Solar Capital Ltd. Form POS 8C March 14, 2017 Table of Contents

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 14, 2017

Securities Act File No. 333-194870

#### **U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

# FORM N-2

#### **REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933**

(Check appropriate box or boxes)

Pre-Effective Amendment No. Post-Effective Amendment No. 3

#### SOLAR CAPITAL LTD.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in charter)

500 Park Avenue

New York, NY 10022

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

Registrant s telephone number, including Area Code: (212) 993-1670

**Michael S. Gross** 

**Chief Executive Officer** 

Solar Capital Ltd.

500 Park Avenue

New York, NY 10022

(Name and address of agent for service)

**COPIES TO:** 

Steven B. Boehm

Vlad M. Bulkin

Eversheds Sutherland (US) LLP

700 Sixth Street, NW, Suite 700

Washington, DC 20001

(202) 383-0100

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

If any securities being registered on this form will be offered on a delayed or continuous basis in reliance on Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered in connection with a dividend reinvestment plan, check the following box.

It is proposed that this filing will become effective (check appropriate box):

when declared effective pursuant to Section 8(c).

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

# SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED, 2017

#### PROSPECTUS

\$1,000,000,000 Solar Capital Ltd. Common Stock Preferred Stock Debt Securities Warrants

We are an externally managed, non-diversified closed-end management investment company that has elected to be regulated as a business development company under the Investment Company Act of 1940. Our investment objective is to generate both current income and capital appreciation through debt and equity investments. We invest primarily in leveraged companies, including middle-market companies, in the form of senior secured loans, unitranche loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities. Securities rated below investment grade, including the investments we target, are often referred to as leveraged loans, high yield or junk securities, and may be considered high risk compared to debt instruments that are rated investment grade.

We are managed by Solar Capital Partners, LLC. Solar Capital Management, LLC provides the administrative services necessary for us to operate.

We may offer, from time to time, in one or more offerings or series, up to \$1,000,000,000 of our common stock, preferred stock, debt securities, or warrants, which we refer to, collectively, as the securities. The preferred stock and warrants offered hereby may be convertible or exchangeable into shares of our common stock. The securities may be offered at prices and on terms to be described in one or more supplements to this prospectus.

In the event we offer common stock, the offering price per share of our common stock less any underwriting commissions or discounts will generally not be less than the net asset value per share of our common stock at the time

we make the offering. However, we may issue shares of our common stock pursuant to this prospectus at a price per share that is less than our net asset value per share (a) with the prior approval of the majority of our common stockholders or (b) under such other circumstances as the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) may permit.

The securities may be offered directly to one or more purchasers, or through agents designated from time to time by us, or to or through underwriters or dealers. The prospectus supplement relating to an offering will identify any agents or underwriters involved in the sale of the securities, and will disclose any applicable purchase price, fee, commission or discount arrangement between us and our agents or underwriters or among our underwriters or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated. See Plan of Distribution. We may not sell any of the securities through agents, underwriters or dealers without delivery of this prospectus and a prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the offering of such securities.

Our common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol SLRC. On March 10, 2017, the last reported sales price on the NASDAQ Global Select Market for our common stock was \$22.20 per share.

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

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

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

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

, 2017

You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement. We have not authorized any dealer, salesman or other person to give any information or to make any representation other than those contained in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement to this prospectus. You must not rely upon any information or representation not contained in this prospectus or any such supplements as if we had authorized it. This prospectus and any such supplements do not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of any offer to buy any security other than the registered securities to which they relate, nor do they constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer or solicitation in such jurisdiction. The information contained in this prospectus and any such supplements is accurate as of the dates on their covers. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since then.

#### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

	Page
<u>Summary</u>	1
Fees and Expenses	11
Selected Financial and Other Data	14
Risk Factors	16
Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements	45
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	46
Price Range of Common Stock and Distributions	47
Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	50
Senior Securities	73
Business	75
Portfolio Companies	90
<u>Management</u>	96
Portfolio Management	105
Investment Advisory and Management Agreement	106
Administration Agreement	112
License Agreement	112
Certain Relationships and Transactions	113
Control Persons and Principal Stockholders	114
Regulation as a Business Development Company	115
Determination of Net Asset Value	120
Dividend Reinvestment Plan	122
Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations	124
Sales of Common Stock Below Net Asset Value	131
Issuance of Warrants or Securities to Subscribe for or Convertible into Shares of Our Common Stock	137
Description of Our Capital Stock	138
Description of Our Preferred Stock	145
Description of Our Warrants	146
Description of Our Debt Securities	147

<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	160
Custodian, Transfer and Distribution Paying Agent and Registrar	162
Brokerage Allocation and Other Practices	162
Legal Matters	162
Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	162
Available Information	163
Index to Financial Statements	F-1

#### **ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS**

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, using the shelf registration process. Under the shelf registration process, which constitutes a delayed offering in reliance on Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, we may offer, from time to time, in one or more offerings or series, up to \$1,000,000,000 of our common stock, preferred stock, debt securities, or warrants on the terms to be determined at the time of the offering. The securities may be offered at prices and on terms described in one or more supplements to this prospectus. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities that we may offer. Each time we use this prospectus to offer securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering. A prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. Please carefully read this prospectus and any such supplements together with any exhibits and the additional information described under Available Information and in the Summary and Risk Factors sections before you make an investment decision.

#### SUMMARY

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

We were formed in February 2007 as Solar Capital LLC, a Maryland limited liability company, and commenced operations in March 2007, after conducting a private placement of units of membership interest ( units ), with initial capital of \$1.2 billion of which 47.04% was funded by affiliated parties. On February 9, 2010, Solar Capital LLC was merged with and into Solar Capital Ltd., a Maryland corporation, which we refer to as the Solar Capital Merger, concurrent with the pricing of our initial public offering, leaving Solar Capital Ltd. as the surviving entity. Except where the context suggests otherwise, the terms we, us, our, the Company and Solar Capital Merger. In addition, the terms Solar Capital Partners or the investment adviser refer to Solar Capital Partners, LLC, and Solar Capital Management or the administrator refers to Solar Capital Management, LLC.

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

#### **Solar Capital**

Solar Capital Ltd., a Maryland corporation formed in November 2007, is a closed-end, externally managed, non-diversified management investment company that has elected to be regulated as a business development company (BDC) under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act). Furthermore, as the Company is an investment company, it continues to apply the guidance in the Financial Accounting Standard Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Topic 946. In addition, for tax purposes we have elected to be treated as a regulated investment company (RIC) under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code).

On February 9, 2010, we priced our initial public offering, selling 5.68 million shares of our common stock. Concurrent with our initial public offering, Michael S. Gross, our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, and Bruce Spohler, our Chief Operating Officer, collectively purchased an additional 0.6 million shares of our common stock through a private placement transaction exempt from registration under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act (the Concurrent Private Placement ).

We invest primarily in privately held U.S. middle-market companies, where we believe the supply of primary capital is limited and the investment opportunities are most attractive. Our investment objective is to generate both current income and capital appreciation through debt and equity investments. We invest primarily in leveraged middle-market companies in the form of senior secured loans, unitranche loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities. From time to time, we may also invest in public companies. Our business is focused primarily on the direct origination of investments through portfolio companies or their financial sponsors. Our investments generally range between \$5 million and \$100 million each, although we expect that this investment size will vary with the size of our capital base and/or strategic initiatives.

In addition, we may invest a portion of our portfolio in other types of investments, which we refer to as opportunistic investments, which are not our primary focus but are intended to enhance our overall returns. These

investments may include, but are not limited to, direct investments in public companies that are not thinly traded and securities of leveraged companies located in select countries outside of the United States. The securities that we invest in are typically rated below investment grade. Securities rated below investment grade are often referred to as leveraged loans, high yield or junk securities, and may be considered high risk compared to debt instruments that ar rated investment grade. In addition, some of our debt investments will not fully amortize during their lifetime, which could result in a loss or a substantial amount of unpaid principal and interest due upon maturity.

Our investment activities are managed by Solar Capital Partners and supervised by our board of directors, a majority of whom are non-interested, as such term is defined in the 1940 Act. Solar Capital Management provides the administrative services necessary for us to operate.

As of December 31, 2016, our investment portfolio totaled \$1.3 billion and our net asset value was \$918.5 million. Our portfolio was comprised of debt and equity investments in 63 portfolio companies with our portfolio of income producing investments having a weighted average annualized yield on a fair value and cost basis of approximately 10.0% and 10.4%, respectively. Portfolio yield does not represent an actual investment return to stockholders.

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, we invested approximately \$428 million in 35 portfolio companies. Investments sold or prepaid during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 totaled approximately \$488 million.

#### **Recent Developments**

On February 15, 2017, the Company closed a private offering of \$100 million of additional 2022 Unsecured Notes with a fixed interest rate of 4.60% and a maturity date of May 8, 2022. Interest on the 2022 Unsecured Notes is due semi-annually on May 8 and November 8. The 2022 Unsecured Notes were issued in a private placement only to qualified institutional buyers pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

On February 22, 2017, the Company, through its commitment to Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program III LLC (SSLP III), and Solar Senior formed Solar Life Science Program LLC (LSJV) with an affiliate of Deerfield Management. The Company is committing approximately \$50 million to LSJV.

On February 22, 2017, our Board declared a quarterly distribution of \$0.40 per share payable on April 4, 2017 to holders of record as of March 23, 2017.

#### **About Solar Capital Partners**

Solar Capital Partners, our investment adviser, is controlled and led by Michael S. Gross, our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, and Bruce Spohler, our Chief Operating Officer. They are supported by a team of dedicated investment professionals. Solar Capital Partners investment team has extensive experience in leveraged lending and private equity, as well as significant contacts with financial sponsors.

In addition, Solar Capital Partners serves as investment adviser to Solar Senior Capital Ltd., or Solar Senior, a publicly traded BDC that invests in the senior debt securities of leveraged middle-market companies similar to those we target for investment. Through December 31, 2016, investment team led by Messrs. Gross and Spohler has invested approximately \$6.0 billion in more than 265 different portfolio companies involving an aggregate of more than 165 different financial sponsors, through December 31, 2016. Since Solar Capital s

inception, these investment professionals have used their relationships in the middle-market financial sponsor and financial intermediary community to generate deal flow. As of March 10, 2017, Mr. Gross and Mr. Spohler beneficially owned, either directly or indirectly, approximately 5.7% and 5.2%, respectively, of our outstanding common stock.

Mr. Gross has over 25 years of experience in the private equity, distressed debt and mezzanine lending businesses and has been involved in originating, structuring, negotiating, consummating and managing private equity, distressed debt and mezzanine (i.e., actually or structurally subordinated) lending transactions. We also rely on the over 25 years of experience of Mr. Spohler, who has served as our Chief Operating Officer and a partner of Solar Capital Partners since its inception.

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

# **Market Opportunity**

Solar Capital invests primarily in senior secured loans, unitranche loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities of middle-market leveraged companies. We believe that the size of this market, coupled with leveraged companies need for flexible sources of capital at attractive terms and rates, creates an attractive investment environment for us. See Business Market Opportunity.

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

There is a large pool of uninvested private equity capital likely to seek additional capital to support their investments. We believe there is more than \$500 billion of uninvested private equity capital seeking debt financing to support acquisitions. We expect that middle-market private equity firms will continue to invest the approximately \$185 billion raised since 2000 in middle-market companies and that those private equity firms will seek to support their investments with mezzanine loans from sources such as Solar Capital.

*The significant amount of debt maturing through 2018 should provide additional demand for capital.* A high volume of financings were completed between the years 2004 and 2007, which are expected to mature over the next few years. We believe that this supply of prospective lending opportunities coupled with a lack of available credit in the middle-market lending space may offer attractive risk-adjusted returns to investors. Risk-adjusted return compares returns against the amount of risk incurred. The term risk-adjusted return does not imply that an investment is no risk or low risk.

*Investing in private middle-market debt provides an attractive risk reward profile.* In general, terms for illiquid, middle-market subordinated debt have been more attractive than those for larger corporations which are typically more liquid. We believe this is because fewer institutions are able to invest in illiquid asset classes.

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

#### **Competitive Advantages and Strategy**

We believe that we have the following competitive advantages over other providers of financing to leveraged companies. See Business Competitive Advantages and Strategy.

#### Management Expertise

As managing partner, Mr. Gross has principal management responsibility for Solar Capital Partners, to which he currently dedicates substantially all of his time. Mr. Gross has over 25 years of experience in leveraged finance, private equity and distressed debt investing. Mr. Spohler, our Chief Operating Officer and a partner of Solar Capital Partners, has over 25 years of experience in evaluating and executing leverage finance transactions.

#### **Investment Capacity**

The proceeds from our initial public offering and the Concurrent Private Placement, the borrowing capacity under the senior secured credit facility led by Citibank, N.A. (the Credit Facility ), our \$75 million senior secured notes (the Senior Secured Notes ), \$100 million of 6.75% senior unsecured notes due 2042 (the 2042 Unsecured Notes ), our \$50 million of 4.40% unsecured senior notes due 2022 (the 2022 Unsecured Notes ) and the expected repayments of existing investments provide us with a substantial amount of capital available for deployment into new investment opportunities. We believe we are well positioned for the current marketplace.

#### Solar Capital s Limited Leverage

As of December 31, 2016, we had total outstanding borrowings of approximately \$390.2 million. Under the provisions of the 1940 Act, we are permitted to issue senior securities in amounts such that our asset coverage ratio, as defined in the 1940 Act, equals at least 200% of gross assets less all liabilities and indebtedness not represented by senior securities, after each issuance of senior securities. As of December 31, 2016, our asset coverage ratio was 335.4%. We believe our relatively low level of leverage provides us with a competitive advantage, allowing us to anticipate providing a consistent distribution to our investors, as proceeds from our investments are available for reinvestment as opposed to being consumed by debt repayment. We may increase our relative level of debt in the future. However, we do not currently anticipate operating with a substantial amount of debt relative to our total assets.

# **Proprietary Sourcing and Origination**

We believe that Solar Capital Partners senior investment professionals longstanding relationships with financial sponsors, commercial and investment banks, management teams and other financial intermediaries provide us with a strong pipeline of proprietary origination opportunities. We expect to continue leveraging the relationships Mr. Gross established while sourcing and originating investments at Apollo Investment Corporation (Apollo) as well as the financial sponsor relationships Mr. Spohler developed while he was a co-head of CIBC World Markets U.S. Leveraged Finance Group.

Since its inception, Solar Capital Partners has sourced investments in more than 265 different portfolio companies involving an aggregate of more than 165 different financial sponsors, through December 31, 2016.

# Versatile Transaction Structuring and Flexibility of Capital

We believe Solar Capital Partners senior investment team s broad expertise and ability to draw upon its extensive experience enable us to identify, assess and structure investments successfully across all levels of a company s capital

# Table of Contents

structure and to manage potential risk and return at all stages of the economic cycle. The attempt to manage risk does not imply low risk or no risk. While we are subject to significant regulation as a BDC, we are not subject to many of the regulatory limitations that govern traditional lending institutions such as

banks. As a result, we believe that we can be more flexible than such lending institutions in selecting and structuring investments, adjusting investment criteria, transaction structures and, in some cases, the types of securities in which we invest.

#### Emphasis on Achieving Strong Risk-Adjusted Returns

Solar Capital Partners uses a structured investment and risk management process that emphasizes research and analysis. Solar Capital Partners seeks to build our portfolio on a bottom-up basis, choosing and sizing individual positions based on their relative risk/reward profiles as a function of the associated downside risk, volatility, correlation with the existing portfolio and liquidity. At the same time, Solar Capital Partners takes into consideration a variety of factors in managing our portfolio and imposes portfolio-based risk constraints promoting a more diverse portfolio of investments and limiting issuer and industry concentration. We do not pursue short-term origination targets. We believe this approach enables us to build an attractive investment portfolio that meets our return and value criteria over the long term. We believe it is critical to conduct extensive due diligence on investment targets. In evaluating new investments we, through Solar Capital Partners, conduct a rigorous due diligence process.

#### Deep Industry Focus with Substantial Information Flow

We concentrate our investing activities in industries characterized by strong cash flow and in which Solar Capital Partners investment professionals have deep investment experience. As a result of their investment experience, Messrs. Gross and Spohler, together with Solar Capital Partners other senior investment professionals, have long-term relationships with management consultants and management teams in the industries we target, as well as substantial information concerning those industries.

#### Longer Investment Horizon

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

#### **Summary Risk Factors**

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

We operate in a highly competitive market for investment opportunities;

Our investments are very risky and highly speculative;

The lack of liquidity in our investments may adversely affect our ability to meet our investment objectives;

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

Our investments in securities rated below investment grade are speculative in nature and are subject to additional risk factors such as increased possibility of default, illiqudity of the security, and changes in value based on changes in interest rates;

A disruption in the global and U.S. capital markets and the credit markets could impair our ability to raise money and negatively affect our business and harm our operating results;

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

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

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

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

The net asset value per share of our common stock may be diluted if we issue or sell shares of our common stock at prices below the then current net asset value per share of our common stock or securities to subscribe for or convertible into shares of our common stock;

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

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

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

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

We have and will continue to borrow money, which would magnify the potential for loss on amounts invested and may increase the risk of investing in us;

Our quarterly and annual operating results are subject to fluctuation as a result of the nature of our business, and if we fail to achieve our investment objective, the net asset value of our common stock may decline;

There will be uncertainty as to the value of our portfolio investments, which may impact our net asset value;

There are significant potential conflicts of interest, including Solar Capital Partners management of Solar Senior, which could impact our investment returns, and an investment in Solar Capital is not an investment in Solar Senior;

We may become subject to corporate-level U.S. federal income tax if we are unable to maintain our qualification as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code; and

The failure in cyber security systems, as well as the occurrence of events unanticipated in our disaster recovery systems and management continuity planning could impair our ability to conduct business effectively.

See Risk Factors beginning on page 17 and the other information included in this prospectus, for additional discussion of factors you should carefully consider before deciding to invest in our securities.

#### **Operating and Regulatory Structure**

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

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

#### **Our Corporate Information**

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

#### Offerings

We may offer, from time to time, in one or more offerings or series, up to \$1,000,000,000 of our common stock, preferred stock, debt securities, or warrants, on terms to be determined at the time of the offering. We will offer our securities at prices and on terms to be set forth in one or more supplements to this prospectus.

At our 2016 Annual Stockholders Meeting, our stockholders approved our ability to sell or otherwise issue shares of our common stock, not exceeding 25% of our then outstanding common stock immediately prior to each such offering, at a price or prices below the then current net asset value per share, in each case subject to the approval of our board of directors and compliance with the conditions set forth in the proxy statement pertaining thereto, during a period beginning on June 7, 2016 and expiring on the earlier of the one-year anniversary of the date of the 2016 Annual Stockholders Meeting and the date of our 2017 Annual Stockholders Meeting, which is expected to be held in May 2017. However, notwithstanding such stockholder approval, since our IPO on February 9, 2010, we have not sold any shares of our common stock in an offering that resulted in proceeds to us of less than our then current net asset value per share. Any offering of our common stock that requires stockholder approval must occur, if at all, within one year after receiving such stockholder approval. However, any such issuance of shares of our common stock below net asset value will be dilutive to the net asset value of our common stock. See Risk Factors Risks Relating to an Investment in Our Securities and Sale of Common Stock Below Net Asset Value.

The securities may be offered directly to one or more purchasers, or through agents designated from time to time by us, or to or through underwriters or dealers. The prospectus supplement relating to an offering will identify any agents or underwriters involved in the sale of the securities, and will disclose any applicable purchase price, fee, commission or discount arrangement between us and our agents or underwriters or among our underwriters or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated. See Plan of Distribution. We may not sell any of the securities through agents, underwriters or dealers without delivery of this prospectus and a prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the offering of such securities.

Set forth below is additional information regarding offerings of our common stock:

Use of Proceeds	Unless otherwise specified in a prospectus supplement, we intend to u the net proceeds from the sale of our securities for general corporate purposes, which includes, among other things, (a) investing in portfolic companies in accordance with our investment objective and strategies and market conditions and (b) repaying indebtedness. Each supplement to this prospectus relating to an offering will more fully identify the us of the proceeds from such offering. See Use of Proceeds.					
NASDAQ Global Select Market Symbol	SLRC					
Distributions	To the extent that we have income available, we intend to distribute quarterly distributions to our stockholders. The amount of our distributions, if any, will be determined by our board of directors. Any distributions to our stockholders will be declared out of assets legally available for distribution. The specific tax characteristics of our					

distributions will be reported to shareholders after the end of each calendar year. We may issue preferred stock from time to time, although we have no immediate intention to do so. If we issue shares

	of preferred stock, holders of such preferred stock will be entitled to receive cash distributions at an annual rate that will be fixed or will vary for the successive distribution periods for each series. In general, the distribution periods for fixed rate preferred stock will be quarterly.
Taxation	We have elected to be treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes, and intend to continue to qualify annually, as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code. As a RIC, we generally will not have to pay U.S. corporate-level federal income taxes on any ordinary income or capital gains that we distribute to our stockholders as dividends. To continue to maintain our RIC tax treatment, we must meet specified source-of-income and asset diversification requirements and distribute annually at least 90% of our ordinary income and realized net short-term capital gains in excess of realized net long-term capital losses, if any. See Plan of Distribution and Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations in this prospectus.
Leverage	We have historically and will in the future borrow funds to make investments. As a result, we will be exposed to the risks of leverage, which may be considered a speculative investment technique. The use of leverage magnifies the potential for loss on amounts invested and therefore increases the risks associated with investing in our securities. In addition, the costs associated with our borrowings, including any increase in the management fee payable to our investment adviser, Solar Capital Partners, will be borne by our common stockholders.
Investment Advisory Fees	We pay Solar Capital Partners a fee for its services under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement consisting of two components a base management fee and an incentive fee. The base management fee is calculated at an annual rate of 2.00% of our gross assets, which includes any borrowings for investment purposes. The incentive fee consists of two parts. The first part is calculated and payable quarterly in arrears and equals 20% of our pre-incentive fee net investment income for the immediately preceding quarter, subject to a preferred return, or hurdle, and a catch up feature. The second part is determined and payable in arrears as of the end of each calendar year (or upon termination of the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement) in an amount equal to 20% of our realized capital gains, if any, on a cumulative basis from inception through the end of each calendar year, computed net of all realized capital losses and unrealized capital depreciation on a cumulative basis, less the aggregate amount of any previously paid capital gain incentive fees. See Investment Advisory and Management Agreement in this prospectus.

Administration Agreement

We reimburse Solar Capital Management for the allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by Solar Capital Management in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, including furnishing us with office facilities, equipment and clerical, bookkeeping and record keeping services at such facilities, as well as

	providing us with other administrative services. In addition, we reimburse Solar Capital Management for the fees and expenses associated with performing compliance functions, and our allocable portion of the compensation of our chief financial officer and any administrative support staff. See Administration Agreement in this prospectus.
Trading	Shares of closed-end investment companies frequently trade at a discount to their net asset value. The risk that our shares may trade at a discount to our net asset value is separate and distinct from the risk that our net asset value per share may decline. We cannot predict whether our shares will trade above, at or below net asset value.
License Agreement	We have entered into a license agreement with Solar Capital Partners, pursuant to which Solar Capital Partners has agreed to grant us a non-exclusive license to use the name Solar Capital. See License Agreement in this prospectus.
Dividend Reinvestment Plan	We have adopted an opt out dividend reinvestment plan. If your shares of common stock are registered in your own name, your distributions will automatically be reinvested under our dividend reinvestment plan in additional whole and fractional shares of common stock, unless you opt out of our dividend reinvestment plan so as to receive cash dividends by delivering a written notice to our plan administrator. If your shares are held in the name of a broker or other nominee, you should contact the broker or nominee for details regarding opting out of our dividend reinvestment plan. Stockholders who receive distributions in the form of stock will be subject to the same federal, state and local tax consequences as stockholders who elect to receive their distributions in cash. See Dividend Reinvestment Plan in this prospectus.
Certain Anti-Takeover Measures	Our charter and bylaws, as well as certain statutory and regulatory requirements, contain certain provisions that may have the effect of discouraging a third party from making an acquisition proposal for us. These anti-takeover provisions may inhibit a change in control in circumstances that could give the holders of our common stock the opportunity to realize a premium over the market price for our common stock. See Description of Our Capital Stock in this prospectus.
Available Information	We are required to file periodic reports, current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. This information is available at the SEC s public reference room at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20549 and on the SEC s website at <i>http://www.sec.gov</i> . The public may

obtain information on the operation of the SEC s public reference room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. This information is also available free of charge by contacting us at Solar Capital Ltd., 500 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022, by telephone at (212) 993-1670 or on our website at *http://www.solarcapltd.com*.

#### FEES AND EXPENSES

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

Stockholder transaction expenses:	
Sales load (as a percentage of offering price)	%(1)
Offering expenses (as a percentage of offering price)	%(2)
Dividend reinvestment plan expenses	%(3)
Total stockholder transaction expenses (as a percentage of offering price)	%(2)
Annual expenses (as a percentage of net assets attributable to common stock) <sup>(4)</sup> :	
Base management fee	3.06%(5)
Incentive fees payable under our Investment Advisory and Management Agreement (up to 20%)	1.94%(6)
Interest payments on borrowed funds	2.67%(7)
Acquired fund fees and expenses	0.54%(8)
Other expenses (estimated)	1.12%(9)
Total annual expenses Example	9.33%

The following example demonstrates the projected dollar amount of total cumulative expenses that would be incurred over various periods with respect to a hypothetical investment in our common stock. In calculating the following expense amounts, we have assumed that our annual operating expenses would remain at the levels set forth in the table above and have excluded performance-based incentive fees. See Note 7 below for additional information regarding certain assumptions regarding our level of leverage. In the event that shares to which this prospectus relates are sold to or through underwriters, a corresponding prospectus supplement will restate this example to reflect the applicable sales load.

	1 Y	lear	3	lears	5	Years	10	Years
You would pay the following expenses on a \$1,000 investment,								
assuming a 5% annual return	\$	74	\$	217	\$	352	\$	665

(1) In the event that the shares of common stock to which this prospectus relates are sold to or through underwriters, a corresponding prospectus supplement will disclose the applicable sales load and the Example will be updated accordingly.

(2) The prospectus supplement corresponding to each offering will disclose the applicable offering expenses and total stockholder transaction expenses.

(3) The expenses of the dividend reinvestment plan are included in other expenses.

- (4) Annual Expenses are presented in this manner because common shareholders will bear all costs of running the Company.
- (5) Our 2% base management fee under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement is based on our gross assets, which is defined as all the assets of Solar Capital, excluding temporary assets, including those acquired using borrowings for investment purposes, and assumes the base management fee remains consistent with fees incurred for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016. See Investment Advisory and Management Agreement.
- (6) Assumes that annual incentive fees earned by our investment adviser, Solar Capital Partners, remain consistent with the incentive fees earned by Solar Capital Partners for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016. The incentive fee consists of two parts:

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

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

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

20% of the amount of our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income, if any, that exceeds 2.1875% in any calendar quarter (8.75% annualized) is payable to our investment adviser (once the Hurdle is reached and the catch-up is achieved, 20% of all Pre-Incentive Fee Investment Income thereafter is allocated to our investment adviser).

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

(7) We have historically and will in the future borrow funds from time to time to make investments to the extent we determine that the economic situation is conducive to doing so. The costs associated with our outstanding borrowings are indirectly born by our investors. For purposes of this section, we have computed interest expense using the average balance outstanding for all borrowings during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016. We used the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) rate on December 31, 2016 and the interest rate on the Credit Facility, the Senior Secured Notes, the 2042 Unsecured Notes and the 2022 Unsecured Notes on December 31, 2016. We senior Secured Notes, the 2042 Unsecured Notes and the 2022 Unsecured Notes as of December 31, 2016. Additionally, we included the estimated cost of commitment fees for unused balances on the Credit Facility. As of December 31, 2016, we had \$165.2 million outstanding under the Credit Facility, and we had \$75 million, \$100 million and \$50 million outstanding under the Senior Secured Notes, respectively. We may also issue preferred stock, subject to our compliance with applicable requirements under the 1940 Act.

- (8) The holders of shares of our common stock indirectly bear the expenses of our investments in Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program LLC (SSLP) and Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program II LLC (SSLP II). No management fee is charged on our investments in SSLP and SSLP II in connection with the administrative services provided to SSLP and SSLP II. Future expenses for SSLP and SSLP II may be substantially higher or lower because certain expenses may fluctuate over time.
- (9) Other expenses are based on the amounts incurred for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 and include our overhead expenses, including payments under our Administration Agreement based on our allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by Solar Capital Management in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement. See Administration Agreement.

The example and the expenses in the tables above should not be considered a representation of our future expenses, and actual expenses may be greater or less than those shown. While the example assumes, as required by the SEC, a 5% annual return, our performance will vary and may result in a return greater or less than 5%. The incentive fee under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, which, assuming a 5% annual return, would either not be payable or would have an insignificant impact on the expense amounts shown above, is not included in the example. This illustration assumes that we will not realize any capital gains (computed net of all realized capital losses and unrealized capital depreciation) in any of the indicated time periods. If we achieve sufficient returns on our investments, including through the realization of capital gains, to trigger an incentive fee of a material amount, our expenses and returns to our investors would be higher. For example, if we assumed that we received our 5% annual return completely in the form of net realized capital gains on our investments, computed net of all cumulative unrealized depreciation on our investments, the projected dollar amount of total cumulative expenses set forth in the above illustration would be as follows:

	1	Year	3	lears	5	Years	10	Years
You would pay the following expenses on a \$1,000 investment,								
assuming a 5% annual return	\$	84	\$	243	\$	392	\$	722
In addition, the example assumes no sales load. Also, while the example	le as	sumes	reinv	estmen	t of a	ll distril	butior	is at

net asset value, participants in our dividend reinvestment plan will receive a number of shares of our common stock, determined by dividing the total dollar amount of the distribution payable to a participant by the market price per share of our common stock at the close of trading on the distribution payment date, which may be at, above or below net asset value unless the company makes open market purchases and the shares received will be determined based on the average price paid by our agent, plus commissions. See Dividend Reinvestment Plan for additional information regarding our dividend reinvestment plan.

#### SELECTED FINANCIAL AND OTHER DATA

The selected financial and other data below should be read in conjunction with our Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto. Financial information is presented for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013 and 2012. Financial information for the periods ending December 31, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, and 2012 has been derived from our consolidated financial statements that were audited by KPMG LLP (KPMG), an independent registered public accounting firm. See Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and Senior Securities below for more information.

(\$ in thousands, except per share data)	Year ended December 31, 2016		Year ended December 31, 2015		Year ended December 31, 2014		Year ended December 31, 2013			ar ended ember 31, 2012
Income statement data:										
Total investment income	\$	151,839	\$	115,560	\$	121,937	\$	163,593	\$	153,253
Net expenses	\$	80,738	\$	51,204	\$	55,230	\$	78,658	\$	71,326
Net investment income	\$	71,101	\$	64,356	\$	66,707	\$	84,935	\$	81,927
Net realized gain (loss)	\$	776	\$	(4,874)	\$	(36,840)	\$	(44,425)	\$	(32,537)
Net change in unrealized gain										
(loss).	\$	34,938	\$	(45,402)	\$	18,585	\$	34,800	\$	66,371
Net increase in net assets resulting from operations <b>Per share data:</b>	\$	106,815	\$	14,080	\$	48,452	\$	75,310	\$	115,761
Net investment income(3)	\$	1.68	\$	1.52	\$	1.56	\$	1.91	\$	2.20
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)(3)	\$	0.84	\$	(1.18)	\$	(0.43)	\$	(0.22)	\$	0.91
Dividends and distributions	ψ	0.04	ψ	(1.10)	φ	(0.43)	φ	(0.22)	ψ	0.91
declared	\$	1.60	\$	1.60	\$	1.60	\$	2.00	\$	2.40

	п	As of December	т	As of December	1	As of December	I	As of December	Т	As of December
	D	31, 2016	I	31, 2015	1	31, 2014	1	31, 2013	1	31, 2012
Balance sheet data:										
Total investment portfolio	\$	1,304,778	\$	1,312,591	\$	1,020,738	\$	1,088,399	\$	1,395,522
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	312,046	\$	277,570	\$	635,340	\$	586,979	\$	15,039
Total assets	\$	1,650,547	\$	1,620,300	\$	1,686,334	\$	1,708,442	\$	1,430,403
Debt	\$	390,200	\$	432,900	\$	225,000	\$	225,000	\$	489,452
Net assets	\$	918,507	\$	882,698	\$	936,568	\$	995,637	\$	878,273
Per share data:										
Net asset value per share	\$	21.74	\$	20.79	\$	22.05	\$	22.50	\$	22.70
Other data (unaudited):										
Weighted average annualized										
yield on income producing										
investments(4):										
On fair value(1)		10.0%		10.5%		9.9%		11.3%		14.2%

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On cost(2)	10.4%	10.2%	10.4%	12.2%	14.2%			
Total return(5)	37.5%	(0.3%)	(13.6%)	2.8%	20.0%			
Number of portfolio								
companies at period end	63	54	43	40	40			

(1) Throughout this document, the weighted average yield on income producing investments is computed as the (a) annual stated interest on accruing loans and debt securities plus the annual amortization of loan origination fees, original issue discount, and market discount on accruing loans and debt securities, plus the effective interest yield on preferred shares divided by (b) total income producing investments at fair value. The weighted average yield is computed as of the balance sheet date and excludes assets on non-accrual status or on a cost recovery basis as of such date.

- (2) For this calculation, the weighted average yield on income producing investments is computed as the (a) annual stated interest on accruing loans and debt securities plus the annual amortization of loan origination fees, original issue discount, and market discount on accruing loans and debt securities, plus the effective interest yield on preferred shares divided by (b) total income producing investments at cost. The weighted average yield is computed as of the balance sheet date and excludes assets on non-accrual status or on a cost recovery basis as of such date.
- (3) The per-share calculations are based on weighted average shares of 42,258,143, 42,465,158, 42,888,232, 44,571,118 and 37,231,341 for the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.
- (4) The weighted average annualized yield on income producing investments does not represent a return to stockholders.
- (5) Total return is based on the change in market price per share during the year and takes into account dividends, if any, reinvested in accordance with the dividend reinvestment plan. Total return does not include a sales load. Selected Quarterly Financial Data (Unaudited)

#### (in thousands, except per share data)

The following tables set forth certain quarterly financial information for each of the quarters for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015. This information was derived from our unaudited consolidated financial statements. Results for any quarter are not necessarily indicative of results for the past fiscal year or for any future quarter.

	2016							
	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1				
Total investment income	\$ 36,638	\$ 39,798	\$41,369	\$ 34,033				
Net investment income	\$ 17,648	\$ 17,004	\$ 19,533	\$16,915				
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on assets	\$ 195	\$ 8,615	\$15,642	\$11,262				
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	\$ 17,843	\$ 25,619	\$35,175	\$28,177				
Earnings (loss) per share(1)	\$ 0.42	\$ 0.61	\$ 0.83	\$ 0.67				
Net asset value per share at the end of the quarter(2)	\$ 21.74	\$ 21.72	\$ 21.51	\$ 21.08				

	2015			
	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1
Total investment income	\$ 31,507	\$ 30,445	\$27,978	\$25,630
Net investment income	\$ 16,987	\$ 16,989	\$15,991	\$14,390
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on assets	\$(31,167)	\$(16,903)	\$ 1,285	\$ (3,491)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	\$(14,180)	\$ 86	\$17,276	\$ 10,899
Earnings (loss) per share(3)	\$ (0.33)	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.41	\$ 0.26
Net asset value per share at the end of the quarter(4)	\$ 20.79	\$ 21.52	\$ 21.92	\$ 21.91

(1) Based on 42,287,207, 42,248,525, 42,248,525 and 42,248,525 weighted average shares of Solar Capital Ltd. outstanding during first, second, third and fourth quarters of 2016, respectively.

(2) Based on 42,248,525, 42,248,525, 42,248,525 and 42,248,525 shares of Solar Capital Ltd. outstanding during first, second, third and fourth quarters of 2016, respectively.

(3) Based on 42,465,162, 42,465,162, 42,465,162 and 42,465,145 weighted average shares of Solar Capital Ltd. outstanding during first, second, third, and fourth quarters of 2015, respectively.

(4)

Based on 42,465,162, 42,465,162, 42,465,162 and 42,464,762 shares of Solar Capital Ltd. outstanding as of the end of the first, second, third and fourth quarters of 2015, respectively.

### **RISK FACTORS**

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

#### **Risks Related to Our Investments**

#### We operate in a highly competitive market for investment opportunities.

A number of entities compete with us to make the types of investments that we target in leveraged companies. We compete with other BDCs, public and private funds, commercial and investment banks, commercial financing companies and, to the extent they provide an alternative form of financing, private equity funds. Many of our competitors are substantially larger and have considerably greater financial, technical and marketing resources than we do. For example, some competitors may have a lower cost of funds and access to funding sources that are not available to us. In addition, some of our competitors may have higher risk tolerances or different risk assessments than we have, which could allow them to consider a wider variety of investments and establish more relationships and offer better pricing and a more flexible structure than we are able to do. Furthermore, many of our potential competitors are not subject to the regulatory restrictions that the 1940 Act imposes on us as a BDC. If we are unable to source attractive investments, we may hold a greater percentage of our assets in cash and cash equivalents than anticipated, which could impact potential returns on our portfolio. We cannot assure you that the competitive pressures we face will not have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. Also, as a result of this competition, we may not be able to take advantage of attractive investment opportunities from time to time, and we can offer no assurance that we will be able to identify and make investments that are consistent with our investment objective.

Participants in our industry compete on several factors, including price, flexibility in transaction structure, customer service, reputation, market knowledge and speed in-decision making. We do not seek to compete primarily based on the interest rates we will offer, and we believe that some of our competitors may make loans with interest rates that will be comparable to or lower than the rates we offer. We may lose investment opportunities if we do not match our competitors pricing, terms and structure. However, if we match our competitors pricing, terms and structure, we may experience decreased net interest income and increased risk of credit loss.

#### Our investments are very risky and highly speculative.

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

*Senior Secured Loans.* When we make a senior secured term loan investment in a portfolio company, we generally take a security interest in the available assets of the portfolio company, including the equity interests of its subsidiaries, which we expect to help mitigate the risk that we will not be repaid. However, there is a risk that the collateral securing our loans may decrease in value over time, may be difficult to sell in a timely manner, may be difficult to appraise and may fluctuate in value based upon the success of the business and market conditions, including as a result of the inability of the portfolio company to raise additional capital, and, in some circumstances, our lien could be subordinated to claims of other creditors. In addition, deterioration in a portfolio company s financial

condition and prospects, including its inability to raise additional capital, may be accompanied by deterioration in the value of the collateral for the loan. Consequently, the fact that a loan is secured does not guarantee that we will receive principal and interest payments according to the loan s terms, or at all, or that we will be able to collect on the loan should we be forced to enforce our remedies.

16

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

they may have difficulty accessing the capital markets to meet future capital needs, which may limit their ability to grow or to repay their outstanding indebtedness upon maturity. *The lack of liquidity in our investments may adversely affect our ability to meet our investment objectives.* 

We generally make investments in private companies. We invest and expect to continue investing in companies whose securities have no established trading market and whose securities are and will be subject to legal and other restrictions on resale or whose securities are and will be less liquid than are publicly-traded securities. Investments purchased by us that are liquid at the time of purchase may subsequently become illiquid due to events relating to the issuer of the investments, market events, economic conditions or investor perceptions. The illiquidity of our

investments may make it difficult for us to sell such investments if the need arises. In addition, if we are required to liquidate all or a portion of our portfolio quickly, we may realize significantly less than the value at which we have previously recorded our investments. As a result, we do not expect to achieve liquidity in our investments in the near-term. However, to maintain our qualification as a BDC and as a RIC, we may have to dispose of investments if we do not satisfy one or more of the applicable criteria under the respective regulatory frameworks. Domestic and foreign markets are complex and interrelated, so that events in one sector of the world markets or economy, or in one geographical region, can reverberate and have materially negative consequences for other market, economic or regional sectors in a manner that may not be foreseen and which may negatively impact the liquidity of our investments and materially harm our business. In addition, we may face other restrictions on our ability to liquidate an investment in a portfolio company to the extent that we have material non-public information regarding such portfolio company.

17

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

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

# Our investments in securities rated below investment grade are speculative in nature and are subject to additional risk factors such as increased possibility of default, illiquidity of the security, and changes in value based on changes in interest rates.

The securities that we invest in are typically rated below investment grade. Securities rated below investment grade are often referred to as leveraged loans, high yield or junk securities, and may be considered high risk compared to debt instruments that are rated investment grade. High yield securities are regarded as having predominantly speculative characteristics with respect to the issuer s capacity to pay interest and repay principal in accordance with the terms of the obligations and involve major risk exposure to adverse conditions. In addition, high yield securities generally offer a higher current yield than that available from higher grade issues, but typically involve greater risk. These securities are especially sensitive to adverse changes in general economic conditions, to changes in the financial condition of their issuers and to price fluctuation in response to changes in interest rates. During periods of economic downturn or rising interest rates, issuers of below investment grade instruments may experience financial stress that could adversely affect their ability to make payments of principal and interest and increase the possibility of default. The secondary market for high yield securities may not be as liquid as the secondary market for more highly rated securities. In addition, many of our debt investments will not fully amortize during their lifetime, which could result in a loss or a substantial amount of unpaid principal and interest due upon maturity.

# Price declines and illiquidity in the corporate debt markets have adversely affected, and may continue to adversely affect, the fair value of our portfolio investments, reducing our net asset value through increased net unrealized depreciation. Any unrealized depreciation that we experience on our loan portfolio may be an indication of future realized losses, which could reduce our income available for distribution and could adversely affect our ability to service our outstanding borrowings.

As a BDC, we are required to carry our investments at market value or, if no market value is ascertainable, at fair value as determined in good faith by or under the direction of our board of directors. Decreases in the market values or fair values of our investments are recorded as unrealized depreciation. Any unrealized depreciation in our loan portfolio could be an indication of a portfolio company s inability to meet its repayment obligations to us with respect to the affected loans. This could result in realized losses in the future and ultimately in reductions of our income available for distribution in future periods and could materially adversely affect our ability to service our outstanding borrowings. Depending on market conditions, we could incur substantial losses in future periods, which could further reduce our net asset value and have a material adverse impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

### Global economic, political and market conditions may adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition, including our revenue growth and profitability.

### Table of Contents

The current worldwide financial market situation, as well as various social and political tensions in the United States and around the world, may contribute to increased market volatility, may have long-term effects on

the U.S. and worldwide financial markets, and may cause economic uncertainties or deterioration in the United States and worldwide. The U.S. and global capital markets experienced extreme volatility and disruption during the economic downturn that began in mid-2007, and the U.S. economy was in a recession for several consecutive calendar quarters during the same period. In 2010, a financial crisis emerged in Europe, triggered by high budget deficits and rising direct and contingent sovereign debt, which created concerns about the ability of certain nations to continue to service their sovereign debt obligations. Risks resulting from such debt crisis, including any austerity measures taken in exchange for bailout of certain nations, and any future debt crisis in Europe or any similar crisis elsewhere could have a detrimental impact on the global economic recovery, sovereign and non-sovereign debt in certain countries and the financial condition of financial institutions generally. In June 2016, the United Kingdom held a referendum in which voters approved an exit from the European Union (Brexit), and, accordingly, on February 1, 2017, the U.K. Parliament voted in favor of allowing the U.K. government to begin the formal process of Brexit. Brexit created political and economic uncertainty and instability in the global markets (including currency and credit markets), and especially in the United Kingdom and the European Union, and this uncertainty and instability may last indefinitely. There is continued concern about national-level support for the Euro and the accompanying coordination of fiscal and wage policy among European Economic and Monetary Union member countries. In addition, the fiscal and monetary policies of foreign nations, such as Russia and China, may have a severe impact on the worldwide and U.S. financial markets.

As a result of the 2016 U.S. election, the Republican Party currently controls both the executive and legislative branches of government, which increases the likelihood that legislation may be adopted that could significantly affect the regulation of U.S. financial markets. Areas subject to potential change, amendment or repeal include the Dodd-Frank Act and the authority of the Federal Reserve and the Financial Stability Oversight Council. The United States may also potentially withdraw from or renegotiate various trade agreements and take other actions that would change current trade policies of the United States. We cannot predict which, if any, of these actions will be taken or, if taken, their effect on the financial stability of the United States. Such actions could have a significant adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. We cannot predict the effects of these or similar events in the future on the U.S. economy and securities markets or on our investments. We monitor developments and seek to manage our investments in a manner consistent with achieving our investment objective, but there can be no assurance that we will be successful in doing so.

### Volatility or a prolonged disruption in the credit markets could materially damage our business.

We are required to record our assets at fair value, as determined in good faith by our board of directors, in accordance with our valuation policy. As a result, volatility in the capital markets may have a material adverse effect on our valuations and our net asset value, even if we hold investments to maturity. Volatility or dislocation in the capital markets may depress our stock price below our net asset value per share and create a challenging environment in which to raise equity and debt capital. These conditions could continue for a prolonged period of time or worsen in the future. While these conditions persist, we and other companies in the financial services sector may have to access, if available, alternative markets for debt and equity capital. Equity capital may be difficult to raise because, subject to some limited exceptions which apply to us, as a BDC we are generally not able to issue additional shares of our common stock at a price less than net asset value without first obtaining approval for such issuance from our stockholders and our independent directors. At our 2016 Annual Stockholders Meeting, our stockholders approved our ability to sell or otherwise issue shares of our common stock, not exceeding 25% of our then outstanding common stock immediately prior to each such offering, at a price or prices below the then current net asset value per share, in each case subject to the approval of our board of directors and compliance with the conditions set forth in the proxy statement pertaining thereto, during a period beginning on June 7, 2016 and expiring on the earlier of the one-year anniversary of the date of the 2016 Annual Stockholders Meeting and the date of our 2017 Annual Stockholders Meeting, which is expected to be held in May 2017. However, notwithstanding such stockholder approval, since our

initial public offering on February 9, 2010, we have not sold any shares of our common stock in an offering that resulted in proceeds to us of less than our then current net asset value per share. Any offering of our common stock that requires stockholder approval must occur, if at all, within one year after receiving such stockholder approval. In addition,

19

our ability to incur indebtedness (including by issuing preferred stock) is limited by applicable regulations such that our asset coverage, as defined in the 1940 Act, must equal at least 200% immediately after each time we incur indebtedness. The debt capital that will be available, if at all, may be at a higher cost and on less favorable terms and conditions in the future. Any inability to raise capital could have a negative effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Additionally, our ability to incur indebtedness is limited by the asset coverage ratio for a BDC, as defined under the 1940 Act. Declining portfolio values negatively impact our ability to borrow additional funds because our net asset value is reduced for purposes of the asset coverage ratio. If the fair value of our assets declines substantially, we may fail to maintain the asset coverage ratio stipulated by the 1940 Act, which could, in turn, cause us to lose our status as a BDC and materially impair our business operations. A lengthy disruption in the credit markets could also materially decrease demand for our investments.

The significant disruption in the capital markets experienced in the past has had, and may in the future have, a negative effect on the valuations of our investments and on the potential for liquidity events involving our investments. The debt capital that may be available to us in the future may be at a higher cost and have less favorable terms and conditions than those currently in effect. If our financing costs increase and we have no increase in interest income, then our net investment income will decrease. A prolonged inability to raise capital may require us to reduce the volume of investments we originate and could have a material adverse impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations. This may also increase the probability that other structural risks negatively impact us. These situations may arise due to circumstances that we may be unable to control, such as a lengthy disruption in the credit markets, a severe decline in the value of the U.S. dollar, a sharp economic downturn or recession or an operational problem that affects third parties or us, and could materially damage our business, financial condition and results of operations.

### If we cannot obtain additional capital because of either regulatory or market price constraints, we could be forced to curtail or cease our new lending and investment activities, our net asset value could decrease and our level of distributions and liquidity could be affected adversely.

Our ability to secure additional financing and satisfy our financial obligations under indebtedness outstanding from time to time will depend upon our future operating performance, which is subject to the prevailing general economic and credit market conditions, including interest rate levels and the availability of credit generally, and financial, business and other factors, many of which are beyond our control. The worsening of current economic and capital market conditions could have a material adverse effect on our ability to secure financing on favorable terms, if at all.

If we are unable to obtain debt capital, then our equity investors will not benefit from the potential for increased returns on equity resulting from leverage to the extent that our investment strategy is successful and we may be limited in our ability to make new commitments or fundings to our portfolio companies.

### Uncertainty relating to the LIBOR calculation process may adversely affect the value of our portfolio of the LIBOR-indexed, floating-rate debt securities.

In the recent past, concerns have been publicized that some of the member banks surveyed by the British Bankers Association (BBA) in connection with the calculation of LIBOR across a range of maturities and currencies may have been under-reporting or otherwise manipulating the inter-bank lending rate applicable to them in order to profit on their derivatives positions or to avoid an appearance of capital insufficiency or adverse reputational or other consequences that may have resulted from reporting inter-bank lending rates higher than those they actually submitted. A number of BBA member banks have entered into settlements with their regulators and law enforcement

agencies with respect to alleged manipulation of LIBOR, and investigations by regulators and governmental authorities in various jurisdictions are ongoing.

Actions by the BBA, regulators or law enforcement agencies may result in changes to the manner in which LIBOR is determined. Uncertainty as to the nature of such potential changes may adversely affect the market for

20

LIBOR-based securities, including our portfolio of LIBOR-indexed, floating-rate debt securities. In addition, any further changes or reforms to the determination or supervision of LIBOR may result in a sudden or prolonged increase or decrease in reported LIBOR, which could have an adverse impact on the market for LIBOR-based securities or the value of our portfolio of LIBOR-indexed, floating-rate debt securities.

### Economic recessions or downturns could impair the ability of our portfolio companies to repay loans and harm our operating results.

Many of our portfolio companies may be susceptible to economic slowdowns or recessions and may be unable to repay our loans during these periods. Therefore, our non-performing assets may increase and the value of our portfolio may decrease during these periods as we are required to record the values of our investments. Adverse economic conditions also may decrease the value of collateral securing some of our loans and the value of our equity investments at fair value. Economic slowdowns or recessions could lead to financial losses in our portfolio and a decrease in revenues, net income and assets. Unfavorable economic conditions also could increase our funding costs, limit our access to the capital markets or result in a decision by lenders not to extend credit to us. These events could prevent us from increasing investments and result in our receipt of a reduced level of interest income from our portfolio companies and/or losses or charge offs related to our investments, and, in turn, may adversely affect distributable income and have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

A portfolio company s failure to satisfy financial or operating covenants imposed by us or other lenders could lead to defaults and, potentially, acceleration of the time when the loans are due and foreclosure on its secured assets, which could trigger cross-defaults under other agreements and jeopardize the portfolio company s ability to meet its obligations under the debt that we hold. We may incur additional expenses to the extent necessary to seek recovery upon default or to negotiate new terms with a defaulting portfolio company. In addition, if one of our portfolio companies were to go bankrupt, depending on the facts and circumstances, including the extent to which we actually provided significant managerial assistance to that portfolio company, a bankruptcy court might re-characterize our debt holdings and subordinate all or a portion of our claim to that of other creditors.

These portfolio companies may face intense competition, including competition from companies with greater financial resources, more extensive research and development, manufacturing, marketing and service capabilities and greater number of qualified and experienced managerial and technical personnel. They may need additional financing which they are unable to secure and which we are unable or unwilling to provide, or they may be subject to adverse developments unrelated to the technologies they acquire.

### We may suffer a loss if a portfolio company defaults on a loan and the underlying collateral is not sufficient.

In the event of a default by a portfolio company on a secured loan, we will only have recourse to the assets collateralizing the loan. If the underlying collateral value is less than the loan amount, we will suffer a loss. In addition, we sometimes make loans that are unsecured, which are subject to the risk that other lenders may be directly secured by the assets of the portfolio company. In the event of a default, those collateralized lenders would have priority over us with respect to the proceeds of a sale of the underlying assets. In cases described above, we may lack control over the underlying asset collateralizing our loan or the underlying assets of the portfolio company prior to a default, and as a result the value of the collateral may be reduced by acts or omissions by owners or managers of the assets.

In the event of bankruptcy of a portfolio company, we may not have full recourse to its assets in order to satisfy our loan, or our loan may be subject to equitable subordination. In addition, certain of our loans are subordinate to other debt of the portfolio company. If a portfolio company defaults on our loan or on debt senior to our loan, or in the event

### Table of Contents

of a portfolio company bankruptcy, our loan will be satisfied only after the senior debt receives payment. Where debt senior to our loan exists, the presence of inter-creditor arrangements may limit our

ability to amend our loan documents, assign our loans, accept prepayments, exercise our remedies (through standstill periods) and control decisions made in bankruptcy proceedings relating to the portfolio company. Bankruptcy and portfolio company litigation can significantly increase collection losses and the time needed for us to acquire the underlying collateral in the event of a default, during which time the collateral may decline in value, causing us to suffer further losses.

If the value of collateral underlying our loan declines or interest rates increase during the term of our loan, a portfolio company may not be able to obtain the necessary funds to repay our loan at maturity through refinancing. Decreasing collateral value and/or increasing interest rates may hinder a portfolio company s ability to refinance our loan because the underlying collateral cannot satisfy the debt service coverage requirements necessary to obtain new financing. If a borrower is unable to repay our loan at maturity, we could suffer a loss which may adversely impact our financial performance.

# The business, financial condition and results of operations of our portfolio companies could be adversely affected by worldwide economic conditions, as well as political and economic conditions in the countries in which they conduct business.

The business and operating results of our portfolio companies may be impacted by worldwide economic conditions. Although the U.S. economy has in recent years shown signs of recovery from the 2008 2009 global recession, the strength and duration of any economic recovery will be impacted by worldwide economic growth. For instance, concerns of economic slowdown in China and other emerging markets and signs of deteriorating sovereign debt conditions in Europe could lead to disruption and instability in the global financial markets. The significant debt in the United States and European countries is expected to hinder growth in those countries for the foreseeable future. In the future, the U.S. government may not be able to meet its debt payments unless the federal debt ceiling is raised. The federal debt limit has been suspended since November 2, 2015, but the limit is set to be reinstated on March 15, 2017. If legislation increasing the debt ceiling is not enacted, as needed, and the debt ceiling is reached, the U.S. federal government may stop or delay making payments on its obligations, which could negatively impact the U.S. economy and our portfolio companies. Multiple factors relating to the international operations of some of our portfolio companies in which they operate could negatively impact their business, financial condition and results of operations.

Some of the products of our portfolio companies are developed, manufactured, assembled, tested or marketed outside the United States. Any conflict or uncertainty in these countries, including due to natural disasters, public health concerns, political unrest or safety concerns, could harm their business, financial condition and results of operations. In addition, if the government of any country in which their products are developed, manufactured or sold sets technical or regulatory standards for products developed or manufactured in or imported into their country that are not widely shared, it may lead some of their customers to suspend imports of their products with different technical or regulatory standards and disrupt cross-border manufacturing, marketing or business relationships which, in each case, could harm their businesses.

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

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

investments, subject to the availability of capital resources. The failure to make follow-on investments may, in some circumstances, jeopardize the continued viability of a portfolio company and our initial investment, or may result in a missed opportunity for us to increase our participation in a

successful operation. Even if we have sufficient capital to make a desired follow-on investment, we may elect not to make a follow-on investment because we may not want to increase our concentration of risk, either because we prefer other opportunities or because we are subject to BDC requirements that would prevent such follow-on investments or the desire to maintain our RIC tax status.

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

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

### Prepayments of our debt investments by our portfolio companies could adversely impact our results of operations and reduce our return on equity.

We are subject to the risk that the investments we make in our portfolio companies may be prepaid prior to maturity. When this occurs, we may reduce our borrowings outstanding or reinvest these proceeds in temporary investments, pending their future investment in new portfolio companies. These temporary investments, if any, will typically have substantially lower yields than the debt investment being prepaid and we could experience significant delays in reinvesting these amounts. Any future investment in a new portfolio company may also be at lower yields than the debt investment in a new portfolio company may also be at lower yields than the debt investment that was prepaid. As a result, our results of operations could be materially adversely affected if one or more of our portfolio companies elect to prepay amounts owed to us. Additionally, prepayments could negatively impact our return on equity, which could result in a decline in the market price of our common stock.

### We may choose to waive or defer enforcement of covenants in the debt securities held in our portfolio, which may cause us to lose all or part of our investment in these companies.

We structure the debt investments in our portfolio companies to include business and financial covenants placing affirmative and negative obligations on the operation of the company s business and its financial condition. However, from time to time we may elect to waive breaches of these covenants, including our right to payment, or waive or defer enforcement of remedies, such as acceleration of obligations or foreclosure on collateral, depending upon the financial condition and prospects of the particular portfolio company. These actions may reduce the likelihood of our receiving the full amount of future payments of interest or principal and be accompanied by a deterioration in the value of the underlying collateral as many of these companies may have limited financial resources, may be unable to meet future obligations and may go bankrupt. This could negatively impact our ability to pay distributions, could adversely affect our results of operation and financial condition and cause the loss of all or part of your investment.

### Our loans could be subject to equitable subordination by a court which would increase our risk of loss with respect to such loans.

Courts may apply the doctrine of equitable subordination to subordinate the claim or lien of a lender against a borrower to claims or liens of other creditors of the borrower, when the lender or its affiliates is found to have engaged in unfair, inequitable or fraudulent conduct. The courts have also applied the doctrine of equitable subordination when

a lender or its affiliates is found to have exerted inappropriate control over a client, including

control resulting from the ownership of equity interests in a client. We have made direct equity investments or received warrants in connection with loans. Payments on one or more of our loans, particularly a loan to a client in which we may also hold an equity interest, may be subject to claims of equitable subordination. If we were deemed to have the ability to control or otherwise exercise influence over the business and affairs of one or more of our portfolio companies resulting in economic hardship to other creditors of that company, this control or influence may constitute grounds for equitable subordination and a court may treat one or more of our loans as if it were unsecured or common equity in the portfolio company. In that case, if the portfolio company were to liquidate, we would be entitled to repayment of our loan on a pro-rata basis with other unsecured debt or, if the effect of subordination was to place us at the level of common equity, then on an equal basis with other holders of the portfolio company s common equity only after all of its obligations relating to its debt and preferred securities had been satisfied.

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

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

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

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

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

Our investment strategy contemplates potential investments in debt securities of foreign companies. Investing in foreign companies may expose us to additional risks not typically associated with investing in U.S. companies. These risks include changes in exchange control regulations, political and social instability, expropriation, imposition of foreign taxes, less liquid markets and less available information than is generally the case in the United States, higher transaction costs, less government supervision of exchanges, brokers and issuers, less developed bankruptcy laws,

difficulty in enforcing contractual obligations, lack of uniform accounting and auditing standards and greater price volatility.

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

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

If we engage in hedging transactions, we may expose ourselves to risks associated with such transactions. We may utilize instruments such as forward contracts, currency options and interest rate swaps, caps, collars and floors to seek to hedge against fluctuations in the relative values of our portfolio positions from changes in currency exchange rates and market interest rates. Hedging against a decline in the values of our portfolio positions does not eliminate the possibility of fluctuations in the values of such positions or prevent losses if the values of such positions decline. However, such hedging can establish other positions designed to gain from those same developments, thereby offsetting the decline in the value of such portfolio positions. Such hedging transactions may also limit the opportunity for gain if the values of the underlying portfolio positions should increase. It may not be possible to hedge against an exchange rate or interest rate fluctuation that is so generally anticipated that we are not able to enter into a hedging transaction at an acceptable price.

The success of our hedging transactions will depend on our ability to correctly predict movements in currencies and interest rates. Therefore, while we may enter into such transactions to seek to reduce currency exchange rate and interest rate risks, unanticipated changes in currency exchange rates or interest rates may result in poorer overall investment performance than if we had not engaged in any such hedging transactions. In addition, the degree of correlation between price movements of the instruments used in a hedging strategy and price movements in the portfolio positions being hedged may vary. Moreover, for a variety of reasons, we may not seek to establish a perfect correlation may prevent us from achieving the intended hedge and expose us to risk of loss. In addition, it may not be possible to hedge fully or perfectly against currency fluctuations affecting the value of securities denominated in non-U.S. currencies because the value of those securities is likely to fluctuate as a result of factors not related to currency fluctuations. To the extent we engage in hedging transactions, we also face the risk that counterparties to the derivative instruments we hold may default, which may expose us to unexpected losses from positions where we believed that our risk had been appropriately hedged.

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

Although in the past our senior investment professionals held senior positions at a number of investment firms, their track record and achievements are not necessarily indicative of future results that will be achieved by our investment adviser. In their roles at such other firms, our senior investment professionals were part of investment teams, and they were not solely responsible for generating investment ideas. In addition, such investment teams arrived at investment decisions by consensus.

### **Risks Relating to an Investment in Our Securities**

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

Shares of BDCs may trade at a market price that is less than the net asset value that is attributable to those shares. The possibility that our shares of common stock will trade at a substantial discount from net asset value over the long term is separate and distinct from the risk that our net asset value will decrease. We cannot predict

whether shares of our common stock will trade above, at or below our net asset value in the future. If our common stock trades below its net asset value, we will generally not be able to issue additional shares or sell our common stock at its market price without first obtaining the approval for such issuance from our stockholders and our independent directors. At our 2016 Annual Stockholders Meeting, our stockholders approved our ability to sell or otherwise issue shares of our common stock, not exceeding 25% of our then outstanding common stock immediately prior to each such offering, at a price or prices below the then current net asset value per share, in each case subject to the approval of our board of directors and compliance with the conditions set forth in the proxy statement pertaining thereto, during a period beginning on June 7, 2016 and expiring on the earlier of the one-year anniversary of the date of the 2016 Annual Stockholders Meeting and the date of our 2017 Annual Stockholders Meeting, which is expected to be held in May 2017. However, notwithstanding such stockholder approval, since our initial public offering on February 9, 2010, we have not sold any shares of our common stock in an offering that resulted in proceeds to us of less than our then current net asset value per share. Any offering of our common stock that requires stockholder approval must occur, if at all, within one year after receiving such stockholder approval. If additional funds are not available to us, we could be forced to curtail or cease our new lending and investment activities, and our net asset value could decrease and our level of distributions could be impacted.

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

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

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

investor demand for our shares;

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

exclusion of our common stock from certain market indices, such as the Russell 2000 Financial Services Index, which could reduce the ability of certain investment funds to own our common stock and put short-term selling pressure on our common stock;

changes in regulatory policies or tax guidelines with respect to RICs or BDCs;

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

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

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

departures of Solar Capital Partners key personnel;

operating performance of companies comparable to us;

changes in the prevailing interest rates;

loss of a major funding source; or

### general economic conditions and trends and other external factors. Our business and operation could be negatively affected if we become subject to any securities litigation or shareholder activism, which could cause us to incur significant expense, hinder execution of investment strategy and impact our stock price.

In the past, following periods of volatility in the market price of a company s securities, securities class action litigation has often been brought against that company. Shareholder activism, which could take many

26

forms or arise in a variety of situations, has been increasing in the BDC space recently. While we are currently not subject to any securities litigation or shareholder activism, due to the potential volatility of our stock price and for a variety of other reasons, we may in the future become the target of securities litigation or shareholder activism. Securities litigation and shareholder activism, including potential proxy contests, could result in substantial costs and divert management s and our board of directors attention and resources from our business. Additionally, such securities litigation and shareholder activism could give rise to perceived uncertainties as to our future, adversely affect our relationships with service providers and make it more difficult to attract and retain qualified personnel. Also, we may be required to incur significant legal fees and other expenses related to any securities litigation and activist shareholder matters. Further, our stock price could be subject to significant fluctuation or otherwise be adversely affected by the events, risks and uncertainties of any securities litigation and shareholder activism.

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

We intend to make distributions on a quarterly basis to our stockholders out of assets legally available for distribution. We cannot assure you that we will achieve investment results that will allow us to make a specified level of cash distributions or year-to-year increases in cash distributions. In addition, due to the asset coverage test applicable to us as a BDC, we may be limited in our ability to make distributions. To the extent we make distributions to stockholders which include a return of capital, that portion of the distribution essentially constitutes a return of the stockholders investment. Although such return of capital may not be taxable, such distributions may increase an investor s tax liability for capital gains upon the future sale of our common stock.

As a RIC, if we do not distribute a certain percentage of our income annually, we may suffer adverse tax consequences, including possibly losing the U.S. federal income tax benefits allowable to RICs. We cannot assure you that you will receive distributions at a particular level or at all.

### We may choose to pay distributions in our own common stock, in which case our stockholders may be required to pay U.S. federal income taxes in excess of the cash distributions they receive.

We may distribute taxable distributions that are payable in cash or shares of our common stock at the election of each stockholder. Under certain applicable provisions of the Code and the Treasury regulations, distributions payable in cash or in shares of stock at the election of stockholders are treated as taxable distributions. The Internal Revenue Service has issued private rulings indicating that this rule will apply even where the total amount of cash that may be distributed is limited to no more than 20% of the total distribution. Under these rulings, if too many stockholders elect to receive their distributions in cash, each such stockholder would receive a pro rata share of the total cash to be distributed and would receive the remainder of their distribution in shares of stock. If we decide to make any distributions consistent with these rulings that are payable in part in our stock, taxable stockholders receiving such distributions will be required to include the full amount of the distribution (whether received in cash, our stock, or a combination thereof) as ordinary income (or as long-term capital gain to the extent such distribution is properly reported as a capital gain distribution) to the extent of our current and accumulated earnings and profits for U.S. federal income tax purposes. As a result, a U.S. stockholder may be required to pay tax with respect to such distributions in excess of any cash received. If a U.S. stockholder sells the stock it receives as a distribution in order to pay this tax, the sales proceeds may be less than the amount included in income with respect to the distribution, depending on the market price of our stock at the time of the sale. Furthermore, with respect to non-U.S. stockholders, we may be required to withhold U.S. tax with respect to such distributions, including in respect of all or a portion of such distribution that is payable in stock. In addition, if a significant number of our stockholders determine to sell shares of our stock in order to pay taxes owed on distributions, it may put downward pressure on the trading price of our stock.

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

The shares of our common stock beneficially owned by each of Messrs. Gross and Spohler immediately prior to completion of our initial public offering, including any shares that are attributable to such shares issued pursuant to our dividend reinvestment plan, are no longer subject to lock-up restrictions that each of Messrs. Gross and Spohler agreed to in connection with our initial public offering, and are generally available for resale without restriction, subject to the provisions of Rule 144 promulgated under the Securities Act. In addition, on November 30, 2010, Messrs. Gross and Spohler jointly acquired 115,000 shares of our common stock in a private placement transaction conducted in accordance with Regulation D under the Securities Act. Such shares have been registered with the SEC and are generally available for resale. Sales of substantial amounts of our common stock, or the availability of such common stock for sale, could adversely affect the prevailing market prices for our common stock. If this occurs and continues, it could impair our ability to raise additional capital through the sale of securities should we desire to do so.

### We may be unable to invest the net proceeds raised from any offerings on acceptable terms or allocate net proceeds from any offering of our securities in ways with which you may not agree.

We cannot assure you that we will be able to find enough appropriate investments that meet our investment criteria or that any investment we complete using the proceeds from any securities offering will produce a sufficient return. Until we identify new investment opportunities, we intend to either invest the net proceeds of future offerings in cash equivalents, U.S. Government securities and other high-quality debt investments that mature in one year or less or use the net proceeds from such offerings to reduce then-outstanding obligations.

We have significant flexibility in investing the net proceeds of any offering of our securities and may use the net proceeds from an offering in ways with which you may not agree or for purposes other than those contemplated at the time of the offering.

# The net asset value per share of our common stock may be diluted if we issue or sell shares of our common stock at prices below the then current net asset value per share of our common stock or securities to subscribe for or convertible into shares of our common stock.

At our 2016 Annual Stockholders Meeting, our stockholders approved our ability to sell or otherwise issue shares of our common stock, not exceeding 25% of our then outstanding common stock immediately prior to each such offering, at a price or prices below the then current net asset value per share, in each case subject to the approval of our board of directors and compliance with the conditions set forth in the proxy statement pertaining thereto, during a period beginning on June 7, 2016 and expiring on the earlier of the one-year anniversary of the date of the 2016 Annual Stockholders Meeting and the date of our 2017 Annual Stockholders Meeting, which is expected to be held in May 2017. However, notwithstanding such stockholder approval, since our initial public offering on February 9, 2010, we have not sold any shares of our common stock in an offering that resulted in proceeds to US of less than our then current net asset value per share. Any offering of our common stock that requires stockholder approval must occur, if at all, within one year after receiving such stockholder approval.

In addition, at our 2011 Annual Stockholders Meeting, our stockholders authorized us to sell or otherwise issue warrants or securities to subscribe for or convertible into shares of our common stock subject to certain limitations (including, without limitation, that the number of shares issuable does not exceed 25% of our then outstanding common stock and that the exercise or conversion price thereof is not, at the date of issuance, less than the market value per share of our common stock). Such authorization has no expiration.

We may also use newly issued shares to implement our dividend reinvestment plan, whether our shares are trading at a premium or at a discount to our then current net asset value per share. Any decision to issue or sell shares of our common stock below our then current net asset value per share or securities to subscribe for or convertible into shares of our common stock would be subject to the determination by our board of directors that such issuance or sale is in our and our stockholders best interests.

28

If we were to issue or sell shares of our common stock below our then current net asset value per share, such issuances or sales would result in an immediate dilution to the net asset value per share of our common stock. This dilution would occur as a result of the issuance or sale of shares at a price below the then current net asset value per share of our common stock and a proportionately greater decrease in the stockholders interest in our earnings and assets and their voting interest in us than the increase in our assets resulting from such issuance or sale. Because the number of shares of common stock that could be so issued and the timing of any issuance is not currently known, the actual dilutive effect cannot be predicted.

In addition, if we issue warrants or securities to subscribe for or convertible into shares of our common stock, subject to certain limitations, the exercise or conversion price per share could be less than net asset value per share at the time of exercise or conversion (including through the operation of anti-dilution protections). Because we would incur expenses in connection with any issuance of such securities, such issuance could result in a dilution of the net asset value per share at the time of exercise or conversion. This dilution would include reduction in net asset value per share as a result of the proportionately greater decrease in the stockholders interest in our earnings and assets and their voting interest than the increase in our assets resulting from such issuance.

Further, if our current stockholders do not purchase any shares to maintain their percentage interest, regardless of whether such offering is above or below the then current net asset value per share, their voting power will be diluted. For example, if we sell an additional 10% of our common shares at a 5% discount from net asset value, a stockholder who does not participate in that offering for its proportionate interest will suffer net asset value dilution of up to 0.5% or \$5 per \$1,000 of net asset value.

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

#### If we issue preferred stock, the net asset value and market value of our common stock may become more volatile.

We cannot assure you that the issuance of preferred stock would result in a higher yield or return to the holders of the common stock. The issuance of preferred stock would likely cause the net asset value and market value of the common stock to become more volatile. If the distribution rate on the preferred stock were to approach the net rate of return on our investment portfolio, the benefit of leverage to the holders of the common stock would be reduced. If the distribution rate on the preferred stock were to exceed the net rate of return on our portfolio, the leverage would result in a lower rate of return to the holders of common stock than if we had not issued preferred stock. Any decline in the net asset value of our investments would be borne entirely by the holders of common stock. Therefore, if the market value of our portfolio were to decline, the leverage would result in a greater decrease in net asset value to the holders of common stock than if we were not leveraged through the issuance of preferred stock. This greater net asset value decrease would also tend to cause a greater decline in the market price for the common stock. We might be in danger of failing to maintain the required asset coverage of the preferred stock or of losing our ratings on the preferred stock or, in an extreme case, our current investment income might not be sufficient to meet the distribution requirements on the preferred stock. In order to counteract such an event, we might need to liquidate investments in order to fund a redemption of some or all of the preferred stock. In addition, we would pay (and the holders of common stock would bear) all costs and expenses relating to the issuance and ongoing maintenance of the preferred stock, including higher advisory fees if our total return exceeds the distribution rate on the preferred stock. Holders of preferred stock may

have different interests than holders of common stock and may at times have disproportionate influence over our affairs.

### Holders of any preferred stock we might issue would have the right to elect members of the board of directors and class voting rights on certain matters.

Holders of any preferred stock we might issue, voting separately as a single class, would have the right to elect two members of the board of directors at all times and in the event distributions become two full years in arrears would have the right to elect a majority of the directors until such arrearage is completely eliminated. In addition, preferred stockholders have class voting rights on certain matters, including changes in fundamental investment restrictions and conversion to open-end status, and accordingly can veto any such changes. Restrictions imposed on the declarations and payment of distributions to the holders of our common stock and preferred stock, both by the 1940 Act and by requirements imposed by rating agencies or the terms of our credit facilities, might impair our ability to maintain our qualification as a RIC for federal income tax purposes. While we would intend to redeem our preferred stock to the extent necessary to enable us to distribute our income as required to maintain our qualification as a RIC, there can be no assurance that such actions could be effected in time to meet the tax requirements.

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

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

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

### We may in the future determine to fund a portion of our investments with preferred stock, which would magnify the potential for loss and the risks of investing in us in a similar way as our borrowings.

Preferred stock, which is another form of leverage, has the same risks to our common stockholders as borrowings because the distributions on any preferred stock we issue must be cumulative. Payment of such distributions and repayment of the liquidation preference of such preferred stock must take preference over any distributions or other payments to our common stockholders, and preferred stockholders are not subject to any of our expenses or losses and are not entitled to participate in any income or appreciation in excess of their stated preference.

### **Risks Relating to Our Business and Structure**

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

We depend on the diligence, skill and network of business contacts of Messrs. Gross and Spohler, who serve as the managing partners of Solar Capital Partners and who lead Solar Capital Partners investment team. Messrs. Gross and Spohler, together with the other dedicated investment professionals available to Solar Capital Partners, evaluate,

negotiate, structure, close and monitor our investments. Our future success will depend on the diligence, skill, network of business contacts and continued service of Messrs. Gross and Spohler and the other

investment professionals available to Solar Capital Partners. We cannot assure you that unforeseen business, medical, personal or other circumstances would not lead any such individual to terminate his relationship with us. The loss of Mr. Gross or Mr. Spohler, or any of the other senior investment professionals who serve on Solar Capital Partners investment team, could have a material adverse effect on our ability to achieve our investment objective as well as on our financial condition and results of operations. In addition, we can offer no assurance that Solar Capital Partners will remain our investment adviser.

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

### Our business model depends to a significant extent upon strong referral relationships with financial sponsors, and the inability of the senior investment professionals of our investment adviser to maintain or develop these relationships, or the failure of these relationships to generate investment opportunities, could adversely affect our business.

We expect that the principals of our investment adviser will maintain and develop their relationships with financial sponsors, and we will rely to a significant extent upon these relationships to provide us with potential investment opportunities. If the senior investment professionals of our investment adviser fail to maintain their existing relationships or develop new relationships with other sponsors or sources of investment opportunities, we will not be able to grow our investment portfolio. In addition, individuals with whom the senior investment professionals of our investment adviser have relationships are not obligated to provide us with investment opportunities, and, therefore, there is no assurance that such relationships will generate investment opportunities for us. If our investment adviser is unable to source investment opportunities, we may hold a greater percentage of our assets in cash and cash equivalents than anticipated, which could impact potential returns on our portfolio.

### A disruption in the capital markets and the credit markets could negatively affect our business.

As a BDC, we must maintain our ability to raise additional capital for investment purposes. Without sufficient access to the capital markets or credit markets, we may be forced to curtail our business operations or we may not be able to pursue new business opportunities. Disruptive conditions in the financial industry and the impact of new legislation in response to those conditions could restrict our business operations and could adversely impact our results of operations and financial condition.

If the fair value of our assets declines substantially, we may fail to maintain the asset coverage ratios imposed upon us by the 1940 Act and our senior secured credit facility (the Credit Facility ). Any such failure could result in an event of default and all of our debt being declared immediately due and payable and would affect our ability to issue senior securities, including borrowings, and pay distributions, which could materially impair our business operations. Our liquidity could be impaired further by an inability to access the capital markets or to draw on the Credit Facility. For example, we cannot be certain that we will be able to renew the Credit Facility as it matures or to consummate new borrowing facilities to provide capital for normal operations, including new originations. Reflecting concern about the stability of the financial markets, many lenders and institutional investors have reduced or ceased providing funding to borrowers. This market turmoil and tightening of credit have led to increased market volatility and widespread reduction of business activity generally.

If we are unable to renew or replace the Credit Facility and consummate new facilities on commercially reasonable terms, our liquidity will be reduced significantly. If we consummate new facilities but are then unable to repay amounts outstanding under such facilities and are declared in default or are unable to renew or refinance

these facilities, we would not be able to initiate significant originations or to operate our business in the normal course. These situations may arise due to circumstances that we may be unable to control, such as inaccessibility to the credit markets, a severe decline in the value of the U.S. dollar, a further economic downturn or an operational problem that affects third parties or us, and could materially damage our business. Moreover, we are unable to predict when economic and market conditions may become more favorable. Even if such conditions improve broadly and significantly over the long term, adverse conditions in particular sectors of the financial markets could adversely impact our business.

### Our financial condition and results of operations will depend on Solar Capital Partners ability to manage our future growth effectively by identifying, investing in and monitoring companies that meet our investment criteria.

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

### We may need to raise additional capital to grow because we must distribute most of our income.

We may need additional capital to fund growth in our investments. We expect to issue equity securities and expect to borrow from financial institutions in the future. A reduction in the availability of new capital could limit our ability to grow. We must distribute at least 90% of our investment company taxable income to our stockholders to maintain our tax treatment as a RIC. As a result, any such cash earnings may not be available to fund investment originations. We expect to borrow from financial institutions and issue additional debt and equity securities. If we fail to obtain funds from such sources or from other sources to fund our investments, it could limit our ability to grow, which may have an adverse effect on the value of our securities. In addition, as a BDC, our ability to borrow or issue additional preferred stock may be restricted if our total assets are less than 200% of our total borrowings and preferred stock.

### Any failure on our part to maintain our status as a BDC would reduce our operating flexibility and we may be limited in our investment choices as a BDC.

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

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

In order to satisfy the tax requirements applicable to a RIC, to avoid payment of excise taxes and to minimize or avoid payment of income taxes, we intend to distribute to our stockholders substantially all of our ordinary income and realized net capital gains except for certain realized net long-term capital gains, which we may retain, pay applicable income taxes with respect thereto and elect to treat as deemed distributions to our stockholders. We may issue debt securities or preferred stock and/or borrow money from banks or other financial institutions, which we refer to collectively as senior securities, up to the maximum amount permitted by the 1940 Act. Under the provisions of the 1940 Act, we will be permitted, as a BDC, to issue senior securities in amounts such that our asset coverage ratio, as defined in the 1940 Act, equals at least 200% of gross assets less all liabilities and indebtedness not represented by senior securities, after each issuance of senior securities. If the value of our assets declines, we may be unable to satisfy this test. If that happens, we may be required to sell a portion of our investments and, depending on the nature of our leverage, repay a portion of our indebtedness at a time when such sales may be disadvantageous. Also, any amounts that we use to service our indebtedness would not be available for distributions to our common stockholders. Furthermore, as a result of issuing senior securities, we would also be exposed to typical risks associated with leverage, including an increased risk of loss.

As of December 31, 2016, we had \$165.2 million outstanding under the Credit Facility, composed of \$115.2 million of revolving credit and \$50 million outstanding of term loans. We also had \$75 million outstanding of the Senior Secured Notes, \$100 million outstanding of the 2042 Unsecured Notes, and \$50 million outstanding of the 2022 Unsecured Notes. If we issue preferred stock, the preferred stock would rank senior to common stock in our capital structure, preferred stockholders would generally vote together with common stockholders but would have separate voting rights on certain matters and might have other rights, preferences, or privileges more favorable than those of our common stockholders, and the issuance of preferred stock could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a transaction or a change of control that might involve a premium price for holders of our common stock or otherwise be in your best interest.

We are not generally able to issue and sell our common stock at a price below net asset value per share. We may, however, sell our common stock, or warrants, options or rights to acquire our common stock, at a price below the then-current net asset value per share of our common stock if our board of directors determines that such sale is in the best interests of Solar Capital and its stockholders, and our stockholders approve such sale. In any such case, the price at which our securities are to be issued and sold may not be less than a price that, in the determination of our board of directors, closely approximates the market value of such securities (less any distributing commission or discount). If we raise additional funds by issuing more common stock or senior securities convertible into, or exchangeable for, our common stock, then the percentage ownership of our stockholders at that time will decrease, and you might experience dilution. This dilution would occur as a result of a proportionately greater decrease in a stockholder s interest in our earnings and assets and voting interest in us than the increase in our assets resulting from such issuance. Because the number of future shares of common stock that may be issued below our net asset value per share and the price and timing of such issuances are not currently known, we cannot predict the actual dilutive effect of any such issuance. We cannot determine the resulting reduction in our net asset value per share of any such issuance. We also cannot predict whether shares of our common stock will trade above, at or below our net asset value.

At our 2016 Annual Stockholders Meeting, our stockholders approved our ability to sell or otherwise issue shares of our common stock, not exceeding 25% of our then outstanding common stock immediately prior to each such offering, at a price or prices below the then current net asset value per share, in each case subject to the approval of our board of directors and compliance with the conditions set forth in the proxy statement pertaining thereto, during a

period beginning on June 7, 2016 and expiring on the earlier of the one-year anniversary of the date of the 2016 Annual Stockholders Meeting and the date of our 2017 Annual Stockholders Meeting, which is expected to be held in May 2017. However, notwithstanding such stockholder approval, since our initial public

offering on February 9, 2010, we have not sold any shares of our common stock in an offering that resulted in proceeds to us of less than our then current net asset value per share. Any offering of our common stock that requires stockholder approval must occur, if at all, within one year after receiving such stockholder approval.

### The trading market or market value of our publicly issued debt securities may fluctuate.

Our publicly issued debt securities, including the 2042 Unsecured Notes, may or may not have an established trading market. We cannot assure you that a trading market for our publicly issued debt securities will be maintained. In addition to our creditworthiness, many factors may materially adversely affect the trading market for, and market value of, our publicly issued debt securities. These factors include, but are not limited to, the following:

the time remaining to the maturity of these debt securities;

the outstanding principal amount of debt securities with terms identical to these debt securities;

the ratings assigned by national statistical ratings agencies;

the general economic environment;

the supply of debt securities trading in the secondary market, if any;

the redemption or repayment features, if any, of these debt securities;

the level, direction and volatility of market interest rates generally; and

market rates of interest higher or lower than rates borne by the debt securities. You should also be aware that there may be a limited number of buyers when you decide to sell your debt securities. This too may materially adversely affect the market value of the debt securities or the trading market for the debt securities.

#### Our credit ratings may not reflect all risks of an investment in our debt securities.

Our credit ratings are an assessment by third parties of our ability to pay our obligations. Consequently, real or anticipated changes in our credit ratings will generally affect the market value of our debt securities. Our credit ratings, however, may not reflect the potential impact of risks related to market conditions generally or other factors discussed above on the market value of or trading market for the publicly issued debt securities.

# Our stockholders may experience dilution in their ownership percentage if they opt out of our dividend reinvestment plan.

All distributions declared in cash payable to stockholders that are participants in our dividend reinvestment plan are automatically reinvested in shares of our common stock. In the event we issue new shares in connection with our dividend reinvestment plan, our stockholders that do not elect to receive distributions in shares of common stock may experience dilution in their ownership percentage over time as a result of such issuance.

# We have and will continue to borrow money, which would magnify the potential for loss on amounts invested and may increase the risk of investing in us.

We borrow money as part of our business plan. Borrowings, also known as leverage magnify the potential for loss on amounts invested and, therefore, increase the risks associated with investing in our securities. As of December 31, 2016, we had \$165.2 million outstanding on the Credit Facility, composed of \$115.2 million of revolving credit and \$50 million of term loans. We also had \$75 million outstanding of the Senior Secured Notes, \$100 million outstanding of the 2042 Unsecured Notes and \$50 million outstanding of the 2022 Unsecured Notes. We may borrow from and issue senior debt securities to banks, insurance companies and other lenders in the future. Lenders of these senior securities, including the Credit Facility and Notes, will have fixed dollar claims on our assets that are superior to the claims of our common stockholders, and we would expect such

lenders to seek recovery against our assets in the event of a default. If the value of our assets decreases, leveraging would cause net asset value to decline more sharply than it otherwise would have had we not leveraged. Similarly, any decrease in our income would cause net income to decline more sharply than it would have had we not borrowed. Such a decline could also negatively affect our ability to make distribution payments on our common stock. Leverage is generally considered a speculative investment technique. Our ability to service any debt that we incur will depend largely on our financial performance and will be subject to prevailing economic conditions and competitive pressures. Moreover, as the management fee payable to our investment adviser, Solar Capital Partners, will be payable based on our gross assets, including those assets acquired through the use of leverage, Solar Capital Partners will have a financial incentive to incur leverage which may not be consistent with our stockholders interests. In addition, our common stockholders will bear the burden of any increase in our expenses as a result of leverage, including any increase in the management fee payable to Solar Capital Partners.

As a BDC, we generally are required to meet a coverage ratio of total assets to total borrowings and other senior securities, which include all of our borrowings and any preferred stock that we may issue in the future, of at least 200%. Additionally, the Credit Facility requires us to comply with certain financial and other restrictive covenants including maintaining an asset coverage ratio of not less than 200% at any time. Failure to maintain compliance with these covenants could result in an event of default and all of our debt being declared immediately due and payable. If this ratio declines below 200%, we may not be able to incur additional debt and could be required by law to sell a portion of our investments to repay some debt when it is disadvantageous to do so, which could have a material adverse effect on our operations, and we may not be able to make distributions. The amount of leverage that we employ will depend on our investment adviser s and our board of directors assessment of market and other factors at the time of any proposed borrowing. We cannot assure you that we will be able to obtain credit at all or on terms acceptable to us.

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

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

		Assumed total return (net of interest expense) (unaudited)						
	(net o							
	(10)%	(5)%	0%	5%	10%			
Corresponding return to stockholder(1)	(19.7)%	(10.7)%	(1.7)%	7.2%	16.2%			

(1) Assumes \$1.65 billion in total assets and \$390.2 million in total debt outstanding, which reflects our total assets and total debt outstanding as of December 31, 2016, and a cost of funds of 4.11%. Excludes non-leverage related expenses.

In order for us to cover our annual interest payments on our outstanding indebtedness at December 31, 2016, we must achieve annual returns on our December 31, 2016 total assets of at least 1.0%.

# It is likely that the terms of any current or future long-term or revolving credit or warehouse facility we may enter into in the future could constrain our ability to grow our business.

Our current lenders have, and any future lender or lenders may have, fixed dollar claims on our assets that are senior to the claims of our stockholders and, thus, will have a preference over our stockholders with respect to our assets in the collateral pool. Our current Credit Facility and borrowings also subject us to various financial and operating covenants, including, but not limited to, maintaining certain financial ratios and minimum tangible

net worth amounts. Future credit facilities and borrowings will likely subject us to similar or additional covenants. In addition, we may grant a security interest in our assets in connection with any such credit facilities and borrowings.

The Credit Facility generally contains customary default provisions such as a minimum net worth amount, a profitability test, and a restriction on changing our business and loan quality standards. In addition, the Credit Facility requires or is expected to require the repayment of all outstanding debt on the maturity which may disrupt our business and potentially the business of our portfolio companies that are financed through the Credit Facility. An event of default under the Credit Facility would likely result, among other things, in termination of the availability of further funds under the Credit Facility and accelerated maturity dates for all amounts outstanding under the Credit Facility, which would likely disrupt our business and, potentially, the business of the portfolio companies whose loans we finance through the Credit Facility. This could reduce our revenues and, by delaying any cash payment allowed to us under our Credit Facility until the lender has been paid in full, reduce our liquidity and cash flow and impair our ability to grow our business and maintain our status as a RIC.

The terms of future available financing may place limits on our financial and operation flexibility. If we are unable to obtain sufficient capital in the future, we may be forced to reduce or discontinue our operations, not be able to make new investments, or otherwise respond to changing business conditions or competitive pressures.

#### Pending legislation may allow us to incur additional leverage.

As a BDC, under the 1940 Act generally we are not permitted to incur indebtedness unless immediately after such borrowing we have an asset coverage for total borrowings of at least 200% (i.e., the amount of debt may not exceed 50% of the value of our total assets or we may borrow an amount equal to 100% of net assets). Legislation introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives, if passed, would modify this section of the 1940 Act and increase the amount of debt that BDCs may incur by modifying the asset coverage percentage from 200% to 150%. As a result, we may be able to incur additional indebtedness in the future and therefore your risk of an investment in us may increase.

# Our quarterly and annual operating results are subject to fluctuation as a result of the nature of our business, and if we fail to achieve our investment objective, the net asset value of our common stock may decline.

We could experience fluctuations in our quarterly and annual operating results due to a number of factors, some of which are beyond our control, including, but not limited to, the interest rate payable on the debt securities that we acquire, the default rate on such securities, the level of our expenses, variations in and the timing of the recognition of realized and unrealized gains or losses, changes in our portfolio composition, the degree to which we encounter competition in our markets, market volatility in our publicly traded securities and the securities of our portfolio companies, and general economic conditions. As a result of these factors, results for any period should not be relied upon as being indicative of performance in future periods. In addition, any of these factors could negatively impact our ability to achieve our investment objectives, which may cause our net asset value of our common stock to decline.

# Our investments may be in portfolio companies which may have limited operating histories and financial resources.

We expect that our portfolio will continue to consist of investments that may have relatively limited operating histories. These companies may be particularly vulnerable to U.S. and foreign economic downturns such as the current recession and European financial crisis may have more limited access to capital and higher funding costs, may have a weaker financial position and may need more capital to expand or compete. These businesses also may experience substantial variations in operating results. They may face intense competition, including from companies with greater financial, technical and marketing resources. Furthermore, some of these

companies do business in regulated industries and could be affected by changes in government regulation. Accordingly, these factors could impair their cash flow or result in other events, such as bankruptcy, which could limit their ability to repay their obligations to us, and may adversely affect the return on, or the recovery of, our investment in these companies. We cannot assure you that any of our investments in our portfolio companies will be successful. Our portfolio companies compete with larger, more established companies with greater access to, and resources for, further development in these new technologies. Therefore, we may lose our entire investment in any or all of our portfolio companies.

### There will be uncertainty as to the value of our portfolio investments, which may impact our net asset value.

A large percentage of our portfolio investments are in the form of securities that are not publicly traded. The fair value of securities and other investments that are not publicly traded may not be readily determinable. We value these securities on a quarterly basis in accordance with our valuation policy, which is at all times consistent with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Our board of directors utilizes the services of third-party valuation firms to aid it in determining the fair value of certain securities. The board of directors discusses valuations and determines the fair value in good faith based on the input of our investment adviser and the respective third-party valuation firms. The factors that may be considered in fair value pricing our investments include the nature and realizable value of any collateral, the portfolio company s ability to make payments and its earnings, the markets in which the portfolio company does business, comparisons to publicly traded companies, discounted cash flow and other relevant factors. Because such valuations, and particularly valuations of private securities and private companies, are inherently uncertain, may fluctuate over short periods of time and may be based on estimates, our determinations of fair value may differ materially from the values that would have been used if a ready market for these securities existed. Our net asset value could be adversely affected if our determinations regarding the fair value of our investments were materially higher than the values that we ultimately realize upon the disposal of such securities.

### Our equity ownership in a portfolio company may represent a control investment. Our ability to exit an investment in a timely manner because we are in a control position or have access to inside information in the portfolio company could result in a realized loss on the investment.

If we obtain a control investment in a portfolio company our ability to divest ourselves from a debt or equity investment could be restricted due to illiquidity in a private stock, limited trading volume on a public company s stock, inside information on a company s performance, insider blackout periods, or other factors that could prohibit us from disposing of the investment as we would if it were not a control investment. Additionally, we may choose not to take certain actions to protect a debt investment in a control investment portfolio company. As a result, we could experience a decrease in the value of our portfolio company holdings and potentially incur a realized loss on the investment.

# There are significant potential conflicts of interest, including Solar Capital Partners management of Solar Senior Capital Ltd., which could impact our investment returns, and an investment in Solar Capital is not an investment in Solar Senior Capital Ltd.

Our executive officers and directors, as well as the current and future partners of our investment adviser, Solar Capital Partners, may serve as officers, directors or principals of entities that operate in the same or a related line of business as we do. For example, Solar Capital Partners presently serves as investment adviser to Solar Senior Capital Ltd., a publicly-traded BDC which focuses on investing primarily in senior secured loans, including first lien, unitranche and second lien debt instruments. In addition, Michael S. Gross, our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and President, Bruce Spohler, our Chief Operating Officer and board member, and Richard L. Peteka, our Chief Financial Officer,

serve in similar capacities for Solar Senior Capital Ltd. Accordingly, they may have obligations to investors in those entities, the fulfillment of which obligations might not be in the best interests of us or our stockholders. In addition, we note that any affiliated investment vehicle formed in the future and managed by our investment adviser or its affiliates may, notwithstanding different stated

investment objectives, have overlapping investment objectives with our own and, accordingly, may invest in asset classes similar to those targeted by us. As a result, Solar Capital Partners may face conflicts in allocating investment opportunities between us and such other entities. Although Solar Capital Partners will endeavor to allocate investment opportunities in a fair and equitable manner, it is possible that, in the future, we may not be given the opportunity to participate in investments made by investment funds managed by our investment adviser or an investment manager affiliated with our investment adviser. In any such case, when Solar Capital Partners identifies an investment, it will be forced to choose which investment fund should make the investment.

As a BDC, we were substantially limited in our ability to co-invest in privately negotiated transactions with affiliated funds until we obtained an exemptive order from the SEC on July 28, 2014 (the Exemptive Order ). The Exemptive Order permits us to participate in negotiated co-investment transactions with certain affiliates, each of whose investment adviser is Solar Capital Partners, or an investment adviser controlling, controlled by or under common control with Solar Capital Partners, in a manner consistent with our investment objective, positions, policies, strategies and restrictions as well as regulatory requirements and other pertinent factors, and pursuant to the conditions to the Exemptive Order. If we are unable to rely on Exemptive Order for a particular opportunity, such opportunity will be allocated first to the entity whose investment strategy is the most consistent with the opportunity being allocated, and second, if the terms of the opportunity are consistent with more than one entity s investment strategy, on an alternating basis. On January 13, 2017, the Company, Solar Senior Capital Ltd., and Solar Capital Partners filed an exemptive application for a co-investment order that would supersede the Exemptive Order and extend the relief granted in the Exemptive Order such that it no longer applies to certain affiliates only if their respective investment adviser is Solar Capital Partners, but also applies to certain affiliates whose investment adviser is an investment adviser that controls, is controlled by or is under common control with Solar Capital Partners and is registered as an investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended. The Exemptive Order will remain in effect unless and until the revised application is approved by the SEC. The terms and conditions of the revised application are substantially similar to the Exemptive Order. Although our investment professionals will endeavor to allocate investment opportunities in a fair and equitable manner, we and our common stockholders could be adversely affected to the extent investment opportunities are allocated among us and other investment vehicles managed or sponsored by, or affiliated with, our executive officers, directors and members of our investment adviser.

Solar Capital Partners and certain investment advisory affiliates may determine that an investment is appropriate for us and for one or more of those other funds. In such event, depending on the availability of such investment and other appropriate factors, Solar Capital Partners or its affiliates may determine that we should invest side-by-side with one or more other funds. Any such investments will be made only to the extent permitted by applicable law and interpretive positions of the SEC and its staff, and consistent with Solar Capital Partners allocation procedures. Related party transactions may occur between Solar Capital and Crystal Financial LLC, between Solar Capital and Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program II LLC and between Solar Capital and SSLP II 2016-1, LLC. No administrative fees are paid to Solar Capital Partners by Crystal Financial LLC, Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program II LLC.

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

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

the right to use the Solar Capital name for so long as Solar Capital Partners or one of its affiliates remains our investment adviser. In addition, we pay Solar Capital Management, an affiliate of Solar

Capital Partners, our allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by Solar Capital Management in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, including rent, the fees and expenses associated with performing compliance functions, and our allocable portion of the compensation of our chief financial officer and any administrative support staff. These arrangements create conflicts of interest that our board of directors must monitor.

### Our ability to enter into transactions involving derivatives and financial commitment transactions may be limited.

The SEC has proposed a new rule under the 1940 Act that would govern the use of derivatives (defined to include any swap, security-based swap, futures contract, forward contract, option or any similar instrument) as well as financial commitment transactions (defined to include reverse repurchase agreements, short sale borrowings and any firm or standby commitment agreement or similar agreement) by BDCs. Under the proposed rule, a BDC would be required to comply with one of two alternative portfolio limitations and manage the risks associated with derivatives transactions and financial commitment transactions by segregating certain assets. Furthermore, a BDC that engages in more than a limited amount of derivatives transactions or that uses complex derivatives would be required to establish a formalized derivatives risk management program. If the SEC adopts this rule in the form proposed, our ability to enter into transactions involving such instruments may be hindered, which could have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

### We may be obligated to pay our investment adviser incentive compensation even if we incur a loss.

Our investment adviser will be entitled to incentive compensation for each fiscal quarter in an amount equal to a percentage of the excess of our pre-incentive fee net investment income for that quarter (before deducting incentive compensation) above a performance threshold for that quarter. Accordingly, since the performance threshold is based on a percentage of our net asset value, decreases in our net asset value make it easier to achieve the performance threshold. Our pre-incentive fee net investment income for incentive compensation purposes excludes realized and unrealized capital losses or depreciation that we may incur in the fiscal quarter, even if such capital losses or depreciation result in a net loss on our statement of operations for that quarter. Thus, we may be required to pay Solar Capital Partners incentive compensation for a fiscal quarter even if there is a decline in the value of our portfolio or we incur a net loss for that quarter.

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

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

The incentive fee payable by us to our investment adviser also may induce Solar Capital Partners to invest on our behalf in instruments that have a deferred interest feature, even if such deferred payments would not provide cash necessary to enable us to pay current distributions to our stockholders. Under these investments, we would accrue interest over the life of the investment but would not receive the cash income from the investment until the end of the

term. Our net investment income used to calculate the income portion of our investment fee,

however, includes accrued interest. Thus, a portion of this incentive fee would be based on income that we have not received in cash. In addition, the catch-up portion of the incentive fee may encourage Solar Capital Partners to accelerate or defer interest payable by portfolio companies from one calendar quarter to another, potentially resulting in fluctuations in timing and distribution amounts.

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

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

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

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

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

The asset diversification requirement will be satisfied if we meet certain asset diversification requirements at the end of each quarter of our taxable year. Failure to meet those requirements may result in our having to dispose of certain investments quickly in order to prevent the loss of RIC status. Because most of our investments will be in private companies, and therefore will be relatively illiquid, any such dispositions could be made at disadvantageous prices and could result in substantial losses.

If we fail to qualify for RIC tax treatment for any reason and become subject to corporate income tax, the resulting corporate taxes could substantially reduce our net assets, the amount of income available for distribution and the amount of our distributions. Such a failure would have a material adverse effect on us, the net asset value of our common stock and the total return, if any, obtainable from your investment in our common stock. Any net operating losses that we incur in periods during which we qualify as a RIC will not offset net capital gains (i.e., net realized long-term capital gains in excess of net realized short-term capital losses) that we are otherwise required to distribute, and we cannot pass such net operating losses through to our stockholders. In addition, net operating losses that we

carry over to a taxable year in which we qualify as a RIC normally cannot offset ordinary income or capital gains.

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

In accordance with GAAP and tax requirements, we include in income certain amounts that we have not yet received in cash, such as contractual PIK interest, which represents contractual interest added to a loan balance

and due at the end of such loan s term. In addition to the cash yields received on our loans, in some instances, certain loans may also include any of the following: end-of-term payments, exit fees, balloon payment fees or prepayment fees. The increases in loan balances as a result of contractual PIK arrangements are included in income for the period in which such PIK interest was accrued, which is often in advance of receiving cash payment, and are separately identified on our statements of cash flows. We also may be required to include in income certain other amounts prior to receiving the related cash.

Any warrants that we receive in connection with our debt investments will generally be valued as part of the negotiation process with the particular portfolio company. As a result, a portion of the aggregate purchase price for the debt investments and warrants will be allocated to the warrants that we receive. This will generally result in original issue discount for tax purposes, which we must recognize as ordinary income, increasing the amount that we are required to distribute to qualify for the U.S. federal income tax benefits applicable to RICs. Because these warrants generally will not produce distributable cash for us at the same time as we are required to make distributions in respect of the related original issue discount, we would need to obtain cash from other sources or to pay a portion of our distributions using shares of newly issued common stock, consistent with Internal Revenue Service requirements, to satisfy such distribution requirements.

Other features of the debt instruments that we hold may also cause such instruments to generate an original issue discount, resulting in a distribution requirement in excess of current cash interest received. Since in certain cases we may recognize income before or without receiving cash representing such income, we may have difficulty meeting the RIC tax requirement to distribute at least 90% of our net ordinary income and realized net short-term capital gains in excess of realized net long-term capital losses, if any. Under such circumstances, we may have to sell some of our investments at times we would not consider advantageous, raise additional debt or equity capital or reduce new investment originations to meet these distribution requirements. If we are unable to obtain cash from other sources and are otherwise unable to satisfy such distribution requirements, we may fail to qualify for the U.S. federal income tax benefits allowable to RICs and, thus, become subject to a corporate-level U.S. federal income tax on all our income.

The higher yields and interest rates on PIK securities reflects the payment deferral and increased credit risk associated with such instruments and that such investments may represent a significantly higher credit risk than coupon loans. PIK securities may have unreliable valuations because their continuing accruals require continuing judgments about the collectability of the deferred payments and the value of any associated collateral. PIK interest has the effect of generating investment income and increasing the incentive fees payable at a compounding rate. In addition, the deferral of PIK interest also increases the loan-to-value ratio at a compounding rate. PIK securities create the risk that incentive fees will be paid to the Adviser based on non-cash accruals that ultimately may not be realized, but the Adviser will be under no obligation to reimburse the Company for these fees.

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

Under Maryland General Corporation Law and our charter, our board of directors is authorized to classify and reclassify any authorized but unissued shares of stock into one or more classes of stock, including preferred stock. Prior to issuance of shares of each class or series, the board of directors is required by Maryland law and our charter to set the preferences, conversion or other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to other distributions, qualifications and terms or conditions of redemption for each class or series. Thus, the board of directors could authorize the issuance of shares of preferred stock with terms and conditions which could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a transaction or a change in control that might involve a premium price for holders of our common stock or otherwise be in their best interest. The cost of any such reclassification would be borne by our existing common stockholders. Certain matters under the 1940 Act require the separate vote of the holders of any

issued and outstanding preferred stock. For example, holders of preferred stock would vote separately from the holders of common stock on a proposal to cease operations as a BDC. In addition, the 1940 Act provides that holders of preferred stock are entitled to vote separately from holders of common stock to

elect two preferred stock directors. The issuance of shares of preferred stock convertible into shares of common stock might also reduce the net income and net asset value per share of our common stock upon conversion, provided, that we will only be permitted to issue such convertible preferred stock to the extent we comply with the requirements of Section 61 of the 1940 Act, including obtaining common stockholder approval. These effects, among others, could have an adverse effect on your investment in our common stock.

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

The Maryland General Corporation Law and our charter and bylaws contain provisions that may discourage, delay or make more difficult a change in control of Solar Capital or the removal of our directors. We are subject to the Maryland Business Combination Act, subject to any applicable requirements of the 1940 Act. Our board of directors has adopted a resolution exempting from the Business Combination Act any business combination between us and any other person, subject to prior approval of such business combination by our board, including approval by a majority of our disinterested directors. If the resolution exempting business combinations is repealed or our board of directors does not approve a business combination, the Business Combination Act may discourage third parties from trying to acquire control of us and increase the difficulty of consummating such an offer. Our bylaws exempt from the Maryland Control Share Acquisition Act (the Control Share Act, the Control Share Act also may make it more difficult for a third party to obtain control of us and increase the difficulty of consummating such a transaction. However, we will amend our bylaws to be subject to the Control Share Act only if our board of directors determines that it would be in our best interests and if the SEC staff does not object to our determination that our being subject to the Control Share Act would, if implemented, violate Section 18(i) of the 1940 Act.

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

The foregoing provisions are expected to discourage certain coercive takeover practices and inadequate takeover bids and to encourage persons seeking to acquire control of us to negotiate first with our board of directors. However, these provisions may deprive a stockholder of the opportunity to sell such stockholder s shares at a premium to a potential acquirer. We believe that the benefits of these provisions outweigh the potential disadvantages of discouraging any such acquisition proposals because, among other things, the negotiation of such proposals may improve their terms. Our board of directors has considered both the positive and negative effects of the foregoing provisions and determined that they are in the best interest of our stockholders.

# The failure in cyber security systems, as well as the occurrence of events unanticipated in our disaster recovery systems and management continuity planning could impair our ability to conduct business effectively.

The occurrence of a disaster such as a cyber attack, a natural catastrophe, an industrial accident, a terrorist attack or war, events unanticipated in our disaster recovery systems, or a support failure from external providers, could have an adverse effect on our ability to conduct business and on our results of operations and financial condition, particularly if those events affect our computer-based data processing, transmission, storage, and retrieval systems or destroy data.

If a significant number of our managers were unavailable in the event of a disaster, our ability to effectively conduct our business could be severely compromised.

Our business relies on secure information technology systems. We depend heavily upon computer systems to perform necessary business functions. These systems are subject to potential attacks, including through adverse events that threaten the confidentiality, integrity or availability of our information resources (i.e. cyber attacks). Despite our implementation of a variety of security measures, our computer systems could be subject to cyber attacks and unauthorized access, such as physical and electronic break-ins or unauthorized tampering. Like other companies, we may experience threats to our data and systems, including malware and computer virus attacks, unauthorized access, system failures and disruptions. If one or more of these events occurs, it could potentially jeopardize the confidential, proprietary and other information processed and stored in, and transmitted through, our computer systems and networks, or otherwise cause interruptions or malfunctions in our operations, which could result in damage to our reputation, financial losses, litigation, increased costs, regulatory penalties and/or customer dissatisfaction or loss.

# We can be highly dependent on information systems and systems failures could significantly disrupt our business, which may, in turn, negatively affect the market price of our common stock and our ability to pay distributions.

Our business is highly dependent on our and third parties communications and information systems. Any failure or interruption of those systems, including as a result of the termination of an agreement with any third-party service providers, could cause delays or other problems in our activities. Our financial, accounting, data processing, backup or other operating systems and facilities may fail to operate properly or become disabled or damaged as a result of a number of factors including events that are wholly or partially beyond our control and adversely affect our business. There could be:

sudden electrical or telecommunications outages;

natural disasters such as earthquakes, tornadoes and hurricanes;

events arising from local or larger scale political or social matters, including terrorist acts; and

#### cyber attacks.

These events, in turn, could have a material adverse effect on our operating results and negatively affect the market price of our common stock and our ability to pay distributions to our stockholders.

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

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

# Our business is subject to increasingly complex corporate governance, public disclosure and accounting requirements that could adversely affect our business and financial results.

## Table of Contents

We are subject to changing rules and regulations of federal and state government as well as the stock exchange on which our common stock is listed. These entities, including the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, the SEC and the NASDAQ Stock Market, have issued a significant number of new and increasingly complex requirements and regulations over the course of the last several years and continue to develop additional regulations and requirements in response to laws enacted by Congress. Our efforts to comply with these existing requirements, or any revised or amended requirements, have resulted in, and are likely to continue to result in, an increase in expenses and a diversion of management s time from other business activities.

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

Changes in the laws or regulations, or the interpretations of the laws and regulations, which govern BDCs, RICs or non-depository commercial lenders could significantly affect our operations and our cost of doing business. We are subject to federal, state and local laws and regulations and are subject to judicial and administrative decisions that affect our operations, including our loan originations, maximum interest rates, fees and other charges, disclosures to portfolio companies, the terms of secured transactions, collection and foreclosure procedures, and other trade practices. If these laws, regulations or decisions change, or if we expand our business into jurisdictions that have adopted more stringent requirements than those in which we currently conduct business, then we may have to incur significant expenses in order to comply or we may have to restrict our operations. In addition, if we do not comply with applicable laws, regulations and decisions, then we may lose licenses needed for the conduct of our business and be subject to civil fines and criminal penalties, any of which could have a material adverse effect upon our business results of operations or financial condition.

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

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

#### CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus contains forward-looking statements that involve substantial risks and uncertainties. These forward-looking statements are not historical facts, but rather are based on current expectations, estimates and projections about Solar Capital, our current and prospective portfolio investments, our industry, our beliefs, and our assumptions. Words such as anticipates, expects, intends, plans, believes, seeks, estimates, would, she projects, and variations of these words and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements.

The forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus involve risks and uncertainties, including statements as to:

our future operating results;

our business prospects and the prospects of our portfolio companies;

the impact of investments that we expect to make;

our contractual arrangements and relationships with third parties;

the dependence of our future success on the general economy and its impact on the industries in which we invest;

the ability of our portfolio companies to achieve their objectives;

our expected financings and investments;

our breach of any of the covenants or other provisions in our debt agreements;

the adequacy of our cash resources and working capital; and

the timing of cash flows, if any, from the operations of our portfolio companies. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to risks, uncertainties, and other factors, some of which are beyond our control and difficult to predict and could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or forecasted in the forward-looking statements, including without limitation:

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

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

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

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

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

Although we believe that the assumptions on which these forward-looking statements are based are reasonable, any of those assumptions could prove to be inaccurate, and as a result, the forward-looking statements based on those assumptions also could be inaccurate. Important assumptions include our ability to originate new loans and investments, certain margins and levels of profitability and the availability of additional capital. In light of these and other uncertainties, the inclusion of a projection or forward-looking statement in this prospectus should not be regarded as a representation by us that our plans and objectives will be achieved. These risks and uncertainties include those described or identified in Risk Factors and elsewhere in this prospectus. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which apply only as of the date of this prospectus. However, we will update this prospectus to reflect any material changes to the information contained herein. The forward-looking statements and projections contained in this prospectus are excluded from the safe harbor protection provided by Section 27A of the Securities Act.

#### **USE OF PROCEEDS**

We intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of our securities pursuant to this prospectus for general corporate purposes, which may include investing in debt or equity securities consistent with our investment objective, repayment of outstanding indebtedness, acquisitions and other general corporate purposes. We are continuously identifying, reviewing and, to the extent consistent with our investment objective, funding new investments. As a result, we typically raise capital as we deem appropriate to fund such new investments. The supplement to this prospectus relating to an offering will more fully identify the use of the proceeds from such offering.

We estimate that it will take three to six months for us to substantially invest the net proceeds of any offering made pursuant to this prospectus, depending on the availability of attractive opportunities and market conditions. However, we can offer no assurance that we will be able to achieve this goal. We expect that it may take more than three months to invest all of the proceeds of an offering, in part because investments in private companies often require substantial prior research and due diligence.

Pending such uses, we will invest the net proceeds primarily in cash, cash equivalents, and U.S. government securities and other high-quality debt investments that mature in one year or less from the date of investment. These securities may have lower yields than the types of investments we would typically make in accordance with our investment objective and, accordingly, may result in lower distributions, if any, during such period. See Regulation as a Business Development Company Temporary Investments for additional information about temporary investments we may make while waiting to make longer-term investments in pursuit of our investment objective. The management fee payable by us to our investment adviser will not be reduced while our assets are invested in such securities.

## PRICE RANGE OF COMMON STOCK AND DISTRIBUTIONS

Our common stock is traded on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol SLRC. The following table sets forth, for each fiscal quarter during the last two fiscal years and the current fiscal year to date, the net asset value (NAV) per share of our common stock, the high and low closing sales prices for our common stock, such sales prices as a percentage of NAV per share and quarterly distributions per share.

		Price Range Premium or (Discount) of High Closing					
	NAV(1)	High	Low	Price to NAV(2)	Price to NAV(2)		clared outions(3
Fiscal 2017		B	1011		1111 (2)	215011	
First Quarter (through March 10, 2017)	*	\$22.46	\$21.09	*	*	\$	0.40
Fiscal 2016							
Fourth Quarter	\$ 21.74	\$21.42	\$19.43	(1.5)%	(10.6)%	6\$	0.40
Third Quarter	21.72	20.71	19.02	(4.7)	(12.4)		0.40
Second Quarter	21.51	19.07	16.91	(11.3)	(21.4)		0.40
First Quarter	21.08	17.70	15.60	(16.0)	(26.0)		0.40
Fiscal 2015							
Fourth Quarter	\$ 20.79	\$18.20	\$16.10	(12.5)%	(22.6)%	6\$	0.40
Third Quarter	21.52	18.63	15.39	(13.4)	(28.5)		0.40
Second Quarter	21.92	20.67	18.00	(5.7)	(17.9)		0.40
First Quarter	21.91	20.46	18.07	(6.6)	(17.5)		0.40

- (1) NAV per share is determined as of the last day in the relevant quarter and therefore may not reflect the NAV per share on the date of the high and low sales prices. The net asset values shown are based on outstanding shares at the end of each period.
- (2) Calculated as of the respective high or low closing price divided by NAV and subtracting 1.
- (3) Represents the cash distribution for the specified quarter.
- \* Not determinable at the time of filing.

On March 10, 2017, the last reported sales price of our common stock was \$22.20 per share. As of March 10, 2017, we had 19 shareholders of record.

Shares of BDCs may trade at a market price that is less than the value of the net assets attributable to those shares. The possibility that our shares of common stock will trade at a discount from net asset value or at premiums that are unsustainable over the long term are separate and distinct from the risk that our net asset value will decrease. Since our IPO on February 9, 2010, our shares of common stock have traded at both a discount and a premium to the net assets attributable to those shares. As of March 10, 2017, our shares of common stock traded at a premium equal to approximately 2.1% of the net assets attributable to those shares based upon our net asset value as of December 31, 2016. It is not possible to predict whether the shares offered hereby will trade at, above, or below net asset value.

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

## Table of Contents

Tax characteristics of all distributions will be reported to shareholders on Form 1099 after the end of the calendar year. Future quarterly distributions, if any, will be determined by our board of directors. We expect that our distributions to stockholders will generally be from accumulated net investment income, from net realized capital gains or non-taxable return of capital, if any, as applicable.

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

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

We may not be able to achieve operating results that will allow us to make distributions at a specific level or to increase the amount of these distributions from time to time. In addition, due to the asset coverage test applicable to us a BDC, we may in the future be limited in our ability to make distributions. Also, our revolving credit facility may limit our ability to declare distributions if we default under certain provisions. If we do not distribute a certain percentage of our income annually, we will suffer adverse tax consequences, including possible loss of the tax benefits available to us as a regulated investment company. In addition, in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles and tax regulations, we include in income certain amounts that we have not yet received in cash, such as contractual payment-in-kind interest, which represents contractual interest added to the loan balance that becomes due at the end of the loan term, or the accrual of original issue or market discount. Since we may recognize income before or without receiving cash representing such income, we may have difficulty meeting the requirement to distribute at least 90% of our investment company taxable income to obtain tax benefits as a regulated investment company.

With respect to the distributions to stockholders, income from origination, structuring, closing and certain other upfront fees associated with investments in portfolio companies are treated as taxable income and accordingly, distributed to stockholders.

We cannot assure stockholders that they will receive any distributions at a particular level.

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

The following table reflects the cash distributions, including dividends and returns of capital, if any, per share that we have declared on our common stock for the two most recent fiscal years and the current fiscal year to date:

Date Declared	<b>Record Date</b>	Payment Date	Amount	
Fiscal 2017				
February 22, 2017	March 23, 2017	April 4, 2017	\$	0.40
Fiscal 2016				
November 2, 2016	December 15, 2016	January 4, 2017	\$	0.40
August 2, 2016	September 22, 2016	October 4, 2016		0.40
May 3, 2016	June 23, 2016	July 1, 2016		0.40
February 24, 2016	March 24, 2016	April 1, 2016		0.40
Total 2016			\$	1.60
Fiscal 2015				
November 3, 2015	December 17, 2015	January 6, 2016	\$	0.40
August 4, 2015	September 24, 2015	October 2, 2015		0.40
May 5, 2015	June 25, 2015	July 1, 2015		0.40
February 25, 2015	March 19, 2015	April 2, 2015		0.40
Total 2015			\$	1.60

## MANAGEMENT S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF

### FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

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

#### Overview

Solar Capital LLC, a Maryland limited liability company, was formed in February 2007 and commenced operations on March 13, 2007 with initial capital of \$1.2 billion of which 47.04% was funded by affiliated parties.

Solar Capital Ltd. ( Solar Capital , the Company , we or our ), a Maryland corporation formed in November 2007, is a closed-end, externally managed, non-diversified management investment company that has elected to be regulated as a business development company ( BDC ) under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act ). Furthermore, as the Company is an investment company, it continues to apply the guidance in the Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) Accounting Standards Codification ( ASC ) Topic 946. In addition, for tax purposes, the Company has elected to be treated as a regulated investment company ( RIC ) under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code ).

On February 9, 2010, we priced our initial public offering, selling 5.68 million shares of our common stock. Concurrent with our initial public offering, Michael S. Gross, our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, and Bruce Spohler, our Chief Operating Officer, collectively purchased an additional 0.6 million shares of our common stock through a private placement transaction exempt from registration under the Securities Act (the Concurrent Private Placement ).

We invest primarily in privately held U.S. middle-market companies, where we believe the supply of primary capital is limited and the investment opportunities are most attractive. Our investment objective is to generate both current income and capital appreciation through debt and equity investments. We invest primarily in leveraged middle-market companies in the form of senior secured loans, unitranche loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities. From time to time, we may also invest in public companies that are thinly traded. Our business is focused primarily on the direct origination of investments through portfolio companies or their financial sponsors. Our investments generally range between \$5 million and \$100 million each, although we expect that this investment size will vary proportionately with the size of our capital base and/or with strategic initiatives. Our investment activities are managed by Solar Capital Partners, LLC (the Investment Adviser ) and supervised by our board of directors, a majority of whom are non-interested, as such term is defined in the 1940 Act. Solar Capital Management, LLC (the Administrator ) provides the administrative services necessary for us to operate.

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

As of December 31, 2016, the Investment Adviser has invested approximately \$6.0 billion in more than 265 different portfolio companies since 2006. Over the same period, the Investment Adviser completed transactions with more than 165 different financial sponsors.

#### **Recent Developments**

Table of Contents

On February 15, 2017, the Company closed a private offering of \$100 million of additional 2022 Unsecured Notes with a fixed interest rate of 4.60% and a maturity date of May 8, 2022. Interest on the 2022 Unsecured

Notes is due semi-annually on May 8 and November 8. The 2022 Unsecured Notes were issued in a private placement only to qualified institutional buyers pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

On February 22, 2017, the Company, through its commitment to Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program III LLC (SSLP III), and Solar Senior formed Solar Life Science Program LLC (LSJV) with an affiliate of Deerfield Management. The Company is committing approximately \$50 million to LSJV.

On February 22, 2017, our Board declared a quarterly distribution of \$0.40 per share payable on April 4, 2017 to holders of record as of March 23, 2017.

### Investments

Our level of investment activity can and does vary substantially from period to period depending on many factors, including the amount of debt and equity capital available to middle market companies, the level of merger and acquisition activity for such companies, the general economic environment and the competitive environment for the types of investments we make. As a BDC, we must not acquire any assets other than qualifying assets specified in the 1940 Act unless, at the time the acquisition is made, at least 70% of our total assets are qualifying assets (with certain limited exceptions). Qualifying assets include investments in eligible portfolio companies. The definition of eligible portfolio company includes certain public companies that do not have any securities listed on a national securities exchange and companies whose securities are listed on a national securities exchange but whose market capitalization is less than \$250 million.

#### Revenue

We generate revenue primarily in the form of interest and dividend income from the securities we hold and capital gains, if any, on investment securities that we may sell. Our debt investments generally have a stated term of three to seven years and typically bear interest at a floating rate usually determined on the basis of a benchmark London interbank offered rate (LIBOR), commercial paper rate, or the prime rate. Interest on our debt investments is generally payable quarterly but may be monthly or semi-annually. In addition, our investments may provide payment-in-kind (PIK) interest. Such amounts of accrued PIK interest are added to the cost of the investment on the respective capitalization dates and generally become due at maturity of the investment or upon the investment being called by the issuer. We may also generate revenue in the form of commitment, origination, structuring fees, fees for providing managerial assistance and, if applicable, consulting fees, etc.

#### Expenses

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

the cost of our organization and public offerings;

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

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

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

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

transfer agent and custodial fees;

fees and expenses associated with marketing efforts;

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

federal, state and local taxes;

independent directors fees and expenses;

brokerage commissions;

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

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

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

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

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

We expect our general and administrative operating expenses related to our ongoing operations to increase moderately in dollar terms. During periods of asset growth, we generally expect our general and administrative operating expenses to decline as a percentage of our total assets and increase during periods of asset declines. Incentive fees, interest expense and costs relating to future offerings of securities, among others, may also increase or reduce overall operating expenses based on portfolio performance, interest rate benchmarks, and offerings of our securities relative to comparative periods, among other factors.

#### **Portfolio and Investment Activity**

During the year ended December 31, 2016, we invested approximately \$428 million across 35 portfolio companies. This compares to investing approximately \$505 million in 32 portfolio companies for the year ended December 31,

## Table of Contents

2015. Investments sold, prepaid or repaid during the year ended December 31, 2016 totaled approximately \$488 million versus approximately \$171 million for the year ended December 31, 2015.

At December 31, 2016, our portfolio consisted of 63 portfolio companies and was invested 60.4% in senior secured loans, 2.2% in subordinated debt, 1.1% in preferred equity and 36.3% in common equity and warrants (of which 23.4% is Crystal Financial LLC, 7.7% is Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program LLC and 3.6% is Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program II LLC) measured at fair value versus 54 portfolio companies invested 63.7% in senior secured loans, 5.1% in subordinated debt, 1.4% in preferred equity and 29.8% in common equity/equity interests and warrants (of which 22.1% is Crystal Financial LLC and 6.1% is Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program LLC) measured at fair value at December 31, 2015.

The weighted average annualized yields on our portfolio of income producing investments were 10.0% and 10.5%, respectively, at December 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, measured at fair value, and 10.4% and 10.2%, respectively for the same periods, measured at amortized cost. Portfolio yield does not represent an actual investment return to shareholders.

At December 31, 2016, 94.9% or \$1.22 billion of our income producing investment portfolio<sup>\*</sup> is floating rate and 5.1% or \$65.7 million is fixed rate, measured at fair value. At December 31, 2015, 91.0% or \$1.17 billion of our income producing investment portfolio<sup>\*</sup> was floating rate and 9.0% or \$116.6 million was fixed rate, measured at fair value. As of both December 31, 2016 and 2015, we had one issuer on non-accrual status.

Since inception through December 31, 2016, Solar Capital and its predecessor companies have invested approximately \$4.8 billion in 168 portfolio companies. Over the same period, Solar Capital has completed transactions with more than 125 different financial sponsors.

# **Crystal Financial LLC**

On December 28, 2012, we completed the acquisition of Crystal Capital Financial Holdings LLC (Crystal Financial), a commercial finance company focused on providing asset-based and other secured financing solutions (the Crystal Acquisition). We invested \$275 million in cash to effect the Crystal Acquisition. Crystal Financial owned approximately 98% of the outstanding ownership interest in Crystal Financial LLC. The remaining financial interest was held by various employees of Crystal Financial LLC, through their investment in Crystal Management LP. Crystal Financial LLC had a diversified portfolio of 23 loans having a total par value of approximately \$400 million at November 30, 2012 and a \$275 million committed revolving credit facility. On January 27, 2014, the revolving credit facility was expanded to \$300 million. On March 31, 2014, we exchanged \$137.5 million of our equity interest in Crystal Financial in exchange for \$137.5 million in floating rate senior secured notes in Crystal Financial bearing interest at LIBOR plus 9.50%, maturing on March 31, 2019. On May 18, 2015, the revolving credit facility was expanded to \$350 million. Our financial statements, including our schedule of investments, reflected our investments in Crystal Financial on a consolidated basis. On July 28, 2016, the Company purchased Crystal Management LP s approximately 2% equity interest in Crystal Financial LLC for approximately \$5.7 million. Upon the closing of this transaction, the Company holds 100% of the equity interest in Crystal Financial LLC. On September 30, 2016, Crystal Capital Financial Holdings LLC was dissolved.

As of December 31, 2016, Crystal Financial LLC had 26 funded commitments to 25 different issuers with a total par value of approximately \$368.8 million on total assets of \$459.7 million. As of December 31, 2015, Crystal Financial LLC had 28 funded commitments to 26 different issuers with a total par value of approximately \$465.1 million on total assets of \$518.3 million. As of December 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, the largest loan outstanding totaled \$36.3 million and \$34.3 million, respectively. For the same periods, the average exposure per issuer was \$14.8 million and \$17.9 million, respectively. Crystal Financial LLC s credit facility, which is non-recourse to Solar Capital, had approximately \$175.4 million and \$232.9 million of borrowings outstanding at December 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, respectively. For the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, Crystal Financial LLC had net income of \$34.1 million, \$27.4 million and \$27.2 million, respectively, on gross income of \$69.4 million, \$62.5 million and \$56.1 million, respectively. Due to timing and non-cash items, there may be material differences between GAAP net income and cash available for distributions. As of December 31, 2016, and based upon our expectations for Crystal Financial LLC s consolidated financial LLC will be able to maintain its dividend payments to the Company. Crystal Financial LLC s consolidated financial statements for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2015 are attached as an exhibit to this annual report on Form 10-K.

## Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program LLC

On September 2, 2014, the Company entered into a limited liability company agreement with an affiliate (the Investor ) of a fund managed by Pacific Investment Management Company LLC ( PIMCO ) to co-invest in middle market senior secured unitranche loans sourced by the same origination platform used by the

\* We have included Crystal Financial LLC, Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program LLC and Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program II LLC within our income producing investment portfolio.

Company. Initial funding commitments to the unitranche strategy total \$600 million, consisting of direct equity investments and co-investment commitments as described below. The joint venture vehicle known as the Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program LLC (SSLP) is structured as an unconsolidated Delaware limited liability company. The Company and the Investor initially made equity commitments to the SSLP of \$300.0 million and \$43.25 million, respectively. All portfolio decisions and generally all other decisions in respect of the SSLP must be approved by an investment committee of the SSLP consisting of representatives of the Company and PIMCO (with approval from a representative of each required).

On October 15, 2015, the Company entered into an amended and restated limited liability company agreement for its SSLP to add Voya Investment Management LLC (Voya), part of Voya Financial, Inc. (NYSE: VOYA), as a partner in SSLP in place of the investor that was previously the Company s partner in SSLP, though this investor may still co-invest up to \$300 million of equity in unitranche loans alongside SSLP. This joint venture is expected to invest primarily in senior secured unitranche loans to middle market companies predominantly owned by private equity sponsors or entrepreneurs, consistent with the Company s core origination and underwriting mandate. In addition to the Company s prior equity commitment of \$300.0 million to SSLP, Voya has made an initial equity commitment of \$25.0 million to SSLP, with the ability to upsize.

On November 2, 2015, the Company assigned \$125.0 million of its \$300.0 million commitment to SSLP to Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program II LLC (SSLP II), a Delaware limited liability company.

On November 25, 2015, SSLP commenced operations. On June 30, 2016, SSLP as transferor and SSLP 2016-1, LLC, a newly formed wholly owned subsidiary of SSLP, as borrower entered into a \$200 million senior secured revolving credit facility (the SSLP Facility ) with Wells Fargo Bank, NA acting as administrative agent. Solar Capital Ltd. acts as servicer under the SSLP Facility. The SSLP Facility is scheduled to mature on June 30, 2021. The SSLP Facility generally bears interest at a rate of LIBOR plus 2.50%. SSLP and SSLP 2016-1, LLC, as applicable, have made certain customary representations and warranties, and are required to comply with various covenants, including leverage restrictions, reporting requirements and other customary requirements for similar credit facilities. The SSLP Facility also includes usual and customary events of default for credit facilities of this nature. There were \$67.1 million of borrowings outstanding as of December 31, 2016. During the year ended December 31, 2016, using proceeds from the SSLP Facility, SSLP returned capital totaling \$28.9 million and \$4.1 million to the Company and Voya, respectively. As of December 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, the Company and Voya had contributed combined equity capital in the amount of \$116.4 million and \$92.2 million, respectively. Of the \$116.4 million of contributed equity capital at December 31, 2016, the Company contributed \$29.9 million in the form of investments and \$72.0 million in the form of cash and Voya contributed \$14.5 million in the form of cash. As of December 31, 2016, the Company and Voya s remaining commitments to SSLP totaled \$73.1 million and \$10.5 million, respectively. The Company, along with Voya, controls the funding of SSLP and SSLP may not call the unfunded commitments without approval of both the Company and Voya.

As of December 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, SSLP had total assets of \$184.8 million and \$92.5 million, respectively. For the same periods, SSLP s portfolio consisted of floating rate senior secured loans to 11 and 4 different borrowers, respectively. For the year ended December 31, 2016, SSLP invested \$89.4 million in 8 portfolio companies. Investments prepaid totaled \$1.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2016. For the period from November 25, 2015 through December 31, 2015, SSLP invested \$91.8 million in 4 portfolio companies. Investments prepaid totaled \$0.1 million for the period from November 25, 2015 through December 31, 2015, the weighted average yield of SSLP s portfolio was 7.4% and 8.5%, respectively, measured at fair value and 7.5% and 8.5%, respectively, measured at cost.

# SSLP Portfolio as of December 31, 2016 (in thousands)

		Spread Above I	LIBOR	Interest	Maturity	Par		Fair
Description	Industry	Index(1)	Floor	Rate(2)	Date	Amount	Cost	Value(3)
AccentCare,								
Inc.	Health Care Providers & Services	L+575	1.00%	6.75%	9/3/21	\$ 4,875	\$ 4,875	\$ 4,875
Alera Group								
Intermediate	_							
Holdings, Inc.	Insurance	L+550	1.00%	6.50%	12/30/22	13,824	13,686	13,686
Associated								
Pathologists,		1.500	1 000	( 000	0/1/01	2 202	2.0(1	2 075
LLC	Health Care Providers & Services	L+500	1.00%	6.00%	8/1/21	3,292	3,261	3,275
CIBT Haldings Inc.		1.505	1 000	( )=0	(120,122)	12 102	12.070	12 071
-	Professional Services	L+525	1.00%	6.25%	6/28/22	13,102	12,979	12,971
Empower								
Payments A aquisition								
Acquisition, Inc.								
(RevSpring)	Professional Services	L+550	1.00%	6.50%	11/30/23	13,875	13,600	13,597
Falmouth	Thessional Services	L+330	1.00 /	0.3070	11/30/23	15,675	15,000	15,577
Group								
Holdings								
Corp.								
(AMPAC)(4)	Chemicals	L+675	1.00%	7.75%	12/14/21	34,650	34,202	34,650
Pet Holdings	Chemieus	LIGIE	1.0070	111070	12/11/21	5 1,050	51,202	5 1,05 0
ULC & Pet								
Supermarket,								
Inc.	Specialty Retail	L+550	1.00%	6.50%	7/5/22	20,625	20,336	20,367
PPT	1 2						,	
Management								
Holdings,								
LLC	Health Care Providers & Services	L+600	1.00%	7.00%	12/16/22	12,000	11,881	11,880
PSKW,								
LLC & PDR,								
LLC	Health Care Providers & Services	L+425	1.00%	5.25%	11/25/21	2,475	2,454	2,475
PSKW,								
LLC & PDR,								
LLC	Health Care Providers & Services	L+839	1.00%	9.39%	11/25/21	22,250	21,866	21,861
U.S.								
Anesthesia								
Partners Inc.	Health Care Providers & Services	L+500	1.00%	6.00%	12/31/19	19,557	19,407	19,362
VetCor								
Professional								
Practices		1 (25	1.00~		1/00/01	01.010	01 (0)	01 401
LLC	Health Care Facilities	L+625	1.00%	7.25%	4/20/21	21,818	21,686	21,491
Table of Co	ntents							111

- (1) Floating rate instruments accrue interest at a predetermined spread relative to an index, typically the LIBOR or PRIME rate. These instruments are typically subject to a LIBOR or PRIME rate floor.
- (2) Floating rate debt investments typically bear interest at a rate determined by reference to either the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR or L) index rate or the prime index rate (PRIME or P), and which typically reset monthly, quarterly or semi-annually. For each debt investment we have provided the current interest rate in effect as of December 31, 2016.
- (3) Represents the fair value in accordance with ASC Topic 820. The determination of such fair value is not included in the Board s valuation process described elsewhere herein.
- (4) The Company also holds this security on its Consolidated Statements of Assets and Liabilities.

### SSLP Portfolio as of December 31, 2015 (in thousands)

		Interest	Maturity	Par		Fair
Description	Industry	Rate(1)	Date	Amount	Cost	Value(2)
Falmouth Group						
Holdings Corp.						
(AMPAC)(3)	Chemicals	9.25%	12/14/21	\$ 35,000	\$34,478	\$ 34,475
PSKW, LLC & PDR,						
LLC(3)	Health Care Providers & Services	5.25%	11/25/21	2,750	2,723	2,723
PSKW, LLC & PDR,						
LLC(3)	Health Care Providers & Services	9.42%	11/25/21	122,250	21,810	21,805
U.S. Anesthesia						
Partners Inc.	Health Care Providers & Services	6.00%	12/31/19	19,757	19,561	19,559
VetCor Professional						
Practices LLC	Health Care Facilities	7.00%	4/20/21	13,197	13,197	13,197

<sup>\$91,769 \$91,759</sup> 

(1) Floating rate debt investments typically bear interest at a rate determined by reference to either the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR or L) index rate or the prime index rate (PRIME or P), and which typically reset monthly, quarterly or semi-annually. For each debt investment we have provided the current interest rate in effect as of December 31, 2015.

(2) Represents the fair value in accordance with ASC Topic 820. The determination of such fair value is not included in the Board s valuation process described elsewhere herein.

(3) The Company also holds a portion of this position on its Consolidated Statements of Assets and Liabilities. Below is certain summarized financial information for SSLP as of December 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015 and for the year ended December 31, 2016 and the period from November 25, 2015 through December 31, 2015:

	December 31,		Dec	December 31,	
Selected Balance Sheet Information for SSLP (in thousands):		2016		2015	
Investments at fair value (cost \$180,233 and \$91,769, respectively)	\$	180,490	\$	91,759	
Cash and other assets		4,326		769	
Total assets	\$	184,816	\$	92,528	
Debt outstanding	\$	67,148	\$		
Distributions payable		1,688		253	
Interest payable and other credit facility related expenses		660			
Accrued expenses and other payables		287		72	
Total liabilities	\$	69,783	\$	325	
Members equity	\$	115,033	\$	92,203	
Total liabilities and members equity	\$	184,816	\$	92,528	

Selected Income Statement Information for SSLP (in thousands):	e Dece	Year ended mber 31, 2016	For the Period November 25, 201 (commencement of operations) throug December 31, 2015	
Interest income	\$	9,187	\$	462
Service fees* Interest and other credit facility expenses**	\$	84 3,878	\$	4
Other general and administrative expenses		138		175
Total expenses	\$	4,100	\$	179
Net investment income	\$	5,087	\$	283
Net change in unrealized gain on investments		267		(10)

### Table of Contents

#### Net income

\* Service fees are included within the Company s Consolidated Statements of Operations as other income.

\*\* SSLP made an irrevocable election to apply the fair value option of accounting to the SSLP Facility, in accordance with ASC 825-10. As such, all expenses related to the establishment of the SSLP Facility were expensed during the year ended December 31, 2016. These amounts totaled \$2,816.

# Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program II LLC

On November 2, 2015, the Company assigned \$125.0 million of its \$300.0 million commitment to SSLP to SSLP II, a Delaware limited liability company. On August 5, 2016, the Company entered into an amended and restated limited liability company agreement with WFI Loanco, LLC (WFI) and SSLP II commenced operations. Also on August 5, 2016, the Company assigned approximately \$50.0 million of its \$125.0 million commitment to SSLP II to Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program III LLC (SSLP III), a newly formed Delaware limited liability company. SSLP III, which has not commenced operations, is currently wholly owned

by Solar Capital Ltd. but may bring in unaffiliated investors at a later date. The Company and WFI s equity commitments to SSLP II now total \$75.0 million and \$18.0 million, respectively.

On November 15, 2016, SSLP II as transferor and SSLP II 2016-1, LLC, a newly formed wholly owned subsidiary of SSLP II, as borrower entered into a \$100 million senior secured revolving credit facility (the SSLP II Facility) with Wells Fargo Bank, NA acting as administrative agent. Solar Capital Ltd. acts as servicer under the SSLP II Facility. The SSLP II Facility is scheduled to mature on November 15, 2021. The SSLP II Facility generally bears interest at a rate of LIBOR plus 2.50%. SSLP II and SSLP II 2016-1, LLC, as applicable, have made certain customary representations and warranties, and are required to comply with various covenants, including leverage restrictions, reporting requirements and other customary requirements for similar credit facilities. The SSLP II Facility also includes usual and customary events of default for credit facilities of this nature. There were \$33.0 million of borrowings outstanding as of December 31, 2016. During the period August 5, 2016 through December 31, 2016, using proceeds from the SSLP II Facility, SSLP II returned capital totaling \$16.1 million and \$3.9 million to the Company and WFI, respectively. As of December 31, 2016, the Company and WFI contributed combined equity capital in the amount of \$47.0 million and \$11.3 million, respectively. Of the \$58.2 million of contributed equity capital at December 31, 2016, the Company contributed \$43.5 million in the form of investments and \$3.5 million in the form of cash and WFI contributed \$11.3 million in the form of cash. As of December 31, 2016, the Company and WFI s remaining commitments to SSLP II totaled \$28.1 million and \$6.7 million, respectively. The Company, along with WFI, controls the funding of SSLP II and SSLP II may not call the unfunded commitments without approval of both the Company and WFI.

As of December 31, 2016, SSLP II had total assets of \$93.5 million. At December 31, 2016, SSLP II s portfolio consisted of floating rate senior secured loans to 12 different borrowers. For the period August 5, 2016 through December 31, 2016, SSLP II invested \$102.2 million in 12 portfolio companies. Investments prepaid totaled \$12.1 million for the same period. At December 31, 2016, the weighted average yield of SSLP II s portfolio was 7.6%, measured at fair value and 7.9%, measured at cost.

### SSLP II Portfolio as of December 31, 2016 (in thousands)

		Spread Above	LIBOR	Interest	Maturity	Par		Fair
Description	Industry	Index(1)			Date	Amount	Cost	Value(3)
Alera Group								
Intermediate								
Holdings, Inc.	Insurance	L+550	1.00%	6.50%	12/30/22	\$ 5,184	\$ 5,132	\$ 5,132
American								
Teleconferencing								
Services, Ltd.		L . (50	1 000	7 500	10/0/01	14 (10	12 0 4 4	14017
(PGI) (4)	Communications Equipment	L+650	1.00%	7.50%	12/8/21	14,619	13,244	14,217
Associated	Health Care Providence & Services	L+500	1.00%	6.00%	8/1/21	1,646	1,631	1,638
CIBT Holdings,	Health Care Providers & Services	L+300	1.00%	0.00%	0/1/21	1,040	1,031	1,038
Inc.	Professional Services	L+525	1.00%	6.25%	6/28/22	5,241	5,191	5,188
Empower	r Toressionar Services	L+323	1.00%	0.2370	0/20/22	5,241	5,191	5,100
Payments								
Acquisition, Inc.								
(RevSpring)	Professional Services	L+550	1.00%	6.50%	11/30/23	6,938	6,800	6,799
Falmouth Group						-,,	-,	.,.,,
Holdings Corp.								
(AMPAC) (4)	Chemicals	L+675	1.00%	7.75%	12/14/21	10,945	10,945	10,945
Pet Holdings								
ULC & Pet								
Supermarket, Inc.	Specialty Retail	L+550	1.00%	6.50%	7/5/22	9,075	8,947	8,962
Polycom, Inc.	<b>Communications Equipment</b>	L+650	1.00%	7.50%	9/27/23	11,605	11,152	11,547
PPT Management								
Holdings, LLC	Health Care Providers & Services	L+600	1.00%	7.00%	12/16/22	10,000	9,901	9,900
PSKW, LLC &								
PDR, LLC	Health Care Providers & Services	L+425	1.00%	5.25%	11/25/21	990	990	990
PSKW, LLC &								
PDR, LLC	Health Care Providers & Services	L+839	1.00%	9.39%	11/25/21	8,900	8,748	8,744
U.S. Anesthesia		<b>. . . . . . . . . .</b>	1.00%	6000	10/01/10	4 0 0 0	4 0 0 0	4.000
Partners Inc.	Health Care Providers & Services	L+500	1.00%	6.00%	12/31/19	4,988	4,938	4,938
VetCor Professional								
Professional Practices LLC	Health Care Facilities	L+625	1.00%	7.25%	4/20/21	2,840	2,787	2,797
I factices LLC	ficatul Cale Facilities	LT02J	1.00%	1.25%	4/20/21	2,040	2,101	2,171

\$90,406 \$91,797

(1) Floating rate instruments accrue interest at a predetermined spread relative to an index, typically the LIBOR or PRIME rate. These instruments are typically subject to a LIBOR or PRIME rate floor.

(2)

Floating rate debt investments typically bear interest at a rate determined by reference to either the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR or L) index rate or the prime index rate (PRIME or P), and which typically reset monthly, quarterly or semi-annually. For each debt investment we have provided the current interest rate in effect as of December 31, 2016.

- (3) Represents the fair value in accordance with ASC Topic 820. The determination of such fair value is not included in the Board s valuation process described elsewhere herein.
- (4) The Company also holds this security on its Consolidated Statements of Assets and Liabilities.

Below is certain summarized financial information for SSLP II as of December 31, 2016 and for the period August 5, 2016 (commencement of operations) through December 31, 2016:

Selected Balance Sheet Information for SSLP II (in thousands):		December 31, 2016		
Investments at fair value (cost \$90,406)	\$	91,797		
Cash and other assets		1,670		
Total assets	\$	93,467		
Debt outstanding	\$	32,950		
Distributions payable		1,460		
Interest payable and other credit facility related expenses		147		
Accrued expenses and other payables		183		
Total liabilities	\$	34,740		
Members equity	\$	58,727		
Total liabilities and members equity	\$	93,467		
Selected Income Statement Information for SSLP II (in thousands):				
Interest income	\$	2,259		
Service fees*	\$	28		
Interest and other credit facility expenses**		1,536		
interest and saler ereals include for the interest		,		
• •		130		
Other general and administrative expenses	\$			
Other general and administrative expenses Total expenses	\$ \$	130		
Other general and administrative expenses         Total expenses         Net investment income         Net change in unrealized gain on investments		130 1,694		

- \* Service fees are included within the Company s Consolidated Statements of Operations as other income.
- \*\* SSLP II made an irrevocable election to apply the fair value option of accounting to the SSLP II Facility, in accordance with ASC 825-10. As such, all expenses related to the establishment of the SSLP II Facility were expensed during the year ended December 31, 2016. These amounts totaled \$1,389.

# **Stock Repurchase Program**

On July 31, 2013, the Company s board of directors authorized a program for the purpose of repurchasing up to \$100 million of the Company s common stock. Under the repurchase program, the Company could have, but was not obligated to, repurchase its outstanding common stock in the open market from time to time provided that the Company complied with the prohibitions under its Insider Trading Policies and Procedures and the guidelines specified in Rules 10b-18 and 10b-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, including certain price, market volume and timing constraints. On December 5, 2013, the Company s board of directors extended the repurchase program to be in place until the earlier of July 31, 2014 or until \$100 million of the Company s outstanding shares of common stock had been repurchased. On July 31, 2014, the Company s stock repurchase program expired. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, the Company repurchased 1,779,033 shares at an average price of approximately \$21.97 per share, inclusive of commissions. The total dollar amount of shares repurchased was \$39.1 million. During the year ended December 31, 2013, the Company

repurchased 796,418 shares at an average price of approximately \$21.98 per share, inclusive of commissions, for a total dollar amount of \$17.5 million.

On October 7, 2015, the Company announced a share repurchase program to purchase common stock in the open market in an amount up to \$30 million. Under the repurchase program, the Company may, but is not obligated to, repurchase its outstanding common stock in the open market from time to time provided that the Company complies with the prohibitions under its Insider Trading Policies and Procedures and the guidelines specified in Rules 10b-18 and 10b-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, including certain price, market volume and timing constraints. On October 7, 2016 the Company s stock repurchase program expired. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, the Company repurchased 216,237 shares at an average price of \$15.76 per share, inclusive of commissions. The total dollar amount of shares repurchased was \$3.4 million. During the year ended December 31, 2015, the Company repurchased 400 shares at an average price of \$15.98 per share, inclusive of commissions, for a total dollar amount of \$6 thousand.

### **Critical Accounting Policies**

The preparation of consolidated financial statements and related disclosures in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements, and revenues and expenses during the periods reported. Actual results could materially differ from those estimates. We have identified the following items as critical accounting policies. Within the context of these critical accounting policies and disclosed subsequent events herein, we are not currently aware of any other reasonably likely events or circumstances that would result in materially different amounts being reported.

### Valuation of Portfolio Investments

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

Under procedures established by our board of directors (the Board ), we value investments, including certain senior secured debt, subordinated debt and other debt securities with maturities greater than 60 days, for which market quotations are readily available, at such market quotations (unless they are deemed not to represent fair value). We attempt to obtain market quotations from at least two brokers or dealers (if available, otherwise from a principal market maker or a primary market dealer or other independent pricing service). We utilize mid-market pricing as a practical expedient for fair value unless a different point within the range is more representative. If and when market quotations are deemed not to represent fair value, we typically utilize independent third-party valuation firms to assist us in determining fair value. Accordingly, such investments go through our multi-step valuation process as described below. In each case, independent valuation firms consider observable market inputs together with significant unobservable inputs in arriving at their valuation recommendations. Debt investments with maturities of 60 days or less shall each be valued at cost plus accreted discount, or minus amortized premium, which is expected to approximate fair value, unless such valuation, in the judgment of the Investment Adviser, does not represent fair value, in which case such investments shall be valued at fair value as determined in good faith by or under the direction of our Board. Investments that are not publicly traded or whose market quotations are not readily available are valued at fair value as determined in good faith by or under the direction of our Board. Such determination of fair values involves subjective judgments and estimates.

With respect to investments for which market quotations are not readily available or when such market quotations are deemed not to represent fair value, our Board has approved a multi-step valuation process each quarter, as described

below:

(1) our quarterly valuation process begins with each portfolio company or investment being initially valued by the investment professionals of the Investment Adviser responsible for the portfolio investment;

- (2) preliminary valuation conclusions are then documented and discussed with senior management of the Investment Adviser;
- (3) independent valuation firms engaged by our Board conduct independent appraisals and review the Investment Adviser s preliminary valuations and make their own independent assessment for all material assets;
- (4) the audit committee of the Board reviews the preliminary valuation of the Investment Adviser and that of the independent valuation firm and responds to the valuation recommendation of the independent valuation firm to reflect any comments; and
- (5) the Board discusses valuations and determines the fair value of each investment in our portfolio in good faith based on the input of the Investment Adviser, the respective independent valuation firm and the audit committee.

Investments in all asset classes are valued utilizing a market approach, an income approach, or both approaches, as appropriate. However, in accordance with ASC 820-10, certain investments that qualify as investment companies in accordance with ASC 946, may be valued using net asset value as a practical expedient for fair value. The market approach uses prices and other relevant information generated by market transactions involving identical or comparable assets or liabilities (including a business). The income approach uses valuation techniques to convert future amounts (for example, cash flows or earnings) to a single present amount (discounted). The measurement is based on the value indicated by current market expectations about those future amounts. In following these approaches, the types of factors that we may take into account in fair value pricing our investments include, as relevant: available current market data, including relevant and applicable market trading and transaction comparables, applicable market yields and multiples, security covenants, call protection provisions, the nature and realizable value of any collateral, the portfolio company s ability to make payments, its earnings and discounted cash flows, the markets in which the portfolio company does business, comparisons of financial ratios of peer companies that are public, M&A comparables, our principal market (as the reporting entity) and enterprise values, among other factors. When available, broker quotations and/or quotations provided by pricing services are considered as an input in the valuation process. Escrow receivables, if any, included in the receivables for investments sold in the Consolidated Statements of Assets and Liabilities are reviewed quarterly and the value of the receivable is adjusted as necessary. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, there has been no change to the Company's valuation techniques and the nature of the related inputs considered in the valuation process.

Accounting Standards Codification ( ASC ) Topic 820 classifies the inputs used to measure these fair values into the following hierarchy:

Level 1: Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities, accessible by the Company at the measurement date.

Level 2: Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets, or quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, or other observable inputs other than quoted prices.

Level 3: Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

In all cases, the level in the fair value hierarchy within which the fair value measurement in its entirety falls is determined based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Our assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgment and considers factors specific to each investment. The exercise of judgment is based in part on our knowledge of the asset class and our prior experience.

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

### Valuation of Credit Facility, Senior Secured Notes and 2022 Unsecured Notes

The Company has made an irrevocable election to apply the fair value option of accounting to its Credit Facility, Senior Secured Notes and 2022 Unsecured Notes, in accordance with ASC 825-10. We believe accounting for the Credit Facility, Senior Secured Notes and 2022 Unsecured Notes at fair value better aligns the measurement methodologies of assets and liabilities, which may mitigate certain earnings volatility.

### **Revenue Recognition**

The Company records dividend income and interest, adjusted for amortization of premium and accretion of discount, on an accrual basis. Investments that are expected to pay regularly scheduled interest and/or dividends in cash are generally placed on non-accrual status when principal or interest/dividend cash payments are past due 30 days or more and/or when it is no longer probable that principal or interest/dividend cash payments will be collected. Such non-accrual investments are restored to accrual status if past due principal and interest or dividends are paid in cash, and in management s judgment, are likely to continue timely payment of their remaining interest or dividend obligations. Interest or dividend cash payments received on investments may be recognized as income or applied to principal depending upon management s judgment. Some of our investments may have contractual PIK interest or dividends. PIK interest and dividends computed at the contractual rate are accrued into income and reflected as receivable up to the capitalization date. PIK investments offer issuers the option at each payment date of making payments in cash or in additional securities. When additional securities are received, they typically have the same terms, including maturity dates and interest rates as the original securities issued. On these payment dates, the Company capitalizes the accrued interest or dividends receivable (reflecting such amounts as the basis in the additional securities received). PIK generally becomes due at the maturity of the investment or upon the investment being called by the issuer. At the point the Company believes PIK is not expected to be realized, the PIK investment will be placed on non-accrual status. When a PIK investment is placed on non-accrual status, the accrued, uncapitalized interest or dividends is reversed from the related receivable through interest or dividend income, respectively. The Company does not reverse previously capitalized PIK interest or dividends. Upon capitalization, PIK is subject to the fair value estimates associated with their related investments. PIK investments on non-accrual status are restored to accrual status if the Company again believes that PIK is expected to be realized. Loan origination fees, original issue discount, and market discounts are capitalized and amortized into income using the interest method or straight-line, as applicable. Upon the prepayment of a loan, any unamortized loan origination fees are recorded as interest income. We record prepayment premiums on loans and other investments as interest income when we receive such amounts. Capital structuring fees are recorded as other income when earned.

The typically higher yields and interest rates on PIK securities, to the extent we invested, reflects the payment deferral and increased credit risk associated with such instruments and that such investments may represent a significantly higher credit risk than coupon loans. PIK securities may have unreliable valuations because their continuing accruals require continuing judgments about the collectability of the deferred payments and the value of any associated collateral. PIK interest has the effect of generating investment income and increasing the incentive fees payable at a compounding rate. In addition, the deferral of PIK interest also increases the loan-to-value ratio at a compounding rate. PIK securities create the risk that incentive fees will be paid to the Investment Adviser based on non-cash accruals that ultimately may not be realized, but the Investment Adviser will be under no obligation to reimburse the Company for these fees. For the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014, capitalized PIK income totaled \$0.0 million, \$0.5 million and \$3.3 million, respectively.

### Net Realized Gain or Loss and Net Change in Unrealized Gain or Loss

We generally measure realized gain or loss by the difference between the net proceeds from the repayment or sale and the amortized cost basis of the investment, without regard to unrealized appreciation or depreciation previously recognized, but considering unamortized origination or commitment fees and prepayment penalties.

The net change in unrealized gain or loss reflects the change in portfolio investment values during the reporting period, including the reversal of previously recorded unrealized gain or loss, when gains or losses are realized. Gains or losses on investments are calculated by using the specific identification method.

# Income Taxes

Solar Capital, a U.S. corporation, has elected to be treated as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code. In order to qualify for taxation as a RIC, the Company is required, among other things, to timely distribute to its stockholders at least 90% of investment company taxable income, as defined by the Code, for each year. Depending on the level of taxable income earned in a given tax year, we may choose to carry forward taxable income in excess of current year distributions into the next tax year and pay a 4% excise tax on such income, as required. To the extent that the Company determines that its estimated current year annual taxable income will be in excess of estimated current year distributions, the Company accrues an estimated excise tax, if any, on estimated excess taxable income.

### **Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

In February 2015, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update ( ASU ) 2015-02, Consolidation (Topic 810) Amendments to the Consolidation Analysis. The update changes the analysis that a reporting entity must perform to determine whether it should consolidate certain types of legal entities. Public companies are required to apply ASU 2015-02 for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2015. Accordingly, the Company has evaluated the impact of ASU 2015-02 on its consolidated financial statements and determined that the adoption of ASU 2015-02 has not had a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

In April 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-03, Interest Imputation of Interest (Subtopic 835-30) Simplifying the Presentation of Debt Issuance Costs. The update requires that debt issuance costs related to a recognized debt liability be presented in the balance sheet as a direct deduction from the carrying amount of that debt liability, consistent with debt discounts. Public companies are required to apply ASU 2015-03 retrospectively for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2015. Accordingly, the Company has evaluated the impact of ASU 2015-03 on its consolidated financial statements and determined that the adoption of ASU 2015-03 has not had a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

In May 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-07, Disclosures for Investments in Certain Entities That Calculate Net Asset Value per Share (or Its Equivalent). The update eliminates the requirement to categorize investments in the fair value hierarchy if their fair value is measured at net asset value (NAV) per share (or its equivalent) using the practical expedient in the FASB s fair value measurement guidance. Public companies are required to apply ASU 2015-07 retrospectively for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2015. Accordingly, the Company has evaluated the impact of ASU 2015-07 on its consolidated financial statements and determined that the adoption of ASU 2015-07 has not had a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

In November 2016, FASB issued ASU 2016-18, Statement of Cash Flows, which will amend FASB ASC 230. The amendments in this Update require that a statement of cash flows explain the change during the period in the total of cash, cash equivalents, and amounts generally described as restricted cash or restricted cash equivalents. Therefore, amounts generally described as restricted cash and restricted cash equivalents should be included with cash and cash equivalents when reconciling the beginning-of-period and end-of-period total amounts shown on the statement of cash flows. The amendments in this Update apply to all entities that have restricted cash or restricted cash equivalents and are required to present a statement of cash flows under Topic 230. For public business entities, the amendments are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2017, and interim periods within those fiscal years. Early adoption is permitted, including adoption in an interim period. The Company is evaluating the impact of ASU

2016-18 on its consolidated financial statements and disclosures.

In December 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-19, Technical Corrections and Improvements. As part of this guidance, ASU 2016-19 amends FASB ASC 820 to clarify the difference between a valuation approach and a valuation technique. The amendment also requires an entity to disclose when there has been a change in either or both a valuation approach and/or a valuation technique. ASU 2016-19 is effective on a prospective basis for financial statements issued for fiscal years, and interim periods within those fiscal years, beginning after December 15, 2016 on a prospective basis. The Company is evaluating the impact of ASU 2016-19 on its consolidated financial statements and disclosures.

### **RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

Results comparisons are for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016, December 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014.

#### **Investment Income**

For the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014, gross investment income totaled \$151.8 million, \$115.6 million and \$121.9 million, respectively. The increase in gross investment income from 2015 to 2016 was primarily due to a larger average income producing investment portfolio year over year, increased dividend income from the ongoing ramping of investments in SSLP and SSLP II as well as an increased volume of repayments. The decrease in gross investment income from 2014 to 2015 was primarily due to a reduction in prepayment fee income from a reduced volume of repayments, as well as portfolio yield compression.

### Expenses

Net expenses totaled \$80.7 million, \$51.2 million and \$55.2 million, respectively, for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014, of which \$45.9 million, \$27.4 million and \$32.1 million, respectively, were base management fees and net performance-based incentive fees and \$24.6 million, \$15.6 million and \$14.4 million, respectively, were interest and other credit facility expenses (inclusive of \$3.1 million of costs related to the 2016 amendment of the Credit Facility and issuance of the 2022 Unsecured Notes in 2016). Over the same periods, \$0.0 million, \$1.7 million and \$0.0 million of performance-based incentive fees were waived. Administrative services and other general and administrative expenses totaled \$10.3 million, \$8.2 million and \$8.7 million, respectively, for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014. Expenses generally consist of management and performance-based incentive fees, administrative services fees, insurance expenses, legal fees, directors fees, transfer agency fees, printing and proxy expenses, audit and tax services expenses, and other general and administrative expenses generally consist of interest, unused fees, agency fees and loan origination fees, if any, among others. The increase in expenses from 2015 to 2016 was primarily due to higher management fees, performance-based incentive fees and interest expense on a larger average income producing investment portfolio. The decrease in expenses from 2014 to 2015 was primarily due to a decrease in performance-based incentive fees on lower net investment income.

### **Net Investment Income**

The Company s net investment income totaled \$71.1 million, \$64.4 million and \$66.7 million, or \$1.68, \$1.52 and \$1.56, per average share, respectively, for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014.

### Net Realized Gain (Loss)

The Company had investment sales and prepayments totaling approximately \$488 million, \$171 million and \$626 million, respectively, for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014. Net realized gains (losses) over

### Table of Contents

the same periods were \$0.8 million, (\$4.9) million and (\$36.8) million, respectively. Net realized gains for fiscal 2016 were related to the sale of select assets. Net realized losses for fiscal 2015 were primarily related to the realization of previously recognized unrealized losses on our investment in Quantum Foods. Net realized losses for fiscal 2014 were primarily related to the realization of previously recognized unrealized losses on our equity investments in Ark Real Estate, L.P. and Nuveen Investments, Inc.

## Net Change in Unrealized Gain (Loss)

For the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014, net change in unrealized gain (loss) on the Company s assets and liabilities totaled \$34.9 million, (\$45.4) million and \$18.6 million, respectively. Net unrealized gain for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 was primarily related to appreciation in the value of our investments in Crystal Financial LLC, WireCo Worldgroup Inc., Global Tel\*Link Corporation, Asurion LLC and DISA Holdings, among others. Partially offsetting the net appreciation was depreciation in the value of our investments in Breathe Technologies, Inc., Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program LLC and Rug Doctor, among others. Net unrealized loss for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015 was primarily due to a yield-based mark-to-market technical impact on the fair value of our investments. Net unrealized gain for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 was primarily due to the reversal of unrealized depreciation on our investments in Ark Real Estate, L.P. and Nuveen Investments, Inc.

### Net Increase in Net Assets From Operations

For the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014, the Company had a net increase in net assets resulting from operations of \$106.8 million, \$14.1 million and \$48.5 million, respectively. For the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014, earnings per average share were \$2.53, \$0.33 and \$1.13, respectively.

# LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

The Company s liquidity and capital resources are generated and generally available through its Credit Facility maturing in September 2021, through cash flows from operations, investment sales, prepayments of senior and subordinated loans, income earned on investments and cash equivalents, and periodic follow-on equity and/or debt offerings. As of December 31, 2016, we had a total of \$389.8 million of unused borrowing capacity under the Credit Facility, subject to borrowing base limits.

We may from time to time issue equity and/or debt securities in either public or private offerings. The issuance of such securities will depend on future market conditions, funding needs and other factors and there can be no assurance that any such issuance will occur or be successful. The primary uses of existing funds and any funds raised in the future is expected to be for investments in portfolio companies, repayment of indebtedness, cash distributions to our shareholders, or for other general corporate purposes.

On November 8, 2016, the Company closed a private offering of \$50 million of the 2022 Unsecured Notes with a fixed interest rate of 4.40% and a maturity date of May 8, 2022. Interest on the 2022 Unsecured Notes is due semi-annually on May 8 and November 8. The 2022 Unsecured Notes were issued in a private placement only to qualified institutional buyers pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

On January 11, 2013, the Company closed its most recent follow-on public equity offering of 6.3 million shares of common stock raising approximately \$146.9 million in net proceeds. The primary uses of the funds raised were for investments in portfolio companies, reductions in revolving debt outstanding and for other general corporate purposes.

On November 16, 2012, we issued \$100 million in aggregate principal amount of the 2042 Unsecured Notes for net proceeds of \$96.9 million. Interest on the 2042 Unsecured Notes is paid quarterly on February 15, May 15, August 15 and November 15, at a rate of 6.75% per year, commencing on February 15, 2013. The 2042 Unsecured Notes mature on November 15, 2042. The Company may redeem the 2042 Unsecured Notes in whole or in part at any time or from time to time on or after November 15, 2017.

On May 10, 2012, the Company closed a private offering of \$75 million of Senior Secured Notes with a fixed interest rate of 5.875% and a maturity date of May 10, 2017. Interest on the Senior Secured Notes is due semi-annually on May 10 and November 10. The Senior Secured Notes were issued in a private placement only to qualified institutional buyers pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

The primary uses of existing funds and any funds raised in the future is expected to be for repayment of indebtedness, investments in portfolio companies, cash distributions to our shareholders or for other general corporate purposes.

# **Cash Equivalents**

We deem certain U.S. Treasury bills, repurchase agreements and other high-quality, short-term debt securities as cash equivalents. The Company makes purchases that are consistent with its purpose of making investments in securities described in paragraphs 1 through 3 of Section 55(a) of the 1940 Act. From time to time, including at or near the end of each fiscal quarter, we consider using various temporary investment strategies for our business. One strategy includes taking proactive steps by utilizing cash equivalents as temporary assets with the objective of enhancing our investment flexibility pursuant to Section 55 of the 1940 Act. More specifically, from time-to-time we may purchase U.S. Treasury bills or other high-quality, short-term debt securities at or near the end of the quarter and typically close out the position on a net cash basis subsequent to quarter end. We may also utilize repurchase agreements or other balance sheet transactions, including drawing down on our credit facilities, as deemed appropriate. The amount of these transactions or such drawn cash for this purpose is excluded from total assets for purposes of computing the asset base upon which the management fee is determined. We held approximately \$310 million in cash equivalents as of December 31, 2016.

### Debt

### Unsecured Notes

On November 8, 2016, the Company closed a private offering of \$50 million of the 2022 Unsecured Notes with a fixed interest rate of 4.40% and a maturity date of May 8, 2022. Interest on the 2022 Unsecured Notes is due semi-annually on May 8 and November 8. The 2022 Unsecured Notes were issued in a private placement only to qualified institutional buyers pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

On November 16, 2012, the Company and U.S. Bank National Association entered into an Indenture and a First Supplemental Indenture relating to the Company s issuance, offer and sale of \$100 million aggregate principal amount of its 2042 Unsecured Notes. The 2042 Unsecured Notes will mature on November 15, 2042 and may be redeemed in whole or in part at the Company s option at any time or from time to time on or after November 15, 2017 at a redemption price of \$25 per security plus accrued and unpaid interest. The 2042 Unsecured Notes bear interest at a rate of 6.75% per year payable quarterly on February 15, May 15, August 15 and November 15 of each year. The 2042 Unsecured Notes are direct senior unsecured obligations of the Company.

# Revolving & Term Loan Facility

On September 30, 2016, the Company entered into a second Credit Facility amendment. The Credit Facility is currently composed of \$505 million of revolving credit (of which \$395 million represents extending lenders and \$110 million represents non-extending lenders) and \$50 million of term loans. Borrowings generally bear interest at a rate per annum equal to the base rate plus a range of 2.00-2.25% or the alternate base rate plus a range of 1.00%-1.25%. The Credit Facility has no LIBOR floor requirement. The Credit Facility matures in September 2021 and includes ratable amortization in the final year. Assuming no default or event of default has occurred, the Company may elect by written notice to repay or prepay all of the loans of the non-extending lenders, and in connection therewith to terminate the commitments of the non-extending lenders, at any time on or prior to the original maturity date of the Credit Facility in June 2018. The Credit Facility may be increased up to \$800 million with additional new lenders or an increase in commitments from current lenders. The Credit Facility contains certain customary affirmative and negative covenants and events of default. In addition, the Credit Facility contains certain financial covenants that

among other things, requires the Company to maintain a minimum shareholder s equity and a minimum asset coverage ratio. The Company also pays issuers of funded

term loans quarterly in arrears a commitment fee at the rate of 0.25% per annum on the average daily outstanding balance. In conjunction with the amendment of the Credit Facility and the issue of the 2022 Unsecured Notes, the Company expensed \$2.8 million and \$0.3 million, respectively. At December 31, 2016, outstanding USD equivalent borrowings under the Credit Facility totaled \$165.2 million.

### Senior Secured Notes

On May 10, 2012, the Company closed a private offering of \$75 million of Senior Secured Notes with a fixed interest rate of 5.875% and a maturity date of May 10, 2017. Interest on the Senior Secured Notes is due semi-annually on May 10 and November 10. The Senior Secured Notes were issued in a private placement only to qualified institutional buyers pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

Certain covenants on our issued debt may restrict our business activities, including limitations that could hinder our ability to finance additional loans and investments or to make the distributions required to maintain our status as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code. At December 31, 2016, the Company was in compliance with all financial and operational covenants required by the Credit Facilities.

### **Contractual Obligations**

A summary of our significant contractual payment obligations is as follows as of December 31, 2016:

### Payments Due by Period (in millions)

		Less than			More Than
	Total	1 Year	1-3 Years	3-5 Years	5 Years
Revolving credit facility(1)	\$115.2	\$	\$	\$ 115.2	\$
Unsecured senior notes	150.0				150.0
Senior secured notes	75.0	75.0			
Term Loans	50.0			50.0	

(1) As of December 31, 2016, we had a total of \$389.8 million of unused borrowing capacity under our revolving credit facilities, subject to borrowing base limits.

Information about our senior securities is shown in the following table (in thousands) as of each year ended December 31 since the Company commenced operations, unless otherwise noted. The indicates information which the SEC expressly does not require to be disclosed for certain types of senior securities.

Class and YearOutstandingRevolving Credit FacilitiesFiscal 2016\$ 115,2Fiscal 2015207,9Fiscal 2014Fiscal 2013	200 \$ 990 N/ 900 1,459 N/ ,452 1,510 N/ ,355 3,757 N/ ,000 2,668 N/ ,114 8,920 N/
Fiscal 2016       \$ 115,2         Fiscal 2015       207,9         Fiscal 2014       \$ 115,2	900 1,459 N/ N/ 452 1,510 N/ 355 3,757 N/ 000 2,668 N/ 114 8,920 N/
Fiscal 2015 207,9 Fiscal 2014	900 1,459 N/ N/ 452 1,510 N/ 355 3,757 N/ 000 2,668 N/ 114 8,920 N/
Fiscal 2014	N/ N/ N/ N/ N/ N/ N/ 000 2,668 N/ 114 8,920 N/
	N/       ,452     1,510       ,355     3,757       ,000     2,668       N/       ,114     8,920
FISCAL ZULIA	,452       1,510       N/         ,355       3,757       N/         ,000       2,668       N/         ,114       8,920       N/
	355     3,757     N/       ,000     2,668     N/       ,114     8,920     N/
,	000 2,668 N/ 114 8,920 N/
Fiscal 2010 400,0	114 8,920 N/
2022 Unsecured Notes	000 \$ 430 N/
Fiscal 2016 \$ 50,0	
2042 Unsecured Notes	φ 150 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Fiscal 2016 \$ 100,0	,000 \$ 859 \$ 1,00
Fiscal 2015 100,0	
Fiscal 2014 100,0	
Fiscal 2013 100,0	
Fiscal 2012 100,0	· · · ·
Senior Secured Notes	
Fiscal 2016 \$ 75,0	,000 \$ 645 N/
Fiscal 2015 75,0	,000 527 N/
Fiscal 2014 75,0	,000 1,721 N/
Fiscal 2013 75,0	,000 1,808 N/
Fiscal 2012 75,0	,000 428 N/
Term Loans	
Fiscal 2016 \$ 50,0	,000 \$ 430 N/
Fiscal 2015 50,0	,000 351 N/
Fiscal 2014 50,0	,000 1,147 N/
Fiscal 2013 50,0	,000 1,206 N/
Fiscal 2012 50,0	,000 285 N/
Fiscal 2011 35,0	,000 653 N/
Fiscal 2010 35,0	,000 233 N/
Total Senior Securities	
Fiscal 2016 \$ 390,2	,200 \$ 3,354 N/
Fiscal 2015 432,9	,900 3,039 N/
Fiscal 2014 225,0	,000 5,162 N/
Fiscal 2013 225,0	
Fiscal 2012 489,4	,452 2,794 N/

Fiscal 2011	236,355	4,410	N/A
Fiscal 2010	435,000	2,901	N/A
Fiscal 2009	88,114	8,920	N/A

- (1) Total amount of each class of senior securities outstanding at the end of the period presented.
- (2) The asset coverage ratio for a class of senior securities representing indebtedness is calculated as our consolidated total assets, less all liabilities and indebtedness not represented by senior securities, divided by

all senior securities representing indebtedness. This asset coverage ratio is multiplied by one thousand to determine the Asset Coverage Per Unit. In order to determine the specific Asset Coverage Per Unit for each class of debt, the total Asset Coverage Per Unit is allocated based on the amount outstanding in each class of debt at the end of the period. As of December 31, 2016, asset coverage was 335.4%.

- (3) The amount to which such class of senior security would be entitled upon the involuntary liquidation of the issuer in preference to any security junior to it.
- (4) Not applicable except for the Unsecured Senior Notes which are publicly traded. The Average Market Value Per Unit is calculated by taking the daily average closing price during the period and dividing it by twenty-five dollars per share and multiplying the result by one thousand to determine a unit price per thousand consistent with Asset Coverage Per Unit. The average market value for the fiscal 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013 and 2012 periods was \$100,175, \$98,196, \$94,301, \$93,392, and \$92,302, respectively.

We have also entered into two contracts under which we have future commitments: the Advisory Agreement, pursuant to which Solar Capital Partners, LLC has agreed to serve as our investment adviser, and the Administration Agreement, pursuant to which the Administrator has agreed to furnish us with the facilities and administrative services necessary to conduct our day-to-day operations and provide on our behalf managerial assistance to those portfolio companies to which we are required to provide such assistance. Payments under the Advisory Agreement are equal to (1) a percentage of the value of our average gross assets and (2) a two-part incentive fee. Payments under the Administrator s overhead in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, including rent, technology systems, insurance and our allocable portion of the costs of our chief financial officer and chief compliance officer and their respective staffs. Either party may terminate each of the Advisory Agreement and administration agreement without penalty upon 60 days written notice to the other. See note 3 to our Consolidated Financial Statements.

On October 15, 2015, SSLP entered into an amended and restated servicing agreement with the Company. SSLP engaged and retained the Company to provide certain administrative services relating to the facilities, supplies and necessary ongoing overhead support services for the operation of SSLP s ongoing business affairs in exchange for a fee. Either party may terminate this agreement upon 30 days written notice to the other.

On August 5, 2016, SSLP II entered into a servicing agreement with the Company. SSLP II engaged and retained the Company to provide certain administrative services relating to the facilities, supplies and necessary ongoing overhead support services for the operation of SSLP II s ongoing business affairs in exchange for a fee. Either party may terminate this agreement upon 30 days written notice to the other.

# **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

The Company had unfunded debt and equity commitments to various revolving and delayed draw loans as well as to Crystal Financial LLC. The total amount of these unfunded commitments as of December 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015 is \$64.0 million and \$65.8 million, respectively, comprised of the following:

(in millions)	nber 31, 016	nber 31, 015
Crystal Financial LLC	\$ 44.3	\$ 50.0
Conventus Orthopaedics, Inc	2.2	
Achaogen, Inc.		10.0
AgaMatrix, Inc.		3.3
aTyr Pharma, Inc	5.0	

CardioDx, Inc.		2.5
SentreHeart, Inc	2.5	
Vapotherm, Inc	10.0	
Total Commitments*	\$ 64.0	\$ 65.8

\* The Company controls the funding of the Crystal Financial LLC commitment and may cancel it at its discretion (also see Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program and Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program II sections in Item 7).

As of December 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, the Company had sufficient cash available and/or liquid securities available to fund its commitments as well as the commitments to SSLP and SSLP II disclosed earlier.

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

### Distributions

The following table reflects the cash distributions per share on our common stock for the two most recent fiscal years and the current fiscal year to date:

Date Declared	<b>Record Date</b>	e Payment Date		nount
Fiscal 2017				
February 22, 2017	March 23, 2017	April 4, 2017	\$	0.40
Fiscal 2016				
November 2, 2016	December 15, 2016	January 4, 2017	\$	0.40
August 2, 2016	September 22, 2016	October 4, 2016		0.40
May 3, 2016	June 23, 2016	July 1, 2016		0.40
February 24, 2016	March 24, 2016	April 1, 2016		0.40
Total 2016			\$	1.60
Fiscal 2015				
November 3, 2015	December 17, 2015	January 6, 2016	\$	0.40
August 4, 2015	September 24, 2015	October 2, 2015		0.40
May 5, 2015	June 25, 2015	July 1, 2015		0.40
February 25, 2015	March 19, 2015	April 2, 2015		0.40

Total 2015

Tax characteristics of all distributions will be reported to shareholders on Form 1099 after the end of the calendar year. Future quarterly distributions, if any, will be determined by our Board. We expect that our distributions to stockholders will generally be from accumulated net investment income, from net realized capital gains or non-taxable return of capital, if any, as applicable.

\$

1.60

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

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

We may not be able to achieve operating results that will allow us to make distributions at a specific level or to increase the amount of these distributions from time to time. In addition, due to the asset coverage test applicable to us as a business development company, we may in the future be limited in our ability to make distributions. Also, our revolving credit facility may limit our ability to declare distributions if we default under certain provisions. If we do not distribute a certain percentage of our income annually, we will suffer adverse tax consequences, including possible loss of the tax benefits available to us as a regulated investment company. In addition, in accordance with GAAP and tax regulations, we include in income certain amounts that we have not yet received in cash, such as contractual payment-in-kind interest, which represents contractual interest added to the loan balance that becomes due at the end of the loan term, or the accrual of original issue or market discount. Since we may recognize income before or without receiving cash representing such income, we may have difficulty meeting the requirement to distribute at least 90% of our investment company taxable income to obtain tax benefits as a regulated investment company.

With respect to the distributions to stockholders, income from origination, structuring, closing and certain other upfront fees associated with investments in portfolio companies are treated as taxable income and accordingly, distributed to stockholders.

#### **Related Parties**

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

We have entered into the Advisory Agreement with Solar Capital Partners. Mr. Gross, our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and Mr. Spohler, our Chief Operating Officer and board member, are managing members and senior investment professionals of, and have financial and controlling interests in, the Investment Adviser. In addition, Mr. Peteka, our Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Corporate Secretary serves as the Chief Financial Officer for Solar Capital Partners.

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

We have entered into a license agreement with the Investment Adviser, pursuant to which the Investment Adviser has granted us a non-exclusive, royalty-free license to use the name Solar Capital. The Investment Adviser may also manage other funds in the future that may have investment mandates that are similar, in whole and in part, with ours. For example, the Investment Adviser presently serves as investment adviser to Solar Senior Capital Ltd., a publicly traded BDC, which focuses on investing in senior secured loans, including first lien and second lien debt instruments. In addition, Michael S. Gross, our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Bruce Spohler, our Chief Operating Officer, and Richard L. Peteka, our Chief Financial Officer, serve in similar capacities for Solar Senior Capital Ltd. The Investment Adviser and certain investment advisory affiliates may determine that an investment is appropriate for us and for one or more of those other funds. In such event, depending on the availability of such investment and other appropriate factors, the Investment Adviser or its affiliates may determine that we should invest side-by-side with one or more other funds. Any such investments will be made only

to the extent permitted by applicable law and interpretive positions of the SEC and its staff, and consistent with the Investment Adviser s allocation procedures.

Related party transactions may occur between Solar Capital Ltd. and Crystal Financial LLC, between Solar Capital Ltd. and Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program LLC, between Solar Capital Ltd. and SSLP 2016-1,

LLC, between Solar Capital Ltd. and Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program II LLC and between Solar Capital Ltd. and SSLP II 2016-1, LLC. These transactions may occur in the normal course of business. No administrative fees are paid to Solar Capital Partners by Crystal Financial LLC, Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program LLC or Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program II LLC.

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

# SENIOR SECURITIES

Information about our senior securities is shown in the following tables as of each year ended December 31 since the Company commenced operations, unless otherwise noted. The report of our independent registered public accounting firm on the senior securities table as of each year ended as of December 31 since the Company commenced operations, unless otherwise noted, is attached as, or incorporated by reference to, an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. The indicates information which the SEC expressly does not require to be disclosed for certain types of senior securities.

Class and Year	Total Amount Outstanding Exclusive of Treasury Securities(1) (in thousands	Pe	t Coverage rUnit(2)	Involuntary Liquidation Preference Per Unit(3)	Mark	erage et Value Unit(4)
Revolving Credit Facilities						
Fiscal 2016	\$115,200	\$	990			N/A
Fiscal 2015	207,900		1,459			N/A
Fiscal 2014						N/A
Fiscal 2013						N/A
Fiscal 2012	264,452		1,510			N/A
Fiscal 2011	201,355		3,757			N/A
Fiscal 2010	400,000		2,668			N/A
Fiscal 2009	88,114		8,920			N/A
2022 Unsecured Notes						
Fiscal 2016	\$ 50,000	\$	430			N/A
2042 Unsecured Senior Notes						
Fiscal 2016	\$ 100,000	\$	859		\$	1,002
Fiscal 2015	100,000		702			982
Fiscal 2014	100,000		2,294			943
Fiscal 2013	100,000		2,411			934
Fiscal 2012	100,000		571			923
Senior Secured Notes						
Fiscal 2016	\$ 75,000	\$	645			N/A
Fiscal 2015	75,000		527			N/A
Fiscal 2014	75,000		1,721			N/A
Fiscal 2013	75,000		1,808			N/A
Fiscal 2012	75,000		428			N/A
Term Loans						
Fiscal 2016	\$ 50,000	\$	430			N/A
Fiscal 2015	50,000		351			N/A
Fiscal 2014	50,000		1,147			N/A
Fiscal 2013	50,000		1,206			N/A
Fiscal 2012	50,000		285			N/A
Fiscal 2011	35,000		653			N/A

E: 10010	25 000	222	
Fiscal 2010	35,000	233	N/A
<b>Total Senior Securities</b>			
Fiscal 2016	\$ 390,200	\$ 3,354	N/A
Fiscal 2015	432,900	3,039	N/A
Fiscal 2014	225,000	5,162	N/A
Fiscal 2013	225,000	5,425	N/A
Fiscal 2012	489,452	2,794	N/A
Fiscal 2011	236,355	4,410	N/A
Fiscal 2010	435,000	2,901	N/A
Fiscal 2009	88,114	8,920	N/A

- (1) Total amount of each class of senior securities outstanding at the end of the period presented.
- (2) The asset coverage ratio for a class of senior securities representing indebtedness is calculated as our consolidated total assets, less all liabilities and indebtedness not represented by senior securities, divided by all senior securities representing indebtedness. This asset coverage ratio is multiplied by \$1,000 to determine the Asset Coverage Per Unit. In order to determine the specific Asset Coverage Per Unit for each class of debt, the total Asset Coverage Per Unit is allocated based on the amount outstanding in each class of debt at the end of the period. As of December 31, 2016, asset coverage was 335.4%.
- (3) The amount to which such class of senior security would be entitled upon the voluntary liquidation of the issuer in preference to any security junior to it.
- (4) Not applicable except for the 2042 Unsecured Notes which are publicly traded. The Average Market Value Per Unit is calculated by taking the daily average closing price during the period and dividing it by twenty-five dollars per share and multiplying the result by one thousand to determine a unit price per thousand consistent with Asset Coverage Per Unit. The average market value for the fiscal 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013 and 2012 periods was \$100,175, \$98,196, \$94,301, \$93,392 and \$92,302, respectively.

# BUSINESS

### Solar Capital

Solar Capital Ltd., a Maryland corporation formed in November 2007, is a closed-end, externally managed, non-diversified management investment company that has elected to be regulated as a BDC under the 1940 Act. Furthermore, as the Company is an investment company, it continues to apply the guidance in ASC Topic 946. In addition, for tax purposes we have elected to be treated as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code.

In February 2010, we completed our initial public offering and a concurrent private offering of shares to our senior management team.

We invest primarily in privately held U.S. middle market companies, where we believe the supply of primary capital is limited and the investment opportunities are most attractive. Our investment objective is to generate both current income and capital appreciation through debt and equity investments. We invest primarily in leveraged middle market companies in the form of senior secured loans, unitranche loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities. We define middle market to refer to companies with annual revenues between \$50 million and \$1 billion. From time to time, we may also invest in public companies that are thinly traded. Our business is focused primarily on the direct origination of investments through portfolio companies or their financial sponsors. Our investments generally range between \$5 million and \$100 million each, although we expect that this investment size will vary proportionately with the size of our capital base and/or strategic initiatives.

In addition, we may invest a portion of our portfolio in other types of investments, which we refer to as opportunistic investments, which are not our primary focus but are intended to enhance our overall returns. These investments may include, but are not limited to, direct investments in public companies that are not thinly traded and securities of leveraged companies located in select countries outside of the United States. The securities that we invest in are typically rated below investment grade. Securities rated below investment grade are often referred to as leveraged loans, high yield or junk securities, and may be considered high risk compared to debt instruments that are rated investment grade. In addition, some of our debt investments will not fully amortize during their lifetime, which could result in a loss or a substantial amount of unpaid principal and interest due upon maturity. Our investment activities are managed by Solar Capital Partners and supervised by our board of directors, a majority of whom are non-interested, as such term is defined in the 1940 Act. Solar Capital Management provides the administrative services necessary for us to operate.

As of December 31, 2016, our investment portfolio totaled \$1.3 billion and our net asset value was \$918.5 million. Our portfolio was comprised of debt and equity investments in 63 portfolio companies with our portfolio of income producing investments having a weighted average annualized yield on a fair value and cost basis of approximately 10.0% and 10.4%, respectively. Portfolio yield does not represent an actual investment return to stockholders.

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, we invested approximately \$428 million in 35 portfolio companies. Investments sold or prepaid during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 totaled approximately \$488 million.

# **About Solar Capital Partners**

Solar Capital Partners, our investment adviser, is controlled and led by Michael S. Gross, our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, and Bruce Spohler, our Chief Operating Officer. They are supported by a team of dedicated investment professionals. Solar Capital Partners investment team has extensive experience in leveraged lending and private equity, as well as significant contacts with financial sponsors.

In addition, Solar Capital Partners serves as investment adviser to Solar Senior, a publicly traded BDC that invests in the senior debt securities of

leveraged middle-market companies similar to those we target for investment. Through December 31, 2016, the investment team led by Messrs. Gross and Spohler has invested approximately \$6.0 billion in more than 265 different portfolio companies involving an aggregate of more than 165 different financial sponsors. Since Solar Capital s inception, these investment professionals have used their relationships in the middle-market financial sponsor and financial intermediary community to generate deal flow. As of March 10, 2017, Mr. Gross and Mr. Spohler beneficially owned, either directly or indirectly, approximately 5.7% and 5.2%, respectively, of our outstanding common stock.

Mr. Gross has over 25 years of experience in the private equity, distressed debt and mezzanine i.e., actually or structurally subordinated lending businesses and has been involved in originating, structuring, negotiating, consummating and managing private equity, distressed debt and mezzanine lending transactions. Prior to his current role as our Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President, Mr. Gross founded Apollo Investment Corporation, a publicly traded BDC. He served as its chairman from February 2004 to July 2006 and its chief executive officer from February 2004 to February 2006. Under his management, Apollo Investment Corporation raised approximately \$930 million in gross proceeds in an initial public offering in April 2004, built a dedicated investment team and infrastructure and invested approximately \$2.3 billion in over 65 companies in conjunction with 50 different private equity sponsors. Mr. Gross is also a founder and a former senior partner of Apollo Management, L.P., a leading private equity firm. During his tenure at Apollo Management, L.P., Mr. Gross was a member of the investment committee that was responsible for overseeing more than \$13 billion of investments in over 150 companies.

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

We also rely on the over 25 years of experience of Mr. Spohler, who has served as our Chief Operating Officer and a partner of Solar Capital Partners since its inception. Previously, Mr. Spohler was a managing director and a former co-head of U.S. Leveraged Finance for CIBC World Markets. He held numerous senior roles at CIBC World Markets, including serving on the U.S. Management Committee, Global Executive Committee and the Deals Committee, which approves all of CIBC World Markets U.S. corporate finance debt capital decisions. During Mr. Spohler s tenure, he was responsible for senior loan, high yield and mezzanine origination and execution, as well as CIBC World Markets below investment grade loan portfolio in the United States. As a co-head of U.S. Leveraged Finance, Mr. Spohler oversaw over 300 capital raising and merger and acquisition transactions, comprising over \$40 billion in market capitalization.

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

# **Market Opportunity**

Solar Capital invests primarily in senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities of middle-market leveraged companies. We believe that the size of this market, coupled with leveraged companies need for flexible sources of capital at attractive terms and rates, creates an attractive investment environment for us.

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

historically financed their lending and investing activities through securitization transactions have lost that source of funding and reduced lending significantly. Moreover, consolidation of lenders and market participants and the illiquid nature of investments have resulted in fewer middle-market lenders and market participants.

There is a large pool of uninvested private equity capital likely to seek additional capital to support their investments. We believe there is more than over \$500 billion of uninvested private equity capital seeking debt financing to support acquisitions. We expect that middle-market private equity firms will continue to invest the approximately \$185 billion raised since 2000 in middle-market companies and that those private equity firms will seek to support their investments with mezzanine loans from sources such as Solar Capital.

*The significant amount of debt maturing through 2018 should provide additional demand for capital.* A high volume of financings were completed between the years 2004 and 2007, which are expected to mature over the next few years. We believe that this supply of prospective lending opportunities coupled with a lack of available credit in the middle-market lending space may offer attractive risk-adjusted returns to investors. Risk-adjusted return compares returns against the amount of risk incurred. The term risk-adjusted return does not imply that an investment has no risk or low risk.

*Investing in private middle-market debt provides an attractive risk reward profile.* In general, terms for illiquid, middle-market subordinated debt have been more attractive than those for larger corporations which are typically more liquid. We believe this is because fewer institutions are able to invest in illiquid asset classes.

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

### **Competitive Advantages and Strategy**

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

#### Management Expertise

As managing partner, Mr. Gross has principal management responsibility for Solar Capital Partners, to which he currently dedicates substantially all of his time. Mr. Gross has over 25 years of experience in leveraged finance, private equity and distressed debt investing. Mr. Spohler, our Chief Operating Officer and a partner of Solar Capital Partners, has over 25 years of experience in evaluating and executing leverage finance transactions. We believe that Messrs. Gross and Spohler have developed a strong reputation in the capital markets, and that this experience provides us with a competitive advantage in identifying and investing in leveraged companies with the potential to generate returns. We believe that our investment team has extensive experience in the private equity and leveraged lending industries, as well as significant contacts with financial sponsors operating in those industries. We believe that our investment team has a proven track record of valuing companies and assets and negotiating transactions.

Solar Capital Partners senior investment professionals have been active participants in the primary and secondary leveraged credit markets throughout their careers. They have effectively managed portfolios of distressed and mezzanine (i.e., actually or structurally subordinated) debt as well as other investment types. The depth of their

experience and credit market expertise has led them through various stages of the economic cycle as well as several market disruptions.

# Investment Capacity

The proceeds from our initial public offering and the Concurrent Private Placement, the borrowing capacity under the Credit Facility, the Senior Secured Notes, the 2022 Unsecured Notes and the 2042 Unsecured Notes, and the expected repayments of existing investments provide us with a substantial amount of capital available for

deployment into new investment opportunities. We believe we are well positioned for the current marketplace. We believe that in the current economic environment financing needs of many companies will increase while funding options are limited, allowing us to capitalize on favorable investment opportunities.

# Solar Capital s Limited Leverage

As of December 31, 2016, we had total outstanding borrowings of \$165.2 million under the Credit Facility composed of \$115.2 million of revolving credit and \$50 million of term loans. Under the provisions of the 1940 Act, we are permitted to issue senior securities in amounts such that our asset coverage ratio, as defined in the 1940 Act, equals at least 200% of gross assets less all liabilities and indebtedness not represented by senior securities, after each issuance of senior securities. As of December 31, 2016, our asset coverage ratio was 335.4%. We believe our relatively low level of leverage provides us with a competitive advantage, allowing us to anticipate providing a consistent distribution to our investors, as proceeds from our investments are available for reinvestment as opposed to being consumed by debt repayment. To the extent borrowing conditions improve and leverage becomes available on more attractive terms, we may increase our relative level of debt in the future. However, we do not currently anticipate operating with a substantial amount of debt relative to our total assets. Furthermore, by maintaining prudent leverage levels, we believe we will be better positioned to weather future market downturns.

### **Proprietary Sourcing and Origination**

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

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

These direct investments enable us to perform more in-depth due diligence and play an active role in structuring financings. We believe that effectuating the transaction terms and having greater insight into a portfolio company s operations and financial picture assist Solar Capital in minimizing downside potential, while reinforcing Solar Capital as a trusted partner who delivers comprehensive financing solutions. Since its inception, Solar Capital Partners has sourced investments in more than 265 different portfolio companies for both Solar Capital and Solar Senior, collectively, which investments involved an aggregate of more than 165 different financial sponsors, through December 31, 2016.

# Versatile Transaction Structuring and Flexibility of Capital

We believe Solar Capital Partners senior investment team s broad expertise and ability to draw upon its extensive experience enable us to identify, assess and structure investments successfully across all levels of a company s capital structure and to manage potential risk and return at all stages of the economic cycle. The attempt to manage risk does not imply no risk or low risk. While we are subject to significant regulation as a BDC, we are not subject to many of

the regulatory limitations that govern traditional lending institutions such as banks. As a result, we believe that we can be more flexible than such lending institutions in selecting and

structuring investments, adjusting investment criteria, transaction structures and, in some cases, the types of securities in which we invest. We believe financial sponsors, management teams and investment banks see this flexibility as a benefit, making us an attractive financing partner. We believe that this approach enables us to procure attractive investment opportunities throughout the economic cycle so that we can make investments consistent with our stated investment objective even during turbulent periods in the capital markets.

# Emphasis on Achieving Strong Risk-Adjusted Returns

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

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

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

# Deep Industry Focus with Substantial Information Flow

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

# Longer Investment Horizon

Unlike private equity and venture capital funds, we will not be subject to standard periodic capital return requirements. Such requirements typically stipulate that the capital of these funds, together with any capital gains on such invested funds, can only be invested once and must be returned to investors after a pre-agreed time period. We

# Table of Contents

believe that our flexibility to make investments with a long-term view and without the capital return requirements of traditional private investment vehicles provides us with the opportunity to generate favorable returns on invested capital and enables us to be a better long-term partner for our portfolio companies.

### Investments

Solar Capital seeks to create a diverse portfolio that includes senior secured loans, unitranche loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities by investing approximately \$5 million to \$100 million of capital, on average, in the securities of leveraged companies, including middle-market companies. We expect that this investment size will vary with the size of our capital base and/or for strategic initiatives. Structurally, mezzanine loans usually rank subordinate in priority of payment to senior debt, such as senior bank debt, and are often unsecured. As such, other creditors may rank senior to us in the event of insolvency. However, mezzanine loans rank senior to common and preferred equity in a borrowers capital structure. Mezzanine loans may have both elements of debt and equity instruments, offering fixed returns in the form of interest payments associated with senior debt, while providing lenders an opportunity to participate in the capital appreciation of a borrower, if any, through an equity interest. This equity interest may take the form of warrants. Due to its higher risk profile and often less restrictive covenants as compared to senior loans, mezzanine loans generally earn a higher return than senior secured loans. The warrants associated with mezzanine loans are typically detachable, which allows lenders to receive repayment of their principal on an agreed amortization schedule while retaining their equity interest in the borrower. Mezzanine loans also may include a put feature, which permits the holder to sell its equity interest back to the borrower at a price determined through an agreed formula. We believe that mezzanine loans can offer an attractive investment opportunity based upon their historic returns and resilience during economic downturns.

In addition to senior secured loans, unitranche loans and mezzanine loans, we may invest a portion of our portfolio in opportunistic investments, which are not our primary focus, but are intended to enhance our returns to our investors. These investments may include direct investments in public companies that are not thinly traded and securities of leveraged companies located in select countries outside of the United States. The securities that we invest in are typically rated below investment grade. Securities rated below investment grade are often referred to as leveraged loans, high yield or junk securities, and may be considered high risk compared to debt instruments that are rated investment grade. In addition, some of our debt investments will not fully amortize during their lifetime, which could result in a loss or a substantial amount of unpaid principal and interest due upon maturity. We may invest up to 30% of our total assets in such opportunistic investments, including loans issued by non-U.S. issuers, subject to compliance with our regulatory obligations as a BDC under the 1940 Act.

We have and will continue to borrow funds to make investments. As a result, we will be exposed to the risks of leverage, which may be considered a speculative investment technique. The use of leverage magnifies the potential for loss on amounts invested and therefore increases the risks associated with investing in our securities. In addition, the costs associated with our borrowings, including any increase in management fees payable to our investment adviser, Solar Capital Partners, will be borne by our common stockholders.

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

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

We may utilize instruments such as forward contracts, currency options and interest rate swaps, caps, collars and floors to seek to hedge against fluctuations in the relative values of our portfolio positions from changes in currency exchange rates and market interest rates. Hedging against a decline in the values of our portfolio positions does not

eliminate the possibility of fluctuations in the values of such positions or prevent losses if the values of such positions decline. However, such hedging can establish other positions designed to gain from

those same developments, thereby offsetting the decline in the value of such portfolio positions. Such hedging transactions may also limit the opportunity for gain if the values of the underlying portfolio positions should increase. It may not be possible to hedge against an exchange rate or interest rate fluctuation that is so generally anticipated that we are not able to enter into a hedging transaction at an acceptable price. Moreover, for a variety of reasons, we may not seek to establish a perfect correlation between such hedging instruments and the portfolio holdings being hedged. Any such imperfect correlation may prevent us from achieving the intended hedge and expose us to risk of loss. In addition, it may not be possible to hedge fully or perfectly against currency fluctuations affecting the value of securities denominated in non-U.S. currencies because the value of those securities is likely to fluctuate as a result of factors not related to currency fluctuations.

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

The following is a representative list of the industries in which we may invest:

Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure
Industrial Conglomerates
Insurance
Internet Software & Services
IT Services
Leisure Equipment & Products
Life Sciences Tools & Services
Machinery
Media
Multiline Retail
Multi-Sector Holdings
Paper & Forest Products
Personal Products
Pharmaceuticals
Professional Services

Diversified Telecommunications Services	Research & Consulting Services
Education Services	Software
Food Products	Specialty Retail
Footwear	Textiles, Apparel & Luxury Goods
Health Care Equipment & Supplies	Thrifts & Mortgage Finance
Health Care Facilities	Trading Companies & Distributors
Health Care Providers & Services	Utilities

Health Care Technology Wireless Telecommunications Services We may also invest in other industries if we are presented with attractive opportunities.

We may invest, to the extent permitted by law, in the securities and instruments of other investment companies, including private funds. We may also participate in negotiated co-investment transactions with certain affiliates, each of whose investment adviser is Solar Capital Partners, or an investment adviser controlling, controlled by or under common control with Solar Capital Partners, in a manner consistent with our investment objective, positions, policies, strategies and restrictions as well as regulatory requirements and other pertinent factors, and pursuant to the conditions of the exemptive order obtained from the SEC on July 28, 2014.

At December 31, 2016, our portfolio consisted of 63 portfolio companies and was invested 60.4% in senior secured loans, 2.2% in subordinated debt, 1.1% in preferred equity and 36.3% in common equity and warrants (of which 23.4% is Crystal Financial LLC, 7.7% is SSLP and 3.6% is SSLP II), in each case, measured at fair value. We expect that our portfolio will continue to include primarily senior secured, unitranche loans,

mezzanine loans as well as equity-related securities. In addition, we also expect to invest a portion of our portfolio in opportunistic investments, which are not our primary focus, but are intended to enhance our risk-adjusted returns to stockholders. These investments may include, but are not limited to, securities of public companies and debt and equity securities of companies located outside of the United States.

While our primary investment objective is to maximize current income and capital appreciation through investments in U.S. senior and subordinated loans, other debt securities and equity, we may also invest a portion of the portfolio in opportunistic investments, including foreign securities.

Listed below are our top ten portfolio companies and industries based on their fair value and represented as a percentage of total assets as of December 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015:

### **TOP TEN PORTFOLIO COMPANIES AND INDUSTRIES AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2016**

	% of
Portfolio Company	Total Assets
Crystal Financial LLC	18.5%
Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program LLC	6.1%
KORE Wireless Group, Inc.	3.3%
DISA Holdings Acquisition Subsidiary Corp.	3.1%
Varilease Finance, Inc.	2.9%
Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program II LLC	2.9%
TierPoint, LLC	2.0%
PhyMed Management LLC	1.9%
U.S. Anesthesia Partners, Inc.	1.8%
RD Holdco Inc. (Rug Doctor)	1.7%
	% of
Industry	% of Total Assets
Industry Diversified Financial Services	/0 01
•	Total Assets
Diversified Financial Services	Total Assets 18.5%
Diversified Financial Services Asset Management	<b>Total Assets</b> 18.5% 9.9%
Diversified Financial Services Asset Management Health Care Providers & Services	<b>Total Assets</b> 18.5% 9.9% 8.3%
Diversified Financial Services Asset Management Health Care Providers & Services Wireless Telecommunication Services	<b>Total Assets</b> 18.5% 9.9% 8.3% 5.0%
Diversified Financial Services Asset Management Health Care Providers & Services Wireless Telecommunication Services Pharmaceuticals	<b>Total Assets</b> 18.5% 9.9% 8.3% 5.0% 4.8%
Diversified Financial Services Asset Management Health Care Providers & Services Wireless Telecommunication Services Pharmaceuticals Health Care Equipment & Supplies	<b>Total Assets</b> 18.5% 9.9% 8.3% 5.0% 4.8% 4.8%
Diversified Financial Services Asset Management Health Care Providers & Services Wireless Telecommunication Services Pharmaceuticals Health Care Equipment & Supplies Professional Services	<b>Total Assets</b> 18.5% 9.9% 8.3% 5.0% 4.8% 4.8% 3.7%

# **TOP TEN PORTFOLIO COMPANIES AND INDUSTRIES AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2015**

#### **Portfolio Company**

	% of
	<b>Total Assets</b>
Crystal Financial LLC	17.9%
Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program LLC	5.0%
Kore Wireless Group, Inc.	3.3%
DISA Holdings Acquisition Subsidiary Corp.	3.0%
LegalZoom.com, Inc.	3.0%
Varilease Finance, Inc.	2.9%
WireCo Worldgroup Inc.	2.5%
TierPoint, LLC	2.1%
PhyMed Management LLC	1.9%
U.S. Anesthesia Partners, Inc.	1.8%
	% of
Industry	% of Total Assets
Industry Diversified Financial Services	/0 01
	Total Assets
Diversified Financial Services	Total Assets 17.9%
Diversified Financial Services Health Care Providers & Services	<b>Total Assets</b> 17.9% 9.6%
Diversified Financial Services Health Care Providers & Services Asset Management	<b>Total Assets</b> 17.9% 9.6% 5.9%
Diversified Financial Services Health Care Providers & Services Asset Management Wireless Telecommunications Services	<b>Total Assets</b> 17.9% 9.6% 5.9% 5.0%
Diversified Financial Services Health Care Providers & Services Asset Management Wireless Telecommunications Services IT Services	<b>Total Assets</b> 17.9% 9.6% 5.9% 5.0% 3.7%
Diversified Financial Services Health Care Providers & Services Asset Management Wireless Telecommunications Services IT Services Professional Services	<b>Total Assets</b> 17.9% 9.6% 5.9% 5.0% 3.7% 3.6%
Diversified Financial Services Health Care Providers & Services Asset Management Wireless Telecommunications Services IT Services Professional Services Internet Software & Services	<b>Total Assets</b> 17.9% 9.6% 5.9% 5.0% 3.7% 3.6% 3.0%

Listed below is the geographic breakdown of the portfolio based on fair value as of December 31, 2016 and 2015:

Geographic Region	% of Portfolio at December 31, 2016	% of Portfolio at December 31, 2015
United States	99.4%	99.5%
Canada	0.6%	0.5%
	100.0%	100.0%

### **Investment Selection Process**

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

### Portfolio Company Characteristics

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

*Stable Earnings and Strong Free Cash Flow.* We seek to invest in companies who have demonstrated stable earnings through economic cycles. We target companies that can de-lever through consistent generation of cash flows rather than relying solely on growth to service and repay our loans.

*Value Orientation.* Our investment philosophy places a premium on fundamental analysis from an investor s perspective and has a distinct value orientation. We focus on companies in which we can invest at relatively low multiples of operating cash flow and that are profitable at the time of investment on an operating cash flow basis.

*Value of Assets.* The prospective value of the assets, if any, that collateralizes the loans in which we invest, is an important factor in our credit analysis. Our analysis emphasizes both tangible assets, such as accounts receivable, inventory, equipment and real estate, and intangible assets, such as intellectual property, customer lists, networks and databases. In some of our transactions the company s fundings may be derived from a borrowing base determined by the value of the company s assets.

*Strong Competitive Position in Industry.* We seek to invest in target companies that have developed leading market positions within their respective markets and are well positioned to capitalize on growth opportunities. We seek companies that demonstrate significant competitive advantages versus their competitors, which we believe should help to protect their market position and profitability.

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

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

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

In addition, we also seek to invest in companies whose business models and expected future cash flows offer attractive exit possibilities. These companies include candidates for strategic acquisition by other industry participants and companies that may repay our investments through an initial public offering of common stock or another capital market transaction. We underwrite our investments on a held-to-maturity basis, but expensive capital is often repaid prior to stated maturity.

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

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

Solar Capital s investment team works in concert with sponsors to proactively manage investment opportunities by acting as a partner throughout the investment process. We actively focus on the middle-market financial sponsor community, with a particular focus on the upper-end of the middle-market (sponsors with equity funds of \$800 million to \$3 billion). We favor such sponsors because they typically:

buy larger companies with strong business franchises;

invest significant amounts of equity in their portfolio companies;

value flexibility and creativity in structuring their transactions;

possess longer track records over multiple investment funds;

have a deeper management bench;

have better ability to withstand downturns; and

possess the ability to support portfolio companies with additional capital.

We divide our coverage of these sponsors among our more senior investment professionals, who are responsible for day-to-day interaction with financial sponsors. Our coverage approach aims to act proactively, consider all investments in the capital structure, provide quick feedback, deliver on commitments, and are constructive throughout the life cycle of an investment.

#### Due Diligence

Our private equity approach to credit investing typically incorporates extensive in-depth due diligence often alongside the private equity sponsor. In conducting due diligence, we will use publicly available information as well as information from relationships with former and current management teams, consultants, competitors and investment bankers. We believe that our due diligence methodology allows us to screen a high volume of potential investment opportunities on a consistent and thorough basis.

Our due diligence typically includes:

review of historical and prospective financial information;

review and valuation of assets;

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

on-site visits;

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

review of senior loan documents; and

background investigations.

We also expect to evaluate the private equity sponsor making the investment. Further, due to Solar Capital Partners considerable repeat business with sponsors, we have direct experience with the management teams of many sponsors. A private equity sponsor is typically the controlling shareholder upon completion of an investment and as such is considered critical to the success of the investment. The equity sponsor is evaluated along several key criteria, including:

investment track record;

industry experience;

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

reference checks.

Throughout the due diligence process, a deal team is in constant dialogue with the management team of the company in which we are considering to invest to ensure that any concerns are addressed as early as possible through the process and that unsuitable investments are filtered out before considerable time has been invested.

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

### The Investment Committee

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

### **Investment Structure**

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

### Table of Contents

other capital in the portfolio company s capital structure.

We invest in portfolio companies primarily in the form of senior secured loans, unitranche loans and to a lesser extent mezzanine investments. With respect to our senior secured loans, we seek to obtain security interests in the assets of our portfolio companies that serve as collateral in support of the repayment of these loans. This collateral may take the form of first or second priority liens on the assets of a portfolio company.

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

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

In the case of our senior secured, unitranche and mezzanine loan investments, we tailor the terms of the investment to the facts and circumstances of the transaction and the prospective portfolio company, negotiating a structure that protects our rights and manages our risk while creating incentives for the portfolio company to achieve its business plan and improve its profitability. For example, in addition to seeking a senior or fulcrum position in the capital structure of our portfolio companies, we will seek to limit the downside potential of our investments by:

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

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

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

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

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

### **Ongoing Relationships with Portfolio Companies**

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

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

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

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

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

Attendance at and participation in board meetings; and

Review of monthly and quarterly financial statements and financial projections for portfolio companies. In addition to various risk management and monitoring tools, Solar Capital Partners also uses an investment rating system to characterize and monitor our expected level of returns on each investment in our portfolio.

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

### Investment

Rating	Summary Description
1	Involves the least amount of risk in our portfolio, the portfolio company is performing above
	expectations, and the trends and risk factors are generally favorable (including a potential exit)

- 2 Risk that is similar to the risk at the time of origination, the portfolio company is performing as expected, and the risk factors are neutral to favorable; all new investments are initially assessed a grade of 2
- 3 The portfolio company is performing below expectations, may be out of compliance with debt covenants, and requires procedures for closer monitoring

4 The investment is performing well below expectations and is not anticipated to be repaid in full Solar Capital Partners monitors and, when appropriate, changes the investment ratings assigned to each investment in our portfolio. As of December 31, 2016, 2015 and, 2014, the weighted average investment rating on the fair market value of our portfolio was a 2. In connection with our valuation process, Solar Capital Partners reviews these investment ratings on a quarterly basis.

# Valuation Procedures

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

Under procedures established by our board of directors (the Board ), we value investments, including certain senior secured debt, subordinated debt and other debt securities with maturities greater than 60 days, for which market quotations are readily available, at such market quotations (unless they are deemed not to represent fair value). We attempt to obtain market quotations from at least two brokers or dealers (if available, otherwise from a principal market maker or a primary market dealer or other independent pricing service). We utilize mid-market pricing as a practical expedient for fair value unless a different point within the range is more representative. If and when market quotations are deemed not to represent fair value, we typically utilize independent third-party valuation firms to assist us in determining fair value. Accordingly, such investments go through our multi-step valuation process as described below. In each case, independent valuation firms consider observable market inputs together with significant unobservable inputs in arriving at their valuation recommendations. Debt investments with maturities of 60 days or less shall each be valued at cost plus accreted discount, or minus amortized premium, which is expected to approximate fair value, unless such valuation, in the judgment of Solar Capital Partners, does not represent fair value, in which case such investments shall be valued at fair value as determined in good faith by or under the direction of our Board. Investments that are not publicly traded or whose market quotations are not readily available are valued at fair value as determined in good faith by or under the direction of our Board. Such determination of fair values involves subjective judgments and estimates.

With respect to investments for which market quotations are not readily available or when such market quotations are deemed not to represent fair value, our Board has approved a multi-step valuation process each quarter, as described below:

- (1) our quarterly valuation process begins with each portfolio company or investment being initially valued by the investment professionals of Solar Capital Partners responsible for the portfolio investment;
- (2) preliminary valuation conclusions are then documented and discussed with senior management of Solar Capital Partners;
- (3) independent valuation firms engaged by our Board conduct independent appraisals and review Solar Capital Partners s preliminary valuations and make their own independent assessment for all material assets;

- (4) the audit committee of the Board reviews the preliminary valuation of Solar Capital Partners and that of the independent valuation firm and responds to the valuation recommendation of the independent valuation firm to reflect any comments; and
- (5) the Board discusses valuations and determines the fair value of each investment in our portfolio in good faith based on the input of Solar Capital Partners, the respective independent valuation firm and the audit committee.

Investments in all asset classes are valued utilizing a market approach, an income approach, or both approaches, as appropriate. However, in accordance with ASC 820-10, certain investments that qualify as investment companies in accordance with ASC 946, may be valued using net asset value as a practical expedient for fair value. The market approach uses prices and other relevant information generated by market transactions involving identical or comparable assets or liabilities (including a business). The income approach uses valuation techniques to convert future amounts (for example, cash flows or earnings) to a single present amount (discounted). The measurement is based on the value indicated by current market expectations about those future amounts. In following these approaches, the types of factors that we may take into account in fair value pricing our investments include, as relevant: available current market data, including relevant and applicable market trading and transaction comparables, applicable market yields and multiples, security covenants, call protection provisions, the nature and realizable value of any collateral, the portfolio company s ability to make payments, its earnings and discounted cash flows, the markets in which the portfolio company does business, comparisons of financial ratios of peer companies that are public, M&A comparables, our principal market (as the reporting entity) and enterprise values, among other factors. When available, broker quotations and/or quotations provided by pricing services are considered as an input in the valuation process. Escrow receivables, if any, included in the receivables for investments sold in the Consolidated Statements of Assets and Liabilities are reviewed quarterly and the value of the receivable is adjusted as necessary. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, there has been no change to the Company's valuation techniques and the nature of the related inputs considered in the valuation process.

Accounting Standards Codification ( ASC ) Topic 820 classifies the inputs used to measure these fair values into the following hierarchy:

Level 1: Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities, accessible by the Company at the measurement date.

Level 2: Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets, or quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, or other observable inputs other than quoted prices.

Level 3: Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

In all cases, the level in the fair value hierarchy within which the fair value measurement in its entirety falls is determined based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Our assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgment and considers factors specific to each investment. The exercise of judgment is based in part on our knowledge of the asset class and our prior experience.

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

### Competition

Our primary competitors provide financing to middle-market companies and include other business development companies, commercial and investment banks, commercial financing companies and, to the extent they provide an alternative form of financing, private equity funds. Additionally, alternative investment vehicles, such as hedge funds, frequently invest in middle-market companies. As a result, competition for investment opportunities at middle-market companies can be intense. However, we continue to believe that there has been a

reduction in the amount of debt capital available since the downturn in the credit markets, which began in mid-2007, and that this has resulted in a less competitive environment for making new investments. While many middle-market companies were previously able to raise senior debt financing through traditional large financial institutions, we believe this approach to financing will become more difficult as implementation of U.S. and international financial reforms, such as Basel 3, limits the capacity of large financial institutions to hold non-investment grade leveraged loans on their balance sheets. We believe that many of these financial institutions have de-emphasized their service and product offerings to middle-market companies in particular.

Many of our competitors are substantially larger and have considerably greater financial, technical and marketing resources than we do. For example, some competitors may have a lower cost of funds and access to funding sources that are not available to us. In addition, some of our competitors may have higher risk tolerances or different risk assessments, which could allow them to consider a wider variety of investments and establish more relationships than us. Furthermore, many of our competitors are not subject to the regulatory restrictions that the 1940 Act imposes on us as a BDC. We use the industry information available to Messrs. Gross and Spohler and the other investment professionals of Solar Capital Partners to assess investment risks and determine appropriate pricing for our investments in portfolio companies. In addition, we believe that the relationships of Messrs. Gross and Spohler and the other investment professionals of our investment adviser enable us to learn about, and compete effectively for, financing opportunities with attractive leveraged companies in the industries in which we seek to invest.

# Staffing

We do not currently have any employees. Mr. Gross, our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, and Mr. Spohler, our Chief Operating Officer and board member, are managing members and senior investment professionals of, and have financial and controlling interests in, Solar Capital Partners. Richard L. Peteka, our Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Corporate Secretary serves as our Chief Financial Officer for Solar Capital Partners. Guy Talarico, our Chief Compliance Officer, is the chief executive officer of Alaric Compliance Services, LLC, and performs his functions as our chief compliance officer under the terms of an agreement between Solar Capital Management and Alaric Compliance Services, LLC. Solar Capital Management has retained Mr. Talarico and Alaric Compliance Services, LLC pursuant to its obligations under our Administration Agreement.

Our day-to-day investment operations are managed by Solar Capital Partners. Based upon its needs, Solar Capital Partners may hire additional investment professionals. In addition, we will reimburse Solar Capital Management for the allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by it in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, including rent, and the allocable portion of the cost of the company s chief compliance officer and chief financial officer and their respective staffs.

# Properties

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

# **Legal Proceedings**

We and our subsidiaries are not currently subject to any material legal proceedings, nor, to our knowledge, is any material legal proceeding threatened against us or our subsidiaries. From time to time, we and our subsidiaries may be a party to certain legal proceedings in the ordinary course of business, including proceedings relating to the enforcement of our rights under contracts with our portfolio companies. While the outcome of these legal proceedings

cannot be predicted with certainty, we do not expect that these proceedings will have a material effect upon our financial condition or results of operations.

# **PORTFOLIO COMPANIES**

The following table sets forth certain information as of December 31, 2016 for each portfolio company in which we had a debt or equity investment. The general terms of our debt and equity investments are described in Business Investments. Other than these investments, our only formal relationships with our portfolio companies are the managerial assistance we may provide upon request and the board observer or participation rights we may receive in connection with our investment. For further detail on our portfolio investments, please refer to the schedule of investments included in our consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016, which are included in this prospectus.

Name and Address of		Type of	% of
Portfolio Company:	Industry	Investment	Class Held
AccentCare, Inc. 17855 Dallas Parkway #200	Healthcare Providers & Services	Senior secured loan	
Dallas, TX 75287			
Achaogen, Inc.	Pharmaceuticals	Senior secured loan	
7000 Shoreline Court, #371			
South San Francisco, CA 94080			
Aegis Toxicology Sciences Corporation 515 Great Circle Road	Healthcare Providers & Services	Senior secured loan	
Nashville, TN 37228			
AgaMatrix, Inc.	Healthcare Equipment & Supplies	Senior secured loan	
7C Raymond Avenue			
Salem, New Hampshire 03079			
AirXpanders, Inc	Health Care Equipment & Supplies	Senior secured loan	
1047 Elwell Court	off the second		
Palo Alto, CA 94303			
Alegeus Technologies Holdings Corp.	Health Care Technology	Subordinated notes	
1601 Trapelo Road			
Waltham, MA 02451			

American Teleconferencing Services, Ltd. (PGI) 3280 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 1000 Atlanta, GA 30305	Communications Equipment	Senior secured loan	
Amerilife Group, LLC 2650 McCormick Drive	Insurance	Senior secured loan	
Clearwater, FL 33759 Argo Turboserve Corporation & Argo Tech, LLC ATC Corporate Headquarters Cityview Corporate Center 160 Chubb Avenue Suite 102 Lyndhurst, NJ 07071	Air Freight & Logistics	Senior secured loan	
Ark Real Estate Partners LP 505 Park Ave., 21st Floor New York, NY 10022	Diversified Real Estate Activities	Partnership interest	26%
Ark Real Estate Partners II LP 505 Park Ave., 21st Floor New York, NY 10022	Diversified Real Estate Activities	Partnership interest	26%
Asurion, LLC 648 Grassmere Park, Suite 300 Nashville, TN 37211	Insurance	Senior secured loan	

Name and Address of		Type of	64 B
Portfolio Company:	Industry	Investment	% of Class Held
aTyr Pharma, Inc	Pharmaceuticals	Senior secured loan,	<1%
3545 John Hopkins Court, Suite 250		warrants	
San Diego, CA 92121			
AviatorCap SII, LLC I	Aerospace & Defense	Senior secured loan	
18851 Northeast 29th Avenue,			
Suite 518 Aventure, FL 33180			
Axcella Health Inc.	Pharmaceuticals	Senior secured loan	
840 Memorial Drive, Third Floor			
Cambridge, MA 02139			
B Riley Financial Inc.	Research & Consulting Services	Common stock	2%
21860 Burbank Blvd.	Services		
Suite 300 South			
Woodland Hills, CA 91367			
Bishop Lifting Products, Inc.	Trading Companies &	Senior secured loan	
899 Airport Park Road, Suite D	Distributors		
Glen Burnie, MD 21061			
Breathe Technologies, Inc.	Health Care Equipment	Senior secured loan	
175 Technology Drive, Suite 100	& Supplies		
Irvine, CA 92618			
CardioDx, Inc.	Health Care Providers & Services	Senior secured loan,	<1%
600 Saginaw Drive	561 11065	warrants	
Redwood City, CA 94063			
Cardiva Medical, Inc.	Health Care Equipment	Senior secured loan	
888 W. Maude Avenue	& Supplies		

Sunnyvale, CA 94085			
CAS Medical Systems, Inc. 44 East Industrial Road	Health Care Equipment & Supplies	Senior secured loan, warrants	<1%
44 East Industrial Road			
Branford, CT 06405			
Cerapedics, Inc.	Health Care Equipment & Supplies	Senior secured loan	
11025 Dover Street, Suite 1600			
Westminster, CO 80021			
Cianna Medical, Inc.	Health Care Equipment & Supplies	Senior secured loan, warrants	<1%
6 Journey, Suite 125			
Aliso Viejo, CA 92656			
Clinical Ink, Inc.	Health Care Technology	Senior secured loan	
525 Vine Street, Suite 130			
Winston-Salem, NC 27101			
Conventus Orthopaedics, Inc.	Health Care Equipment & Supplies	Senior secured loan, warrants	<1%
10200 73rd Avenue North			
10200 73rd Avenue North Suite 122			
Suite 122	Diversified Financial Services	Common equity	100%
Suite 122 Maple Grove, MN 55369		Common equity	100%
Suite 122 Maple Grove, MN 55369 Crystal Financial LLC	Services		100%
Suite 122 Maple Grove, MN 55369 Crystal Financial LLC Two International Place 17 <sup>th</sup> Floor		Common equity Senior secured loan	100%
Suite 122 Maple Grove, MN 55369 Crystal Financial LLC Two International Place 17 <sup>th</sup> Floor Boston, MA 02110	Services		100%
Suite 122 Maple Grove, MN 55369 Crystal Financial LLC Two International Place 17 <sup>th</sup> Floor Boston, MA 02110 Datapipe, Inc.	Services		100%
Suite 122 Maple Grove, MN 55369 Crystal Financial LLC Two International Place 17 <sup>th</sup> Floor Boston, MA 02110 Datapipe, Inc. 10 Exchange Place	Services		100%
Suite 122 Maple Grove, MN 55369 Crystal Financial LLC Two International Place 17 <sup>th</sup> Floor Boston, MA 02110 Datapipe, Inc. 10 Exchange Place	Services IT Services Health Care Equipment	Senior secured loan	100%

Name and Address of		Type of	% of
Portfolio Company:	Industry	Investment	Class Held
Direct Buy Inc. 18851 Northeast 29th Avenue, Suite 518	Multiline Retail	Senior secured loan, common Stock	8%
Merrillville, IN 46410			
DISA Holdings Acquisition Subsidiary Corp.	Professional Services	Senior secured loan	
12600 Northborough Drive, Ste. 300			
Houston, TX 77067			
Easyfinancial Services, Inc.	Consumer Finance	Senior secured loan	
33 City Centre Dr, Suite 510			
Mississauga, ON L5B 2N5			
Emerging Markets Communications, LLC	Wireless Telecommunication Services	Senior secured loan	
777 Brickell Ave., Suite 1150	Services		
Miami, FL 33131			
Entegrion, Inc.	Health Care Equipment &	Senior secured loan	
79 TW Alexander Drive	Supplies		
4401 Research Commons, Suite 200			
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709			
Falmouth Group Holdings Corp. (AMPAC)	Chemicals	Senior secured loan	
3883 Howard Hughes Parkway			
Suite 700			
Las Vegas, NV 89169			
Global Tel*Link Corporation 12021 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 100	Communications Equipment	Senior secured loans	

Reston, VA 20190		
Greystone Select Holdings LLC &	Thrifts & Mortgage Finance	Senior secured loan
Greystone & Co., Inc.		
152 West 57 <sup>th</sup> Street, 60 <sup>th</sup> Floor		
New York, NY 10019		
Hyland Software, Inc.	Software	Senior secured loan
28500 Clemens Road		
Westlake, OH 44145		
IHS Intermediate, Inc.	Health Care Providers &	Senior secured loan
1700 East Golf Road Suite 900	Services	
Schaumburg, IL 60173		
Inmar Acquisition Sub, Inc.	Professional Services	Senior secured loan
2650 Pilgrim Court		
Winston Salem, NC 27106		
K2 Pure Solutions NoCal, L.P.	Chemicals	Senior secured loan
K2 Pure Solutions NoCal, L.P. 950 Loveridge Road	Chemicals	Senior secured loan
	Chemicals	Senior secured loan
950 Loveridge Road	Wireless	Senior secured loan Senior secured loan
950 Loveridge Road Pittsburg, CA 94565		
950 Loveridge Road Pittsburg, CA 94565 KORE Wireless Group, Inc.	Wireless Telecommunication	
<ul> <li>950 Loveridge Road</li> <li>Pittsburg, CA 94565</li> <li>KORE Wireless Group, Inc.</li> <li>3700 Mansell Road, Suite 250</li> </ul>	Wireless Telecommunication	
<ul> <li>950 Loveridge Road</li> <li>Pittsburg, CA 94565</li> <li>KORE Wireless Group, Inc.</li> <li>3700 Mansell Road, Suite 250</li> <li>Alpharetta, GA 30022</li> </ul>	Wireless Telecommunication Services	Senior secured loan
<ul> <li>950 Loveridge Road</li> <li>Pittsburg, CA 94565</li> <li>KORE Wireless Group, Inc.</li> <li>3700 Mansell Road, Suite 250</li> <li>Alpharetta, GA 30022</li> <li>Lumeris Solutions Company, LLC</li> </ul>	Wireless Telecommunication Services	Senior secured loan
<ul> <li>950 Loveridge Road</li> <li>Pittsburg, CA 94565</li> <li>KORE Wireless Group, Inc.</li> <li>3700 Mansell Road, Suite 250</li> <li>Alpharetta, GA 30022</li> <li>Lumeris Solutions Company, LLC</li> <li>13900 Riverport Drive</li> </ul>	Wireless         Telecommunication         Services         Health Care Technology         Health Care Equipment &	Senior secured loan
950 Loveridge Road Pittsburg, CA 94565 KORE Wireless Group, Inc. 3700 Mansell Road, Suite 250 Alpharetta, GA 30022 Lumeris Solutions Company, LLC 13900 Riverport Drive St. Louis, MO 63043	Wireless Telecommunication Services Health Care Technology	Senior secured loan Senior secured loan
<ul> <li>950 Loveridge Road</li> <li>Pittsburg, CA 94565</li> <li>KORE Wireless Group, Inc.</li> <li>3700 Mansell Road, Suite 250</li> <li>Alpharetta, GA 30022</li> <li>Lumeris Solutions Company, LLC</li> <li>13900 Riverport Drive</li> <li>St. Louis, MO 63043</li> <li>Mitralign, Inc.</li> </ul>	Wireless         Telecommunication         Services         Health Care Technology         Health Care Equipment &	Senior secured loan Senior secured loan
<ul> <li>950 Loveridge Road</li> <li>Pittsburg, CA 94565</li> <li>KORE Wireless Group, Inc.</li> <li>3700 Mansell Road, Suite 250</li> <li>Alpharetta, GA 30022</li> <li>Lumeris Solutions Company, LLC</li> <li>13900 Riverport Drive</li> <li>St. Louis, MO 63043</li> <li>Mitralign, Inc.</li> <li>3 Highwood Drive, Suite 200E</li> </ul>	Wireless         Telecommunication         Services         Health Care Technology         Health Care Equipment &	Senior secured loan Senior secured loan

Providence, RI 02903

Table of Contents			
Name and Address of		Type of	% of
Portfolio Company:	Industry	Investment	Class Held
PhyMed Management LLC	Health Care Providers & Services	Senior secured loan	
110 29th Avenue North, Suite 301	Services		
Nashville, TN 37203			
PQ Bypass, Inc.	Health Care Equipment & Supplies	Senior secured loan, warrants	<1%
269 North Mathilda Avenue	Supplies	warrants	
Sunnyvale, CA 94086			
Rapid Micro Biosystems, Inc.	Life Sciences Tools & Services	Senior secured loan	
1001 Pawtucket Blvd. West	Services		
Lowell, MA 01854			
Rug Doctor, LLC	Diversified Consumer	Senior secured loan,	26%
4701 Old Shepard Place	Services	common stock, class b common stock, common stock warrants	
Plano, TX 75093			
Salient Partners, L.P.	Asset management	Senior secured loan	
4265 San Felipe Street, 8th Floor			
Houston, TX 77027			
Scynexis, Inc.	Pharmaceuticals	Senior secured loan,	<1%
101 Hudson Street, Suite 3610		warrants	
Jersey City, NY 07302			
Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program LLC	Asset Management	Equity interest	88%
500 Park Avenue			
New York, NY 10022			
Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program II LLC	Asset Management	Equity interest	81%
500 Park Avenue			
New York, NY 10022			
SentreHeart, Inc.			<1%
Table of Contents			184

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300 Saginaw Drive	Health Care Equipment & Supplies	Senior secured loan, warrants	
Redwood City, CA 94063			
SOAGG, LLC	Aerospace & Defense	Preferred stock	100%
500 Park Avenue			
New York, NY 10022			
SOINT, LLC	Aerospace & Defense	Senior secured loan,	100%
500 Park Avenue		Preferred stock	
New York, NY 10022			
Southern Auto Finance Company	Consumer Finance	Senior secured loan	
6700 North Andrews Avenue Suite 500			
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309			
Sunesis Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	Pharmaceuticals	Senior secured loan, warrants	<1%
395 Oyster Point Boulevard, Suite 400			
South San Francisco, CA 94080			
TierPoint, LLC	IT Services	Senior secured loan	
520 Maryville Centre Drive, Ste. 300			
St. Louis, MO 63141			
TMK Hawk Parent, Corp. (TriMark)	Trading Companies & Distributors	Senior secured loan	
505 Collins Street	Distributors		
S. Attleboro, MA 02703			
TouchTunes Interactive Networks, Inc.	Media	Senior secured loan	
850 3 <sup>rd</sup> Avenue, #15			
New York, NY 10022			
Trevi Therapeutics, Inc.	Pharmaceuticals	Senior secured loan	
195 Church Street, 14th Floor			
New Haven, CT 06510			

Name and Address of		Type of	
Portfolio Company:	Industry	Investment	% of Class Held
U.S. Anesthesia Partners, Inc. 450 East Las Olas Blvd. Suite 850	Health Care Providers & Services	Senior secured loan	
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301			
Vapotherm, Inc.	Health Care Equipment & Supplies	Senior secured loan	
22 Industrial Drive	Supplies		
Exeter, NH 03833			
Varilease Finance, Inc.	Multi-Sector Holdings	Senior secured loan	
6340 South 3000 East , Suite 400			

## Salt Lake City, UT 84121

To maintain our status as a BDC, we must invest a sufficient portion of our assets in qualifying assets. Specifically, qualifying assets must represent at least 70% of our total assets at the time of acquisition of any additional non-qualifying assets. In addition, if we fail to invest a sufficient portion of our assets in qualifying assets, we could be prevented from making follow-on investments in existing portfolio companies or could be required to dispose of investments at inappropriate times in order to comply with the 1940 Act. As of December 31, 2016, 31.6% of our total assets constituted non-qualifying assets, on a fair value basis.

Set forth below is a brief description of each portfolio company in which we have made an investment that represents greater than 5% of our total assets as of December 31, 2016.

## **Crystal Financial LLC**

Crystal Financial LLC is an independent commercial finance company that provides primarily senior secured loans for both asset-based and cash flow financings to middle-market companies. Its team of experienced, responsive professionals has underwritten, closed and managed more than \$20 billion in secured debt commitments across a wide range of industries. As of March 31, 2016, Crystal Financial LLC had 32 funded commitments to 29 different issuers with a total par value of approximately \$502.2 million. Crystal s competitors include other specialty finance companies and small banks. As with any lender, Crystal is exposed to interest rate risk, which it mitigates by issuing loans with floating rates.

## Senior Secured Unitranche Loan Program LLC

On September 2, 2014, the Company entered into a limited liability company agreement with an affiliate (the Investor ) of a fund managed by Pacific Investment Management Company LLC ( PIMCO ). Initial funding commitments to the unitranche strategy total \$600 million, consisting of direct equity investments and co-investment commitments as described below. The joint venture vehicle, structured as an unconsolidated Delaware limited liability company, invests in middle market senior secured unitranche loans sourced by the same origination platform used by the Company. The Company and the Investor initially made equity commitments to the SSLP of \$300.0 million and

\$43.25 million, respectively. All portfolio decisions and generally all other decisions in respect of the SSLP must be approved by an investment committee of the SSLP consisting of representatives of the Company and PIMCO (with approval from a representative of each required).

On October 15, 2015, the Company entered into an amended and restated limited liability company agreement for its SSLP to add Voya Investment Management LLC (Voya), part of Voya Financial, Inc. (NYSE: VOYA), as a partner in SSLP in place of the investor that was previously the Company's partner in SSLP, though this investor may still co-invest up to \$300 million of equity in unitranche loans alongside SSLP. This joint venture is expected to invest primarily in senior secured unitranche loans to middle market companies predominantly owned by private equity sponsors or entrepreneurs, consistent with the Company's core origination and underwriting mandate. In addition to the Company's prior equity commitment of \$300.0 million to SSLP, Voya has made an initial equity commitment of \$25.0 million to SSLP, with the ability to upsize.

On November 2, 2015, the Company assigned \$125.0 million of its \$300.0 million commitment to SSLP to SSLP II, a Delaware limited liability company.

On November 25, 2015, SSLP commenced operations. On June 30, 2016, SSLP as transferor and SSLP 2016-1, LLC, a newly formed wholly owned subsidiary of SSLP, as borrower entered into a \$200 million senior secured revolving credit facility (the SSLP Facility ) with Wells Fargo Bank, NA acting as administrative agent. Solar Capital Ltd. acts as servicer under the SSLP Facility. The SSLP Facility is scheduled to mature on June 30, 2021. The SSLP Facility generally bears interest at a rate of LIBOR plus 2.50%. SSLP and SSLP 2016-1, LLC, as applicable, have made certain customary representations and warranties, and are required to comply with various covenants, including leverage restrictions, reporting requirements and other customary requirements for similar credit facilities. The SSLP Facility also includes usual and customary events of default for credit facilities of this nature. The Company, along with Voya, controls the funding of SSLP and SSLP may not call the unfunded commitments without approval of both the Company and Voya.

## MANAGEMENT

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

## **Board of Directors and Executive Officers**

#### Directors

Information regarding the board of directors is as follows:

Name	Age	Position	Director Since	Expiration of Term
Interested Director				
Michael S. Gross	55	Chief Executive Officer, President and Chairman of the Board of Directors	2007	2018
Bruce Spohler	56	Chief Operating Officer and Director	2009	2017
Independent Directors				
Steven Hochberg	55	Director	2007	2017
David S. Wachter	53	Director	2007	2019
Leonard A. Potter	55	Director	2009	2018
The address for each of our directors	is 500 Dark As	Jonus New Vork New Vork 10022		

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

## **Executive Officers Who Are Not Directors**

Name	Age	Position
Richard L. Peteka	55	Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Secretary
Guy Talarico	61	Chief Compliance Officer
The address for each of our executive officers is 500 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10022.		

## **Biographical Information**

## Directors

Our directors have been divided into two groups interested directors and independent directors. An interested director is an interested person as defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act. As described below under Committees of the Board of Directors Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, the board of directors has identified certain

desired attributes for director nominees. Each of our directors has demonstrated high character and integrity, superior credentials and recognition in his respective field and the relevant expertise and experience upon which to be able to offer advice and guidance to our management. Each of our directors also has sufficient time available to devote to the affairs of Solar Capital, is able to work with the other members of the board of directors and contribute to the success of Solar Capital and can represent the long-term interests of Solar Capital s stockholders as a whole. Our directors have been selected such that the board of directors represents a range of backgrounds and experience. Set forth below is biographical information of each director,

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

## **Interested Directors**

Michael S. Gross was the managing member, the chairman of the board of directors and the chief executive officer of Solar Capital LLC since its inception in February 2007, and has been the chairman of the board of directors since December 2007, and chief executive officer and president since November 2007, of Solar Capital Ltd. Mr. Gross also currently serves as a managing member of our investment adviser, Solar Capital Partners. In addition, Mr. Gross has served as chairman of the board of directors, chief executive officer and president of Solar Senior Capital Ltd., a BDC managed by Solar Capital Partners, since its inception in December 2010. From July 2006 through approximately the first quarter of 2009, Mr. Gross was a partner in Magnetar Capital Partners, LP. Between February 2004 and February 2006, Mr. Gross was the president and chief executive officer of Apollo Investment Corporation, a publicly traded BDC that he founded and on whose board of directors and investment committee he served as chairman from February 2004 to July 2006, and was the managing partner of Apollo Investment Management, L.P., the investment adviser to Apollo Investment Corporation. Apollo Investment Corporation invests primarily in middle-market companies in the form of senior secured and mezzanine loans as well as by making direct equity investments in such companies. Under his management, Apollo Investment Corporation raised approximately \$930 million in gross proceeds in an initial public offering in April 2004 and invested approximately \$2.3 billion in over 65 companies in conjunction with 50 different private equity sponsors. From 1990 to February 2006, Mr. Gross was a senior partner at Apollo Management, L.P., a leading private equity firm which he founded in 1990 with five other persons. Since its inception, Apollo Management, L.P. has invested more than \$13 billion in over 150 companies in the United States and Western Europe. During his tenure at Apollo Management, L.P., Mr. Gross was a member of an investment committee that was responsible for overseeing such investments. In addition, from 2003 to February 2006, Mr. Gross was the managing partner of Apollo Distressed Investment Fund, an investment fund he founded to invest principally in non-control oriented distressed debt and other investment securities of leveraged companies. Mr. Gross currently serves as the chairman of the board of directors of Global Ship Lease Inc. From 1992 to 2013, Mr. Gross served on the board of directors of Saks, Inc., and from 1999 to 2008, he served on the board of directors of United Rentals, Inc., and in the past has served on the boards of directors, including in certain cases, in the capacity as a lead director, of more than 20 public and private companies. He is a founding member, and serves on the executive committee, of the Youth Renewal Fund, is the chairman of the board of Mt. Sinai Children s Center Foundation, and serves on the Board of Trustees of The Trinity School and the Board of Directors of New York Road Runners. He also serves as a member of the Kellogg Global Advisory Board and the Ross School of Business BBA Advisory Board at the University of Michigan. Mr. Gross holds a B.B.A. in accounting from the University of Michigan and an M.M. from the J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University. Mr. Gross intimate knowledge of the business and operations of Solar Capital Partners, extensive familiarity with the financial industry and the investment management process in particular, and experience as a director of other public and private companies not only gives the board of directors valuable insight but also positions him well to continue to serve as the chairman of our board of directors.

*Bruce Spohler* was a senior vice president of Solar Capital LLC from its inception in February 2007, and has been a director since September 2009, and the chief operating officer since December 2007, of Solar Capital Ltd. Mr. Spohler also currently serves as a managing partner of our investment adviser, Solar Capital Partners. In addition, Mr. Spohler has served as chief operating officer and a member of the board of directors of Solar Senior Capital Ltd., a BDC managed by Solar Capital Partners, since its inception in December 2010. Previously, Mr. Spohler was a managing director and a former co-head of U.S. Leveraged Finance for CIBC World Markets. He held numerous senior roles at CIBC World Markets, including serving on the U.S. Management Committee, Global Executive Committee and the

Deals Committee, which approves all of CIBC World Markets U.S. corporate finance debt capital decisions. During his tenure, he was responsible for senior loan, high yield and mezzanine origination and execution, as well as CIBC World Markets below investment grade loan portfolio in

the U.S. As a co-head of U.S. Leveraged Finance, he oversaw over 300 capital raising and merger and acquisition transactions, comprising over \$40 billion in market capitalization. Mr. Spohler earned a B.S. from Syracuse University and an M.M. from the J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University. Mr. Spohler s depth of experience in managerial positions in investment management, leveraged finance and financial services, as well as his intimate knowledge of Solar Capital s business and operations, gives the board of directors valuable industry-specific knowledge and expertise on these and other matters.

## **Independent Directors**

*Steven Hochberg* was a director of Solar Capital LLC from its inception in February 2007, and has been a director of Solar Capital Ltd. since November 2007. Mr. Hochberg has been a partner at Deerfield Management, a healthcare investment firm, since 2013. Mr. Hochberg is the founder of Ascent Biomedical Ventures, a venture investor in biomedical technology companies, since 2004. Mr. Hochberg is the chairman of the board of directors of Biomerix Corporation and Crosstrees Medical, Inc., and serves on the board of directors of Heart Repair Technologies, Inc. and Acutus Medical. Mr. Hochberg was a member of the Board of Trustees and Chairman of the Board of Continuum Health Partners, one of the largest non-profit hospital systems in New York City until its merger with Mount Sinai in 2013, and he is now the Senior Vice Chairman of Mount Sinai Health System. Mr. Hochberg presently serves as a member of the board of directors of Solar Capital Ltd., a BDC managed by Solar Capital Partners. Mr. Hochberg s varied experience in investing in medical technology companies provides the board of directors with particular knowledge of this field, and his role as chairman of other companies board of directors brings the perspective of a knowledgeable corporate leader.

*Leonard A. Potter* has been a director of Solar Capital Ltd. since September 2009. Mr. Potter is currently the President and Chief Investment Officer of Wildcat Capital Management, LLC, a registered investment adviser, since 2011 and the Chief Executive Officer of Infinity Q Capital Management, LLC, also a registered investment adviser, since 2014. From August 2009 through August 2011, Mr. Potter served as the Chief Investment Officer of Salt Creek Hospitality, a private acquirer and owner of hospitality related assets. From December 2002 through July 2009, Mr. Potter was a Managing Director Soros Private Equity at Soros Fund Management LLC (SFM) where, from May 2005 through July 2009, Mr. Potter is currently a member of the Private Equity group and a member of the Private Equity Investment Committee. Mr. Potter is currently a member of the board of directors of Hilton Grand Vacations Inc. since 2017 and GSV Capital Corp., a publicly-traded BDC since 2011, and Solar Senior Capital Ltd., a BDC managed by Solar Capital Partners; and has previously served as a board member of several public companies including Crumbs Bake Shop, Inc. from 2009 to 2014. Mr. Potter has a B.A. from Brandeis University and a J.D. from the Fordham University School of Law. Mr. Potter s experience practicing as a corporate lawyer provides valuable insight to the board of directors on regulatory and risk management issues. In addition, his tenure in private equity investments and service as a director of both public and private companies provide industry-specific knowledge and expertise to the board of directors.

**David S. Wachter** was a director of Solar Capital LLC from its inception in February 2007, and has been a director of Solar Capital Ltd. since November 2007. Mr. Wachter has been a founding partner, managing director and president of W Capital Partners, a private equity fund manager since 2001. In addition, Mr. Wachter presently serves as a member of the board of directors of Solar Senior Capital Ltd., a BDC managed by Solar Capital Partners. Mr. Wachter has a B.S. in Engineering, with a major in Computer Science and Applied Mathematics, from Tufts University and an M.B.A. from New York University Graduate School of Business. Mr. Wachter s extensive knowledge of private equity and investment banking provides the board of directors with the valuable insight of an experienced financial manager.

## **Executive Officers Who Are Not Directors**

*Richard L. Peteka* has been the chief financial officer, treasurer and secretary of Solar Capital Ltd. since May 2012. In addition, Mr. Peteka has served as chief financial officer, treasurer and secretary of Solar Senior

Capital Ltd., a BDC managed by Solar Capital Partners, since May 2012. Mr. Peteka joined Solar Capital from Apollo Investment Corporation, a publicly-traded BDC, where he served from 2004 to 2012 as the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer. Mr. Peteka holds a B.S. in Finance from The College at Old Westbury and an MBA in International Finance from St. John s University.

*Guy Talarico* has been the chief compliance officer of Solar Capital Ltd. since July 2008. In addition, Mr. Talarico has served as chief compliance officer of Solar Senior Capital Ltd., a BDC managed by Solar Capital Partners, since its inception in December 2010. Mr. Talarico founded and has served as chief executive officer of Alaric Compliance Services, LLC, (successor to EOS Compliance Services LLC) since June 2004. Mr. Talarico currently serves as chief compliance officer for several BDCs, funds and/or investment advisers who are not affiliated with the Solar Capital entities. Mr. Talarico holds a B.S. ChE from Lehigh University, an M.B.A. from Fairleigh Dickinson University and a J.D. from New York Law School.

## **Director Independence**

In accordance with rules of the NASDAQ Stock Market, our board of directors annually determines each director s independence. We do not consider a director independent unless the board of directors has determined that he has no material relationship with us. We monitor the relationships of our directors and officers through a questionnaire each director completes no less frequently than annually and updates periodically as information provided in the most recent questionnaire changes.

Our governance guidelines require any director who has previously been determined to be independent to inform the chairman of the board of directors, the chairman of the Nominating and Corporate Governance committee and our corporate secretary of any change in circumstance that may cause his or her status as an independent director to change. The board of directors limits membership on the audit committee, the nominating and corporate governance committee, and the compensation committee to independent directors.

In order to evaluate the materiality of any such relationship, the board of directors uses the definition of director independence set forth in the rules promulgated by the NASDAQ Stock Market. Rule 5605(a)(2) provides that a director of a BDC shall be considered to be independent if he or she is not an interested person of the Company, as defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act.

The board of directors has determined that each of the directors is independent and has no relationship with us, except as a director and stockholder, with the exception of Michael S. Gross, as a result of his positions as the Chief Executive Officer and President of the Company and a managing member of Solar Capital Partners, Solar Capital s investment adviser, and Bruce Spohler, as a result of his position as Chief Operating Officer of the Company and a managing member of Solar Capital Partners.

## **Board Leadership Structure**

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

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

Presently, Mr. Gross serves as the Chairman of our board of directors. Mr. Gross is an interested person of Solar Capital as defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act because he is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Solar Capital, serves on the investment committee of Solar Capital Partners and is a managing member of our investment adviser. We believe that Mr. Gross history with Solar Capital, familiarity with its investment platform, and extensive knowledge of the financial services industry and the investment valuation process in particular qualify him to serve as the chairman of our board of directors. We believe that Solar Capital is best served through this existing leadership structure, as Mr. Gross relationship with Solar Capital Partners provides an effective bridge and encourages an open dialogue between management and the board of directors, ensuring that both groups act with a common purpose.

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

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

## Board s Role In Risk Oversight

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

As described below in more detail under Committees of the Board of Directors, the Audit Committee, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, and the Compensation Committee assist the board of directors in fulfilling its risk oversight responsibilities. The Audit Committee s risk oversight responsibilities include overseeing Solar Capital s accounting and financial reporting processes, Solar Capital s systems of internal controls regarding finance and accounting, and audits of Solar Capital s financial statements. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee s risk oversight responsibilities include selecting, researching and nominating directors for election by our stockholders, developing and recommending to the board of directors a set of corporate governance principles and overseeing the evaluation of the board of directors and our management. The Compensation Committee s risk oversight responsibilities include reviewing and recommending to our board of directors for approval the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, between the Company and Solar Capital Partners and the Administration Agreement, between the Company and evaluating the compensation of our executive officers and making recommendations to the board of directors regarding such compensation.

Our board of directors also performs its risk oversight responsibilities with the assistance of the chief compliance officer. The board of directors annually reviews a written report from the chief compliance officer discussing the adequacy and effectiveness of the compliance policies and procedures of Solar Capital and its service providers. The chief compliance officer s annual report addresses at a minimum (a) the operation of the compliance policies and procedures of Solar Capital and its service providers since the last report; (b) any material changes to such policies and procedures as procedures since the last report; (c) any recommendations for material changes to such policies and procedures as

a result of the chief compliance officer s annual review; and (d) any

compliance matter that has occurred since the date of the last report about which the board of directors would reasonably need to know to oversee our compliance activities and risks. In addition, the chief compliance officer meets separately in executive session with the independent directors at least once each year.

We believe that our board s role in risk oversight is effective, and appropriate given the extensive regulation to which we are already subject as a BDC. As a BDC, we are required to comply with certain regulatory requirements that control the levels of risk in our business and operations. For example, our ability to incur indebtedness is limited such that our asset coverage must equal at least 200% immediately after each time we incur indebtedness, we generally cannot invest in assets that are not qualifying assets unless at least 70% of our total assets consist of qualifying assets immediately prior to such investment, and we are not generally permitted to invest, subject to certain exceptions, in any portfolio company in which one of our affiliates currently has an investment.

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

## **Committees of the Board of Directors**

An Audit Committee, a Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and a Compensation Committee have been established by our board of directors. During 2016, our board of directors held five Board meetings, five Audit Committee meetings, two Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee meetings and two Compensation Committee meetings. During 2016, all directors attended at least 75% of the aggregate number of meetings of the board of directors and of the respective committees on which they serve, except for Leonard A. Potter who attended 50% of the meetings of the Compensation Committee. We require each director to make a diligent effort to attend all board of directors and committee meetings as well as each annual meeting of our stockholders. Two of our directors attended the 2016 annual meeting of stockholders in person.

## Audit Committee

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

## Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee operates pursuant to a charter approved by our board of directors, a copy of which is available on our website at *http://www.solarcapltd.com*. The members of

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

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee seeks candidates who possess the background, skills and expertise to make a significant contribution to the board of directors, Solar Capital and its stockholders. In considering possible candidates for election as a director, the nominating and corporate governance committee takes into account, in addition to such other factors as it deems relevant, the desirability of selecting directors who:

are of high character and integrity;

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **Compensation Committee**

The Compensation Committee operates pursuant to a charter approved by our board of directors, a copy of which is available on our website at *http://www.solarcapltd.com* . The charter sets forth the responsibilities of the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee is responsible for reviewing and evaluating compensation and making recommendations to the board of directors regarding executive officer direct compensation. In addition, the Compensation Committee is responsible for assisting the our board of directors with matters related to compensation generally. The Compensation Committee has the authority to engage compensation consultants and to delegate their duties and responsibilities to a member or to a subcommittee of the Compensation Committee. The members of the Compensation Committee are Messrs. Hochberg, Wachter and Potter, all of whom are considered independent under the rules of the NASDAQ Stock Market and are not interested persons of the Company as that term is defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act. Mr. Potter serves as Chairman of the Compensation Committee.

#### **Compensation of Directors**

The following table sets forth compensation of Solar Capital s directors, for the year ended December 31, 2016.

Name	 arned or Cash(1)	Stock Awards(2)	All Other Compensation	Total
Interested Directors				
Michael S. Gross				
Bruce Spohler				
Independent Directors				
Steven Hochberg	\$ 128,000			\$128,000
David S. Wachter	\$ 123,000			\$123,000
Leonard A. Potter	\$ 119,500			\$119,500

(1) For a discussion of the independent directors compensation, see below.

(2) We do not maintain a stock or option plan, non-equity incentive plan or pension plan for our directors. However, our independent directors have the option to receive all or a portion of the directors fees to which they would otherwise be entitled in the form of shares of our common stock issued at a price per share equal to the greater of our then-current net asset value per share or the market price at the time of payment. No shares were issued to any of our independent directors in lieu of cash during 2016.

Our independent directors annual fee is \$100,000. The independent directors also receive \$2,500 (\$1,500 if participate telephonically) plus reimbursement of reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with attending each board meeting and \$1,000 plus reimbursement of reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with each committee meeting attended. In addition, the chairman of the Audit Committee receives an annual fee of \$7,500, the chairman of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee receives an annual fee of \$2,500, and the chairman of the Compensation Committee receives an annual fee of \$2,500. Further, we purchase directors and officers liability insurance on behalf of our directors and officers. Our independent directors also have the option to receive all or a portion of the directors fees to which they would otherwise be entitled in the form of shares of our common stock issued at a price per share equal to the greater of our then-current net asset value per share or the market price at the time of payment. In addition, no compensation was paid to directors who are interested persons of Solar Capital as defined in the 1940 Act.

## **Compensation of Executive Officers**

None of our officers receives direct compensation from Solar Capital. As a result, we do not engage any compensation consultants. Mr. Gross, our Chief Executive Officer and President, and Mr. Spohler, our Chief Operating Officer, through their ownership interest in Solar Capital Partners, our investment adviser, are entitled to a portion of any profits earned by Solar Capital Partners, which includes any fees payable by us to Solar Capital Partners under the terms of our Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, less expenses incurred by Solar Capital Partners in performing its services under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement. Messrs. Gross and Spohler do not receive any additional compensation from Solar Capital Partners in connection with the management of our portfolio.

Mr. Peteka, our Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Secretary and, through Alaric Compliance Services, LLC, Guy Talarico, our Chief Compliance Officer, are paid by Solar Capital Management, our administrator, subject to reimbursement by us of an allocable portion of such compensation for services rendered by such persons to Solar Capital. To the extent that Solar Capital Management outsources any of its functions we will pay the fees associated with such functions on a direct basis without profit to Solar Capital Management.

## **Indemnification Agreements**

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

#### **PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT**

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

#### **Investment Personnel**

We consider Messrs. Gross and Spohler, who lead Solar Capital Partners investment committee, to be our portfolio managers.

In addition to managing our investments, our portfolio managers also currently manage the following entity:

Name	Entity	<b>Investment Focus</b>	<b>Gross Assets</b>
Solar Senior Capital Ltd.	BDC	Senior secured loans and other	\$522.0 million(1)
		senior debt instruments	

#### (1) As of December 31, 2016.

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

	Dollar Range of Equity
Name of Portfolio Manager	Securities in Solar Capital(1)(2)
Michael S. Gross	Over \$1 million
Bruce Spohler	Over \$1 million

(1) Dollar ranges are as follows: None, \$1 \$10,000, \$10,001 \$50,000, \$50,001 \$100,000, \$100,001 \$500,000; \$500,001 \$1,000,000 or Over \$1,000,000.

(2) The dollar range of equity securities beneficially owned in us is based on the closing price for our common stock of \$22.20 on March 10, 2017 on the NASDAQ Global Select Market.

#### Compensation

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

## Table of Contents

Agreement.

## INVESTMENT ADVISORY AND MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

#### **Management Services**

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

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

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

closes and monitors the investments we make; and

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

Solar Capital Partners services under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement are not exclusive, and it is free to furnish similar services to other entities so long as its services to us are not impaired. For example, Solar Capital Partners presently serves as investment adviser to Solar Senior Capital Ltd., a publicly-traded BDC which focuses on investing primarily in senior secured loans, including first lien, unitranche and second lien debt instruments.

## **Management Fee**

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

The base management fee is calculated at an annual rate of 2.00% of our gross assets. For services rendered under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, the base management fee is payable quarterly in arrears. The base management fee is calculated based on the average value of our gross assets at the end of the two most recently completed calendar quarters. For purposes of computing the base management fee, gross assets exclude temporary assets acquired at the end of each fiscal quarter for purposes of preserving investment flexibility in the next fiscal quarter. Temporary assets include, but are not limited to, U.S. treasury bills, other short-term U.S. government or government agency securities, repurchase agreements or cash borrowings.

The incentive fee has two parts, as follows: one is calculated and payable quarterly in arrears based on our pre-incentive fee net investment income for the immediately preceding calendar quarter. For this purpose, pre-incentive fee net investment income means interest income, dividend income and any other income (including any

other fees (other than fees for providing managerial assistance), such as commitment, origination, structuring, diligence and consulting fees or other fees that we receive from portfolio companies) accrued during the calendar quarter, minus our operating expenses for the quarter (including the base management fee, expenses payable under the Administration Agreement to Solar Capital Management, and any interest expense and dividend paid on any issued and outstanding preferred stock, but excluding the incentive fee). Pre-incentive fee net investment income includes, in the case of investments with a deferred interest feature (such as original issue discount, debt instruments with pay in kind interest and zero coupon securities), accrued income that we have not yet received in cash. Pre-incentive fee net investment income does not include any realized capital gains, computed net of all realized capital losses or unrealized capital appreciation or depreciation. Pre-incentive fee net investment income, expressed as a rate of return on the value of our net assets at the end of the immediately

preceding calendar quarter, is compared to a hurdle of 1.75% per quarter (7.00% annualized). Our net investment income used to calculate this part of the incentive fee is also included in the amount of our gross assets used to calculate the 2.00% base management fee. We pay Solar Capital Partners an incentive fee with respect to our pre-incentive fee net investment income in each calendar quarter as follows:

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

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

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

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

## Quarterly Incentive Fee Based on Net Investment Income

## Pre-incentive fee net investment income

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

## Percentage of pre-incentive fee net investment income

## allocated to Solar Capital Partners

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

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

## Table of Contents

amount of any previously paid capital gain incentive fees with respect to each of the investments in our portfolio.

# **Examples of Quarterly Incentive Fee Calculation Example 1: Income Related Portion of Incentive Fee (\*):** Alternative 1: Assumptions Investment income (including interest, dividends, fees, etc.) = 1.25%Hurdle rate (1) = 1.75%Management fee (2) = 0.50%Other expenses (legal, accounting, custodian, transfer agent, etc.) (3) = 0.20%Pre-incentive fee net investment income (management fee + other expenses)) = 0.55%(investment income Pre-incentive net investment income does not exceed hurdle rate, therefore there is no incentive fee. Alternative 2: Assumptions Investment income (including interest, dividends, fees, etc.) = 2.70%Hurdle rate (1) = 1.75%Management fee (2) = 0.50%Other expenses (legal, accounting, custodian, transfer agent, etc.) (3) = 0.20%Pre-incentive fee net investment income (investment income (management fee + other expenses)) = 2.00%Incentive fee = $100\% \times \text{pre-incentive fee net investment income, subject to the catch-up}$ (4) $= 100\% \times (2.00\% \quad 1.75\%)$ = 0.25%

## Alternative 3:

Assumptions

## Table of Contents

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

Hurdle rate (1) = 1.75%

Management fee (2) = 0.50%

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

Pre-incentive fee net investment income

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

Incentive fee =  $20\% \times \text{pre-incentive fee net investment income, subject to catch-up}$  (4)

Incentive fee =  $100\% \times \text{catch-up} + (20\% \times (\text{pre-incentive fee net investment income} 2.1875\%))$ 

Catch-up = 2.1875% 1.75%

= 0.4375%

Incentive fee =  $(100\% \times 0.4375\%) + (20\% \times (2.3\% 2.1875\%))$ 

 $= 0.4375\% + (20\% \times 0.1125\%)$ 

= 0.4375% + 0.0225%

= 0.46%

- (\*) The hypothetical amount of pre-incentive fee net investment income shown is based on a percentage of total net assets.
- (1) Represents 7% annualized hurdle rate.
- (2) Represents 2% annualized management fee.
- (3) Excludes organizational and offering expenses.
- (4) The catch-up provision is intended to provide our investment adviser with an incentive fee of 20% on all of our pre-incentive fee net investment income as if a hurdle rate did not apply when our net investment income exceeds 2.1875% in any calendar quarter.

**Example 2: Capital Gains Portion of Incentive Fee:** 

## Alternative 1:

Assumptions

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

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

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

Year 4: Investment B sold for \$31 million The capital gains portion of the incentive fee would be:

Year 1: None

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

Year 3: None

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

Year 4: Capital gains incentive fee of \$200,000 \$6.2 million (\$31 million cumulative realized capital gains multiplied by 20%) less \$6 million (capital gains fee taken in Year 2)

## Alternative 2:

Assumptions

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

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

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

Year 4: FMV of Investment B determined to be \$24 million

Year 5: Investment B sold for \$20 million The capital gains incentive fee, if any, would be:

Year 1: None

Year 2: \$5 million capital gains incentive fee 20% multiplied by \$25 million (\$30 million realized capital gains on Investment A less unrealized capital depreciation on Investment B)

Year 3: \$1.4 million capital gains incentive fee<sup>(1)</sup> \$6.4 million (20% multiplied by \$32 million (\$35 million cumulative realized capital gains less \$3 million unrealized capital depreciation)) less \$5 million capital gains fee received in Year 2

Year 4: None

Year 5: None

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

 As illustrated in Year 3 of Alternative 2 above, if Solar Capital were to be wound up on a date other than December 31 of any year, Solar Capital may have paid aggregate capital gain incentive fees that are more than the amount of such fees that would be payable if Solar Capital had been wound up on December 31 of such year.
 Payment of Our Expenses

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

the cost of our organization and public offerings;

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

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

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

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

transfer agent and custodial fees;

fees and expenses associated with marketing efforts;

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

federal, state and local taxes;

independent directors fees and expenses;

brokerage commissions;

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

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

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

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

all other expenses incurred by either Solar Capital Management or us in connection with administering our business, including payments under the Administration Agreement based upon our allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by Solar Capital Management in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, including rent and the allocable portion of the cost of our chief compliance officer and our chief financial officer and their respective staffs.

## **Duration and Termination**

The Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, as amended, was approved by our board of directors on August 2, 2016. Unless earlier terminated as described below, the Investment Advisory and Management

Agreement will remain in effect from year to year if approved annually by our board of directors or by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of our outstanding voting securities, including, in either case, approval by a majority of our directors who are not parties to such agreement or who are not interested persons of Solar Capital, as such term is defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act. The Investment Advisory and Management Agreement will automatically terminate in the event of its assignment. The Investment Advisory and Management Agreement may also be terminated by either party without penalty upon 60 days written notice to the other. See Risk Factors Risks Relating to Our Business and Structure Our investment adviser can resign on 60 days notice, and we may not be able to find a suitable replacement within that time, resulting in a disruption in our operations that could adversely affect our financial condition, business and results of operations.

## Indemnification

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

## Organization of the Investment Adviser

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

## Board Approval of the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement

A discussion regarding the basis for our board of director s approval of our Investment Advisory and Management Agreement will be included in our first proxy statement or annual report on Form 10-K filed subsequent to any such board approval. The discussion of the most recent board approval of our Investment Advisory and Management Agreement is included in our proxy statement to be filed with the SEC in connection with our 2017 annual meeting of stockholders.

## **ADMINISTRATION AGREEMENT**

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

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

## LICENSE AGREEMENT

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

# CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND TRANSACTIONS

We have entered into the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement with Solar Capital Partners. Mr. Gross, our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and Mr. Spohler, our Chief Operating Officer and board member, are the managing members and senior investment professionals of, and have financial and controlling interests in, Solar Capital Partners. In addition, Mr. Peteka, our Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Secretary, serves as the Chief Financial Officer, for Solar Capital Partners.

Solar Capital Partners and its affiliates may also manage other funds in the future that may have investment mandates that are similar, in whole and in part, with ours. For example, Solar Capital Partners presently serves as investment adviser to Solar Senior, a publicly-traded BDC which focuses on investing primarily in senior secured loans, including first lien and second lien debt instruments. In addition, Michael S. Gross, our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Bruce Spohler, our Chief Operating Officer, and Richard L. Peteka, our Chief Financial Officer, serve in similar capacities for Solar Senior.

Solar Capital Partners and certain investment advisory affiliates may determine that an investment is appropriate for us and for one or more of those other funds. In such event, depending on the availability of such investment and other appropriate factors, Solar Capital Partners or its affiliates may determine that we should invest side-by-side with one or more other funds. Any such investments will be made only to the extent permitted by applicable law and interpretive positions of the SEC and its staff, and consistent with Solar Capital Partners allocation procedures. Related party transactions may occur between the Company and Crystal Financial LLC, between the Company and SSLP, between the Company and SSLP 2016-1, between the Company and SSLP II 2016-1, LLC. These transactions may occur in the normal course of business. No administrative fees are paid to Solar Capital Partners by Crystal Financial LLC, SSLP or SSLP II. In addition, we have adopted a formal code of ethics that governs the conduct of our officers and directors. Our officers and directors also remain subject to the duties imposed by both the 1940 Act and the Maryland General Corporation Law.

Regulatory restrictions limit our ability to invest in any portfolio company in which any affiliate currently has an investment. We, Solar Senior Capital Ltd., and Solar Capital Partners, have received an exemptive order from the SEC to permit greater flexibility to negotiate the terms of co-investments (the Exemptive Order ). On January 13, 2017, the Company, Solar Senior Capital Ltd., and Solar Capital Partners filed an exemptive application for a co-investment order that would supersede the Exemptive Order and extend the relief granted in the Exemptive Order such that it no longer applies to certain affiliates only if their respective investment adviser is Solar Capital Partners, but also applies to certain affiliates whose investment adviser is an investment adviser that controls, is controlled by or is under common control with Solar Capital Partners and is registered as an investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended. The Exemptive Order will remain in effect unless and until the revised application is approved by the SEC. The terms and conditions of the revised application are substantially similar to the Exemptive Order. We believe that it will be advantageous for us to co-invest with funds managed by Solar Capital Partners where such investment is consistent with the investment objectives, investment positions, investment policies, investment strategy, investment restrictions, regulatory requirements and other pertinent factors applicable to us.

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

## CONTROL PERSONS AND PRINCIPAL STOCKHOLDERS

The following table sets forth certain ownership information as of March 10, 2017 with respect to Solar Capital Ltd. s common stock for those persons who, directly or indirectly, own, control or hold with the power to vote, 5% or more of Solar Capital Ltd. s common stock, and all officers and directors as a group.

Name	Type of Ownership	Shares Owned(1)	Percentage(2)
Wellington Management Company LLP(3)	Indirect	5,907,082	14.0%
Thornburg Investment Management Inc.(4)	Indirect	4,613,589	10.9%
Michael S. Gross(5)(6)	Direct and Indirect	2,425,878	5.7%
Bruce Spohler(5)	Direct and Indirect	2,214,484	5.2%
All executive officers and directors as a group (7 persons)(7)	Direct and Indirect	2,503,107	5.9%

- (1) Beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with Rule 13d-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Assumes no other purchases or sales of our common stock since the most recently available SEC filings. This assumption has been made under the rules and regulations of the SEC and does not reflect any knowledge that we have with respect to the present intent of the beneficial owners of our common stock listed in this table.
- (2) Percentages are based on 42,248,525 shares of common stock outstanding as of March 10, 2017.
- (3) Based upon information contained in the Schedule 13G/A filed February 9, 2017 by Wellington Management Company, LLP. Such securities are held by certain investment vehicles controlled and/or managed by Wellington Management Company, LLP or its affiliates. The address for Wellington Management Company, LLP is 280 Congress Street, Boston, MA 02210.
- (4) Based upon information contained in the Schedule 13G/A filed February 8, 2017 by Thornburg Investment Management Inc. Such securities are held by certain investment vehicles controlled and/or managed by Thornburg Investment Management Inc. or its affiliates. The address for Thornburg Investment Management Inc. is 2300 North Ridgetop Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87506.
- (5) Includes 1,285,013 shares held by Solar Capital Investors, LLC and 715,000 shares held by Solar Capital Investors II, LLC, both of which may be deemed to be beneficially owned by Michael S. Gross and Bruce Spohler by virtue of their ownership interest therein. Also includes 200,471 shares held by Solar Capital Partners Employee Stock Plan LLC, which is controlled by Solar Capital Partners, LLC. Mr. Gross and Mr. Spohler may be deemed to beneficially own the shares held by Solar Capital Partners Employee Stock Plan LLC by virtue of their collective ownership interest in Solar Capital Partners, LLC.
- (6) Includes 39,500 shares directly held individually by Michael S. Gross tax-qualified retirement/profit sharing plan (the Profit Sharing Plan ). Mr. Gross may be deemed to directly beneficially own these shares as the sole participant in the Profit Sharing Plan. Also includes 20,000 shares directly held by a grantor retained annuity trust setup by and for Michael S. Gross.

(7) The address for all officers and directors is 500 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022.

The following table sets forth the dollar range of our equity securities beneficially owned by each of our directors as of March 10, 2017.

**Dollar Range of Equity** 

Securities in Solar Capital(1)(2)
Over \$100,000
Over \$100,000
Over \$100,000
Over \$100,000
Over \$100,000

- (1) The dollar ranges are: None, \$1-\$10,000, \$10,001-\$50,000, \$50,001-\$100,000, or Over \$100,000.
- (2) The dollar range of equity securities beneficially owned in us is based on the closing price for our common stock of \$22.20 on March 10, 2017 on the NASDAQ Global Select Market. Beneficial ownership has been determined in accordance with Rule 16a-1(a)(2) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

## **REGULATION AS A BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COMPANY**

## General

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

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

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

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

As a BDC, we were substantially limited in our ability to co-invest in privately negotiated transactions with affiliated funds until we obtained an exemptive order from the SEC on July 28, 2014 (the Exemptive Order ). The Exemptive Order permits us to participate in negotiated co-investment transactions with certain affiliates, each of whose investment adviser is Solar Capital Partners, or an investment adviser controlling, controlled by or under common control with Solar Capital Partners, in a manner consistent with our investment objective, positions, policies, strategies and restrictions as well as regulatory requirements and other pertinent factors, and pursuant to the conditions to the Exemptive Order. If we are unable to rely on the Exemptive Order for a particular opportunity, such opportunity will be allocated first to the entity whose investment strategy is the most consistent with the opportunity being allocated, and second, if the terms of the opportunity are consistent with more than one entity s investment strategy, on an alternating basis. On January 13, 2017, the Company, Solar Senior Capital Ltd., and Solar Capital Partners filed an exemptive application for a co-investment order that would supersede the Exemptive Order and extend the relief granted in the Exemptive Order such that it no longer applies to certain affiliates only if their respective investment adviser is Solar Capital Partners, but also applies to certain affiliates whose investment adviser is an investment adviser that controls, is controlled by or is under common control with Solar Capital Partners and is registered as an investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended. The Exemptive Order will remain in effect unless and until the revised application is approved by the SEC. The terms and conditions of the revised application are substantially similar to the Exemptive Order.

We are generally not able to issue and sell our common stock at a price below net asset value per share without shareholder approval. See Risk Factors Risks Relating to Our Business and Structure Regulations governing our operation as a BDC affect our ability to raise, and the way in which we raise, additional capital. As a BDC, the necessity of raising additional capital may expose us to risks, including the typical risks associated

with leverage. We may, however, sell our common stock, or warrants, options or rights to acquire our common stock, at a price below the then-current net asset value of our common stock if our board of directors determines that such sale is in our best interests and the best interests of our stockholders, and our stockholders approve such sale. At our Annual Meeting of Stockholders on June 7, 2016, our stockholders approved a proposal authorizing us to sell up to 25% of our common stock at a price below our then-current asset value per share, subject to the approval by our board of directors for the offering. This authorization expires on the earlier of June 7, 2017 and the date of our 2017 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which is expected to be held in May 2017. In addition, we may generally issue new shares of our common stock at a price below net asset value in rights offerings to existing stockholders, in payment of dividends and in certain other limited circumstances.

As a BDC, we are generally limited in our ability to invest in any portfolio company in which our investment adviser or any of its affiliates currently have an investment or to make any co-investments with our investment adviser or its affiliates without an exemptive order from the SEC, subject to certain exceptions.

We will be periodically examined by the SEC for compliance with the federal securities laws, including the 1940 Act.

# **Qualifying Assets**

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

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

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

(b) is not an investment company (other than a small business investment company wholly owned by the BDC); and

(c) satisfies any of the following:

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

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

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

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

(2) Securities of any eligible portfolio company which we control, which, as defined by the 1940 Act, is presumed to exist where a BDC beneficially owns more than 25% of the outstanding voting securities of the portfolio company.

# Table of Contents

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

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

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

(6) Cash, cash equivalents, U.S. government securities or high-quality debt securities maturing in one year or less from the time of investment.

(7) Office furniture and equipment, interests in real estate and leasehold improvements and facilities maintained to conduct the business operations of the BDC, deferred organization and operating expenses, and other noninvestment assets necessary and appropriate to its operations as a BDC, including notes of indebtedness of directors, officers, employees, and general partners held by a BDC as payment for securities of such company issued in connection with an executive compensation plan described in Section 57(j) of the 1940 Act.

Under Section 55(b) of the 1940 Act, the value of a BDC s assets shall be determined as of the date of the most recent financial statements filed by such company with the SEC pursuant to Section 13 of the 1934 Act, and shall be determined no less frequently than annually.

## Significant Managerial Assistance to Portfolio Companies

As a BDC, we offer, and must provide upon request, significant managerial assistance to our portfolio companies. This assistance could involve, among other things, monitoring the operations of our portfolio companies, participating in board and management meetings, consulting with and advising officers of portfolio companies and providing other organizational and financial guidance. We may also receive fees for these services. Solar Capital Management provides such managerial assistance, if any, on our behalf to portfolio companies that request this assistance.

## **Temporary Investments**

Pending investment in other types of qualifying assets, as described above, our investments may consist of cash, cash equivalents, U.S. government securities or high-quality investment grade debt securities maturing in one year or less from the time of investment, which we refer to, collectively, as temporary investments, so that 70% of our assets are qualifying assets. Typically, we will invest in U.S. Treasury bills or in repurchase agreements, provided that such repurchase agreement involves the purchase by cash or securities issued by the U.S. government or its agencies. A repurchase agreement involves the purchase by an investor, such as us, of a specified security and the simultaneous agreement by the seller to repurchase it at an agreed-upon future date and at a price which is greater than the purchase price by an amount that reflects an agreed-upon interest rate. There is no percentage restriction on the proportion of our assets that may be invested in such repurchase agreements. However, if more than 25% of our total assets constitute repurchase agreements from a single counterparty, we would not meet the diversification tests in order to qualify as a RIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Thus, we do not intend to enter into repurchase agreements with a single counterparty in excess of this limit. Our investment adviser will monitor the creditworthiness of the counterparties with which we enter into repurchase agreement transactions.

#### **Senior Securities**

We are permitted, under specified conditions, to issue multiple classes of indebtedness and one class of stock senior to our common stock if our asset coverage, as defined in the 1940 Act, is at least equal to 200% immediately after each such issuance. In addition, while any senior securities remain outstanding, we must make provisions to prohibit any

distribution to our stockholders or the repurchase of such securities or shares unless we meet the applicable asset coverage ratios at the time of the distribution or repurchase. We may also borrow amounts up to 5% of the value of our total assets for temporary or emergency purposes without regard to asset

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

## **Code of Ethics**

We and Solar Capital Partners have each adopted a code of ethics pursuant to Rule 17j-1 under the 1940 Act and Rule 204A-1 under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (the Advisers Act ), respectively, that establishes procedures for personal investments and restricts certain transactions by our personnel. Our codes of ethics generally do not permit investments by our employees in securities that may be purchased or held by us. You may read and copy these codes of ethics at the SEC s Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. You may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1 (800) SEC-0330. In addition, each code of ethics is available on the EDGAR Database on the SEC s Internet site at http://www.sec.gov. You may also obtain copies of the codes of ethics, after paying a duplicating fee, by electronic request at the following Email address: publicinfo@sec.gov, or by writing the SEC s Public Reference Section, 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549.

## **Compliance Policies and Procedures**

We and our investment adviser have adopted and implemented written policies and procedures reasonably designed to detect and prevent violation of the federal securities laws. We are required to review these compliance policies and procedures annually for their adequacy and the effectiveness of their implementation and to designate a chief compliance officer to be responsible for their administration. Guy Talarico currently serves as our chief compliance officer.

## Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

The Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 imposes a wide variety of new regulatory requirements on publicly-held companies and their insiders. Many of these requirements affect us. For example:

pursuant to Rule 13a-14 of the Exchange Act, our chief executive officer and chief financial officer must certify the accuracy of the financial statements contained in our periodic reports;

pursuant to Item 307 of Regulation S-K, our periodic reports must disclose our conclusions about the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures;

pursuant to Rule 13a-15 of the Exchange Act, our management is required to prepare an annual report regarding its assessment of our internal control over financial reporting and to obtain an audit of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting performed by our independent registered public accounting firm; and

pursuant to Item 308 of Regulation S-K and Rule 13a-15 of the 1934 Act, our periodic reports must disclose whether there were significant changes in our internal controls over financial reporting or in other factors that could significantly affect these controls subsequent to the date of their evaluation, including any corrective actions with regard to significant deficiencies and material weaknesses.

The Sarbanes-Oxley Act requires us to review our current policies and procedures to determine whether we comply with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and the regulations promulgated thereunder. We will continue to monitor our compliance with all regulations that are adopted under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and will take actions necessary to ensure that we are in compliance therewith.

## **Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures**

We have delegated our proxy voting responsibility to our investment adviser. A summary of the Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures of our adviser are set forth below. The guidelines are reviewed periodically by the adviser and our non-interested directors, and, accordingly, are subject to change.

As an investment adviser registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, Solar Capital Partners has a fiduciary duty to act solely in the best interests of its clients. As part of this duty, it recognizes that it must vote securities held by its clients in a timely manner free of conflicts of interest. These policies and procedures for voting proxies for investment advisory clients are intended to comply with Section 206 of, and Rule 206(4)-6 under, the Advisers Act.

Our investment adviser votes proxies relating to our portfolio securities in the best interest of our stockholders. Solar Capital Partners reviews on a case-by-case basis each proposal submitted for a proxy vote to determine its impact on our investments. Although it generally votes against proposals that may have a negative impact on our investments, it may vote for such a proposal if there exists compelling long-term reasons to do so. The proxy voting decisions of our investment adviser are made by the senior investment professionals who are responsible for monitoring each of our investments. To ensure that our vote is not the product of a conflict of interest, it requires that: (i) anyone involved in the decision making process disclose to a managing member of Solar Capital Partners any potential conflict that he or she is aware of and any contact that he or she has had with any interested party regarding a proxy vote; and (ii) employees involved in the decision making process or vote administration are prohibited from revealing how we intend to vote on a proposal in order to reduce any attempted influence from interested parties.

You may obtain information about how we voted proxies by making a written request for proxy voting information to: Solar Capital Partners, LLC, 500 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022.

# **Privacy Principles**

We are committed to maintaining the privacy of our stockholders and to safeguarding their non-public personal information. The following information is provided to help you understand what personal information we collect, how we protect that information and why, in certain cases, we may share information with select other parties.

Generally, we do not receive any non-public personal information relating to our stockholders, although certain non-public personal information of our stockholders may become available to us. We do not disclose any non-public personal information about our stockholders or former stockholders to anyone, except as permitted by law or as is necessary in order to service stockholder accounts (for example, to a transfer agent or third party administrator).

We restrict access to non-public personal information about our stockholders to employees of our investment adviser and its affiliates with a legitimate business need for the information. We maintain physical, electronic and procedural safeguards designed to protect the non-public personal information of our stockholders.

# DETERMINATION OF NET ASSET VALUE

#### **Quarterly Determinations**

We determine the net asset value of our investment portfolio each quarter by subtracting our total liabilities from the fair value of our total assets.

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

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

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

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

the nature and realizable value of any collateral;

the portfolio company s ability to make payments;

the portfolio company s earnings and discounted cash flow;

the markets in which the issuer does business; and

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

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

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

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

securities whose prices are stale;

securities affected by significant events; and

securities that the investment adviser believes were priced incorrectly.

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

## **Determinations in Connection with Offerings**

In connection with future offering of shares of our common stock, to the extent we do not have stockholder approval to sell below NAV, our board of directors or an authorized committee thereof will be required to make a good faith determination that we are not selling shares of our common stock at a price below the then current net asset value of our common stock at the time at which the sale is made. Our board of directors or an authorized committee thereof will consider the following factors, among others, in making such determination:

the net asset value of our common stock disclosed in the most recent periodic report that we filed with the SEC;

our management s assessment of whether any material change in the net asset value of our common stock has occurred (including through the realization of gains on the sale of our portfolio securities) during the period beginning on the date of the most recently disclosed net asset value of our common stock and ending as of a time within 48 hours (excluding Sundays and holidays) of the sale of our common stock; and

the magnitude of the difference between (i) a value that our board of directors or an authorized committee thereof has determined reflects the current (as of a time within 48 hours excluding Sundays and holidays) net asset value of our common stock, which is based upon the net asset value of our common stock disclosed in the most recent periodic report we filed with the SEC, as adjusted to reflect our management s assessment of any material change in the net asset value of our common stock, and (ii) the offering price of the shares of our common stock in the proposed offering.

Moreover, to the extent that there is even a remote possibility that we may (i) issue shares of our common stock at a price below the then current net asset value of our common stock at the time at which the sale is made or (ii) trigger the undertaking (which we provide in certain registration statements we file with the SEC) to suspend the offering of shares of our common stock pursuant to this prospectus if the net asset value of our common stock fluctuates by certain amounts in certain circumstances until the prospectus is amended, our board of directors or an authorized committee thereof will elect, in the case of clause (i) above, either to postpone the offering until such time that there is no longer the possibility of the occurrence of such event or to undertake to determine the net asset value of our common stock within two days prior to any such sale to ensure that such sale will not be below our then current net asset value, and, in the case of clause (ii) above, to comply with such undertaking or to undertake to determine the net asset value of our common stock to ensure that such undertaking has not been triggered.

These processes and procedures are part of our compliance policies and procedures. Records will be made contemporaneously with all determinations described in this section and these records will be maintained with other records that we are required to maintain under the 1940 Act.

## **DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT PLAN**

We have adopted a dividend reinvestment plan that provides for reinvestment of our dividends and other distributions on behalf of our stockholders, unless a stockholder elects to receive cash as provided below. As a result, if our board of directors authorizes, and we declare, a cash distribution, then our stockholders who have not opted out of our dividend reinvestment plan will have their cash distributions automatically reinvested in additional shares of our common stock, rather than receiving the cash distributions.

No action will be required on the part of a registered stockholder to have his cash distribution reinvested in shares of our common stock. A registered stockholder may elect to receive an entire distribution in cash by notifying American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, the plan administrator and our transfer agent and registrar, in writing so that such notice is received by the plan administrator no later than the record date for distributions to stockholders. The plan administrator will set up an account for shares acquired through the plan for each stockholder who has not elected to receive distributions in cash and hold such shares in non-certificated form. Upon request by a stockholder participating in the plan, received in writing not less than 10 days prior to the record date, the plan administrator will, instead of crediting shares to the participant s account, issue a certificate registered in the participant s name for the number of whole shares of our common stock and a check for any fractional share.

Those stockholders whose shares are held by a broker or other financial intermediary may receive distributions in cash by notifying their broker or other financial intermediary of their election.

We may use newly issued shares to implement the plan, whether our shares are trading at a premium or at a discount to our net asset value per share. However, we reserve the right to purchase shares in the open market in connection with our implementation of the plan. If we declare a distribution to stockholders, the plan administrator may be instructed not to credit accounts with newly-issued shares and instead to buy shares in the market if (i) the price at which newly-issued shares are to be credited does not exceed 110% of the last determined net asset value of the shares; or (ii) we have advised the plan administrator that since such net asset value was last determined, we have become aware of events that indicate the possibility of a material change in per share net asset value as a result of which the net asset value of the shares on the payment date might be higher than the price at which the plan administrator would credit newly-issued shares to stockholders. The number of shares to be issued to a stockholder is determined by dividing the total dollar amount of the distribution payable to such stockholder by the market price per share of our common stock at the close of regular trading on the valuation date for such distribution. Market price per share on that date will be the closing price for such shares on the national securities exchange on which our shares are then listed or, if no sale is reported for such day, at the average of their reported bid and asked prices. The number of shares of our common stock to be outstanding after giving effect to payment of the distribution cannot be established until the value per share at which additional shares will be issued has been determined and elections of our stockholders have been tabulated.

There will be no brokerage charges or other charges to stockholders who participate in the plan. The plan administrator s fees under the plan will be paid by us. If a participant elects by written notice to the plan administrator to have the plan administrator sell part or all of the shares held by the plan administrator in the participant s account and remit the proceeds to the participant, the plan administrator is authorized to deduct a transaction fee of \$15 plus a per share brokerage commissions from the proceeds.

Stockholders who receive distributions in the form of stock are subject to the same federal, state and local tax consequences as are stockholders who elect to receive their distributions in cash. A stockholder s basis for determining gain or loss upon the sale of stock received in a distribution from us will be equal to the amount of cash they would have received if they had elected to receive the distribution in cash, or the fair market value of the distributed shares if

such shares have a fair market value equal to or greater than net asset value. Any stock received in a distribution will have a new holding period for tax purposes commencing on the day following the day on which the shares are credited to the U.S. stockholder s account.

The plan may be terminated by us upon notice in writing mailed to each participant at least 30 days prior to any record date for the payment of any distribution by us. All correspondence concerning the plan should be directed to the plan administrator by mail at 6201 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11219 or by phone at (800) 937-5449.

## CERTAIN U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

The following discussion is a general summary of certain U.S. federal income tax considerations applicable to us and to an investment in our common stock. This summary does not purport to be a complete description of the income tax considerations applicable to such an investment. For example, we have not described tax consequences that we assume to be generally known by investors or certain considerations that may be relevant to certain types of holders subject to special treatment under U.S. federal income tax laws, including stockholders subject to the alternative minimum tax, tax-exempt organizations, insurance companies, dealers in securities, pension plans and trusts, and financial institutions. This summary assumes that investors hold our common stock as capital assets (within the meaning of the Code). The discussion is based upon the Code, Treasury regulations, and administrative and judicial interpretations, each as in effect as of the date of this registration statement and all of which are subject to change, possibly retroactively, which could affect the continuing validity of this discussion. We have not sought and will not seek any ruling from the Internal Revenue Service regarding this offering. This summary does not discuss any aspects of U.S. estate or gift tax or foreign, state or local tax. It does not discuss the special treatment under U.S. federal income tax laws that could result if we invested in tax-exempt securities or certain other investment assets in which we do not currently intend to invest.

This summary does not discuss the consequences of an investment in shares of our preferred stock, debt securities or warrants representing rights to purchase shares of our common stock, preferred stock or debt securities. The U.S. federal income tax consequences of such an investment will be discussed in a relevant prospectus supplement.

A U.S. stockholder generally is a beneficial owner of shares of our common stock who is for U.S. federal income tax purposes:

a citizen or individual resident of the United States including an alien individual who is a lawful permanent resident of the United States or meets the substantial presence test under Section 7701(b) of the Code;

a corporation or other entity taxable as a corporation, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, created or organized in or under the laws of the United States, any state thereof, or the District of Columbia;

a trust, if a court in the United States has primary supervision over its administration and one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all decisions of the trust, or the trust has a valid election in effect under applicable U.S. Treasury regulations to be treated as a U.S. person; or

an estate, the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source. A non-U.S. stockholder is a beneficial owner of shares of our common stock that is an individual, corporation, trust or estate and is not a U.S. stockholder.

If a partnership (including an entity treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes) holds shares of our common stock, the tax treatment of a partner in the partnership will generally depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. A prospective stockholder who is a partner of a partnership holding shares of our common stock should consult its tax advisors with respect to the purchase, ownership and disposition of shares of our common stock.

Tax matters are very complicated and the tax consequences to an investor of an investment in our shares will depend on the facts of its particular situation. We encourage investors to consult their own tax advisors regarding the specific consequences of such an investment, including tax reporting requirements, the applicability of federal, state, local and foreign tax laws, eligibility for the benefits of any applicable tax treaty and the effect of any possible changes in the tax laws.

As a BDC, we have elected to be treated, and intend to qualify annually, as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code, beginning with our 2010 taxable year. As a RIC, we generally will not have to pay corporate-level

federal income taxes on any ordinary income or capital gains that we distribute to our stockholders as dividends. To continue to qualify as a RIC, we must, among other things, meet certain source-of-income and asset diversification requirements (as described below). In addition, to qualify for RIC tax treatment we must distribute to our stockholders, for each taxable year, at least 90% of our investment company taxable income, which is generally our ordinary income plus the excess of our realized net short-term capital gains over our realized net long-term capital losses (the Annual Distribution Requirement ).

## **Taxation as a Regulated Investment Company**

If we:

qualify as a RIC; and

satisfy the Annual Distribution Requirement;

then we will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax on the portion of our investment company taxable income and net capital gain (i.e., realized net long-term capital gains in excess of realized net short-term capital losses) we distribute to stockholders. We will be subject to U.S. federal income tax at the regular corporate rates on any income or capital gain not distributed (or deemed distributed) to our stockholders.

We will be subject to a 4% nondeductible U.S. federal excise tax on certain undistributed income unless we distribute in a timely manner an amount at least equal to the sum of (1) 98% of our ordinary income for each calendar year, (2) 98.2% of our capital gain net income for the one-year period ending October 31 in that calendar year and (3) any income realized, but not distributed, and on which we paid no U.S. federal income tax, in preceding years (the Excise Tax Avoidance Requirement ). We currently intend to make sufficient distributions each taxable year to satisfy the Excise Tax Avoidance Requirement.

In order to maintain our qualification as a RIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes, we must, among other things:

at all times during each taxable year, have in effect an election to be treated as a BDC under the 1940 Act;

derive in each taxable year at least 90% of our gross income from (a) distributions, interest, payments with respect to certain securities loans, gains from the sale of stock or other securities or currencies, or other income derived with respect to our business of investing in such stock, securities or currencies and (b) net income derived from an interest in a qualified publicly traded partnership; and

diversify our holdings so that at the end of each quarter of the taxable year:

at least 50% of the value of our assets consists of cash, cash equivalents, U.S. government securities, securities of other RICs, and other securities if such other securities of any one issuer do not represent more than 5% of the value of our assets or more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of the

issuer; and

no more than 25% of the value of our assets is invested in (i) the securities, other than U.S. government securities or securities of other RICs, of one issuer, (ii) the securities of two or more issuers that are controlled, as determined under applicable tax rules, by us and that are engaged in the same or similar or related trades or businesses or (iii) the securities of one or more qualified publicly traded partnerships.

We may be required to recognize taxable income in circumstances in which we do not receive cash. For example, if we hold debt obligations that are treated under applicable tax rules as having original issue discount (such as debt instruments with PIK interest or, in certain cases, increasing interest rates or debt instruments issued with warrants), we must include in income each year a portion of the original issue discount that accrues over the life of the obligation, regardless of whether cash representing such income is received by us in the same

taxable year. Because any original issue discount accrued will be included in our investment company taxable income for the year of accrual, we may be required to make a distribution to our stockholders in order to satisfy the Annual Distribution Requirement, even though we will not have received any corresponding cash amount.

Because we may use debt financing, we will be subject to certain asset coverage ratio requirements under the 1940 Act and financial covenants under loan and credit agreements that could, under certain circumstances, restrict us from making distributions necessary to satisfy the Annual Distribution Requirement. If we are unable to obtain cash from other sources or are otherwise limited in our ability to make distributions, we could fail to qualify for RIC tax treatment and thus become subject to corporate-level U.S. federal income tax.

Certain of our investment practices may be subject to special and complex U.S. federal income tax provisions that may, among other things: (i) disallow, suspend or otherwise limit the allowance of certain losses or deductions; (ii) convert lower taxed long-term capital gain into higher taxed short-term capital gain or ordinary income; (iii) convert an ordinary loss or a deduction into a capital loss (the deductibility of which is more limited); (iv) cause us to recognize income or gain without a corresponding receipt of cash; (v) adversely affect the time as to when a purchase or sale of securities is deemed to occur; (vi) adversely alter the characterization of certain complex financial transactions; and (vii) produce income that will not be qualifying income for purposes of the 90% gross income test described above. We will monitor our transactions and may make certain tax elections in order to mitigate the potential adverse effect of these provisions.

Gain or loss realized by us from the sale or exchange of warrants acquired by us as well as any loss attributable to the lapse of such warrants generally will be treated as capital gain or loss. The treatment of such gain or loss as long-term or short-term will depend on how long we held a particular warrant. Upon the exercise of a warrant acquired by us, our tax basis in the stock purchased under the warrant will equal the sum of the amount paid for the warrant plus the strike price paid on the exercise of the warrant. Except as set forth below in Failure to Qualify as a Regulated Investment Company, the remainder of this discussion assumes we will qualify for tax treatment as a RIC for each taxable year.

# Taxation of U.S. Stockholders

Distributions by us generally will be taxable to U.S. stockholders as ordinary income or capital gains. Distributions of our investment company taxable income will be taxable as ordinary income to U.S. stockholders to the extent of our current or accumulated earnings and profits, whether paid in cash or reinvested in additional common stock. Distributions of our net capital gains (that is, the excess of our realized net long-term capital gains in excess of realized net short-term capital losses) properly reported by us as capital gain dividends will be taxable to a U.S. stockholder as long-term capital gains, regardless of the U.S. stockholder s holding period for its common stock and regardless of whether paid in cash or reinvested in additional common stock. Distributions of investment company taxable income that are reported by us as being derived from qualified dividend income will be taxed in the hands of non-corporate stockholders at the rates applicable to long-term capital gain, provided that holding period and other requirements are met by both the stockholders and us. Dividends distributed by us will generally not be attributable to qualified dividend income. Distributions in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits first will reduce a U.S. stockholder s adjusted tax basis in such U.S. stockholder s common stock and, after the adjusted basis is reduced to zero, will constitute capital gains to such U.S. stockholder. For a summary of the tax rates applicable to capital gains, including capital gain dividends, see the discussion below.

Under the dividend reinvestment plan, if a U.S. stockholder owns shares of common stock registered in its own name, the U.S. stockholder will have all cash distributions automatically reinvested in additional shares of common stock unless the U.S. stockholder opts out of our dividend reinvestment plan by delivering a written notice to our dividend

paying agent prior to the record date of the next dividend or distribution. See Dividend Reinvestment Plan. Any distributions reinvested under the plan will nevertheless remain taxable to the U.S. stockholder. The U.S. stockholder will have an adjusted basis in the additional common shares purchased

through the plan equal to the amount of cash they would have received if they had elected to receive the distribution in cash, or the fair market value of the distributed shares if such shares have a fair market value equal to or greater than net asset value. The additional shares will have a new holding period commencing on the day following the day on which the shares are credited to the U.S. stockholder s account.

Although we currently intend to distribute realized net capital gains (i.e., net realized long-term capital gains in excess of net realized short-term capital losses), if any, at least annually, we may in the future decide to retain some or all of our net capital gains, but to designate the retained amount as a deemed distribution. In that case, among other consequences, we will pay corporate-level U.S. federal income tax on the retained amount, each U.S. stockholder will be required to include its share of the deemed distribution in income as if it had been actually distributed to the U.S. stockholder, and the U.S. stockholder will be entitled to claim a credit or refund equal to its allocable share of the corporate-level U.S. federal income tax we pay on the retained capital gain. The amount of the deemed distribution net of such tax will be added to the U.S. stockholder s cost basis for its common stock. Since we expect to pay tax on any retained capital gains at our regular corporate capital gain tax rate, and since that rate is in excess of the maximum rate currently payable by non-corporate U.S. stockholders on long-term capital gains, the amount of tax that non-corporate U.S. stockholders will be treated as having paid will exceed the tax they owe on the capital gain distribution. Such excess generally may be claimed as a credit or refund against the U.S. stockholder s other U.S. federal income tax obligations. A U.S. stockholder that is not subject to U.S. federal income tax or otherwise required to file a U.S. federal income tax return would be required to file a U.S. federal income tax return on the appropriate form in order to claim a refund for the taxes we paid. In order to utilize the deemed distribution approach, we must provide written notice to our stockholders.

As a RIC, we will be subject to the alternative minimum tax ( AMT ), but any items that are treated differently for AMT purposes must be apportioned between us and our stockholders and this may affect the stockholders AMT liabilities. Although regulations explaining the precise method of apportionment have not yet been issued by the Internal Revenue Service, we intend in general to apportion these items in the same proportion that distributions paid to each stockholder bear to our taxable income (determined without regard to the dividends paid deduction), unless we determine that a different method for a particular item is warranted under the circumstances.

For purposes of determining (i) whether the Annual Distribution Requirement is satisfied for any year and (ii) the amount of distributions paid for that year, we may, under certain circumstances, elect to treat a distribution that is paid during the following taxable year as if it had been paid during the taxable year in question. If we make such an election, the U.S. stockholder generally will still be treated as receiving the distribution in the taxable year in which the distribution is made. However, any distribution declared by us in October, November, or December of any calendar year, payable to stockholders of record on a specified date in such a month and actually paid during January of the following year, will be treated as if it had been received by our U.S. stockholders on December 31 of the year in which the distribution was declared.

You should consider the tax implications of buying common stock just prior to a distribution. Even if the price of the common stock includes the amount of the forthcoming distribution, and the distribution economically represents a return of your investment, you will be taxed upon receipt of the distribution and will not be entitled to offset the distribution against the tax basis in your common stock.

You may recognize taxable gain or loss if you sell or exchange your common stock. The amount of the gain or loss will be measured by the difference between your adjusted tax basis in your common stock and the amount of the proceeds you receive in exchange for such stock. Any gain or loss arising from the sale or exchange of our common stock (or, in the case of distributions in excess of the sum of our current and accumulated earnings and profits and your tax basis in the stock, treated as arising from the sale or exchange of our common stock) generally will be a

capital gain or loss if the common stock is held as a capital asset. This capital gain or loss normally will be treated as a long-term capital gain or loss if you have held your common stock for more than one year. Otherwise, it will be classified as short-term capital gain or loss. However, any capital loss arising from

the sale or exchange of common stock held for six months or less generally will be treated as a long-term capital loss to the extent of the amount of capital gain dividends received, or treated as deemed distributed, with respect to such stock. For this purpose, certain special rules, including rules relating to periods when your risk of loss with respect to your common stock has been diminished, generally apply in determining the holding period of such stock. The ability to deduct capital losses may be subject to other limitations under the Code.

In addition, all or a portion of any loss recognized upon a disposition of shares of our common stock may be disallowed if other shares of our common stock are purchased (whether through reinvestment of distributions or otherwise) within 30 days before or after the disposition. In such a case, the basis of the newly purchased shares will be adjusted to reflect the disallowed loss.

In general, individual U.S. stockholders currently are subject to a maximum U.S. federal income tax rate of 20% on their net capital gain, i.e., the excess of net long-term capital gain over net short-term capital loss for a taxable year, including a long-term capital gain derived from an investment in our common stock. In addition, individuals with modified adjusted gross incomes in excess of \$200,000 (\$250,000 in the case of married individuals filing jointly or \$125,000 in the case of married individuals filing separately) and certain estates and trusts are subject to an additional 3.8% tax on their net investment income, which generally includes net income from interest, dividends, annuities, royalties, and rents, and net capital gains (other than certain amounts earned from trades or businesses). Corporate U.S. stockholders currently are subject to U.S. federal income tax on net capital gain at the maximum 35% rate also applied to ordinary income. Dividends distributed by us to corporate stockholders generally will not be eligible for the dividends-received deduction. Tax rates imposed by states and local jurisdictions on capital gain and ordinary income may differ.

We (or the applicable withholding agent) will send to each of our U.S. stockholders, as promptly as possible after the end of each calendar year, a report detailing the amounts includible in such U.S. stockholder s taxable income for such year as ordinary income, long-term capital gain and qualified dividend income, if any. In addition, the U.S. federal tax status of each year s distributions generally will be reported to the Internal Revenue Service. Distributions may also be subject to additional state, local, and foreign taxes depending on a U.S. stockholder s particular situation.

Backup withholding may apply to distributions on the common stock with respect to certain non-exempt U.S. stockholders. Such U.S. stockholders generally will be subject to backup withholding unless the U.S. stockholder provides its correct taxpayer identification number and certain other information, certified under penalties of perjury, to the dividend paying agent, or otherwise establishes an exemption from backup withholding. Any amount withheld under backup withholding is allowed as a credit against the U.S. stockholder s U.S. federal income tax liability, provided the proper information is provided to the Internal Revenue Service.

# Taxation of Non-U.S. Stockholders

Whether an investment in our common stock is appropriate for a non-U.S. stockholder will depend upon that stockholder s particular circumstances. Non-U.S. stockholders should consult their tax advisors before investing in our common stock.

Distributions of our investment company taxable income to stockholders that are non-U.S. stockholders will currently be subject to withholding of U.S. federal income tax at a 30% rate (or lower rate provided by an applicable treaty) to the extent of our current and accumulated earnings and profits unless the distributions are effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business of the non-U.S. stockholders, and, if an income tax treaty applies, attributable to a permanent establishment in the United States. In that case, the distributions will be subject to U.S. federal income tax at the ordinary income rates applicable to U.S. stockholders and we will not have to withhold U.S. federal withholding tax if

the non-U.S. stockholder complies with applicable certification and disclosure requirements. Special certification requirements apply to a non-U.S. stockholder that is a foreign partnership or a foreign trust and such entities are urged to consult their own tax advisors.

In addition, U.S. source withholding taxes are not imposed on distributions paid by us to the extent the distributions are reported as interest-related dividends or short-term capital gain dividends. Under this exemption, interest-related dividends and short-term capital gain dividends generally represent distributions of interest or short-term capital gains that would not have been subject to U.S. withholding tax at the source if they had been received directly by a foreign person, and that satisfy certain other requirements.

Actual or deemed distributions of our net capital gains to a stockholder that is a non-U.S. stockholder, and gains realized by a non-U.S. stockholder upon the sale or redemption of our common stock, will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax unless the distributions or gains, as the case may be, are effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business of the non-U.S. stockholder and, if an income tax treaty applies, are attributable to a permanent establishment maintained by the non-U.S. stockholder in the United States, or, in the case of an individual, the non-U.S. stockholder was present in the United States for 183 days or more during the taxable year and certain other conditions are met.

If we distribute our net capital gains in the form of deemed rather than actual distributions, a non-U.S. stockholder will be entitled to a U.S. federal income tax credit or tax refund equal to the stockholder s allocable share of the corporate-level U.S. federal income tax we pay on the capital gains deemed to have been distributed; however, in order to obtain the refund, the non-U.S. stockholder must obtain a U.S. taxpayer identification number and file a U.S. federal income tax return even if the non-U.S. stockholder would not otherwise be required to obtain a U.S. taxpayer identification number or file a U.S. federal income tax return.

For a corporate non-U.S. stockholder, distributions (both actual and deemed), and gains realized upon the sale or redemption of our common stock that are effectively connected to a U.S. trade or business may, under certain circumstances, be subject to an additional branch profits tax at a 30% rate (or at a lower rate if provided for by an applicable treaty). Accordingly, investment in our stock may not be appropriate for a non-U.S. stockholder.

Under our dividend reinvestment plan, if a non-U.S. stockholder owns shares of common stock registered in its own name, the non-U.S. stockholder will have all cash distributions automatically reinvested in additional shares of common stock unless it opts out of our dividend reinvestment plan by delivering a written notice to our dividend paying agent prior to the record date of the next distribution. See Dividend Reinvestment Plan. If the distribution is a distribution of our investment company taxable income, is not reported by us as a short-term capital gains dividend or interest-related dividend and it is not effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business of the non-U.S. stockholder (or, if a treaty applies, is not attributable to a permanent establishment), the amount distributed (to the extent of our current and accumulated earnings and profits) will be subject to withholding of U.S. federal income tax at a 30% rate (or lower rate provided by an applicable treaty) and only the net after-tax amount will be reinvested in common shares. If the distribution is effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business of the non-U.S. stockholder, generally the full amount of the distribution will be reinvested in the plan and will nevertheless be subject to U.S. federal income tax at the ordinary income rates applicable to U.S. persons. The non-U.S. stockholder will have an adjusted basis in the additional common shares purchased through the plan equal to the amount of cash that they would have received if they had elected to receive the distribution in cash, or the fair market value of the distributed shares if such shares have a fair market value equal to or greater than net asset value. The additional shares will have a new holding period commencing on the day following the day on which the shares are credited to the non-U.S. stockholder s account.

Legislation commonly referred to as the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act, or FATCA, generally imposes a 30% withholding tax on payments of certain types of income to foreign financial institutions that either fail to enter into an agreement with the United States Treasury to report certain required information with respect to accounts held by U.S. persons (or held by foreign entities that have U.S. persons as substantial owners), or reside in a jurisdiction that has

not entered into an intergovernmental agreement with the U.S. to provide such information. The types of income subject to the tax include U.S. source interest and dividends, and the gross proceeds from the sale of any property that could produce U.S. source interest or dividends received

after December 31, 2018. The information required to be reported includes the identity and taxpayer identification number of each account holder that is a U.S. person and transaction activity within the holder s account. In addition, subject to certain exceptions, this legislation also imposes a 30% withholding on payments to foreign entities that are not financial institutions unless the foreign entity certifies that it does not have a greater than 10% U.S. owner or provides the withholding agent with identifying information on each greater than 10% U.S. owner. Depending on the status of a Non-U.S. stockholder and the status of the intermediaries through which it hold its units, a Non-U.S. stockholder could be subject to this 30% withholding tax with respect to distributions on our common stock and proceeds from the sale of our common stock. Under certain circumstances, a Non-U.S. stockholder might be eligible for refunds or credits of such taxes.

A non-U.S. stockholder who is a nonresident alien individual, and who is otherwise subject to withholding of U.S. federal income tax, may be subject to information reporting and backup withholding of U.S. federal income tax on dividends unless the non-U.S. stockholder provides us or the dividend paying agent with an Internal Revenue Service Form W-8BEN or W-8BEN-E (or an acceptable substitute form) or otherwise meets documentary evidence requirements for establishing that it is a non-U.S. stockholder or the non-U.S. stockholder otherwise establishes an exemption from backup withholding.

# You are urged to consult your own tax advisor regarding the specific tax consequences of the purchase, ownership and sale of our common stock.

## Failure to Qualify as a Regulated Investment Company

If we were unable to qualify for treatment as a RIC, we would be subject to tax on all of our taxable income at regular corporate rates. We would not be able to deduct distributions to stockholders, nor would they be required to be made. Such distributions would be taxable to our stockholders as dividends and, provided certain holding period and other requirements were met, could qualify for treatment as qualified dividend income in the hands of non-corporate stockholders (and thus eligible for the current 20% maximum rate) to the extent of our current and accumulated earnings and profits. Subject to certain limitations under the Code, corporate distributees would be eligible for the dividends received deduction. Distributions in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits would be treated first as a return of capital to the extent of the stockholder s tax basis, and any remaining distributions would be treated as a capital gain. To requalify as a RIC in a subsequent taxable year, we would be required to satisfy the RIC qualification requirements for that year and dispose of any earnings and profits from any year in which we failed to qualify as a RIC. Subject to a limited exception applicable to RICs that qualified as such under Subchapter M of the Code for at least one year prior to disqualification and that requalify as a RIC no later than the second year following the non-qualifying year, we could be subject to tax on any unrealized net built-in gains in the assets held by us during the period in which we failed to qualify as a RIC that are recognized within the subsequent 5 years, unless we made a special election to pay corporate-level U.S. federal income tax on such built-in gain at the time of our requalification as a RIC.

## SALES OF COMMON STOCK BELOW NET ASSET VALUE

At our 2016 Annual Stockholders Meeting, our stockholders approved our ability to sell or otherwise issue shares of our common stock, not exceeding 25% of our then outstanding common stock immediately prior to each such offering, at a price or prices below the then current net asset value per share, in each case subject to the approval of our board of directors and compliance with the conditions set forth in the proxy statement pertaining thereto, during a period beginning on June 7, 2016 and expiring on the earlier of the one-year anniversary of the date of the 2016 Annual Stockholders Meeting and the date of our 2017 Annual Stockholders Meeting, which is expected to be held in May 2017 (the Stockholder Approval ). However, notwithstanding the Stockholder Approval, since our IPO on February 9, 2010, we have not sold any shares of our common stock in an offering that resulted in proceeds to us of less than our then current net asset value per share. Any offering of our common stock that requires stockholder approval must occur, if at all, within one year after receiving such stockholder approval.

In order to sell shares of common stock pursuant to this authorization, no further authorization from our stockholders will need to be solicited, but a majority of our directors who have no financial interest in the sale and a majority of our independent directors will have to (a) find that the sale is in our best interests and in the best interests of our stockholders and (b) in consultation with any underwriter or underwriters of the offering, make a good faith determination as of a time either immediately prior to the first solicitation by us or on our behalf of firm commitments to purchase such shares of common stock, or immediately prior to the issuance of such common stock, that the price at which such shares of common stock are to be sold is not less than a price which closely approximates the market value of those shares of common stock, less any distributing commission or discount.

Any offering of common stock below its net asset value per share will be designed to raise capital for investment in accordance with our investment objective.

In making a determination that an offering of common stock below its net asset value per share is in our and our stockholders best interests, our board of directors will consider a variety of factors including:

the effect that an offering below net asset value per share would have on our stockholders, including the potential dilution to the net asset value per share of our common stock our stockholders would experience as a result of the offering;

the amount per share by which the offering price per share and the net proceeds per share are less than our most recently determined net asset value per share;

the relationship of recent market prices of par common stock to net asset value per share and the potential impact of the offering on the market price per share of our common stock;

whether the estimated offering price would closely approximate the market value of shares of our common stock;

the potential market impact of being able to raise capital during the current financial market difficulties;

the nature of any new investors anticipated to acquire shares of our common stock in the offering;

the anticipated rate of return on and quality, type and availability of investments; and

the leverage available to us.

Our board of directors will also consider the fact that sales of shares of common stock at a discount will benefit our investment adviser as the investment adviser will earn additional investment management fees on the proceeds of such offerings, as it would from the offering of any other of our securities or from the offering of common stock at a premium to net asset value per share.

We will not sell shares of our common stock under this prospectus or an accompanying prospectus supplement pursuant to the Stockholder Approval without first filing a new post-effective amendment to the

registration statement if the cumulative dilution to our net asset value per share from offerings under the registration statement, as amended by any post-effective amendments, exceeds 15%. This would be measured separately for each offering pursuant to the registration statement, as amended by any post-effective amendments, by calculating the percentage dilution or accretion to aggregate net asset value from that offering and then summing the percentage from each offering. For example, if our most recently determined NAV per share at the time of the first offering is \$23.00 and we have 37 million shares outstanding, the sale of 9.25 million shares at net proceeds to us of \$11.50 per share (a 50% discount) would produce dilution of 10.0%. If we subsequently determined that our NAV per share increased to \$24.00 on the then 46.25 million shares outstanding and then made an additional offering, we could, for example, sell approximately an additional 5.15 million shares at net proceeds to us of \$12.00 per share, which would produce dilution of 5.0%, before we would reach the aggregate 15% limit. If we file a new post-effective amendment, the threshold would reset.

In addition, it should be noted that the maximum number of shares issuable below NAV per share that could result in such dilution is limited to 25% of our then outstanding common stock. As a result, the maximum amount of dilution to existing stockholders under the Stockholder Approval will be limited to no more than 20% of our then current NAV per share, assuming we were to issue the maximum number of shares at no more than par value, or \$0.01 per share.

Sales by us of our common stock at a discount from net asset value per share pose potential risks for our existing stockholders whether or not they participate in the offering, as well as for new investors who participate in the offering. Any sale of common stock at a price below net asset value per share would result in an immediate dilution to existing common stockholders who do not participate in such sale on at least a pro-rata basis. See Risk Factors Risks Relating to an Investment in Our Securities The net asset value per share of our common stock may be diluted if we issue or sell shares of our common stock at prices below the then current net asset value per share of our common stock more stock or securities to subscribe for or convertible into shares of our common stock.

The following three headings and accompanying tables explain and provide hypothetical examples on the impact of an offering of our common stock at a price less than net asset value per share on three different types of investors:

existing stockholders who do not purchase any shares in the offering;

existing stockholders who purchase a relatively small amount of shares in the offering or a relatively large amount of shares in the offering; and

### new investors who become stockholders by purchasing shares in the offering. Impact On Existing Stockholders Who Do Not Participate in the Offering

Our current stockholders who do not participate in an offering below net asset value per share or who do not buy additional shares in the secondary market at the same or lower price as we obtain in the offering (after expenses and commissions) face the greatest potential risks. These stockholders will experience an immediate dilution in the net asset value of the shares of common stock they hold and their net asset value per share. These stockholders will also experience a disproportionately greater decrease in their participation in our earnings and assets and their voting power than the increase we will experience in our assets, potential earning power and voting interests due to such offering. These stockholders may also experience a decline in the market price of their shares, which often reflects to some degree announced or potential increases and decreases in net asset value per share. This decrease could be more

pronounced as the size of the offering and level of discounts increases. Further, if current stockholders do not purchase any shares to maintain their percentage interest, regardless of whether such offering is above or below the then current net asset value, their voting power will be diluted.

The following chart illustrates the level of net asset value dilution that would be experienced by a nonparticipating stockholder in three different hypothetical offerings of different sizes and levels of discount from net asset value per share. It is not possible to predict the level of market price decline that may occur.

The chart illustrates the dilutive effect on Stockholder A of (a) an offering of 1.5 million shares of common stock (5% of the outstanding shares) at \$14.25 per share after offering expenses and commissions (a 5% discount from net asset value), (b) an offering of 3 million shares of common stock (10% of the outstanding shares) at \$13.50 per share after offering expenses and commissions (a 10% discount from net asset value), (c) an offering of 6 million shares of common stock (20% of the outstanding shares) at \$12.00 per share after offering expenses and commissions (a 20% discount from net asset value), and (d) an offering of 7.5 million shares of common stock (25% of the outstanding shares) at \$0.01 per share, the par value of our common stock (a 100% discount from net asset value). The prospectus supplement pursuant to which any discounted offering is made will include a chart based on the actual number of shares of common stock in such offering and the actual discount to the most recently determined net asset value. For example, if we issue 9,152,010 shares of our common stock (25% of the outstanding shares) at \$0.01 per share, the par value of our common stock (25% of the outstanding shares) at \$0.01 per share, the par value of our common stock (25% of the outstanding shares) at shares of common stock in such offering and the actual discount to the most recently determined net asset value. For example, if we issue 9,152,010 shares of our common stock (25% of the outstanding shares) at \$0.01 per share, the par value of our common stock (a 100% discount from net asset value), then our net asset value per share following such offering will be \$18.14, which will reflect a 20.00% decrease in net asset value per share to those stockholders who do not participate in this offering. It is not possible to predict the level of market price decline that may occur.

			5	Example % Offerin 5% Discou	ng at unt		Example 1 10% Offerin 10% Discou	ng at unt		Example 20% Offerin 20% Disco	ng at unt		Example 25% Offerin 100% Disco	ng at ount
	Prior to	o Sale		lowing Sale	% Change	Fe	ollowing Sale	% Change	]	Following Sale	% Change	]	Following Sale	% Cha
ng Price														
er Share to			\$	22.68		\$	21.49		\$	19.10		\$	0.01	
oceeds per o Issuer			\$	21.55		\$	20.41		\$	18.14		\$	0.01	
ise to Net Value														
hares nding	36,608	8,038	38,	,438,440	5.00%	4	0,268,842	10.00%		43,929,646	20.00%		45,760,048	25
set Value tre	\$	22.68	\$	22.63	(0.24)%	\$	22.47	(0.91)%	\$	21.92	(3.33)%	\$	18.15	(19
<b>n to rticipating</b> older Held by														
older A	31	6,608		36,608	%		36,608	%	)	36,608	%	, 2	36,608	
tage Held kholder A		0.10%		0.10%	(4.76)%		0.09%	(9.09)%		0.08%	(16.67)%		0.08%	(20
let Asset Held by older A	\$ 830	0,270	\$	828,293	(0.24)%	\$	822,722	(0.91)%	\$	802,595	(3.33)%	\$	664,289	(19
nvestment ekholder A ned to be t NAV per	. 50	.,		,		T	,	()/0	Ŧ	,	()/	Ŧ		(
	\$ 830			830,270		\$	830,270		\$	830,270		\$	830,270	
			\$	(1,977)		\$	(7,548)		\$	(27,676)		\$	(165,981)	

		_0.9		oolal (	oupilai Li		 			
oilution to older A Net Asset Less Total nent)										
hent per Held by older A hed to be er Share on Held Prior										
)	\$ 22.68	\$ 22.68		\$	22.68		\$ 22.68		\$ 22.68	
set Value tre Held by older A		\$ 22.63		\$	22.47		\$ 21.92		\$ 18.15	
n per Share y older A sset Value tre Less nent per		\$ (0.05)		\$	(0.21)		\$ (0.76)		\$ (4.53)	
tage n to older A on per Divided by nent per			(0.24))(1			(0.01)//		(2.22)/5/		(10
			(0.24)%			(0.91)%		(3.33)%		(19

#### Impact On Existing Stockholders Who Do Participate in the Offering

Our existing stockholders who participate in an offering below net asset value per share or who buy additional shares in the secondary market at the same or lower price as we obtain in the offering (after expenses and commissions) will experience the same types of net asset value dilution as the nonparticipating stockholders, although at a lower level, to the extent they purchase less than the same percentage of the discounted offering as their interest in shares of our common stock immediately prior to the offering. The level of net asset value dilution will decrease as the number of shares such stockholders purchase increases. Existing stockholders who buy more than such percentage will experience net asset value dilution but will, in contrast to existing stockholders who purchase less than their proportionate share of the offering, experience accretion in net asset value per share over their investment per share and will also experience a disproportionately greater increase in their participation in our earnings and assets and their voting power than our increase in assets, potential earning power and voting interests due to such offering. The level of accretion will increase as the excess number of shares such stockholder purchases increases. Even a stockholder who over-participates will, however, be subject to the risk that we may make additional discounted offerings in which such stockholder does not participate, in which case such a stockholder will experience net asset value dilution as described above in such subsequent offerings. These stockholders may also experience a decline in the market price of their shares, which often reflects to some degree announced or potential increases and decreases in net asset value per share. This decrease could be more pronounced as the size of the offering and level of discounts increases.

The following chart illustrates the level of dilution and accretion in the hypothetical 20% discount offering from the prior chart (Example 3) for a stockholder that acquires shares equal to (a) 50% of its proportionate share of the offering (*i.e.*, 3,000 shares, which is 0.05% of an offering of 6 million shares) rather than its 0.10% proportionate share and (b) 150% of such percentage (i.e. 9,000 shares, which is 0.15% of an offering of 6 million shares rather than its 0.10% proportionate share). The prospectus supplement pursuant to which any discounted offering is made will include a chart for these examples based on the actual number of shares in such offering and the actual discount from the most recently determined net asset value per share. It is not possible to predict the level of market price decline that may occur.

	т	nion to	50% Participation				150% Partici	-	
	1	Prior to Sale	Г	ollowing Sale	% Change	ſ	Following Sale	% Change	
Offering Price					U			U	
Price per Share to Public			\$	19.10		\$	19.10		
Net Proceeds per Share to Issuer			\$	18.14		\$	18.14		
Decrease/Increase to Net Asset									
Value									
Total Shares Outstanding	3	6,608,038	4	3,929,646	20.00%	4	43,929,646	20.00%	
Net Asset Value per Share	\$	22.68	\$	21.92	(3.33)%	\$	21.92	(3.33)%	
<b>Dilution/Accretion to Participating</b>									
Stockholder									
Shares Held by Stockholder A		36,608		40,269	10.00%		47,590	30.00%	
Percentage Held by Stockholder A		0.10%		0.09%	(8.33)%		0.11%	8.33%	
Total Net Asset Value Held by									
Stockholder A	\$	830,270	\$	882,854	6.33%	\$	1,043,373	25.67%	
Total Investment by Stockholder A (Assumed to be Current NAV per			\$	900,188		\$	1,040,023		

Share on Shares Held Prior to Sale)					
Total Dilution/Accretion to					
Stockholder A (Total Net Asset					
Value Less Total Investment)		\$ (17,334)		\$ 3,350	
Investment per Share Held by					
Stockholder A (Assumed to be Net					
Asset Value on Shares Held Prior to					
Sale)	\$ 22.68	\$ 22.35	(1.44)%	\$ 21.85	(3.64)%
Net Asset Value per Share Held by					
Stockholder A		\$ 21.92		\$ 21.92	
Dilution/Accretion per Share Held					
by Stockholder A (Net Asset Value					
per Shares Less Investment per					
Share)		\$ (0.43)		\$ 0.07	
Percentage Dilution/Accretion to					
Stockholder A (Dilution per Share					
Divided by Investment per Share)			(1.96)%		0.32%
• • • • • •					

#### **Impact On New Investors**

Investors who are not currently stockholders and who participate in an offering of shares of our common stock below net asset value, but whose investment per share is greater than the resulting net asset value per share due to selling compensation and expenses paid by the Company, will experience an immediate decrease, although small, in the net asset value of their shares and their net asset value per share compared to the price they pay for their shares. Investors who are not currently stockholders and who participate in an offering of shares of our common stock below net asset value per share and whose investment per share is also less than the resulting net asset value per share due to selling compensation and expenses paid by the Company being significantly less than the discount per share, will experience an immediate increase in the net asset value of their shares and their net asset value per share compared to the price they pay for their shares. These investors will experience a disproportionately greater participation in our earnings and assets and their voting power than our increase in assets, potential earning power and voting interests due to such offering. These investors will, however, be subject to the risk that we may make additional discounted offerings in which such new stockholder does not participate, in which case such new stockholder will experience dilution as described above in such subsequent offerings. These investors may also experience a decline in the market price of their shares, which often reflects to some degree announced or potential increases and decreases in net asset value per share. This decrease could be more pronounced as the size of the offering and level of discounts increases.

The following chart illustrates the level of dilution or accretion for new investors that would be experienced by a new investor in the same hypothetical 5%, 10%, 20% and 25% discounted offerings as described in the first chart above. The illustration is for a new investor who purchases the same percentage (0.10%) of the shares in the offering as Stockholder A in the prior examples held immediately prior to the offering. The prospectus supplement pursuant to which any discounted offering is made will include a chart for these examples based on the actual number of shares in such offering and the actual discount from the most recently determined net asset value per share. It is not possible to predict the level of market price decline that may occur.

#### **Example 1** Example 2 **Example 3 Example 4** 5% Offering at 10% Offering at 20% Offering at 25% Offering at 5% Discount **10% Discount** 20% Discount 100% Discount **Prior to** Following Following Following Following % % % % Sale Sale Sale Sale Sale Change Change Change Chan er Share to \$ 19.10 0.01 22.68 \$ 21.49 \$ \$ oceeds per \$ \$ 20.41 \$ 18.14 \$ 0.01 o Issuer 21.55 Shares 36,608,038 38,438,440 5.00% 40,268,842 10.00% 43,929,646 20.00% 45,760,048 25 nding set Value \$ 22.68 \$ 22.47 (19)22.63 (0.24)% \$ (0.91)% \$ 21.92 (3.33)% \$ 18.15 are on/Accretion V Investor A Held by 1,830 3.661 7,322 9,152 or A tage Held by 0.00% 0.01% 0.02% 0.02% older A Vet Asset Held by \$ 41,415 \$ 82,272 \$ 160,519 \$ 166,072 or A nvestment estor A (At 92 \$ 41,514 \$ 78,657 \$ 139,835 \$ o Public) \$ n/Accretion stor A Net Asset Less Total (99) \$ \$ 3,615 20,684 \$ 165,981 \$ nent) nent per Held by \$ 22.68 \$ 19.10 \$ 0.01 \$ 21.49 \$ or A set Value are Held by \$ \$ 22.63 \$ \$ 18.15 or A 22.47 21.92 n/Accretion are Held by or A (Net Value per Less nent per 0.99 \$ (0.05)2.83 18.14 \$ \$ \$ 181,3 tage (0.24)%4.60% 14.79% n/Accretion stor A

#### **Table of Contents**

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# ISSUANCE OF WARRANTS OR SECURITIES TO SUBSCRIBE FOR OR CONVERTIBLE INTO SHARES OF OUR COMMON STOCK

At our 2011 Annual Stockholders Meeting, our stockholders authorized us to sell or otherwise issue warrants or securities to subscribe for or convertible into shares of our common stock, not exceeding 25% of our then outstanding common stock, at an exercise or conversion price that, at the date of issuance, will not be less than the market value per share of our common stock. Such authorization has no expiration. Any exercise of warrants or securities to subscribe for or convertible into shares of our common stock at an exercise or conversion price that is below net asset value at the time of such exercise or conversion would result in an immediate dilution to existing common stockholders. This dilution would include reduction in net asset value as a result of the proportionately greater decrease in the stockholders interest in our earnings and assets and their voting interest than the increase in our assets resulting from such offering.

In order to sell or issue warrants or securities to subscribe for or convertible into shares of our common stock, (a) the exercise, conversion or subscription rights in such securities must expire by their terms within 10 years, (b) with respect to any warrants, options or rights to subscribe or convert to our common stock that are issued along with other securities, such warrants, options or rights must not be separately transferable, (c) the exercise or conversion price of such securities must not be less than the greater of the market value per share of our common stock and the net asset value per share of our common stock at the date of issuance of such securities, (d) the issuance of such securities must be approved by a majority of the board of directors who have no financial interest in the transaction and a majority of the non-interested directors on the basis that such issuance is in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders and (e) the number of shares of our common stock that would result from the exercise or conversion of such securities and all other securities convertible, exercisable or exchangeable into shares of our common stock at such time.

# DESCRIPTION OF OUR CAPITAL STOCK

The following description is based on relevant portions of the Maryland General Corporation Law and on our charter and bylaws. This summary is not necessarily complete, and we refer you to the Maryland General Corporation Law and our charter and bylaws for a more detailed description of the provisions summarized below.

#### Stock

The authorized stock of Solar Capital Ltd. consists of 200,000,000 shares of stock, par value \$0.01 per share, all of which are initially designated as common stock. Our common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the ticker symbol SLRC . There are no outstanding options or warrants to purchase our stock. No stock has been authorized for issuance under any equity compensation plans. Under Maryland law, our stockholders generally are not personally liable for our debts or obligations.

The following are our outstanding classes of securities as of March 10, 2017:

			(4)
		(3)	Amount
		Amount Held by	Outstanding
(1)	(2)	Us	<b>Exclusive of</b>
	Amount	or for Our	<b>Amounts Shown</b>
Title of Class	Authorized	Account	Under(3)
Common stock	200,000,000		42,248,525

Under our charter our board of directors is authorized to classify and reclassify any unissued shares of stock into other classes or series of stock without obtaining stockholder approval. As permitted by the Maryland General Corporation Law, our charter provides that the board of directors, without any action by our stockholders, may amend the charter from time to time to increase or decrease the aggregate number of shares of stock or the number of shares of stock of any class or series that we have authority to issue.

# **Common Stock**

All shares of our common stock have equal rights as to earnings, assets, voting, and distributions and, when they are issued, will be duly authorized, validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable. Distributions may be paid to the holders of our common stock if, as and when authorized by our board of directors and declared by us out of assets legally available therefor. Shares of our common stock have no preemptive, conversion or redemption rights and are freely transferable, except where their transfer is restricted by federal and state securities laws or by contract. In the event of our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, each share of our common stock would be entitled to share ratably in all of our assets that are legally available for distribution after we pay all debts and other liabilities and subject to any preferential rights of holders of our preferred stock, if any preferred stock is outstanding at such time. Each share of our common stock is entitled to one vote on all matters submitted to a vote of stockholders, including the election of directors. Except as provided with respect to any other class or series of stock, the holders of our common stock will possess exclusive voting power. There is no cumulative voting in the election of directors, which means that holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of common stock can elect all of our directors, and holders of less than a majority of such shares will be unable to elect any director.

# **Preferred Stock**

Our charter authorizes our board of directors to classify and reclassify any unissued shares of stock into other classes or series of stock, including preferred stock. The cost of any such reclassification would be borne by our existing common stockholders. Prior to issuance of shares of each class or series, the board of directors is required by Maryland law and by our charter to set the preferences, conversion or other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to distributions, qualifications and terms or conditions of redemption for each class or

series. Thus, the board of directors could authorize the issuance of shares of preferred stock with terms and conditions which could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a transaction or a change in control that might involve a premium price for holders of our common stock or otherwise be in their best interest. You should note, however, that any issuance of preferred stock must comply with the requirements of the 1940 Act. The 1940 Act requires, among other things, that (1) immediately after issuance and before any other distribution is made with respect to our common stock and before any purchase of common stock is made, such preferred stock together with all other senior securities must not exceed an amount equal to 50% of our total assets after deducting the amount of such distribution or purchase price, as the case may be, and (2) the holders of shares of preferred stock, if any are issued, must be entitled as a class to elect two directors at all times and to elect a majority of the directors if distributions on such preferred stock are in arrears by two full years or more. Certain matters under the 1940 Act require the separate vote of the holders of any issued and outstanding preferred stock. For example, holders of preferred stock would vote separately from the holders of common stock on a proposal to cease operations as a BDC. We believe that the availability for issuance of preferred stock will provide us with increased flexibility in structuring future financings and acquisitions. However, we do not currently have any plans to issue preferred stock.

# Limitation on Liability of Directors and Officers; Indemnification and Advance of Expenses

Maryland law permits a Maryland corporation to include in its charter a provision limiting the liability of its directors and officers to the corporation and its stockholders for money damages except for liability resulting from (a) actual receipt of an improper benefit or profit in money, property or services or (b) active and deliberate dishonesty established by a final judgment as being material to the cause of action. Our charter contains such a provision which eliminates directors and officers liability to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law, subject to the requirements of the 1940 Act.

Our charter authorizes us, to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law and subject to the requirements of the 1940 Act, to indemnify any present or former director or officer or any individual who, while serving as our director or officer and at our request, serves or has served another corporation, real estate investment trust, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other enterprise as a director, officer, partner or trustee, from and against any claim or liability to which that person may become subject or which that person may incur by reason of his or her service in any such capacity and to pay or reimburse their reasonable expenses in advance of final disposition of a proceeding. Our bylaws obligate us, to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law and subject to the requirements of the 1940 Act, to indemnify any present or former director or officer or any individual who, while serving as our director or officer and at our request, serves or has served another corporation, real estate investment trust, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other enterprise as a director, officer, partner or trustee and who is made, or threatened to be made, a party to the proceeding by reason of his or her service in that capacity from and against any claim or liability to which that person may become subject or which that person may incur by reason of his or her service in any such capacity and to pay or reimburse his or her reasonable expenses in advance of final disposition of a proceeding. The charter and bylaws also permit us to indemnify and advance expenses to any person who served a predecessor of us in any of the capacities described above and any of our employees or agents or any employees or agents of our predecessor. In accordance with the 1940 Act, we will not indemnify any person for any liability to which such person would be subject by reason of such person s willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of his or her office.

Maryland law requires a corporation (unless its charter provides otherwise, which our charter does not) to indemnify a director or officer who has been successful in the defense of any proceeding to which he or she is made, or threatened to be made, a party by reason of his or her service in that capacity. Maryland law permits a corporation to indemnify its present and former directors and officers, among others, against judgments, penalties, fines, settlements and reasonable expenses actually incurred by them in connection with any proceeding to which they may be made, or

threatened to be made, a party by reason of their service in those or other capacities unless it is established that (a) the act or omission of the director or officer was material to the

matter giving rise to the proceeding and (1) was committed in bad faith or (2) was the result of active and deliberate dishonesty, (b) the director or officer actually received an improper personal benefit in money, property or services or (c) in the case of any criminal proceeding, the director or officer had reasonable cause to believe that the act or omission was unlawful. However, under Maryland law, a Maryland corporation may not indemnify for an adverse judgment in a suit by or in the right of the corporation or f