B. Riley Financial, Inc. Form 424B5 June 05, 2018

Filed Pursuant to 424(b)(5) File No. 333-223789

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT (To prospectus dated April 6, 2018)

Up to \$50,000,000

**7.25% Senior Notes due 2027** 

**7.50%** Senior Notes due 2027

7.375% Senior Notes due 2023 7.50% Senior Notes due 2021

This prospectus supplement replaces the prior prospectus supplement dated April 25, 2018 (the "prior prospectus supplement") that relates to our "at the market offering" of our 7.25% Senior Notes due 2027 (the "7.25% 2027 Notes"), our 7.50% Senior Notes due 2027 (the "7.50% 2027 Notes") and our 7.50% Senior Notes due 2021 (the "2021 Notes"). This prospectus supplement should be read in conjunction with the prospectus dated April 6, 2018, which will be delivered with this prospectus supplement.

We have entered into an At Market Issuance Sales Agreement (the "Sales Agreement") with B. Riley FBR, Inc. ("B. Riley FBR" or the "Agent"), on June 5, 2018, under which we may offer and sell, from time to time, our 7.25% 2027 Notes, our 7.50% 2027 Notes, our 2021 Notes and our 7.375% Senior Notes due 2023 (the "2023 Notes" and, together with the 7.25% 2027 Notes, 7.50% 2027 Notes and 2021 Notes, the "Notes"), as described in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. In accordance with the terms of our at the market program, we may offer and sell from time to time through the Agent, as our sales agent, our Notes having an aggregate offering price of up to \$50,000,000, including notes offered pursuant to the prior prospectus supplement. As of the date of this prospectus supplement, we have sold Notes having an aggregate offering price of \$6,342,650 under the prior prospectus supplement, leaving up to \$43,657,350 of Notes available for offer and sale pursuant to this prospectus supplement.

The 7.25% 2027 Notes, 7.50% 2027 Notes, 2023 Notes and 2021 Notes will mature on December 31, 2027, May 31, 2027, May 31, 2023 and October 31, 2021, respectively. Interest will be paid quarterly in arrears on January 31, April 30, July 31 and October 31 of each year. Interest on the Notes will accrue from the most recent interest payment date immediately preceding the respective dates of issuance of the Notes, except that Notes purchased after the record dates noted below, but prior to the interest payment date immediately following such record date (or if settlement of a purchase of Notes otherwise occurs after such record date but prior to the interest payment date immediately following such record date), will not begin to accrue interest until the interest payment date immediately following such record date. The interest payable on each interest payment date will be paid only to holders of record of the Notes at the close of business on January 15, April 15, July 15 and October 15 of each year, as the case may be, immediately preceding the applicable interest payment date. As a general matter, holders of the Notes will not be entitled to receive any payments of principal on the Notes prior to the stated maturity date. We may redeem the 7.25% 2027 Notes, 7.50% 2027 Notes and 2021 Notes in whole or in part on or after December 31, 2020, May 31, 2020, and October 31, 2018, respectively, at our option, at a redemption price equal to 100% of their principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the date of redemption, as described under "Description of the Notes—Optional Redemption." We may redeem the 2023 Notes in whole or in part at our option (i) on or after May 31, 2020 and prior to May 31, 2021, at a price equal to \$25.75 per note, plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the date of redemption, (ii) on or after May 31, 2021 and prior to May 31, 2022, at a price equal to \$25.375 per note, plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the date of redemption, and (iii) on or after May 31, 2022 and prior to maturity, at a price equal to 100% of their principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding the date of redemption, as described under "Description of the Notes-Optional Redemption." The Notes will be issued in denominations of \$25 and in integral multiples thereof.

The up to \$50,000,000 in aggregate principal amount of 7.25% 2027 Notes, 7.50% 2027 Notes, 2023 Notes and 2021 Notes that we may offer and sell under this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus constitutes a further issuance of and are fungible with the \$91,991,825 in aggregate principal amount of 7.25% Senior Notes due 2027 that we have issued prior to the date of the prior prospectus supplement (the "Initial 7.25% 2027 Notes"), the \$96,117,075 in aggregate principal amount of 7.50% Senior Notes due 2027 that we have issued prior to the date of the prior prospectus supplement (the "Initial 7.50% 2027 Notes"), the \$100,050,000 in aggregate principal amount of 7.375% Senior Notes due 2023 that we have issued to date (the "Initial 2023 Notes") and the \$38,398,875 in aggregate principal amount of 7.50% Senior Notes due 2021 that we have issued prior to the date of the prior prospectus supplement (the "Initial 2021 Notes" and, together with the Initial 7.25% 2027 Notes, the Initial 7.50% 2027 Notes and the Initial 2023 Notes, the "Initial Notes"), respectively, and form a single series of debt securities with the Initial 7.25% 2027 Notes, Initial 7.50% 2027 Notes, Initial 2023 Notes and Initial 2021 Notes, respectively. Unless the context requires otherwise, references to the "Notes," "7.25% 2027 Notes," "7.50% 2027 Notes," "2023 Notes" or "2021 Notes" will n include the Initial 7.25% 2027 Notes, Initial 7.50% 2027 Notes, Initial 2023 Notes or Initial 2021 Notes. The 7.25% 2027 Notes, 7.50% 2027 Notes, 2023 Notes and 2021 Notes will have terms identical to the Initial 7.25% 2027 Notes, Initial 7.50% 2027 Notes, Initial 2023 Notes and Initial 2021 Notes, respectively, and will have the same CUSIP number as, and will be fungible and vote together with, the Initial 7.25% 2027 Notes, Initial 7.50% 2027 Notes, Initial 2023 Notes and Initial 2021 Notes, respectively, immediately upon issuance.

The Notes will be our senior unsecured obligations and will rank equal in right of payment with all of our existing and future senior unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness. The Notes will be effectively subordinated in right of payment to all of our existing and future secured indebtedness, and the Notes will be structurally subordinated to all existing and future indebtedness (including trade payables) of our subsidiaries.

The 7.25% 2027 Notes are quoted on the Nasdaq Global Market ("Nasdaq") under the symbol "RILYG," the 7.50% 2027 Notes are quoted on Nasdaq under the symbol "RILYZ," the 2023 Notes are quoted on Nasdaq under the symbol "RILYH" and the 2021 Notes are quoted on Nasdaq under the symbol "RILYL." The last reported sale price per \$25 principal amount of 7.25% 2027 Note was \$25.00, the last reported sale price per \$25 principal amount of 7.50% 2027 Note was \$25.30, the last reported sale price per \$25 principal amount of 2023 Note was \$25.59 and the last reported sale price per \$25 principal amount of 2021 Note was \$25.61.

Sales of the Notes, if any, under this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus may be made in transactions that are deemed to be "at the market offerings" as defined in Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"). The Agent is not required to sell any specific number of the Notes, but the Agent will make all sales using commercially reasonable efforts consistent with its normal trading and sales practices on mutually agreed terms between the Agent and us. See "Plan of Distribution."

The securities to which this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus relate will be offered and sold through the Agent over a period of time and from time to time. Under the Sales Agreement, the Agent will be entitled to compensation of up to 2.0% of the gross proceeds of all Notes sold through it as our agent. In connection with the sale of the Notes on our behalf, the Agent will be deemed to be an "underwriter" within the meaning of the Securities Act, and the compensation of the Agent will be deemed to be underwriting commissions or discounts. There is no arrangement to place proceeds of the offering in escrow, trust or similar arrangement. See "Plan of Distribution."

Delivery of the Notes in book-entry form only through The Depository Trust Company will be made on or about the second trading date following the date of purchase.

Investing in the Notes involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the risks described under "Risk Factors" beginning on page S-10 of this prospectus supplement and in the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

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

The date of this prospectus supplement is June 5, 2018.

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# Prospectus

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### ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") utilizing a "shelf" registration process. This document is in two parts. The first part is this prospectus supplement, including the documents incorporated by reference, which describes the specific terms of this offering. The second part, the accompanying prospectus, including the documents incorporated by reference, provides more general information. Generally, when we refer to this prospectus, we are referring to both parts of this document combined. We urge you to carefully read this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, and the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein, before buying any of the securities being offered under this prospectus supplement. This prospectus supplement may add or update information contained in the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference therein. To the extent that any statement we make in this prospectus supplement is inconsistent with statements made in the accompanying prospectus or any documents incorporated by reference therein that were filed before the date of this prospectus supplement, the statements made in this prospectus supplement will be deemed to modify or supersede those made in the accompanying prospectus and such documents incorporated by reference therein.

You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, or incorporated by reference herein or therein. Neither we nor the Agent have authorized anyone to provide you with different information. No dealer, salesperson or other person is authorized to give any information or to represent anything not contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. You should not rely on any unauthorized information or representation. This prospectus supplement is an offer to sell only the securities offered hereby, and only under circumstances and in jurisdictions where it is lawful to do so. You should assume that the information in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is accurate only as of the date on the front of the applicable document and that any information we have incorporated by reference is accurate only as of the date of the document incorporated by reference, regardless of the date of delivery of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus, or any sale of a security.

As used in this prospectus, unless the context indicates or otherwise requires, "the Company," "B. Riley," "we," "us" or "our" refer to the combined business of B. Riley Financial, Inc. and its consolidated subsidiaries.

### CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"). These statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other important factors that may cause our actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performances or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements may include, but are not limited to, statements relating to our future financial performance, the growth of the market for our services, expansion plans and opportunities and statements regarding our intended uses of the proceeds of the securities offered hereby. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as "anticipates," "believes," "can," "continue," "could "estimates," "expects," "intends," "may," "plans," "potential," "predicts," "should," "will," "would," the negative of such term comparable terminology. The statements we make regarding the following subject matters are forward-looking by their nature:

plans, objectives, expectations and intentions and other factors discussed in "Risk Factors" contained in this prospectus; and

the summary of the contemplated merger with magicJack VocalTec Ltd. ("magicJack") and the estimated timeline for consummation of the merger.

The forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus supplement reflect our current views about future events, are based on assumptions, and are subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties. Many important factors could cause actual results or achievements to differ materially from any future results or achievements expressed in or implied by our forward-looking statements, including the factors listed below. Many of the factors that will determine future events or achievements are beyond our ability to control or predict. Certain of these are important factors that could cause actual results or achievements to differ materially from the results or achievements reflected in our forward-looking statements, including, but not limited to:

volatility in our revenues and results of operations;

changing conditions in the financial markets;

our ability to generate sufficient revenues to achieve and maintain profitability;

the short term nature of our engagements;

the accuracy of our estimates and valuations of inventory or assets in "guarantee" based engagements;

competition in the asset management business;

potential losses related to our auction or liquidation engagements;

our dependence on communications, information and other systems and third parties;

potential losses related to purchase transactions in our auction and liquidations business;

the potential loss of financial institution clients;

potential losses from or illiquidity of our proprietary investments;

changing economic and market conditions;

potential liability and harm to our reputation if we were to provide an inaccurate appraisal or valuation;

potential mark-downs in inventory in connection with purchase transactions;

failure to successfully compete in any of our segments;

loss of key personnel;

our ability to borrow under our credit facilities as necessary;

failure to comply with the terms of our credit agreements;

our ability to meet future capital requirements;

our ability to realize the benefits of our completed and proposed acquisitions, including our ability to achieve anticipated opportunities and operating cost savings, and accretion to reported earnings estimated to result from completed and proposed acquisitions in the time frame expected by management or at all;

the possibility that our proposed acquisition of magicJack does not close when expected or at all;

our ability to promptly and effectively integrate our business with that of magicJack if such transactions close;

the reaction to the magicJack acquisition of our and magicJack's customers, employees and counterparties; and

the diversion of management time on acquisition-related issues.

The forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus supplement reflect our views and assumptions only as of the date of this prospectus supplement. You should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. Except as required by law, we assume no responsibility for updating any forward-looking statements nor do we intend to do so. Our actual results, performance or achievements could differ materially from the results expressed in, or implied by, these forward-looking statements. The risks included in this section are not exhaustive. Additional factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements are set forth in the section entitled "Risk Factors" beginning on page S-10.

#### PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

This summary is not complete and does not contain all of the information that you should consider before investing in the securities offered by this prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectus. You should read this summary together with the entire prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, including our financial statements, the notes to those financial statements and the other documents that are incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, before making an investment decision. See "Risk Factors" beginning on page S-10 of this prospectus supplement for a discussion of the risks involved in investing in our securities.

#### **Our Business**

- B. Riley Financial, Inc. (Nasdaq: RILY) and its subsidiaries provide collaborative financial services and solutions through several operating subsidiaries including:
- B. Riley FBR, Inc. ("B. Riley FBR") is a leading, full service investment bank providing financial advisory, corporate finance, research, securities lending and sales and trading services to corporate, institutional and high net worth individual clients. B. Riley FBR was formed in November 2017 through the merger of B. Riley & Co, LLC ("BRC") and FBR Capital Markets & Co.; the name of the combined broker dealer was subsequently changed to B. Riley FBR, Inc. FBR Capital Markets & Co. was acquired by B. Riley Financial in June 2017.

Wunderlich Securities, Inc., acquired by B. Riley Financial in July 2017, provides comprehensive wealth management and brokerage services to individuals and families, corporations and non-profit organizations, including qualified retirement plans, trusts, foundations and endowments.

- B. Riley Capital Management, LLC, a SEC registered investment advisor, which includes:
- B. Riley Asset Management, an advisor to certain private funds and to institutional and high net worth investors;
- B. Riley Wealth Management, a multi-family office practice and wealth management firm focused on the needs of ultra-high net worth individuals and families; and

Great American Capital Partners, LLC ("GACP"), the general partner of a private fund, GACP I, L.P. a direct lending fund that provides senior secured loans and second lien secured loan facilities to middle market public and private U.S. companies;

Great American Group, LLC, a leading provider of asset disposition and auction solutions to a wide range of retail and industrial clients;

Great American Group Advisory and Valuation Services, LLC, a leading provider of appraisal and valuation services for asset based lenders, private equity firms and corporate clients.

We also pursue a strategy of investing in or acquiring companies which we believe have attractive investment return characteristics. On July 1, 2016, we acquired United Online, Inc. ("UOL") as part of our principal investment strategy.

UOL is a communications company that offers subscription services and products, consisting of Internet access services and devices under the NetZero and Juno brands primarily sold in the United States.

We are headquartered in Los Angeles with offices in major cities throughout the United States including New York, Chicago, Boston, Memphis, and Metro Washington D.C.

For financial reporting purposes we classify our businesses into four segments: (i) capital markets, (ii) auction and liquidation, (iii) valuation and appraisal and (iv) principal investments - United Online.

Capital Markets Segment. Our capital markets segment provides a full array of investment banking, corporate finance, research, securities lending, wealth management, sales and trading services to corporate, institutional and high net worth clients. Our corporate finance and investment banking services include merger and acquisitions as well as restructuring advisory services to public and private companies, initial and secondary public offerings, and institutional private placements. In addition, we trade equity securities as a principal for our account, including investments in funds managed by our subsidiaries. Our capital markets segment also includes our asset management businesses that manage various private and public funds for institutional and individual investors.

Auction and Liquidation Segment. Our auction and liquidation segment utilizes our significant industry experience, a scalable network of independent contractors and industry-specific advisors to tailor our services to the specific needs of a multitude of clients, logistical challenges and distressed circumstances. Furthermore, our scale and pool of resources allow us to offer our services across North American as well as parts of Europe, Asia and Australia. Our auction and liquidation segment operates through two main divisions, retail store liquidations and wholesale and industrial assets dispositions. Our wholesale and industrial assets dispositions division operates through limited liability companies that are controlled by us.

<u>Valuation and Appraisal Segment.</u> Our valuation and appraisal segment provides valuation and appraisal services to financial institutions, lenders, private equity firms and other providers of capital. These services primarily include the valuation of assets (i) for purposes of determining and monitoring the value of collateral securing financial transactions and loan arrangements and (ii) in connection with potential business combinations. Our valuation and appraisal segment operates through limited liability companies that are majority owned by us.

<u>Principal Investments - United Online Segment.</u> Our principal investments - United Online segment consists of businesses which have been acquired primarily for attractive investment return characteristics. Currently, this segment includes UOL, a company that offers consumer subscription services consisting of Internet access under the NetZero and Juno brands. Internet access includes paid dial-up, mobile broadband and DSL subscription services. We also offer email, Internet security, web hosting services, and other services.

### **Recent Developments**

We believe a key differentiator of our business is the ability to pursue a diversified strategy of utilizing our balance sheet for the purchase of assets, for equity investments, to provide backstop commitments, and to assist our clients in closing transactions. We have employed this strategy throughout our history. We aim to structure these transactions to mitigate our downside risk and provide for returns consistent with our past performance. GACP from time to time participates in and provides capital for these transactions. In the first and second quarters of 2018, we have backstopped the \$240.0 million rights offering by Babcock & Wilcox Enterprises, Inc., formed a joint venture to purchase the rights to assets of The Bon-Ton Stores, Inc. for a cash purchase price of approximately \$560.0 million, as further described below, and closed a \$65.0 million bought deal equity transaction. We are currently exploring other opportunities to utilize our balance sheet and deploy capital in a manner consistent with our diversified strategy and complimentary to the transactions that we have closed in 2018.

On April 18, 2018, the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware issued an order (the "Order") approving the sale of certain rights to the assets of The Bon-Ton Stores, Inc. and its affiliates (the "Debtors") and granted certain other relief to GA Retail, Inc. ("GA"), an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, Tiger Capital Group, LLC ("Tiger"), and the indenture trustee (the "Indenture Trustee"; together with GA and Tiger, the "Joint

Venture") under the Second Lien Indenture (as defined in the Order). Among other things, the Order approved the Joint Venture's right to act as the Debtors' exclusive agent to conduct the sale of substantially all of the Debtors' assets on the terms and conditions set forth in that certain agency agreement dated April 18, 2018 by and among the Debtors and the Joint Venture (the "Agency Agreement" and the related transactions, the "Bon-Ton Transactions").

Pursuant to the Agency Agreement, the Joint Venture agreed to pay (a) a cash purchase price of approximately \$560.0 million (the "Cash Purchase Price"), which includes all amounts due and owing by the Debtors to the lenders under that certain debtor in possession financing facility, the cash amounts used to collateralize certain letters of credit and an amount to fund the payment of certain fees and expenses incurred by the Debtors' professionals, (b) a credit bid of \$125.0 million, and (c) \$93.8 million to pay for certain administrative expenses of the Debtors as reflected in an agreed upon wind down budget. In exchange for such payments and the payment of certain expenses, the Joint Venture received the right to receive all proceeds (cash or otherwise) of any of the Debtors' Assets except as otherwise set forth in the Agency Agreement (the "Proceeds"). The sale of inventory and certain of the assets will be conducted through a going-out-of-business sale which commenced on April 19, 2018 and will end no later than August 31, 2018.

To fund GA's portion of the Cash Purchase Price, GA borrowed (i) \$300.0 million from Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. ("Wells Fargo Bank") pursuant to an amended and restated consent dated April 19, 2018 to that certain credit agreement among GA, its affiliates and Wells Fargo Bank, as amended (the "Wells Fargo Credit Agreement"), and (ii) approximately \$51.0 million from GACP II, L.P., a direct lending fund managed by GACP, an affiliate of GA and a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company. Each of these loans is to be repaid from the Proceeds after the payment of certain expenses incurred by the Joint Venture in connection with the sale. In connection with the borrowing from Wells Fargo Bank, the maximum borrowing limit under the Wells Fargo Credit Agreement was increased solely for purposes of the Bon-Ton Transactions from \$200.0 million to \$300.0 million and reverts back to \$200.0 million upon repayment of the amounts borrowed in connection with the Bon-Ton Transactions.

On March 15, 2018, the Company was a party to a Secondary Stock Purchase Agreement with ACP BD Investments, LLC ("ACP") which required the Company to purchase 950,000 shares of the Company's common stock at \$18.25 per share or approximately \$17.4 million in cash. The stock was repurchased from ACP on April 2, 2018 and retired by the Company.

On January 12, 2018, the Company converted a loan receivable from bebe stores, inc ("bebe") in the amount of \$16.9 million in principal and accrued interest into 2,819,528 shares of common stock of bebe, representing a conversion price at \$6.00 per share. On January 12, 2018, the Company also purchased 500,000 shares of bebe common stock at \$6.00 per share of which 250,000 shares were newly issued common stock by bebe and 250,000 shares were purchased from the majority shareholder of bebe. In total, the Company acquired 3,319,528 shares of bebe common stock as a result of these transactions resulting in an ownership of approximately 29% of bebe's outstanding common shares. In connection with such transactions, bebe fixed the size of its board of directors at five members of which two employees of the Company were newly appointed to the bebe board.

On November 9, 2017, the Company entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger with B. R. Acquisition Ltd., an Israeli corporation and wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company ("Merger Sub"), and magicJack VocalTec Ltd., an

Israeli corporation ("magicJack"), pursuant to which Merger Sub will merge with and into magicJack, with magicJack continuing as the surviving corporation and as an indirect subsidiary of the Company. Subject to the terms and conditions of the Agreement and Plan of Merger, each outstanding share of magicJack will be converted into the right to receive \$8.71 in cash without interest, representing approximately \$143.5 million in aggregate merger consideration. The closing of the transaction is subject to the receipt of certain regulatory approvals and the satisfaction of other closing conditions. It is anticipated that the acquisition of magicJack will close in the third quarter of 2018.

### **Our Corporate Information**

We are a Delaware corporation. Our executive offices are located at 21255 Burbank Blvd, Suite 400, Woodland Hills, California 91367, and the telephone number at our principal executive office is (818) 884-3737. Our website addresses are http://www.greatamerican.com, http://www.brileyfin.com and http://www.unitedonline.net. We have not incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectus the information on our website, and you should not consider it to be a part of this document.

#### THE OFFERING

The following is a brief summary of some of the terms of the offering and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the more detailed information appearing elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. For a more complete description of the terms of the Notes, see the "Description of the Notes" section in this prospectus supplement.

Issuer B. Riley Financial, Inc.

> Up to \$50,000,000 aggregate principal amount of 7.25% Senior Notes due 2027, 7.50% Senior Notes due 2027, 7.375% Senior Notes due 2023 and 7.50% Senior Notes due 2021.

### Notes Offered

The 7.25% 2027 Notes, 7.50% 2027 Notes, 2023 Notes and 2021 Notes offered hereby are a further issuance of, form of a single series with and will have the same terms as the Initial 7.25% 2027 Notes, Initial 7.50% 2027 Notes, Initial 2023 Notes and Initial 2021 Notes, respectively.

Manner of offering

"At the market offering" that may be made from time to time through the Agent, as sales agent, subject to our instruction as to amount and timing. The Agent is not required to sell any specific principal amount of the Notes, but the Agent will make all sales using commercially reasonable efforts consistent with its normal trading and sales practices on mutually agreed terms between the Agent and us. See "Plan of Distribution" on page S-53.

Maturity

The 7.25% 2027 Notes will mature on December 31, 2027, the 7.50% 2027 Notes will mature on May 31, 2027, the 2023 Notes will mature on May 31, 2023 and the 2021 Notes will mature on October 31, 2021, each unless redeemed prior to maturity.

and **Payment** Dates

Interest Rate7.25% interest per annum on the principal amount of the 7.25% 2027 Notes, 7.50% interest per annum on the principal amount of the 7.50% 2027 Notes, 7.375% interest per annum on the principal amount of the 2023 Notes and 7.50% interest per annum on the principal amount of the 2021 Notes will accrue from the most recent interest payment date immediately preceding the date of issuance of the 7.25% 2027 Notes, 7.50% 2027 Notes, 2023 Notes and 2021 Notes, respectively, except that Notes purchased after the record dates noted below, but prior to the interest payment date immediately following such record date (or if settlement of a purchase of Notes otherwise occurs after such record date but prior to the interest payment date immediately following such record date), such Notes will not begin to accrue interest until the interest payment date immediately following such record date. Interest will be paid quarterly in arrears on January 31, April 30, July 31 and October 31 of each year. The interest payable on each interest payment date will be paid only to holders of record of the Notes at the close of business on January 15, April 15, July 15 and October 15 of each year, as the case may be, immediately preceding the applicable interest payment date. As a general matter, holders of the Notes will not be entitled to receive

any payments of principal on the Notes prior to the stated maturity date.

### Guarantors None.

Ranking

The Notes will be our senior unsecured obligations and will rank equal in right of payment with all of our existing and future senior unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness. The Notes will be effectively subordinated to all of our existing and future secured indebtedness to the extent of the value of the assets securing such indebtedness. The Notes will be structurally subordinated to all existing and future indebtedness (including trade payables) of our subsidiaries.

The indenture governing the Notes does not limit the amount of indebtedness that we or our subsidiaries may incur or whether any such indebtedness can be secured by our assets.

# Optional Redemption

We may redeem the 7.25% 2027 Notes, in whole or in part, on or after December 31, 2020, the 7.50% 2027 Notes, in whole or in part, on or after May 31, 2020, and the 2021 Notes, in whole or in part, on or after October 31, 2018, at our option, at any time and from time to time, prior to maturity at a price equal to 100% of their principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the date of redemption. We may redeem the 2023 Notes in whole or in part at our option (i) on or after May 31, 2020 and prior to May 31, 2021, at a price equal to \$25.75 per note, plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the date of redemption, (ii) on or after May 31, 2021 and prior to May 31, 2022, at a price equal to \$25.375 per note, plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the date of redemption, and (iii) on or after May 31, 2022 and prior to maturity, at a price equal to 100% of their principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding the date of redemption. See "Description of the Notes — Optional Redemption" for additional details.

### Sinking Fund

The Notes will not be subject to any sinking fund (i.e., no amounts will be set aside by us to ensure repayment of the Notes at maturity).

# Use of Proceeds

We expect to use the net proceeds of this offering for general corporate purposes. See "Use of Proceeds."

# Events of Default

Events of default generally will include failure to pay principal, failure to pay interest, failure to observe or perform any other covenant or warranty in the Notes or in the indenture, and certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization. See "Description of the Notes — Events of Default."

### Certain Covenants

The indenture that governs the Notes contains certain covenants, including, but not limited to, restrictions on our ability to merge or consolidate with or into any other entity. See "Description of the Notes — Covenants."

# No Financial Covenants

The indenture relating to the Notes does not contain financial covenants.

### Additional Notes

We may create and issue additional notes ranking equally and ratably with the 7.25% 2027 Notes, 7.50% 2027 Notes, 2023 Notes and 2021 Notes in all respects, so that such additional notes will constitute and form a single series with the 7.25% 2027 Notes, 7.50% 2027 Notes, 2023 Notes and 2021 Notes, as applicable, and will have the same terms as to status, redemption or otherwise (except the price to public, the issue date and, if applicable, the initial interest payment date) as such Notes. We will not issue any such additional notes unless such issuance would constitute a "qualified reopening" for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

### Defeasance

The Notes are subject to legal and covenant defeasance by us. See "Description of the Notes — Defeasance" for more information.

### Listing

The 7.25% 2027 Notes, 7.50% 2027 Notes, 2023 Notes and 2021 Notes, when issued, are quoted on Nasdaq under the symbols "RILYG," "RILYZ," "RILYH" and "RILYL," respectively.

# Form and Denomination

The Notes will be issued in book-entry form in minimum denominations of \$25 and integral multiples in excess thereof. The Notes will be represented by a permanent global certificate deposited with the trustee as custodian for The Depositary Trust Company ("DTC") and registered in the name of a

nominee of DTC. Beneficial interests in any of the Notes will be shown on, and transfers will be effected only through, records maintained by DTC and its direct and indirect participants and any such interest may not be exchanged for certificated securities, except in limited circumstances.

Trustee U.S. Bank National Association.

Governing Law

The Notes and the indenture governing the Notes will be governed by the laws of the State of New York.

Risk Factors An investment in the Notes involves significant risks. Please refer to "Risk Factors" beginning on page S-10 and other information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus for a discussion of factors you should carefully consider before investing in the Notes.

B. Riley FBR is an affiliate of B. Riley Financial, Inc. and, as such, may be deemed to have a "conflict of interest" in this offering of Notes within the meaning of Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. of Interest ("FINRA") Rule 5121. Consequently, this offering of Notes will be conducted in compliance with the provisions of FINRA Rule 5121. B. Riley FBR may not make sales of Notes in this offering to any of its discretionary accounts without the prior written approval of the account holder.

### RISK FACTORS

An investment in the Notes involves significant risks, including the risks described below. Before purchasing the Notes, you should carefully consider each of the following risk factors as well as the other information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference, including our consolidated financial statements and the related notes. Each of these risk factors, either alone or taken together, could adversely affect our business, operating results and financial condition, as well as adversely affect the value of an investment in the Notes. The risks described below are not the only ones we face. Additional risks of which we are not presently aware or that we currently believe are immaterial which may also impair our business operations and financial position. If any of the events described below were to occur, our financial condition, our results of operations and/or our future growth prospects could be materially and adversely affected. As a result, you could lose some or all of any investment you may have made or may make in our Company.

### **Risks Related to Our Business**

Our revenues and results of operations are volatile and difficult to predict.

Our revenues and results of operations fluctuate significantly from quarter to quarter, due to a number of factors. These factors include, but are not limited to, the following:

Our ability to attract new clients and obtain additional business from our existing client base;

The number, size and timing of mergers and acquisition transactions, capital raising transactions and other strategic advisory services where we act as an adviser on our auction and liquidation and investment banking engagements;

The extent to which we acquire assets for resale, or guarantee a minimum return thereon, and our ability to resell those assets at favorable prices;

Variability in the mix of revenues from the auction and liquidation and valuation and appraisal businesses;

The rate of decline we experience from our dial-up and DSL Internet access pay accounts in our UOL business as customers continue to migrate to broadband access which provides faster Internet connection and download speeds offered by our competitors;

The rate of growth of new service areas;

The types of fees we charge clients, or other financial arrangements we enter into with clients; and

Changes in general economic and market conditions.

We have limited or no control over some of the factors set forth above and, as a result, may be unable to forecast our revenues accurately. For example, our investment banking revenues are typically earned upon the successful completion of a transaction, the timing of which is uncertain and beyond our control. A client's acquisition transaction may be delayed or terminated because of a failure to agree upon final terms with the counterparty, failure to obtain necessary regulatory consents or board or stockholder approvals, failure to secure necessary financing, adverse market conditions or unexpected financial or other problems in the business of a client or a counterparty. If the parties fail to complete a transaction on which we are advising or an offering in which we are participating, we will earn little or no revenue from the contemplated transaction.

We rely on projections of revenues in developing our operating plans for the future and will base our expectations regarding expenses on these projections and plans. If we inaccurately forecast revenues and/or earnings, or fail to accurately project expenses, we may be unable to adjust our spending in a timely manner to compensate for these inaccuracies and, as a result, may suffer operating losses and such losses could have a negative impact on our financial condition and results of operations. If, for any reason, we fail to meet company, investor or analyst projections of revenue, growth or earnings, the market price of the common stock could decline and you may lose all or part of your investment.

Conditions in the financial markets and general economic conditions have impacted and may continue to impact our ability to generate business and revenues, which may cause significant fluctuations in our stock price.

Our business has in the past, and may in the future, be materially affected by conditions in the financial market and general economic conditions, such as the level and volatility of interest rates, investor sentiment, the availability and the cost of credit, the U.S. mortgage market, the U.S. real estate market, volatile energy prices, consumer confidence, unemployment, and geopolitical issues. Further, certain aspects of our business are cyclical in nature and changes in the current economic environment may require us to adjust our sales and marketing practices and react to different business opportunities and modes of competition. If we are not successful in reacting to changing economic conditions, we may lose business opportunities which could harm our financial condition. For example, we are more likely to conduct auctions and liquidations in connection with insolvencies and store closures during periods of economic downturn relative to periods of economic expansion. Conversely, during an economic downturn, financial institutions that provide asset-based loans typically reduce the number of loans made, which reduces their need for our valuation and appraisal services.

In addition, weakness or disruption in equity markets and diminished trading volume of securities could adversely impact our sales and trading business in the future. Any industry-wide declines in the size and number of underwritings and mergers and acquisitions transactions could also have an adverse effect on our investment banking revenues. Reductions in the trading prices for equity securities tend to reduce the transaction value of investment banking transactions, such as underwriting and mergers and acquisitions transactions, which in turn may reduce the fees we earn from these transactions. Market conditions may also affect the level and volatility of securities prices and the liquidity and value of investments in our funds and proprietary inventory, and we may not be able to manage our business's exposure to these market conditions. In addition to these factors, deterioration in the financial markets or economic conditions could materially affect our investment banking business in other ways, including the following:

Our opportunity to act as underwriter or placement agent could be adversely affected by a reduction in the number and size of capital raising transactions or by competing government sources of equity.

The number and size of mergers and acquisitions transactions or other strategic advisory services where we act as adviser could be adversely affected by continued uncertainties in valuations related to asset quality and creditworthiness, volatility in the equity markets, and diminished access to financing.

Market volatility could lead to a decline in the volume of transactions that we execute for our customers and, therefore, to a decline in the revenue we receive from commissions and spreads.

We may experience losses in securities trading activities, or as a result of write-downs in the value of securities that we own, as a result of deteriorations in the businesses or creditworthiness of the issuers of such securities.

We may experience losses or write downs in the realizable value of our proprietary investments due to the inability of companies we invest in to repay their borrowings.

Our access to liquidity and the capital markets could be limited, preventing us from making proprietary investments and restricting our sales and trading businesses.

We may incur unexpected costs or losses as a result of the bankruptcy or other failure of companies for which we have performed investment banking services to honor ongoing obligations such as indemnification or expense reimbursement agreements.

Sudden sharp declines in market values of securities can result in illiquid markets and the failure of counterparties to perform their obligations, which could make it difficult for us to sell securities, hedge securities positions, and invest funds under management.

As an introducing broker to clearing firms, we are responsible to the clearing firm and could be held liable for the defaults of our customers, including losses incurred as the result of a customer's failure to meet a margin call. When we allow customers to purchase securities on margin, we are subject to risks inherent in extending credit. This risk increases when a market is rapidly declining and the value of the collateral held falls below the amount of a customer's indebtedness. If a customer's account is liquidated as the result of a margin call, we are liable to our clearing firm for any deficiency.

Competition in our investment banking, sales, and trading businesses could intensify as a result of the increasing pressures on financial services companies and larger firms competing for transactions and business that historically would have been too small for them to consider.

Market volatility could result in lower prices for securities, which may result in reduced management fees calculated as a percentage of assets under management.

Market declines could increase claims and litigation, including arbitration claims from customers.

Our industry could face increased regulation as a result of legislative or regulatory initiatives. Compliance with such regulation may increase our costs and limit our ability to pursue business opportunities.

Government intervention may not succeed in improving the financial and credit markets and may have negative consequences for our business.

It is difficult to predict how long current financial market and economic conditions will continue, whether they will deteriorate and if they do, which of our business lines will be adversely affected. If one or more of the foregoing risks occurs, our revenues are likely to decline and, if we were unable to reduce expenses at the same pace, our profit margins could erode.

We focus principally on specific sectors of the economy in our investment banking operations, and deterioration in the business environment in these sectors or a decline in the market for securities of companies within these sectors could harm our business.

We focus principally on eight target industries in our investment banking operations: consumer goods, consumer services, healthcare, energy, real estate, financial services (including specialty finance), industrials and technology. Volatility in the business environment in these industries or in the market for securities of companies within these industries could adversely affect our financial results and the market value of our common stock. The business environment for companies in some of these industries has been subject to high levels of volatility in recent years, and our financial results have consequently been subject to significant variations from year to year. The market for securities in each of our target industries may also be subject to industry-specific risks. For example, we have research, investment banking and principal investments focused in the areas of defense. This sector has been subject to U.S. Department of Defense budget cuts as well as by disruptions in the financial markets and downturns in the general economy. The consumer goods and services sectors are subject to consumer spending trends, which have been volatile, to mall traffic trends, which have been down, to the availability of credit, and to broader trends such as the rise of Internet retailers. Emerging markets have driven the growth of certain consumer companies but emerging market economies are fragile, subject to wide swings in GDP, and subject to changes in foreign currencies. The technology industry has been volatile, driven by evolving technology trends, by technological obsolescence, by enterprise spending, and by changes in the capital spending trends of major corporations and government agencies around the world.

Our investment banking operations focus on various sectors of the economy, and we also depend significantly on private company transactions for sources of revenues and potential business opportunities. Most of these private company clients are initially funded and controlled by private equity firms. To the extent that the pace of these private company transactions slows or the average transaction size declines due to a decrease in private equity financings, difficult market conditions in our target industries or other factors, our business and results of operations may be harmed.

Underwriting and other corporate finance transactions, strategic advisory engagements and related sales and trading activities in our target industries represent a significant portion of our investment banking business. This concentration

of activity in our target industries exposes us to the risk of declines in revenues in the event of downturns in these industries.

Our corporate finance and strategic advisory engagements are singular in nature and do not generally provide for subsequent engagements.

Our investment banking clients generally retain us on a short-term, engagement-by-engagement basis in connection with specific corporate finance, merger and acquisition transactions (often as an advisor in company sale transactions) and other strategic advisory services, rather than on a recurring basis under long-term contracts. As these transactions are typically singular in nature and our engagements with these clients may not recur, we must seek new engagements when our current engagements are successfully completed or are terminated. As a result, high activity levels in any period are not necessarily indicative of continued high levels of activity in any subsequent period. If we are unable to generate a substantial number of new engagements that generate fees from new or existing clients, our business, results of operations and financial condition could be adversely affected.

### The asset management business is intensely competitive.

Over the past several years, the size and number of asset management funds, including hedge funds and mutual funds, has continued to increase. If this trend continues, it is possible that it will become increasingly difficult for our funds to raise capital. More significantly, the allocation of increasing amounts of capital to alternative investment strategies by institutional and individual investors leads to a reduction in the size and duration of pricing inefficiencies. Many alternative investment strategies seek to exploit these inefficiencies and, in certain industries, this drives prices for investments higher, in either case increasing the difficulty of achieving targeted returns. In addition, if interest rates were to rise or there were to be a prolonged bull market in equities, the attractiveness of our funds relative to investments in other investment products could decrease. Competition is based on a variety of factors, including:

investment performance;

investor perception of the drive, focus and alignment of interest of an investment manager;

quality of service provided to and duration of relationship with investors;

business reputation; and

level of fees and expenses charged for services.

We compete in the asset management business with a large number of investment management firms, private equity fund sponsors, hedge fund sponsors and other financial institutions. A number of factors serve to increase our competitive risks, as follows:

investors may develop concerns that we will allow a fund to grow to the detriment of its performance;

some of our competitors have greater capital, lower targeted returns or greater sector or investment strategy specific expertise than we do, which creates competitive disadvantages with respect to investment opportunities;

some of our competitors may perceive risk differently than we do which could allow them either to outbid us for investments in particular sectors or, generally, to consider a wider variety of investments;

there are relatively few barriers to entry impeding new asset management firms, and the successful efforts of new entrants into our various lines of business, including former "star" portfolio managers at large diversified financial institutions as well as such institutions themselves, will continue to result in increased competition; and

other industry participants in the asset management business continuously seek to recruit our best and brightest investment professionals away from us.

These and other factors could reduce our earnings and revenues and adversely affect our business. In addition, if we are forced to compete with other alternative asset managers on the basis of price, we may not be able to maintain our current base management and incentive fee structures. We have historically competed primarily on the performance of our funds, and not on the level of our fees relative to those of our competitors. However, there is a risk that fees in the alternative investment management industry will decline, without regard to the historical performance of a manager, including our managers. Fee reductions on our existing or future funds, without corresponding decreases in our cost structure, would adversely affect our revenues and distributable earnings.

Poor investment performance may decrease assets under management and reduce revenues from and the profitability of our asset management business.

Revenues from our asset management business are primarily derived from asset management fees. Asset management fees are generally comprised of management and incentive fees. Management fees are typically based on assets under management, and incentive fees are earned on a quarterly or annual basis only if the return on our managed accounts exceeds a certain threshold return, or "high water mark," for each investor. We will not earn incentive fee income during a particular period, even when a fund had positive returns in that period, if we do not generate cumulative performance that surpasses a high water mark. If a fund experiences losses, we will not earn incentive fees with regard to investors in that fund until its returns exceed the relevant high water mark.

In addition, investment performance is one of the most important factors in retaining existing investors and competing for new asset management business. Investment performance may be poor as a result of the current or future difficult market or economic conditions, including changes in interest rates or inflation, terrorism or political uncertainty, our investment style, the particular investments that we make, and other factors. Poor investment performance may result in a decline in our revenues and income by causing (i) the net asset value of the assets under our management to decrease, which would result in lower management fees to us, (ii) lower investment returns, resulting in a reduction of incentive fee income to us, and (iii) investor redemptions, which would result in lower fees to us because we would have fewer assets under management.

To the extent our future investment performance is perceived to be poor in either relative or absolute terms, the revenues and profitability of our asset management business will likely be reduced and our ability to grow existing funds and raise new funds in the future will likely be impaired.

The historical returns of our funds may not be indicative of the future results of our funds.

The historical returns of our funds should not be considered indicative of the future results that should be expected from such funds or from any future funds we may raise. Our rates of returns reflect unrealized gains, as of the applicable measurement date, which may never be realized due to changes in market and other conditions not in our control that may adversely affect the ultimate value realized from the investments in a fund. The returns of our funds may have also benefited from investment opportunities and general market conditions that may not repeat themselves, and there can be no assurance that our current or future funds will be able to avail themselves of profitable investment opportunities. Furthermore, the historical and potential future returns of the funds we manage also may not necessarily bear any relationship to potential returns on our common stock.

Our asset management clients may generally redeem their investments, which could reduce our asset management fee revenues.

Our asset management fund agreements generally permit investors to redeem their investments with us after an initial "lockup" period during which redemptions are restricted or penalized. However, any such restrictions may be waived by us. Thereafter, redemptions are permitted at specified intervals. If the return on the assets under our management does not meet investors' expectations, investors may elect to redeem their investments and invest their assets elsewhere, including with our competitors. Our management fee revenues correlate directly to the amount of assets under our management; therefore, redemptions may cause our fee revenues to decrease. Investors may decide to reallocate their capital away from us and to other asset managers for a number of reasons, including poor relative investment performance, changes in prevailing interest rates which make other investments more attractive, changes in investor perception regarding our focus or alignment of interest, dissatisfaction with changes in or a broadening of a fund's investment strategy, changes in our reputation, and departures or changes in responsibilities of key investment professionals. For these and other reasons, the pace of redemptions and corresponding reduction in our assets under management could accelerate. In the future, redemptions could require us to liquidate assets under unfavorable circumstances, which would further harm our reputation and results of operations.

### We are subject to risks in using custodians.

Our asset management subsidiary and its managed funds depend on the services of custodians to settle and report securities transactions. In the event of the insolvency of a custodian, our funds might not be able to recover equivalent assets in whole or in part as they will rank among the custodian's unsecured creditors in relation to assets which the custodian borrows, lends or otherwise uses. In addition, cash held by our funds with the custodian will not be segregated from the custodian's own cash, and the funds will therefore rank as unsecured creditors in relation thereto.

### We may suffer losses if our reputation is harmed.

Our ability to attract and retain customers and employees may be diminished to the extent our reputation is damaged. If we fail, or are perceived to fail, to address various issues that may give rise to reputational risk, we could harm our business prospects. These issues include, but are not limited to, appropriately dealing with market dynamics, potential conflicts of interest, legal and regulatory requirements, ethical issues, customer privacy, record-keeping, sales and trading practices, and the proper identification of the legal, reputational, credit, liquidity and market risks inherent in our products and services. Failure to appropriately address these issues could give rise to loss of existing or future business, financial loss, and legal or regulatory liability, including complaints, claims and enforcement proceedings against us, which could, in turn, subject us to fines, judgments and other penalties. In addition, our capital markets operations depend to a large extent on our relationships with our clients and reputation for integrity and high-caliber professional services to attract and retain clients. As a result, if a client is not satisfied with our services, it may be

more damaging in our business than in other businesses.

Our capital markets operations are highly dependent on communications, information and other systems and third parties, and any systems failures could significantly disrupt our capital markets business.

Our data and transaction processing, custody, financial, accounting and other technology and operating systems are essential to our capital markets operations. A system malfunction (due to hardware failure, capacity overload, security incident, data corruption, etc.) or mistake made relating to the processing of transactions could result in financial loss, liability to clients, regulatory intervention, reputational damage and constraints on our ability to grow. We outsource a substantial portion of our critical data processing activities, including trade processing and back office data processing. We also contract with third parties for market data and other services. In the event that any of these service providers fails to adequately perform such services or the relationship between that service provider and us is terminated, we may experience a significant disruption in our operations, including our ability to timely and accurately process transactions or maintain complete and accurate records of those transactions.

Adapting or developing our technology systems to meet new regulatory requirements, client needs, expansion and industry demands also is critical for our business. Introduction of new technologies present new challenges on a regular basis. We have an ongoing need to upgrade and improve our various technology systems, including our data and transaction processing, financial, accounting, risk management and trading systems. This need could present operational issues or require significant capital spending. It also may require us to make additional investments in technology systems and may require us to reevaluate the current value and/or expected useful lives of our technology systems, which could negatively impact our results of operations.

Secure processing, storage and transmission of confidential and other information in our internal and outsourced computer systems and networks also is critically important to our business. We take protective measures and endeavor to modify them as circumstances warrant. However, our computer systems, software and networks may be vulnerable to unauthorized access, computer viruses or other malicious code, inadvertent, erroneous or intercepted transmission of information (including by e-mail), and other events that could have an information security impact. If one or more of such events occur, this potentially could jeopardize our or our clients' or counterparties' confidential and other information processed and stored in, and transmitted through, our computer systems and networks, or otherwise cause interruptions or malfunctions in our, our clients', our counterparties' or third parties' operations. We may be required to expend significant additional resources to modify our protective measures or to investigate and remediate vulnerabilities or other exposures, and we may be subject to litigation and financial losses that are either not insured against or not fully covered through any insurance maintained by us.

A disruption in the infrastructure that supports our business due to fire, natural disaster, health emergency (for example, a disease pandemic), power or communication failure, act of terrorism or war may affect our ability to service and interact with our clients. If we are not able to implement contingency plans effectively, any such disruption could harm our results of operations.

The growth of electronic trading and the introduction of new technology in the markets in which our market-making business operates may adversely affect this business and may increase competition.

The continued growth of electronic trading and the introduction of new technologies is changing our market-making business and presenting new challenges. Securities, futures and options transactions are increasingly occurring electronically, through alternative trading systems. It appears that the trend toward alternative trading systems will continue to accelerate. This acceleration could further increase program trading, increase the speed of transactions and decrease our ability to participate in transactions as principal, which would reduce the profitability of our market-making business. Some of these alternative trading systems compete with our market-making business and with our algorithmic trading platform, and we may experience continued competitive pressures in these and other areas. Significant resources have been invested in the development of our electronic trading systems, which includes our at-the-market business, but there is no assurance that the revenues generated by these systems will yield an adequate return on the investment, particularly given the increased program trading and increased percentage of stocks trading off of the historically manual trading markets.

Pricing and other competitive pressures may impair the revenues of our sales and trading business.

We derive a significant portion of our revenues for our investment banking operations from our sales and trading business. There has been intense price competition and trading volume reduction in this business in recent years. In particular, the ability to execute trades electronically and through alternative trading systems has increased the

downward pressure on per share trading commissions and spreads. We expect these trends toward alternative trading systems and downward pricing pressure in the business to continue. We believe we may experience competitive pressures in these and other areas in the future as some of our competitors seek to obtain market share by competing on the basis of price or by using their own capital to facilitate client trading activities. In addition, we face pressure from our larger competitors, which may be better able to offer a broader range of complementary products and services to clients in order to win their trading business. These larger competitors may also be better able to respond to changes in the research, brokerage and investment banking industries, to compete for skilled professionals, to finance acquisitions, to fund internal growth and to compete for market share generally. As we are committed to maintaining and improving our comprehensive research coverage in our target sectors to support our sales and trading business, we may be required to make substantial investments in our research capabilities to remain competitive. If we are unable to compete effectively in these areas, the revenues of our sales and trading business may decline, and our business, results of operations and financial condition may be harmed.

Some of our large institutional sales and trading clients in terms of brokerage revenues have entered into arrangements with us and other investment banking firms under which they separate payments for research products or services from trading commissions for sales and trading services, and pay for research directly in cash, instead of compensating the research providers through trading commissions (referred to as "soft dollar" practices). In addition, we have entered into certain commission sharing arrangements in which institutional clients execute trades with a limited number of brokers and instruct those brokers to allocate a portion of the commission directly to us or other broker-dealers for research or to an independent research provider. If more of such arrangements are reached between our clients and us, or if similar practices are adopted by more firms in the investment banking industry, it may further increase the competitive pressures on trading commissions and spreads and reduce the value our clients place on high quality research. Conversely, if we are unable to make similar arrangements with other investment managers that insist on separating trading commissions from research products, volumes and trading commissions in our sales and trading business also would likely decrease.

Larger and more frequent capital commitments in our trading and underwriting businesses increase the potential for significant losses.

Certain financial services firms make larger and more frequent commitments of capital in many of their activities. For example, in order to win business, some investment banks increasingly commit to purchase large blocks of stock from publicly traded issuers or significant stockholders, instead of the more traditional marketed underwriting process in which marketing is typically completed before an investment bank commits to purchase securities for resale. We may participate in this activity and, as a result, we may be subject to increased risk. Conversely, if we do not have sufficient regulatory capital to so participate, our business may suffer. Furthermore, we may suffer losses as a result of the positions taken in these transactions even when economic and market conditions are generally favorable for others in the industry.

We may increasingly commit our own capital as part of our trading business to facilitate client sales and trading activities. The number and size of these transactions may adversely affect our results of operations in a given period. We may also incur significant losses from our sales and trading activities due to market fluctuations and volatility in our results of operations. To the extent that we own assets, i.e., have long positions, in any of those markets, a downturn in the value of those assets or in those markets could result in losses. Conversely, to the extent that we have sold assets we do not own, i.e., have short positions, in any of those markets, an upturn in those markets could expose us to potentially large losses as we attempt to cover our short positions by acquiring assets in a rising market.

We have made and may make principal investments in relatively high-risk, illiquid assets that often have significantly leveraged capital structures, and we may fail to realize any profits from these activities for a considerable period of time or lose some or all of the principal amount we invest in these activities.

We may purchase equity securities and, to a lesser extent, debt securities, in venture capital, seed and other high risk financings of early-stage, pre-public or "mezzanine stage", distressed situations and turnaround companies, as well as funds or other collective investment vehicles. We risk the loss of capital we have invested in these activities.

We may use our capital, including on a leveraged basis in proprietary investments in both private company and public company securities that may be illiquid and volatile. The equity securities of a privately-held entity in which we make a proprietary investment are likely to be restricted as to resale and may otherwise be highly illiquid. In the case of fund or similar investments, our investments may be illiquid until such investment vehicles are liquidated. We expect that there will be restrictions on our ability to resell the securities of any such company that we acquire for a period of at least six months after we acquire those securities. Thereafter, a public market sale may be subject to volume limitations or dependent upon securing a registration statement for an initial and potentially secondary public offering of the securities. We may make principal investments that are significant relative to the overall capitalization of the investee company and resales of significant amounts of these securities might be subject to significant limitations and adversely affect the market and the sales price for the securities in which we invest. In addition, our principal investments may involve entities or businesses with capital structures that have significant leverage. The large amount of borrowing in the leveraged capital structure increases the risk of losses due to factors such as rising interest rates, downturns in the economy or deteriorations in the condition of the investment or its industry. In the event of defaults under borrowings, the assets being financed would be at risk of foreclosure, and we could lose our entire investment.

Even if we make an appropriate investment decision based on the intrinsic value of an enterprise, we cannot assure you that general market conditions will not cause the market value of our investments to decline. For example, an increase in interest rates, a general decline in the stock markets, or other market and industry conditions adverse to companies of the type in which we invest and intend to invest could result in a decline in the value of our investments or a total loss of our investment.

In addition, some of these investments are, or may in the future be, in industries or sectors which are unstable, in distress or undergoing some uncertainty. Further, the companies in which we invest may rely on new or developing technologies or novel business models, or concentrate on markets which are or may be disproportionately impacted by pressures in the financial services and/or mortgage and real estate sectors, have not yet developed and which may never develop sufficiently to support successful operations, or their existing business operations may deteriorate or may not expand or perform as projected. Such investments may be subject to rapid changes in value caused by sudden company-specific or industry-wide developments. Contributing capital to these investments is risky, and we may lose some or all of the principal amount of our investments. There are no regularly quoted market prices for a number of the investments that we make. The value of our investments is determined using fair value methodologies described in valuation policies, which may consider, among other things, the nature of the investment, the expected cash flows from the investment, bid or ask prices provided by third parties for the investment and the trading price of recent sales of securities (in the case of publicly-traded securities), restrictions on transfer and other recognized valuation methodologies. The methodologies we use in valuing individual investments are based on estimates and assumptions specific to the particular investments. Therefore, the value of our investments does not necessarily reflect the prices that would actually be obtained by us when such investments are sold. Realizations, if any, at values significantly lower than the values at which investments have been reflected on our balance sheet would result in loses of potential incentive income and principal investments.

We may experience write downs of our investments and other losses related to the valuation of our investments and volatile and illiquid market conditions.

In our proprietary investment activities, our concentrated holdings, illiquidity and market volatility may make it difficult to value certain of our investment securities. Subsequent valuations, in light of factors then prevailing, may result in significant changes in the values of these securities in future periods. In addition, at the time of any sales and settlements of these securities, the price we ultimately realize will depend on the demand and liquidity in the market at that time and may be materially lower than their current fair value. Any of these factors could require us to take write downs in the value of our investment and securities portfolio, which may have an adverse effect on our results of operations in future periods.

#### Our underwriting and market-making activities may place our capital at risk.

We may incur losses and be subject to reputational harm to the extent that, for any reason, we are unable to sell securities we purchased as an underwriter at the anticipated price levels. As an underwriter, we also are subject to heightened standards regarding liability for material misstatements or omissions in prospectuses and other offering documents relating to offerings we underwrite. Further, even though underwriting agreements with issuing companies typically include a right to indemnification in favor of the underwriter for these offerings to cover potential liability from any material misstatements or omissions, indemnification may be unavailable or insufficient in certain circumstances, for example if the issuing company has become insolvent. As a market maker, we may own large positions in specific securities, and these undiversified holdings concentrate the risk of market fluctuations and may result in greater losses than would be the case if our holdings were more diversified.

Our businesses, profitability and liquidity may be adversely affected by deterioration in the credit quality of, or defaults by, third parties who owe us money, securities or other assets or whose securities or obligations we hold.

The amount and duration of our credit exposures have been increasing over the past year, as have the breadth and size of the entities to which we have credit exposures. We are exposed to the risk that third parties that owe us money, securities or other assets will not perform their obligations. These parties may default on their obligations to us due to bankruptcy, lack of liquidity, operational failure or other reasons. Declines in the market value of securities can result in the failure of buyers and sellers of securities to fulfill their settlement obligations, and in the failure of our clients to fulfill their credit obligations. During market downturns, counterparties to us in securities transactions may be less likely to complete transactions. In addition, particularly during market downturns, we may face additional expenses defending or pursuing claims or litigation related to counterparty or client defaults.

Our businesses may be adversely affected by the disruptions in the credit markets, including reduced access to credit and liquidity and higher costs of obtaining credit.

In the event existing internal and external financial resources do not satisfy our needs, we would have to seek additional outside financing. The availability of outside financing will depend on a variety of factors, such as our financial condition and results of operations, the availability of acceptable collateral, market conditions, the general availability of credit, the volume of trading activities, and the overall availability of credit to the financial services industry.

Widening credit spreads, as well as significant declines in the availability of credit, could adversely affect our ability to borrow on an unsecured basis. Disruptions in the credit markets could make it more difficult and more expensive to

obtain funding for our businesses. If our available funding is limited or we are forced to fund our operations at a higher cost, these conditions may require us to curtail our business activities and increase our cost of funding, both of which could reduce our profitability, particularly in our businesses that involve investing and taking principal positions.

Liquidity, or ready access to funds, is essential to financial services firms, including ours. Failures of financial institutions have often been attributable in large part to insufficient liquidity. Liquidity is of particular importance to our sales and trading business, and perceived liquidity issues may affect the willingness of our clients and counterparties to engage in sales and trading transactions with us. Our liquidity could be impaired due to circumstances that we may be unable to control, such as a general market disruption or an operational problem that affects our sales and trading clients, third parties or us. Further, our ability to sell assets may be impaired if other market participants are seeking to sell similar assets at the same time.

Our clients engaging us with respect to mergers and acquisitions often rely on access to the secured and unsecured credit markets to finance their transactions. The lack of available credit and the increased cost of credit could adversely affect the size, volume and timing of our clients' merger and acquisition transactions—particularly large transactions—and adversely affect our investment banking business and revenues.

#### We have experienced losses and may not maintain profitability.

Our profitability in each reporting period is impacted by the number and size of retail liquidation and capital markets engagements we perform on a quarterly or annual basis. It is possible that we will experience losses with respect to our current operations as we continue to expand our operations. In addition, we expect that our operating expenses will increase to the extent that we grow our business. We may not be able to generate sufficient revenues to maintain profitability.

Because of their significant stock ownership, some of our existing stockholders will be able to exert control over us and our significant corporate decisions.

Our executive officers, directors and their affiliates own or control, in the aggregate, approximately 23.4% of our outstanding common stock as of December 31, 2017. In particular, our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Bryant R. Riley, owns or controls, in the aggregate, 4,262,561 shares of our common stock or 16.0% of our outstanding common stock as of December 31, 2017. These stockholders are able to exercise influence over matters requiring stockholder approval, such as the election of directors and the approval of significant corporate transactions, including transactions involving an actual or potential change of control of the company or other transactions that non-controlling stockholders may not deem to be in their best interests. This concentration of ownership may harm the market price of our common stock by, among other things:

delaying, deferring, or preventing a change in control of our company;

impeding a merger, consolidation, takeover, or other business combination involving our company;

causing us to enter into transactions or agreements that are not in the best interests of all stockholders; or

discouraging a potential acquirer from making a tender offer or otherwise attempting to obtain control of our company.

We may incur losses as a result of "guarantee" based engagements that we enter into in connection with our auction and liquidation solutions business.

In many instances, in order to secure an engagement, we are required to bid for that engagement by guaranteeing to the client a minimum amount that such client will receive from the sale of inventory or assets. Our bid is based on a variety of factors, including: our experience, expertise, perceived value added by engagement, valuation of the inventory or assets and the prices we believe potential buyers would be willing to pay for such inventory or assets. An inaccurate estimate of any of the above or inaccurate valuation of the assets or inventory could result in us submitting a bid that exceeds the realizable proceeds from any engagement. If the liquidation proceeds, net of direct operating expenses, are less than the amount we guaranteed in our bid, we will incur a loss. Therefore, in the event that the proceeds, net of direct operating expenses, from an engagement are less than the bid, the value of the assets or inventory decline in value prior to the disposition or liquidation, or the assets are overvalued for any reason, we may suffer a loss and our financial condition and results of operations could be adversely affected.

Losses due to any auction or liquidation engagement may cause us to become unable to make payments due to our creditors and may cause us to default on our debt obligations.

We have three engagement structures for our auction and liquidation services: (i) a "fee" based structure under which we are compensated for our role in an engagement on a commission basis, (ii) purchase on an outright basis (and take title to) the assets or inventory of the client, and (iii) "guarantee" to the client that a certain amount will be realized by the client upon the sale of the assets or inventory based on contractually defined terms in the auction or liquidation contract. We bear the risk of loss under the purchase and guarantee structures of auction and liquidation contracts. If the amount realized from the sale or disposition of assets, net of direct operating expenses, does not equal or exceed the purchase price (in purchase transaction), we will recognize a loss on the engagement, or should the amount realized, net of direct operating expenses, not equal or exceed the "guarantee," we are still required to pay the guaranteed amount to the client.

We could incur losses in connection with outright purchase transactions in which we engage as part of our auction and liquidation solutions business.

When we conduct an asset disposition or liquidation on an outright purchase basis, we purchase from the client the assets or inventory to be sold or liquidated and therefore, we hold title to any assets or inventory that we are not able to sell. In other situations, we may acquire assets from our clients if we believe that we can identify a potential buyer and sell the assets at a premium to the price paid. We store these unsold or acquired assets and inventory until they can be sold or, alternatively, transported to the site of a liquidation of comparable assets or inventory that we are conducting. If we are forced to sell these assets for less than we paid, or are required to transport and store assets multiple times, the related expenses could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

We depend on financial institutions as primary clients for our valuation and appraisal business. Consequently, the loss of any financial institutions as clients may have an adverse impact on our business.

A majority of the revenue from our valuation and appraisal business is derived from engagements by financial institutions. As a result, any loss of financial institutions as clients of our valuation and advisory services, whether due to changing preferences in service providers, failures of financial institutions or mergers and consolidations within the finance industry, could significantly reduce the number of existing, repeat and potential clients, thereby adversely affecting our revenues. In addition, any larger financial institutions that result from mergers or consolidations in the financial services industry could have greater leverage in negotiating terms of engagements with us, or could decide to internally perform some or all of the valuation and appraisal services which we currently provide to one of the constituent institutions involved in the merger or consolidation or which we could provide in the future. Any of these developments could have a material adverse effect on our valuation and appraisal business.

We may face liability or harm to our reputation as a result of a claim that we provided an inaccurate appraisal or valuation and our insurance coverage may not be sufficient to cover the liability.

We could face liability in connection with a claim by a client that we provided an inaccurate appraisal or valuation on which the client relied. Any claim of this type, whether with or without merit, could result in costly litigation, which could divert management's attention and company resources and harm our reputation. Furthermore, if we are found to be liable, we may be required to pay damages. While our appraisals and valuations are typically provided only for the benefit of our clients, if a third party relies on an appraisal or valuation and suffers harm as a result, we may become subject to a legal claim, even if the claim is without merit. We carry insurance for liability resulting from errors or omissions in connection with our appraisals and valuations; however, the coverage may not be sufficient if we are found to be liable in connection with a claim by a client or third party.

We could be forced to mark down the value of certain assets acquired in connection with outright purchase transactions.

In most instances, inventory is reported on the balance sheet at its historical cost; however, according to U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, inventory whose historical cost exceeds its market value should be valued conservatively, which dictates a lower value should apply. Accordingly, should the replacement cost (due to technological obsolescence or otherwise), or the net realizable value of any inventory we hold be less than the cost paid to acquire such inventory (purchase price), we will be required to "mark down" the value of such inventory held. If the value of any inventory held on our balance sheet is required to be written down, such write down could have a material adverse effect on our financial position and results of operations.

We operate in highly competitive industries. Some of our competitors may have certain competitive advantages, which may cause us to be unable to effectively compete with or gain market share from our competitors.

We face competition with respect to all of our service areas. The level of competition depends on the particular service area and, in the case of our asset and liquidation services, the category of assets being liquidated or appraised. We compete with other companies and investment banks to help clients with their corporate finance and capital needs. In addition, we compete with companies and online services in the bidding for assets and inventory to be liquidated. The demand for online solutions continues to grow and our online competitors include other e-commerce providers, auction websites such as eBay, as well as government agencies and traditional liquidators and auctioneers that have created websites to further enhance their product offerings and more efficiently liquidate assets. We expect the market to become even more competitive as the demand for such services continues to increase and traditional and online liquidators and auctioneers continue to develop online and offline services for disposition, redeployment and remarketing of wholesale surplus and salvage assets. In addition, manufacturers, retailers and government agencies may decide to create their own websites to sell their own surplus assets and inventory and those of third parties.

We also compete with other providers of valuation and advisory services. Competitive pressures within the valuation and appraisal services market, including a decrease in the number of engagements and/or a decrease in the fees which can be charged for these services, could affect revenues from our valuation and appraisal services as well as our ability to engage new or repeat clients. We believe that given the relatively low barriers to entry in the valuation and appraisal services market, this market may become more competitive as the demand for such services increases.

Some of our competitors may be able to devote greater financial resources to marketing and promotional campaigns, secure merchandise from sellers on more favorable terms, adopt more aggressive pricing or inventory availability policies and devote more resources to website and systems development than we are able to do. Any inability on our part to effectively compete could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, growth potential and results of operations.

We compete with specialized investment banks to provide financial and investment banking services to small and middle-market companies. Middle-market investment banks provide access to capital and strategic advice to small and middle-market companies in our target industries. We compete with those investment banks on the basis of a number of factors, including client relationships, reputation, the abilities of our professionals, transaction execution, innovation, price, market focus and the relative quality of our products and services. We have experienced intense competition over obtaining advisory mandates in recent years, and we may experience pricing pressures in our investment banking business in the future as some of our competitors seek to obtain increased market share by reducing fees. Competition in the middle-market may further intensify if larger Wall Street investment banks expand their focus to this sector of the market. Increased competition could reduce our market share from investment banking services and our ability to generate fees at historical levels.

We also face increased competition due to a trend toward consolidation. In recent years, there has been substantial consolidation and convergence among companies in the financial services industry. This trend was amplified in connection with the unprecedented disruption and volatility in the financial markets during the past several years, and, as a result, a number of financial services companies have merged, been acquired or have fundamentally changed their respective business models. Many of these firms may have the ability to support investment banking, including financial advisory services, with commercial banking, insurance and other financial services in an effort to gain market share, which could result in pricing pressure in our businesses.

UOL competes with numerous providers of broadband, mobile broadband and DSL services, as well as other dial-up Internet access providers, many of whom are large and have significantly more financial and marketing resources. The principal competitors for UOL's mobile broadband and DSL services include, among others, local exchange carriers, wireless and satellite service providers, and cable service providers.

If we are unable to attract and retain qualified personnel, we may not be able to compete successfully in our industry.

Our future success depends to a significant degree upon the continued contributions of senior management and the ability to attract and retain other highly qualified management personnel. We face competition for management from other companies and organizations; therefore, we may not be able to retain our existing personnel or fill new positions or vacancies created by expansion or turnover at existing compensation levels. Although we have entered into employment agreements with key members of the senior management team, there can be no assurances such key individuals will remain with us. The loss of any of our executive officers or other key management personnel would disrupt our operations and divert the time and attention of our remaining officers and management personnel which could have an adverse effect on our results of operations and potential for growth.

We also face competition for highly skilled employees with experience in our industry, which requires a unique knowledge base. We may be unable to recruit or retain other existing technical, sales and client support personnel that are critical to our ability to execute our business plan.

We frequently use borrowings under credit facilities in connection with our guaranty engagements, in which we guarantee a minimum recovery to the client, and outright purchase transactions.

In engagements where we operate on a guaranty or purchase basis, we are typically required to make an upfront payment to the client. If the upfront payment is less than 100% of the guarantee or the purchase price in a "purchase" transaction, we may be required to make successive cash payments until the guarantee is met or we may issue a letter

of credit in favor of the client. Depending on the size and structure of the engagement, we may borrow under our credit facilities and may be required to issue a letter of credit in favor of the client for these additional amounts. If we lose any availability under our credit facilities, are unable to borrow under credit facilities and/or issue letters of credit in favor of clients, or borrow under credit facilities and/or issue letters of credit on commercially reasonable terms, we may be unable to pursue large liquidation and disposition engagements, engage in multiple concurrent engagements, pursue new engagements or expand our operations. We are required to obtain approval from the lenders under our existing credit facilities prior to making any borrowings thereunder in connection with a particular engagement. Any inability to borrow under our credit facilities, or enter into one or more other credit facilities on commercially reasonable terms may have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations and growth.

Defaults under our credit agreements could have an adverse impact on our ability to finance potential engagements.

The terms of our credit agreements contain a number of events of default. Should we default under any of our credit agreements in the future, lenders may take any or all remedial actions set forth in such credit agreement, including, but not limited to, accelerating payment and/or charging us a default rate of interest on all outstanding amounts, refusing to make any further advances or issue letters of credit, or terminating the line of credit. As a result of our reliance on lines of credit and letters of credit, any default under a credit agreement, or remedial actions pursued by lenders following any default under a credit agreement, may require us to immediately repay all outstanding amounts, which may preclude us from pursuing new liquidation and disposition engagements and may increase our cost of capital, each of which may have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

If we cannot meet our future capital requirements, we may be unable to develop and enhance our services, take advantage of business opportunities and respond to competitive pressures.

We may need to raise additional funds in the future to grow our business internally, invest in new businesses, expand through acquisitions, enhance our current services or respond to changes in our target markets. If we raise additional capital through the sale of equity or equity derivative securities, the issuance of these securities could result in dilution to our existing stockholders. If additional funds are raised through the issuance of debt securities, the terms of that debt could impose additional restrictions on our operations or harm our financial condition. Additional financing may be unavailable on acceptable terms.

We are subject to net capital and other regulatory capital requirements; failure to comply with these rules would significantly harm our business.

B. Riley FBR, our broker-dealer subsidiary, is subject to the net capital requirements of the SEC, FINRA, and various self-regulatory organizations of which it is a member. These requirements typically specify the minimum level of net capital a broker-dealer must maintain and also mandate that a significant part of its assets be kept in relatively liquid form. Failure to maintain the required net capital may subject a firm to limitation of its activities, including suspension or revocation of its registration by the SEC and suspension or expulsion by FINRA and other regulatory bodies, and ultimately may require its liquidation. Failure to comply with the net capital rules could have material and adverse consequences, such as:

limiting our operations that require intensive use of capital, such as underwriting or trading activities; or

restricting us from withdrawing capital from our subsidiaries, when our broker-dealer subsidiary has more than the minimum amount of required capital. This, in turn, could limit our ability to implement our business and growth strategies, pay interest on and repay the principal of our debt and/or repurchase our shares.

In addition, a change in the net capital rules or the imposition of new rules affecting the scope, coverage, calculation, or amount of net capital requirements, or a significant operating loss or any large charge against net capital, could have similar adverse effects.

Furthermore, B. Riley FBR is subject to laws that authorize regulatory bodies to block or reduce the flow of funds from it to B. Riley Financial, Inc. As a holding company, B. Riley Financial, Inc. depends on dividends, distributions and other payments from its subsidiaries to fund dividend payments, if any, and to fund all payments on its obligations, including debt obligations. As a result, regulatory actions could impede access to funds that B. Riley Financial, Inc. needs to make payments on obligations, including debt obligations, or dividend payments. In addition, because B. Riley Financial, Inc. holds equity interests in the firm's subsidiaries, its rights as an equity holder to the assets of these subsidiaries may not materialize, if at all, until the claims of the creditors of these subsidiaries are first satisfied.

We may incur losses as a result of ineffective risk management processes and strategies.

We seek to monitor and control our risk exposure through operational and compliance reporting systems, internal controls, management review processes and other mechanisms. Our investing and trading processes seek to balance our ability to profit from investment and trading positions with our exposure to potential losses. While we employ

limits and other risk mitigation techniques, those techniques and the judgments that accompany their application cannot anticipate economic and financial outcomes or the specifics and timing of such outcomes. Thus, we may, in the course of our investment and trading activities, incur losses, which may be significant.

In addition, we are investing our own capital in our funds and funds of funds as well as principal investing activities, and limitations on our ability to withdraw some or all of our investments in these funds or liquidate our investment positions, whether for legal, reputational, illiquidity or other reasons, may make it more difficult for us to control the risk exposures relating to these investments.

Our risk management policies and procedures may leave us exposed to unidentified or unanticipated risks.

Our risk management strategies and techniques may not be fully effective in mitigating our risk exposure in all market environments or against all types of risk. We seek to manage, monitor and control our operational, legal and regulatory risk through operational and compliance reporting systems, internal controls, management review processes and other mechanisms; however, there can be no assurance that our procedures will be fully effective. Further, our risk management methods may not effectively predict future risk exposures, which could be significantly greater than the historical measures indicate. In addition, some of our risk management methods are based on an evaluation of information regarding markets, clients and other matters that are based on assumptions that may no longer be accurate. A failure to adequately manage our growth, or to effectively manage our risk, could materially and adversely affect our business and financial condition.

We are exposed to the risk that third parties that owe us money, securities or other assets will not perform their obligations. These parties may default on their obligations to us due to bankruptcy, lack of liquidity, operational failure, and breach of contract or other reasons. We are also subject to the risk that our rights against third parties may not be enforceable in all circumstances. As an introducing broker, we could be held responsible for the defaults or misconduct of our customers. These may present credit concerns, and default risks may arise from events or circumstances that are difficult to detect, foresee or reasonably guard against. In addition, concerns about, or a default by, one institution could lead to significant liquidity problems, losses or defaults by other institutions, which in turn could adversely affect us. If any of the variety of instruments, processes and strategies we utilize to manage our exposure to various types of risk are not effective, we may incur losses.

Our common stock price may fluctuate substantially, and your investment could suffer a decline in value.

The market price of our common stock may be volatile and could fluctuate substantially due to many factors, including, among other things:

actual or anticipated fluctuations in our results of operations;

announcements of significant contracts and transactions by us or our competitors;

sale of common stock or other securities in the future;

the trading volume of our common stock;

changes in our pricing policies or the pricing policies of our competitors; and

general economic conditions

In addition, the stock market in general has experienced extreme price and volume fluctuations that have often been unrelated or disproportionate to the operating performance of those companies. These broad market factors may materially harm the market price of our common stock, regardless of our operating performance.

There is a limited market for our common shares and the trading price of our common shares is subject to volatility.

Our common shares began trading on the over-the-counter bulletin board in August 2009, and we obtained approval to list and trade our shares on The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC's Nasdaq Capital Market on July 16, 2015. On November 16, 2016, we began trading our shares on the Nasdaq Stock Market LLC's Nasdaq Global Market. Trading of our common stock has in the past been highly volatile with low trading volume and an active trading market for shares of our common stock may not develop. In such case, selling shares of our common stock may be difficult because the limited trading market for our shares could result in lower prices and larger spreads in the bid and ask prices of our shares, as well as lower trading volume. Further, the market price of shares of our common stock could continue to fluctuate substantially. Additionally, if we are not able to maintain our listing on Nasdaq, then our common stock will again be quoted for trading on an over-the-counter quotation system and may be subject to more significant

fluctuations in stock price and trading volume and large bid and ask price spreads.

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation authorizes our board of directors to issue new series of preferred stock that may have the effect of delaying or preventing a change of control, which could adversely affect the value of your shares.

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides that our board of directors will be authorized to issue from time to time, without further stockholder approval, up to 1,000,000 shares of preferred stock in one or more series and to fix or alter the designations, preferences, rights and any qualifications, limitations or restrictions of the shares of each series, including the dividend rights, dividend rates, conversion rights, voting rights, rights of redemption, including sinking fund provisions, redemption price or prices, liquidation preferences and the number of shares constituting any series or designations of any series. Such shares of preferred stock could have preferences over our common stock with respect to dividends and liquidation rights. We may issue additional preferred stock in ways which may delay, defer or prevent a change of control of our company without further action by our stockholders. Such shares of preferred stock may be issued with voting rights that may adversely affect the voting power of the holders of our common stock by increasing the number of outstanding shares having voting rights, and by the creation of class or series voting rights.

Anti-takeover provisions under our charter documents and Delaware law could delay or prevent a change of control and could also limit the market price of our stock.

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and our bylaws, as amended, contain provisions that could delay or prevent a change of control of our company or changes in our board of directors that our stockholders might consider favorable. We are also governed by the provisions of Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporate Law, which may prohibit certain business combinations with stockholders owning 15% or more of our outstanding voting stock. The foregoing and other provisions in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, our bylaws, as amended, and Delaware law could make it more difficult for stockholders or potential acquirers to obtain control of our board of directors or initiate actions that are opposed by the then-current board of directors, including delaying or impeding a merger, tender offer, or proxy contest or other change of control transaction involving our company. Any delay or prevention of a change of control transaction or changes in our board of directors could prevent the consummation of a transaction in which our stockholders could receive a substantial premium over the then current market price for their shares.