and any administrative staff.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

In the normal course of its business, we trade various financial instruments and may enter into various investment activities with off-balance sheet risk, which include forward foreign currency contracts. Generally, these financial instruments represent future commitments to purchase or sell other financial instruments at specific terms at future dates. These financial instruments contain varying degrees of off-balance sheet risk whereby changes in the market value or our satisfaction of the obligations may exceed the amount recognized in our Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Borrowings

We had borrowings of \$88.1 million and \$0 outstanding as of December 31, 2009 and 2008, respectively, under the Credit Facility. See [Credit Facility](#) for a description of the Credit Facility. Since completion of our initial public offering we also have approximately \$125 million of the Senior Unsecured Notes outstanding.

Table of Contents

Distributions and Dividends

On May 4, 2010, our Board of Directors declared a second quarter dividend of \$0.60 per share, payable on July 2, 2010 to stockholders of record on June 17, 2010.

On January 26, 2010, our board of directors declared a quarterly dividend of \$0.60 per share, prorated for the number of days remaining in the first quarter after our initial public offering. As a result, the first quarterly dividend was \$0.34 per share, on a pro-rated basis, and was paid on April 1, 2010 to holders of record as of March 18, 2010.

During the first quarter of 2009, we agreed to make certain specified distributions to the Solar Capital LLC unit holders on a periodic basis to the extent we had not yet completed our initial public offering. In accordance therewith, on March 17, 2009, we made a pro rata distribution to the then existing Solar Capital LLC unit holders. This distribution was equal to 10% of our December 31, 2008 net asset value and totaled approximately \$85.3 million, or \$1.04 per outstanding unit. On October 28, 2009 we made another pro rata distribution, declared in September 2009, to the then existing Solar Capital LLC unit holders. This distribution was equal to 10% of our September 30, 2009 net asset value and totaled approximately \$81.4 million, or \$1.00 per outstanding unit. In December 2009, Solar Capital LLC declared a \$75 million cash distribution, which was paid to the then existing Solar Capital LLC unit holders on a pro-rata basis on January 29, 2010.

Related Parties

We have entered into a number of business relationships with affiliated or related parties, including the following:

We have entered into an Investment Advisory and Management Agreement with Solar Capital Partners. Mr. Gross, our chairman and chief executive officer, is the managing member and a senior investment professional of, and has financial and controlling interests in, Solar Capital Partners. In addition, Mr. Spohler, our chief operating officer is a partner and a senior investment professional of, and has financial interests in, Solar Capital Partners.

Solar Capital Management provides us with the office facilities and administrative services necessary to conduct day-to-day operations pursuant to our Administration Agreement. We reimburse Solar Capital Management for the allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by it in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, including rent, the fees and expenses associated with performing compliance functions, and the compensation of our chief compliance officer, our chief financial officer and any administrative support staff. Solar Capital Partners, our investment adviser, is the sole member of and controls Solar Capital Management.

We have entered into a license agreement with Solar Capital Partners, pursuant to which Solar Capital Partners has granted us a non-exclusive, royalty-free license to use the name Solar Capital.

Magnetar entities own as of May 10, 2010, approximately 23.81% of our outstanding shares of common stock.

Solar Capital Partners and its affiliates may also manage other funds in the future that may have investment mandates that are similar, in whole and in part, with ours. Solar Capital Partners and its affiliates may determine that an investment is appropriate for us and for one or more of

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

those other funds. In such event, depending on the availability of such investment and other appropriate factors, Solar Capital Partners or its affiliates may determine that we should invest side-by-side with one or more other funds. Any such investments will be made only to the extent permitted by applicable law and interpretive positions of the SEC and its staff, and consistent with Solar Capital Partners' allocation procedures.

In addition, we have adopted a formal code of ethics that governs the conduct of our officers and directors. Our officers and directors also remain subject to the duties imposed by both the 1940 Act and the Maryland General Corporation Law.

Table of Contents**SENIOR SECURITIES**

Information about our senior securities is shown in the following tables as of December 31, 2009, 2008 and 2007. The report of our independent registered public accounting firm on the senior securities table as of December 31, 2009 is attached as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

Class and Year	Total Amount Outstanding Exclusive of Treasury Securities⁽¹⁾	Asset Coverage Ratio Per Unit⁽²⁾	Involuntary Liquidation Preference Per Unit⁽³⁾	Average Market Value Per Unit⁽⁴⁾
Revolving Credit Facility				
2009	\$ 88,114	\$ 8,920		N/A
2008				N/A
2007				N/A

⁽¹⁾ Total amount of each class of senior securities outstanding at the end of the period presented.

⁽²⁾ Asset coverage per unit is the ratio of the carrying value of our total consolidated assets, less all liabilities and indebtedness not represented by senior securities, to the aggregate amount of senior securities representing indebtedness. Asset coverage per unit is expressed in terms of dollar amounts per \$1,000 of indebtedness.

⁽³⁾ The amount to which such class of senior security would be entitled upon the voluntary liquidation of the issuer in preference to any security junior to it. The "—" in this column indicates that the Securities and Exchange Commission expressly does not require this information to be disclosed for certain types of senior securities.

⁽⁴⁾ Not applicable because senior securities are not registered for public trading.

Table of Contents

BUSINESS

Solar Capital

Solar Capital Ltd. a Maryland corporation formed in November 2007, is a closed-end, externally managed, non-diversified management investment company that has elected to be treated as a BDC under the 1940 Act. In addition, for tax purposes the Company intends to elect to be treated as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code.

On February 9, 2010 we priced our initial public offering, selling 5.68 million shares, including the underwriters over-allotment, at a price of \$18.50 per share. Concurrent with this offering, management purchased an additional 0.6 million shares through the Concurrent Private Placement, also at \$18.50 per share.

Immediately prior to our initial public offering, through a series of transactions Solar Capital LLC merged with and into Solar Capital Ltd., leaving Solar Capital Ltd. as the surviving entity. Solar Capital Ltd. issued an aggregate of approximately 26.65 million shares of common stock and \$125 million in Senior Unsecured Notes to the existing Solar Capital LLC unit holders in connection with the Solar Capital Merger. Solar Capital Ltd. had no assets or operations prior to completion of the Solar Capital Merger and as a result, the books and records of Solar Capital LLC have become the books and records of the surviving entity.

Solar Capital LLC, a Maryland limited liability company, was formed in February 2007 and conducted a private placement of units in March 2007, at such time a total of 81.70 million units were outstanding. Solar Capital Investors, LLC, an entity funded by the management of Solar Capital Partners, the Company's investment adviser, acquired approximately 3.33 million units in connection with the initial private placement. In addition, in connection with the initial private placement, certain funds managed by Magnetar and certain entities affiliated therewith, acquired approximately 35.00 million units.

Our investment objective is to generate both current income and capital appreciation through debt and equity investments. We invest primarily in leveraged middle market companies in the form of senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities. From time to time, we may also invest in public companies that are thinly traded. Our business model is focused primarily on the direct origination of investments through portfolio companies or their financial sponsors. Our investments generally range between \$20 million and \$100 million each, although we expect that this investment size will vary proportionately with the size of our capital base. We are managed by Solar Capital Partners. Solar Capital Management provides the administrative services necessary for us to operate. In addition, we may invest a portion of our portfolio in other types of investments, which we refer to as opportunistic investments, which are not our primary focus but are intended to enhance our overall returns. These investments may include, but are not limited to, direct investments in public companies that are not thinly traded and securities of leveraged companies located in select countries outside of the United States.

As of March 31, 2010, our long term investments totaled \$839.0 million and our net asset value was \$730.3 million. Our portfolio was comprised of debt and equity investments in 33 portfolio companies and our income producing assets, which represent 92.2% of our total portfolio, had a weighted average annualized yield on a fair value basis of approximately 13.9%.

During the three months ended March 31, 2010, we originated approximately \$44.6 million of investments in one new and one existing portfolio company. We also received principal repayments of approximately \$95.1 million and sold securities in 3 portfolio companies for approximately

\$20.5 million.

About Solar Capital Partners

Solar Capital Partners is controlled by Michael S. Gross, our chairman and chief executive officer, and is led by Mr. Gross and Bruce Spohler, our chief operating officer, and is supported by a team of 12 dedicated investment professionals, including Brian Gerson, Cedric Henley and David Mait. We refer to Messrs. Gross,

Table of Contents

Spohler, Gerson, Henley and Mait as Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals. Solar Capital Partners' investment team has extensive experience in the private equity and leveraged lending industries, as well as significant contacts with financial sponsors operating in those industries. The investment team led by Messrs. Gross and Spohler has invested in 54 different portfolio companies for Solar Capital, which investments involved an aggregate of more than 46 different financial sponsors, through March 31, 2010. Since Solar Capital's inception, these investment professionals have used their relationships in the middle-market financial sponsor and financial intermediary community to originate direct investment opportunities.

Mr. Gross, the former chairman and chief executive officer of Apollo Investment Corporation, a publicly traded business development company that he founded, has over 20 years of experience in the private equity, distressed debt and mezzanine lending businesses and has been involved in originating, structuring, negotiating, consummating and managing private equity, distressed debt and mezzanine lending transactions.

Mr. Gross is also a founder and a former senior partner of Apollo Management, L.P., a leading private equity firm. During his tenure at Apollo Management, L.P., Mr. Gross was a member of the investment committee that was responsible for overseeing more than \$13 billion of investments in over 150 companies. Between February 2004 and February 2006, Mr. Gross was the president and chief executive officer of Apollo Investment Corporation, a publicly traded business development company that he founded and on whose board of directors and investment committee he served as chairman from February 2004 to July 2006. Under his management, Apollo Investment Corporation raised approximately \$930 million in gross proceeds in an initial public offering in April 2004, built a dedicated investment team and infrastructure and invested approximately \$2.3 billion in over 65 companies in conjunction with 50 different private equity sponsors. Mr. Gross was also the managing partner of Apollo Distressed Investment Fund, L.P., an investment fund he founded in 2003 to invest principally in debt and other securities of leveraged companies.

Mr. Gross also currently serves on the boards of directors of three public companies, and in the past has served on the boards of directors of more than 20 public and private companies. As a result, Mr. Gross has developed an extensive network of private equity sponsor relationships as well as relationships with management teams of public and private companies, investment bankers, attorneys and accountants that we believe should provide us with significant business opportunities.

We also rely on the more than 20 years of experience of Mr. Spohler, who has served as our chief operating officer and a partner of Solar Capital Partners since inception. Previously, Mr. Spohler was a managing director and a former co-head of U.S. Leveraged Finance for CIBC World Markets. He held numerous senior roles at CIBC World Markets, including serving on the U.S. Management Committee, Global Executive Committee and the Deals Committee, which approves all of CIBC World Markets' U.S. corporate finance debt capital decisions. During Mr. Spohler's tenure, he was responsible for senior loan, high yield and mezzanine origination and execution, as well as CIBC World Markets' below investment grade loan portfolio in the United States. As a co-head of U.S. Leveraged Finance, Mr. Spohler oversaw over 300 capital raising and merger and acquisition transactions, comprising over \$40 billion in market capitalization.

In addition to Messrs. Gross and Spohler, Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals include Messrs. Gerson, Henley and Mait, each of whom has extensive experience in originating, evaluating and structuring investments in the types of middle-market companies we currently target. Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals have an average of over 20 years of experience in the private equity and leveraged lending industries.

Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals have been active participants in the primary and secondary leveraged credit markets throughout their careers. They have effectively managed portfolios of distressed and mezzanine debt as well as other investment types. The depth of their experience and credit market expertise has led them through various stages of the economic cycle as well as several market disruptions.

Table of Contents

Market Opportunity

Solar Capital invests primarily in senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities of leveraged companies organized and located in the United States. We believe that the size of the leveraged company market, coupled with the demands of these companies for flexible sources of capital at attractive terms and rates, create an attractive investment environment for us.

Middle-market companies have faced increasing difficulty in accessing the capital markets. While many middle-market companies were formerly able to raise funds by issuing high-yield bonds, we believe this approach to financing has become more difficult in recent years as institutional investors have sought to invest in larger, more liquid offerings. In addition, many private finance companies that, until recently, financed their lending and investing activities through securitization transactions have lost that source of funding and cut back lending significantly.

There is a large pool of uninvested private equity capital likely to seek additional capital to support their private investments. We believe there is a large pool of uninvested private equity capital available to middle-market companies. While we expect the rate of investment to be slower than in prior periods, we expect that private equity firms will continue to be active investors in middle-market companies and that these private equity firms will seek to supplement their investments with senior and junior debt securities and loans and equity co-investments from other sources, such as Solar Capital.

Middle-market companies are increasingly seeking private sources for debt and equity capital. We believe that many middle-market companies prefer to execute transactions with private capital providers such as Solar Capital, rather than execute high-yield bond or equity transactions in the public markets, which may necessitate increased financial and regulatory compliance and reporting obligations. We expect that the volume of domestic public-to-private transactions, as well as the number of companies selecting a sale alternative versus raising capital in the public equity markets as a means of increasing liquidity, will remain large.

Consolidation among commercial banks has reduced the focus on middle-market business. We believe that many senior lenders have de-emphasized their service and product offerings to middle-market companies in favor of lending to large corporate clients, managing capital markets transactions and providing other non-credit services to their customers. We believe this has resulted in fewer key players and the reduced availability of debt capital to the companies we target.

Current disruptions within the credit markets generally have brought a reduction in competition and a more lender-friendly environment. Current credit market dislocation has caused many of the alternative methods of obtaining middle-market debt financing to significantly decrease in scope and availability while demand for financings has remained robust. We believe the segment's strong growth prospects, combined with the growing demand for the capital and corporate finance and advisory services we offer, creates an attractive investment environment for us.

Furthermore, we believe that given the credit market uncertainty, Solar Capital has a greater opportunity to move beyond middle-market deals into larger transactions, as banks are less willing to commit capital. We believe these larger deals can be structured with more attractive terms such as lower leverage, higher yields, better covenants, and longer duration than was typical before the current market dislocation.

Therefore, we believe that there is an opportunity to invest in senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities of leveraged companies and that we are well positioned to serve this market.

Table of Contents

Competitive Advantages and Strategy

We believe that we have the following competitive advantages over other providers of financing to leveraged companies:

Management Expertise

As managing partner, Mr. Gross has principal management responsibility for Solar Capital Partners, to which he currently dedicates substantially all of his time. Mr. Gross has over 20 years of experience in leveraged finance, private equity and distressed debt investing. Mr. Spohler, our chief operating officer and a partner of Solar Capital Partners, has over 20 years of experience in evaluating and executing leverage finance transactions. We believe that Messrs. Gross and Spohler have developed a strong reputation in the capital markets, and that this experience provides us with a competitive advantage in identifying and investing in leveraged companies with the potential to generate returns. We believe that our investment team has extensive experience in the private equity and leveraged lending industries, as well as significant contacts with financial sponsors operating in those industries. We believe that our investment team has a proven track record of valuing companies and assets and negotiating transactions.

In addition to Messrs. Gross and Spohler, Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals include Messrs. Gerson, Henley and Mait, each of whom has extensive experience in originating, evaluating and structuring investments in the types of middle-market companies we currently target. Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals have an average of over 20 years of experience in the private equity and leveraged lending industries.

Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals have been active participants in the primary and secondary leveraged credit markets throughout their careers. They have effectively managed portfolios of distressed and mezzanine debt as well as other investment types. The depth of their experience and credit market expertise has led them through various stages of the economic cycle as well as several market disruptions.

Investment Portfolio

Our portfolio investments consist of portfolio companies that have strong cash flows and have maintained financial and operating performance despite the recent economic climate. As of March 31, 2010, 100% of our portfolio was performing. The majority of our assets have been seasoned, which has allowed us to gain a solid understanding of our borrowers and the industries in which they compete. Additionally, over time, we have established productive relationships with our portfolio companies.

Investment Capacity

The proceeds from our initial public offering and the Concurrent Private Placement, the borrowing capacity under our credit facility and the expected repayments of existing investments provide us with a substantial amount of capital available for deployment into new investment opportunities. We believe we are well positioned for the current marketplace. We believe that in the current economic environment financing

needs of many companies will increase while funding options are limited, allowing us to capitalize on favorable investment opportunities.

Solar Capital's Limited Leverage

As of March 31, 2010, our outstanding debt was approximately 13.5% of total assets, making us one of the least levered publicly traded business development companies. We believe our relatively low level of leverage provides us with a competitive advantage, allowing us to anticipate providing a consistent dividend to our investors as proceeds from our investments are available for reinvestment as opposed to being consumed by debt repayment. To the extent borrowing conditions improve and leverage becomes available on more attractive

Table of Contents

terms, we may increase our relative level of debt in the future. However, we do not currently anticipate operating with a substantial amount of debt relative to our total assets. Furthermore, by maintaining prudent leverage levels, we believe we will be better positioned to weather future market downturns.

Proprietary Sourcing and Origination

We believe that Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals' longstanding relationships with financial sponsors, commercial and investment banks, management teams and other financial intermediaries provide us with a strong pipeline of proprietary origination opportunities. We believe the broad expertise of Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals and their ability to draw upon their average of 20 years of investment experience enable us to identify, assess and structure investments successfully. We expect to continue leveraging the relationships Mr. Gross established while sourcing and originating investments at Apollo Investment Corporation as well as the financial sponsor relationships Mr. Spohler developed while he was a co-head of CIBC World Markets' U.S. Leveraged Finance Group.

Our investment team's strong relationship network is enhanced by the collaborative role Solar Capital plays in the private equity industry. We offer tailored solutions to our portfolio companies, and we believe that this role provides us with greater deal flow as opposed to being viewed as a competitor bidding for control stakes. Because Solar Capital is not associated with a private equity firm, we are not precluded from partnering with most of the top tier financial sponsors.

These direct investments enable us to perform more in-depth due diligence and play an active role in structuring financings. We believe that effectuating the transaction terms and having greater insight into a portfolio company's operations and financial picture assist Solar Capital in minimizing downside potential, while reinforcing Solar Capital as a trusted partner who delivers comprehensive financing solutions. Since our inception, Solar Capital Partners has sourced investments in 54 different portfolio companies for Solar Capital, which investments involved an aggregate of more than 46 different financial sponsors, through March 31, 2010.

Versatile Transaction Structuring and Flexibility of Capital

We believe our senior investment professionals' broad expertise and ability to draw upon their extensive experience enable us to identify, assess and structure investments successfully across all levels of a company's capital structure and to manage potential risk and return at all stages of the economic cycle. While we will be subject to significant regulation as a business development company, we will not be subject to many of the regulatory limitations that govern traditional lending institutions such as banks. As a result, we believe that we can be more flexible than such lending institutions in selecting and structuring investments, adjusting investment criteria, transaction structures and, in some cases, the types of securities in which we invest. We believe financial sponsors, management teams and investment banks see this flexibility as a benefit, making us an attractive financing partner. We believe that this approach enables us to procure attractive investment opportunities throughout the economic cycle so that we can make investments consistent with our stated investment objective even during turbulent periods in the capital markets.

Emphasis on Achieving Strong Risk-Adjusted Returns

Solar Capital Partners uses a disciplined investment and risk management process that emphasizes a rigorous fundamental research and analysis framework. Solar Capital Partners seeks to build our portfolio on a bottom-up basis, choosing and sizing individual positions based on their relative risk/reward profiles as a function of the associated downside risk, volatility, correlation with the existing portfolio and liquidity. At the

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

same time, Solar Capital Partners takes into consideration a variety of factors in managing our portfolio and imposes portfolio-based risk constraints promoting a more diverse portfolio of investments and limiting issuer and industry concentration. Our value-oriented investment philosophy focuses on preserving capital and ensuring that our investments have an appropriate return profile in relation to risk. When market conditions make it

Table of Contents

difficult for us to invest according to our criteria, we are highly selective in deploying our capital. We do not pursue short-term origination targets. We believe this approach enables us to build an attractive investment portfolio that meets our return and value criteria over the long term.

We believe it is critical to conduct extensive due diligence on investment targets. In evaluating new investments we, through Solar Capital Partners, conduct a rigorous due diligence process that draws upon investment experience, industry expertise and network of contacts of our senior investment professionals, as well as the other members of our investment team. Among other things, our due diligence is designed to ensure that a prospective portfolio company will be able to meet its debt service obligations.

We have the ability to invest across an issuer's capital structure, which we believe enables us to provide comprehensive financing solutions for our portfolio companies, as well as access the best risk-adjusted opportunities. The overall transaction size and product mix is based upon the needs of the customer, as well as our risk-return hurdles. We also focus on downside protection and preservation of capital throughout the structuring process.

Deep Industry Focus with Substantial Information Flow

We concentrate our investing activities in industries characterized by strong cash flow and in which Solar Capital Partners' investment professionals have deep investment experience. During his time with the Apollo entities, Mr. Gross oversaw investments in over 200 companies in 20 industries. As a result of their investment experience, Messrs. Gross and Spohler, together with Solar Capital Partners' other investment professionals, have long-term relationships with management consultants and management teams in the industries we target, as well as substantial information concerning those industries. Solar Capital Partners' investment team also has significant experience in evaluating and making investments in the industries we target. We believe that the in-depth experience of Solar Capital Partners' investment team in investing throughout various stages of the economic cycle provides our investment adviser with access to ongoing market insights in addition to a powerful asset for investment sourcing. See [Business Investments](#).

Longer Investment Horizon

Unlike private equity and venture capital funds, we will not be subject to standard periodic capital return requirements. Such requirements typically stipulate that the capital of these funds, together with any capital gains on such invested funds, can only be invested once and must be returned to investors after a pre-agreed time period. We believe that our flexibility to make investments with a long-term view and without the capital return requirements of traditional private investment vehicles provides us with the opportunity to generate favorable returns on invested capital and enables us to be a better long-term partner for our portfolio companies.

Investments

Solar Capital seeks to create a diverse portfolio that includes senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities by investing approximately \$20 to \$100 million of capital, on average, in the securities of leveraged companies, including middle-market companies. Our portfolio includes both senior secured loans and mezzanine loans. Structurally, mezzanine loans usually rank subordinate in priority of payment to senior debt, such as senior bank debt, and are often unsecured. As such, other creditors may rank senior to us in the event of an insolvency. However, mezzanine loans rank senior to common and preferred equity in a borrower's capital structure. Typically, mezzanine loans have

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

elements of both debt and equity instruments, offering the fixed returns in the form of interest payments associated with senior debt, while providing lenders an opportunity to participate in the capital appreciation of a borrower, if any, through an equity interest. This equity interest typically takes the form of warrants. Due to its higher risk profile and often less restrictive covenants as compared to senior loans, mezzanine loans generally earn a higher return than senior secured loans. The warrants associated with mezzanine loans are typically detachable, which allows lenders to receive repayment of their

Table of Contents

principal on an agreed amortization schedule while retaining their equity interest in the borrower. Mezzanine loans also may include a put feature, which permits the holder to sell its equity interest back to the borrower at a price determined through an agreed formula. We believe that mezzanine loans offer an attractive investment opportunity based upon their historic returns and resilience during economic downturns.

In addition to senior secured loans and mezzanine loans, we may invest a portion of our portfolio in opportunistic investments, which are not our primary focus, but are intended to enhance our returns to our investors. These investments may include similar direct investments in public companies that are not thinly traded and securities of leveraged companies located in select countries outside of the United States.

Additionally, we may in the future seek to securitize our loans to generate cash for funding new investments. To securitize loans, we may create a wholly owned subsidiary and contribute a pool of loans to the subsidiary. This could include the sale of interests in the subsidiary on a non-recourse basis to purchasers who we would expect to be willing to accept a lower interest rate to invest in investment grade loan pools, and we would retain a portion of the equity in the securitized pool of loans.

Moreover, we may acquire investments in the secondary market and, in analyzing such investments, we will employ the same analytical process as we use for our primary investments.

Our principal focus is to provide senior secured loans and mezzanine loans to leveraged companies in a variety of industries. We generally seek to target companies that generate positive cash flows. We generally seek to invest in companies from the broad variety of industries in which our investment adviser has direct expertise. The following is a representative list of the industries in which we may invest.

Aerospace and defense	Healthcare, education and childcare
Automotive	Home and office furnishing, consumer products
Beverage, food and tobacco	Hotels, motels, inns and gaming
Broadcasting and entertainment	Industrial
Business services	Infrastructure
Cable television	Insurance
Cargo transport	Leisure, motion pictures and entertainment
Chemicals, plastics and rubber	Logistics
Consumer finance	Machinery
Consumer services	Media
Containers, packaging and glass	Mining, steel and nonprecious metals
Direct marketing	Oil and gas

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

Distribution	Personal, food and misc. services
Diversified/conglomerate manufacturing	Printing, publishing and broadcasting
Diversified/conglomerate services	Real estate
Education	Retail stores
Electronics	Specialty finance
Energy/utilities	Technology
Equipment rental	Telecommunications
Farming and agriculture	Utilities
Finance	

We may invest in other industries if we are presented with attractive opportunities.

Table of Contents

Set forth below is a list of our ten largest portfolio company investments as of March 31, 2010, as well as the top ten industries in which we were invested as of March 31, 2010, in each case calculated as a percentage of our total assets as of such date.

Portfolio Company	% of Total Assets
DS Waters	11.25%
Asurion Corporation	5.80%
Adams Outdoor Advertising	5.72%
Rug Doctor L.P.	5.08%
Fulton Holding Corporation	4.70%
Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc.	4.63%
Earthbound Farm	4.31%
Fleetpride Corporation	4.24%
Wire Rope Corporation	4.12%
Direct Buy Inc.	3.88%

Industry	% of Total Assets
Beverage, food, and tobacco	20.56%
Aerospace and defense	6.58%
Insurance	5.80%
Diversified/conglomerate services	5.72%
Personal, food and misc. services	5.08%
Healthcare, education, and childcare	4.95%
Retail stores	4.70%
Leisure, motion pictures, entertainment	4.60%
Cargo transport	4.24%
Diversified/conglomerate manufacturing	4.12%

Investment Selection Process

Solar Capital Partners utilizes a value-oriented investment philosophy with a focus on the preservation of capital and a commitment to managing downside exposure.

Portfolio Company Characteristics

We have identified several criteria that we believe are important in identifying and investing in prospective portfolio companies. These criteria provide general guidelines for our investment decisions; however, not all of these criteria will be met by each prospective portfolio company in which we choose to invest.

Value Orientation/Positive Cash Flow. Our investment philosophy places a premium on fundamental analysis from an investor's perspective and has a distinct value orientation. We focus on companies in which we can invest at relatively low multiples of operating cash flow and that are profitable at the time of investment on an operating cash flow basis. Additionally, we look for companies with a demonstrated ability to de-lever. Typically, we would not invest in start-up companies or companies having speculative business plans.

Growth. We invest primarily in companies with strong prospects for growth. These companies are usually in high-growth industries or have a competitive advantage that creates the potential to increase market share.

Strong Competitive Position in Industry. We seek to invest in target companies that have developed leading market positions within their respective markets and are well positioned to capitalize on growth opportunities.

Table of Contents

We seek companies that demonstrate significant competitive advantages versus their competitors, which we believe should help to protect their market position and profitability.

Diversified Customer and Supplier Base. We seek to acquire businesses that have a diversified customer and supplier base. We believe that companies with a diversified customer and supplier base are generally better able to endure economic downturns, industry consolidation, changing business preferences and other factors that may negatively impact their customers, suppliers and competitors.

Exit Strategy. We predominantly invest in companies which provide multiple alternatives for an eventual exit. We look for opportunities that provide an exit typically within three years of the initial capital commitment.

We seek companies that we believe will provide a steady stream of cash flow to repay our loans and reinvest in their respective businesses. We believe that such internally generated cash flow, leading to the payment of interest on, and the repayment of the principal of, our investments in portfolio companies represents a key means by which we will be able to exit from our investments over time.

In addition, we also seek to invest in companies whose business models and expected future cash flows offer attractive exit possibilities. These companies include candidates for strategic acquisition by other industry participants and companies that may repay our investments through an initial public offering of common stock or another capital market transaction.

Liquidation Value of Assets. The prospective liquidation value of the assets, if any, that collateralizes the loans in which we invest, is an important factor in our credit analysis. Our analysis emphasizes both tangible assets, such as accounts receivable, inventory, equipment and real estate, and intangible assets, such as intellectual property, customer lists, networks and databases.

Experienced and Committed Management. We generally require that portfolio companies have an experienced management team. We also require portfolio companies have in place proper incentives to induce management to succeed and to act in concert with our interests as investors, including having significant equity interests.

Strong Sponsorship. We aim to invest alongside other sophisticated investors. We seek to partner with successful financial sponsors who have historically generated high returns. We believe that investing in these sponsors' portfolio companies enables us to benefit from their direct involvement and due diligence.

Due Diligence

In conducting due diligence, we use publicly available information as well as information from relationships with former and current management teams, consultants, competitors and investment bankers. Our due diligence methodology allows us to screen a high volume of potential investment opportunities on a consistent and thorough basis.

Our due diligence typically includes:

review of historical and prospective financial information;

research relating to the company's management, industry, markets, products and services and competitors;

on-site visits;

discussions with management, employees, customers or vendors of the potential portfolio company;

review of senior loan documents; and

background investigations.

Table of Contents

We also evaluate the private equity sponsor making the investment. A private equity sponsor is typically the controlling shareholder upon completion of an investment and as such is considered critical to the success of the investment. The equity sponsor is evaluated along several key criteria, including:

Investment track record;

Industry experience;

Capacity and willingness to provide additional financial support to the company through additional capital contributions, if necessary; and

Reference checks.

Upon the completion of due diligence and a decision to proceed with an investment in a company, the investment professionals leading the investment present the investment opportunity to Solar Capital Partners' investment committee, which then determines whether to pursue the potential investment. Additional due diligence with respect to any investment may be conducted on our behalf by attorneys and independent accountants prior to the closing of the investment, as well as other outside advisers, as appropriate.

The Investment Committee

All new investments are required to be approved by a consensus of the investment committee of Solar Capital Partners, which is led by Messrs. Gross and Spohler. The members of Solar Capital Partners' investment committee receive no compensation from us. Such members may be employees or partners of Solar Capital Partners and may receive compensation or profit distributions from Solar Capital Partners.

Investment Structure

Once we determine that a prospective portfolio company is suitable for investment, we work with the management of that company and its other capital providers, including senior, junior and equity capital providers, to structure an investment. We negotiate among these parties to agree on how our investment is expected to perform relative to the other capital in the portfolio company's capital structure.

We structure our mezzanine investments primarily as unsecured, subordinated loans that provide for relatively high, fixed interest rates that provide us with significant current interest income. These loans typically have interest-only payments in the early years, with amortization of principal deferred to the later years of the mezzanine loans. In some cases, we may enter into loans that, by their terms, convert into equity or additional debt securities or defer payments of interest for the first few years after our investment. Also, in some cases our mezzanine loans may be collateralized by a subordinated lien on some or all of the assets of the borrower. Typically, our mezzanine loans have maturities of five to ten years.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

We also invest in portfolio companies in the form of senior secured loans. These senior secured loans typically provide for deferred interest payments in the first few years of the term of the loan. We generally obtain security interests in the assets of our portfolio companies that serve as collateral in support of the repayment of these loans. This collateral may take the form of first or second priority liens on the assets of a portfolio company.

Typically, our mezzanine and senior secured loans have final maturities of five to ten years. However, we expect that our portfolio companies often may repay these loans early, generally within three years from the date of initial investment. To preserve an acceptable return on investment, we seek to structure these loans with prepayment premiums.

In the case of our mezzanine loan and senior secured loan investments, we tailor the terms of the investment to the facts and circumstances of the transaction and the prospective portfolio company, negotiating a structure

Table of Contents

that protects our rights and manages our risk while creating incentives for the portfolio company to achieve its business plan and improve its profitability. For example, in addition to seeking a senior position in the capital structure of our portfolio companies, we will seek to limit the downside potential of our investments by:

requiring a total return on our investments (including both interest and potential capital appreciation) that compensates us for credit risk;

incorporating put rights and call protection into the investment structure; and

negotiating covenants in connection with our investments that afford our portfolio companies as much flexibility in managing their businesses as possible, consistent with preservation of our capital. Such restrictions may include affirmative and negative covenants, default penalties, lien protection, change of control provisions and board rights, including either observation or participation rights.

Our investments may include equity features, such as warrants or options to buy a minority interest in the portfolio company. Any warrants we receive with our debt securities generally require only a nominal cost to exercise, and thus, as a portfolio company appreciates in value, we may achieve additional investment return from this equity interest. We may structure the warrants to provide provisions protecting our rights as a minority interest holder, as well as puts, or rights to sell such securities back to the company, upon the occurrence of specified events. In many cases, we also obtain registration rights in connection with these equity securities, which may include demand and piggyback registration rights. In addition, we may from time to time make direct equity investments in portfolio companies.

We seek to hold most of our investments to maturity or repayment, but will sell our investments earlier if a liquidity event takes place, such as the sale or recapitalization of a portfolio company.

Ongoing Relationships with Portfolio Companies

Monitoring. Solar Capital Partners monitors our portfolio companies on an ongoing basis. Solar Capital Partners monitors the financial trends of each portfolio company to determine if it is meeting its business plan and to assess the appropriate course of action for each company.

Solar Capital Partners has several methods of evaluating and monitoring the performance and fair value of our investments, which include the following:

Assessment of success in adhering to each portfolio company's business plan and compliance with covenants;

Periodic and regular contact with portfolio company management and, if appropriate, the financial or strategic sponsor, to discuss financial position, requirements and accomplishments;

Comparisons to other Solar Capital portfolio companies in the industry, if any;

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

Attendance at and participation in board meetings; and

Review of monthly and quarterly financial statements and financial projections for portfolio companies.

In addition to various risk management and monitoring tools, Solar Capital Partners also uses an investment rating system to characterize and monitor our expected level of returns on each investment in our portfolio.

Table of Contents

We use an investment rating scale of 1 to 4. The following is a description of the conditions associated with each investment rating:

Investment Rating	Summary Description
1	Involves the least amount of risk in our portfolio, the portfolio company is performing above expectations, and the trends and risk factors are generally favorable (including a potential exit)
2	Risk that is similar to the risk at the time of origination, the portfolio company is performing as expected, and the risk factors are neutral to favorable; all new investments are initially assessed a grade of 2
3	The portfolio company is performing below expectations, may be out of compliance with debt covenants, and requires procedures for closer monitoring
4	The investment is performing well below expectations and is not anticipated to be repaid in full

Solar Capital Partners monitors and, when appropriate, changes the investment ratings assigned to each investment in our portfolio. As of March 31, 2010, the weighted average investment rating on the fair market value of our portfolio was 1.9. In connection with our valuation process, Solar Capital Partners reviews these investment ratings on a quarterly basis, and our board of directors affirms such ratings.

Valuation Procedures

We will conduct the valuation of our assets, pursuant to which our net asset value shall be determined, at all times consistent with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and the 1940 Act. Our valuation procedures are set forth in more detail below:

Securities for which market quotations are readily available on an exchange shall be valued at the closing price on the day of valuation. We may also obtain quotes with respect to certain of our investments from pricing services or brokers or dealers in order to value assets. When doing so, we determine whether the quote obtained is sufficient according to GAAP to determine the fair value of the security. If determined adequate, we use the quote obtained.

Securities for which reliable market quotations are not readily available or for which the pricing source does not provide a valuation or methodology or provides a valuation or methodology that, in the judgment of our investment adviser or board of directors, does not represent fair value, shall each be valued as follows: (i) each portfolio company or investment is initially valued by the investment professionals responsible for the portfolio investment; (ii) preliminary valuation conclusions are documented and discussed with our senior management; (iii) independent third-party valuation firms engaged by, or on behalf of, the board of directors will conduct independent appraisals and review management s preliminary valuations and make their own assessment for all material assets; (iv) the board of directors will discuss valuations and determine the fair value of each investment in our portfolio in good faith based on the input of the investment adviser and, where appropriate, the respective third-party valuation firms.

The recommendation of fair value will generally be based on the following factors, as relevant:

the nature and realizable value of any collateral;

the portfolio company's ability to make payments;

the portfolio company's earnings and discounted cash flow;

the markets in which the issuer does business; and

comparisons to publicly traded securities.

Table of Contents

Securities for which market quotations are not readily available or for which a pricing source is not sufficient may include, but are not limited to, the following:

private placements and restricted securities that do not have an active trading market;

securities whose trading has been suspended or for which market quotes are no longer available;

debt securities that have recently gone into default and for which there is no current market;

securities whose prices are stale;

securities affected by significant events; and

securities that the investment adviser believes were priced incorrectly.

Determination of fair value involves subjective judgments and estimates. Accordingly, the notes to our financial statements express the uncertainty with respect to the possible effect of such valuations, and any change in such valuations, on our financial statements.

Competition

Our primary competitors provide financing to middle-market companies and include other BDCs, commercial and investment banks, commercial financing companies and, to the extent they provide an alternative form of financing, private equity funds. Additionally, alternative investment vehicles, such as hedge funds, frequently invest in middle-market companies. As a result, competition for investment opportunities at middle-market companies can be intense. However, we believe that there has been a reduction in the amount of debt capital available since the downturn in the credit markets, which began in mid-2007, and that this has resulted in a less competitive environment for making new investments. Many of our competitors are substantially larger and have considerably greater financial, technical and marketing resources than we do. For example, some competitors may have a lower cost of funds and access to funding sources that are not available to us. In addition, some of our competitors may have higher risk tolerances or different risk assessments, which could allow them to consider a wider variety of investments and establish more relationships than us. Furthermore, many of our competitors are not subject to the regulatory restrictions that the 1940 Act imposes on us as a BDC. We use the industry information available to Mr. Gross and the other investment professionals of Solar Capital Partners to assess investment risks and determine appropriate pricing for our investments in portfolio companies. In addition, we believe that the relationships of Mr. Gross and the other investment professionals of our investment adviser enable us to learn about, and compete effectively for, financing opportunities with attractive leveraged companies in the industries in which we seek to invest.

Staffing

We do not currently have any employees. Mr. Gross, our chief executive officer, and Mr. Spohler, our chief operating officer, currently serve as the managing member and a partner, respectively, of our investment adviser, Solar Capital Partners. Nicholas Radesca, our chief financial officer and secretary, is an employee of Solar Capital Management, and performs his functions as chief financial officer under the terms of our

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

Administration Agreement. Guy Talarico, our chief compliance officer, is the chief executive officer of Alaric Compliance Services, LLC, and performs his functions as our chief compliance officer under the terms of an agreement between Solar Capital Management and Alaric Compliance Services, LLC. Solar Capital Management has retained Mr. Talarico and Alaric Compliance Services, LLC pursuant to its obligations under our Administration Agreement.

Our day-to-day investment operations are managed by Solar Capital Partners. Solar Capital Partners' investment personnel currently consists of its senior investment professionals, Messrs. Gross, Spohler, Gerson, Henley and Mait, and a team of additional experienced investment professionals. Based upon its needs, Solar Capital Partners may hire additional investment professionals. In addition, we will reimburse Solar Capital

Table of Contents

Management for the allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by it in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, including rent, the fees and expenses associated with performing compliance functions, and the compensation of our chief financial officer and any administrative support staff.

Properties

Our executive offices are located at 500 Park Avenue, 5th Floor, New York, New York 10022, and are provided by Solar Capital Management in accordance with the terms of the Administration Agreement. We believe that our office facilities are suitable and adequate for our business as it is contemplated to be conducted.

Legal Proceedings

None of us, our investment adviser or administrator, is currently subject to any material legal proceedings, nor, to our knowledge, is any material legal proceeding threatened against us, or against our investment adviser or administrator. From time to time, we, our investment adviser or administrator, may be a party to certain legal proceedings in the ordinary course of business, including proceedings relating to the enforcement of our rights under contracts with our portfolio companies. While the outcome of these legal proceedings cannot be predicted with certainty, we do not expect that these proceedings will have a material effect upon our financial condition or results of operations.

Table of Contents**PORTFOLIO COMPANIES**

The following table sets forth certain information as of March 31, 2010 for each portfolio company in which we had a debt or equity investment. The general terms of our debt and equity investments are described in Business Investments. Other than these investments, our only formal relationships with our portfolio companies are the managerial assistance we may provide upon request and the board observer or participation rights we may receive in connection with our investment. Other than Ark Real Estate Partners, National Interest Security Corporation, and National Specialty Alloys, LLC, we do not control and are not an affiliate of any of our portfolio companies, each as defined in the 1940 Act. In general, under the 1940 Act, we would control a portfolio company if we owned more than 25% of its voting securities and would be an affiliate of a portfolio company if we owned more than 5% of its voting securities.

Name and Address of					Fair Value
Portfolio Company	Industry	Type of Investment	Interest(1)	Maturity	% of Class Held (in thousands)
AOA Top Tier Holding Co., L.P. (Adams Outdoor Advertising)					
2808 Ferry Road	Diversified/conglomerate services	Subordinated notes	13.50%	6/20/2011	37,200
Atlanta, GA 30339		Subordinated notes	10.88%	6/20/2011	15,936
Allied Capital Corporation	Finance	Subordinated notes	6.00%	4/01/2012	14,777
1919 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.		Subordinated notes	6.63%	7/15/2011	14,428
Washington, DC 20006					
AMC Entertainment Holdings, Inc.	Leisure, motion pictures and entertainment	Subordinated notes	5.26% (L+500/Q)	6/13/2012	21,295(3)
920 Main Street					
Kansas City, MO 64105					
Ark Real Estate Partners	Real estate	Partnership interests			24.80% 20,583
LP 505 Park Ave.,					
21 st Floor					
New York, NY 10022					
Asurion Corporation	Insurance	Senior secured loan	6.73% (L+650/Q or M)	7/03/2015	53,900(3)
648 Grassmere Park,					
Suite 300					
Nashville, TN 37211					
Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc.	Aerospace and defense	Subordinated notes	13.00%	7/31/2016	43,000(3)
8283 Greensboro Drive					
McLean, VA 22102					

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

Casema Holding B.V.	Telecommunications	Subordinated notes	9.66% (E+925/S)	9/13/2016	7,510(3)
		Subordinated notes		9/13/2016	
Spaarneplein 2			9.67% (E+925/S)		8,059(3)
Postbus 16192					
2500 BD Den Haag					
The Netherlands					
Classic Cruises Holdings S.DER.L.					
1000 Corporate Drive, Suite 500	Leisure, motion pictures and entertainment	Senior secured loan	10.14% (L+975/Q)	1/31/2015	21,450
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33334					
Direct Buy Inc.	Home and Office Furnishing, Consumer products	Subordinated notes	16.00%	5/30/2013	33,577(3)
8450 Broadway		Common stock		3.00%	2,500
Merrillville, IN 46410					
DSW Group, Inc. (DS Waters)	Beverage, food and tobacco	Subordinated notes	14.00%	4/24/2012	104,493(3)
4170 Tanners Creek Drive					
Flowery Branch,					
GA 30542					
Earthbound Farm	Beverage, food and tobacco	Subordinated notes	15.25%	7/20/2016	40,000(3)
1721 San Juan Highway					
San Juan Bautista,					
CA 95045					
Emdeon Business Services LLC	Healthcare, education and childcare	Senior secured loan	5.26% (L+500/Q)	5/16/2014	14,610
26 Century Blvd.					
Nashville, TN 37214					

Table of Contents

Name and Address of					Fair Value
Portfolio Company	Industry	Type of Investment	Interest(1)	Maturity	(in thousands)
Fleetpride Corporation	Cargo transport	Subordinated notes	11.50%	10/01/2014	39,399
8709 Technology Forest Place					
Suite 125					
The Woodlands, TX 77381					
Freedom Roads, LLC	Automotive	Subordinated notes	16.00%	6/20/2011	26,730
2 Marriott Drive					
Lincolnshire, Illinois 60069					
Fulton Holding Corporation	Retail stores	Senior secured loan	12.50%		(4) 43,650
5950 Fulton Industrial Blvd.					
Atlanta, GA 30336					
Global Garden Products	Farming and agriculture	Common stock			<1% (3)
Via del lavoro, 6					
I-31033 Castelfranco Veneto					
(Treviso) Italy					
Grakon, LLC	Machinery	Subordinated notes	12.00%	6/19/2013	5,101(3)
1911 S. 218 th St.					
P.O. Box 98984					
Seattle, WA 98198					
Great American Group Inc.	Business Services	Common stock			2.54% 1,177
21860 Burbank Blvd.					
Suite 300 South					
Woodland Hills, CA 91367					
Iglo Birds Eye Group Limited	Beverage, food and tobacco	Subordinated notes	8.99% (E+800 /S)	11/03/2016	4,522(3)
No. 5, New Square					
Bedfont Lakes Business Park					
Feltham, Middlesex					
TW 14 8HA					
United Kingdom					
Subordinated notes					
8.54% (L(UK)+800 /S)					
11/03/2016					
10,799(3)					

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

Learning Care Group 21333 Haggerty Rd., Suite 300 Novi, MI 48375	Healthcare, education and childcare	Subordinated notes	13.50%	12/28/2015	31,368(3)
Magnolia River, LLC 601 9th Street Greeley Colorado 80631	Hotels, motels, inns and gaming	Subordinated notes	14.00%	4/28/2014	16,205
National Specialty Alloys, LLC 18250 Kieth Harrow Blvd. Houston, TX 77084	Mining, steel and nonprecious metals	LLC interests		40.02%	9,000
Nuveen Investments, Inc. 333 W. Wacker Dr. Chicago, IL 60606	Finance	Common stock		1.08%	7,500
NXP Semiconductors Netherlands B.V. High Tech Campus 60 5656 AG Eindhoven The Netherlands	Electronics	Common stock		<1%	7,995
ProSieben Sat.1 Media AG Medienallee 7 85774 Unterfoöhring Germany	Broadcasting and entertainment	Subordinated notes	7.96% (E+350+3.50%/Q)	3/06/2017	9,078(3)
Ram Energy Resources, Inc. 5100 E Skelly Drive Meridian Tower, Suite 650 Tulsa, OK 74135	Oil and Gas	Senior secured loan	12.75% (L+850/S)	11/29/2012	12,397(3)
Rug Doctor L.P. 4701 Old Shepard Place Plaxo, TX 75093	Personal, food and misc. services	Subordinated notes	14.95%	10/31/2014	47,151(3)

Table of Contents

Name and Address of					Fair Value
Portfolio Company	Industry	Type of Investment	Interest(1)	Maturity	(in thousands)
Seven Media Group Pty	Broadcasting and entertainment	Subordinated notes	11.18%	12/29/2013	17,653
Limited		Subordinated notes		12/29/2013	
38-42 Pirrama Road		Common stock	12.00%		<1%
Pymont, New South Wales 2009 Australia					1,770
Tri-Star Electronics	Aerospace and defense	Subordinated notes	15.25%	8/02/2013	18,094(3)
International, Inc.					
2201 Rosencrans Ave.					
El Segundo, CA 90245					
Wastequip, Inc.	Containers, packaging and glass	Subordinated notes	12.50%	2/05/2015	(3)
25800 Science Park Dr.,					
Suite 140					
Beachwood, OH 44122					
Weetabix Group	Beverage, food and tobacco	Subordinated notes	9.83% (L+900/S)	5/07/2017	20,683(3)
Burton Latimer		Subordinated notes		9/14/2016	
Kettering			10.37% (L(UK)+950/S)		
Northants NN 15 5JR					
United Kingdom					
Wire Rope Corporation	Diversified/ conglomerate manufacturing	Subordinated notes	11.00%	2/08/2015	38,220
12200 NW Ambassador Drive					
Kansas City, MO 64163					
Wyle Laboratories Inc.	Aerospace and defense	Preferred stock	8.00%	7/17/2015	40
1960 East Grand Ave.					
El Segundo, CA 90245-5023					
Total					\$ 838,956

(1) All interest is payable in cash unless otherwise indicated. A majority of the variable rate debt investments bear interest at a rate that may be determined by reference to LIBOR or EURIBOR, and which reset daily quarterly (Q), monthly (M), or semi-annually (S). For each debt investment we have provided the current interest rate in effect as of March 31, 2010.

(2)

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

Percentages shown for warrants or convertible preferred stock represent the percentages of outstanding common stock, assuming we exercise our warrants or convert our preferred stock into common stock.

- (3) All or a portion of interest may be deferred through a payment-in-kind interest option.
- (4) Maturity will be six years from the date of closing, which has not yet been determined.

Set forth below is a brief description of each portfolio company in which we have made an investment that represents greater than 5% of our total assets as of March 31, 2010.

DS Waters

DS Waters produces and distributes bottled water products in the U.S. DS Waters commands a leading market presence in the HOD (home and office delivery) space, particularly in the 3 gallon, 5 gallon and ½ liter bottled water segments. Water is bottled at DS Waters manufacturing facilities and then delivered by its fleet of delivery trucks to homes and offices across the country. DS Waters operates in most major markets in the U.S. based on population, and the company maintains a significant market share position in most of the markets in which it operates.

Asurion Corporation

Asurion Corporation is the leading provider of value-added subscriber services to the wireless industry through its handset protection and wireless roadside assistance services. Additionally, Asurion Corporation provides service contract administration for residential telecommunications equipment and consumer electronics and appliances.

Table of Contents

Adams Outdoor Advertising

Adams Outdoor Advertising provides outdoor advertising services to over 15 markets and surrounding areas in the Midwest, Southeast and mid-Atlantic states. Adams Outdoor Advertising utilizes bulletins, poster panels, and transit displays.

Rug Doctor L.P.

Rug Doctor L.P. services both the professional and the Do-It-Yourself carpet cleaning market through the manufacture, sale, and service of carpet cleaning products and machines.

Table of Contents**MANAGEMENT**

Our board of directors oversees our management. The board of directors currently consists of five members, three of whom are not interested persons of Solar Capital Ltd. as defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act. We refer to these individuals as our independent directors. Our board of directors elects our officers, who serve at the discretion of the board of directors. The responsibilities of each director will include, among other things, the oversight of our investment activity, the quarterly valuation of our assets, and oversight of our financing arrangements. The board of directors has also established an audit committee and a nominating and corporate governance committee and may establish additional committees in the future.

Board of Directors and Executive Officers*Directors*

Information regarding the board of directors is as follows:

Name	Age	Position	Director Since	Expiration of Term
Interested Director				
Michael S. Gross	48	Chief Executive Officer, President and Chairman of the Board of Directors	2007	2012
Bruce Spohler	49	Chief Operating Officer and Director	2009	2011
Independent Directors				
Steven Hochberg	48	Director	2007	2011
David S. Wachter	46	Director	2007	2010
Leonard A. Potter	48	Director	2009	2012

The address for each of our directors is 500 Park Avenue, 5th Floor, New York, New York 10022.

Executive Officers Who Are Not Directors

Name	Age	Position
Nicholas Radesca	44	Chief Financial Officer and Secretary
Guy Talarico	54	Chief Compliance Officer

The address for each of our executive officers is 500 Park Avenue, 5th Floor, New York, New York 10022.

Biographical Information

Directors

Our directors have been divided into two groups – interested directors and independent directors. An interested director is an interested person as defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act. As described below under Committees of the Board of Directors – Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, the board of directors has identified certain desired attributes for director nominees. Each of our directors has demonstrated high character and integrity, superior credentials and recognition in his respective field and the relevant expertise and experience upon which to be able to offer advice and guidance to our management. Each of our directors also has sufficient time available to devote to the affairs of Solar Capital, is able to work with the other members of the board of directors and contribute to the success of Solar Capital and can represent the long-term interests of Solar Capital’s stockholders as a whole. Our directors have been selected such that the board of directors represents a range of backgrounds and experience. Set forth below is biographical information of each director,

Table of Contents

including a discussion of such director's particular experience, qualifications, attributes or skills that lead us to conclude, as of the date of this prospectus, that such individual should serve as a director of Solar Capital, in light of Solar Capital's business and structure.

Interested Directors

Michael S. Gross was the managing member, the chairman of the board of directors and the chief executive officer of Solar Capital LLC since its inception in February 2007, and has been the chairman of the board of directors since December 2007, and chief executive officer and president since November 2007, of Solar Capital Ltd. Mr. Gross also currently serves as the managing member of our investment adviser, Solar Capital Partners. From July 2006 through approximately the first quarter of 2009, Mr. Gross was a partner in Magnetar Capital Partners, LP. Between February 2004 and February 2006, Mr. Gross was the president and chief executive officer of Apollo Investment Corporation, a publicly traded business development company that he founded and on whose board of directors and investment committee he served as chairman from February 2004 to July 2006, and was the managing partner of Apollo Investment Management, L.P., the investment adviser to Apollo Investment Corporation. Apollo Investment Corporation invests primarily in middle-market companies in the form of senior secured and mezzanine loans as well as by making direct equity investments in such companies. Under his management, Apollo Investment Corporation raised approximately \$930 million in gross proceeds in an initial public offering in April 2004 and invested approximately \$2.3 billion in over 65 companies in conjunction with 50 different private equity sponsors. From 1990 to February 2006, Mr. Gross was a senior partner at Apollo Management, L.P., a leading private equity firm which he founded in 1990 with five other persons. Since its inception, Apollo Management, L.P. has invested more than \$13 billion in over 150 companies in the United States and Western Europe. During his tenure at Apollo Management, L.P., Mr. Gross was a member of an investment committee that was responsible for overseeing such investments. In addition, from 2003 to February 2006, Mr. Gross was the managing partner of Apollo Distressed Investment Fund, an investment fund he founded to invest principally in non-control oriented distressed debt and other investment securities of leveraged companies. Prior to his time at Apollo Management, L.P., Mr. Gross was employed by Drexel Burnham Lambert Incorporated. From June 2006 to August 2008, Mr. Gross served as the chief executive officer, chairman of the board of directors and secretary of Marathon Acquisition Corp., a publicly traded special purpose acquisition company. Mr. Gross currently serves on the boards of directors of Saks, Inc., Global Ship Lease Inc. and Jarden Corporation, and in the past has served on the boards of directors, including in certain cases, in the capacity as a lead director, of more than 20 public and private companies. He is a founding member, and serves on the executive committee, of the Youth Renewal Fund, is the chairman of the board of Mt. Sinai Children's Center Foundation, and serves on the Board of Trustees of The Trinity School and the Board of Directors of New York Road Runners. Mr. Gross holds a B.B.A. in accounting from the University of Michigan and an M.M. from the J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University. Mr. Gross' intimate knowledge of the business and operations of Solar Capital Partners, extensive familiarity with the financial industry and the investment management process in particular, and experience as a director of other public and private companies not only gives the board of directors valuable insight but also positions him well to continue to serve as the chairman of our board of directors.

Bruce Spohler was a senior vice president of Solar Capital LLC from its inception in February 2007, and has been a director since September 2009, and the chief operating officer since December 2007, of Solar Capital Ltd. Mr. Spohler also currently serves as a partner of our investment adviser, Solar Capital Partners. Previously, Mr. Spohler was a managing director and a former co-head of U.S. Leveraged Finance for CIBC World Markets. He held numerous senior roles at CIBC World Markets, including serving on the U.S. Management Committee, Global Executive Committee and the Deals Committee, which approves all of CIBC World Markets' U.S. corporate finance debt capital decisions. During his tenure, he was responsible for senior loan, high yield and mezzanine origination and execution, as well as CIBC World Markets' below investment grade loan portfolio in the U.S. As a co-head of U.S. Leveraged Finance, he oversaw over 300 capital raising and merger and acquisition transactions, comprising over \$40 billion in market capitalization. He joined CIBC World Markets in 1995 when it acquired The Argosy Group, of which Mr. Spohler was a founding member and managing director. Founded in

Table of Contents

1990, The Argosy Group was a middle-market financing business, in which Mr. Spohler and other principals of The Argosy Group raised third party capital as well as invested alongside their financial sponsor clients. Prior to The Argosy Group, Mr. Spohler was employed by Drexel Burnham Lambert Incorporated. Mr. Spohler earned a B.S. from Syracuse University and an M.M. from the J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University. Mr. Spohler's depth of experience in managerial positions in investment management, leveraged finance and financial services, as well as his intimate knowledge of Solar Capital's business and operations, gives the board of directors valuable industry-specific knowledge and expertise on these and other matters.

Independent Directors

Steven Hochberg was a director of Solar Capital LLC from its inception in February 2007, and has been a director of Solar Capital Ltd. since November 2007. Mr. Hochberg is the founder of Ascent Biomedical Ventures, a New York based venture investor in biomedical technology companies including medical devices and drugs. Since 1992, Mr. Hochberg has also been an active founder of early-stage medical technology companies, including Biomerix Corporation, Eminent Research Systems Inc., Clinsights, Inc., Med-E-Systems/AHT Corporation, and Physicians Online. Mr. Hochberg is the chairman of the board of directors of Biomerix Corporation, Crosstrees Medical, Inc. and Ouroboros, Inc., and serves on the board of directors of Synecor, LLC. Previously, Mr. Hochberg was an investment banker with Alex. Brown & Sons and a strategy consultant with Bain & Company in the technology and healthcare areas. Currently, Mr. Hochberg is a member of the Board of Trustees and Vice Chairman of Continuum Health Partners, one of the largest non-profit hospital systems in New York City. Mr. Hochberg is also a member of the Board of Governors of the New York Academy of Sciences. Mr. Hochberg holds a B.B.A. from the University of Michigan and an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School. Mr. Hochberg's varied experience in investing in medical technology companies provides the board of directors with particular knowledge of this field, and his role as chairman of other companies' board of directors brings the perspective of a knowledgeable corporate leader.

Leonard A. Potter has been a director of Solar Capital Ltd. since September 2009. Mr. Potter is currently the Chief Investment Officer of Salt Creek Hospitality, a private acquirer and owner of hospitality related assets. From December 2002 through July 2009, Mr. Potter was a Managing Director - Soros Private Equity at Soros Fund Management LLC (SFM) where, from May 2005 through July 2009, Mr. Potter served as co-head of the Private Equity group and a member of the Private Equity Investment Committee. From September 1998 until joining SFM in 2002, Mr. Potter was a Managing Director of Alpine Consolidated LLC, a private merchant bank, and from April 1996 through September 1998, Mr. Potter founded and served as a Managing Director of Capstone Partners LLC, a private merchant bank. Prior to founding Capstone Partners, Mr. Potter was an attorney specializing in mergers, acquisitions and corporate finance at Morgan, Lewis & Bockius and Willkie Farr & Gallagher. Mr. Potter has previously served as a board member of several public companies and currently serves on the boards of several private companies. Mr. Potter has a B.A. from Brandeis University and a J.D. from the Fordham University School of Law. Mr. Potter's experience practicing as a corporate lawyer provides valuable insight to the board of directors on regulatory and risk management issues. In addition, his tenure in private equity investments and service as a director of both public and private companies provide industry-specific knowledge and expertise to the board of directors.

David S. Wachter was a director of Solar Capital LLC from its inception in February 2007, and has been a director of Solar Capital Ltd. since November 2007. Mr. Wachter is a founding partner, managing director and president of W Capital Partners. W Capital Partners is a private equity fund manager that acquires direct private equity portfolios in the secondary market. W Capital Partners manages over \$1 billion of capital and is a leading participant in providing private equity firms, financial institutions and corporations with a liquidity alternative for their private equity investments. Prior to founding W Capital Partners, Mr. Wachter was a managing director at Jefferies & Co. from 1999 to 2001, a founding partner and managing director at C.E. Unterberg, Towbin from 1990 to 1999 and an investment banker at Lehman Brothers from 1986 to 1990. Mr. Wachter has a B.S. in Engineering, with a major in Computer Science and Applied Mathematics, from Tufts University and an M.B.A.

Table of Contents

from New York University Graduate School of Business. Mr. Wachter's extensive knowledge of private equity and investment banking provide the board of directors with the valuable insight of an experienced financial manager.

Executive Officers Who Are Not Directors

Nicholas Radesca CPA was the Chief Financial Officer of Solar Capital LLC from March 2008 and has been the Chief Financial Officer and Secretary of Solar Capital Ltd. since March 2008 and October 2009, respectively. Mr. Radesca joined Solar Capital from iStar Financial Inc. where he served from 2006 to 2008 as the Chief Accounting Officer. His responsibilities at iStar Financial Inc., a publicly traded, diversified commercial real estate company, encompassed all aspects of accounting, tax and SEC reporting. Prior to iStar Financial Inc., Mr. Radesca was the Vice President of Financial Reporting at Fannie Mae from 2005 to 2006 where he oversaw SEC, regulatory and internal reporting. From 2002 to 2005, he served as Director of External Reporting at Del Monte Foods Company, where he managed both the corporate accounting policy and the SEC reporting functions. Mr. Radesca also previously served as the Vice President of Financial Reporting at Provident Financial from 1999 to 2002, where he was responsible for SEC reporting and accounting for securitizations and derivatives. He began his financial services career at Bank of America working in the mortgage and capital markets accounting groups. Mr. Radesca has more than 15 years of experience in accounting, tax and SEC reporting and is a licensed Certified Public Accountant. Mr. Radesca has a B.S. in Accounting from New York Institute of Technology and an M.B.A. from The California State University, East Bay.

Guy Talarico has been the Chief Compliance Officer of Solar Capital Ltd. since July 2008. Mr. Talarico founded and has served as chief executive officer of Alaric Compliance Services, LLC, (successor to EOS Compliance Services LLC) since June 2004. Mr. Talarico currently serves as chief compliance officer for a number of funds and investment advisers, including Keeley Funds Inc., The FBR Funds and PennantPark Investment Corporation. Prior to founding EOS Compliance Services LLC, Mr. Talarico served as the Senior Director of the Institutional Custody Division at Investors Bank & Trust Company from 2001 to 2004. Immediately prior to that, Mr. Talarico worked at JPMorgan Chase Bank where he was a Division Executive for Commercial Investment and Retirement Services in its Investment Services Group from 1995 to 2001. Mr. Talarico holds a B.S. ChE from Lehigh University, an M.B.A. from Fairleigh Dickinson University and a J.D. from New York Law School.

Board Leadership Structure

Our board of directors monitors and performs an oversight role with respect to the business and affairs of Solar Capital, including with respect to investment practices and performance, compliance with regulatory requirements and the services, expenses and performance of service providers to Solar Capital. Among other things, our board of directors approves the appointment of our investment adviser and officers, reviews and monitors the services and activities performed by our investment adviser and executive officers and approves the engagement, and reviews the performance of, our independent public accounting firm.

Under Solar Capital's bylaws, our board of directors may designate a chairman to preside over the meetings of the board of directors and meetings of the stockholders and to perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the board. We do not have a fixed policy as to whether the chairman of the board should be an independent director and believe that we should maintain the flexibility to select the chairman and reorganize the leadership structure, from time to time, based on the criteria that is in the best interests of Solar Capital and its stockholders at such times.

Presently, Mr. Gross serves as the chairman of our board of directors. Mr. Gross is an interested person of Solar Capital as defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act because he is the president and chief executive officer of Solar Capital, serves on the investment committee of

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

our investment adviser and is the managing member of our investment adviser. We believe that Mr. Gross history with Solar Capital, familiarity with its

Table of Contents

investment platform, and extensive knowledge of the financial services industry and the investment valuation process in particular qualify him to serve as the chairman of our board of directors. We believe that Solar Capital is best served through this existing leadership structure, as Mr. Gross' relationship with Solar Capital's investment adviser provides an effective bridge and encourages an open dialogue between management and the board of directors, ensuring that both groups act with a common purpose.

Our board of directors does not currently have a designated lead independent director. We are aware of the potential conflicts that may arise when a non-independent director is chairman of the board, but believe these potential conflicts are offset by our strong corporate governance policies. Our corporate governance policies include regular meetings of the independent directors in executive session without the presence of interested directors and management, the establishment of audit and nominating and corporate governance committees comprised solely of independent directors and the appointment of a chief compliance officer, with whom the independent directors meet regularly without the presence of interested directors and other members of management, for administering our compliance policies and procedures.

We recognize that different board leadership structures are appropriate for companies in different situations. We re-examine our corporate governance policies on an ongoing basis to ensure that they continue to meet Solar Capital's needs.

Board's Role In Risk Oversight

Our board of directors performs its risk oversight function primarily through (a) its two standing committees, which report to the entire board of directors and are comprised solely of independent directors, and (2) active monitoring of our chief compliance officer and our compliance policies and procedures.

As described below in more detail under Committees of the Board of Directors, the audit committee and the nominating and corporate governance committee assist the board of directors in fulfilling its risk oversight responsibilities. The audit committee's risk oversight responsibilities include overseeing Solar Capital's accounting and financial reporting processes, Solar Capital's systems of internal controls regarding finance and accounting, and audits of Solar Capital's financial statements. The nominating and corporate governance committee's risk oversight responsibilities include selecting, researching and nominating directors for election by our stockholders, developing and recommending to the board a set of corporate governance principles and overseeing the evaluation of the board and our management.

Our board of directors also performs its risk oversight responsibilities with the assistance of the chief compliance officer. The board of directors annually reviews a written report from the chief compliance officer discussing the adequacy and effectiveness of the compliance policies and procedures of Solar Capital and its service providers. The chief compliance officer's annual report addresses at a minimum (a) the operation of the compliance policies and procedures of Solar Capital and its service providers since the last report; (b) any material changes to such policies and procedures since the last report; (c) any recommendations for material changes to such policies and procedures as a result of the chief compliance officer's annual review; and (d) any compliance matter that has occurred since the date of the last report about which the board of directors would reasonably need to know to oversee our compliance activities and risks. In addition, the chief compliance officer meets separately in executive session with the independent directors at least once each year.

We believe that our board's role in risk oversight is effective, and appropriate given the extensive regulation to which we are already subject as a BDC. As a BDC, we are required to comply with certain regulatory requirements that control the levels of risk in our business and operations. For example, our ability to incur indebtedness is limited such that our asset coverage must equal at least 200% immediately after each time we incur indebtedness, we generally have to invest at least 70% of our total assets in qualifying assets and we are

Table of Contents

not generally permitted to invest in any portfolio company in which one of our affiliates currently has an investment. See Regulation as a Business Development Company.

We recognize that different board roles in risk oversight are appropriate for companies in different situations. We re-examine the manners in which the board administers its oversight function on an ongoing basis to ensure that they continue to meet Solar Capital's needs.

Committees of the Board of Directors

An audit committee and a nominating and corporate governance committee have been established by our board of directors. All directors are expected to attend at least 75% of the aggregate number of meetings of the board of directors and of the respective committees on which they serve. We require each director to make a diligent effort to attend all board and committee meetings as well as each annual meeting of our stockholders.

Audit Committee

The audit committee operates pursuant to a charter approved by our board of directors. The charter sets forth the responsibilities of the audit committee. The audit committee's responsibilities include selecting the independent registered public accounting firm for Solar Capital, reviewing with such independent registered public accounting firm the planning, scope and results of their audit of Solar Capital's financial statements, pre-approving the fees for services performed, reviewing with the independent registered public accounting firm the adequacy of internal control systems, reviewing Solar Capital's annual financial statements and periodic filings and receiving Solar Capital's audit reports and financial statements. The audit committee also establishes guidelines and makes recommendations to our board of directors regarding the valuation of our investments. The audit committee is responsible for aiding our board of directors in determining the fair value of debt and equity securities that are not publicly traded or for which current market values are not readily available. The board of directors and audit committee utilize the services of nationally recognized third-party valuation firms to help determine the fair value of these securities. The audit committee is currently composed of Messrs. Hochberg, Wachter and Potter, all of whom are considered independent under the rules of the NASDAQ Global Select Market and are not interested persons of Solar Capital as that term is defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act. Mr. Hochberg serves as chairman of the audit committee. Our board of directors has determined that Mr. Hochberg is an audit committee financial expert as that term is defined under Item 407 of Regulation S-K, as promulgated under the Exchange Act. Mr. Hochberg meets the current independence and experience requirements of Rule 10A-3 of the Exchange Act.

Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee

The nominating and corporate governance committee operates pursuant to a charter approved by our board of directors. The members of the nominating and corporate governance committee are Messrs. Hochberg, Wachter and Potter, all of whom are considered independent under the rules of the NASDAQ Global Select Market and are not interested persons of Solar Capital as that term is defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act. Mr. Wachter serves as chairman of the nominating and corporate governance committee. The nominating and corporate governance committee is responsible for selecting, researching and nominating directors for election by our stockholders, selecting nominees to fill vacancies on the board of directors or a committee thereof, developing and recommending to the board of directors a set of corporate governance principles and overseeing the evaluation of the board of directors and our management. The nominating and corporate governance committee currently does not consider nominees recommended by our stockholders.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

The nominating and corporate governance committee seeks candidates who possess the background, skills and expertise to make a significant contribution to the board of directors, Solar Capital and its stockholders. In

Table of Contents

considering possible candidates for election as a director, the nominating committee takes into account, in addition to such other factors as it deems relevant, the desirability of selecting directors who:

are of high character and integrity;

are accomplished in their respective fields, with superior credentials and recognition;

have relevant expertise and experience upon which to be able to offer advice and guidance to management;

have sufficient time available to devote to the affairs of Solar Capital;

are able to work with the other members of the board of directors and contribute to the success of Solar Capital;

can represent the long-term interests of Solar Capital's stockholders as a whole; and

are selected such that the board of directors represents a range of backgrounds and experience.

The nominating and corporate governance committee has not adopted a formal policy with regard to the consideration of diversity in identifying director nominees. In determining whether to recommend a director nominee, the nominating and corporate governance committee considers and discusses diversity, among other factors, with a view toward the needs of the board of directors as a whole. The nominating and corporate governance committee generally conceptualizes diversity expansively to include, without limitation, concepts such as race, gender, national origin, differences of viewpoint, professional experience, education, skill and other qualities that contribute to the board of directors, when identifying and recommending director nominees. The nominating and corporate governance committee believes that the inclusion of diversity as one of many factors considered in selecting director nominees is consistent with the nominating and corporate governance committee's goal of creating a board of directors that best serves the needs of Solar Capital and the interest of its shareholders.

Compensation of Directors

Our independent directors receive an annual fee of \$100,000. They also receive \$2,500 plus reimbursement of reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with attending each board meeting attended in person and \$1,000 for each telephonic meeting and receive \$1,000 plus reimbursement of reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with attending each committee meeting. In addition, the chairman of the audit committee receives an annual fee of \$7,500 and each chairman of any other committee receives an annual fee of \$2,500 for their additional services, if any, in these capacities. No compensation is expected to be paid to directors who are interested persons of Solar Capital, as such term is defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act.

Compensation of Executive Officers

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

None of our officers receives direct compensation from Solar Capital. Mr. Radesca, our chief financial officer and secretary and, through Alaric Compliance Services, LLC, Guy Talarico, our chief compliance officer, are paid by Solar Capital Management, subject to reimbursement by us of an allocable portion of such compensation for services rendered by such persons to Solar Capital. To the extent that Solar Capital Management outsources any of its functions we will pay the fees associated with such functions on a direct basis without profit to Solar Capital Management.

Indemnification Agreements

We have entered into indemnification agreements with our directors. The indemnification agreements are intended to provide our directors the maximum indemnification permitted under Maryland law and the 1940 Act. Each indemnification agreement provides that Solar Capital shall indemnify the director who is a party to the agreement (an Indemnitee), including the advancement of legal expenses, if, by reason of his or her corporate status, the Indemnitee is, or is threatened to be, made a party to or a witness in any threatened, pending, or completed proceeding, to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law and the 1940 Act.

Table of Contents**PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT**

The management of our investment portfolio is the responsibility of our investment adviser, Solar Capital Partners, and its investment committee, which is led by Messrs. Gross and Spohler. For more information regarding the business experience of Messrs. Gross and Spohler, see Management Board of Directors and Executive Officers Interested Directors. Solar Capital Partners investment committee must approve each new investment that we make. The members of Solar Capital Partners investment committee are not employed by us, and receive no compensation from us in connection with their portfolio management activities. However, Messrs. Gross and Spohler, through their financial interests in Solar Capital Partners, will be entitled to a portion of any investment advisory fees paid by Solar Capital to Solar Capital Partners.

Investment Personnel

Solar Capital Partners investment team currently consists of its senior investment professionals, Messrs. Gross, Spohler, Gerson, Henley and Mait, and team of 9 additional experienced investment professionals. We consider Messrs. Gross and Spohler, who lead Solar Capital Partners investment committee, to be our portfolio managers.

The table below shows the dollar range of shares of common stock to be beneficially owned by each of our portfolio managers.

Name of Portfolio Manager	Dollar Range of Equity Securities in Solar Capital(1)
Michael S. Gross	Over \$1 million
Bruce Spohler	Over \$1 million

(1) The dollar range of Solar Capital Ltd. equity securities beneficially owned is based on the initial offering price per share of our common stock of \$18.50.

Compensation

None of Solar Capital Partners investment professionals receive any direct compensation from us in connection with the management of our portfolio. Messrs. Gross and Spohler, through their financial interests in Solar Capital Partners, are entitled to a portion of any profits earned by Solar Capital Partners, which includes any fees payable to Solar Capital Partners under the terms of our Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, less expenses incurred by Solar Capital Partners in performing its services under our Investment Advisory and Management Agreement.

Table of Contents

INVESTMENT ADVISORY AND MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

Management Services

Solar Capital Partners serves as our investment adviser. Solar Capital Partners is an investment adviser that is registered as an investment adviser under the Advisers Act. Subject to the overall supervision of our board of directors, our investment adviser manages the day-to-day operations of, and provides investment advisory and management services to, Solar Capital. Under the terms of our Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, Solar Capital Partners:

determines the composition of our portfolio, the nature and timing of the changes to our portfolio and the manner of implementing such changes;

identifies, evaluates and negotiates the structure of the investments we make (including performing due diligence on our prospective portfolio companies);

closes and monitors the investments we make; and

provides us with other investment advisory, research and related services as we may from time to time require.

Solar Capital Partners' services under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement are not exclusive, and it is free to furnish similar services to other entities so long as its services to us are not impaired.

Management Fee

Pursuant to the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, we have agreed to pay Solar Capital Partners a fee for investment advisory and management services consisting of two components – a base management fee and an incentive fee.

The base management fee is calculated at an annual rate of 2.00% of our gross assets. For services rendered under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, the base management fee is payable quarterly in arrears. The base management fee is calculated based on the average value of our gross assets at the end of the two most recently completed calendar quarters, and appropriately adjusted for any share issuances or repurchases during the current calendar quarter. Base management fees for any partial month or quarter will be appropriately pro-rated.

The incentive fee has two parts, as follows: one is calculated and payable quarterly in arrears based on our pre-incentive fee net investment income for the immediately preceding calendar quarter. For this purpose, pre-incentive fee net investment income means interest income, dividend income and any other income (including any other fees (other than fees for providing managerial assistance), such as commitment, origination, structuring, diligence and consulting fees or other fees that we receive from portfolio companies) accrued during the calendar quarter, minus our operating expenses for the quarter (including the base management fee, expenses payable under the Administration

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

Agreement to Solar Capital Management, and any interest expense and dividends paid on any issued and outstanding preferred stock, but excluding the incentive fee). Pre-incentive fee net investment income includes, in the case of investments with a deferred interest feature (such as original issue discount, debt instruments with pay in kind interest and zero coupon securities), accrued income that we have not yet received in cash. Pre-incentive fee net investment income does not include any realized capital gains, computed net of all realized capital losses or unrealized capital appreciation or depreciation. Pre-incentive fee net investment income, expressed as a rate of return on the value of our net assets at the end of the immediately preceding calendar quarter, is compared to a hurdle of 1.75% per quarter (7.00% annualized). Our net investment income used to calculate this part of the incentive fee is also included in the amount of our gross assets used to calculate the 2.00% base management fee. We pay Solar Capital Partners an incentive fee with respect to our pre-incentive fee net investment income in each calendar quarter as follows:

no incentive fee in any calendar quarter in which our pre-incentive fee net investment income does not exceed the hurdle of 1.75%;

Table of Contents

100% of our pre-incentive fee net investment income with respect to that portion of such pre-incentive fee net investment income, if any, that exceeds the hurdle but is less than 2.1875% in any calendar quarter (8.75% annualized). We refer to this portion of our pre-incentive fee net investment income (which exceeds the hurdle but is less than 2.1875%) as the catch-up. The catch-up is meant to provide our investment adviser with 20% of our pre-incentive fee net investment income as if a hurdle did not apply if this net investment income exceeds 2.1875% in any calendar quarter; and

20% of the amount of our pre-incentive fee net investment income, if any, that exceeds 2.1875% in any calendar quarter (8.75% annualized) is payable to Solar Capital Partners (once the hurdle is reached and the catch-up is achieved, 20% of all pre-incentive fee investment income thereafter is allocated to Solar Capital Partners).

The following is a graphical representation of the calculation of the income-related portion of the incentive fee:

Quarterly Incentive Fee Based on Net Investment Income

Pre-incentive fee net investment income

(expressed as a percentage of the value of net assets)

Percentage of pre-incentive fee net investment income

allocated to Solar Capital Partners

These calculations are appropriately pro-rated for any period of less than three months and adjusted for any share issuances or repurchases during the relevant quarter. You should be aware that a rise in the general level of interest rates can be expected to lead to higher interest rates applicable to our debt investments. Accordingly, an increase in interest rates would make it easier for us to meet or exceed the incentive fee hurdle rate and may result in a substantial increase of the amount of incentive fees payable to our investment adviser with respect to pre-incentive fee net investment income.

The second part of the incentive fee is determined and payable in arrears as of the end of each calendar year (or upon termination of the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, as of the termination date), and equals 20% of our realized capital gains, if any, on a cumulative basis from inception through the end of each calendar year, computed net of all realized capital losses and unrealized capital depreciation on a cumulative basis, less the aggregate amount of any previously paid capital gain incentive fees with respect to each of the investments in our portfolio.

Table of Contents

Examples of Quarterly Incentive Fee Calculation

Example 1: Income Related Portion of Incentive Fee (*):

Alternative 1:

Assumptions

Investment income (including interest, dividends, fees, etc.) = 1.25%

Hurdle rate (1) = 1.75%

Management fee (2) = 0.50%

Other expenses (legal, accounting, custodian, transfer agent, etc.) (3) = 0.20%

Pre-incentive fee net investment income

(investment income - (management fee + other expenses)) = 0.55%

Pre-incentive net investment income does not exceed hurdle rate, therefore there is no incentive fee.

Alternative 2:

Assumptions

Investment income (including interest, dividends, fees, etc.) = 2.70%

Hurdle rate (1) = 1.75%

Management fee (2) = 0.50%

Other expenses (legal, accounting, custodian, transfer agent, etc.) (3) = 0.20%

Pre-incentive fee net investment income

(investment income - (management fee + other expenses)) = 2.00%

Incentive fee = 100% × pre-incentive fee net investment income, subject to the catch-up (4)

$$= 100\% \times (2.00\% - 1.75\%)$$

$$= 0.25\%$$

Alternative 3:

Assumptions

Investment income (including interest, dividends, fees, etc.) = 3.00%

Hurdle rate (1) = 1.75%

Management fee (2) = 0.50%

Other expenses (legal, accounting, custodian, transfer agent, etc.) (3) = 0.20%

Pre-incentive fee net investment income

(investment income - (management fee + other expenses)) = 2.30%

Incentive fee = 20% × pre-incentive fee net investment income, subject to catch-up (4)

Incentive fee = 100% × catch-up + (20% × (pre-incentive fee net investment income - 2.1875%))

Catch-up = 2.1875% - 1.75%

= 0.4375%

Incentive fee = (100% × 0.4375%) + (20% × (2.3% - 2.1875%))

= 0.4375% + (20% × 0.1125%)

= 0.4375% + 0.0225%

= 0.46%

(*) The hypothetical amount of pre-incentive fee net investment income shown is based on a percentage of total net assets.

(1) Represents 7% annualized hurdle rate.

(2) Represents 2% annualized management fee.

(3) Excludes organizational and offering expenses.

Table of Contents

- (4) The catch-up provision is intended to provide our investment adviser with an incentive fee of 20% on all of our pre-incentive fee net investment income as if a hurdle rate did not apply when our net investment income exceeds 2.1875% in any calendar quarter.

Example 2: Capital Gains Portion of Incentive Fee:

Alternative 1:

Assumptions

Year 1: \$20 million investment made in Company A (Investment A), and \$30 million investment made in Company B (Investment B)

Year 2: Investment A sold for \$50 million and fair market value (FMV) of Investment B determined to be \$32 million

Year 3: FMV of Investment B determined to be \$25 million

Year 4: Investment B sold for \$31 million

The capital gains portion of the incentive fee would be:

Year 1: None

Year 2: Capital gains incentive fee of \$6 million (\$30 million realized capital gains on sale of Investment A multiplied by 20%)

Year 3: None

\$5 million (20% multiplied by (\$30 million cumulative capital gains less \$5 million cumulative capital depreciation)) less \$6 million (previous capital gains fee paid in Year 2)

Year 4: Capital gains incentive fee of \$200,000

\$6.2 million (\$31 million cumulative realized capital gains multiplied by 20%) less \$6 million (capital gains fee taken in Year 2)

Alternative 2:

Assumptions

Year 1: \$20 million investment made in Company A (Investment A), \$30 million investment made in Company B (Investment B) and \$25 million investment made in Company C (Investment C)

Year 2: Investment A sold for \$50 million, FMV of Investment B determined to be \$25 million and FMV of Investment C determined to be \$25 million

Year 3: FMV of Investment B determined to be \$27 million and Investment C sold for \$30 million

Year 4: FMV of Investment B determined to be \$35 million

Year 5: Investment B sold for \$20 million

The capital gains incentive fee, if any, would be:

Year 1: None

Year 2: \$5 million capital gains incentive fee

20% multiplied by \$25 million (\$30 million realized capital gains on Investment A less unrealized capital depreciation on Investment B)

Year 3: \$1.4 million capital gains incentive fee⁽¹⁾

\$6.4 million (20% multiplied by \$32 million (\$35 million cumulative realized capital gains less \$3 million unrealized capital depreciation)) less \$5 million capital gains fee received in Year 2

Table of Contents

- (1) As illustrated in Year 3 of Alternative 1 above, if Solar Capital were to be wound up on a date other than December 31 of any year, Solar Capital may have paid aggregate capital gain incentive fees that are more than the amount of such fees that would be payable if Solar Capital had been wound up on December 31 of such year.

Year 4: None

Year 5: None

\$5 million (20% multiplied by \$25 million (cumulative realized capital gains of \$35 million less realized capital losses of \$10 million)) less \$6.4 million cumulative capital gains fee paid in Year 2 and Year 3

Payment of Our Expenses

All investment professionals of the investment adviser and their respective staffs, when and to the extent engaged in providing investment advisory and management services, and the compensation and routine overhead expenses of such personnel allocable to such services, are provided and paid for by Solar Capital Partners. We bear all other costs and expenses of our operations and transactions, including (without limitation):

the cost of our organization and this offering;

the cost of calculating our net asset value, including the cost of any third-party valuation services;

the cost of effecting sales and repurchases of our shares and other securities;

interest payable on debt, if any, to finance our investments;

fees payable to third parties relating to, or associated with, making investments, including fees and expenses associated with performing due diligence reviews of prospective investments and advisory fees;

transfer agent and custodial fees;

fees and expenses associated with marketing efforts;

federal and state registration fees, any stock exchange listing fees;

federal, state and local taxes;

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

independent directors' fees and expenses;

brokerage commissions;

fidelity bond, directors and officers errors and omissions liability insurance and other insurance premiums;

direct costs and expenses of administration, including printing, mailing, long distance telephone and staff;

fees and expenses associated with independent audits and outside legal costs;

costs associated with our reporting and compliance obligations under the 1940 Act and applicable federal and state securities laws; and

all other expenses incurred by either Solar Capital Management or us in connection with administering our business, including payments under the Administration Agreement that will be based upon our allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by Solar Capital Management in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, including rent, the fees and expenses associated with performing compliance functions, and our allocable portion of the costs of compensation and related expenses of our chief compliance officer and our chief financial officer and any administrative support staff.

Table of Contents

Duration and Termination

The Investment Advisory and Management Agreement was initially approved by the board of directors of Solar Capital LLC on March 6, 2007 and subsequently approved in its current form by our board of directors and sole initial stockholder on September 29, 2009. Unless earlier terminated as described below, the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement will remain in effect for a period of two years from the date it was approved by our board of directors and will remain in effect from year to year thereafter if approved annually by our board of directors or by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of our outstanding voting securities, including, in either case, approval by a majority of our directors who are not parties to such agreement or who are not interested persons of Solar Capital, as such term is defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act. The Investment Advisory and Management Agreement will automatically terminate in the event of its assignment. The Investment Advisory and Management Agreement may also be terminated by either party without penalty upon not more than 60 days written notice to the other. See Risk Factors Risks Relating to Our Business and Structure Our investment adviser can resign on 60 days notice.

Indemnification

The Investment Advisory and Management Agreement provides that, absent willful misfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence in the performance of its duties or by reason of the reckless disregard of its duties and obligations, Solar Capital Partners and its officers, managers, partners, agents, employees, controlling persons, members and any other person or entity affiliated with it are entitled to indemnification from Solar Capital for any damages, liabilities, costs and expenses (including reasonable attorneys fees and amounts reasonably paid in settlement) arising from the rendering of Solar Capital Partners services under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement or otherwise as an investment adviser of Solar Capital.

Organization of the Investment Adviser

Solar Capital Partners is a Delaware limited liability company. The principal executive offices of Solar Capital Partners are located at 500 Park Avenue, 5th Floor, New York, New York 10022.

Board Approval of the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement

A discussion regarding the basis for our board of director s approval of our Investment Advisory and Management Agreement will be included in our first annual report on Form 10-K filed subsequent to any such board approval, or incorporated by reference therein.

Table of Contents

ADMINISTRATION AGREEMENT

Solar Capital Management, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, serves as our administrator. The principal executive offices of Solar Capital Management are located at 500 Park Avenue, 5th Floor, New York, New York 10022. Pursuant to an Administration Agreement, Solar Capital Management furnishes us with office facilities, equipment and clerical, bookkeeping and record keeping services at such facilities. Under the Administration Agreement, Solar Capital Management also performs, or oversees the performance of, our required administrative services, which include, among other things, being responsible for the financial records which we are required to maintain and preparing reports to our stockholders. In addition, Solar Capital Management assists us in determining and publishing our net asset value, oversees the preparation and filing of our tax returns and the printing and dissemination of reports to our stockholder, and generally oversees the payment of our expenses and the performance of administrative and professional services rendered to us by others. Payments under the Administration Agreement are equal to an amount based upon our allocable portion of Solar Capital Management's overhead in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, including rent, the fees and expenses associated with performing compliance functions and our allocable portion of the compensation of our chief financial officer and any administrative support staff. Under the Administration Agreement, Solar Capital Management will also provide on our behalf managerial assistance to those portfolio companies that request such assistance. The Administration Agreement may be terminated by either party without penalty upon 60 days' written notice to the other party.

The Administration Agreement provides that, absent willful misfeasance, bad faith or negligence in the performance of its duties or by reason of the reckless disregard of its duties and obligations, Solar Capital Management and its officers, managers, partners, agents, employees, controlling persons, members and any other person or entity affiliated with it are entitled to indemnification from Solar Capital for any damages, liabilities, costs and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees and amounts reasonably paid in settlement) arising from the rendering of Solar Capital Management's services under the Administration Agreement or otherwise as administrator for Solar Capital.

LICENSE AGREEMENT

We have entered into a license agreement with Solar Capital Partners pursuant to which Solar Capital Partners has agreed to grant us a non-exclusive, royalty-free license to use the name Solar Capital. Under this agreement, we have a right to use the Solar Capital name for so long as the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement with our investment adviser is in effect. Other than with respect to this limited license, we will have no legal right to the Solar Capital name.

Table of Contents

CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND TRANSACTIONS

We have entered into the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement with Solar Capital Partners. Mr. Gross, our chairman, chief executive officer and president, is the managing member and a senior investment professional of, and has financial and controlling interests in, Solar Capital Partners. In addition, Mr. Spohler, our chief operating officer and board member and Mr. Radesca, our chief financial officer and secretary, serve as a partner and chief financial officer, respectively, for Solar Capital Partners. Mr. Spohler also has financial interests in Solar Capital Partners.

As a result of transactions in connection with our initial private placement, the Magnetar entities owned as of December 31, 2009, either directly or indirectly, approximately 42.84% of our outstanding equity, and currently own, either directly or indirectly, approximately 23.81% of our outstanding shares of common stock after the completion of our initial public offering. Magnetar also provides certain services to Solar Capital Partners and Solar Capital Management, and is reimbursed by Solar Capital Partners and Solar Capital Management for the expenses it incurs in connection with providing such services.

Solar Capital Partners and its affiliates may also manage other funds in the future that may have investment mandates that are similar, in whole and in part, with ours. Solar Capital Partners and its affiliates may determine that an investment is appropriate for us and for one or more of those other funds. In such event, depending on the availability of such investment and other appropriate factors, Solar Capital Partners or its affiliates may determine that we should invest side-by-side with one or more other funds. Any such investments will be made only to the extent permitted by applicable law and interpretive positions of the SEC and its staff, and consistent with Solar Capital Partners' allocation procedures.

We have entered into a license agreement with Solar Capital Partners, pursuant to which Solar Capital Partners has agreed to grant us a non-exclusive, royalty-free license to use the name Solar Capital. In addition, pursuant to the terms of the Administration Agreement, Solar Capital Management provides us with the office facilities and administrative services necessary to conduct our day-to-day operations. Solar Capital Partners is the sole member of and controls Solar Capital Management.

Table of Contents**CONTROL PERSONS AND PRINCIPAL STOCKHOLDERS**

The following table sets forth certain ownership information as of May 10, 2010 with respect to Solar Capital Ltd.'s common stock for those persons who, directly or indirectly, own, control or hold with the power to vote, 5% or more of Solar Capital Ltd.'s common stock, and all officers and directors as a group.

Name	Type of Ownership	Shares Owned	Percentage
Magnetar Financial LLC(1)	Indirect	7,863,750	23.81%
Silver Creek Capital Management LLC(2)	Indirect	2,681,294	8.12%
Baupost Group Securities, LLC(3)	Indirect	2,010,973	6.09%
All officers and directors as a group (7 persons)(4)	Direct and Indirect	1,971,449	5.97%

- (1) Such securities are held by certain funds and other entities controlled and/or managed by Magnetar Financial LLC or its affiliates. The address for Magnetar Financial LLC is 1603 Orrington Avenue, Evanston, IL 60201.
- (2) Such securities are held by certain investment vehicles controlled by Silver Creek Capital Management LLC. The address for Silver Creek Capital Management LLC is 1301 Fifth Avenue, 40th Floor Seattle, WA 98101.
- (3) Such securities are held by certain investment vehicles controlled by Baupost Group Securities, LLC. The address for Baupost Group Securities, LLC is 10 St. James Avenue Suite 2000 Boston, MA 02116.
- (4) The address for all officers and directors is 500 Park Avenue, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10022.

The following table sets forth the dollar range of our equity securities beneficially owned by each of our directors as of May 6, 2010.

Name of Director	Dollar Range of Equity Securities in Solar Capital⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾
Interested Directors	
Michael S. Gross	Over \$100,000
Bruce Spohler	Over \$100,000
Independent Directors	
Steven Hochberg	Over \$100,000
David S. Wachter	Over \$100,000
Leonard A. Potter	Over \$100,000

- (1) The dollar ranges are: None, \$1-\$10,000, \$10,001-\$50,000, \$50,001-\$100,000, or Over \$100,000.
- (2) The dollar range of equity securities beneficially owned in us is based on the closing price for our common stock of \$21.74 on May 7, 2010 on the NASDAQ Global Select Market. Beneficial ownership has been determined in accordance with Rule 16a-1(a)(2) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Table of Contents

REGULATION AS A BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

General

A business development company is regulated by the 1940 Act. A business development company must be organized in the United States for the purpose of investing in or lending to primarily private companies and making significant managerial assistance available to them. A business development company may use capital provided by public stockholders and from other sources to make long-term, private investments in businesses. A business development company provides stockholders the ability to retain the liquidity of a publicly-traded stock while sharing in the possible benefits, if any, of investing in primarily privately owned companies.

We may not change the nature of our business so as to cease to be, or withdraw our election as, a business development company unless authorized by vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities, as required by the 1940 Act. A majority of the outstanding voting securities of a company is defined under the 1940 Act as the lesser of: (a) 67% or more of such company's voting securities present at a meeting if more than 50% of the outstanding voting securities of such company are present or represented by proxy, or (b) more than 50% of the outstanding voting securities of such company. We do not anticipate any substantial change in the nature of our business.

As with other companies regulated by the 1940 Act, a business development company must adhere to certain substantive regulatory requirements. A majority of our directors must be persons who are not interested persons, as that term is defined in the 1940 Act. Additionally, we are required to provide and maintain a bond issued by a reputable fidelity insurance company to protect the business development company. Furthermore, as a business development company, we are prohibited from protecting any director or officer against any liability to us or our stockholders arising from willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of such person's office.

As a business development company, we are required to meet a coverage ratio of the value of total assets to total senior securities, which include all of our borrowings and any preferred stock we may issue in the future, of at least 200%. We may also be prohibited under the 1940 Act from knowingly participating in certain transactions with our affiliates without the prior approval of our directors who are not interested persons and, in some cases, prior approval by the SEC.

We are generally not be able to issue and sell our common stock at a price below net asset value per share. See **Risk factors** **Risks Relating to Our Business and Structure** **Regulations governing our operation as a business development company affect our ability to, and the way in which we, raise additional capital.** We may, however, sell our common stock, or warrants, options or rights to acquire our common stock, at a price below the then-current net asset value of our common stock if our board of directors determines that such sale is in our best interests and the best interests of our stockholders, and our stockholders approve such sale. In addition, we may generally issue new shares of our common stock at a price below net asset value in rights offerings to existing stockholders, in payment of dividends and in certain other limited circumstances.

As a business development company, we are generally limited in our ability to invest in any portfolio company in which our investment adviser or any of its affiliates currently have an investment or to make any co-investments with our investment adviser or its affiliates without an exemptive order from the SEC, subject to certain exceptions. We intend to seek an order from the SEC to permit us to co-invest with certain of the Magnetar entities under certain circumstances. There can be no assurance when, or if, such an order may be obtained.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

We are periodically examined by the SEC for compliance with the 1940 Act.

As a business development company, we are subject to certain risks and uncertainties. See [Risk factors](#) [Risks Relating to Our Business and Structure](#).

Table of Contents

Qualifying Assets

Under the 1940 Act, a business development company may not acquire any asset other than assets of the type listed in Section 55(a) of the 1940 Act, which are referred to as qualifying assets, unless, at the time the acquisition is made, qualifying assets represent at least 70% of the business development company's total assets. The principal categories of qualifying assets relevant to our proposed business are the following:

(1) Securities purchased in transactions not involving any public offering from the issuer of such securities, which issuer (subject to certain limited exceptions) is an eligible portfolio company, or from any person who is, or has been during the preceding 13 months, an affiliated person of an eligible portfolio company, or from any other person, subject to such rules as may be prescribed by the SEC. An eligible portfolio company is defined in the 1940 Act as any issuer which:

(a) is organized under the laws of, and has its principal place of business in, the United States;

(b) is not an investment company (other than a small business investment company wholly owned by the business development company) or a company that would be an investment company but for certain exclusions under the 1940 Act; and

(c) satisfies any of the following:

i. does not have any class of securities that is traded on a national securities exchange;

ii. has a class of securities listed on a national securities exchange, but has an aggregate market value of outstanding voting and non-voting common equity of less than \$250 million;

iii. is controlled by a business development company or a group of companies including a business development company and the business development company has an affiliated person who is a director of the eligible portfolio company; or

iv. is a small and solvent company having total assets of not more than \$4.0 million and capital and surplus of not less than \$2.0 million.

(2) Securities of any eligible portfolio company which we control.

(3) Securities purchased in a private transaction from a U.S. issuer that is not an investment company or from an affiliated person of the issuer, or in transactions incident thereto, if the issuer is in bankruptcy and subject to reorganization or if the issuer, immediately prior to the purchase of its securities, was unable to meet its obligations as they came due without material assistance other than conventional lending or financing

arrangements.

(4) Securities of an eligible portfolio company purchased from any person in a private transaction if there is no ready market for such securities and we already own 60% of the outstanding equity of the eligible portfolio company.

(5) Securities received in exchange for or distributed on or with respect to securities described in (1) through (4) above, or pursuant to the exercise of warrants or rights relating to such securities.

(6) Cash, cash equivalents, U.S. government securities or high-quality debt securities maturing in one year or less from the time of investment.

Managerial Assistance to Portfolio Companies

In addition, a business development company must have been organized and have its principal place of business in the United States and must be operated for the purpose of making investments in the types of securities described in (1), (2) or (3) above. However, in order to count portfolio securities as qualifying assets for the purpose of the 70% test, the business development company must either control the issuer of the securities or must offer to make available to the issuer of the securities (other than small and solvent companies described above) significant managerial assistance; except that, where the business development company purchases such

Table of Contents

securities in conjunction with one or more other persons acting together, one of the other persons in the group may make available such managerial assistance. Making available managerial assistance means, among other things, any arrangement whereby the business development company, through its directors, officers or employees, offers to provide, and, if accepted, does so provide, significant guidance and counsel concerning the management, operations or business objectives and policies of a portfolio company.

Temporary Investments

Pending investment in other types of qualifying assets, as described above, our investments may consist of cash, cash equivalents, U.S. government securities or high-quality debt securities maturing in one year or less from the time of investment, which we refer to, collectively, as temporary investments, so that 70% of our assets are qualifying assets. Typically, we will invest in U.S. Treasury bills or in repurchase agreements, provided that such agreements are fully collateralized by cash or securities issued by the U.S. government or its agencies. A repurchase agreement involves the purchase by an investor, such as us, of a specified security and the simultaneous agreement by the seller to repurchase it at an agreed-upon future date and at a price which is greater than the purchase price by an amount that reflects an agreed-upon interest rate. There is no percentage restriction on the proportion of our assets that may be invested in such repurchase agreements. However, if more than 25% of our total assets constitute repurchase agreements from a single counterparty, we would not meet the diversification tests in order to qualify as a RIC for federal income tax purposes. Thus, we do not intend to enter into repurchase agreements with a single counterparty in excess of this limit. Our investment adviser will monitor the creditworthiness of the counterparties with which we enter into repurchase agreement transactions.

Senior Securities

We are permitted, under specified conditions, to issue multiple classes of indebtedness and one class of stock senior to our common stock if our asset coverage, as defined in the 1940 Act, is at least equal to 200% immediately after each such issuance. In addition, while any senior securities remain outstanding, we must make provisions to prohibit any distribution to our stockholders or the repurchase of such securities or shares unless we meet the applicable asset coverage ratios at the time of the distribution or repurchase. We may also borrow amounts up to 5% of the value of our total assets for temporary or emergency purposes without regard to asset coverage. For a discussion of the risks associated with leverage, see Risk Factors Risks Relating to Our Business and Structure We may borrow money, which would magnify the potential for gain or loss on amounts invested and may increase the risk of investing in us.

Code of Ethics

We and Solar Capital Partners have each adopted a code of ethics pursuant to Rule 17j-1 under the 1940 Act and Rule 204A-1 under the Advisers Act, respectively, that establishes procedures for personal investments and restricts certain transactions by our personnel. Our codes of ethics generally do not permit investments by our employees in securities that may be purchased or held by us. You may read and copy these codes of ethics at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. You may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at (202) 551-8090. In addition, each code of ethics is attached as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, and is available on the EDGAR Database on the SEC's Internet site at <http://www.sec.gov>. You may also obtain copies of the codes of ethics, after paying a duplicating fee, by electronic request at the following Email address: publicinfo@sec.gov, or by writing the SEC's Public Reference Section, 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549.

Compliance Policies and Procedures

We and our investment adviser have adopted and implemented written policies and procedures reasonably designed to detect and prevent violation of the federal securities laws and are required to review these

Table of Contents

compliance policies and procedures annually for their adequacy and the effectiveness of their implementation and designate a chief compliance officer to be responsible for administering the policies and procedures. Guy Talarico currently serves as our chief compliance officer.

Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

The Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 imposes a wide variety of new regulatory requirements on publicly-held companies and their insiders. Many of these requirements affect us. For example:

pursuant to Rule 13a-14 of the Exchange Act, our chief executive officer and chief financial officer must certify the accuracy of the financial statements contained in our periodic reports;

pursuant to Item 307 of Regulation S-K, our periodic reports must disclose our conclusions about the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures;

pursuant to Rule 13a-15 of the Exchange Act, beginning with our 2010 fiscal year our management will be required to prepare an annual report regarding its assessment of our internal control over financial reporting and, beginning with our 2011 fiscal year, obtain an audit of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting performed by our independent registered public accounting firm; and

pursuant to Item 308 of Regulation S-K and Rule 13a-15 of the 1934 Act, our periodic reports must disclose whether there were significant changes in our internal controls over financial reporting or in other factors that could significantly affect these controls subsequent to the date of their evaluation, including any corrective actions with regard to significant deficiencies and material weaknesses.

The Sarbanes-Oxley Act requires us to review our current policies and procedures to determine whether we comply with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and the regulations promulgated thereunder. We will continue to monitor our compliance with all regulations that are adopted under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and will take actions necessary to ensure that we are in compliance therewith.

Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures

We have delegated our proxy voting responsibility to our investment adviser. The Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures of our investment adviser are set forth below. The guidelines will be reviewed periodically by our investment adviser and our non-interested directors, and, accordingly, are subject to change. For purposes of these Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures described below, we, our and us refers to our investment adviser.

Introduction

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

An investment adviser registered under the Advisers Act has a fiduciary duty to act solely in the best interests of its clients. As part of this duty, we recognize that we must vote client securities in a timely manner free of conflicts of interest and in the best interests of our clients.

These policies and procedures for voting proxies for our investment advisory clients are intended to comply with Section 206 of, and Rule 206(4)-6 under, the Advisers Act.

Proxy Policies

We will vote proxies relating to our portfolio securities in what we perceive to be the best interest of our clients' stockholders. We will review on a case-by-case basis each proposal submitted to a stockholder vote to determine its impact on the portfolio securities held by our clients. Although we will generally vote against proposals that may have a negative impact on our clients' portfolio securities, we may vote for such a proposal if there exist compelling long-term reasons to do so.

Table of Contents

Our proxy voting decisions will be made by the senior officers who are responsible for monitoring each of the clients' investments. To ensure that our vote is not the product of a conflict of interest, we will require that: (1) anyone involved in the decision making process disclose to our managing member any potential conflict that he or she is aware of and any contact that he or she has had with any interested party regarding a proxy vote; and (2) employees involved in the decision making process or vote administration are prohibited from revealing how we intend to vote on a proposal in order to reduce any attempted influence from interested parties.

Proxy Voting Records

You may obtain information about how we voted proxies by making a written request for proxy voting information to: Solar Capital Partners at 500 Park Avenue, 5th Floor, New York, New York 10022.

Privacy Principles

We are committed to maintaining the privacy of our stockholders and to safeguarding their non-public personal information. The following information is provided to help you understand what personal information we collect, how we protect that information and why, in certain cases, we may share information with select other parties.

Generally, we do not receive any non-public personal information relating to our stockholders, although certain non-public personal information of our stockholders may become available to us. We do not disclose any non-public personal information about our stockholders or former stockholders to anyone, except as permitted by law or as is necessary in order to service stockholder accounts (for example, to a transfer agent or third party administrator).

We restrict access to non-public personal information about our stockholders to employees of our investment adviser and its affiliates with a legitimate business need for the information. We will maintain physical, electronic and procedural safeguards designed to protect the non-public personal information of our stockholders.

Table of Contents

DETERMINATION OF NET ASSET VALUE

We determine the net asset value of our investment portfolio each quarter by subtracting our total liabilities from the fair value of our total assets.

We conduct the valuation of our assets, pursuant to which our net asset value shall be determined, at all times consistent with GAAP and the 1940 Act. Our valuation procedures are set forth in more detail below:

Securities for which market quotations are readily available on an exchange shall be valued at such price as of the closing price on the day of valuation. We may also obtain quotes with respect to certain of our investments from pricing services or brokers or dealers in order to value assets. When doing so, we determine whether the quote obtained is sufficient according to GAAP to determine the fair value of the security. If determined adequate, we use the quote obtained.

Securities for which reliable market quotations are not readily available or for which the pricing source does not provide a valuation or methodology or provides a valuation or methodology that, in the judgment of our investment adviser or board of directors, does not represent fair value, shall each be valued as follows: (i) each portfolio company or investment is initially valued by the investment professionals responsible for the portfolio investment; (ii) preliminary valuation conclusions are documented and discussed with our senior management; (iii) independent third-party valuation firms engaged by, or on behalf of, the board of directors will conduct independent appraisals and review management's preliminary valuations and make their own assessment for all material assets; (iv) the board of directors will discuss valuations and determine the fair value of each investment in our portfolio in good faith based on the input of the investment adviser and, where appropriate, the respective third-party valuation firms.

The recommendation of fair value will generally be based on the following factors, as relevant:

the nature and realizable value of any collateral;

the portfolio company's ability to make payments;

the portfolio company's earnings and discounted cash flow;

the markets in which the issuer does business; and

comparisons to publicly traded securities.

Securities for which market quotations are not readily available or for which a pricing source is not sufficient may include, but are not limited to, the following:

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

private placements and restricted securities that do not have an active trading market;

securities whose trading has been suspended or for which market quotes are no longer available;

debt securities that have recently gone into default and for which there is no current market;

securities whose prices are stale;

securities affected by significant events; and

securities that the investment adviser believes were priced incorrectly.

Determination of fair value involves subjective judgments and estimates. Accordingly, the notes to our financial statements express the uncertainty with respect to the possible effect of such valuations, and any change in such valuations, on our financial statements.

Table of Contents

Determinations in Connection with Offerings

In connection with future offering of shares of our common stock, our board of directors or a committee thereof will be required to make the determination that we are not selling shares of our common stock at a price below the then current net asset value of our common stock at the time at which the sale is made. Our board of directors will consider the following factors, among others, in making such determination:

the net asset value of our common stock disclosed in the most recent periodic report that we filed with the SEC;

our management's assessment of whether any material change in the net asset value of our common stock has occurred (including through the realization of gains on the sale of our portfolio securities) during the period beginning on the date of the most recently disclosed net asset value of our common stock and ending two days prior to the date of the sale of our common stock; and

the magnitude of the difference between (i) the net asset value of our common stock disclosed in the most recent periodic report that we filed with the SEC and our management's assessment of any material change in the net asset value of our common stock since the date of the most recently disclosed net asset value of our common stock, and (ii) the offering price of the shares of our common stock in the proposed offering.

Importantly, this determination will not require that we calculate the net asset value of our common stock in connection with each offering of shares of our common stock, but instead it will involve the determination by our board of directors or a committee thereof that we are not selling shares of our common stock at a price below the then current net asset value of our common stock at the time at which the sale is made.

Moreover, to the extent that there is even a remote possibility that we may (i) issue shares of our common stock at a price below the then current net asset value of our common stock at the time at which the sale is made or (ii) trigger the undertaking (which we provide in certain registration statements we file with the SEC) to suspend the offering of shares of our common stock pursuant to this prospectus if the net asset value of our common stock fluctuates by certain amounts in certain circumstances until the prospectus is amended, our board of directors will elect, in the case of clause (i) above, either to postpone the offering until such time that there is no longer the possibility of the occurrence of such event or to undertake to determine the net asset value of our common stock within two days prior to any such sale to ensure that such sale will not be below our then current net asset value, and, in the case of clause (ii) above, to comply with such undertaking or to undertake to determine the net asset value of our common stock to ensure that such undertaking has not been triggered.

These processes and procedures are part of our compliance policies and procedures. Records will be made contemporaneously with all determinations described in this section and these records will be maintained with other records that we are required to maintain under the 1940 Act.

Table of Contents

DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT PLAN

We have adopted a dividend reinvestment plan that provides for reinvestment of our dividends and other distributions on behalf of our stockholders, unless a stockholder elects to receive cash as provided below. As a result, if our board of directors authorizes, and we declare, a cash distribution, then our stockholders who have not opted out of our dividend reinvestment plan will have their cash distributions automatically reinvested in additional shares of our common stock, rather than receiving the cash distributions.

No action will be required on the part of a registered stockholder to have his cash distribution reinvested in shares of our common stock. A registered stockholder may elect to receive an entire distribution in cash by notifying American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, the plan administrator and our transfer agent and registrar, in writing so that such notice is received by the plan administrator no later than the record date for distributions to stockholders. The plan administrator will set up an account for shares acquired through the plan for each stockholder who has not elected to receive distributions in cash and hold such shares in non-certificated form. Upon request by a stockholder participating in the plan, received in writing not less than 10 days prior to the record date, the plan administrator will, instead of crediting shares to the participant's account, issue a certificate registered in the participant's name for the number of whole shares of our common stock and a check for any fractional share.

Those stockholders whose shares are held by a broker or other financial intermediary may receive distributions in cash by notifying their broker or other financial intermediary of their election.

We intend to use primarily newly issued shares to implement the plan, whether our shares are trading at a premium or at a discount to net asset value. However, we reserve the right to purchase shares in the open market in connection with our implementation of the plan. If we declare a distribution to stockholders, the plan administrator may be instructed not to credit accounts with newly-issued shares and instead to buy shares in the market if (i) the price at which newly-issued shares are to be credited does not exceed 110% of the last determined net asset value of the shares; or (ii) we have advised the plan administrator that since such net asset value was last determined, we have become aware of events that indicate the possibility of a material change in per share net asset value as a result of which the net asset value of the shares on the payment date might be higher than the price at which the plan administrator would credit newly-issued shares to stockholders. The number of shares to be issued to a stockholder is determined by dividing the total dollar amount of the distribution payable to such stockholder by the market price per share of our common stock at the close of regular trading on the valuation date for such distribution. Market price per share on that date will be the closing price for such shares on the national securities exchange on which our shares are then listed or, if no sale is reported for such day, at the average of their reported bid and asked prices. The number of shares of our common stock to be outstanding after giving effect to payment of the distribution cannot be established until the value per share at which additional shares will be issued has been determined and elections of our stockholders have been tabulated.

There will be no brokerage charges or other charges to stockholders who participate in the plan. The plan administrator's fees under the plan will be paid by us. If a participant elects by written notice to the plan administrator to have the plan administrator sell part or all of the shares held by the plan administrator in the participant's account and remit the proceeds to the participant, the plan administrator is authorized to deduct a transaction fee of \$15 plus a per share brokerage commissions from the proceeds.

Stockholders who receive distributions in the form of stock are subject to the same federal, state and local tax consequences as are stockholders who elect to receive their distributions in cash. A stockholder's basis for determining gain or loss upon the sale of stock received in a distribution from us will be equal to the total dollar amount of the distribution payable to the stockholder. Any stock received in a distribution will have a new holding period for tax purposes commencing on the day following the day on which the shares are credited to the U.S. stockholder's account.

Table of Contents

The plan may be terminated by us upon notice in writing mailed to each participant at least 30 days prior to any record date for the payment of any distribution by us. All correspondence concerning the plan should be directed to the plan administrator by mail at 59 Maiden Lane, New York, New York 10038 or by phone at (800) 937-5449.

Table of Contents

MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

The following discussion is a general summary of the material U.S. federal income tax considerations applicable to us and to an investment in our common stock. This summary does not purport to be a complete description of the income tax considerations applicable to such an investment. For example, we have not described tax consequences that we assume to be generally known by investors or certain considerations that may be relevant to certain types of holders subject to special treatment under U.S. federal income tax laws, including stockholders subject to the alternative minimum tax, tax-exempt organizations, insurance companies, dealers in securities, pension plans and trusts, and financial institutions. This summary assumes that investors hold our common stock as capital assets (within the meaning of the Code). The discussion is based upon the Code, Treasury regulations, and administrative and judicial interpretations, each as in effect as of the date of this registration statement and all of which are subject to change, possibly retroactively, which could affect the continuing validity of this discussion. We have not sought and will not seek any ruling from the Internal Revenue Service regarding this offering. This summary does not discuss any aspects of U.S. estate or gift tax or foreign, state or local tax. It does not discuss the special treatment under U.S. federal income tax laws that could result if we invested in tax-exempt securities or certain other investment assets in which we do not currently intend to invest.

A U.S. stockholder generally is a beneficial owner of shares of our common stock who is for U.S. federal income tax purposes:

a citizen or individual resident of the United States including an alien individual who is a lawful permanent resident of the United States or meets the substantial presence test under Section 7701(b) of the Code;

a corporation or other entity taxable as a corporation, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, created or organized in or under the laws of the United States or any political subdivision thereof;

a trust, if a court in the United States has primary supervision over its administration and one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all decisions of the trust, or the trust has a valid election in effect under applicable U.S. Treasury regulations to be treated as a U.S. person; or

an estate, the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source.

A non-U.S. stockholder is a beneficial owner of shares of our common stock that is an individual, corporation, trust or estate and is not a U.S. stockholder.

If a partnership (including an entity treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes) holds shares of our common stock, the tax treatment of a partner in the partnership will generally depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. A prospective stockholder who is a partner of a partnership holding shares of our common stock should consult its tax advisors with respect to the purchase, ownership and disposition of shares of our common stock.

Tax matters are very complicated and the tax consequences to an investor of an investment in our shares will depend on the facts of its particular situation. We encourage investors to consult their own tax advisors regarding the specific consequences of such an investment, including tax reporting requirements, the applicability of federal, state, local and foreign tax laws, eligibility for the benefits of any applicable tax treaty and the effect of any possible changes in the tax laws.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

As a business development company, we intend to elect to be treated, and intend to qualify annually thereafter, as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code, beginning with our 2010 taxable year. As a RIC, we generally will not have to pay corporate-level federal income taxes on any ordinary income or capital gains that we distribute to our stockholders as dividends. To continue to qualify as a RIC, we must, among other things, meet certain source-of-income and asset diversification requirements (as described below). In addition, to qualify

Table of Contents

for RIC tax treatment we must distribute to our stockholders, for each taxable year, at least 90% of our investment company taxable income, which is generally our ordinary income plus the excess of our realized net short-term capital gains over our realized net long-term capital losses (the Annual Distribution Requirement).

Taxation as a Regulated Investment Company

If we:

qualify as a RIC; and

satisfy the Annual Distribution Requirement;

then we will not be subject to federal income tax on the portion of our investment company taxable income and net capital gain (i.e., realized net long-term capital gains in excess of realized net short-term capital losses) we distribute to stockholders. We will be subject to U.S. federal income tax at the regular corporate rates on any income or capital gain not distributed (or deemed distributed) to our stockholders.

We will be subject to a 4% nondeductible federal excise tax on certain undistributed income unless we distribute in a timely manner an amount at least equal to the sum of (1) 98% of our ordinary income for each calendar year, (2) 98% of our capital gain net income for the one-year period ending October 31 in that calendar year and (3) any income realized, but not distributed, and on which we paid no federal income tax, in preceding years (the Excise Tax Avoidance Requirement). We currently intend to make sufficient distributions each taxable year to satisfy the Excise Tax Avoidance Requirement.

In order to qualify as a RIC for federal income tax purposes, we must, among other things:

at all times during each taxable year, have in effect an election to be treated as a business development company under the 1940 Act;

derive in each taxable year at least 90% of our gross income from (a) dividends, interest, payments with respect to certain securities loans, gains from the sale of stock or other securities or currencies, or other income derived with respect to our business of investing in such stock, securities or currencies and (b) net income derived from an interest in a qualified publicly traded partnership; and

diversify our holdings so that at the end of each quarter of the taxable year:

at least 50% of the value of our assets consists of cash, cash equivalents, U.S. government securities, securities of other RICs, and other securities if such other securities of any one issuer do not represent more than 5% of the value of our assets or more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of the issuer; and

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

no more than 25% of the value of our assets is invested in (i) the securities, other than U.S. government securities or securities of other RICs, of one issuer, (ii) the securities of two or more issuers that are controlled, as determined under applicable tax rules, by us and that are engaged in the same or similar or related trades or businesses or (iii) the securities of one or more qualified publicly traded partnerships.

We may be required to recognize taxable income in circumstances in which we do not receive cash. For example, if we hold debt obligations that are treated under applicable tax rules as having original issue discount (such as debt instruments with PIK interest or, in certain cases, increasing interest rates or debt instruments issued with warrants), we must include in income each year a portion of the original issue discount that accrues over the life of the obligation, regardless of whether cash representing such income is received by us in the same taxable year. Because any original issue discount accrued will be included in our investment company taxable income for the year of accrual, we may be required to make a distribution to our stockholders in order to satisfy the Annual Distribution Requirement, even though we will not have received any corresponding cash amount.

Table of Contents

Certain of our investment practices may be subject to special and complex U.S. federal income tax provisions that may, among other things: (i) disallow, suspend or otherwise limit the allowance of certain losses or deductions; (ii) convert lower taxed long-term capital gain into higher taxed short-term capital gain or ordinary income; (iii) convert an ordinary loss or a deduction into a capital loss (the deductibility of which is more limited); (iv) cause us to recognize income or gain without a corresponding receipt of cash; (v) adversely affect the time as to when a purchase or sale of securities is deemed to occur; (vi) adversely alter the characterization of certain complex financial transactions; and (vii) produce income that will not be qualifying income for purposes of the 90% gross income test described above. We will monitor our transactions and may make certain tax elections in order to mitigate the potential adverse effect of these provisions.

Gain or loss realized by us from the sale or exchange of warrants acquired by us as well as any loss attributable to the lapse of such warrants generally will be treated as capital gain or loss. The treatment of such gain or loss as long-term or short-term will depend on how long we held a particular warrant. Upon the exercise of a warrant acquired by us, our tax basis in the stock purchased under the warrant will equal the sum of the amount paid for the warrant plus the strike price paid on the exercise of the warrant. Except as set forth in Failure to Qualify as a Regulated Investment Company, the remainder of this discussion assumes we will qualify as a RIC for each taxable year.

Taxation of U.S. Stockholders

Distributions by us generally will be taxable to U.S. stockholders as ordinary income or capital gains. Distributions of our investment company taxable income will be taxable as ordinary income to U.S. stockholders to the extent of our current or accumulated earnings and profits, whether paid in cash or reinvested in additional common stock. Distributions of our net capital gains (that is, the excess of our realized net long-term capital gains in excess of realized net short-term capital losses) properly designated by us as capital gain dividends will be taxable to a U.S. stockholder as long-term capital gains, regardless of the U.S. stockholder's holding period for its common stock and regardless of whether paid in cash or reinvested in additional common stock. For taxable years beginning on or before December 31, 2010, distributions of investment company taxable income that are designated by us as being derived from qualified dividend income will be taxed in the hands of non-corporate stockholders at the rates applicable to long-term capital gain, provided that holding period and other requirements are met by both the stockholders and us. Dividends distributed by us will generally not be attributable to qualified dividend income. Distributions in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits first will reduce a U.S. stockholder's adjusted tax basis in such U.S. stockholder's common stock and, after the adjusted basis is reduced to zero, will constitute capital gains to such U.S. stockholder. For a summary of the tax rates applicable to capital gains, including capital gain dividends, see the discussion below.

Under the dividend reinvestment plan, if a U.S. stockholder owns shares of common stock registered in its own name, the U.S. stockholder will have all cash distributions automatically reinvested in additional shares of common stock unless the U.S. stockholder opts out of our dividend reinvestment plan by delivering a written notice to our dividend paying agent prior to the record date of the next dividend or distribution. See Dividend Reinvestment Plan. Any distributions reinvested under the plan will nevertheless remain taxable to the U.S. stockholder. The U.S. stockholder will have an adjusted basis in the additional common shares purchased through the plan equal to the amount of the reinvested distribution. The additional shares will have a new holding period commencing on the day following the day on which the shares are credited to the U.S. stockholder's account.

Although we currently intend to distribute realized net capital gains (i.e., net realized long-term capital gains in excess of net realized short-term capital losses), if any, at least annually, we may in the future decide to retain some or all of our net capital gains, but to designate the retained amount as a deemed distribution. In that case, among other consequences, we will pay corporate-level tax on the retained amount, each U.S. stockholder will be required to include its share of the deemed distribution in income as if it had been actually distributed to the U.S. stockholder, and the U.S. stockholder will be entitled to claim a credit or refund equal to its allocable share

Table of Contents

of the corporate-level tax we pay on the retained capital gain. The amount of the deemed distribution net of such tax will be added to the U.S. stockholder's cost basis for its common stock. Since we expect to pay tax on any retained capital gains at our regular corporate capital gain tax rate, and since that rate is in excess of the maximum rate currently payable by non-corporate U.S. stockholders on long-term capital gains, the amount of tax that non-corporate U.S. stockholders will be treated as having paid will exceed the tax they owe on the capital gain dividend. Such excess generally may be claimed as a credit or refund against the U.S. stockholder's other U.S. federal income tax obligations. A U.S. stockholder that is not subject to U.S. federal income tax or otherwise required to file a U.S. federal income tax return would be required to file a U.S. federal income tax return on the appropriate form in order to claim a refund for the taxes we paid. In order to utilize the deemed distribution approach, we must provide written notice to our stockholders prior to the expiration of 60 days after the close of the relevant tax year.

As a RIC, we will be subject to the alternative minimum tax (AMT), but any items that are treated differently for AMT purposes must be apportioned between us and our stockholders and this may affect the stockholders' AMT liabilities. Although regulations explaining the precise method of apportionment have not yet been issued by the Internal Revenue Service, we intend in general to apportion these items in the same proportion that dividends paid to each stockholder bear to our taxable income (determined without regard to the dividends paid deduction), unless we determine that a different method for a particular item is warranted under the circumstances.

For purposes of determining (i) whether the Annual Distribution Requirement is satisfied for any year and (ii) the amount of dividends paid for that year, we may, under certain circumstances, elect to treat a dividend that is paid during the following taxable year as if it had been paid during the taxable year in question. If we make such an election, the U.S. stockholder generally will still be treated as receiving the dividend in the taxable year in which the distribution is made. However, any dividend declared by us in October, November, or December of any calendar year, payable to stockholders of record on a specified date in such a month and actually paid during January of the following year, will be treated as if it had been received by our U.S. stockholders on December 31 of the year in which the dividend was declared.

You should consider the tax implications of buying common stock just prior to a distribution. Even if the price of the common stock includes the amount of the forthcoming distribution, and the distribution economically represents a return of your investment, you will be taxed upon receipt of the distribution and will not be entitled to offset the distribution against the tax basis in your common stock.

You may recognize taxable gain or loss if you sell or exchange your common stock. The amount of the gain or loss will be measured by the difference between your adjusted tax basis in your common stock and the amount of the proceeds you receive in exchange for such stock. Any gain or loss arising from the sale or exchange of our common stock (or, in the case of distributions in excess of the sum of our current and accumulated earnings and profits and your tax basis in the stock, treated as arising from the sale or exchange of our common stock) generally will be a capital gain or loss if the common stock is held as a capital asset. This capital gain or loss normally will be treated as a long-term capital gain or loss if you have held your common stock for more than one year. Otherwise, it will be classified as short-term capital gain or loss. However, any capital loss arising from the sale or exchange of common stock held for six months or less generally will be treated as a long-term capital loss to the extent of the amount of capital gain dividends received, or treated as deemed distributed, with respect to such stock. For this purpose, certain special rules, including rules relating to periods when your risk of loss with respect to your common stock has been diminished, generally apply in determining the holding period of such stock. The ability to deduct capital losses may be subject to other limitations under the Code.

In addition, all or a portion of any loss recognized upon a disposition of shares of our common stock may be disallowed if other shares of our common stock are purchased (whether through reinvestment of distributions or otherwise) within 30 days before or after the disposition. In such a case, the basis of the newly purchased shares will be adjusted to reflect the disallowed loss. In general, individual U.S. stockholders currently are subject to a maximum U.S. federal income tax rate of 15% (with lower rates applying to taxpayers in the 10% and 15% tax

Table of Contents

rate brackets) for years beginning on or before December 31, 2010 on their net capital gain, i.e., the excess of net long-term capital gain over net short-term capital loss for a taxable year, including a long-term capital gain derived from an investment in our common stock. Corporate U.S. stockholders currently are subject to U.S. federal income tax on net capital gain at the maximum 35% rate also applied to ordinary income. Dividends distributed by us to corporate stockholders generally will not be eligible for the dividends-received deduction. Tax rates imposed by states and local jurisdictions on capital gain and ordinary income may differ.

We will send to each of our U.S. stockholders, as promptly as possible after the end of each calendar year, a notice detailing, on a per share and per distribution basis, the amounts includible in such U.S. stockholder's taxable income for such year as ordinary income, long-term capital gain and qualified dividend income, if any. In addition, the U.S. federal tax status of each year's distributions generally will be reported to the Internal Revenue Service. Distributions may also be subject to additional state, local, and foreign taxes depending on a U.S. stockholder's particular situation.

Backup withholding may apply to distributions on the common stock with respect to certain non-corporate U.S. stockholders. Such U.S. stockholders generally will be subject to backup withholding unless the U.S. stockholder provides its correct taxpayer identification number and certain other information, certified under penalties of perjury, to the dividend paying agent, or otherwise establishes an exemption from backup withholding. Any amount withheld under backup withholding is allowed as a credit against the U.S. stockholder's U.S. federal income tax liability, provided the proper information is provided to the Internal Revenue Service.

Taxation of Non-U.S. Stockholders

Whether an investment in our common stock is appropriate for a non-U.S. stockholder will depend upon that stockholder's particular circumstances. Non-U.S. stockholders should consult their tax advisors before investing in our common stock.

Distributions of our investment company taxable income to stockholders that are non-U.S. stockholders will currently be subject to withholding of U.S. federal income tax at a 30% rate (or lower rate provided by an applicable treaty) to the extent of our current and accumulated earnings and profits unless the distributions are effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business of the non-U.S. stockholders, and, if an income tax treaty applies, attributable to a permanent establishment in the United States. In that case, the distributions will be subject to U.S. federal income tax at the ordinary income rates applicable to U.S. stockholders and we will not have to withhold U.S. federal withholding tax if the non-U.S. stockholder complies with applicable certification and disclosure requirements. Special certification requirements apply to a non-U.S. stockholder that is a foreign partnership or a foreign trust and such entities are urged to consult their own tax advisors. In addition, for taxable years beginning prior to January 1, 2010, U.S. source withholding taxes were not imposed on dividends paid by RICs to the extent the dividends are designated as interest-related dividends or short-term capital gain dividends. Under this exemption, interest-related dividends and short-term capital gain dividends generally represent distributions of interest or short-term capital gains that would not have been subject to U.S. withholding tax at the source if they had been received directly by a foreign person, and that satisfy certain other requirements. Although the exemption applies to dividends with respect to taxable years of RICs beginning before January 1, 2010, both Chambers of the U.S. Congress have passed versions of a bill that would extend this exemption to tax years beginning before January 1, 2011. No assurance can be given, however, as to whether this exemption will be extended for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2010 or whether any of our distributions will be designated as eligible for this exemption from withholding tax.

Actual or deemed distributions of our net capital gains to a stockholder that is a non-U.S. stockholder, and gains realized by a non-U.S. stockholder upon the sale or redemption of our common stock, will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax unless the distributions or gains, as the case may be, are effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business of the non-U.S. stockholder and, if an income tax treaty applies, are attributable to a

Table of Contents

permanent establishment maintained by the non-U.S. stockholder in the United States, or, in the case of an individual, the non-U.S. stockholder was present in the United States for 183 days or more during the taxable year and certain other conditions are met.

If we distribute our net capital gains in the form of deemed rather than actual distributions, a stockholder that is a non-U.S. stockholder will be entitled to a U.S. federal income tax credit or tax refund equal to the stockholder's allocable share of the corporate-level tax we pay on the capital gains deemed to have been distributed; however, in order to obtain the refund, the non-U.S. stockholder must obtain a U.S. taxpayer identification number and file a U.S. federal income tax return even if the non-U.S. stockholder would not otherwise be required to obtain a U.S. taxpayer identification number or file a U.S. federal income tax return. For a corporate non-U.S. stockholder, distributions (both actual and deemed), and gains realized upon the sale or redemption of our common stock that are effectively connected to a U.S. trade or business may, under certain circumstances, be subject to an additional branch profits tax at a 30% rate (or at a lower rate if provided for by an applicable treaty). Accordingly, investment in our stock may not be appropriate for a non-U.S. stockholder.

Under our dividend reinvestment plan, if a non-U.S. stockholder owns shares of common stock registered in its own name, the non-U.S. stockholder will have all cash distributions automatically reinvested in additional shares of common stock unless it opts out of our dividend reinvestment plan by delivering a written notice to our dividend paying agent prior to the record date of the next dividend or distribution. See Dividend Reinvestment Plan. If the distribution is a distribution of our investment company taxable income, is not designated by us as a short-term capital gains dividend or interest-related dividend and it is not effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business of the non-U.S. stockholder (or, if a treaty applies, is not attributable to a permanent establishment), the amount distributed (to the extent of our current and accumulated earnings and profits) will be subject to withholding of U.S. federal income tax at a 30% rate (or lower rate provided by an applicable treaty) and only the net after-tax amount will be reinvested in common shares. If the distribution is effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business of the non-U.S. stockholder, generally the full amount of the distribution will be reinvested in the plan and will nevertheless be subject to U.S. federal income tax at the ordinary income rates applicable to U.S. persons. The non-U.S. stockholder will have an adjusted basis in the additional common shares purchased through the plan equal to the amount reinvested. The additional shares will have a new holding period commencing on the day following the day on which the shares are credited to the non-U.S. stockholder's account.

A non-U.S. stockholder who is a nonresident alien individual, and who is otherwise subject to withholding of U.S. federal income tax, may be subject to information reporting and backup withholding of U.S. federal income tax on dividends unless the non-U.S. stockholder provides us or the dividend paying agent with an Internal Revenue Service Form W-8BEN (or an acceptable substitute form) or otherwise meets documentary evidence requirements for establishing that it is a non-U.S. stockholder or the non-U.S. stockholder otherwise establishes an exemption from backup withholding.

Non-U.S. stockholders should consult their own tax advisors with respect to the U.S. federal income tax and withholding tax, and state, local, and foreign tax, consequences of an investment in our common stock.

Failure to Qualify as a Regulated Investment Company

If we were unable to qualify for treatment as a RIC, we would be subject to tax on all of our taxable income at regular corporate rates. We would not be able to deduct distributions to stockholders, nor would they be required to be made. Such distributions would be taxable to our stockholders as dividends and, if made in a taxable year beginning on or before December 31, 2010 and provided certain holding period and other requirements were met, could qualify for treatment as qualified dividend income in the hands of non-corporate stockholders (and thus, eligible for the 15% maximum rate) to the extent of our current and accumulated earnings and profits. Subject to certain limitations under the Code, corporate distributees would be eligible for the

Table of Contents

dividends received deduction. Distributions in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits would be treated first as a return of capital to the extent of the stockholder's tax basis, and any remaining distributions would be treated as a capital gain. To requalify as a RIC in a subsequent taxable year, we would be required to satisfy the RIC qualification requirements for that year and dispose of any earnings and profits from any year in which we failed to qualify as a RIC. Subject to a limited exception applicable to RICs that qualified as such under Subchapter M of the Code for at least one year prior to disqualification and that requalify as a RIC no later than the second year following the non-qualifying year, we could be subject to tax on any unrealized net built-in gains in the assets held by us during the period in which we failed to qualify as a RIC that are recognized within the subsequent 10 years, unless we made a special election to pay corporate-level tax on such built-in gain at the time of our requalification as a RIC.

Table of Contents**DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES**

The following description is based on relevant portions of the Maryland General Corporation Law and on our charter and bylaws. This summary is not necessarily complete, and we refer you to the Maryland General Corporation Law and charter and bylaws for a more detailed description of the provisions summarized below.

Stock

The authorized stock of Solar Capital Ltd. consists of 200,000,000 shares of stock, par value \$0.01 per share, all of which are initially designated as common stock. Our common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the ticker symbol SLRC. There are no outstanding options or warrants to purchase our stock. No stock has been authorized for issuance under any equity compensation plans. Under Maryland law, our stockholders generally are not personally liable for our debts or obligations.

The following are our outstanding classes of securities as of May 10, 2010:

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Title of Class	Amount Authorized	Amount Held by Us or for Our Account	Amount Outstanding Exclusive of Amounts Shown Under(3)
Common stock	200,000,000		33,030,641

Under our charter our board of directors is authorized to classify and reclassify any unissued shares of stock into other classes or series of stock without obtaining stockholder approval. As permitted by the Maryland General Corporation Law, our charter provides that the board of directors, without any action by our stockholders, may amend the charter from time to time to increase or decrease the aggregate number of shares of stock or the number of shares of stock of any class or series that we have authority to issue.

Common Stock

All shares of our common stock have equal rights as to earnings, assets, voting, and dividends and, when they are issued, will be duly authorized, validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable. Distributions may be paid to the holders of our common stock if, as and when authorized by our board of directors and declared by us out of assets legally available therefor. Shares of our common stock have no preemptive, conversion or redemption rights and are freely transferable, except where their transfer is restricted by federal and state securities laws or by contract. In the event of our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, each share of our common stock would be entitled to share ratably in all of our assets that are legally available for distribution after we pay all debts and other liabilities and subject to any preferential rights of holders of our preferred stock, if any preferred stock is outstanding at such time. Each share of our common stock is entitled to one vote on all matters submitted to a vote of stockholders, including the election of directors. Except as provided with respect to any other class or series of stock, the holders of our common stock will possess exclusive voting power. There is no cumulative voting in the election of directors, which means that holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of common stock can elect all of our directors, and holders of less than a majority of such shares will be unable to elect any director.

Preferred Stock

Our charter authorizes our board of directors to classify and reclassify any unissued shares of stock into other classes or series of stock, including preferred stock. The cost of any such reclassification would be borne by our existing common stockholders. Prior to issuance of shares of each class or series, the board of directors is required by Maryland law and by our charter to set the terms, preferences, conversion or other rights, voting

Table of Contents

powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends or other distributions, qualifications and terms or conditions of redemption for each class or series. Thus, the board of directors could authorize the issuance of shares of preferred stock with terms and conditions which could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a transaction or a change in control that might involve a premium price for holders of our common stock or otherwise be in their best interest. You should note, however, that any issuance of preferred stock must comply with the requirements of the 1940 Act. The 1940 Act requires, among other things, that (1) immediately after issuance and before any dividend or other distribution is made with respect to our common stock and before any purchase of common stock is made, such preferred stock together with all other senior securities must not exceed an amount equal to 50% of our total assets after deducting the amount of such dividend, distribution or purchase price, as the case may be, and (2) the holders of shares of preferred stock, if any are issued, must be entitled as a class to elect two directors at all times and to elect a majority of the directors if dividends on such preferred stock are in arrears by two full years or more. Certain matters under the 1940 Act require the separate vote of the holders of any issued and outstanding preferred stock. For example, holders of preferred stock would vote separately from the holders of common stock on a proposal to cease operations as a business development company. We believe that the availability for issuance of preferred stock will provide us with increased flexibility in structuring future financings and acquisitions. However, we do not currently have any plans to issue preferred stock.

Debt

Senior Unsecured Notes

The Senior Unsecured Notes consist of \$125 million in senior unsecured notes, which bear interest at a rate of 8.75% per annum, payable quarterly in cash, and will mature in February 2014. The Senior Unsecured Notes are redeemable at any time, in whole or in part, at a price of 100% of their principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest to the date of redemption. Further, Solar Capital Ltd. must use the net cash proceeds from the issuance of any other senior unsecured notes either to redeem or make an offer to purchase the outstanding Senior Unsecured Notes at a price of 100% of their principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest to the date of redemption. The Senior Unsecured Notes subject Solar Capital Ltd. to customary covenants, including, among other things, (i) a requirement to maintain an asset coverage ratio of 2.00 to 1.00; (ii) a requirement that in the event of a change of control (as defined in the agreement governing the Senior Unsecured Notes) Solar Capital Ltd. will be required to offer to repurchase the Senior Unsecured Notes at a price of 101% of their principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest to the date of repurchase; and (iii) a restriction on incurring any debt on a junior lien basis, or any debt that is contractually subordinated in right of payment to any other debt unless it is also subordinated to the Senior Unsecured Notes on substantially identical terms. The agreement under which the Senior Unsecured Notes were issued contains customary events of default.

Limitation on Liability of Directors and Officers; Indemnification and Advance of Expenses

Maryland law permits a Maryland corporation to include in its charter a provision limiting the liability of its directors and officers to the corporation and its stockholders for money damages except for liability resulting from (a) actual receipt of an improper benefit or profit in money, property or services or (b) active and deliberate dishonesty established by a final judgment as being material to the cause of action. Our charter contains such a provision which eliminates directors and officers liability to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law, subject to the requirements of the 1940 Act.

Our charter authorizes us, to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law and subject to the requirements of the 1940 Act, to indemnify any present or former director or officer or any individual who, while serving as our director or officer and at our request, serves or has served another corporation, real estate investment trust, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other enterprise as a director, officer, partner or trustee, from and against any claim or liability to which that person may become subject or which that person may incur by reason of his or her service in any such capacity and to pay or reimburse their reasonable

Table of Contents

expenses in advance of final disposition of a proceeding. Our bylaws obligate us, to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law and subject to the requirements of the 1940 Act, to indemnify any present or former director or officer or any individual who, while serving as our director or officer and at our request, serves or has served another corporation, real estate investment trust, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other enterprise as a director, officer, partner or trustee and who is made, or threatened to be made, a party to the proceeding by reason of his or her service in that capacity from and against any claim or liability to which that person may become subject or which that person may incur by reason of his or her service in any such capacity and to pay or reimburse his or her reasonable expenses in advance of final disposition of a proceeding. The charter and bylaws also permit us to indemnify and advance expenses to any person who served a predecessor of us in any of the capacities described above and any of our employees or agents or any employees or agents of our predecessor. In accordance with the 1940 Act, we will not indemnify any person for any liability to which such person would be subject by reason of such person's willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of his or her office.

Maryland law requires a corporation (unless its charter provides otherwise, which our charter does not) to indemnify a director or officer who has been successful in the defense of any proceeding to which he or she is made, or threatened to be made, a party by reason of his or her service in that capacity. Maryland law permits a corporation to indemnify its present and former directors and officers, among others, against judgments, penalties, fines, settlements and reasonable expenses actually incurred by them in connection with any proceeding to which they may be made, or threatened to be made, a party by reason of their service in those or other capacities unless it is established that (a) the act or omission of the director or officer was material to the matter giving rise to the proceeding and (1) was committed in bad faith or (2) was the result of active and deliberate dishonesty, (b) the director or officer actually received an improper personal benefit in money, property or services or (c) in the case of any criminal proceeding, the director or officer had reasonable cause to believe that the act or omission was unlawful. However, under Maryland law, a Maryland corporation may not indemnify for an adverse judgment in a suit by or in the right of the corporation or for a judgment of liability on the basis that a personal benefit was improperly received unless, in either case a court orders indemnification, and then only for expenses. In addition, Maryland law permits a corporation to advance reasonable expenses to a director or officer in advance of final disposition of a proceeding upon the corporation's receipt of (a) a written affirmation by the director or officer of his or her good faith belief that he or she has met the standard of conduct necessary for indemnification by the corporation and (b) a written undertaking by him or her or on his or her behalf to repay the amount paid or reimbursed by the corporation if it is ultimately determined that the standard of conduct was not met.

We have entered into indemnification agreements with our directors. The indemnification agreements provide our directors the maximum indemnification permitted under Maryland law and the 1940 Act.

Our insurance policy does not currently provide coverage for claims, liabilities and expenses that may arise out of activities that our present or former directors or officers have performed for another entity at our request. There is no assurance that such entities will in fact carry such insurance. However, we note that we do not expect to request our present or former directors or officers to serve another entity as a director, officer, partner or trustee unless we can obtain insurance providing coverage for such persons for any claims, liabilities or expenses that may arise out of their activities while serving in such capacities.

Certain Provisions of the Maryland General Corporation Law and Our Charter and Bylaws

The Maryland General Corporation Law and our charter and bylaws contain provisions that could make it more difficult for a potential acquiror to acquire us by means of a tender offer, proxy contest or otherwise. These provisions are expected to discourage certain coercive takeover practices and inadequate takeover bids and to encourage persons seeking to acquire control of us to negotiate first with our board of directors. We believe that the benefits of these provisions outweigh the potential disadvantages of discouraging any such acquisition proposals because, among other things, the negotiation of such proposals may improve their terms.

Table of Contents

Classified Board of Directors

Our board of directors will be divided into three classes of directors serving staggered three-year terms. The initial terms of the first, second and third classes will expire in 2010, 2011 and 2012, respectively, and in each case, those directors will serve until their successors are elected and qualify. Beginning in 2010, upon expiration of their current terms, directors of each class will be elected to serve for three-year terms and until their successors are duly elected and qualify and each year one class of directors will be elected by the stockholders. A classified board may render a change in control of us or removal of our incumbent management more difficult. We believe, however, that the longer time required to elect a majority of a classified board of directors will help to ensure the continuity and stability of our management and policies.

Election of Directors

Our charter and bylaws provide that the affirmative vote of the holders of a plurality of the outstanding shares of stock entitled to vote in the election of directors cast at a meeting of stockholders duly called and at which a quorum is present will be required to elect a director. Pursuant to our charter our board of directors may amend the bylaws to alter the vote required to elect directors.

Number of Directors; Vacancies; Removal

Our charter provides that the number of directors will be set only by the board of directors in accordance with our bylaws. Our bylaws provide that a majority of our entire board of directors may at any time increase or decrease the number of directors. However, unless our bylaws are amended, the number of directors may never be less than one nor more than twelve. Our charter provides that, at such time as we have at least three independent directors and our common stock is registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, we elect to be subject to the provision of Subtitle 8 of Title 3 of the Maryland General Corporation Law regarding the filling of vacancies on the board of directors. Accordingly, at such time, except as may be provided by the board of directors in setting the terms of any class or series of preferred stock, any and all vacancies on the board of directors may be filled only by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining directors in office, even if the remaining directors do not constitute a quorum, and any director elected to fill a vacancy will serve for the remainder of the full term of the directorship in which the vacancy occurred and until a successor is elected and qualifies, subject to any applicable requirements of the 1940 Act.

Our charter provides that a director may be removed only for cause, as defined in our charter, and then only by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast in the election of directors.

Action by Stockholders

Under the Maryland General Corporation Law, stockholder action can be taken only at an annual or special meeting of stockholders or (unless the charter provides for stockholder action by less than unanimous written consent, which our charter does not) by unanimous written consent in lieu of a meeting. These provisions, combined with the requirements of our bylaws regarding the calling of a stockholder-requested special meeting of stockholders discussed below, may have the effect of delaying consideration of a stockholder proposal until the next annual meeting.

Advance Notice Provisions for Stockholder Nominations and Stockholder Proposals

Our bylaws provide that with respect to an annual meeting of stockholders, nominations of persons for election to the board of directors and the proposal of business to be considered by stockholders may be made only (1) pursuant to our notice of the meeting, (2) by the board of directors or (3) by a stockholder who is entitled to vote at the meeting and who has complied with the advance notice procedures of our bylaws. With respect to special meetings of stockholders, only the business specified in our notice of the meeting may be brought before

Table of Contents

the meeting. Nominations of persons for election to the board of directors at a special meeting may be made only (1) pursuant to our notice of the meeting, (2) by the board of directors or (3) provided that the board of directors has determined that directors will be elected at the meeting, by a stockholder who is entitled to vote at the meeting and who has complied with the advance notice provisions of the bylaws.

The purpose of requiring stockholders to give us advance notice of nominations and other business is to afford our board of directors a meaningful opportunity to consider the qualifications of the proposed nominees and the advisability of any other proposed business and, to the extent deemed necessary or desirable by our board of directors, to inform stockholders and make recommendations about such qualifications or business, as well as to provide a more orderly procedure for conducting meetings of stockholders. Although our bylaws do not give our board of directors any power to disapprove stockholder nominations for the election of directors or proposals recommending certain action, they may have the effect of precluding a contest for the election of directors or the consideration of stockholder proposals if proper procedures are not followed and of discouraging or deterring a third party from conducting a solicitation of proxies to elect its own slate of directors or to approve its own proposal without regard to whether consideration of such nominees or proposals might be harmful or beneficial to us and our stockholders.

Calling of Special Meetings of Stockholders

Our bylaws provide that special meetings of stockholders may be called by our board of directors and certain of our officers. Additionally, our bylaws provide that, subject to the satisfaction of certain procedural and informational requirements by the stockholders requesting the meeting, a special meeting of stockholders will be called by the secretary of the corporation upon the written request of stockholders entitled to cast not less than a majority of all the votes entitled to be cast at such meeting.

Approval of Extraordinary Corporate Action; Amendment of Charter and Bylaws

Under Maryland law, a Maryland corporation generally cannot dissolve, amend its charter, merge, sell all or substantially all of its assets, engage in a share exchange or engage in similar transactions outside the ordinary course of business, unless approved by the affirmative vote of stockholders entitled to cast at least two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter. However, a Maryland corporation may provide in its charter for approval of these matters by a lesser percentage, but not less than a majority of all of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter. Our charter generally provides for approval of charter amendments and extraordinary transactions by the stockholders entitled to cast at least a majority of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter. Our charter also provides that certain charter amendments, any proposal for our conversion, whether by charter amendment, merger or otherwise, from a closed-end company to an open-end company and any proposal for our liquidation or dissolution requires the approval of the stockholders entitled to cast at least 80% of the votes entitled to be cast on such matter. However, if such amendment or proposal is approved by a majority of our continuing directors (in addition to approval by our board of directors), such amendment or proposal may be approved by a majority of the votes entitled to be cast on such a matter. The continuing directors are defined in our charter as (1) our current directors, (2) those directors whose nomination for election by the stockholders or whose election by the directors to fill vacancies is approved by a majority of our current directors then on the board of directors or (3) any successor directors whose nomination for election by the stockholders or whose election by the directors to fill vacancies is approved by a majority of continuing directors or the successor continuing directors then in office.

Our charter and bylaws provide that the board of directors will have the exclusive power to make, alter, amend or repeal any provision of our bylaws.

Table of Contents

No Appraisal Rights

Except with respect to appraisal rights arising in connection with the Control Share Act discussed below, as permitted by the Maryland General Corporation Law, our charter provides that stockholders will not be entitled to exercise appraisal rights unless a majority of the board of directors shall determine such rights apply.

Control Share Acquisitions

The Maryland General Corporation Law provides that control shares of a Maryland corporation acquired in a control share acquisition have no voting rights except to the extent approved by a vote of two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter (the Control Share Act). Shares owned by the acquiror, by officers or by directors who are employees of the corporation are excluded from shares entitled to vote on the matter. Control shares are voting shares of stock which, if aggregated with all other shares of stock owned by the acquiror or in respect of which the acquiror is able to exercise or direct the exercise of voting power (except solely by virtue of a revocable proxy), would entitle the acquiror to exercise voting power in electing directors within one of the following ranges of voting power:

one-tenth or more but less than one-third;

one-third or more but less than a majority; or

a majority or more of all voting power.

The requisite stockholder approval must be obtained each time an acquiror crosses one of the thresholds of voting power set forth above. Control shares do not include shares the acquiring person is then entitled to vote as a result of having previously obtained stockholder approval. A control share acquisition means the acquisition of control shares, subject to certain exceptions.

A person who has made or proposes to make a control share acquisition may compel the board of directors of the corporation to call a special meeting of stockholders to be held within 50 days of demand to consider the voting rights of the shares. The right to compel the calling of a special meeting is subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions, including an undertaking to pay the expenses of the meeting. If no request for a meeting is made, the corporation may itself present the question at any stockholders meeting.

If voting rights are not approved at the meeting or if the acquiring person does not deliver an acquiring person statement as required by the statute, then the corporation may redeem for fair value any or all of the control shares, except those for which voting rights have previously been approved. The right of the corporation to redeem control shares is subject to certain conditions and limitations, including, as provided in our bylaws compliance with the 1940 Act. Fair value is determined, without regard to the absence of voting rights for the control shares, as of the date of the last control share acquisition by the acquiror or of any meeting of stockholders at which the voting rights of the shares are considered and not approved. If voting rights for control shares are approved at a stockholders meeting and the acquiror becomes entitled to vote a majority of the shares entitled to vote, all other stockholders may exercise appraisal rights. The fair value of the shares as determined for purposes of appraisal rights may not be less than the highest price per share paid by the acquiror in the control share acquisition.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

The Control Share Act does not apply (a) to shares acquired in a merger, consolidation or share exchange if the corporation is a party to the transaction or (b) to acquisitions approved or exempted by the charter or bylaws of the corporation. Our bylaws contain a provision exempting from the Control Share Act any and all acquisitions by any person of our shares of stock. There can be no assurance that such provision will not be amended or eliminated at any time in the future. However, we will amend our bylaws to be subject to the Control Share Act only if the board of directors determines that it would be in our best interests and if the SEC staff does not object to our determination that our being subject to the Control Share Act does not conflict with the 1940 Act.

Table of Contents

Business Combinations

Under Maryland law, business combinations between a Maryland corporation and an interested stockholder or an affiliate of an interested stockholder are prohibited for five years after the most recent date on which the interested stockholder becomes an interested stockholder (the Business Combination Act). These business combinations include a merger, consolidation, share exchange or, in circumstances specified in the statute, an asset transfer or issuance or reclassification of equity securities. An interested stockholder is defined as:

any person who beneficially owns 10% or more of the voting power of the corporation's outstanding voting stock; or

an affiliate or associate of the corporation who, at any time within the two-year period prior to the date in question, was the beneficial owner of 10% or more of the voting power of the then outstanding voting stock of the corporation.

A person is not an interested stockholder under this statute if the board of directors approved in advance the transaction by which the stockholder otherwise would have become an interested stockholder. However, in approving a transaction, the board of directors may provide that its approval is subject to compliance, at or after the time of approval, with any terms and conditions determined by the board.

After the five-year prohibition, any business combination between the Maryland corporation and an interested stockholder generally must be recommended by the board of directors of the corporation and approved by the affirmative vote of at least:

80% of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of outstanding shares of voting stock of the corporation; and

two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of voting stock of the corporation other than shares held by the interested stockholder with whom or with whose affiliate the business combination is to be effected or held by an affiliate or associate of the interested stockholder.

These super-majority vote requirements do not apply if the corporation's common stockholders receive a minimum price, as defined under Maryland law, for their shares in the form of cash or other consideration in the same form as previously paid by the interested stockholder for its shares.

The statute permits various exemptions from its provisions, including business combinations that are exempted by the board of directors before the time that the interested stockholder becomes an interested stockholder. Our board of directors has adopted a resolution that any business combination between us and any other person is exempted from the provisions of the Business Combination Act, provided that the business combination is first approved by the board of directors, including a majority of the directors who are not interested persons as defined in the 1940 Act. This resolution may be altered or repealed in whole or in part at any time; however, our board of directors will adopt resolutions so as to make us subject to the provisions of the Business Combination Act only if the board of directors determines that it would be in our best interests and if the SEC staff does not object to our determination that our being subject to the Business Combination Act does not conflict with the 1940 Act. If this resolution is repealed, or the board of directors does not otherwise approve a business combination, the statute may discourage others from trying to acquire control of us and increase the difficulty of consummating any offer.

Conflict with 1940 Act

Our bylaws provide that, if and to the extent that any provision of the Maryland General Corporation Law, including the Control Share Act (if we amend our bylaws to be subject to such Act) and the Business Combination Act, or any provision of our charter or bylaws conflicts with any provision of the 1940 Act, the applicable provision of the 1940 Act will control.

Table of Contents

SHARES ELIGIBLE FOR FUTURE SALE

Approximately 26.65 million shares of our common stock were issued to the LLC Holders in connection with the Solar Capital Merger. All of these shares of our common stock, as well as the 600,000 shares issued in the Concurrent Private Placement, are restricted securities under the meaning of Rule 144 promulgated under the Securities Act and may not be sold in the absence of registration under the Securities Act unless an exemption from registration is available, including exemptions contained in Rule 144.

In addition, each of the LLC Holders, other than Magnetar Capital Fund, LP and Solar Offshore Limited, has agreed that for a period of 120 days from the date of our initial public offering, they will not, without the prior written consent of Citigroup Global Markets Inc. and J.P. Morgan Securities Inc., dispose of or hedge any shares of our common stock or securities convertible or exchangeable for shares of our common stock. Each of our officers and directors, including Messrs. Gross and Spohler, has agreed to similar lock-up restrictions for a period of 180 days from the date of our initial public offering. In connection with the issuance of the Senior Unsecured Notes, Magnetar Capital Fund, LP and Solar Offshore Limited, which elected to receive such Senior Unsecured Notes, were required to agree to similar lock-up restrictions for a period of 180 days from the date of our initial public offering with respect to 50% of shares of common stock they held immediately prior to completion of our initial public offering and for a period of 365 days from the date of our initial public offering with respect to the remaining 50% of shares of common stock they held immediately prior to our initial public offering. Messrs. Gross and Spohler, through Solar Capital Investors, LLC (an entity controlled by Mr. Gross), also agreed to extend their lock-up period until 365 days from the date of our initial public offering with respect to 50% of the shares of common stock they held immediately prior to completion of our initial public offering.

This registration statement has been filed to register the resale of the shares of common stock held by the LLC Holders. We have committed to use our commercially reasonable efforts to obtain effectiveness of this registration statement within 120 days from the date of our initial public offering. Assuming effectiveness of this registration statement, the LLC Holders will generally be able to resell their shares of common stock without restriction upon expiration of their 120 day lock-up period, unless they elected to receive Senior Unsecured Notes in the Solar Capital Merger. We granted substantially similar registration rights with respect to the 600,000 shares that were in the Concurrent Private Placement.

In general, under Rule 144, if six months has elapsed since the date of acquisition of restricted securities from us or any of our affiliates, and we have made certain information about us available publicly, the holder of such restricted securities can sell such securities. However, in the case of a holder that has been our affiliate at any time during the three months preceding the proposed sale, the number of securities sold by such affiliate holder within any three-month period cannot exceed the greater of:

1% of the total number of securities then outstanding; or

the average weekly trading volume of our securities during the four calendar weeks preceding the date on which notice of the sale is filed with the SEC.

Sales under Rule 144 by holders that have been our affiliates at any time during the three months preceding the proposed sale also are subject to certain manner of sale provisions and notice requirements. If one year has elapsed since the date of acquisition of restricted securities from us or any of our affiliates, and the holder is not one of our affiliates at any time during the three months preceding the proposed sale, such person can sell such securities in the public market under Rule 144 without regard to the public information requirements, manner of sale provisions and notice requirements.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

No assurance can be given as to (1) the likelihood that an active market for our shares will develop; (2) the liquidity of any such market; (3) the ability of our stockholders to sell our securities; or (4) the prices that stockholders may obtain for any of our securities. No prediction can be made as to the effect, if any, that future

Table of Contents

sales of securities, or the availability of securities for future sale, will have on the market price prevailing from time to time. Sales of substantial amounts of our securities, or the perception that such sales could occur, may affect adversely prevailing market prices for our shares.

Table of Contents**SELLING STOCKHOLDERS**

Approximately 26.65 million of the shares of common stock being offered by the selling stockholders were issued to the selling stockholders in exchange for the units of Solar Capital LLC held by such selling stockholders in connection with the merger of Solar Capital LLC with and into Solar Capital Ltd. The units were issued to the selling stockholders at a price of \$15.00 per unit in the initial private placement. We are registering such shares of common stock pursuant to a registration rights agreement we entered into in connection with the initial private placement in order to permit the selling stockholders to offer the shares for resale from time to time. We are also registering the 600,000 shares issued in the Concurrent Private Placement pursuant to similar registration rights that were granted to the purchasers and any shares issued to these holders under our dividend reinvestment plan.

The following table sets forth, as of May 10, 2010:

The name of each selling stockholder;

The number of shares of common stock and the percentage of the total shares of common stock outstanding that each selling stockholder beneficially owned;

The number of shares of common stock beneficially owned by each selling stockholder that may be offered under this registration statement, some or all of which shares may be sold pursuant to this prospectus; and

The number of shares of common stock and the percentage of total shares of common stock outstanding to be beneficially owned by each selling stockholder following this offering, assuming the sale pursuant to this offering of all shares that are beneficially owned by such selling stockholder and registered under this registration statement.

The information included in the table under **Shares Beneficially Owned After Offering** assumes that each stockholder below will elect to sell all of the shares set forth under **Number of Shares That May Be Offered**. The selling stockholders may sell all, some or none of their shares in this offering. See **Plan of Distribution**. The information regarding the identity of the selling stockholders and their affiliations, including their beneficial ownership of shares of our common stock, is based solely on information provided by or on behalf of the selling stockholders.

Name	Shares Beneficially Owned Prior to Offering (1)		Number of Shares that May Be Offered	Shares Beneficially Owned After Offering (2)(3)	
	Number	Percent		Number	Percent
MAGNETAR CAPITAL FUND LP (4)	1,572,750	4.76%	1,572,750	1,572,750	4.76%
MAGNETAR CAPITAL MASTER FUND, LTD (4)	6,291,000	19.06%	6,291,000	6,291,000	19.06%
CHARLES FREDERIC & CO FOR SILVER CREEK SPECIAL OPP FUND II LP (5)	589,885	1.79%	589,885	589,885	1.79%
CHARLES FREDERIC & CO SILVER CREEK LOW VOL STRATEGIES HOLDINGS LLC (5)	410,479	1.24%	410,479	410,479	1.24%
CHARLES FREDERIC & CO AS NOMINEE FOR THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON AS CUSTODIAN F/B/O SILVER CREEK LOW VOL CONTINUATION FUND L.P. (5)	152,592	0.46%	152,592	152,592	0.46%
CHARLES FREDERIC & CO FOR SILVER CREEK SPECIAL OPP FUND CAYMAN II LP (5)	750,763	2.27%	750,763	750,763	2.27%

Table of Contents

Name	Shares Beneficially Owned Prior to Offering (1)		Number of Shares that May Be Offered	Shares Beneficially Owned After Offering (2)(3)	
	Number	Percent		Number	Percent
CHARLES FREDERIC & CO SILVER CREEK LOW VOL FUND A LLC (5)	478,246	1.45%	478,246	478,246	1.45%
CHARLES FREDERIC & CO SILVER CREEK LOW VOL CO HOLDINGS, LTD (5)	128,199	0.39%	128,199	128,199	0.39%
CHARLES FREDERIC & CO AS NOMINEE FOR THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON AS CUSTODIAN F/B/O SILVER CREEK LOW VOL CONTINUATION HOLDINGS LTD	171,130	0.52%	171,130	171,130	0.52%
BAUPOST GROUP SECURITIES, LLC	2,010,973	6.09%	2,010,973	2,010,973	6.09%
SOROS STRATEGIC PARTNERS LP (6)	1,361,052	4.12%	1,361,052	1,361,052	4.12%
SOLAR CAPITAL INVESTORS, LLC (7)	1,340,649	4.06%	1,340,649	1,340,649	4.06%
GOLDMAN SACHS INVESTMENT PARTNERS AGGREGATING FUND HOLDINGS LP	1,072,519	3.25%	1,072,519	1,072,519	3.25%
ATTALUS MULTI-STRATEGY FUND LTD	804,389	2.44%	804,389	804,389	2.44%
UBS FUND SERVICES (CAYMAN) LTD AS SECURITIES INTERMEDIARY QIP LTD	804,389	2.44%	804,389	804,389	2.44%
SATELLITE OVERSEAS FUND LTD	655,176	1.98%	655,176	655,176	1.98%
SOLAR CAPITAL INVESTORS, II LLC (7)	600,000	1.82%	600,000	600,000	1.82%
LIGHTHOUSE CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES FUND LTD	536,259	1.62%	536,259	536,259	1.62%
LIGHTHOUSE DIVERSIFIED FUND LTD	469,226	1.42%	469,226	469,226	1.42%
CITIGROUP GLOBAL MARKETS INC	449,147	1.36%	449,147	449,147	1.36%
JP MORGAN	449,147	1.36%	449,147	449,147	1.36%
UBS FUND SERVICES (CAYMAN) LTD REF					
Q-BLK ARS III INSTITUTIONAL LTD	429,007	1.30%	429,007	429,007	1.30%
CONE & CO	359,342	1.09%	359,342	359,342	1.09%
LIGHTHOUSE CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES FUND LP	335,162	*	335,162	335,162	*
CASPIAN PRIVATE EQUITY FUND LP SERIES 1J	268,129	*	268,129	268,129	*
DIACO INVESTMENTS, L.P.	272,210	*	272,210	272,210	*
KARSCH CAPITAL MANAGEMENT LP	268,129	*	268,129	268,129	*
MB CHILDRENS LLC	272,210	*	272,210	272,210	*
SATELLITE FUND II LP	251,858	*	251,858	251,858	*
KAYNE ANDERSON CAPITAL INCOME PARTNERS (QP) LP	195,991	*	195,991	195,991	*
CLEARPOND & CO	189,811	*	189,811	189,811	*
HARTFORD MIDCAP VALUE HLS FUND; A SERIES OF HARTFORD SERIES FUND INC	184,517	*	184,517	184,517	*
VANGUARD CAPITAL VALUE FUND; A SERIES OF VANGUARD MALVERN FUNDS	151,403	*	151,403	151,403	*
PRUDENTIAL RETIREMENT MIDCAP VALUE FUND	140,256	*	140,256	140,256	*
COVA CAPITAL LLC	136,104	*	136,104	136,104	*
HARTZ CAPITAL INVESTMENTS LLC	134,064	*	134,064	134,064	*
APOGEE FUND LTD (Satellite)	132,237	*	132,237	132,237	*

Table of Contents

Name	Shares Beneficially Owned Prior to Offering (1)		Number of Shares that May Be Offered	Shares Beneficially Owned After Offering (2)(3)	
	Number	Percent		Number	Percent
MARTIN E FRANKLIN	107,252	*	107,252	107,252	*
HARTFORD VALUE OPPORTUNITIES HLS FUND; A SERIES OF HARTFORD SERIES INC	93,994	*	93,994	93,994	*
ROBECO INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT INC FBO VERIZON	91,459	*	91,459	91,459	*
ROBECO INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT INC FBO MINNESOTA MINING & MANUFACTURING CO	90,614	*	90,614	90,614	*
WOLF CREEK INVESTORS (BERMUDA) LP	84,235	*	84,235	84,235	*
REGASOLAR INVESTMENTS LLC.	81,662	*	81,662	81,662	*
RSSJ ASSOCIATED LLC	81,662	*	81,662	81,662	*
SATELLITE OVERSEAS FUND VIII LTD	80,016	*	80,016	80,016	*
WOLF CREEK PARTNERS LP	79,008	*	79,008	79,008	*
HARTFORD MIDCAP VALUE FUND; A SERIES OF HARTFORD MUTUAL FUNDS INC	74,394	*	74,394	74,394	*
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF MISSISSIPPI	72,475	*	72,475	72,475	*
ROBECO INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT INC FBO ROBECO US PREMIUM EQUITIES FUND USD	66,979	*	66,979	66,979	*
SATELLITE OVERSEAS FUND IX LTD	63,562	*	63,562	63,562	*
SATELLITE OVERSEAS FUND V LTD	57,320	*	57,320	57,320	*
WELLS FARGO BANK NA FBO JMB PRIVATE EQUITY LLC	54,442	*	54,442	54,442	*
GRANDPRIX LIMITED Peisach	54,196	*	54,196	54,196	*
YOUR NIECE LTD	54,319	*	54,319	54,319	*
SATELLITE FUND IV LP	51,959	*	51,959	51,959	*
APOSHERM INC.	40,831	*	40,831	40,831	*
LTAM TITAN FUND LLC	40,219	*	40,219	40,219	*
US BANK NA FBO CHARTWELL DIVIDEND & INCOME FUND	32,665	*	32,665	32,665	*
HARTFORD CAPITAL APPRECIATION HLS FUND; A SERIES OF HARTFORD SERIES FUND INC	30,500	*	30,500	30,500	*
HARTFORD VALUE OPPORTUNITIES FUND; A SERIES OF HARTFORD MUTUAL FUNDS INC	30,011	*	30,011	30,011	*
SATELLITE OVERSEAS FUND VII LTD	29,549	*	29,549	29,549	*
ROBECO INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT INC FBO GMI RETIREMENT TRUST	28,475	*	28,475	28,475	*
EIGHTEEN PARTNERS LLC	27,221	*	27,221	27,221	*
END OF THE RAINBOW LLP	27,221	*	27,221	27,221	*
IAN ASHKEN	26,813	*	26,813	26,813	*
SIMCHA HOLDINGS LIMITED Peisach	27,099	*	27,099	27,099	*
WELLS FARGO BANK NA FBO CHARLES K BLANDIN RESIDUARY TRUST	27,221	*	27,221	27,221	*
BLUEWOOD ASSOCIATES LLC	27,220	*	27,220	27,220	*
GREENWOOD PARTNERS LP	27,220	*	27,220	27,220	*
LAKESIDE LP	27,220	*	27,220	27,220	*
GERALD D HOSIER TRUST	26,948	*	26,948	26,948	*

Table of Contents

Name	Shares Beneficially Owned Prior to Offering (1)		Number of Shares that May Be Offered	Shares Beneficially Owned After Offering (2)(3)	
	Number	Percent		Number	Percent
ROBECO INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT INC FBO EMERSON ELECTRIC CO	25,780	*	25,780	25,780	*
HARTFORD CAPITAL APPRECIATION II FUND; A SERIES OF HARTFORD MUTUAL FUNDS INC	23,886	*	23,886	23,886	*
KAYNE ANDERSON INCOME PARTNERS LP	21,776	*	21,776	21,776	*
SATELLITE OVERSEAS FUND VI LTD	18,967	*	18,967	18,967	*
ROBECO INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT INC FBO UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	18,460	*	18,460	18,460	*
ROBECO INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT INC FBO VERIZON VEBA	18,219	*	18,219	18,219	*
ROBECO INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT INC FBO BRUNSWICK PENSION TRUST	16,610	*	16,610	16,610	*
LESTER L. WEINDLING 2007 REVOCABLE TRUST	16,332	*	16,332	16,332	*
HILPROPS INVESTMENTS LLC	13,406	*	13,406	13,406	*
WELLS FARGO BANK NA FBO JAMES R CAMPBELL TRUST	13,610	*	13,610	13,610	*
ROBERT & HARIETT DRUSKIN	13,393	*	13,393	13,393	*
ANDREW LACK	13,474	*	13,474	13,474	*
LOTMAN HOLDINGS INC	13,272	*	13,272	13,272	*
C. MICHAEL ARMSTRONG	13,272	*	13,272	13,272	*
DONALD DRAPKIN	13,272	*	13,272	13,272	*
HEINEMAN BENJAMIN JR	13,272	*	13,272	13,272	*
BRUSH CREEK CAPITAL LLC	13,474	*	13,474	13,474	*
AURORA CAPITAL ASSOCIATES LLC	12,065	*	12,065	12,065	*
MCDERMOTT INCORPORATED MASTER TRUST	10,779	*	10,779	10,779	*
SUSAN & NADER MOTAMEDY	10,207	*	10,207	10,207	*
KINGSPPOINT MARKETING LLC	10,207	*	10,207	10,207	*
ABITIBI CONSOLIDATED CO OF CANADA MASTER TRUST FUND	10,144	*	10,144	10,144	*
RISE SUNNESS & ALEX GLASENBERG	9,527	*	9,527	9,527	*
ISIMO CAPITAL LIMITED Peisach	8,129	*	8,129	8,129	*
STERNWAVE & CO	8,003	*	8,003	8,003	*
FELICE ZAMBETTI	6,818	*	6,818	6,818	*
RALPH & JENNIFER WATTS	6,716	*	6,716	6,716	*
OTHER(8)	320,024	*	320,024	320,024	*
TOTAL	27,327,475	100%	27,327,475	27,327,475	100%

* Less than 1%.

- (1) Beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with Rule 13d-3 under the Exchange Act.
- (2) Assumes the sale of all shares eligible for sale in this prospectus and no other purchases or sales of our common stock. This assumption has been made under the rules and regulations of the SEC and does not reflect any knowledge that we have with respect to the present intent of persons listed as selling stockholders.
- (3) Applicable percentage of ownership is based on 33,030,641 shares of our common stock outstanding on May 10, 2010.
- (4) This entity is controlled and/or managed by Magnetar Financial LLC or its affiliates.
- (5) This entity is controlled by Silver Creek Capital Management LLC.
- (6) Soros Strategic Partners LP (SSP) is a Delaware limited partnership. SFM Participation II LLC, a Nevis limited liability company (SFMP II), serves as general partner of SSP. SFM AH LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (SFM AH), serves as manager of SFMP II. Soros Fund Management LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (SFM LLC), serves as manager of SFM AH. Mr. George Soros serves as Chairman of SFM LLC, Mr. Robert Soros serves as Deputy Chairman of SFM LLC and Mr. Jonathan Soros serves as President and Deputy Chairman of SFM LLC. Each has their principal office at 888 Seventh Avenue, 33rd Floor, New York, New York 10106. The foregoing information was derived, in part, from certain publicly available reports, statements and schedules filed with the SEC.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

- (7) Shares of the Company held by Solar Capital Investors, LLC and Solar Capital Investors II, LLC may be deemed to be beneficially owned by Michael S. Gross and by Bruce J. Spohler by virtue of their collective ownership interest therein.
- (8) Represents selling stockholders who, collectively, own less than 1% of total shares outstanding.

Table of Contents

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We are registering shares of our common stock to permit the resale of these shares by the selling stockholders from time to time after the date of this prospectus. We will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale by the selling stockholders of the shares of common stock. We will bear all fees and expenses incident to our obligation to register the shares of common stock.

The selling stockholders may sell all or a portion of the shares of common stock beneficially owned by them and offered hereby from time to time directly or through one or more underwriters, broker-dealers or agents. If the shares of common stock are sold through underwriters or broker-dealers, the selling stockholders will be responsible for underwriting discounts or commissions or agent's commissions. The shares of common stock may be sold in one or more transactions at fixed prices, at prevailing market prices at the time of the sale, at varying prices determined at the time of sale or at negotiated prices. These sales may be effected in transactions, which may involve crosses or block transactions:

on any national securities exchange or quotation service on which the securities may be listed or quoted at the time of sale;

in the over-the-counter market;

in transactions otherwise than on these exchanges or systems or in the over-the-counter market;

through the writing of options, whether such options are listed on an options exchange or otherwise;

in ordinary brokerage transactions and transactions in which the broker-dealer solicits purchasers;

in block trades in which the broker-dealer will attempt to sell the shares as agent but may position and resell a portion of the block as principal to facilitate the transaction;

through purchases by a broker-dealer as principal and resale by the broker-dealer for its account;

via an exchange distribution in accordance with the rules of the applicable exchange;

through privately negotiated transactions;

through short sales;

in sales pursuant to Rule 144;

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form 497

through broker-dealers who may agree with the selling securityholders to sell a specified number of such shares at a stipulated price per share;

via a combination of any such methods of sale; or

in any other method permitted pursuant to applicable law.

If the selling stockholders effect such transactions by selling shares of common stock to or through underwriters, broker-dealers or agents, such underwriters, broker-dealers or agents may receive commissions in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions from the selling stockholders or commissions from purchasers of the shares of common stock for whom they may act as agent or to whom they may sell as principal (which discounts, concessions or commissions as to particular underwriters, broker-dealers or agents may be in excess of those customary in the types of transactions involved). In connection with sales of the shares of common stock or otherwise, the selling stockholders may enter into hedging transactions with broker-dealers, which may in turn engage in short sales of the shares of common stock in the course of hedging in positions they assume. The selling stockholders may also sell shares of common stock short and deliver shares of common stock covered by this prospectus to close out short positions and to return borrowed shares in connection with such short sales. The selling stockholders may also loan or pledge shares of common stock to broker-dealers that in turn may sell such shares. This offering will conform with the requirements set forth in Financial Industry Regulatory Authority Rule 2310. In compliance with such requirements, the underwriting discounts and commissions in connection with the sale of securities will not exceed 8% of gross proceeds of this offering.

Table of Contents

The selling stockholders may pledge or grant a security interest in some or all of the common stock owned by them and, if they default in the performance of their secured obligations, the pledgees or secured parties may offer and sell the shares of common stock from time to time pursuant to this prospectus or any amendment or supplement to this prospectus under Rule 497 or other applicable provision of the Securities Act, amending, if necessary, the list of selling stockholders to include the pledgee, transferee or other successors in interest as selling stockholders under this prospectus. The selling stockholders also may transfer and donate the shares of common stock in other circumstances in which case the transferees, donees, pledgees or other successors in interest will be the selling beneficial owners for purposes of this prospectus.

The selling stockholders and any broker-dealer participating in the distribution of the shares of common stock may be deemed to be underwriters within the meaning of the Securities Act, and any commission paid, or any discounts or concessions allowed to, any such broker-dealer may be deemed to be underwriting commissions or discounts under the Securities Act. At the time a particular offering of the shares of common stock is made, a prospectus supplement, if required, will be distributed which will set forth the aggregate amount of shares of common stock being offered and the terms of the offering, including the name or names of any broker-dealers or agents, any discounts, commissions and other terms constituting compensation from the selling stockholders and any discounts, commissions or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to broker-dealers.

Under the securities laws of some states, the shares of common stock may be sold in such states only through registered or licensed brokers or dealers. In addition, in some states the shares of common stock may not be sold unless such shares have been registered or qualified for sale in such state or an exemption from registration or qualification is available and is complied with.

There can be no assurance that any selling stockholder will sell any or all of the shares of common stock registered pursuant to the registration statement, of which this prospectus forms a part.

The selling stockholders and any other person participating in such distribution will be subject to applicable provisions of the Exchange Act, and the rules and regulations thereunder, including, without limitation, Regulation M of the Exchange Act, which may limit the timing of purchases and sales of any of the shares of common stock by the selling stockholders and any other participating person. Regulation M may also restrict the ability of any person engaged in the distribution of the shares of common stock to engage in market-making activities with respect to the shares of common stock. All of the foregoing may affect the marketability of the shares of common stock and the ability of any person or entity to engage in market-making activities with respect to the shares of common stock.

We will pay all expenses of the registration of the shares of common stock pursuant to the registration rights agreement, including, without limitation, SEC filing fees and expenses of compliance with state securities or blue sky laws; provided, however, that a selling stockholder will pay all underwriting discounts and selling commissions, if any. We will indemnify the selling stockholders against liabilities, including some liabilities under the Securities Act, in accordance with the registration rights agreement, or the selling stockholders will be entitled to contribution. We may be indemnified by the selling stockholders against civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, that may arise from any written information furnished to us by the selling stockholder specifically for use in this prospectus, in accordance with the related registration rights agreement, or we may be entitled to contribution.

Once sold under the registration statement, of which this prospectus forms a part, the shares of common stock will be freely tradable in the hands of persons other than our affiliates.

Table of Contents

CUSTODIAN, TRANSFER AND DISTRIBUTION PAYING AGENT AND REGISTRAR

Our securities are held under a custody agreement by The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation. The address of the custodian is One Wall Street, New York, New York 10286. American Stock Transfer & Trust Company will act as our transfer agent, distribution paying agent and registrar. The principal business address of our transfer agent is 59 Maiden Lane, New York, New York 10038, telephone number: (800) 937-5449.

BROKERAGE ALLOCATION AND OTHER PRACTICES

Since we will generally acquire and dispose of our investments in privately negotiated transactions, we will infrequently use brokers in the normal course of our business. Subject to policies established by our board of directors, our investment adviser will be primarily responsible for the execution of the publicly traded securities portion of our portfolio transactions and the allocation of brokerage commissions. Our investment adviser does not expect to execute transactions through any particular broker or dealer, but will seek to obtain the best net results for Solar Capital, taking into account such factors as price (including the applicable brokerage commission or dealer spread), size of order, difficulty of execution, and operational facilities of the firm and the firm's risk and skill in positioning blocks of securities. While our investment adviser generally will seek reasonably competitive trade execution costs, Solar Capital will not necessarily pay the lowest spread or commission available. Subject to applicable legal requirements, our investment adviser may select a broker based partly upon brokerage or research services provided to the investment adviser and Solar Capital and any other clients. In return for such services, we may pay a higher commission than other brokers would charge if the investment adviser determines in good faith that such commission is reasonable in relation to the services provided.

LEGAL MATTERS

Certain legal matters in connection with the securities offered hereby will be passed upon for us by Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP, Washington, DC, and Venable LLP, Baltimore, Maryland.

INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

KPMG LLP, our independent registered public accounting firm located at 345 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10154, has audited our financial statements as of December 31, 2009 and 2008 and for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008 and the period March 13, 2007 (inception) through December 31, 2007, as set forth in their reports. We have included our financial statements in this prospectus and elsewhere in the registration statement in reliance on such reports, given on their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

With respect to the unaudited interim financial information for the periods ended March 31, 2010 and 2009, included herein, the independent registered public accounting firm has reported that they applied limited procedures in accordance with professional standards for a review of such information. However, their separate report included in the Company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2010, and included herein, states that they did not audit and they do not express an opinion on that interim financial information. Accordingly, the degree of reliance on their report on such information should be restricted in light of the limited nature of the review procedures applied. The accountants are not subject to the liability provisions of Section 11 of the Securities Act of 1933 (the "1933 Act") for their report on the unaudited interim financial information because that report is not a report or a part of the registration statement prepared or certified by the accountants

within the meaning of Sections 7 and 11 of the 1933 Act.

Table of Contents

AVAILABLE INFORMATION

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form N-2, together with all amendments and related exhibits, under the Securities Act, with respect to our shares of common stock offered by this prospectus. The registration statement contains additional information about us and our shares of common stock being offered by this prospectus.

We are required to file with or submit to the SEC annual, quarterly and current periodic reports, proxy statements and other information meeting the informational requirements of the Exchange Act. You may inspect and copy these reports, proxy statements and other information, as well as the registration statement and related exhibits and schedules, at the Public Reference Room of the SEC at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20549. You may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC maintains an Internet site that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information filed electronically by us with the SEC which are available on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. Copies of these reports, proxy and information statements and other information may be obtained, after paying a duplicating fee, by electronic request at the following e-mail address: publicinfo@sec.gov, or by writing to the SEC's Public Reference Section, Washington, D.C. 20549. This information will also be available free of charge by contacting us at Solar Capital Ltd., 500 Park Avenue, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10022, by telephone at (212) 993-1670, or on our website at <http://www.solarcapltd.com>.

Table of Contents

INDEX TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	Page
<u>Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u>	F-2
<u>Consolidated Statements of Assets and Liabilities as of December 31, 2009 and 2008</u>	F-3
<u>Consolidated Statements of Operations for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008 and the period March 13, 2007 (inception) through December 31, 2007</u>	F-4
<u>Consolidated Statements of Changes in Net Assets for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008 and the period March 13, 2007 (inception) through December 31, 2007</u>	F-5
<u>Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008 and the period March 13, 2007 (inception) through December 31, 2007</u>	F-6
<u>Consolidated Schedules of Investments as of December 31, 2009 and 2008</u>	F-7
<u>Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	F-14
<u>Schedules of Investments in and Advances to Affiliates (unaudited)</u>	F-28
<u>Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u>	F-30
<u>Consolidated Statements of Assets and Liabilities as of March 31, 2010 and December 31, 2009</u>	F-31
<u>Consolidated Statements of Operations for the three months ended March 31, 2010 and March 31, 2009</u>	F-32
<u>Consolidated Statements of Changes in Net Assets for the three months ended March 31, 2010 and the year ended December 31, 2009</u>	F-33
<u>Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the three months ended March 31, 2010 and March 31, 2009</u>	F-34
<u>Consolidated Schedule of Investments as of March 31, 2010</u>	F-35
<u>Consolidated Schedule of Investments as of December 31, 2009</u>	F-38
<u>Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	F-41

F-1

Table of Contents

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Shareholders

Solar Capital LLC:

We have audited the accompanying consolidated statements of assets and liabilities, including the consolidated schedules of investments, of Solar Capital LLC as of December 31, 2009 and 2008, and the related consolidated statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for each of the years in the two year period ended December 31, 2009 and the period March 13, 2007 (inception) through December 31, 2007. These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our procedures included confirmation of securities owned as of December 31, 2009, by correspondence with the custodian or by other appropriate auditing procedures. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Solar Capital LLC as of December 31, 2009 and 2008, and the results of its operations, the changes in its net assets and cash flows for the periods described in the first paragraph above, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

/s/ KPMG LLP

New York, New York

March 1, 2010

F-2

Table of Contents**SOLAR CAPITAL LLC****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

(in thousands, except units)

	December 31, 2009	December 31, 2008
Assets		
Investments at value:		
Companies more than 25% owned (cost: \$10,000 and \$10,030, respectively)	\$ 9,000	\$ 12,930
Companies 5% to 25% owned (cost: \$85,102 and \$84,931, respectively)	93,423	89,429
Companies less than 5% owned (cost: \$968,886 and \$1,161,773, respectively)	760,717	665,856
Total investments (cost: \$1,063,988 and \$1,256,734, respectively)	863,140	768,215
Cash and cash equivalents	5,675	65,841
Interest and dividends receivable	7,547	10,741
Fee revenue receivable	5,824	4,995
Deferred offering costs	1,478	706
Deferred credit facility costs	914	1,463
Derivative assets	294	4,218
Foreign tax receivable		101
Withholding tax receivable		16,505
Prepaid expenses and other receivables	549	241
Total Assets	885,421	873,026
Liabilities		
Credit facility payable	88,114	
Distributions payable	75,136	
Due to Solar Capital Partners LLC:		
Investment advisory and management fee payable	8,663	5,294
Performance-based incentive fee payable	8,517	5,505
Deferred fee revenue	3,532	3,992
Due to Solar Capital Management LLC	912	1,085
Income taxes payable	535	1,735
Interest payable	153	
Derivative liabilities	25	1,366
Other accrued expenses and payables	1,931	1,376
Total Liabilities	187,518	20,353
Net Assets	\$ 697,903	\$ 852,673
Number of units outstanding	81,702,847	81,702,847
Net Asset Value Per Unit	\$ 8.54	\$ 10.44

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**SOLAR CAPITAL LLC****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS****(in thousands, except units)**

	Year ended December 31, 2009	Year ended December 31, 2008	March 13, 2007 (inception) through December 31, 2007
INVESTMENT INCOME:			
Interest and dividends:			
Companies more than 25% owned	\$	\$ 2,652	\$ 295
Companies 5% to 25% owned	9,190	7,175	1,471
Other interest and dividend income	100,480	124,132	76,689
Total interest and dividends	109,670	133,959	78,455
Total investment income	109,670	133,959	78,455
EXPENSES:			
Performance-based incentive fee	16,815		