As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 20, 1999 $$\tt REGISTRATION\ NO.\ 333-XXXXX$

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM S-4
REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

THE SCOTTS COMPANY (Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

OHIO 2875 31-1199481

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

(Primary Standard Industrial Classification Code Number)

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

14111 SCOTTSLAWN ROAD, MARYSVILLE, OHIO 43041, (937) 644-0011 (Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of Registrant's principal executive offices)

G. ROBERT LUCAS 14111 SCOTTSLAWN ROAD MARYSVILLE, OHIO 43041 (937) 644-0011

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

COPIES TO:

RONALD A. ROBINS, JR.
VORYS, SATER, SEYMOUR AND PEASE LLP
52 EAST GAY STREET, P.O. BOX 1008
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43216-1008

APPROXIMATE DATE OF COMMENCEMENT OF PROPOSED SALE OF THE SECURITIES TO THE PUBLIC: As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Registration Statement as the Registrant shall determine.

If the securities being registered on this Form are being offered in connection with the formation of a holding company and there is compliance with General Instruction G, check the following box: []

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. $[\]$

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

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

TITLE OF EACH CLASS OF AMOUNT TO BE PROPOSED MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF SECURITIES TO BE REGISTERED REGISTERED OFFERING PRICE PER UNIT REGISTRATION FEE

8.625% Senior Subordinated Notes due 2009 \$330,000,000 100% \$91,740

THE REGISTRANT HEREBY AMENDS THIS REGISTRATION STATEMENT ON SUCH DATE OR DATES AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO DELAY ITS EFFECTIVE DATE UNTIL THE REGISTRANT SHALL FILE A FURTHER AMENDMENT WHICH SPECIFICALLY STATES THAT THIS REGISTRATION STATEMENT SHALL THEREAFTER BECOME EFFECTIVE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 8 (a) OF THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933 OR UNTIL THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE ON SUCH DATE AS THE COMMISSION, ACTING PURSUANT TO SAID SECTION 8 (a), MAY DETERMINE.

The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the prospectus is delivered in final form. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED APRIL 20, 1999

PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS

[Company Logo]

\$330,000,000

THE SCOTTS COMPANY

OFFER TO EXCHANGE ITS

8.625% SENIOR SUBORDINATED NOTES

DUE 2009, WHICH HAVE BEEN REGISTERED UNDER THE

SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, AS AMENDED,

FOR AN EQUAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF ITS

8.625% SENIOR SUBORDINATED NOTES DUE 2009,

WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN REGISTERED

THE EXCHANGE OFFER, INCLUDING THE WITHDRAWAL RIGHTS, WILL EXPIRE AT 5:00 P.M., NEW YORK CITY TIME, ON , 1999, UNLESS EXTENDED

By this prospectus and the accompanying letter of transmittal, Scotts is offering to exchange up to \$330,000,000 in principal amount of its 8.625% Senior Subordinated Notes due 2009, which have been registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, for a like principal amount of its outstanding 8.625% Senior Subordinated Notes due 2009, which have not been so registered. The notes which have been registered are referred to as the "Exchange Notes." The notes which are outstanding and which have not been registered are referred to as the "Original Notes." The Exchange Notes and the Original Notes are identical, except that the Original Notes contained transfer restrictions and registration rights that the Exchange Notes do not contain.

The Exchange Offer is not conditioned upon the tender of any minimum amount of Original Notes. The Exchange Offer will remain open for at least 30 days from today. For a description of the customary conditions to the Exchange Offer, see "The Exchange Offer."

The notes will bear interest at the rate of 8.625% per year. Interest on the notes is payable on January 15 and July 15 of each year, beginning on July 15, 1999. The notes will mature on January 15, 2009. Scotts may redeem some or all of the notes at any time after January 15, 2004. The redemption prices are discussed under the caption "Description of Notes -- Optional Redemption."

If Scotts cannot make payments on the notes, its subsidiary guarantors will make them instead. Not all of Scotts' subsidiaries will be subsidiary guarantors.

The notes and the subsidiary guarantees will be unsecured senior subordinated obligations of Scotts and the subsidiary guaranters and will be subordinated in right of payment to all of Scotts' and its subsidiary guaranters' senior indebtedness.

The notes are expected to trade in the Private Offerings, Resales, and Trading through Automatic Linkages Market ("Portal Market").

Scotts will not receive any proceeds from the Exchange Offer and will pay all expenses incident to the Exchange Offer.

INVESTING IN THE NOTES INVOLVES CERTAIN RISKS. SEE "RISK FACTORS" BEGINNING ON PAGE 13.

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

, 1999

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YOU SHOULD RELY ONLY ON THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN OR INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE IN THIS PROSPECTUS. WE HAVE NOT AUTHORIZED ANYONE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH DIFFERENT INFORMATION. SCOTTS IS NOT MAKING AN OFFER OF THESE SECURITIES IN ANY STATE WHERE THE OFFER IS NOT PERMITTED. YOU SHOULD NOT ASSUME THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN OR INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE IN THIS PROSPECTUS IS ACCURATE AS OF ANY DATE OTHER THAN THE DATE ON THE FRONT OF THIS PROSPECTUS.

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INCORPORATION OF DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

We are incorporating the following documents into this Prospectus by reference: (i) our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 1998; (ii) our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended January 2, 1999; (iii) our Current Reports on Form 8-K dated as of December 21, 1998 and January 7, 1999; and (iv) all other documents that we file pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) prior to the consummation of the Exchange Offer.

The Company is currently subject to the informational requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and files periodic reports and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission"). Our periodic reports and other information filed with the Commission may be inspected without charge at the Public Reference Section of the Commission at Room 1024, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549, and will also be available for inspection and copying at the regional offices of the Commission located at Seven World Trade Center, 13th Floor, New York, New York 10048; and Citicorp Center, 500 West Madison Street, Suite 1400, Chicago, Illinois 60661. Copies of all or any portion of such material may also be obtained at prescribed rates from the Public Reference Section of the Commission upon payment of certain prescribed fees. In addition, the Commission maintains a website that contains periodic reports and other information filed by the Company. This website can be accessed at www.sec.gov. Copies of such material can also be obtained from the Company upon request.

Copies of documents incorporated in this Prospectus by reference may be obtained upon request without charge by contacting The Scotts Company, 14111 Scottslawn Road, Marysville, Ohio 43041, Attention: Treasurer, (614) 644-0011.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Roundup(R) is a registered trademark of Monsanto Company ("Monsanto"). Unless otherwise indicated, all other trademarks, service marks or brand names appearing in this Prospectus are the property of the Company.

This Prospectus contains summaries, believed to be accurate, of selected terms of relevant documents. However, we refer you to the actual documents, copies of which we will make available upon request, for the complete information contained therein. All summaries of these documents are qualified in their entirety by this reference.

This Exchange Offer is not being made, nor will we accept surrenders for exchange from, holders of Original Notes in any jurisdiction in which this Exchange Offer or our acceptance of Original Notes, would not be in compliance with the applicable securities or blue sky laws.

Scotts expects that the Exchange Notes will be represented by one or more Global Notes (as defined herein), which will be deposited with, or on behalf of, The Depository Trust Company (the "Depositary") and registered in its name or in the name of Cede & Co., its nominee. Beneficial interests in the Global Notes representing the Exchange Notes will be shown on, and transfers thereof will be effected through, records maintained by the Depositary and its participants. After the initial issuance of the Global Notes, Exchange Notes in certificated form will be issued in exchange for the Global Notes only under limited circumstances on the terms set forth in the Indenture. See "Description of Notes - -- Book-Entry; Delivery and Form."

Scotts will not receive any cash proceeds from the issuance of the Exchange Notes offered by this Prospectus. We are not using any dealer-manager for this Exchange Offer.

THIS PROSPECTUS AND THE RELATED LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL TOGETHER CONSTITUTE THE "EXCHANGE OFFER" AND CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION. HOLDERS OF ORIGINAL NOTES SHOULD READ THIS PROSPECTUS AND THE RELATED LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL CAREFULLY BEFORE DECIDING WHETHER TO TENDER THEIR ORIGINAL NOTES IN THIS EXCHANGE OFFER.

DISCLOSURE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Prospectus includes and incorporates by reference "forward looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, including, in particular, the statements about the Company's plans, strategies and prospects under the headings "Prospectus Summary," "Selected Historical and Pro Forma Consolidated Financial Data," "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and "Business." Although we believe that our plans, intentions and expectations reflected in or suggested by such forward-looking statements are reasonable, we can give no assurance that such plans, intentions or expectations will be achieved. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the forward looking statements we make in this Prospectus are set forth below under the caption "Risk Factors" and incorporated by reference to "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations -- Forward-Looking Statements" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 1998. All forward-looking statements are expressly qualified in their entirety by those cautionary statements.

Throughout this prospectus, the words "Scotts," "Company" and "we" refer to The Scotts Company and its subsidiaries. The following summary contains basic information about the Company and this exchange offering. It likely does not contain all the information that is important to you. For a more complete understanding of this exchange offer, we encourage you to read this entire document and the documents to which we have referred you. For purposes of this prospectus, when we describe information as being on a "pro forma" basis, unless otherwise indicated, we are assuming that the RPJ Acquisition, the Ortho Acquisition and the Roundup Marketing Agreement (each as defined herein and, collectively, the "Transactions"), Scotts' new credit facility and the offering of the Original Notes had been completed on the first day of the period indicated, in the case of sales or other income statement information, or as of the day indicated, in the case of assets, liabilities or other balance sheet information. In this prospectus, we rely on and refer to information regarding the consumer lawn and garden market and its segments in the United States provided by Triad market research reports covering the period January 1998 through September 1998 and other publicly available sources. Although we believe this information is reliable, we cannot guarantee the accuracy and completeness of the information and have not independently verified it.

THE COMPANY

We are the leading global marketer and manufacturer of branded products for the consumer lawn and garden care, professional turf care and professional horticultural markets. We believe that our market leadership is driven by our leading brands, consumer-focused marketing, superior product performance and extensive relationships with major national retailers. Our portfolio of leading consumer brands, including recent transactions, includes the following:

- SCOTTS (R), the leading brand of consumer lawn fertilizers in the United States with a 54% market share, more than four times that of the next leading competitor.
- MIRACLE-GRO(R), the leading brand of consumer water-soluble garden fertilizers in the United States with an 86% market share.
- ORTHO(R), the leading brand of selective herbicides and outdoor insecticides in the United States with a 63% market share and 39% market share, respectively. We acquired the Ortho(R) family of products from Monsanto on January 20, 1999.
- ROUNDUP(R), the leading brand of non-selective herbicides in the United States with a 69% market share. In September 1998, we entered into an agreement with Monsanto, which owns the Roundup(R) brand, to market and distribute consumer Roundup(R) products.
- MIRACLE-GRO(R), WEEDOL(R), LEVINGTON(R), KB(R), FERTILIGENE(R), CELAFLOR(R) AND NEXA-LOTTE(R), the leading brands of consumer lawn and garden fertilizers, herbicides and insecticides in the European Union.
- $\mbox{\sc HYPONEX}\left(R\right),$ the leading brand of consumer growing media products in the United States.

We support our consumer brands through national television and print advertising, ongoing consumer research, superior products, technological advancements and consumer education programs. Our extensive sales and distribution network includes key relationships with home improvement centers, mass merchandisers, hardware stores, garden centers and other retailers. On a pro forma basis, our 1998 total revenues and Adjusted EBITDA (as defined in this prospectus) were \$1.5 billion and \$231.2 million, respectively.

We have built our company through a series of strategic acquisitions, mergers and marketing alliances which have significantly enhanced our geographic presence and broadened our product lines. Our strategy has been to acquire undermarketed brands and apply our marketing expertise to grow sales by increasing market share and growing the overall category. Since 1995, we have entered into five strategic transactions that have positioned us as a global leader in all categories of the lawn and garden consumables market.

- In January 1999, we acquired Ortho from Monsanto for \$300 million, subject to adjustment.
- In October 1998, we acquired Rhone-Poulenc Jardin ("RPJ"), a leading European manufacturer and marketer of consumer products for garden and household plants, including the KB(R) and Fertiligene(R) brands. RPJ was acquired for approximately \$216 million, including approximately \$36 million (on a present value basis) payable over the next four years.
- In September 1998, we entered into an exclusive marketing and agency agreement for the marketing and distribution rights to consumer Roundup(R) products in the United States and other specified countries, including Australia, Austria, Canada, France, Germany and the United Kingdom.
- In January 1997, we purchased the outstanding interest in Miracle Garden Care Ltd. ("Miracle Garden") that we did not already own for \$47.0 million. In December 1997, we acquired Levington Group Limited ("Levington") for \$94.0 million and integrated it with Miracle Garden. Together, they make us the leading marketer and manufacturer of consumer and professional lawn fertilizers and growing media in the United Kingdom.
- In February 1998, we acquired EarthGro, Inc. ("EarthGro"), a leading regional manufacturer and marketer of growing media in the northeastern United States for \$47.0 million.

BUSINESS GROUPS

We operate in three market segments: North American Consumer (which includes Consumer Lawns, Consumer Gardens, Consumer Growing Media and Ortho), International and Professional.

Consumer Lawns (24.2% of pro forma fiscal 1998 sales)

The Consumer Lawns Business Group consists of product categories in lawn fertilizer and combination fertilizer and control products (herbicides and insecticides), grass seed and spreaders. This business features the Scotts(R) brand with products including Scotts Turf Builder(R), Scotts Turf Builder with Plus 2(TM) Weed Control and Scotts Turf Builder(R) with Halts(R) Crabgrass Preventer.

Consumer Gardens (8.7% of pro forma fiscal 1998 sales)

The Consumer Gardens Business Group's product categories include plant foods, ornamental plant care products, no-clog feeders and indoor plant care products. This group is led by the Miracle-Gro(R) brand for water soluble garden fertilizers, and also includes consumer Osmocote(R) controlled-release garden fertilizer products.

Consumer Growing Media (15.2% of pro forma fiscal 1998 sales)

The Consumer Growing Media Business Group's product categories include potting and planting soils, soil conditioners, barks and mulches. These products are marketed under the Hyponex(R), Miracle-Gro(R), Scotts(R) and EarthGro(R) brands.

Ortho (17.6% of pro forma fiscal 1998 sales)

The Ortho Business Group was formed in October 1998 for the purpose of operating the Ortho assets upon consummation of the Ortho Acquisition and to implement the Roundup Marketing Agreement. Ortho (R) and Roundup (R) are the market leaders in the North American consumer lawn and garden herbicides and insecticides market.

International (22.5% of pro forma fiscal 1998 sales)

The International segment is a leader in the European Union lawn and garden market. The segment has leading positions in pesticides, lawn and garden fertilizers and growing media through the Miracle-Gro(R), Weedol(R), Pathclear(R), Grasshopper(R), Levington(R), Shamrock(R), KB(R), Fertiligene(R), Celaflor(R) and Nexa Lotte(R) brands. Our international sales, distribution and manufacturing infrastructure provides a platform to expand the market

position of other Scotts products overseas. Our products are sold in consumer and professional markets throughout the European Union and in other international markets including Australia, Japan, New Zealand and Latin America.

Professional (11.8% of pro forma fiscal 1998 sales)

The Professional segment is a leader in providing innovative products, services and consultative sales support to professional turf care and horticulture customers. Our product categories include turf fertilizers, grass seed, spreaders, custom application service, fertilizers, plant protection products and growing media. These products are marketed under the Pro Turf(R), Osmocote(R), Miracle-Gro(R) and Peter's(R) brands. The group's main customers include golf courses, professional sports stadiums, landscape companies, commercial nurseries and specialty crop growers.

BUSINESS STRATEGY

Enhance Market Leadership Through Consumer-Focused Brand Management. We will continue to execute our successful demand-pull marketing strategy to strengthen our leading market positions. We believe this approach, which emphasizes consumer-directed marketing rather than price promotion, builds brand awareness and drives product sales growth. We have grown the sales and market share of the three principal brands we owned prior to the Ortho Acquisition -- Scotts(R), Miracle-Gro(R) and Hyponex(R) -- since fiscal 1996 through the successful execution of this strategy. Ortho(R), which we acquired in the Ortho Acquisition, and Roundup(R), which we market pursuant to the Roundup Marketing Agreement, provide us with additional growth opportunities through the application of our demand-pull marketing strategy.

Capitalize on Relationships With Leading Retailers. We believe that our leading brands and our aggressive advertising make our products "traffic builders" at the retail location. This, in addition to our position as the leading nationwide supplier of a full line of consumer lawn and garden products, gives us an advantage in selling to retailers, who value the efficiency of dealing with a limited number of suppliers. We are the largest vendor to the lawn and garden departments at Home Depot, Wal*Mart and Kmart. In addition, during fiscal 1998, we became "category manager" of the lawn and garden fertilizer category at Wal*Mart and category co-manager with Kmart of its lawn and garden product category. As category manager, our representatives work together with retailers to determine advantageous product mix, merchandising, shelving and pricing, based on consumer data. We believe that the addition of the Ortho(R) and Roundup(R) brands provide us opportunities to become category manager at additional leading retailers.

Increase Sales by Growing the Overall Consumer Lawn and Garden Market. Our strategy is to grow the overall consumer lawn and garden category and to capture all of this growth. In recent years, we have increased consumer advertising, expanded our range of products while reducing the number of SKUs, enhanced product packaging and emphasized year-round fertilizer applications to drive category growth. Recent new product introductions include Scotts(R) branded potting soils, GrubEx(R), which provides season-long protection against grubs, the No-Clog-4 in 1(R), which allows for sprinkler feeding of fertilizer, and Miracle-Gro(R) branded potting mixes. In fiscal 1999, the Company introduced Miracle-Gro(R) Flower Seeding Mix, Miracle-Gro(R) Bloom Booster(R) and Miracle-Gro(R) Tree Spikes.

Enhance Competitive Position Through Recent Acquisitions. We recently completed three important transactions: we acquired RPJ; we acquired Ortho and we entered into the Roundup Marketing Agreement. These transactions enhance our product portfolio, expand our geographic presence and strengthen our position with retailers. Specifically, the Ortho Acquisition and the Roundup Marketing Agreement immediately provided us with a leading position in the U.S. pesticides segment of the consumer lawn and garden $\,$ category, and the RPJ Acquisition established a strong presence for us in continental Europe. In addition, we expect to achieve \$18 million to \$27 million of annual cost savings from reductions in general and administrative, sales, distribution, purchasing, research and development and corporate overhead costs to be fully realized in the 2001 fiscal year. These cost savings have not been included in the pro forma financial information included in this prospectus, and there can be no assurance that these cost savings will be realized to the extent indicated, or at all. We expect to redirect a significant portion of these cost savings into increased consumer marketing spending. These transactions substantially complete our transformation into the global leader in the lawn and garden consumables market.

THE TRANSACTIONS

RPJ ACQUISITION

In October 1998, we acquired Rhone-Poulenc Jardin, the consumer lawn and garden division of Rhone-Poulenc S.A. and related entities (the "RPJ Acquisition"). The total consideration for the RPJ Acquisition was approximately \$216 million, including approximately \$36 million (on a present value basis) payable over the next four years.

ORTHO ACOUISITION

We entered into an Asset Purchase Agreement with Monsanto dated as of November 11, 1998 (the "Ortho Agreement") and agreed to acquire substantially all of the non-Roundup assets of Monsanto's consumer lawn and garden division for \$300 million, subject to adjustment depending on the level of normalized working capital as of the closing date (the "Ortho Acquisition"). These assets include the Ortho(R), Green Cross(R), White Swan(R) and Defender(R) product lines, as well as formulation facilities in Fort Madison, Iowa and Corwen, United Kingdom. We closed the Ortho Acquisition on January 21, 1999. As of such date, the working capital adjustment was \$39.9 million. The parties are still in the process of determining the final working capital adjustment, which may be greater than or less than \$39.9 million.

ROUNDUP MARKETING AGREEMENT

On September 30, 1998, we entered into an Exclusive Agency and Marketing Agreement with Monsanto (as amended and restated, the "Roundup Marketing Agreement"). Pursuant to the Roundup Marketing Agreement, we became Monsanto's exclusive agent for the marketing and distribution of consumer Roundup(R) products in the consumer lawn and garden market in the United States and other specified countries, including Australia, Austria, Canada, France, Germany and the United Kingdom. In addition, if Monsanto develops new products containing glyphosate, the active ingredient in Roundup(R), or other non-selective herbicides, we have specified rights to market such products as well in the consumer lawn and garden market.

Under the Roundup Marketing Agreement, we and Monsanto will jointly develop global consumer and trade marketing programs for Roundup(R), and we have assumed responsibility for sales support, merchandising, distribution and logistics. We have already taken responsibility for these functions in North America, with a longer transition expected in Europe and Australia. Monsanto will continue to own all the assets of the consumer Roundup business and will provide significant oversight of its brand. In addition, Monsanto will continue to own, operate and market the agricultural Roundup business.

NEW CREDIT FACILITY

On December 4, 1998, we and certain of our subsidiaries entered into a new credit agreement (the "New Credit Facility") which provides for aggregate borrowings of up to \$1.025 billion and consists of a \$500 million revolving credit facility and \$525 million of term loan facilities. We used the proceeds of the New Credit Facility to refinance our then existing credit facility and to fund the RPJ Acquisition. On a pro forma basis, as of April 3, 1999, we would have had $\frac{1}{2}$ million outstanding under the New Credit Facility and $\frac{1}{2}$ million available.

THE ISSUANCE OF THE ORIGINAL NOTES

The Original Notes were originally issued and sold on January 21, 1999, in a transaction not registered under the Securities Act in reliance upon an exemption from the registration requirements thereof. The initial purchaser (the "Initial Purchaser") of the Original Notes was Salomon Smith Barney Inc. The Initial Purchaser subsequently offered and resold the Original Notes pursuant to Rule 144A and Regulation S under the Securities Act. In connection with the issuance of the Original Notes, the Company entered into a Registration Rights Agreement with the Initial Purchaser (the "Registration Rights Agreement") which provides the holders of the Notes with registration and exchange rights. The Exchange Offer is intended to satisfy certain of the Company's obligations under the Registration Rights Agreement.

The Original Notes are represented by two, permanent global notes which are registered in the name of a nominee of DTC. Participants in the DTC system who have accounts with DTC ("DTC Participants") hold interests in the global notes in book-entry form. Accordingly, ownership of beneficial interests in such Notes is limited to DTC Participants or persons who hold such interests through DTC Participants.

The term "Book-Entry Holder" with respect to any Notes means the DTC Participant that is listed as the holder of such Notes in the records maintained by DTC.

THE EXCHANGE OFFER

Up to \$330 million in principal The Exchange Offer..... amount of the Exchange Notes are being offered in exchange for a like principal amount of Original Notes. Scotts is making the Exchange Offer in order to satisfy its obligations under the Registration Rights Agreement relating to the Original Notes. We provide a description of the procedures for tendering Original Notes in the section entitled "The Exchange Offer --Procedures for Tendering."

Expiration Date..... 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on 1999, unless the Exchange Offer is extended (in which case the Expiration Date will be the latest date and time to which the Exchange Offer is extended).

> The Exchange Offer is subject to the condition that the Exchange Offer does not violate applicable law or the Securities and Exchange Commission's staff interpretations. If Scotts determines that applicable federal law does not permit the Exchange Offer, we may terminate the Exchange Offer. The Exchange Offer is not conditioned upon the tender of any minimum principal amount of Original Notes.

> Based on an interpretation by the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission set forth in no-action letters to third parties, Scotts believes that Exchange Notes issued pursuant to the Exchange Offer in exchange for Original Notes generally may be offered for resale and may be resold or otherwise transferred by any holder of Exchange Notes without restriction. However, a broker-dealer who purchased Original Notes directly from Scotts for resale pursuant to Rule 144A or any other available exemption under the Securities Act must comply with the registration and prospectus delivery provisions of the Securities Act. Restrictions also apply to resales by a person that is an "affiliate" of Scotts within the meaning of Rule 405 under the Securities Act.

Conditions of the Exchange Offer....

Resale of the Exchange Notes.....

Scotts will require that each holder of Original Notes who wants to acquire Exchange Notes represent to Scotts that the holder is acquiring the Exchange Notes in the ordinary course of business and is not participating, and has no arrangement or understanding with any person to participate, in the distribution of the Exchange Notes. If a holder inaccurately makes this representation and transfers Exchange Notes in violation of the prospectus delivery provisions of the Securities Act and without an exemption from registration, the holder may incur liability under the Securities Act. Scotts does not assume or indemnify holders of Exchange Notes against liability under the Securities Act, although Scotts does not believe that any such liability should exist. Broker-dealers that receive Exchange Notes for their own accounts in exchange for Original Notes should refer to the applicable provisions described in the section entitled "Plan of Distribution."

All resales of Exchange Notes must be made in compliance with applicable state securities or "blue sky" laws. Scotts assumes no responsibility for compliance by holders of Exchange Notes with these requirements. Scotts is not making the Exchange Offer to and will not accept surrenders for exchange from holders of Original Notes in any jurisdiction in which the Exchange Offer or the acceptance of the Exchange Offer would not be in compliance with the applicable securities or "blue sky" laws.

Procedures for Tendering Notes.....

Each holder of Original Notes that wants to accept the Exchange Offer must complete, sign and date the accompanying Letter of Transmittal or a copy of it in accordance with the applicable instructions. The holder must then mail the Letter of Transmittal, together with the Original Notes and any other required documentation to the Exchange Agent at the address on the Letter of Transmittal. By executing a Letter of Transmittal, each holder will represent that:

- the Exchange Notes are being obtained in the ordinary course of business of the person receiving the Exchange Notes, whether or not that person is the holder of record;
- neither the holder or record nor the person who will receive the Exchange Notes has any arrangement or understanding with any person to participate in the distribution of the Exchange Notes;
- neither the holder or record nor the person who will receive the Exchange Notes is engaged in, or intends to engage in, a distribution of the Exchange Notes; and
- neither the holder of record nor the person who will receive the Exchange Notes is an "affiliate," as defined in Rule 405 under the Securities Act, of the Company.

Owners	Any beneficial owner whose Original Notes are registered in the name of a broker, dealer, commercial bank, trust company or other nominee and who wishes to tender should contact the registered holder promptly and instruct the registered holder to tender on the beneficial owner's behalf.
Guaranteed Delivery Procedures	Holders of Original Notes who want

whose Original Notes are not immediately available or who cannot deliver their Original Notes, the Letter of Transmittal or any other documents required by the Letter of Transmittal to the Exchange Agent, or who cannot comply with the procedures for book-entry transfer, prior to the Expiration Date must tender their Original Notes according to the guaranteed delivery procedures described in the section entitled "The Exchange Offer" under the heading "Guaranteed Delivery Procedures."

Untendered Notes.....

Following the closing of the Exchange Offer, holders of Original Notes eligible to participate in the Exchange Offer but who do not tender their Original Notes will not have any further exchange rights, and their Original Notes will continue to be subject to the restrictions on transfer on the Original Notes. Accordingly, the liquidity of the market for those Original Notes could be adversely affected by the Exchange Offer.

Consequences of Failure to Exchange.....

The Original Notes that are not exchanged in the Exchange Offer will remain restricted securities and may be resold only:

- to Scotts;
- to a qualified institutional buyer under Rule 144A or Rule 144 under the Securities Act;
- in an offshore transaction under Rule 903 or Rule 904 of Regulation S under the Securities Act;
- to an institutional accredited investor or otherwise pursuant to an exemption from registration under the Securities Act; or
- pursuant to an effective registration statement under the Securities Act.

Shelf Registration Statement.....

In the limited circumstances described in the section entitled "Description of Notes" under the heading "Registration Rights; Liquidated Damages," Scotts may be required to file a shelf registration statement covering resales of the Original Notes.

Withdrawal Rights.....

Tenders may be withdrawn at any time prior to 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the Expiration Date.

Acceptance of Original Notes and Delivery of Exchange Notes.....

Scotts will accept for exchange any Original Notes that are properly tendered in the Exchange Offer prior to 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the Expiration Date. Scotts will deliver Exchange Notes promptly following the Expiration Date.

Federal Income Tax Consequences.....

The exchange pursuant to the Exchange Offer will generally not be a taxable event for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Use of Proceeds.....

There will not be any cash proceeds to Scotts from the Exchange Offer.

Exchange Agent..... State Street Bank and Trust Company

THE EXCHANGE NOTES

The Exchange Offer applies to \$330 million aggregate principal amount of the Original Notes. The terms of the Exchange Notes will be substantially identical to those of the Original Notes except that the Exchange Notes will be registered under the Securities Act, and, therefore, will not bear legends restricting transfer and will not be subject to the terms of the Registration Rights Agreement. The Exchange Notes will evidence the same debt as the Original Notes and both series of Notes will be entitled to the benefits of the Indenture and treated as a single class of debt securities.

Total Amount of Notes Offered..... \$330 million in principal amount of 8.625% Senior Subordinated Notes due 2009 registered under the Securities Act.

January 15, 2009. Maturity.....

Annual fixed rate -- 8.625%. Interest..... Payment frequency - every six months on January 15 and July 15. First payment -- July 15, 1999.

Subsidiary Guarantors..... Each subsidiary guarantor is a wholly owned domestic subsidiary of Scotts. Scotts' foreign subsidiaries are not subsidiary quarantors of the Exchange Notes. If Scotts cannot make payments on the Exchange Notes when they are due, the subsidiary

> The Exchange Notes and the subsidiary guarantees are senior subordinated debts. They rank behind all of Scotts' and its subsidiary guarantors current and future indebtedness (other than trade payables), except indebtedness that expressly provides that it is not senior to the Exchange Notes and the subsidiary guarantees.

guarantors must make them instead.

Assuming this offering had been completed on April 3, 1999, and the proceeds had been applied as intended, and assuming the Transactions and the New Credit Facility had been closed as of such date, the Exchange Notes and the subsidiary guarantees would have been subordinated to \$____ of senior debt.

In addition, the subsidiary guarantees would have been structurally subordinated to \$ million of current operating liabilities of the non-guarantor subsidiaries as of April 3, 1999.

On or after January 15, 2004, Scotts may redeem some or all of the Exchange Notes at any time at the redemption prices listed in the "Description of Notes" section under the heading "Optional Redemption."

Before January 15, 2002, Scotts may redeem up to 35% of the Notes with the proceeds of one or more public equity offerings of Scotts' common shares at the price listed in the "Description of Notes" section under the heading "Optional Redemption."

If Scotts sells certain assets or experiences specific kinds of changes of control, it must offer to repurchase the Exchange Notes at the prices listed in the "Description of Notes" section under the heading "Redemption at the Option of Holders.'

Scotts will issue the Exchange Notes under an indenture with State

Ranking.....

Optional Redemption.....

Basic Covenants of Indenture.....

Mandatory Offer to Repurchase.....

Street Bank and Trust Company, as trustee. The indenture will, among other things, restrict Scotts' ability and the ability of its subsidiaries to:

- borrow money;
- pay dividends on stock or purchase stock;
- make investments;
- use assets as security in other transactions; and
- sell certain assets or merge with or into other companies.

For more details, see the "Description of Notes" section under the heading "Certain Covenants."

RISK FACTORS

See "Risk Factors" beginning on page 13 for a discussion of certain factors that you should carefully consider before investing in the Notes.

SUMMARY HISTORICAL AND PRO FORMA CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL DATA (IN MILLIONS)

We have derived the historical financial data included in the following summary financial data from the Company's audited and unaudited consolidated financial statements which are incorporated by reference herein. The following pro forma consolidated financial data are presented as if the Transactions and the offering of the Original Notes had occurred and the New Credit Facility was in place on October 1, 1997. The following pro forma balance sheet data give effect to the Transactions, the New Credit Facility and the offering of the Original Notes and the use of proceeds therefrom as they had occurred on April 3, 1999. The selected pro forma consolidated financial data is not necessarily indicative of the results of operations the Company would have obtained had the Transactions, the New Credit Facility and the offering of the Original Notes actually occurred as of October 1, 1997. You should read the following information in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company and the Notes thereto, the Financial Statements of RPJ, the Financial Statements of Ortho and the information contained in "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," all of which are incorporated by reference in this Prospectus.

			YEAI	R ENDED	SEPT	EMBER 30,			SI ACTUA	X MONTI	HS END	ED PRO FORMA
	199	6		ACTUAL 997 (1)		998(2)	PRO	FORMA 998	APRIL 4, 1998		IL 3, 999	APRIL 3, 1999
OPERATING DATA:		_	-		-		-					
Sales Cost of sales	\$ 750 512	. 4	\$	899.3 573.6		1,113.0 715.0		526.5 948.1				
Gross profit (Income) from Roundup Marketing Agreement	238	.0		325.7		398.0		578.4 (35.0)				
Selling, general & administrative Amortization of goodwill and other	185 8			214.4		271.6 12.9		413.4 25.8				
intangibles Restructuring and other charges Other expense (income), net	17	.6)		 6.3		15.4 4.0		17.2				
Income from operations	26 25	.3		94.8 25.2		94.1 32.2		152.6 86.3				
Income before income taxes Income tax provision	1	.3		69.6 30.1		61.9 24.9		66.3				
Income before extraordinary item Extraordinary loss on early	(2	.5)		39.5		37.0		39.6				
extinguishment of debt, net of income tax benefit						0.7						
Net income (loss) Preferred stock dividends	(2 9	. 8		39.5 9.8		36.3		39.6 9.8				
Income (loss) applicable to common shareholders	\$ (12 =====	.3)	\$	29.7	\$	26.5	\$	29.8				
OTHER FINANCIAL DATA:												
EBITDA (3)	\$ 55 73 24 29 18	.3	\$	125.2 125.2 24.2 30.4 28.6	\$	131.9 152.3 31.5 37.8 41.3		209.0 231.2 81.7 56.4 45.3				
interest expense	3.0 3.1			5.2x 1.8x 3.3x		4.8x 2.4x 2.6x		2.8x 4.3x 1.7x				

BALANCE SHEET DATA:

AS OF APRIL 3, 199	AS	OF	APRIL	3.	1999
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ACTUAL	PRO	FORM

Workin	ng capital	
Total	assets	
Total	debt	
Total	shareholders' equity (7)

(1) Includes results from Miracle Garden from January 1997.

(2) Includes results from Levington Group Limited from December 1997 and EarthGro from February 1998.

- (3) "EBITDA" is defined as income from operations, plus depreciation and amortization. EBITDA is not intended to represent cash flow from operations as defined by generally accepted accounting principles and should not be used as an alternative to net income as an indicator of operating performance or to cash flow as a measure of liquidity. EBITDA is included in this Prospectus because it is a basis upon which Scotts' management assesses financial performance. While EBITDA is frequently used as a measure of operations and the ability to meet debt service requirements, it is not necessarily comparable to other similarly titled captions of other companies due to potential inconsistencies in the method of calculation.
- (4) "Adjusted EBITDA" reflects EBITDA as calculated in note (3) above adjusted for the effect of the non-recurring restructuring charges taken by the Company of \$17.7 million during the fiscal year ended September 30, 1996 and by the Company of \$20.4 million (of which \$15.4 million is included in restructuring and other charges, \$2.9 million is included in cost of sales and \$2.1 million is included in selling, general and administrative) and RPJ of \$1.8 million during the twelve months ended September 30, 1998 and by the Company of \$1.4 million for the six months ended April 3, 1999.
- (5) Cash interest expense excludes amortization of deferred financing costs and interest rate locks.
- (6) Depreciation and amortization excludes amortization of deferred financing costs and debt discount.
- (7) Includes \$195 million aggregate liquidation preference of convertible preferred stock, convertible at \$19 per common share, which is callable at the option of the Company after May 19, 2000.

RISK FACTORS

This Prospectus includes and incorporates by reference "forward looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act and Section 21E of the Exchange Act including, in particular, the statements about the Company's plans, strategies, and prospects under the headings "Prospectus Summary, " "Selected Historical and Pro Forma Consolidated Financial Data," "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and "Business." Although we believe that our plans, intentions and expectations reflected in or suggested by such forward-looking statements are reasonable, we can give no assurance that such plans, intentions or expectations will be achieved. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the forward looking statements we make or incorporate by reference in this Prospectus are set forth below and are incorporated by reference to our periodic reports filed under the Exchange Act. All forward-looking statements attributable to the Company or persons acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by the following cautionary statements.

SUBSTANTIAL LEVERAGE -- OUR SUBSTANTIAL INDEBTEDNESS COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE FINANCIAL HEALTH OF THE COMPANY AND PREVENT US FROM FULFILLING OUR OBLIGATIONS INDER THE NOTES.

Following the offering of the Original Notes, we have a significant amount of indebtedness. The following chart shows important credit statistics and is presented assuming we had completed the Transactions, the New Credit Facility and the offering of the Original Notes as of the date or at the beginning of the period specified below and applied the proceeds as intended:

AT APRIL 3, 1999 (DOLLARS IN MILLIONS)

Total indebtedness	
Stockholders' equity	
Debt to equity ratio	

Our substantial indebtedness could have important consequences to you. For example, it could:

- make it more difficult for us to satisfy our obligations with respect to the Notes;
- increase our vulnerability to general adverse economic and industry conditions;
- limit our ability to fund future working capital, capital expenditures, research and development costs and other general corporate requirements;
- require us to dedicate a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to payments on our indebtedness, thereby reducing the availability of our cash flow to fund working capital, capital expenditures, research and development efforts and other general corporate requirements;
- limit our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business and the industry in which we operate;
- place us at a competitive disadvantage compared to our competitors that have less debt; and

- limit, along with the financial and other restrictive covenants in our indebtedness, among other things, our ability to borrow additional funds. And, failing to comply with those covenants could result in an event of default which, if not cured or waived, could have a material adverse effect on us.

See "Description of Notes -- Repurchase at the Option of Holders -- Change of Control."

ADDITIONAL BORROWINGS AVAILABLE -- DESPITE CURRENT INDEBTEDNESS LEVELS, WE AND OUR SUBSIDIARIES MAY STILL BE ABLE TO INCUR SUBSTANTIALLY MORE DEBT. THIS COULD FURTHER EXACERBATE THE RISKS DESCRIBED ABOVE.

We and our subsidiaries may be able to incur substantial additional indebtedness in the future. The terms of the indenture do not fully prohibit us or our subsidiaries from doing so. Our New Credit Facility permits additional borrowings of up to \$1.025 billion and all of those borrowings would be senior to the Notes and the subsidiary guarantees. If new debt is added to our and our subsidiaries' current debt levels, the related risks that we and they now face could intensify.

See "Capitalization" and "Description of Notes -- Repurchase at the Option of Holders -- Change of Control."

ABILITY TO SERVICE DEBT -- TO SERVICE OUR INDEBTEDNESS, WE WILL REQUIRE A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF CASH. OUR ABILITY TO GENERATE CASH DEPENDS ON MANY FACTORS BEYOND OUR CONTROL.

Our ability to make payments on and to refinance our indebtedness, including the Notes, and to fund planned capital expenditures and research and development efforts will depend on our ability to generate cash in the future. This, to a certain extent, is subject to general economic, financial, competitive, legislative, regulatory and other factors that are beyond our control.

Based on our current level of operations and anticipated cost savings and operating improvements, we believe our cash flow from operations, available cash and available borrowings under the New Credit Facility will be adequate to meet our future liquidity needs for at least the next few years.

We cannot assure you, however, that our business will generate sufficient cash flow from operations, that currently anticipated cost savings and operating improvements will be realized on schedule or at all or that future borrowings will be available to us under the New Credit Facility in amounts sufficient to enable us to pay our indebtedness, including the Notes, or to fund our other liquidity needs. We may need to refinance all or a portion of our indebtedness, including the Notes, on or before maturity. We cannot assure you that we will be able to refinance any of our indebtedness, including the New Credit Facility and the Notes, on commercially reasonable terms or at all.

SUBORDINATION -- YOUR RIGHT TO RECEIVE PAYMENTS ON THE NOTES IS JUNIOR TO OUR EXISTING INDEBTEDNESS AND POSSIBLY ALL OF OUR FUTURE BORROWINGS. FURTHER, THE GUARANTEES OF THE NOTES ARE JUNIOR TO ALL OUR SUBSIDIARY GUARANTORS' EXISTING INDEBTEDNESS AND POSSIBLY TO ALL THEIR FUTURE BORROWINGS.

The Notes and the subsidiary guarantees rank behind all of our and the subsidiary guarantors' existing indebtedness (other than trade payables) and all of our and their future borrowings (other than trade payables), except any future indebtedness that expressly provides that it ranks equal with, or is subordinated in right of payment to, the Notes and the subsidiary guarantees. As a result, upon any distribution to our creditors or the creditors of the subsidiary guarantors in a bankruptcy, liquidation or reorganization or similar proceeding relating to us or the subsidiary guarantors or to our or their property, the holders of our senior debt and the senior debt of the subsidiary guarantors will be entitled to be paid in full in cash before any payment may be made with respect to the Notes or the subsidiary guarantees.

In addition, all payments on the Notes and the subsidiary guarantees will be blocked in the event of a payment default on senior debt and may be blocked for up to 179 of 360 consecutive days in the event of certain non-payment defaults on senior debt.

In the event of a bankruptcy, liquidation or reorganization or similar proceeding relating to our Company or the subsidiary guarantors, holders of the Notes will participate with trade creditors and all other holders of subordinated indebtedness of the Company and the subsidiary guarantors in the assets remaining after we and the subsidiary guarantors have paid all of the senior debt. However, because the indenture requires that amounts otherwise payable to holders of the Notes in a bankruptcy or similar proceeding be paid to holders of senior debt instead, holders of the Notes may receive less, ratably, than holders of trade payables in any such proceeding. In any of these cases, we and the subsidiary guarantors may not have sufficient funds to pay all of our creditors and holders of Notes may receive less, ratably, than the holders of senior debt.

Assuming we had completed the offering of the Original Notes on April 3, 1999, and that the Transactions and the New Credit Facility had been completed on that date, the Notes and the subsidiary guarantees would have been subordinated to \$_____ million of senior debt, and approximately \$____ million would have been available for borrowing as additional senior debt under our New Credit Facility. We will be permitted to borrow substantial additional indebtedness, including senior debt, in the future under the terms of the indenture. In addition, the Notes and the subsidiary guarantees will be structurally subordinated to the current operating liabilities, including trade payables, of all of our subsidiaries that are not subsidiary guarantors. See note 21 to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements, which are incorporated by reference in this Prospectus.

INTEGRATION ISSUES -- INABILITY TO INTEGRATE THE ACQUISITIONS WE HAVE MADE COULD PREVENT US FROM MAXIMIZING SYNERGIES AND COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT OUR FINANCIAL RESULTS.

We have made several substantial acquisitions in the past four years. The Ortho Acquisition represents the largest acquisition we have ever made. The success of any completed acquisition depends, and the success of the Ortho Acquisition will depend, on our ability to integrate effectively the acquired business. We believe that the RPJ Acquisition and the Ortho Acquisition provide us with significant cost saving opportunities. However, if we are not able to successfully integrate Ortho, RPJ or our other acquired businesses, we will not be able to maximize these cost saving opportunities. Rather, the failure to integrate these acquired businesses, because of difficulties in the assimilation of operations and products, the diversion of management's attention from other business concerns, the loss of key employees or other factors, could materially adversely affect our financial results.

CUSTOMER CONCENTRATION -- BECAUSE OF THE CONCENTRATION OF OUR SALES TO A SMALL NUMBER OF RETAIL CUSTOMERS, THE LOSS OF ONE OR MORE OF OUR TOP CUSTOMERS COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT OUR FINANCIAL RESULTS.

Our top 10 customers together accounted for approximately 50% of our 1998 fiscal year sales and 27% of our outstanding accounts receivable as of September 30, 1998. Our top two customers, The Home Depot and Kmart Corporation, represented approximately 17% and 10%, respectively, of our 1998 fiscal year sales and approximately 12% and 2%, respectively, of our outstanding accounts receivable at September 30, 1998. Wal*Mart sales represented approximately 9% of the Company's fiscal 1998 sales. After allocating buying groups' sales to Wal*Mart, Wal*Mart sales represented approximately 11% of our sales and 2% of our outstanding trade accounts receivable at September 30, 1998. All three customers hold significant positions in the retail lawn and garden market. The loss of, or reduction in orders from, Home Depot, Kmart, Wal*Mart or any other significant customer could have a material adverse effect on our business and our financial results, as could customer disputes regarding shipments, fees, merchandise condition or related matters with, or our inability to collect accounts receivable from, any of these customers. In addition, on a pro forma basis, the Ortho Acquisition could result in even more significant customer concentration.

TERMINATION OF ROUNDUP MARKETING AGREEMENT -- IF MONSANTO TERMINATES THE ROUNDUP MARKETING AGREEMENT, WE WOULD LOSE A SUBSTANTIAL SOURCE OF FUTURE EARNINGS.

Monsanto has the right to terminate the Roundup Marketing Agreement either as a whole or within a particular region for certain events of default. If Monsanto rightfully terminates the Roundup Marketing Agreement pursuant to an event of default, we would not be entitled to any termination fee under the Roundup Marketing Agreement and would lose the significant source of earnings that we believe the Roundup Marketing Agreement provides. In addition, Monsanto may terminate the Roundup Marketing Agreement within a given region, including North America, without paying us a termination fee, if sales in that region decline on a consumer sell-through basis over a cumulative three program year period or if such sales decline by more than 5% for each of two consecutive program years, unless we can demonstrate that the decline was caused by a severe decline of general economic conditions or a severe decline in the lawn and garden market in such region rather than by our failure to perform our duties under the Roundup Marketing Agreement. See "The Transactions -- Roundup Marketing Agreement -- Termination."

POST-PATENT RESULTS OF ROUNDUP(R) AND SCOTTS TURF BUILDER(R) IN THE UNITED STATES -- WE CANNOT PREDICT THE SUCCESS OF ROUNDUP(R) AFTER GLYPHOSATE CEASES TO BE PATENTED OR THE SUCCESS OF THE TURF BUILDER(R) LINE OF PRODUCTS AFTER EXPIRATION OF THE METHYLENE-UREA PRODUCT COMPOSITION PATENT. SUBSTANTIAL NEW COMPETITION IN THE UNITED STATES COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT OUR BUSINESS.

Glyphosate, the active ingredient in Roundup(R), is subject to a patent in the United States that expires in September 2000. Sales in the United States may decline as a result of increased competition after the U.S. patent expires. Any decline in sales would adversely affect our Net Commission under the Roundup Marketing Agreement and therefore our financial results. Such a decline could also trigger Monsanto's regional termination right under the Roundup Marketing Agreement. See "The Transactions -- Roundup Marketing Agreement -- Termination."

Furthermore, our methylene-urea product composition patent which covers Scotts Turf Builder(R), Scotts Turf Builder(R) Plus 2(TM) with Weed Control and Scotts Turf Builder(R) with Halts(R) Crabgrass Preventer, is due to expire in July 2001. Any decline in sales of Turf Builder(R) products after the expiration of the methylene-urea product composition patent could adversely affect our financial results.

CONTROL BY SIGNIFICANT SHAREHOLDERS -- THE INTERESTS OF THE FORMER MIRACLE-GRO SHAREHOLDERS COULD CONFLICT WITH THOSE OF THE OTHER SHAREHOLDERS OR THE HOLDERS OF THE NOTES.

The former shareholders of Miracle-Gro Products, Inc. (the "Miracle-Gro Shareholders") (through the Hagedorn Partnership, L.P.) beneficially own approximately 42% of the outstanding common shares of the Company on a fully diluted basis. While the merger transactions involving Scotts and Miracle-Gro Products, Inc. placed voting restrictions on the Miracle-Gro Shareholders through May 19, 2000, the Miracle-Gro Shareholders have the right to designate three members of the Company's Board of Directors and have the ability to veto significant corporate actions by the Company. In addition, after May 19, 2000, the Miracle-Gro Shareholders will be able to vote their shares without restriction and will be able to significantly control the election of directors and the approval of other actions requiring the approval of the Company's shareholders. The interests of the Miracle-Gro Shareholders could conflict with those of the Company's other shareholders or the holders of the Notes.

EFFECT OF SEASONALITY -- OUR HISTORICAL SEASONALITY COULD IMPAIR OUR ABILITY TO MAKE INTEREST PAYMENTS ON THE NOTES.

Because our products are used primarily in the Spring and Summer, our business is highly seasonal. For the past two fiscal years, approximately 72% of our sales have occurred in the combined second and third fiscal quarters. Our working capital needs, and correspondingly our borrowings, peak near the end of our first fiscal quarter during which we generate fewer revenues while incurring expenditures in preparation for the Spring selling season. If cash on hand and revenues are insufficient to cover payments due on the Notes and if, at that time, we are unable to draw on our New Credit Facility, this seasonality could adversely affect our ability to make interest payments as required by the Notes. Adverse weather conditions could heighten this risk. See " -- Effect of Weather Conditions."

EFFECT OF WEATHER CONDITIONS -- ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS COULD ADVERSELY IMPACT OUR FINANCIAL RESULTS.

Weather conditions in North America and Europe have a significant impact on the timing of sales in the Spring selling season and overall annual sales. Periods of wet weather can slow fertilizer sales, while periods of dry, hot weather can decrease pesticide sales. In addition, an abnormally cold Spring throughout North America and/or Europe could adversely affect both fertilizer and pesticides sales and therefore our financial results.

ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION -- COMPLIANCE WITH ENVIRONMENTAL AND OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH REGULATIONS COULD RESULT IN THE EXPENDITURE OF SIGNIFICANT CAPITAL RESOURCES.

Local, state, federal and foreign laws and regulations relating to environmental matters affect us in several ways. All products containing pesticides must be registered with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (and in many cases, similar state and/or foreign agencies) before they can be sold. The inability to obtain or the cancellation of any such registration could have an adverse effect on us. The severity of the effect would depend on which products were involved, whether another product could be substituted and whether our competitors were similarly affected. We attempt to anticipate regulatory developments and maintain registrations of, and access to, substitute chemicals, but we may not always be able to avoid or minimize these risks.

Regulations regarding the use of certain pesticide and fertilizer products may include requirements that only certified or professional users apply the product or that certain products be used only on certain types of locations (such as "not for use on sod farms or golf courses"), may require users to post notices on properties to which products have been or will be applied, may require notification of individuals in the vicinity that products will be applied in the future or may ban the use of certain ingredients. In addition, with the RPJ and Ortho Acquisition, we have acquired many new pesticide product lines that are subject to additional regulations. Even if we are able to comply with all such regulations and obtain all necessary registrations, we cannot assure that our products, particularly pesticide products, will not cause injury to the environment or to people under all circumstances. The costs of compliance, remediation or products liability have adversely affected our operating results in the past and could materially affect our future quarterly or annual operating results.

ADDRESSING YEAR 2000 ISSUES -- OUR FAILURE, OR THE FAILURE OF OUR THIRD PARTY SUPPLIERS OR RETAILER CUSTOMERS, TO ADDRESS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ISSUES RELATED TO THE YEAR 2000 COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT OUR OPERATIONS.

Like other business entities, we must address the ability of our computer software applications and other business systems (e.g., embedded microchips) to properly identify the year 2000 due to a commonly used programming convention of using only two digits to identify a year. Unless modified or replaced, these systems could fail or create erroneous results when referencing the Year 2000. While we are assessing the relevant issues related to the Year 2000 problem and have implemented a readiness program to mitigate the possibility of business interruption or other risks, we cannot be sure that we will have adequately addressed the issue, particularly with respect to our recent and pending acquisitions. Moreover, we rely on third party suppliers for finished goods, raw materials, water, other utilities, transportation and a variety of other key services. If one or more of these suppliers fail to address the Year 2000 problem adequately, such suppliers' operations could be interrupted. This interruption, in turn, could adversely affect our operations. In addition, the failure of our retailer customers adequately to address the Year 2000 problem could adversely affect our financial results.

EFFECT OF NEW EUROPEAN CURRENCY -- THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EURO CURRENCY IN CERTAIN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES BETWEEN 1999 AND 2002 COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT US.

In January 1999, the "euro" was introduced in certain Economic and Monetary Union ("EMU") countries. During 2002, all EMU countries are expected to be operating with the euro as their single currency. Uncertainty exists as to the effects the euro currency will have on the marketplace. Additionally, the European Commission has not yet defined and finalized all of the rules and regulations with regard to the euro currency. We are still assessing the impact the EMU formation and euro implementation will have on our internal systems and the sale of our products. We expect to take appropriate actions based on the results of such assessment. However, we have not yet

determined the cost related to addressing this issue and there can be no assurance that this issue and its related costs will not have a materially adverse effect on us or our operating results and financial condition.

RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS -- OUR SIGNIFICANT INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS MAKE US MORE SUSCEPTIBLE TO FLUCTUATIONS IN CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATES AND TO THE COSTS OF INTERNATIONAL REGULATION.

We currently operate manufacturing, sales and service facilities outside of North America and particularly in the United Kingdom, Germany and France. Our international operations have increased with the acquisitions of Levington, Miracle Garden and RPJ and the Roundup Marketing Agreement and will increase further through the Ortho Acquisition. In fiscal 1998, international sales accounted for approximately 18% of our total sales, or approximately 23% on a pro forma basis. Therefore, we are subject to risks associated with operations in foreign countries, including fluctuations in currency exchange rates, the imposition of limitations on conversion of foreign currencies into dollars or remittance of dividends and other payments by foreign subsidiaries. Many foreign countries have tended to suffer from inflation more than the United States. In addition, by operating in a large number of countries, we incur additional costs of compliance with local regulations. We have attempted to hedge some of our currency exchange rate risks, including by borrowing in local currencies, but such hedges do not eliminate the risk completely. The costs related to our international operations could adversely affect our operations and financial results in the future.

NOT ALL SUBSIDIARIES ARE GUARANTORS -- YOUR RIGHT TO RECEIVE PAYMENTS ON THE NOTES COULD BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED IF ANY OF OUR NON-GUARANTOR SUBSIDIARIES DECLARES BANKRUPTCY, LIQUIDATES OR REORGANIZES.

Some but not all of our subsidiaries will guarantee the Notes. In the event of a bankruptcy, liquidation or reorganization of any of the non-guarantor subsidiaries, holders of their indebtedness and their trade creditors will generally be entitled to payment of their claims from the assets of those subsidiaries before any assets are made available for distribution to us. Assuming we had completed the Transactions and the New Credit Facility and the offering of the Original Notes on April 3, 1999, the Notes would have been effectively junior to \$_____ million of current operating liabilities, including trade payables, of these non-guarantor subsidiaries. The non-guarantor subsidiaries generated approximately 19% (or 23% on a pro forma basis) of our consolidated revenues in the year ended September 30, 1998 and held approximately 26% (or 25% on a pro forma basis) of our consolidated assets as of September 30, 1998.

FINANCING A CHANGE OF CONTROL OFFER -- WE MAY NOT HAVE THE ABILITY TO RAISE THE FUNDS NECESSARY TO FINANCE THE CHANGE OF CONTROL OFFER REQUIRED BY THE INDENTURE.

Upon the occurrence of certain specific kinds of change of control events, we will be required to offer to repurchase all outstanding Notes. However, it is possible that we will not have sufficient funds at the time of the change of control to make the required repurchase of Notes or that restrictions in our New Credit Facility will not allow such repurchases. In addition, important corporate events, such as leveraged recapitalizations that would increase the level of our indebtedness, would not constitute a "Change of Control" under the indenture. See "Description of Notes -- Repurchase at the Option of Holders."

FRAUDULENT CONVEYANCE MATTERS -- FEDERAL AND STATE STATUTES ALLOW COURTS, UNDER SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES, TO VOID THE NOTES AND THE GUARANTEES AND REQUIRE NOTEHOLDERS TO RETURN PAYMENTS RECEIVED FROM THE COMPANY OR THE SUBSIDIARY CHARANTORS

Under the federal bankruptcy law and comparable provisions of state fraudulent transfer laws, the Notes and the subsidiary guarantees could be voided, or claims in respect of the Notes or the subsidiary guarantees could be subordinated to all other debts of the Company or any subsidiary guarantor if, among other things, the Company or such subsidiary guarantor, at the time it incurred the indebtedness evidenced by the Notes or its subsidiary guarantee received less than reasonably equivalent value or fair consideration for the incurrence of such indebtedness, and:

- was insolvent or rendered insolvent by reason of such incurrence; or
- was engaged in a business or transaction for which the Company's or such subsidiary guarantor's remaining assets constituted unreasonably small capital; or
- intended to incur, or believed that it would incur, debts beyond its ability to pay such debts as they mature.

In addition, any payment by the Company or such subsidiary guarantor pursuant to the Notes or a subsidiary guarantee could be voided and required to be returned to the Company or such subsidiary guarantor, or to a fund for the benefit of the creditors of the Company or such subsidiary guarantor.

The measures of insolvency for purposes of these fraudulent transfer laws will vary depending upon the law applied in any proceeding to determine whether a fraudulent transfer has occurred. Generally, however, the Company or a subsidiary guarantor would be considered insolvent if:

- the sum of its debts, including contingent liabilities, were greater than the fair salable value of all of its assets; or
- if the present fair salable value of its assets were less than the amount that would be required to pay its probable liability on its existing debts, including contingent liabilities, as they become absolute and mature; or
- it could not pay its debts as they become due.

On the basis of historical financial information, recent operating history and other factors, the Company and each subsidiary guarantor believes that, after giving effect to the indebtedness incurred in connection with the offering of the Original Notes and the establishment of the New Credit Facility, it will not be insolvent, will not have unreasonably small capital for the business in which it is engaged and will not have incurred debts beyond its ability to pay such debts as they mature. There can be no assurance, however, as to what standard a court would apply in making such determinations or that a court would agree with our or the subsidiary guarantors' conclusions in this regard.

NO PRIOR MARKET FOR NOTES -- YOU CANNOT BE SURE THAT AN ACTIVE TRADING MARKET WILL DEVELOP FOR THE NOTES.

The Notes are a new issue of securities with no established trading market and will not be listed on any securities exchange. We have been informed by the initial purchasers of the Original Notes that they intend to make a market in the Notes. However, they may cease their market-making at any time. In addition, the liquidity of the trading market in the Notes, and the market price quoted for the Notes, may be adversely affected by changes in the overall market for high yield securities and by changes in our financial performance or prospects or in the prospects for companies in our industry generally. As a result, you cannot be sure that an active trading market will develop for the Notes.

THE TRANSACTIONS

The following description is a summary of the material provisions of the RPJ Acquisition, the Ortho Acquisition and the Roundup Marketing Agreement (collectively, the "Transactions"). We have tried to summarize the key contractual provisions with respect to each of these Transactions. However, we urge you to read the following documents to fully understand each of the Transactions:

- the Master Contract dated as of October 7, 1998 between Scotts and Rhone-Poulenc regarding the RPJ Acquisition (the "RPJ Agreement");
- the Ortho Agreement; and
- the Roundup Marketing Agreement.

We have not included the definitions of many of the defined terms contained in the RPJ Agreement, the Ortho Agreement or the Roundup Marketing Agreement, and we urge you to refer to such agreements for the definitions of capitalized terms in the following summary. Copies of the RPJ Agreement, the Ortho Agreement and the Roundup Marketing Agreement are available as set forth below under "Incorporation of Specified Documents by Reference."

RPJ ACQUISITION

In October 1998, the Company, through its subsidiaries, entered into the RPJ Acquisition. The RPJ Acquisition consisted of the purchase from various affiliates of Rhone-Poulenc Agro of: (i) the shares of Rhone-Poulenc Jardin SAS; (ii) the shares of Celaflor GmbH.; (iii) the shares of Celaflor Handelsgesellschaft m.b.H. and (iv) the home and garden business of Rhone-Poulenc Agro S.A. (collectively, "RPJ"). The total consideration paid for the RPJ Acquisition was approximately 1.2 billion French Francs, or approximately \$216 million, including 156 million French Francs, or approximately \$36 million on a present value basis, payable over the next four years. RPJ is continental Europe's largest producer of consumer lawn and garden products. It manufactures and sells a full line of consumer lawn and garden pesticides, fertilizers and growing media in France, Germany, the Benelux countries, Austria, Italy and Spain. Leading brands include KB(R), Fertiligene(R), Celaflor(R) and Nexa Lotte(R).

ORTHO ACQUISITION

On November 13, 1998, we entered into the Ortho Agreement with Monsanto and agreed to acquire substantially all of the non-Roundup assets of the Solaris Division of Monsanto for \$300 million, subject to adjustment depending on the level of normalized working capital as of the closing date. These assets include the Ortho(R), Green Cross(R), White Swan(R) and Defender(R) product lines, as well as formulation facilities in Fort Madison, Iowa and Corwen, U.K. We closed the Ortho Acquisition on January 21, 1999. As of such date, the working capital adjustment was \$39.9 million. The parties are still in the process of determining the final working capital adjustment, which may be greater than or less than \$39.9 million.

The Ortho Agreement includes various customary representations and warranties of the parties for transactions of this type and contains customary, limited carve-outs for materiality, knowledge and disclosed information. However, the indemnification provisions limit our total exposure to assumed liabilities, disputes with the Ortho's distributor and breaches of representation to \$5 million in the aggregate.

Pursuant to the Ortho Agreement, we made offers to all but a very limited number of Ortho employees who work primarily in the Ortho business. We also agreed to pay severance costs for U.S. employees based on Monsanto's severance policy. In return, Monsanto agreed to reimburse us for half of the costs of such termination payments, up to a maximum of \$5 million.

In connection with the Ortho Acquisition, Scotts and Monsanto agreed to enter into a supply agreement covering the supply of glyphosate to Scotts for use in non-Roundup(R) products that contain glyphosate and that were sold to Scotts in the Ortho Acquisition. The agreement guarantees Scotts with a long-term supply of glyphosate at a price competitive with that obtainable in the open market both now and after glyphosate ceases to be patented in the United States.

ROUNDUP TRANSACTION

On September 30, 1998, we entered the Roundup Marketing Agreement. Pursuant to the Roundup Marketing Agreement, we became Monsanto's exclusive agent for the marketing and distribution of consumer Roundup(R) products in the consumer lawn and garden market within the United States and other specified countries, including Australia, Austria, Canada, France, Germany and the United Kingdom (the "Included Markets"). In addition, if Monsanto develops new products containing glyphosate, the active ingredient in Roundup(R), or other non-selective herbicides, we have specified rights to market such products as well in the consumer lawn and garden market.

Under the Roundup Marketing Agreement, we and Monsanto will jointly develop global consumer and trade marketing programs for Roundup(R), and we have assumed responsibility for sales support, merchandising, distribution and logistics. We have already taken responsibility for these functions in North America with a longer transition expected in Europe and Australia. Monsanto will continue to own the consumer Roundup business and will provide significant oversight of its brand. In addition, Monsanto will continue to own and operate the agricultural Roundup business. A Steering Committee comprised of two Scotts designees and two Monsanto designees will have ultimate oversight over the consumer Roundup business. In the event of a deadlock, the president of Monsanto's Agricultural ("Ag") division is entitled to the tie-breaking vote.

COMMISSION STRUCTURE

We will be compensated based on the success of the consumer Roundup business in the Included Markets. In addition to recovering our out-of-pocket costs on a fully burdened basis, we will receive a graduated commission to the extent that the earnings before interest and taxes of the consumer Roundup business in the Included Markets ("Program EBIT") exceed certain thresholds. To the extent that Program EBIT is less than the First Commission Threshold set forth below, we will not receive any Commission. Our Net Commission will be equal to the Commission set forth in the following chart less the Contribution Payment we are required to make, as described below. The Net Commission is the amount that we will actually recognize on our income statements.

The commission structure is as follows:

			IF PROGRAM EBIT IS BETWEEN	
			THE FIRST AND SECOND	IF PROGRAM EBIT IS GREATER
			COMMISSION THRESHOLDS THE	THAN SECOND COMMISSION
			COMMISSION EQUALS THE	THRESHOLD THE COMMISSION
			FOLLOWING PERCENTAGE OF THE	EQUALS THE FOLLOWING AMOUNT
	FIRST	SECOND	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PROGRAM	PLUS 50% OF THE AMOUNT OF
	COMMISSION	COMMISSION	EBIT AND THE	PROGRAM EBIT
YEAR	THRESHOLD	THRESHOLD	FIRST COMMISSION THRESHOLD	ABOVE \$80 MILLION
1999-2000	\$30,000,000	\$80,000,000	46%	\$23,000,000
2001	\$31,250,000	\$80,000,000	44%	\$21,450,000
2002	\$32,531,250	\$80,000,000	40%	\$18,987,500
2003	\$33,844,531	\$80,000,000	40%	\$18,462,188
2004	\$35,190,645	\$80,000,000	40%	\$17,923,742
2005	\$36,570,411	\$80,000,000	40%	\$17,377,836
2006	\$37,984,471	\$80,000,000	40%	\$16,806,212
2007	\$39,434,288	\$80,000,000	40%	\$16,226,285
2008	\$40,920,145	\$80,000,000	40%	\$15,631,942
2009+	\$30,000,000	\$80,000,000	40%	\$20,000,000

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Program EBIT for the 1999 Program Year will be increased by \$15 million for purposes of calculating our commission.

Under the Roundup Marketing Agreement, we are required to make an annual fixed Contribution Payment to Monsanto. Nominally, this Contribution Payment will be \$20 million per Program Year. However, we are not required to make any Contribution Payment in the 1999 Program Year, and the Contribution Payments for the 2000 and 2001 Program Years will be \$5 million and \$15 million, respectively. Scotts and Monsanto have agreed to defer the difference between the \$20 million nominal Contribution Payment and the actual Contribution Payment in the first three Program Years under the Roundup Marketing Agreement. Beginning with the 2003 Program Year and extending through the 2018 Program Year, we must make a Contribution Payment of \$25 million per Program Year until Monsanto recovers the \$40 million deferred in the first three Program Years plus interest of 8% per year. In addition, during the 2003 through 2008 Program Year period, we will apply 50% of the amount by which our Net Commission exceeds certain levels toward the reimbursement of the \$40 million deferral. Specifically, we will apply toward the deferral 50% of the amount by which our Net Commission exceeds:

YEAR	NET COMMISSION LEVEL
	
2001	\$32,500,000
2002	\$28,100,000
2003	\$26,700,000
2004	\$30,500,000
2005	\$34,600,000
2006	\$38,900,000
2007	\$43,500,000
2008	\$49,000,000

TERM

The Roundup Marketing Agreement has no definite term with respect to all Included Markets other than European Union countries. However, as set forth below, for a period of 20 years Scotts will be entitled to receive a Termination Fee in certain circumstances if Monsanto terminates the Roundup Marketing Agreement upon a Change of Control of Monsanto or the sale of the consumer Roundup business. With respect to the European Union countries, the initial term of the Roundup Marketing Agreement extends through September 30, 2005. Thereafter, the parties may agree to renew the Roundup Marketing Agreement with respect to such countries through September 30, 2008, 2015 and 2018, respectively. However, if Monsanto does not agree to any of the extension periods with respect to the European Union countries, the "First Commission Threshold" set forth above will become \$0 with respect to the remaining Included Markets.

TERMINATION

Monsanto has the right to terminate the Roundup Marketing Agreement upon an Event of Default by Scotts or upon a Change of Control of Monsanto or the sale of the consumer Roundup business, so long as the termination after a Change of Control of Monsanto or the sale of the Roundup business occurs later than September 30, 2003. The Events of Default by Scotts that could give rise to termination by Monsanto include:

- "Material Breach" which is not cured within 90 days after written notice from Monsanto and which is not remediable by the payment of damages or by specific performance;
- "Material Fraud" which was engaged in with the intent to deceive Monsanto and which is not cured, if curable, within 90 days after written notice from Monsanto;
- "Material Willful Misconduct" which is not cured, if curable, within 90 days after written notice from Monsanto;

- "Egregious Injury" to the Roundup(R) brand that is not cured, if curable, within 90 days after notice from Monsanto, unless such egregious injury resulted from the exercise by Monsanto of its tie-breaking right with respect to deadlocked actions by the Steering Committee or was caused primarily by an act or omission of Monsanto;
- Scotts' becoming insolvent;
- the acquisition of Scotts, by merger or asset purchase, or the acquisition of more than 25% of Scotts' voting securities, in either case without Monsanto's prior written approval, by a competitor of Monsanto or by an entity that Monsanto reasonably believes will materially detract from or diminish Scotts' ability to fulfill its duties and obligations under the Roundup Marketing Agreement; or
- the assignment by Scotts of all, or substantially all, of its rights or obligations under the Roundup Marketing Agreement.

In addition, Monsanto may terminate the Roundup Marketing Agreement within the North America, U.K., France or Rest of the World regions for certain declines of the consumer Roundup business on a sell-through basis (based on point-of-sale unit movement at certain of the top-20 Roundup customers in such region). Specifically, Monsanto may terminate the Roundup Marketing Agreement within a given region if the sell-through consumer Roundup business declines on a three Program Year cumulative basis or by more than five percent in two consecutive Program Years within such region, unless we can demonstrate that the decline was caused by a severe decline of general economic conditions or a severe decline in the lawn and garden market in such region rather than by our failure to perform our duties under the Roundup Marketing Agreement. Monsanto would also not be able to terminate the Roundup Marketing Agreement if such decline was caused by Monsanto's exercise of its right to break ties with respect to deadlocked decisions of the Steering Committee.

We have rights similar to Monsanto's to terminate the Agreement upon a Material Breach, Material Fraud or Material Misconduct by Monsanto. In addition, we may terminate the Roundup Marketing Agreement upon a sale of the consumer Roundup business, although we would lose the Termination Fee set forth below in such

TERMINATION FEE

Except to the extent set forth below, if Monsanto terminates the Roundup Marketing Agreement upon a Change of Control of Monsanto or the sale of the consumer Roundup business, we will be entitled to receive a Termination Fee. We will also be entitled to receive a Termination Fee if we terminate the Roundup Marketing Agreement upon a Material Breach, Material Fraud or Material Willful Misconduct by Monsanto. The Termination Fee will be calculated in accordance with the following schedule:

IF TERMINATION OCCURS PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 30,	THE TERMINATION FEE PAYABLE TO SCOTTS WILL BE EQUAL TO:
2003	\$150,000,000 * \$140,000,000 \$130,000,000
2006	\$120,000,000 \$110,000,000 \$100,000,000

Between October 1, 2009 and September 30, 2018, if Monsanto terminates the Roundup Marketing Agreement upon a sale of the consumer Roundup business or if a successor terminates the Roundup Marketing Agreement

Neither Monsanto nor a successor to the consumer Roundup business may terminate the Roundup Marketing Agreement prior to September 30, 2003 upon a Change of Control or a sale of the consumer Roundup business. If Monsanto or a successor were to do so despite such prohibition, the Termination Fee payable to Scotts would be \$185 million.

following a Change of Control of Monsanto, the Termination Fee will be equal to the greater of (i) a percentage of the portion of the purchase price of the consumer Roundup business in excess of a specified amount and (ii) \$16 million.

In addition, if Monsanto terminates the Roundup Marketing Agreement for any reason other than Egregious Injury, Material Fraud or Material Willful Misconduct by Scotts, Monsanto will forfeit recovery of any unpaid portion of the \$40 million deferral of Contribution Payments described above.

SALE OF ROUNDUP

Monsanto has agreed to provide us with notice of any proposed sale of the consumer Roundup business, allow us to participate in the sale process and negotiate in good faith with us with respect to such a sale. If the sale is run as an auction, we will further be entitled to a 15-day exclusive negotiation period following the submission of all bids to Monsanto. During this period, we may revise our original bid, but we will not have the right to review the terms of any other bids.

In the event that we acquire the consumer Roundup business in such a sale, we will receive credit against the purchase price in the amount of the Termination Fee that would otherwise have been paid to us upon termination by Monsanto of the Roundup Marketing Agreement upon such a sale.

If Monsanto decides to sell the consumer Roundup business to another party, we must let Monsanto know within 30 days after receipt of notice of the purchaser whether we intend to terminate the Roundup Marketing Agreement and forfeit any right to a Termination Fee or whether we will agree to perform our obligations under the Roundup Marketing Agreement on behalf of the purchaser, unless and until such purchaser terminates us and pays us the applicable Termination Fee.

MARKETING FEE

Upon execution of the Roundup Marketing Agreement, we paid Monsanto a fee of \$32 million in consideration for the rights we obtained under the Roundup Marketing Agreement with respect to North America.

CENTRAL GARDEN

Central Garden & Pet Company ("Central Garden") has been providing distribution, warehousing and other services to the Monsanto pursuant to an agreement that will terminate on September 30, 1999. The Roundup Marketing Agreement does not affect Monsanto's obligations under the agreement with Central Garden. However, we do not believe that such agreement will materially interfere with our rights or obligations under the Roundup Marketing Agreement. We are currently in discussions with Central Garden regarding a continuing relationship between Central Garden and the consumer Roundup business.

USE OF PROCEEDS

We will not receive any proceeds from the issuance of the Exchange Notes. The gross proceeds from the offering of the Original Notes, together with borrowings under the New Credit Facility, were used (i) to fund the payment to Monsanto for the Ortho Acquisition; (ii) to repurchase the Company's then outstanding 9 7/8% Senior Subordinated Notes Due 2004; and (iii) to pay certain fees and expenses.

CAPITALIZATION

The following table sets forth the capitalization of the Company at April 3, 1999 and after giving effect to the offering of the Original Notes, the New Credit Facility and the Transactions.

		AS OF APRIL 3, 1999	
	ACTUAL		PRO FORMA
Debt (including current portion) (1):		(IN MILLIONS)	
New Credit Facility (2): Revolving Credit Facility. Term Loans. 9 7/8% Senior Subordinated Notes due 2004 (3) 8.625% Notes. Other debt (4).	Ş	\$	
Total debt			
Total capitalization			

- (1) For a description of the Company's outstanding indebtedness, see "Description of New Credit Facility."
- (2) The New Credit Facility was closed on December 4, 1998. The total commitment under the New Credit Facility is \$1.025 billion.
- (3) Approximately 97% of the Company's 9 7/8% Senior Subordinated Notes due 2004 were tendered pursuant to a tender offer that closed simultaneously with the closing of the offering of the Original Notes. The Company intends (i) to repurchase the remaining 9 7/8% Senior Subordinated Notes due 2004 or (ii) redeem such notes as soon as reasonably practicable after August 1, 1999, which is the first date the Company is permitted to do so under the indenture with respect to the 9 7/8% Senior Subordinated Notes due 2004. The Company and The Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A., as trustee, have entered into a Fourth Supplemental Indenture dated as of January 15, 1999, that amends the indenture with for the 9 7/8% Senior Subordinated Notes due 2004 to eliminate substantially all of the significant covenants and related defaults contained in the indenture.
- (4) Consists of foreign subsidiary loans, capital leases and, on a pro forma basis, RPJ seller notes and \$2.5 million of assumed indebtedness of RPJ.
- (5) Includes \$195 million aggregate liquidation preference of convertible preferred stock, convertible at \$19 per common share, which is callable at the option of the Company after May 19, 2000.

UNAUDITED SELECTED PRO FORMA COMBINED FINANCIAL DATA (DOLLARS IN MILLIONS)

The following pro forma statements of operations are presented as if the Transactions and the offering of the Original Notes had occurred and the New Credit Facility was in place on October 1, 1997. The following pro forma balance sheet gives effect to the Transactions, the New Credit Facility and the offering of the Original Notes and the use of proceeds therefrom as if they had occurred on April 3, 1999. The accompanying pro forma information is presented for illustrative purposes and is not necessarily indicative of the financial position or results of operations which would actually have been reported had the above transactions been in effect during the periods presented or which may be reported in the future. The Unaudited Selected Pro Forma Combined Financial Data are based upon assumptions that the Company believes are reasonable and should be read in conjunction with the Company's historical financial statements and the financial statements of RPJ and Ortho that are incorporated by reference herein.

UNAUDITED SELECTED PRO FORMA COMBINED STATEMENT OF INCOME AND OTHER FINANCIAL DATA

FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1998

	SCOTTS HISTORICAL	RPJ(1)	RPJ ADJUSTMENTS	ORTHO	ORTHO ADJUSTMENTS	OTHER ADJUSTMENTS	SCOTTS PRO FORMA
STATEMENT OF INCOME DATA:							
Sales	\$ 1,113.0	\$ 144.3		\$ 211.4	\$ 46.8(2) 11.0(3)		\$1,526.5
Cost of sales	715.0	75.4		128.8	21.2(2) 6.7(3) 1.0(4)		948.1
Gross profit(Income) from Roundup	398.0	68.9		82.6	28.9		578.4
Marketing Agreement SG&A	271.6	55.7		59.0	25.6(2) 1.5(6)	(35.0) (5)	(35.0) 413.4
Amortization of goodwill and other intangibles Restructuring and other charges	12.9 15.4	2.3	3.5(7)	17.8 	(12.3)(8)	1.6(9)	25.8 17.2
Other expense (income), net.	4.0	0.4					4.4
Income from operations Interest expense	94.1	8.7	(3.5)	5.8	14.1	33.4 53.9(10)	152.6 86.3
Income before income taxes Provision for income taxes	61.9 24.9	8.53 5.3	(3.5)	5.8	14.1	(20.5) (3.5) (11)	66.3 26.7
Income before extraordinary item	\$ 37.0 =====	\$ 3.2 ======	\$ (3.5) ======	\$ 5.8	\$ 14.1 ======	\$ (17.0) ======	\$ 39.6 =====
OTHER FINANCIAL DATA: EBITDA (12)	\$ 131.9 152.3 31.5 37.8 41.3	\$ 13.2 15.0 0.2 4.5 1.0	 3.5	\$ 27.1 27.1 21.3 3.0	\$ 1.8 1.8 (12.3)	\$ 35.0 35.0 51.2 1.6	\$ 209.0 231.2 81.7 56.4 45.3

See Notes to Unaudited Selected Pro Forma Combined Statement of Income and Other Financial Data.

NOTES TO UNAUDITED SELECTED PRO FORMA COMBINED STATEMENT OF INCOME AND OTHER FINANCIAL DATA

- (1) The statement of income data for RPJ have been translated from French Francs to U.S. Dollars using the average exchange rate for the year ended September 30, 1998.
- (2) Represents the reclassification of certain amounts to conform with the Company's presentation.
- (3) Represents adjustment to sales and cost of sales on certain shipments to distributors. The Company intends to reflect these shipments as inventory until such inventory is subsequently shipped to retailer locations. The adjustment is calculated as follows:

Estimated increase in revenue	\$ 11.0
business for fiscal 1998	60.9%
Estimated increase in cost of sales	\$ 6.7

- (4) Represents estimated increase in cost of sales from change in basis for Ortho inventory from LIFO to FIFO as described in note 3 to " -- Unaudited Selected Pro Forma Combined Balance Sheet Data."
- (5) Represents the estimated commission that would have been earned for the 1998 Program Year (the twelve months ended September 30, 1998) under the applicable provisions of the Roundup Marketing Agreement relating to the calculation of the Company's commission with respect to the first Program Year (1999), applying such calculation to the unaudited earnings of the consumer Roundup business for the twelve months ended September 30, 1998. Therefore, the Contribution Payment for the 1998 Program Year is assumed to be the same as the Contribution Payment for the 1999 Program Year. See "The Transactions -- Roundup Marketing Agreement -- Commission Structure."
- (6) Reflects the estimated increase in certain administrative costs (e.g., legal, payroll, risk management, tax department, human resources, information systems, etc.) that are considered necessary to support the Ortho business.
- (7) Reflects adjustment to amortization of goodwill and other intangibles resulting from an allocation of the estimated purchase price of the RPJ business as follows:

Estimated purchase price (including estimated transaction costs of \$7.3 million)	\$ 216.3 (13.1)
Amount allocated to goodwill and other intangibles Estimated average useful life (in years)	203.2 35.0
Less amortization included in historical RPJ financial	 5.8
statements	 2.3
	\$ 3.5

A valuation of the RPJ business has not been completed as of the date of this Prospectus. Accordingly, the allocation of the anticipated purchase price is based on management's estimates and assumes that the book value fixed assets reasonably approximates their fair value. The excess of the purchase price over the value of tangible assets generally is assumed to represent goodwill with an estimated useful life of 50 years, however certain other intangible assets (e.g., trademarks, patents, etc) may be identified in the valuation process which have useful lives of less than 40 years. Accordingly, the excess purchase price over the value of tangible assets is being amortized over an average life of 35 years. The Company expects that the final allocation of the purchase price will be completed during the third quarter of fiscal 1999.

(8) Reflects adjustment to amortization of goodwill and other intangibles resulting from an allocation of the estimated purchase price of the Ortho business as follows:

Estimated purchase price (including estimated transaction costs of \$10.0 million)	\$ 310.0 (116.0)
Amount allocated to goodwill and other intangibles	 194.0
Estimated average useful life (in years)	35.0
	 5.5
Less amortization included in historical Ortho financial	3.3
statements	17.8
	 \$ (12.3)

A valuation of the Ortho business has not been completed as of the date of this Prospectus. Accordingly, the allocation of the anticipated purchase price is based on management's estimates and assumes that the book value fixed assets reasonably approximates their fair value. The excess of the purchase price over the value of tangible assets generally is assumed to represent goodwill with an estimated useful life of 50 years, however certain other intangible assets (e.g., trademarks, patents, etc) may be identified in the valuation process which have useful lives of less than 40 years. Accordingly, the excess purchase price over the value of tangible assets is being amortized over an average life of 35 years. The Company expects that the final allocation of the purchase price will be completed during the third or fourth quarter of fiscal 1999.

In addition, the valuation does not address any adjustment for the level of normalized working capital as of the closing date of the Ortho Acquisition. No portion of such adjustment would be amortized. Rather it will be reflected as an adjustment to working capital. The Company made an additional payment to Monsanto of \$39.9 million on the closing date of the Ortho Acquisition based on Monsanto's estimate of normalized working capital. The Company and Monsanto are still in discussions regarding the actual amount of normalized working capital and expect the issue to be resolved during second or third quarters of fiscal 1999. See "The Transactions — Ortho Acquisition."

- (9) Represents amortization over a term of 20 years of the \$32.0 million payment by the Company to Monsanto in connection with the marketing rights under the Roundup Marketing Agreement.
- (10) Represents the net adjustment to interest expense as a result of the anticipated bank borrowings under the New Credit Facility and the offering of the Original Notes calculated as follows:

Revolving Credit Facility (a) Pound Sterling Term Loan (b). French Franc Term Loan (c). Deutschemark Term Loan (d). Tranche B Term Loan (e). Tranche C Term Loan (f). 8.625% Senior Subordinated Notes due 2009 (g). RPJ Seller Notes (h). Amortization of rate locks (i). Amortization of deferred financing costs (j). Interest on remaining indebtedness.	\$	11.6 10.9 4.9 3.3 8.2 10.5 28.5 2.1 1.3 3.3 1.7
Pro forma interest expense		86.3 30.7 1.7 53.9

⁽a) Represents interest on floating rate Revolving Credit Facility using an assumed interest rate of 7.69%.

⁽b) Represents interest on floating rate Pound Sterling Term Loan using an assumed interest rate of 9.10%.

⁽c) Represents interest on floating rate French Franc Term Loan using an assumed interest rate of 6.06%.

- (d) Represents interest on floating rate Deutschemark Term Loan using an assumed interest rate of 5.98%.
- (e) Represents interest on floating rate Tranche B Term Loan using an assumed interest rate of 8.53%.
- (f) Represents interest on floating rate Tranche C Term Loan using an assumed interest rate of 8.78%.
- (g) Represents interest on the \$330.0 million fixed rate Original Notes.
- (h) Represents interest on amounts due the seller of the RPJ business using an assumed interest rate of 6.00%.
- (i) Represents amortization of amounts deferred under treasury rate locks over a period of 10 years.
- (j) Represents amortization of deferred financing costs over a period of $8.1\,$ years.

An increase or decrease of 0.125% in the assumed interest rate would change the pro forma interest expense on floating rate debt as follows:

	=========	
	\$	0.8
Tranche C Term Loan		0.2
Tranche B Term Loan		0.1
Deutschemark Term Loan		0.1
French Franc Term Loan		0.1
Pound Sterling Term Loan		0.1
Revolving Credit Facility	\$	0.2

- (11) Represents an estimated provision for income taxes on a combined pro forma basis using the effective tax rate for the Company on a stand-alone basis for fiscal 1998 of 40.3%.
- "EBITDA" is defined as income from operations, plus depreciation and amortization. EBITDA is not intended to represent cash flow from operations as defined by generally accepted accounting principles and should not be used as an alternative to net income as an indicator of operating performance or to cash flow as a measure of liquidity. EBITDA is included in this Prospectus because it is a basis upon which Scotts' management assesses financial performance. While EBITDA is frequently used as a measure of operations and the ability to meet debt service requirements, it is not necessarily comparable to other similarly titled captions of other companies due to potential inconsistencies in the method of calculation.
- (13) "Adjusted EBITDA" reflects EBITDA as calculated in note (12) above adjusted for the effect of the non-recurring restructuring charges taken by the Company of \$20.4 million (or which \$15.4 million is included in restructuring and other charges, \$2.9 million is included in cost of sales and \$2.1 million is included in selling, general & administrative) and RPJ of \$1.8 million during the twelve months ended September 30, 1998.
- (14) Cash interest expense includes amortization of deferred financing costs and interest rate locks.

FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED APRIL 3, 1999	FOR	THE	SIX	MONTHS	ENDED	APRIL	3,	1999
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HISTORICAL	ORTHO	ADJUSTMENTS	ADJUSTMENTS	PRO FORMA
SCOTTS		ORTHO	OTHER	SCOTTS

Sales
Cost of Sales
Gross profit
Income from marketing agreement SG&A
Amortization of goodwill and other intangibles
Loss from operations
Interest expense
Income before income taxes
Income taxes
Income before extraordinary item
OTHER DATA: EBITDA (8)

(1) Represents the reclassification of certain amounts to conform with the Company's presentation.

(2) Represents adjustment to sales and cost of sales on certain shipments to distributors. The Company intends to reflect these shipments as inventory until such inventory is subsequently shipped to retailer locations. The adjustment is calculated as follows:

Estimated decrease in revenue	
Cost of sales as a percentage of sales for the	
Ortho business for the six months ended	
April 3, 1999	

Estimated decrease in cost of sales

(3) Represents estimated increase in cost of sales resulting from change in basis for Ortho inventory from LIFO to FIFO as described in note 3 to "-- Unaudited Selected Pro Forma Combined Balance Sheet Data."

- (4) Reflects the estimated increase in certain administrative costs (e.g., legal, payroll, risk management, tax department, human resources, information systems, etc.) that are considered necessary to support the Ortho business.
- (5) Reflects adjustment to amortization of goodwill and other intangibles resulting from an allocation of the estimated purchase price of the Ortho business as follows:

Estimated purchase price (including estimated transaction costs of \$__ million)...... Less amounts allocated to tangible assets and liabilities..... Amount allocated to goodwill and other intangibles.....

Less amortization included in historical Ortho

Estimated average useful life (in quarters)....

financial statements.....

A valuation of the Ortho business has not been completed as of the date of this Registration Statement. Accordingly, the allocation of the anticipated purchase price is based on management's estimates and assumes that the book value of fixed assets reasonably approximates their fair value. The excess of the purchase price over the value of tangible assets generally is assumed to represent goodwill with an estimated useful life of 40 years, however certain other intangible assets (e.g., trademarks, patents, etc.) may be identified in the valuation process which have useful lives of less than 40 years. Accordingly, the excess purchase price over the value of tangible assets is being amortized over an average life of 35 years. The Company expects that the final allocation of the purchase price will be completed during the third or fourth guarter of fiscal 1999.

In addition, the valuation does not address any adjustment for the level of normalized working capital as of the closing date of the Ortho Acquisition. No portion of such adjustment would be amortized. Rather it will be reflected as an adjustment to working capital. The Company has received an estimate of normalized working capital of \$125.9 million from Monsanto, which estimate resulted in an additional payment to Monsanto of \$39.9 million. The Company and Monsanto are still in discussion regarding the actual amount of normalized working capital and expect the issue to be resolved within 60 to 90 days after the closing. See "The Transactions --Ortho Acquisition."

(6) Represents the net adjustment to interest expense as a result of the anticipated bank borrowings under the Company's Revolving Credit Facility and the Notes Offering calculated as follows:

Revolving Credit Facility(a)
Pro forma interest expense Less interest on refinanced indebtedness Less interest on remaining indebtedness
Net adjustment

- -----

- (a) Represents interest on floating rate Revolving Credit Facility using an assumed average interest rate of 8.25%.
- (b) Represents interest on the \$330.0 million fixed rate Notes offered hereby.
- (c) Represents amortization of amounts deferred under treasury rate locks over a period of 10 years.
- (d) Represents amortization of deferred financing costs over a period of $8.1\ \mbox{years.}$

- (7) Represents an estimated provision for income taxes on a combined pro forma basis using the effective tax rate for the Company on a stand-alone basis for fiscal 1998 of 40.0%.
- (8) "EBITDA" is defined as income from operations, plus depreciation and amortization. EBITDA is not intended to represent cash flow from operations as defined by generally accepted accounting principles and should not be used as an alternative to net income as an indicator of operating performance or to cash flow as a measure of liquidity. EBITDA is included in this Offering Memorandum because it is a basis upon which Scotts' management assesses financial performance. While EBITDA is frequently used as a measure of operations and the ability to meet debt service requirements, it is not necessarily comparable to other similarly titled captions of other companies due to potential inconsistencies in the method of calculation.
- (9) "Adjusted EBITDA" reflects EBITDA as calculated in note (8) above adjusted for the effect of the restructuring and other charges taken by the Company.
- (10) Cash interest expense excludes amortization of deferred financing costs and interest rate locks.

UNAUDITED SELECTED PRO FORMA COMBINED BALANCE SHEET DATA

As of April 3, 1999

Historical	Ortho	Adjustments	Adjustments	Pro Forma
Scotts		Ortho	Other	Scotts

ASSETS Cash Accounts receivable Inventory

Other current assets

Total current assets

Property, plant and equipment, net Goodwill and other intangibles, net Other assets

Total assets

LIABILITY AND EQUITY Current portion of long-term debt Accounts payable Accrued liabilities

Total current liabilities Long-term debt, net of current portion

Other long-term liabilities

Total liabilities

Preferred stock
Common shares
Capital in excess of par
Retained earnings
Divisional equity
Cumulative foreign currency
translation account
Treasury stock
Net assets to be sold

Total equity

Total liabilities and equity

(1) Represents adjustment to restate inventory and eliminate accounts receivable for the estimated impact of the Company's anticipated revenue recognition policy as described in note 3 to " Unaudited Selected Pro Forma Combined Statement of Income and Other Financial Data".
Ortho shipments included in accounts receivable Gross profit margin as a % of sales for the Ortho business for the six months ended April 3, 1999
Gross profit on shipments that would not be recognized under the anticipated revenue recognition policy
Amount reinstated to inventory
(a) The tax effect of the gross profit that would not be recognized under the Company's anticipated revenue recognition policy is reflected as a reduction of the Company's current income tax liability using an assumed tax rate of 40.0%. The remaining amount, net of the tax effect, is reflected as a reduction of retained earnings.
(2) Represents adjustment to convert LIFO basis inventory in historical Ortho financial statements to the FIFO basis which management anticipates adopting for Ortho inventory upon acquisition.
(3) Reflects net adjustment to goodwill and other intangibles as a result of the Ortho Acquisition as follows:
Net amount of purchase price allocated to goodwill and other intangibles (see note 8 to " Unaudited Selected Pro Forma Combined Statement of Income and Other Financial Data")

(4) Represents the transaction costs related to the initial offering of the Notes.

Pro forma adjustment.....

(5) The following table summarizes the sources and uses of cash in connection with the Ortho Acquisition and the Notes Offering:

Sources:
Revolving Credit Facility
Notes
Total sources
Uses:
Ortho Acquisition (a)
Repayment of existing 9 7/8% Senior
Subordinated Notes (b)
Transaction costs (c)
Total uses

- (b) Includes redemption of 97.1% of the currently outstanding 9 7/8% Senior Subordinated Notes at a redemption premium of 107.258% and accrued interest of \$4.5 million. The difference between the estimated amount to be paid to retire this portion of these notes and their carrying value (\$95.0 million, net of unamortized discount of \$0.4 million and bond issuances costs of \$1.7 million) represents an extraordinary loss on the retirement and is reflected as a reduction in retained earnings, net of tax. The estimated tax effect is reflected as a reduction in the Company's current income tax liability.
- (c) Transaction costs include costs in connection with the Notes offering (\$10.5 million), and costs in connection with the Ortho Acquisition (\$8 million).
- (6) Reflects the elimination of historical equity of the Ortho businesses.

⁽a) Excludes any adjustment for the level of normalized working capital as of the closing date of the Ortho Acquisition. See "The Transactions -- Ortho Acquisition."

We have derived the historical financial data included in the following summary financial data from the Company's audited and unaudited consolidated financial statements which are incorporated by reference herein. You should read the following information in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company and the Notes thereto, and the information contained in "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," all of which are incorporated by reference in this Prospectus. Results for the six months ended April 3, 1999 are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the full fiscal year.

			YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30,						SIX MONTHS ENDED			
	1994							•	1	998 (3)	APRIL 4, 1998	APRIL 3, 1999
					3.00				-			
OPERATING DATA:				(DOLI	JAKS	IN MILLI	LONS	1				
Sales	^	606.3	ć	731.1	\$	750.4	\$	899.3	ć	1 112 0	\$	\$
Cost of sales	·	404.1	\$	498.8	·	512.4		573.6		1,113.0 715.0	ş	Ş
Gross profit		202.2		232.3		238.0		325.7		398.0		
Advertising and promotion (4)				64.5		69.2		83.9		104.4		
Selling, general and administrative Amortization of goodwill and other						116.6		130.5		167.2		
intangibles		3.6		6.0		8.8		10.2		12.9		
Restructuring and other charges						17.7				15.4		
Other expense (income), net		(1.4)		(4.4)		(0.6)		6.3		4.0		
Income from operations		59.3		60.9		26.3		94.8		94.1		
Interest expense		17.9		13.9		25.0		25.2		32.2		
Income before income taxes		41.8		36.3		1.3		69.6		61.9		
Income taxes		17.9		13.9		3.8		30.1		24.9		
Net income (loss) before extraordinary												
item		23.9		22.4		(2.5)		39.5		37.0		
Extraordinary loss on early extinguish-		1 0								0.7		
ment to debt, net		1.0										
Net income (loss)	\$	22.9	\$	18.8	\$	(2.5)	\$	39.5	\$	36.3		
Preferred stock dividends	s		\$	3.6	\$	9.8	s s	9.8	== \$	9.8		
Income (loss) applicable to common	Y		Ÿ		٧	9.0	Ÿ	9.0	Ÿ	9.0		
shareholders	\$	22.9	\$	18.8	\$	(12.3)		29.7	\$	26.5		
OTHER DATA:												
EBITDA (5)	\$	81.2	\$	86.6	\$	55.6	\$	125.2	\$	131.9		
Adjusted EBITDA (6)		81.2		86.6		73.3		125.2		152.3		
Depreciation and amortization (7)		21.9		25.7		29.3		30.4		37.8		
Capital expenditures		33.4		23.6		18.2		28.6		41.3		
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges		2.9x		2.2x		1.0x		3.3x		4.2x		
BALANCE SHEET DATA (END OF PERIOD):												
Working capital	\$	140.6	\$	227.0	\$	181.0	\$	146.5	\$	135.3		
Total assets		528.6		809.0		731.7		787.6		1,035.2		
Total debt		247.3		272.5		225.3		221.3		372.5		
Shareholders' equity (8)		168.3		380.8		364.3		389.2		403.9		

- (1) For the 1995 fiscal year, certain reclassifications have been made to conform the presentation with that of subsequent periods.
- (2) Includes results from Miracle Garden from January 1, 1997.
- (3) Includes results from Levington Group Limited from December 1997 and EarthGro from February 1998.
- (4) For the 1994 fiscal year, advertising and promotion expenses were not separately identified but were included in selling, general and administrative expenses.
- (5) "EBITDA" is defined as income from operations, plus depreciation and amortization. EBITDA is not intended to represent cash flow from operations as defined by generally accepted accounting principles and should not be used as an alternative to net income as an indicator of operating performance or to cash flow as a measure of liquidity. While EBITDA is frequently used as a measure of operations and the ability to meet debt service requirements, it is not necessarily comparable to other similarly titled captions of other companies due to potential inconsistencies in the method of calculation.
- (6) "Adjusted EBITDA" reflects EBITDA as calculated in note (5) above adjusted for the effect of the non-recurring charges taken by the Company of \$17.7 million during the fiscal year ended September 30, 1996, \$20.4 million (of which \$15.4 million is included in restructuring and other charges, \$2.9 million is included in cost of sales and \$2.1 million is included in selling, general & administrative) during the fiscal year ended September 30, 1998 and \$1.4 million for the six months ended April 3, 1999.
- (7) Depreciation and amortization excludes amortization of deferred financing costs and debt discount.
- (8) Includes \$195 million aggregate liquidation preference of convertible preferred stock, convertible at \$19 per common share, which is callable at the option of the Company after May 19, 2000.

DESCRIPTION OF NEW CREDIT FACILITY

The following description is a summary of material provisions of the New Credit Facility. It does not restate the New Credit Facility in its entirety. We urge you to read the New Credit Facility because it, and not this description, define the terms of our other material outstanding indebtedness. We have not included the definitions of many of the defined terms contained in the New Credit Facility, and we urge you to refer to such document for the definitions of capitalized terms in the following summary. Copies of the New Credit Facility is available as set forth under "Incorporation of Specified Documents by Reference."

On December 4, 1998, Scotts and certain of our subsidiaries entered into a new Credit Agreement (the "New Credit Facility"). The New Credit Facility establishes aggregate financing for Scotts and certain of our subsidiaries which are designated (either at closing or in the future) as co-borrowers ("Subsidiary Borrowers") in the aggregate principal amount of \$1.025 billion. The credit financing under the New Credit Facility is provided by a lending syndicate group consisting of approximately thirty lenders worldwide, with The Chase Manhattan Bank serving as Administrative Agent. At the time of the closing of the New Credit Facility, the then-existing indebtedness of the Company and its subsidiaries under the previous credit agreement was refinanced and repaid using proceeds from the New Credit Facility.

AMOUNT OF ADDITIONAL CREDIT AVAILABLE

The New Credit Facility provides for aggregate total senior secured credit financing in the principal amount of up to \$1.025 billion, consisting of term loan facilities in the aggregate amount of \$525 million, and a revolving credit facility in the amount of \$500 million (collectively, the "Loans"). Proceeds of the Loans were used in part to finance the RPJ Transaction and a portion of the purchase price of the Ortho Acquisition, as well as to refinance the indebtedness of the Company and its subsidiaries under its previous credit facility. A portion of the revolving credit facility will also be used to finance our continuing operations and for permitted acquisitions of up to \$100 million.

SPECIFIC CREDIT FACILITIES

The Term Loan Facilities consist of three tranches. The first, the Tranche A Term Loan Facility, consists of a 6-1/2 year term loan facility in an aggregate approximate principal amount equal to \$265 million, which is divided into three sub-tranches of French Francs, German Deutschemarks and British Pounds Sterling. The Tranche A Term Loans are to be repaid in quarterly principal installments over a 6-1/2 year period. The Tranche B Term Loan Facility consists of a 7-1/2 year term loan facility in an aggregate principal amount equal to \$140 million, which is to be repaid in nominal quarterly installments for the first 6-1/2 years and in substantial quarterly installments in the final year. The Tranche C Term Loan Facility consists of an 8-1/2 year term loan facility in an aggregate principal amount equal to \$120 million, which is to be repaid in nominal quarterly installments for the first 7-1/2 years and in substantial quarterly installments in the final year. The Term Loans were disbursed in a single drawing on the Closing Date.

The Revolving Credit Facility consists of Revolving Credit Loans in the amount of up to \$500 million, which is available on a revolving basis for a term of 6-1/2 years. A portion of the Revolving Credit Facility not to exceed \$100 million is available for the issuance of letters of credit. Additionally, a portion of the Revolving Credit Facility not to exceed \$30 million is available from Chase or Credit Lyonnais for swing line loans on same-day notice. A portion of the Revolving Credit Facility not to exceed \$225 million is available for borrowing in optional currencies, including German Deutschemarks, British Pound Sterling, French Francs, Belgian Francs, Italian Lira and other specified currencies, provided that the outstanding Revolving Credit Loans in optional currencies other than British Pounds Sterling does not exceed \$120 million. The outstanding principal amount of all Revolving Credit Loans may not exceed \$150 million for at least 30 consecutive days during any calendar year.

PREPAYMENTS

Loans may be prepaid and commitments may be reduced in certain specified minimum amounts, and prepayment fees will be payable with respect to optional prepayments. Optional prepayments of the Term Loans shall be applied pro rata to the three tranches thereof ratably to the respective installments thereof. As long as any Tranche A Term Loans are outstanding, each holder of Tranche B Term Loans and Tranche C Term Loans shall have the right to refuse all or any portion of such prepayment allocated to it, and the amount so refused will be applied to repay the Tranche A Term Loans. Optional prepayments of the Term Loans may not be reborrowed.

The New Credit Facility also provides for mandatory prepayments in certain specified events and in certain specified percentages, including (a) 50% of the net proceeds of any sale or issuance of equity and 100% of the net proceeds of any incurrence of indebtedness, subject to certain specified exceptions, (b) 100% of the net proceeds of any sale or other disposition of any assets, subject to certain exceptions, and (c) 75% of excess cash flow, subject to reductions as specified if certain Leverage Ratios are met.

INTEREST

A pricing grid establishes various interest rate options on the Revolving Credit Facility and the Tranche A Loans, the Tranche B Term Loans and the Tranche C Term Loans, respectively, and is based upon the Leverage Ratio as determined by the consolidated financial statements of the Company and its Subsidiaries. The interest rate options include a LIBOR option, and a base rate determined by a calculation which takes into effect the Prime Rate, the Base CD Rate, and the Federal Funds Effective Rate in effect as of any date of determination.

GUARANTIES

The Company executed an unconditional guaranty (the "Scotts Guaranty") of all of the indebtedness and obligations under the New Credit Facility incurred by the Company and all of the Subsidiary Borrowers. Additionally, most of the domestic direct and indirect subsidiaries of the Company executed a guaranty of the Scotts Guaranty. Offshore indirect subsidiaries of the Company did not execute any guaranties under the New Credit Facility.

COLLATERAL

The Company and all of its domestic subsidiaries pledged substantially all of their personal property assets to secure the indebtedness and obligations under the New Credit Facility. Additionally, the Company and its domestic subsidiaries pledged any real property assets having a value in excess of \$500,000. The Company and its domestic subsidiaries pledged primarily all of their intellectual property assets as well. The Company and its direct and indirect subsidiaries also pledged primarily all of the stock which each such entity owned in its own respective subsidiaries, except to the extent where any such pledge was limited by laws of a foreign country, or would have resulted in adverse tax consequences to the Company or any of its Subsidiaries.

COVENANTS

The New Credit Facility contains standard negative covenants, including covenants which impose limitations on the ability of the Company and its Subsidiaries to, among other things, (a) place liens on property, or incur contingent obligations, (b) sell all or substantially all of their assets, and (c) make any fundamental changes, or acquisitions, investments, loans or advances, except for acquisitions in an amount not to exceed \$100 million without consent. The New Credit Facility also contains financial covenants consisting of the maintenance of a specified Leverage Ratio, a specified Consolidated Net Worth, and an Interest Coverage Ratio, over the life of the New Credit Facility. These financial covenants are based upon operating performance levels in effect throughout the term of the New Credit Facility.

GENERAL

Pursuant to the Exchange Offer, we will offer to the holders of Original Notes who are able to make the representations described below the opportunity to exchange their Original Notes for Exchange Notes. We may be required to file a shelf registration statement with the Commission to cover resales of Original Notes in the following circumstances:

- if we are not permitted to consummate the Exchange Offer because the Exchange Offer is not permitted by applicable law or Commission policy; or
- if any holder of Original Notes notifies us within the specified time period that (A) due to a change in law or policy the holder is not entitled to participate in the Exchange Offer, (B) due to a change in law or policy the holder may not resell the Exchange Notes acquired by it in the Exchange Offer to the public without delivering a prospectus and this Prospectus is not appropriate or available for a resale by the holder or (C) the holder is a broker-dealer and owns Original Notes acquired directly from us or one of our affiliates.

If we are required to file a shelf registration statement, we will use our reasonable best efforts to cause the applicable registration statement to be declared effective as promptly as possible by the Commission.

For purposes of this discussion, "Transfer Restricted Notes" means each Original Note until:

- the date on which the holder of the Original Note receives an Exchange Note in the Exchange Offer;
- in the case of broker-dealers, the date on which an Exchange Note held by the broker-dealer is sold to a purchaser who receives from the broker-dealer a copy of this Prospectus;
- the date on which an Original Note has been effectively registered under the Securities Act and disposed of in accordance with a shelf registration statement; or
- the date on which an Original Note is distributed to the public pursuant to Rule 144 under the Securities Act.

Under existing Commission interpretations, the Exchange Notes would, in general, be freely transferable after the Exchange Offer without further registration under the Securities Act. In the case of broker-dealers participating in the Exchange Offer, a prospectus meeting the requirements of the Securities Act must be delivered upon resale of the Exchange Notes by the broker-dealer. For 180 days after consummation of the Exchange Offer, we have agreed to make available a prospectus meeting the requirements of the Securities Act to any broker-dealer for use in connection with any resale of any Exchange Notes acquired in the Exchange Offer. A broker-dealer which delivers a prospectus to purchasers in connection with resales will be subject to certain of the civil liability provisions under the Securities Act and will be bound by the provisions of the Registration Rights Agreement (including certain indemnification rights and obligations).

Each holder of the Original Notes who wishes to receive Exchange Notes in the Exchange Offer will be required to make the following representations:

 any Exchange Notes to be received by the holder will be acquired in the ordinary course of its business;

- the holder has no arrangement with any person to participate in the distribution of the Exchange Notes; and
- the holder is not an "affiliate," as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act, of the Company or, if it is an affiliate, it will comply with the registration and prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act to the extent applicable.

If the holder is not a broker-dealer, it will also be required to represent that it is not engaged in, and does not intend to engage in, the distribution of the Exchange Notes. If the holder is a broker-dealer that will receive Exchange Notes for its own account in exchange for Original Notes that were acquired as a result of market-making activities or other trading activities, it will be required to acknowledge that it will deliver a prospectus in connection with any resale of such Exchange Notes.

Unless the Exchange Offer would not be permitted by applicable law or Commission policy, we have agreed to use our reasonable best efforts to have the Registration Statement of which this Prospectus is a part declared effective by the Commission on or prior to 270 days after the closing of the offering of the Original Notes. We will commence the Exchange Offer and use reasonable best efforts to issue, on or prior to 30 business days after the date on which the Exchange Offer registration statement was declared effective by the Commission, Exchange Notes in exchange for all Original Notes tendered prior thereto in the Exchange Offer. If necessary, the Company will file a shelf registration statement prior to 30 days after such filing obligation arises and to cause the shelf registration statement to be declared effective by the Commission on or prior to 90 days after such obligation arises. The Company will use its reasonable best efforts to keep any shelf registration statement continuously effective, supplemented and amended until the second anniversary of the closing of the offering of the Original Notes or such shorter period that will terminate when all the Transfer Restricted Notes covered by the shelf registration statement have been sold pursuant thereto

CONSEQUENCES OF FAILURE TO EXCHANGE

The Original Notes which are not exchanged for Exchange Notes pursuant to the Exchange Offer and are not included in a resale prospectus will remain Transfer Restricted Notes. Transfer Restricted Notes may be offered, sold or otherwise transferred prior to the date which is two years after the later of the date of original issue and the last date that the Company or any affiliate of the Company was the owner of the Transfer Restricted Notes (or any predecessor thereto) (the "Resale Restriction Termination Date") only (a) to the Company, (b) pursuant to a registration statement which has been declared effective under the Securities Act, (c) for so long as the Original Notes are eligible for resale pursuant to Rule 144A, to a person the owner reasonably believes is a qualified institutional buyer that purchases for its own account or for the account of a qualified institutional buyer to whom notice is given that the transfer is being made in reliance to Rule 144A, (d) to an "accredited investor" within the meaning of subparagraph (1), (2), (3) or (7) of paragraph (a) of Rule 501 under the Securities Act that is purchasing for his own account or for the account of such an "accredited investor" in each case in a minimum of Original Notes with a purchase price of \$500,000, or (c) pursuant to any other available exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act, subject in each of the foregoing cases to any requirement of law that the disposition of its property or the property of such investor account or accounts be at all times within its or their control. These restrictions on resale will not apply after the Resale Restriction Termination Date. If any resale or other transfer of the Original Notes is proposed to be made pursuant to clause (d) above prior to the Resale Restriction Termination Date, the transferor shall deliver a letter from the transferee to the Company and the Trustee, which shall provide, among other things, that the transferee is an "accredited investor" within the meaning of subparagraph (1), (2), (3) or (7) of paragraph (a) of Rule 501 under the Securities Act and that it is acquiring the Original Notes for investment purposes and not for distribution in violation of the Securities Act. Prior to any offer, sale or other transfer of Original Notes prior to the Resale Restriction Termination Date pursuant to clauses (d) or (e) above, the issuer and the Trustee may require the delivery of an opinion of counsel, certifications and/or other information satisfactory to each of them.

TERMS OF THE EXCHANGE OFFER

Upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in this Prospectus and in the Letter of Transmittal, the Company will accept any and all Original Notes validly tendered and not withdrawn prior to the Expiration Date. The Company will issue \$1,000 principal amount of Exchange Notes in exchange for each \$1,000 principal amount of Original Notes accepted in the Exchange Offer. Holders may tender some or all of their Original Notes pursuant to the Exchange Offer. However, Original Notes may be tendered only in integral multiples of \$1,000 principal amount.

The form and terms of the Exchange Notes are the same as the form and terms of the Original Notes, except that (i) the Exchange Notes have been registered under the Securities Act and therefore will not bear legends restricting their transfer pursuant to the Securities Act, and (ii) the holders of Exchange Notes will not be entitled to rights under the Registration Rights Agreement (except under certain limited circumstances). The Exchange Notes will evidence the same debt as the Original Notes (which they replace), and will be issued under, and be entitled to the benefits of, the Indenture.

Solely for reasons of administration (and for no other purpose) the Company has fixed the close of business on , 1999 as the record date for the Exchange Offer for purposes of determining the persons to whom this Prospectus and the Letter of Transmittal will be mailed initially. Only a registered holder of Original Notes (or the holder's legal representative or attorney-in-fact) as reflected on the records of the Trustee under the Indenture may participate in the Exchange Offer. There will be no fixed record date for determining registered holders of the Original Notes entitled to participate in the Exchange Offer.

Holders of the Original Notes do not have any appraisal or dissenters' rights under the General Corporation Law of Ohio or under the Indenture in connection with the Exchange Offer. The Company intends to conduct the Exchange Offer in accordance with the applicable requirements of the Exchange Act and the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder.

The Company shall be deemed to have accepted validly tendered Original Notes when, as and if it has given oral or written notice thereof to the Exchange Agent. The Exchange Agent will act as agent for the tendering holders of the Original Notes for purposes of receiving the Exchange Notes.

If any tendered Original Notes are not accepted for exchange because of an invalid tender, the occurrence of certain other events set forth herein or otherwise, certificates for any such unaccepted Original Notes will be returned without expense to the tendering holder thereof as promptly as practicable after the Expiration Date.

Holders who tender Original Notes in the Exchange Offer will not be required to pay brokerage commissions or fees or, subject to the instructions in the Letter of Transmittal, transfer taxes with respect to the exchange of the Original Notes pursuant to the Exchange Offer. We will pay all charges and expenses, other than certain applicable taxes, in connection with the Exchange Offer. See "-- Fees and Expenses."

EXPIRATION DATE; EXTENSION; AMENDMENTS

The term "Expiration Date" means 5:00 p.m., New York City time on , 1999, unless the Company extends the Exchange Offer, in which case the term "Expiration Date" shall mean the latest date and time to which such Exchange Offer is extended.

In order to extend the Exchange Offer, the Company will notify the Exchange Agent of any extension by oral or written notice and will make a public announcement thereof, prior to 9:00 a.m., New York City time, on the next Business Day after the previously scheduled Expiration Date.

We reserve the right, in our sole discretion, (i) to delay accepting any Original Notes, (ii) extend the Exchange Offer, (iii) if the condition set forth below under "-- Conditions of the Exchange Offer" shall not have been satisfied, to terminate the Exchange Offer, by giving oral or written notice of such delay, extension or termination to the Exchange Agent, or (iv) to amend the terms of the Exchange Offer in any manner. Any delay in acceptance,

extension, termination or amendment will be followed as promptly as practicable by a public announcement. If we determine that the Exchange Offer is amended in a manner that would constitute a material change, we will promptly disclose such amendment by means of a prospectus supplement that will be distributed to the registered holders of the Original Notes, and the Exchange Offer will be extended for a period of five to ten business days, as required by law, depending upon the significance of the amendment and the manner of disclosure to the registered holders, if the Exchange Offer would otherwise expire during such five to ten business day period.

Without limiting the manner in which we may choose to make public announcement of any delay, extension, termination or amendment of its Exchange Offer, we shall not have an obligation to publish, advertise, or otherwise communicate any such public announcement, other than by making a timely release thereof to the Dow Jones News Service.

PROCEDURES FOR TENDERING

Only a registered holder of Original Notes may tender such Original Notes in the Exchange Offer. To tender in the Exchange Offer, a holder must complete, sign and date the Letter of Transmittal, have the signatures thereon guaranteed if required by the Letter of Transmittal, and mail or otherwise deliver the Letter of Transmittal to the Exchange Agent at the address set forth below under " -- Exchange Agent" for receipt prior to the Expiration Date. In addition, either (i) certificates for the Original Notes must be received by the Exchange Agent along with the Letter of Transmittal, or (ii) a timely confirmation of a book-entry transfer (a "Book-Entry Confirmation") of such Original Notes into the Exchange Agent's account at The Depository Trust Company (the "Book-Entry Transfer Facility") pursuant to the procedure for book-entry transfer described below, must be received by the Exchange Agent prior to the Expiration Date, or (iii) the holder must comply with the guaranteed delivery procedures described below. To be tendered effectively, the Letter of Transmittal and all other required documents must be received by the Exchange Agent at the address set forth below under " -- Exchange Agent" prior to the Expiration Date.

The tender by a holder will constitute an agreement between the holder and us in accordance with the terms and subject to the conditions set forth herein and in the Letter of Transmittal applicable to such Exchange Offer.

THE METHOD OF DELIVERY OF THE ORIGINAL NOTES AND THE LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL AND ALL OTHER DOCUMENTS TO BE DELIVERED TO THE EXCHANGE AGENT IS AT THE ELECTION AND RISK OF THE HOLDER. INSTEAD OF DELIVERY BY MAIL, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT HOLDERS USE AN OVERNIGHT OR HAND DELIVERY SERVICE. IN ALL CASES, SUFFICIENT TIME SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO ASSURE DELIVERY TO THE EXCHANGE AGENT BEFORE THE APPLICABLE EXPIRATION DATE. NO LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL OR ORIGINAL NOTES SHOULD BE SENT TO THE COMPANY. HOLDERS MAY REQUEST THEIR RESPECTIVE BROKERS, DEALERS, COMMERCIAL BANKS, TRUST COMPANIES OR NOMINEES TO EFFECT THE ABOVE TRANSACTIONS FOR SUCH HOLDERS.

Any beneficial owner whose Original Notes are registered in the name of a broker, dealer, commercial bank, trust company or other nominee and who wishes to tender should contact the registered holder promptly and instruct the registered holder to tender on the beneficial owner's behalf. If the beneficial owner wishes to tender on the owner's behalf, the owner must, prior to completing and executing the Letter of Transmittal and delivering the owner's Original Notes, either make appropriate arrangements to register ownership of the Original Notes in the beneficial owner's name or obtain a properly completed bond power from the registered holder. The transfer of registered ownership may take considerable time.

Signatures on a Letter of Transmittal or a notice of withdrawal, as the case may be, must be guaranteed by an Eligible Institution (as defined below) unless the Original Notes tendered pursuant thereto are tendered (i) by a registered holder who has not completed the box entitled "Special Delivery Instructions" on the Letter of Transmittal designated for such Original Discount Notes, or (ii) for the account of an Eligible Institution. In the event that signatures on a Letter of Transmittal or a notice of withdrawal, as the case may be, are required to be

guaranteed, such guarantee must be by a participant in a recognized signature guarantee program within the meaning of Rule 17Ad-15 under the Exchange Act (an "Eligible Institution").

If a Letter of Transmittal is signed by a person other than the registered holder of any Original Notes listed therein, such Original Notes must be endorsed or accompanied by a properly completed bond power, signed by such registered holder as such registered holder's name appears on such Original Notes, with signature guaranteed by an Eligible Institution.

If a Letter of Transmittal or any Original Notes or bond powers are signed by trustees, executors, administrators, guardians, attorneys-in-fact, officers of corporations or others acting in a fiduciary or representative capacity, such persons should indicate their status when signing, and evidence satisfactory to the Company, as applicable, of their authority to so act must be submitted with the Letter of Transmittal designated for such Original Notes.

All questions as to the validity, form, eligibility (including time of receipt), acceptance and withdrawal of tendered Original Notes will be determined by us in our sole discretion, which determination will be final and binding. We reserve the absolute right to reject any and all Original Notes not properly tendered or any Original Notes the acceptance of which would, in the opinion of our counsel, be unlawful. We also reserve the right to waive any defects, irregularities or conditions of tender as to particular Original Notes. The interpretation of the terms and conditions of the Exchange Offer (including the instructions in the Letter of Transmittal) by us will be final and binding on all parties. Unless waived, any defects or irregularities in connection with tenders of Original Notes must be cured within such time as we shall determine. Although we intend to notify holders of defects or irregularities with respect to tenders of Original Notes issued by them, neither we, the Exchange Agent nor any other person shall incur any liability for failure to give such notification. Tenders of Original Notes will not be deemed to have been made until such defects or irregularities have been cured or waived. Any Original Notes received by the Exchange Agent that are not validly tendered and as to which the defects or irregularities have not been cured or waived, or if Original Notes are submitted in a principal amount greater than the principal amount of Original Notes being tendered by such tendering holder, such unaccepted or non-exchanged Original Notes will be returned by the Exchange Agent to the tendering holders (or, in the case of Original Notes tendered by book-entry transfer into the Exchange Agent's account at the Book-Entry Transfer Facility pursuant to the book-entry transfer procedures described below, such unaccepted or non-exchanged Original Notes will be credited to an account maintained with such Book-Entry Transfer Facility), unless otherwise provided in the Letter of Transmittal designated for such Original Notes, as soon as practicable following the applicable Expiration Date.

By tendering Original Notes in the Exchange Offer, each registered holder will represent to us that, among other things:

- the Exchange Notes to be acquired by the holder and any beneficial owner(s) of such Original Notes ("Beneficial Owner(s)") in connection with the Exchange Offer are being acquired by the holder and any Beneficial Owner(s) in the ordinary course of business of the holder and any Beneficial Owner(s) for the holder's own account, for investment and not with a view to or for sale in connection with any distribution of the Exchange Notes;
- the holder and each Beneficial Owner are not participating, do not intend to participate, and have no arrangement or understanding with any person to participate, in a distribution of the Exchange Notes;
- the holder and each Beneficial Owner acknowledge and agree that

 (x) any person participating in an Exchange Offer for the purpose
 of distributing the Exchange Notes must comply with the
 registration and prospectus delivery requirements of the
 Securities Act in connection with a secondary resale transaction
 with respect to the Exchange Notes acquired by such person and
 cannot rely on the position of the staff of the Commission set
 forth in no-action letters that are discussed herein under " -Resales of the Exchange Notes," and (y) any broker-dealer that
 receives Exchange Notes for its own account in exchange for
 Original Notes pursuant to an Exchange Offer, where such Original
 Notes were acquired by such broker-dealer as a result of
 market-making activities or other trading activities, must
 deliver a prospectus in connection with any resale of such
 Exchange Notes (see "Plan of

- Distribution") but by so acknowledging, the holder shall not be deemed to admit that, by delivering a prospectus, it is an "underwriter" within the meaning of the Securities Act;
- neither the holder nor any Beneficial Owner is an "affiliate," as defined in Rule 405 under the Securities Act, of the Company except as otherwise disclosed to us in writing; and
- the holder and each Beneficial Owner understands that a secondary resale transaction described in the third clause above should be covered by an effective registration statement containing the selling securityholder information required by Item 507 of Regulation S-K of the Commission.

BOOK-ENTRY TRANSFER

The Exchange Agent will make a request to establish an account with respect to the Original Notes at the Book-Entry Transfer Facility, for purposes of the Exchange Offer, within two business days after the date of this Prospectus, and any financial institution that is a participant in the Book-Entry Transfer Facility's system may make book-entry delivery of Original Notes by causing the Book-Entry Transfer Facility to transfer such Original Notes into the Exchange Agent's account at the Book-Entry Transfer Facility in accordance with such Book-Entry Transfer Facility's procedures for transfer. However, although delivery of Original Notes may be effected through book-entry transfer at the Book-Entry Transfer Facility, the Letter of Transmittal, with any required signature guarantees and any other documents, must be transmitted to and received by the Exchange Agent at the address set forth below under " -- Exchange Agent" on or prior to the Expiration Date or the guaranteed delivery procedures described below must be complied with.

GUARANTEED DELIVERY PROCEDURES

Holders who wish to tender their Original Notes and (x) whose Original Notes are not immediately available, or (y) who cannot deliver their Original Notes, the Letter of Transmittal or any other required documents to the Exchange Agent prior to the applicable Expiration Date, may effect a tender if:

- the tender is made through an Eligible Institution;
- prior to the applicable Expiration Date, the Exchange Agent receives from such Eligible Institution a properly completed and duly executed Notice of Guaranteed Delivery (by mail, hand delivery or facsimile transmission) setting forth the name and address of the Holder, the certificate number(s) of such Original Notes and the principal amount of the Original Notes being tendered, stating that the tender is being made thereby and guaranteeing that, within five business days after the applicable Expiration Date, the applicable Letter of Transmittal together with the certificate(s) representing the Original Notes (or a Book-Entry Confirmation) and any other documents required by the applicable Letter of Transmittal will be delivered by the Eligible Institution to the Exchange Agent; and
- such properly completed and executed Letter of Transmittal, as well as the certificate(s) representing all tendered Original Notes in proper form for transfer (or a Book-Entry Confirmation) and all other documents required by the Letter of Transmittal are received by the Exchange Agent within five business days after the applicable Expiration Date.

WITHDRAWAL OF TENDERS

Except as otherwise provided herein, tenders of Original Notes pursuant to an Exchange Offer may be withdrawn at any time prior to the Expiration Date.

To be effective, a written or facsimile transmission notice of withdrawal must be received by the Exchange Agent at its address prior to the Expiration Date. Any notice of withdrawal must:

- specify the name of the person who deposited the Original Notes to be withdrawn (the "Depositor");

- identify the Original Notes to be withdrawn (including the certificate number or numbers and aggregate principal amount of such Original Notes); and
- be signed by the holder in the same manner as the original signature on the applicable Letter of Transmittal (including any required signature guarantees).

We will determine all questions as to the validity, form and eligibility (including time of receipt) of notices of withdrawal in our sole discretion, which determination shall be final and binding on all parties. Any Original Notes so withdrawn will be deemed not to have been validly tendered for purposes of the Exchange Offer and no Exchange Notes will be issued with respect thereto unless the Original Notes so withdrawn are retendered. Properly withdrawn Original Notes may be retendered by following one of the procedures described above under " -- Procedures for Tendering" at any time prior to the applicable Expiration Date.

Any Original Notes which have been tendered but which are not accepted for exchange due to the rejection of the tender due to uncured defects or the prior termination of the Exchange Offer, or which have been validly withdrawn, will be returned to the holder thereof (unless otherwise provided in the Letter of Transmittal), as soon as possible following the Expiration Date or, if so requested in the notice of withdrawal, promptly after receipt by the issuer of the Original Notes of notice of withdrawal without cost to such holder.

CONDITIONS OF THE EXCHANGE OFFER

The Exchange Offer is subject to the condition that the Exchange Offer, or the making of any exchange by a holder, does not violate applicable law or any applicable interpretation of the staff of the Commission. If there has been a change in Commission policy such that there is a substantial question whether the Exchange Offer is permitted by applicable federal law, we have agreed to seek a no-action letter or other favorable decision from the Commission allowing us to consummate the Exchange Offer.

If we determine that the Exchange Offer is not permitted by applicable Federal law, we may terminate the Exchange Offer. In connection therewith we may:

- refuse to accept any Original Notes and return any Original Notes that have been tendered by the holders thereof;
- extend the Exchange Offer and retain all Original Notes tendered prior to the Expiration Date of the Exchange Offer, subject to the rights of such holders of tendered Original Notes to withdraw their tendered Original Notes; or
- waive such termination event with respect to the Exchange Offer and accept all properly tendered Original Notes that have not been withdrawn.

If such waiver constitutes a material change in the Exchange Offer, we will disclose such change by means of a supplement to this Prospectus that will be distributed to each registered holder of Original Notes, and we will extend the Exchange Offer for a period of five to ten business days, depending upon the significance of the waiver and the manner of disclosure to the registered holders of the Original Notes, if the Exchange Offer would otherwise expire during such period.

EXCHANGE AGENT

State Street Bank and Trust Company has been appointed as "Exchange Agent" for the Exchange Offer. Questions and requests for assistance, requests for additional copies of the Prospectus or of the Letter of Transmittal and other documents should be directed to the Exchange Agent addressed as follows:

By Registered or Certified Mail or Hand or Overnight Delivery:

State Street Bank and Trust Company
Two International Place
Fourth Floor
Boston, MA 02110
Attention: ______, Corporate Trust Department

Facsimile Transmissions: 617-664-3290 Confirm by Telephone: 617-664-5587 (ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS ONLY)

Delivery to other than the above addresses or facsimile numbers will not constitute a valid delivery.

FEES AND EXPENSES

We will bear the expenses of soliciting tenders. The principal solicitation is being made by mail; however, additional solicitation may be made by telegraph, telephone or in person by officers and regular employees of the Company and its affiliates.

No dealer-manager has been retained in connection with the Exchange Offer and no payments will be made to brokers, dealers or others soliciting acceptance of the Exchange Offer. However, reasonable and customary fees will be paid to the Exchange Agent for its service and it will be reimbursed for its reasonable out-of-pocket expenses in connection therewith.

The cash expenses to be incurred in connection with the Exchange Offer will be paid by the Company and are estimated in the aggregate to be approximately \$. Such expenses include fees and expenses of the Exchange Agent and the Trustee under the Indenture, accounting and legal fees and printing costs, among others. We will pay all transfer taxes, if any, applicable to the exchange of the Original Notes pursuant to the Exchange Offer. If, however, a transfer tax is imposed for any reason other than the exchange of the Original Notes pursuant to the Exchange Offer, then the amount of any such transfer taxes (whether imposed on the registered holder or any other persons) will be payable by the tendering holder. If satisfactory evidence of payment of such taxes or exemption therefrom is not submitted with the Letter of Transmittal, the amount of such transfer taxes will be billed directly to such tendering holder.

ACCOUNTING TREATMENT

The carrying values of the Original Notes are not expected to be materially different from the fair value of the Exchange Notes at the time of the exchange. Accordingly, no gain or loss for accounting purposes will be recognized. The expenses of the Exchange Offer will be amortized over the term of the Exchange Notes.

RESALES OF THE EXCHANGE NOTES; PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

Based on no-action letters issued by the staff of the Commission to third parties and provided that the holder is acquiring the Exchange Notes in its ordinary course of business and is not participating, and has no arrangement or understanding with any person to participate, in the distribution of the Exchange Notes, we believe the Exchange Notes issued pursuant to the Exchange Offer in exchange for the Original Notes may be offered for resale, resold and otherwise transferred by any holder thereof , with the following exceptions:

- broker-dealers who purchased Original Notes directly from the Company to resell pursuant to Rule 144A or any other available exemption under the Securities Act, or
- "affiliates" of the Company within the meaning of Rule 405 under the Securities Act) without compliance with the registration and prospectus delivery provisions of the Securities Act.

Holders of Original Notes wishing to accept the Exchange Offer must represent to us that such conditions have been met. In the event that our belief is inaccurate, holders of Exchange Notes who transfer Exchange Notes in violation of the prospectus delivery provisions of the Securities Act and without an exemption from registration thereunder may incur liability under the Securities Act. We do not assume or indemnify holders against such liability.

All resales must be made in compliance with applicable state securities or "blue sky" laws. Such compliance may require that the Exchange Notes be registered or qualified in a particular state or that the resales be made by or through a licensed broker-dealer, unless exemptions from these requirements are available. We assume no responsibility with regard to compliance with such requirements.

EACH AFFILIATE OF THE COMPANY MUST ACKNOWLEDGE THAT SUCH PERSON WILL COMPLY WITH THE REGISTRATION AND PROSPECTUS DELIVERY REQUIREMENTS OF THE SECURITIES ACT TO THE EXTENT APPLICABLE. EACH BROKER-DEALER THAT RECEIVES EXCHANGE NOTES IN EXCHANGE FOR ORIGINAL NOTES HELD FOR ITS OWN ACCOUNT, AS A RESULT OF MARKET-MAKING OR OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES, MUST ACKNOWLEDGE THAT IT WILL DELIVER A PROSPECTUS IN CONNECTION WITH ANY RESALE OF SUCH EXCHANGE NOTES. ALTHOUGH A BROKER-DEALER MAY BE AN "UNDERWRITER" WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE SECURITIES ACT, THE LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL STATES THAT BY SO ACKNOWLEDGING AND BY DELIVERING A PROSPECTUS, A BROKER-DEALER WILL NOT BE DEEMED TO ADMIT THAT IT IS AN "UNDERWRITER" WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE SECURITIES ACT. THIS PROSPECTUS, AS IT MAY BE AMENDED OR SUPPLEMENTED FROM TIME TO TIME, MAY BE USED BY A BROKER-DEALER IN CONNECTION WITH RESALES OF EXCHANGE NOTES RECEIVED IN EXCHANGE FOR ORIGINAL NOTES

OTHER

We may seek to acquire untendered Original Notes, to the extent permitted by applicable law, in open market or privately negotiated transactions, through subsequent exchange offers or otherwise. We have no present plans to acquire any Original Notes that are not tendered in the Exchange Offer or to file a registration statement to permit resales of any untendered Original Notes.

DESCRIPTION OF NOTES

You can find the definitions of certain terms used in this description under the subheading "Certain Definitions." In this description, the word "Company" refers only to The Scotts Company and not to any of its subsidiaries.

The Company issued the Original Notes, and will issue the Exchange Notes, under the Indenture dated as of January 21, 1999 (the "Indenture") among itself, the Guarantors and State Street Bank and Trust Company, as trustee (the "Trustee"). References to the Notes include both the Original Notes and the Exchange Notes. The terms of the Notes include those stated in the Indenture and those made part of the Indenture by reference to the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 (the "Trust Indenture Act").

The following description is a summary of the material provisions of the Indenture and the Registration Rights Agreement, including the definitions therein of certain terms used below. It does not restate those agreements in their entirety. We urge you to read the Indenture and the Registration Rights Agreement because they, and not this description, define your rights as holders of these Notes. Copies of the Indenture and the Registration Rights Agreement are available as set forth below under "Additional Information."

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE NOTES AND THE GUARANTEES

The Notes

The Exchange Notes will be issued solely in exchange for an equal principal amount of Original Notes pursuant to the Exchange Offer. The Exchange Notes will evidence the same debt as the Original Notes and both series of Notes

will be entitled to the benefits of the Indenture and treated as a single class of debt securities. The terms of the Exchange Notes will be the same as the Original Notes, except that:

- the Exchange Notes will be registered under the Securities Act and, therefore, will not bear legends restricting transfer; and
- the Exchange Notes will not be entitled to the benefits of the Registration Rights Agreement.

Holders of Original Notes who do not exchange their Original Notes for Exchange Notes will vote together with holders of the Exchange Notes for all relevant purposes under the Indenture.

All of the Notes:

- are general obligations of the Company;
- are subordinated in right of payment to all existing and future Senior Debt of the Company; and
- are senior in right of payment to any future junior subordinated Indebtedness of the Company.

THE GUARANTEES

These Notes will be guaranteed by all of the existing and future Wholly Owned Domestic Restricted Subsidiaries and Significant Domestic Restricted Subsidiaries of the Company.

The Guarantees of these Notes:

- are general obligations of each Guarantor;
- are subordinated in right of payment to all existing and future Senior Debt of each Guarantor; and
- are senior in right of payment to any future junior subordinated Indebtedness of each Guarantor.

Assuming we had completed the offering of the Original Notes as of April 3, 1999, and that the Transactions and the Credit Facility had been completed on that date, the Company and the Guarantors would have had total Senior Debt of approximately \$_____ million. As indicated above and as discussed in detail below under the subheading "Subordination," payments on the Notes and under the Guarantees will be subordinated to the payment of Senior Debt. The Indenture permits us and the Guarantors to incur additional Senior Debt.

As of the date hereof, all of our subsidiaries are "Restricted Subsidiaries." However, under the circumstances described below under the subheading "Certain Covenants -- Restricted Payments," we are permitted to designate certain of our subsidiaries as "Unrestricted Subsidiaries." Unrestricted Subsidiaries are not subject to many of the restrictive covenants in the Indenture. Unrestricted Subsidiaries will not guarantee these Notes.

Not all of our "Restricted Subsidiaries" guarantee the Notes. In the event of a bankruptcy, liquidation or reorganization of any of these non-guarantor subsidiaries, these non-guarantor subsidiaries will pay the holders of their debt and their trade creditors before they will be able to distribute any of their assets to us. The non-guarantor subsidiaries generated approximately 19% (or 23% on a pro forma basis) of our consolidated revenues for the year ended September 30, 1998 and held approximately 26% (or 25% on a pro forma basis) of our consolidated assets as of September 30, 1998. See note 21 to our Consolidated Financial Statements that are incorporated by reference for more detail about the division of our consolidated revenues and assets between our guarantor and non-guarantor subsidiaries.

PRINCIPAL, MATURITY AND INTEREST

The Indenture provides that the Company may issue Notes with a maximum aggregate principal amount of up to \$400 million, of which \$330 million is represented by the Notes. The Notes are issued only in denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000. The Notes will mature on January 15, 2009.

Interest on the Notes will accrue at the rate of 8.625% per annum and is payable semi-annually in arrears on January 15 and July 15, commencing on July 15, 1999. The Company will make each interest payment to the Holders of record of the Notes on the immediately preceding January 1 and July 1.

Interest on the Notes will accrue from the date of original issuance or, if interest has already been paid, from the date it was most recently paid. Interest will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year comprised of twelve 30-day months.

METHODS OF RECEIVING PAYMENTS ON THE NOTES

If a Holder has given wire transfer instructions to the Company, the Company will make all principal, premium and interest and Liquidated Damages, if any, payments on the Notes owned by such Holder in accordance with those instructions. All other payments on these Notes will be made at the office or agency of the Paying Agent and Registrar within the City and State of New York unless the Company elects to make interest payments by check mailed to the Holders at their address set forth in the register of Holders.

PAYING AGENT AND REGISTRAR FOR THE NOTES

The Trustee is currently the Paying Agent and Registrar. The Company may change the Paying Agent or Registrar without prior notice to the Holders of the Notes, and the Company or any of its Subsidiaries may act as Paying Agent or Registrar.

TRANSFER AND EXCHANGE

A Holder may transfer or exchange Notes in accordance with the Indenture. The Registrar and the Trustee may require a Holder, among other things, to furnish appropriate endorsements and transfer documents and the Company may require a Holder to pay any taxes and fees required by law or permitted by the Indenture. The Company is not required to transfer or exchange any Note selected for redemption. Also, the Company is not required to transfer or exchange any Note for a period of 15 days before a selection of Notes to be redeemed.

The registered Holder of a Note will be treated as the owner of it for all purposes.

SUBSIDIARY GUARANTEES

The Guarantors jointly and severally guarantee the Company's obligations under the Notes. Each Subsidiary Guarantee is subordinated to the prior payment in full of all Senior Debt of that Guarantor. The obligations of each Guarantor under its Subsidiary Guarantee are limited as necessary to prevent that Subsidiary Guarantee from constituting a fraudulent conveyance under applicable law. See "Risk Factors -- Fraudulent Conveyance Matters."

A Guarantor may not sell or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of its assets, or consolidate with or merge with or into (whether or not such Guarantor is the surviving Person), another Person unless:

 immediately after giving effect to that transaction, no Default or Event of Default exists; and

(2) either:

- (a) the Person acquiring the property in any such sale or disposition or the Person formed by or surviving any such consolidation or merger assumes all the obligations of that Guarantor under its Subsidiary Guarantee pursuant to a supplemental indenture satisfactory to the Trustee; or
- (b) the Net Proceeds of such sale or other disposition are applied in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Indenture.

The Subsidiary Guarantee of a Guarantor will be released:

- (1) in connection with any sale or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of that Guarantor (including by way of merger or consolidation), if the Company applies the Net Proceeds of that sale or other disposition, in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Indenture; or
- (2) in connection with any sale of all of the capital stock of a Guarantor, if the Company applies the Net Proceeds of that sale in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Indenture; or
- (3) if the Company designates any Restricted Subsidiary that is a Guarantor as an Unrestricted Subsidiary.

See "Repurchase at the Option of Holders -- Asset Sales."

Notwithstanding the foregoing, any Guarantor may sell or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of its assets to, or consolidate with or merge into, the Company or another Guarantor, upon the consummation of which the Subsidiary Guarantee of such Guarantor shall be released.

SUBORDINATION

The payment of principal, premium, interest and Liquidated Damages, if any, on the Notes will be subordinated to the prior payment in full of all Senior Debt of the Company.

The holders of Senior Debt will be entitled to receive payment in full of all Obligations due in respect of Senior Debt (including interest after the commencement of any such proceeding at the rate specified in the applicable Senior Debt) before the Holders of Notes will be entitled to receive any payment with respect to the Notes (except that Holders of Notes may receive and retain Permitted Junior Securities and payments made from the trust described under "Legal Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance"), in the event of any distribution to creditors of the Company:

- (1) in a liquidation or dissolution of the Company;
- (2) in a bankruptcy, reorganization, insolvency, receivership or similar proceeding relating to the Company or its property;
- (3) in an assignment for the benefit of creditors; or
- (4) in any marshaling of the Company's assets and liabilities.

The Company also may not make any payment in respect of the Notes (except in Permitted Junior Securities or from the trust described under " -- Legal Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance") if:

 payment default on Designated Senior Debt occurs and is continuing beyond any applicable grace period; or (2) any other default occurs and is continuing on Designated Senior Debt that permits holders of the Designated Senior Debt to accelerate its maturity and the Trustee receives a notice of such default (a "Payment Blockage Notice") from the Company or the holders of any Designated Senior Debt.

Payments on the Notes may and shall be resumed:

- in the case of a payment default, upon the date on which such default is cured or waived; and
- (2) in case of a nonpayment default, the earlier of the date on which such nonpayment default is cured or waived or 179 days after the date on which the applicable Payment Blockage Notice is received, unless the maturity of any Designated Senior Debt has been accelerated.

No new Payment Blockage Notice may be delivered unless and until:

- (1) 360 days have elapsed since the effectiveness of the immediately prior Payment Blockage Notice; and
- (2) all scheduled payments of principal, premium and interest and Liquidated Damages, if any, on the Notes that have come due have been paid in full in cash.

No nonpayment default that existed or was continuing on the date of delivery of any Payment Blockage Notice to the Trustee shall be, or be made, the basis for a subsequent Payment Blockage Notice unless such default shall have been cured or waived for a period of not less than 180 days.

The Company must promptly notify holders of Senior Debt if payment of the Notes is accelerated because of an Event of Default.

As a result of the subordination provisions described above, in the event of a bankruptcy, liquidation or reorganization of the Company, Holders of these Notes may recover less ratably than creditors of the Company who are holders of Senior Debt. See "Risk Factors -- Subordination."

OPTIONAL REDEMPTION

During the first 36 months after the Issue Date, the Company may on any one or more occasions redeem up to 35% of the aggregate principal amount of Notes originally issued under the Indenture at a redemption price of 108.625% of the principal amount thereof, plus accrued and unpaid interest and Liquidated Damages, if any, to the redemption date, with the net cash proceeds of one or more public equity offerings; provided that:

- (1) at least 65% of the aggregate principal amount of Notes remains outstanding immediately after the occurrence of such redemption (excluding Notes held by the Company and its Subsidiaries); and
- (2) the redemption must occur within 90 days of the date of the closing of the public equity offering.

Except pursuant to the preceding paragraph, the Notes will not be redeemable at the Company's option prior to January 15, 2004.

After January 15, 2004, the Company may redeem all or a part of these Notes upon not less than 30 nor more than 60 days' notice, at the redemption prices (expressed as percentages of principal amount) set forth below plus accrued and unpaid interest thereon, if any, to the applicable redemption date, if redeemed during the twelve-month period beginning on January 15 of the years indicated below:

Year	Percentage
2004	104.313%
2005	102.875%
2006	101.438%
2007 and thereafter	100.00%

MANDATORY REDEMPTION

The Company is not required to make mandatory redemption or sinking fund payments with respect to the Notes.

REPURCHASE AT THE OPTION OF HOLDERS

CHANGE OF CONTROL

If a Change of Control occurs, each Holder of Notes will have the right to require the Company to repurchase all or any part (equal to \$1,000 or an integral multiple thereof) of that Holder's Notes pursuant to the Change of Control Offer. In the Change of Control Offer, the Company will offer a Change of Control Payment in cash equal to 101% of the aggregate principal amount of Notes repurchased plus accrued and unpaid interest and Liquidated Damages thereon, if any, to the date of purchase. Within 30 days following any Change of Control, the Company will mail a notice to each Holder describing the transaction or transactions that constitute the Change of Control and offering to repurchase Notes on the Change of Control Payment Date specified in such notice, pursuant to the procedures required by the Indenture and described in such notice. The Company will comply with the requirements of Rule 14e-1 under the Exchange Act and any other securities laws and regulations thereunder to the extent such laws and regulations are applicable in connection with the repurchase of the Notes as a result of a Change of Control.

On the Change of Control Payment Date, the Company will, to the extent lawful:

- accept for payment all Notes or portions thereof properly tendered pursuant to the Change of Control Offer;
- (2) deposit with the Paying Agent an amount equal to the Change of Control Payment in respect of all Notes or portions thereof so tendered; and
- (3) deliver or cause to be delivered to the Trustee the Notes so accepted together with an Officers' Certificate stating the aggregate principal amount of Notes or portions thereof being purchased by the Company.

The Paying Agent will promptly mail to each Holder of Notes so tendered the Change of Control Payment for such Notes, and the Trustee will promptly authenticate and mail (or cause to be transferred by book entry) to each Holder a new Note equal in principal amount to any unpurchased portion of the Notes surrendered, if any; provided that each such new Note will be in a principal amount of \$1,000 or an integral multiple thereof.

Prior to complying with any of the provisions of this "Change of Control" covenant, but in any event within 90 days following a Change of Control, the Company will either repay all outstanding Senior Debt or obtain the requisite consents, if any, under all agreements governing outstanding Senior Debt to permit the repurchase of Notes required by this covenant. The Company will publicly announce the results of the Change of Control Offer on or as soon as practicable after the Change of Control Payment Date.

The provisions described above that require the Company to make a Change of Control Offer following a Change of Control will be applicable regardless of whether or not any other provisions of the Indenture are applicable. Except as described above with respect to a Change of Control, the Indenture does not contain provisions that permit the Holders of the Notes to require that the Company repurchase or redeem the Notes in the event of a takeover, recapitalization or similar transaction.

The Company's outstanding Senior Debt currently prohibits the Company from purchasing any Notes, and also provides that certain change of control events with respect to the Company would constitute a default under the agreements governing the Senior Debt. Any future credit agreements or other agreements relating to Senior Debt to which the Company becomes a party may contain similar restrictions and provisions. In the event a Change of Control occurs at a time when the Company is prohibited from purchasing Notes, the Company could seek the consent of its senior lenders to the purchase of Notes or could attempt to refinance the borrowings that contain such prohibition. If the Company does not obtain such a consent or repay such borrowings, the Company will remain prohibited from purchasing Notes. In such case, the Company's failure to purchase tendered Notes would constitute an Event of Default under the Indenture which would, in turn, likely constitute a default under such Senior Debt. In such circumstances, the subordination provisions in the Indenture would likely restrict payments to the Holders of Notes.

The Company will not be required to make a Change of Control Offer upon a Change of Control if a third party makes the Change of Control Offer in the manner, at the times and otherwise in compliance with the requirements set forth in the Indenture applicable to a Change of Control Offer made by the Company and purchases all Notes validly tendered and not withdrawn under such Change of Control Offer.

The definition of Change of Control includes a phrase relating to the sale, lease, transfer, conveyance or other disposition of "all or substantially all" of the assets of the Company and its Subsidiaries taken as a whole. Although there is a limited body of case law interpreting the phrase "substantially all," there is no precise established definition of the phrase under applicable law. Accordingly, the ability of a Holder of Notes to require the Company to repurchase such Notes as a result of a sale, lease, transfer, conveyance or other disposition of less than all of the assets of the Company and its Subsidiaries taken as a whole to another Person or group may be uncertain.

ASSET SALES

The Company will not, and will not permit any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to, consummate an Asset Sale unless:

(1) the Company (or the Restricted Subsidiary, as the case may be) receives consideration at the time of such Asset Sale at least equal to the fair market value of the assets or Equity Interests issued or sold or otherwise disposed of, as determined in good faith by the Company's Board of Directors; and

(2) either:

- (a) the Company (or the Restricted Subsidiary, as the case may be) issues Equity Interests or transfers assets in an exchange in connection with which the Company receives an opinion of counsel that such exchange should qualify under the provisions of Section 351 or Section 368 of the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended; or
- (b) at least 75% of the consideration therefor received by the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary is in the form of cash or Cash Equivalents. For purposes of this provision, each of the following shall be deemed to be cash:
- (i) any liabilities (as shown on the Company's or such Restricted Subsidiary's most recent balance sheet) of the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary (other than contingent liabilities and liabilities that are by their terms subordinated to the Notes or any Subsidiary Guarantee) that are assumed by the transferee of any such assets; and
 - (ii) any securities, notes or other obligations received by the Company or any such Restricted Subsidiary from such transferee that within 90 days are converted by the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary into cash (to the extent of the cash received in that conversion).

Within 360 days after the receipt of any Net Proceeds from an Asset Sale, the Company may apply such Net Proceeds at its option:

- to repay Senior Debt (and to effect a corresponding commitment reduction if such Senior Debt is revolving credit borrowings);
- (2) to acquire all or substantially all of the assets of, or a majority of the Voting Stock of, another Related Business;
- (3) to make a capital expenditure; and/or
- (4) to acquire other long-term assets that are used or useful in a Related Business.

Pending the final application of any such Net Proceeds, the Company may temporarily reduce revolving credit borrowings or otherwise invest such Net Proceeds in any manner that is not prohibited by the Indenture.

Any Net Proceeds from Asset Sales that are not applied or invested as provided in the preceding paragraph will constitute Excess Proceeds. When the aggregate amount of Excess Proceeds exceeds \$10.0 million, the Company will make an Asset Sale Offer to all Holders of Notes and all holders of other Indebtedness that is pari passu with the Notes containing provisions similar to those set forth in the Indenture with respect to offers to purchase or redeem with the proceeds of sales of assets to purchase the maximum principal amount of Notes and such other pari passu Indebtedness that may be purchased out of the Excess Proceeds. The offer price in any Asset Sale Offer will be equal to 100% of principal amount plus accrued and unpaid interest and Liquidated Damages, if any, to the date of purchase, and will be payable in cash. If any Excess Proceeds remain after consummation of an Asset Sale Offer, the Company may use such Excess Proceeds for any purpose not otherwise prohibited by the Indenture. If the aggregate principal amount of Notes and such other pari passu Indebtedness tendered into such Asset Sale Offer exceeds the amount of Excess Proceeds, the Trustee shall select the Notes and such other pari passu Indebtedness to be purchased on a pro rata basis as set forth below. Upon completion of each Asset Sale Offer, the amount of Excess Proceeds shall be reset at zero.

SELECTION AND NOTICE

If less than all of the Notes are to be redeemed at any time, the Trustee will select Notes for redemption as follows:

- (1) if the Notes are listed, in compliance with the requirements of the principal national securities exchange on which the Notes are listed; or
- (2) if the Notes are not so listed, on a pro rata basis, by lot or by such method as the Trustee shall deem fair and appropriate.

No Notes of \$1,000 or less shall be redeemed in part. Notices of redemption shall be mailed by first class mail at least 30 but not more than 60 days before the redemption date to each Holder of Notes to be redeemed at its registered address. Notices of redemption may not be conditional.

If any Note is to be redeemed in part only, the notice of redemption that relates to that Note shall state the portion of the principal amount thereof to be redeemed. A new Note in principal amount equal to the unredeemed portion of the original Note will be issued in the name of the Holder thereof upon cancellation of the original Note. Notes called for redemption become due on the date fixed for redemption. On and after the redemption date, interest ceases to accrue on Notes or portions of them called for redemption.

IMPORTANT COVENANTS

RESTRICTED PAYMENTS

The Company will not, and will not permit any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to, directly or indirectly:

- (1) declare or pay any dividend or make any other payment or distribution on account of the Company's Equity Interests (including, without limitation, any payment in connection with any merger or consolidation involving the Company) or to the direct or indirect holders of the Company's Equity Interests in their capacity as such (other than dividends or distributions payable in Equity Interests (other than Disqualified Stock) of the Company);
- (2) purchase, redeem or otherwise acquire or retire for value (including, without limitation, in connection with any merger or consolidation involving the Company) any Equity Interests of the Company or any direct or indirect parent of the Company, in each case held by Persons other than the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company;
- (3) make any payment on or with respect to, or purchase, redeem, defease or otherwise acquire or retire for value any Indebtedness that is subordinated to the Notes or the Subsidiary Guarantees, except a payment of interest or principal at the Stated Maturity thereof; or
- (4) make any Restricted Investment (all such payments and other actions set forth in clauses (1) through (4) above being collectively referred to as "Restricted Payments"),

unless, at the time of and after giving effect to such Restricted Payment:

- no Default or Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing or would occur as a consequence thereof; and
- (2) the Company would, at the time of such Restricted Payment and after giving pro forma effect thereto as if such Restricted Payment had been made at the beginning of the applicable four-quarter period, have been permitted to incur at least \$1.00 of additional Indebtedness pursuant to the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio test set forth in the first paragraph of the covenant described below under the caption " --Incurrence of Indebtedness and Issuance of Preferred Stock"; and
- (3) such Restricted Payment, together with the aggregate amount of all other Restricted Payments made by the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries after the date of the Indenture (excluding Restricted Payments permitted by clause (2), (3), (4) or (5) of the next succeeding paragraph), is less than the sum, without duplication, of:
 - (a) 50% of the Consolidated Net Income of the Company for the period (taken as one accounting period) from January 3, 1999 to the end of the Company's most recently ended fiscal quarter for which internal financial statements are available at the time of such Restricted Payment (or, if such Consolidated Net Income for such period is a deficit, less 100% of such deficit); plus
 - (b) 100% of the aggregate net cash proceeds received by the Company since the date of the Indenture as a contribution to its common equity capital or from the issue or sale of Equity Interests of the Company (other than Disqualified Stock) or from the issue or sale of Disqualified Stock or debt securities of the Company that have been converted into or exchanged for such Equity Interests (other than Equity Interests (or Disqualified Stock or debt securities) sold to a Subsidiary of the Company); plus
 - (c) to the extent that any Restricted Investment that was made after the date of the Indenture is sold for cash or otherwise liquidated or repaid for cash, the lesser of (i) the cash return of capital with respect to such Restricted Investment (less the cost of disposition, if any) and (ii) the initial amount of such Restricted Investment; plus
 - (d) \$25 million.

So long as no Default has occurred and is continuing or would be caused thereby, the preceding provision will not prohibit:

- (1) the payment of any dividend within 60 days after the date of declaration thereof, if at said date of declaration such payment would have complied with the provisions of the Indenture;
- (2) the redemption, repurchase, retirement, defeasance or other acquisition (including the payment of any accrued and unpaid interest, premium or consent fee, if any, in connection therewith) of the Company's 9 7/8% Senior Subordinated Notes due 2004 or of any of the Notes or Exchange Notes;
- (3) the redemption, repurchase, retirement, defeasance or other acquisition of any subordinated Indebtedness of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries or any Equity Interests of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries in exchange for, or out of the net cash proceeds of the substantially concurrent sale (other than to a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company) of, Equity Interests of the Company (other than Disqualified Stock); provided that the amount of any such net cash proceeds that are utilized for any such redemption, repurchase, retirement, defeasance or other acquisition shall be excluded from clause (3) (b) of the preceding paragraph;
- (4) the redemption, repurchase, retirement, defeasance or other acquisition of subordinated Indebtedness or Disqualified Stock of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries with the net cash proceeds from an incurrence of Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness;
- (5) the payment of any dividend by the Company to holders of its Class A Convertible Preferred Stock; and
- (6) the repurchase, redemption or other acquisition or retirement for value of any Equity Interests of the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company held by any member of the Company's (or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries') management pursuant to any management equity subscription agreement or stock option agreement; provided that the aggregate price paid for all such repurchased, redeemed, acquired or retired Equity Interests shall not exceed \$5.0 million in any twelve-month period.

The amount of all Restricted Payments (other than cash) shall be the fair market value on the date of the Restricted Payment of the asset(s) or securities proposed to be transferred or issued by the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary, as the case may be, pursuant to the Restricted Payment. The fair market value of any assets or securities that are required to be valued by this covenant shall be determined in good faith by the Board of Directors whose resolution with respect thereto shall be delivered to the Trustee. Not later than the date of making any Restricted Payment other than payments pursuant to paragraphs (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of this covenant, the Company shall deliver to the Trustee an Officers' Certificate stating that such Restricted Payment is permitted and setting forth the basis upon which the calculations required by this "Restricted Payments" covenant were computed.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if any payment is made pursuant to the second paragraph of this covenant and at the time of such payment there was a Default (other than any Default caused thereby) that had occurred and was continuing, then such payment shall not cause a Default under this covenant if the pre-existing Default shall have been cured or waived prior to such Default becoming an Event of Default.

The Board of Directors may designate any Restricted Subsidiary to be an Unrestricted Subsidiary if the designation would not cause a Default. All outstanding Investments owned by the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries in the designated Unrestricted Subsidiary will be treated as an Investment made at the time of the designation and will reduce the amount available for Restricted Payments under the first paragraph of this covenant or Permitted Investments, as applicable. All such outstanding Investments will be treated as Restricted Investments equal to the fair market value of such Investments at the time of the designation. The designation will not be permitted if such Restricted Payment would not be permitted at that time and if such Restricted Subsidiary does not otherwise meet the definition of an Unrestricted Subsidiary. The Board of Directors may redesignate any Unrestricted Subsidiary to be a Restricted Subsidiary if that redesignation would not cause a Default.

The Company will not, and will not permit any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to, directly or indirectly, create, incur, issue, assume, guarantee or otherwise become directly or indirectly liable, contingently or otherwise, with respect to (collectively, "incur") any Indebtedness (including Acquired Debt), and the Company will not issue any Disqualified Stock and will not permit any of its Restricted Subsidiaries that is not a Guarantor to issue any shares of preferred stock; provided, however, that the Company and any Restricted Subsidiary may incur Indebtedness (including Acquired Debt) or issue Disqualified Stock, and the Company's Restricted Subsidiaries may issue preferred stock, if the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio for the Company's most recently ended four full fiscal quarters for which internal financial statements are available immediately preceding the date on which such additional Indebtedness is incurred or such Disqualified Stock or preferred stock is issued would have been at least 2.0 to 1.0, determined on a pro forma basis (including a pro forma application of the net proceeds therefrom) as if the additional Indebtedness had been incurred, or the Disqualified Stock or preferred stock had been issued, as the case may be, at the beginning of such four-quarter period.

The first paragraph of this covenant will not prohibit the incurrence of any of the following items of Indebtedness (collectively, "Permitted Debt"):

- (1) the incurrence by the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries of Indebtedness and letters of credit under the Credit Facility in an aggregate principal amount (with letters of credit being deemed to have a principal amount equal to the maximum potential liability of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries thereunder) not to exceed an amount equal to \$1.125 billion, including all Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness incurred pursuant to clause (5) of this paragraph to refund, refinance or replace any Indebtedness incurred pursuant to this clause (1), less the aggregate amount of all Net Proceeds of Asset Sales applied by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to repay term Indebtedness under the Credit Facility or to reduce commitments with respect to revolving credit borrowings under the Credit Facility pursuant to the covenant described above under the caption "Repurchase at the Option of Holders -- Asset Sales";
- (2) the incurrence by the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries of Existing Indebtedness;
- (3) the incurrence by the Company and the Guarantors of Indebtedness represented by the Notes, the Subsidiary Guarantees, the Exchange Notes and the Guarantees thereof;
- (4) the incurrence by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries of Indebtedness represented by Capital Lease Obligations, mortgage financings or purchase money obligations, in each case, incurred for the purpose of financing all or any part of the purchase price or cost of construction or improvement of property, plant or equipment used in the business of the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary, or in respect of a sale and leaseback transaction, in an aggregate principal amount, including all Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness incurred pursuant to clause (5) of this paragraph to refund, refinance or replace any Indebtedness incurred pursuant to this clause (4), not to exceed \$20.0 million at any time outstanding;
- (5) the incurrence by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries of Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness in exchange for, or the net proceeds of which are used to refund, refinance or replace, Indebtedness (other than intercompany Indebtedness) that is either Existing Indebtedness or that was permitted to be incurred by the Indenture;
- (6) the incurrence by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries of intercompany Indebtedness between or among the Company and any of its Restricted Subsidiaries; provided, however, that:
 - (a) if the Company or any Guarantor is the obligor on such Indebtedness, and such Indebtedness is held by a Restricted Subsidiary that is not a Guarantor, such Indebtedness must be expressly subordinated

to the prior payment in full in cash of all Obligations with respect to the Notes, in the case of the Company, or the Subsidiary Guarantee of such Guarantor, in the case of a Guarantor; and

- (b) (i) any subsequent issuance or transfer of Equity Interests that results in any such Indebtedness being held by a Person other than the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary thereof and (ii) any sale or other transfer of any such Indebtedness to a Person that is not either the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary thereof shall be deemed, in each case, to constitute an incurrence of such Indebtedness by the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary, as the case may be, that was not permitted by this clause (6);
- (7) the incurrence by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries of Hedging Obligations that are incurred for the purpose of fixing or hedging (1) interest rate risk with respect to any floating rate Indebtedness that is permitted by the terms of this Indenture to be outstanding or (2) exchange rate risk or raw materials price risk;
- (8) the guarantee by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries of Indebtedness of the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company that was permitted to be incurred by another provision of this covenant;
- (9) the shares of Class A Convertible Preferred Stock outstanding as of the date of the Indenture;
- (10) the incurrence by any of the Company's Foreign Subsidiaries of Indebtedness in an aggregate principal amount, including all Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness incurred pursuant to clause (5) of this paragraph to refund, refinance or replace any Indebtedness incurred pursuant to this clause (10), not to exceed \$60.0 million at any time outstanding;
- (11) the incurrence by a Securitization Entity of Indebtedness in a Qualified Securitization Transaction that is Non-Recourse Debt with respect to the Company and its other Restricted Subsidiaries (except for Standard Securitization Undertakings); and
- (12) the incurrence by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries of additional Indebtedness in an aggregate principal amount (or accreted value, as applicable) at any time outstanding, including all Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness incurred to refund, refinance or replace any Indebtedness incurred pursuant to this clause (12), not to exceed \$40.0 million.

For purposes of determining compliance with this "Incurrence of Indebtedness and Issuance of Preferred Stock" covenant, in the event that an item of proposed Indebtedness meets the criteria of more than one of the categories of Permitted Debt described in clauses (1) through (12) above, or is entitled to be incurred pursuant to the first paragraph of this covenant, the Company will be permitted to classify such item of Indebtedness on the date of its incurrence (or later reclassify such Indebtedness in whole or in part) in any manner that complies with this covenant. In addition, the accrual of interest, accretion or amortization of original issue discount, the payment of interest on any Indebtedness in the form of additional Indebtedness with the same terms, and the payment of dividends on Disqualified Stock in the form of additional shares of the same class of Disqualified Stock will not be treated as an incurrence of Indebtedness; provided, in each such case, that the amount thereof is included in Fixed Charges of the Company as accrued. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any Indebtedness outstanding pursuant to the Credit Facility on the date of the Indenture will be deemed to have been incurred pursuant to clause (1) of the definition of Permitted Debt.

NO SENIOR SUBORDINATED DEBT

The Company will not incur, create, issue, assume, guarantee or otherwise become liable for any Indebtedness that is subordinate or junior in right of payment to any Senior Debt of the Company and senior in any respect in right of payment to the Notes. No Guarantor will incur, create, issue, assume, guarantee or otherwise become liable for any

Indebtedness that is subordinate or junior in right of payment to any Senior Debt of such Guarantor and senior in any respect in right of payment to such Guarantor's Subsidiary Guarantee.

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The Company will not, and will not permit any of its Subsidiaries to, directly or indirectly, (1) assign or convey any right to receive income on any asset now owned or hereafter acquired or (2) create, incur, assume or suffer to exist any Lien of any kind securing Indebtedness, Attributable Debt or trade payables on any asset now owned or hereafter acquired or on any income or profits therefrom except Permitted Liens, unless the Notes and the Guarantees, as applicable, are either (i) secured by a Lien on such property, assets, income or profits that is senior in priority to the Lien securing such other Obligations, if such Obligations are subordinated in right of payment to the Notes and/or the Guarantees or (ii) equally and ratably secured by a Lien on such property, assets, income or profits with the Lien securing such other Obligations, if such Obligations are pari passu in right of payment with the Notes.

DIVIDEND AND OTHER PAYMENT RESTRICTIONS AFFECTING SUBSIDIARIES

The Company will not, and will not permit any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to, directly or indirectly, create or permit to exist or become effective any encumbrance or restriction on the ability of any Restricted Subsidiary to:

- (1) pay dividends or make any other distributions on its Capital Stock to the Company or any of the Company's Restricted Subsidiaries, or with respect to any other interest or participation in, or measured by, its profits, or pay any indebtedness owed to the Company or any of the Company Restricted Subsidiaries;
- (2) make loans or advances to the Company or any of the Company's Restricted Subsidiaries; or
- (3) transfer any of its properties or assets to the Company or any of the Company's Restricted Subsidiaries.

However, the preceding restrictions will not apply to encumbrances or restrictions existing under or by reason of:

- (1) Existing Indebtedness as in effect on the date of the Indenture and any amendments, modifications, restatements, renewals, increases, supplements, refundings, replacements or refinancings thereof, provided that such amendments, modifications, restatements, renewals, increases, supplements, refundings, replacement or refinancings are no more restrictive, taken as a whole, with respect to such dividend and other payment restrictions than those contained in such Existing Indebtedness, as in effect on the date of the Indenture;
- (2) the Indenture, the Notes and the Guarantees;
- (3) applicable law;
- (4) any instrument governing Indebtedness or Capital Stock of a Person acquired by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries as in effect at the time of such acquisition (except to the extent such Indebtedness was incurred in connection with or in contemplation of such acquisition), which encumbrance or restriction is not applicable to any Person, or the properties or assets of any Person, other than the Person, or the property or assets of the Person, so acquired, provided that, in the case of Indebtedness, such Indebtedness was permitted by the terms of the Indenture to be incurred;
- (5) customary non-assignment provisions in leases, licenses, contracts and other agreements entered into in the ordinary course of business and consistent with past practices;
- (6) purchase money obligations for property acquired in the ordinary course of business that impose restrictions on the property so acquired of the nature described in clause (3) of the preceding paragraph;

- (7) any agreement for the sale or other disposition of a Restricted Subsidiary that restricts distributions by such Restricted Subsidiary pending its sale or other disposition;
- (8) Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness, provided that the restrictions contained in the agreements governing such Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness are no more restrictive, taken as a whole, than those contained in the agreements governing the Indebtedness being refinanced:
- (9) Liens securing Indebtedness otherwise permitted to be incurred pursuant to the provisions of the covenant described above under the caption " -- Liens" that limit the right of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to dispose of the assets subject to such Lien;
- (10) provisions with respect to the disposition or distribution of assets or property in joint venture agreements and other similar agreements entered into in the ordinary course of business;
- (11) customary provisions under Indebtedness of any Foreign Subsidiary permitted to be incurred under the Indenture;
- (12) restrictions on cash or other deposits or net worth imposed by customers under contracts entered into in the ordinary course of business: and
- (13) restrictions created in connection with a Qualified Securitization Transaction.

MERGER, CONSOLIDATION, OR SALE OF ASSETS

The Company may not, directly or indirectly: (1) consolidate or merge with or into another Person (whether or not the Company is the surviving corporation); or (2) sell, assign, transfer, convey or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of its properties or assets, in one or more related transactions, to another Person; unless:

- (1) either: (a) the Company is the surviving corporation; or (b) the Person formed by or surviving any such consolidation or merger (if other than the Company) or to which such sale, assignment, transfer, conveyance or other disposition shall have been made is a corporation organized or existing under the laws of the United States, any state thereof or the District of Columbia;
- (2) the Person formed by or surviving any such consolidation or merger (if other than the Company) or the Person to which such sale, assignment, transfer, conveyance or other disposition shall have been made assumes all the obligations of the Company under the Notes, the Indenture and the Registration Rights Agreement pursuant to agreements reasonably satisfactory to the Trustee;
- (3) immediately after such transaction no Default or Event of Default exists; and
- (4) except in the case of a merger entered into solely for the purpose of reincorporating the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary in another jurisdiction, the Company or the Person formed by or surviving any such consolidation or merger (if other than the Company) will, on the date of such transaction after giving pro forma effect thereto and any related financing transactions as if the same had occurred at the beginning of the applicable four-quarter period, be permitted to incur at least \$1.00 of additional Indebtedness pursuant to the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio test set forth in the first paragraph of the covenant described above under the caption " -- Incurrence of Indebtedness and Issuance of Preferred Stock."

In addition, the Company may not, directly or indirectly, lease all or substantially all of its properties or assets, in one or more related transactions, to any other Person. This "Merger, Consolidation, or Sale of Assets" covenant will not apply to a sale, assignment, transfer, conveyance or other disposition of assets between or among the Company and any of its Wholly-Owned Restricted Subsidiaries.

The Company will not, and will not permit any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to, make any payment to, or sell, lease, transfer or otherwise dispose of any of its properties or assets to, or purchase any property or assets from, or enter into or make or amend any transaction, contract, agreement, understanding, loan, advance or guarantee with, or for the benefit of, any Affiliate (each, an "Affiliate Transaction"), unless:

- (1) such Affiliate Transaction is on terms that are no less favorable to the Company or the relevant Restricted Subsidiary than those that would have been obtained in a comparable transaction by the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary with an unrelated Person; and
- (2) the Company delivers to the Trustee:
 - (a) with respect to any Affiliate Transaction or series of related Affiliate Transactions involving aggregate consideration in excess of \$3.0 million, a resolution of the Board of Directors set forth in an Officers' Certificate certifying that such Affiliate Transaction complies with this covenant and that such Affiliate Transaction has been approved by a majority of the disinterested members of the Board of Directors; and
 - (b) with respect to any Affiliate Transaction or series of related Affiliate Transactions involving aggregate consideration in excess of \$10.0 million, an opinion as to the fairness to the Holders of such Affiliate Transaction from a financial point of view issued by an accounting, appraisal or investment banking firm of national standing.

The following items shall not be deemed to be Affiliate Transactions and, therefore, will not be subject to the provisions of the prior paragraph:

- (1) any employment, consulting or similar agreement (including any loan, but not any forgiveness thereof) entered into by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries in the ordinary course of business or any payment of directors' and officers' insurance premiums;
- (2) transactions between or among the Company and/or its Restricted Subsidiaries;
- (3) payment of reasonable directors fees to Persons who are not otherwise Affiliates of the Company;
- (4) dividends on or any repurchases of any shares of any series or class of equity securities of the Company;
- (5) Restricted Payments that are permitted by the provisions of the Indenture described above under the caption " -- Restricted Payments."
- (6) any merger between or among the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries solely for the purpose of reincorporating the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary in another jurisdiction for tax purposes; and
- (7) transactions in connection with a Qualified Securitization Transaction or an industrial revenue bond financing.

ADDITIONAL SUBSIDIARY GUARANTEES

If, after the date of the Indenture, the Company or any of its Wholly Owned Domestic Restricted Subsidiaries acquires or creates another Wholly Owned Domestic Restricted Subsidiary or a Significant Domestic Restricted Subsidiary, including any other Domestic Restricted Subsidiary that at any time becomes a Wholly Owned Domestic Restricted Subsidiary or a Significant Domestic Restricted Subsidiary, then that newly acquired or created Wholly Owned Domestic Restricted Subsidiary or Significant Domestic Restricted Subsidiary will, within 10

Business Days of the date on which it was acquired or created, execute a supplemental indenture or other instrument evidencing its Subsidiary Guarantee, in either case in form satisfactory to the Trustee, and deliver an Opinion of Counsel to the Trustee.

SALE AND LEASEBACK TRANSACTIONS

The Company will not, and will not permit any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to, enter into any sale and leaseback transaction; provided that the Company and any Restricted Subsidiary may enter into a sale and leaseback transaction if:

- (1) the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary, as applicable, could have (a) incurred Indebtedness in an amount equal to the Attributable Debt relating to such sale and leaseback transaction under the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio test in the first paragraph of the covenant described above under the caption " -- Incurrence of Additional Indebtedness and Issuance of Preferred Stock" and (b) incurred a Lien to secure such Indebtedness pursuant to the covenant described above under the caption " -- Liens"; provided that the Lien to secure such Indebtedness does not extend to or cover any assets of the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary other than the assets which are the subject of the sale and leaseback transaction;
- (2) the gross cash proceeds of that sale and leaseback transaction are at least equal to the fair market value, as determined in good faith by the Board of Directors, of the property that is the subject of such sale and leaseback transaction; and
- (3) the transfer of assets in that sale and leaseback transaction is permitted by, and the Company applies the proceeds of such transaction in compliance with, the covenant described above under the caption "Repurchase at the Option of Holders -- Asset Sales."

PAYMENTS FOR CONSENT

The Company will not, and will not permit any of its Subsidiaries to, directly or indirectly, pay or cause to be paid any consideration to or for the benefit of any Holder of Notes for or as an inducement to any consent, waiver or amendment of any of the terms or provisions of the Indenture or the Notes unless such consideration is offered to be paid and is paid to all Holders of the Notes that consent, waive or agree to amend in the time frame set forth in the solicitation documents relating to such consent, waiver or agreement.

REPORTS

Whether or not required by the Commission, so long as any Notes are outstanding, the Company will furnish to the Holders of Notes, within the time periods specified in the Commission's rules and regulations:

- (1) all quarterly and annual financial information that would be required to be contained in a filing with the Commission on Forms 10-Q and 10-K if the Company were required to file such Forms, including a "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and, with respect to the annual information only, a report on the annual financial statements by the Company's certified independent accountants; and
- (2) all current reports that would be required to be filed with the Commission on Form 8-K if the Company were required to file such reports.

In addition, whether or not required by the Commission, the Company will file a copy of all of the information and reports referred to in clauses (1) and (2) above with the Commission for public availability within the time periods specified in the Commission's rules and regulations (unless the Commission will not accept such a filing) and make such information available to securities analysts and prospective investors upon request.

Each of the following is an Event of Default:

- (1) default for 30 days in the payment when due of interest on, or Liquidated Damages with respect to, the Notes, whether or not prohibited by the subordination provisions of the Indenture;
- (2) default in payment when due of the principal of or premium, if any, on the Notes, whether or not prohibited by the subordination provisions of the Indenture;
- (3) failure by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries for 30 days after notice to comply with the provisions described under the captions "Repurchase at the Option of Holders -- Change of Control," "Repurchase at the Option of Holders -- Asset Sales," "Certain Covenants --Restricted Payments" or "Certain Covenants -- Incurrence of Indebtedness and Issuance of Preferred Stock";
- (4) failure by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries for 60 days after notice to comply with any of the other agreements in the Indenture;
- (5) default under any mortgage, indenture or instrument under which there may be issued or by which there may be secured or evidenced any Indebtedness for money borrowed by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries (or the payment of which is guaranteed by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries) whether such Indebtedness or guarantee now exists, or is created after the date of the Indenture, if that default:
 - is caused by a failure to pay principal of or premium, if any, or interest on such Indebtedness prior to the expiration of the grace period provided in such Indebtedness on the date of such default (a "Payment Default"); or
 - (b) results in the acceleration of such Indebtedness prior to its express maturity, and, in each case, the principal amount of any such Indebtedness, together with the principal amount of any other such Indebtedness under which there has been a Payment Default or the maturity of which has been so accelerated, aggregates \$10.0 million or more;
- (6) failure by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries to pay final judgments aggregating in excess of \$10.0 million, which judgments are not paid, discharged or stayed for a period of 60 days;
- (7) except as permitted by the Indenture, any Subsidiary Guarantee(s) of any Guarantor that is a Significant Subsidiary or of any group of Guarantors that collectively would constitute a Significant Subsidiary shall be held in any judicial proceeding to be unenforceable or invalid or shall cease for any reason to be in full force and effect or any Guarantor that is a Significant Subsidiary or any group of Guarantors that collectively would constitute a Significant Subsidiary, or any Person acting on behalf of any such Guarantor or group of Guarantors, shall deny or disaffirm the obligations of each such Guarantor under its Subsidiary Guarantee; and
- (8) certain events of bankruptcy or insolvency with respect to the Company or any of its Significant Subsidiaries.

In the case of an Event of Default arising from certain events of bankruptcy or insolvency, with respect to the Company, any Subsidiary that is a Significant Subsidiary or any group of Subsidiaries that, taken together, would constitute a Significant Subsidiary, all outstanding Notes will become due and payable immediately without further action or notice. If any other Event of Default occurs and is continuing, the Trustee or the Holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes may declare all the Notes to be due and payable immediately.

Holders of the Notes may not enforce the Indenture or the Notes except as provided in the Indenture. Subject to certain limitations, Holders of a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes may direct the Trustee in its exercise of any trust or power. The Trustee may withhold from Holders of the Notes notice of any continuing Default or Event of Default (except a Default or Event of Default relating to the payment of principal or interest) if it determines that withholding notice is in their interest.

The Holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the Notes then outstanding by notice to the Trustee may on behalf of the Holders of all of the Notes waive any existing Default or Event of Default and its consequences under the Indenture except a continuing Default or Event of Default in the payment of interest on, or the principal of, the Notes.

In the case of any Event of Default occurring by reason of any willful action or inaction taken or not taken by or on behalf of the Company with the intention of avoiding payment of the premium that the Company would have had to pay if the Company then had elected to redeem the Notes pursuant to the optional redemption provisions of the Indenture, an equivalent premium shall also become and be immediately due and payable to the extent permitted by law upon the acceleration of the Notes. If an Event of Default occurs prior to January 15, 2004, by reason of any willful action (or inaction) taken (or not taken) by or on behalf of the Company with the intention of avoiding the prohibition on redemption of the Notes prior to January 15, 2004, then the premium specified in the Indenture shall also become immediately due and payable to the extent permitted by law upon the acceleration of the Notes.

The Company is required to deliver to the Trustee annually a statement regarding compliance with the Indenture. Upon becoming aware of any Default or Event of Default, the Company is required to deliver to the Trustee a statement specifying such Default or Event of Default.

NO PERSONAL LIABILITY OF DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES AND STOCKHOLDERS

No director, officer, employee, incorporator or stockholder of the Company or any Guarantor, as such, shall have any liability for any obligations of the Company or the Guarantors under the Notes, the Indenture, the Subsidiary Guarantees, the Registration Rights Agreement Agreements or for any claim based on, in respect of, or by reason of, such obligations or their creation. Each Holder of Notes by accepting a Note waives and releases all such liability. The waiver and release are part of the consideration for issuance of the Notes. The waiver may not be effective to waive liabilities under the federal securities laws.

LEGAL DEFEASANCE AND COVENANT DEFEASANCE

The Company may, at its option and at any time, elect to have all of its obligations discharged with respect to the outstanding Notes and all obligations of the Guarantors discharged with respect to their Subsidiary Guarantees ("Legal Defeasance") except for:

- (1) the rights of Holders of outstanding Notes to receive payments in respect of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest and Liquidated Damages, if any, on such Notes when such payments are due from the trust referred to below;
- (2) the Company's obligations with respect to the Notes concerning issuing temporary Notes, registration of Notes, mutilated, destroyed, lost or stolen Notes and the maintenance of an office or agency for payment and money for security payments held in trust;
- (3) the rights, powers, trusts, duties and immunities of the Trustee, and the Company's obligations in connection therewith; and
- (4) the Legal Defeasance provisions of the Indenture.

In addition, the Company may, at its option and at any time, elect to have the obligations of the Company and the Guarantors released with respect to certain covenants that are described in the Indenture ("Covenant Defeasance") and thereafter any omission to comply with those covenants shall not constitute a Default or Event of Default with respect to the Notes. In the event Covenant Defeasance occurs, certain events (not including non-payment, bankruptcy, receivership, rehabilitation and insolvency events) described under "Events of Default" will no longer constitute an Event of Default with respect to the Notes

In order to exercise either Legal Defeasance or Covenant Defeasance:

- (1) the Company must irrevocably deposit with the Trustee, in trust, for the benefit of the Holders of the Notes, cash in U.S. dollars, non-callable Government Securities, or a combination thereof, in such amounts as will be sufficient, in the opinion of a nationally recognized firm of independent public accountants, to pay the principal of, premium, if any, and interest and Liquidated Damages, if any, on the outstanding Notes on the stated maturity or on the applicable redemption date, as the case may be, and the Company must specify whether the Notes are being defeased to maturity or to a particular redemption date;
- (2) in the case of Legal Defeasance, the Company shall have delivered to the Trustee an Opinion of Counsel reasonably acceptable to the Trustee confirming that (a) the Company has received from, or there has been published by, the Internal Revenue Service a ruling or (b) since the date of the Indenture, there has been a change in the applicable federal income tax law, in either case to the effect that, and based thereon such opinion of counsel shall confirm that, the Holders of the outstanding Notes will not recognize income, gain or loss for federal income tax purposes as a result of such Legal Defeasance and will be subject to federal income tax on the same amounts, in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if such Legal Defeasance had not occurred;
- (3) in the case of Covenant Defeasance, the Company shall have delivered to the Trustee an Opinion of Counsel reasonably acceptable to the Trustee confirming that the Holders of the outstanding Notes will not recognize income, gain or loss for federal income tax purposes as a result of such Covenant Defeasance and will be subject to federal income tax on the same amounts, in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if such Covenant Defeasance had not occurred;
- (4) no Default or Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing either: (a) on the date of such deposit (other than a Default or Event of Default resulting from the borrowing of funds to be applied to such deposit); or (b) or insofar as Events of Default from bankruptcy or insolvency events are concerned, at any time in the period ending on the 91st day after the date of deposit;
- (5) such Legal Defeasance or Covenant Defeasance will not result in a breach or violation of, or constitute a default under any material agreement or instrument (other than the Indenture) to which the Company or any of its Subsidiaries is a party or by which the Company or any of its Subsidiaries is bound;
- (6) the Company must have delivered to the Trustee an Opinion of Counsel to the effect that after the 91st day following the deposit, the trust funds will not be subject to the effect of any applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization or similar laws affecting creditors' rights generally;
- (7) the Company must deliver to the Trustee an Officers' Certificate stating that the deposit was not made by the Company with the intent of preferring the Holders of Notes over the other creditors of the Company with the intent of defeating, hindering, delaying or defrauding creditors of the Company or others; and
- (8) the Company must deliver to the Trustee an Officers' Certificate and an Opinion of Counsel, each stating that all conditions precedent relating to the Legal Defeasance or the Covenant Defeasance have been complied with.

Without the consent of each Holder affected, an amendment or waiver may not (with respect to any Notes held by a non-consenting Holder):

- reduce the principal amount of Notes whose Holders must consent to an amendment, supplement or waiver;
- (2) reduce the principal of or change the fixed maturity of any Note or alter the provisions with respect to the redemption of the Notes (other than provisions relating to the covenants described above under the caption "Repurchase at the Option of Holders");
- (3) reduce the rate of or change the time for payment of interest on any Note:
- (4) waive a Default or Event of Default in the payment of principal of or premium, if any, or interest on the Notes (except a rescission of acceleration of the Notes by the Holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of the Notes and a waiver of the payment default that resulted from such acceleration);
- (5) make any Note payable in money other than that stated in the Notes;
- (6) make any change in the provisions of the Indenture relating to waivers of past Defaults or the rights of Holders of Notes to receive payments of principal of or premium, if any, or interest on the Notes;
- (7) waive a redemption payment with respect to any Note (other than a payment required by one of the covenants described above under the caption "Repurchase at the Option of Holders"); or
- (8) make any change in the preceding amendment and waiver provisions, except as set forth below.

In addition, any amendment to, or waiver of, the provisions of the Indenture relating to subordination that adversely affect the rights of the Holders of the Notes will require the consent of the Holders of at least 75% in aggregate principal amount of Notes then outstanding.

Notwithstanding the preceding, without the consent of any Holder of Notes, the Company and the Trustee may amend or supplement the Indenture or the Notes:

- (1) to cure any ambiguity, defect or inconsistency;
- (2) to provide for uncertificated Notes in addition to or in place of certificated Notes;
- (3) to provide for the assumption of the Company's obligations to Holders of Notes in the case of a merger or consolidation or sale of all or substantially all of the Company's assets;
- (4) to make any change that would provide any additional rights or benefits to the Holders of Notes or that does not adversely affect the legal rights under the Indenture of any such Holder;
- (5) to add any Person as a Guarantor; and
- (6) to comply with requirements of the Commission in order to effect or maintain the qualification of the Indenture under the Trust Indenture

CONCERNING THE TRUSTEE

If the Trustee becomes a creditor of the Company or any Guarantor, the Indenture limits its right to obtain payment of claims in certain cases, or to realize on certain property received in respect of any such claim as security or otherwise. The Trustee will be permitted to engage in other transactions; however, if it acquires any conflicting interest it must eliminate such conflict within 90 days, apply to the Commission for permission to continue or resign.

The Holders of a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes will have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for exercising any remedy available to the Trustee, subject to certain exceptions. The Indenture provides that in case an Event of Default shall occur and be continuing, the Trustee will be required, in the exercise of its power, to use the degree of care of a prudent man in the conduct of his own affairs. Subject to such provisions, the Trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers under the Indenture at the request of any Holder of Notes, unless such Holder shall have offered to the Trustee security and indemnity satisfactory to it against any loss, liability or expense.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Anyone who receives this Offering Memorandum may obtain a copy of the Indenture and Registration Rights Agreement without charge by writing to The Scotts Company, 14111 Scottslawn Road, Marysville, Ohio 43041, Attention: Treasurer.

BOOK-ENTRY, DELIVERY AND FORM

Except as set forth below, Notes were, and will be, issued in registered, global form in minimum denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof.

The Original Notes are represented by two permanent Notes in registered, global form without interest coupons (the "Original Global Notes"), and the Exchange Notes will be represented by two, permanent Notes in registered, global form without interest coupons (the "Exchange Global Notes" and, together with the Original Global Notes, the "Global Notes"). The Original Global Notes are, and the Exchange Global Notes will be, registered in the name of The Depository Trust Company ("DTC"), in New York, New York, or its nominee, in each case for credit to an account of a direct or indirect participant in DTC as described below.

Except as set forth below, the Global Notes may be transferred, in whole and not in part, only to another nominee of DTC or to a successor of DTC or its nominee. Beneficial interests in the Global Notes may not be exchanged for Notes in certificated form except in the limited circumstances described below. See " -- Exchange of Book-Entry Notes for Certificated Notes." Except in the limited circumstances described below, owners of beneficial interests in the Global Notes will not be entitled to receive physical delivery of Certificated Notes (as defined below). In addition, transfers of beneficial interests in the Global Notes will be subject to the applicable rules and procedures of DTC and its direct or indirect participants (including, if applicable, those of Euroclear and Cedel), which may change from time to time.

Initially, the Trustee will act as Paying Agent and Registrar. The Notes may be presented for registration of transfer and exchange at the offices of the Registrar.

DEPOSITORY PROCEDURES

The following description of the operations and procedures of DTC, Euroclear and Cedel are provided solely as a matter of convenience. These operations and procedures are solely within the control of the respective settlement systems and are subject to changes by them from time to time. The Company takes no responsibility for these operations and procedures and urges investors to contact the system or their participants directly to discuss these matters.

DTC has advised the Company that DTC is a limited-purpose trust company created to hold securities for its participating organizations (collectively, the "Participants") and to facilitate the clearance and settlement of transactions in those securities between Participants through electronic book-entry changes in accounts of its Participants. The Participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations. Access to DTC's system is also available to other entities such as banks, brokers, dealers and trust companies that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Participant, either directly or indirectly (collectively, the "Indirect Participants"). Persons who are not Participants may beneficially own securities held by or on behalf of DTC only through the Participants or the Indirect Participants. The ownership interests in, and transfers of ownership interests in, each security held by or on behalf of DTC are recorded on the records of the Participants and Indirect Participants.

DTC has also advised the Company that, pursuant to procedures established by it ownership of interests in the Global Notes will be shown on, and the transfer of ownership thereof will be effected only through, records maintained by DTC (with respect to the Participants) or by the Participants and the Indirect Participants (with respect to other owners of beneficial interest in the Global Notes).

All interests in a Global Note, including those held through Euroclear or Cedel, may be subject to the procedures and requirements of DTC. Those interests held through Euroclear or Cedel may also be subject to the procedures and requirements of such systems. The laws of some states require that certain persons take physical delivery in definitive form of securities that they own. Consequently, the ability to transfer beneficial interests in a Global Note to such persons will be limited to that extent. Because DTC can act only on behalf of Participants, which in turn act on behalf of Indirect Participants and certain banks, the ability of a person having beneficial interests in a Global Note to pledge such interests to persons or entities that do not participate in the DTC system, or otherwise take actions in respect of such interests, may be affected by the lack of a physical certificate evidencing such interests.

EXCEPT AS DESCRIBED BELOW, OWNERS OF INTEREST IN THE GLOBAL NOTES WILL NOT HAVE NOTES REGISTERED IN THEIR NAMES, WILL NOT RECEIVE PHYSICAL DELIVERY OF NOTES IN CERTIFICATED FORM AND WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED THE REGISTERED OWNERS OR "HOLDERS" THEREOF UNDER THE INDENTURE FOR ANY PURPOSE.

Payments in respect of the principal of, and premium, if any, Liquidated Damages, if any, and interest on a Global Note registered in the name of DTC or its nominee will be payable to DTC in its capacity as the registered Holder under the Indenture. Under the terms of the Indenture, the Company and the Trustee will treat the persons in whose names the Notes, including the Global Notes, are registered as the owners thereof for the purpose of receiving such payments and for any and all other purposes whatsoever. Consequently, neither the Company, the Trustee nor any agent of the Company or the Trustee has or will have any responsibility or liability for:

- (1) any aspect of DTC's records or any Participant's or Indirect Participant's records relating to or payments made on account of beneficial ownership interest in the Global Notes, or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any of DTC's records or any Participant's or Indirect Participant's records relating to the beneficial ownership interests in the Global Notes; or
- (2) any other matter relating to the actions and practices of DTC or any of its Participants or Indirect Participants.

DTC has advised the Company that its current practice, upon receipt of any payment in respect of securities such as the Notes (including principal and interest), is to credit the accounts of the relevant Participants with the payment on the payment date, in amounts proportionate to their respective holdings in the principal amount of beneficial interest in the relevant security as shown on the records of DTC unless DTC has reason to believe it will not receive payment on such payment date.

Payments by the Participants and the Indirect Participants to the beneficial owners of Notes will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices and will be the responsibility of the Participants or the Indirect Participants and will not be the responsibility of DTC, the Trustee or the Company. Neither the Company nor the Trustee will be liable for any delay by DTC or any of its Participants in identifying the beneficial owners of the

Notes, and the Company and the Trustee may conclusively rely on and will be protected in relying on instructions from DTC or its nominee for all purposes.

Except for trades involving only Euroclear and Cedel participants, interest in the Global Notes are expected to be eligible to trade in DTC's Same-Day Funds Settlement System and secondary market trading activity in such interests will, therefore, settle in immediately available funds, subject in all cases to the rules and procedures of DTC and its Participants. See " --Same Day Settlement and Payment."

Transfers between Participants in DTC will be effected in accordance with DTC's procedures, and will be settled in same day funds, and transfers between participants in Euroclear and Cedel will be effected in the ordinary way in accordance with their respective rules and operating procedures.

Subject to compliance with the transfer restrictions applicable to the Notes described herein, cross-market transfers between the Participants in DTC, on the one hand, and Euroclear or Cedel participants, on the other hand, will be effected through DTC in accordance with DTC's rules on behalf of Euroclear or Cedel, as the case may be, by its respective depositary; however, such cross-market transactions will require delivery of instructions to Euroclear or Cedel, as the case may be, by the counterparty in such system in accordance with the rules and procedures and within the established deadlines (Brussels time) of such system. Euroclear or Cedel, as the case may be, will, if the transaction meets its settlement requirements, deliver instructions to its respective depositary to take action to effect final settlement on its behalf by delivering or receiving interests in the relevant Global Note in DTC, and making or receiving payment in accordance with normal procedures for same-day funds settlement applicable to DTC. Euroclear participants and Cedel participants may not deliver instructions directly to the depositories for Euroclear or Cedel.

DTC has advised the Company that it will take any action permitted to be taken by a Holder of Notes only at the direction of one or more Participants to whose account DTC has credited the interests in the Global Notes and only in respect of such portion of the aggregate principal amount of the Notes as to which such Participant or Participants has or have given such direction. However, if there is an Event of Default under the Notes, DTC reserves the right to exchange the Global Notes for Notes in certificated form, and to distribute such Notes to its Participants.

Although DTC, Euroclear and Cedel have agreed to the foregoing procedures to facilitate transfers of interests in the Original Global Notes among Participants in DTC, Euroclear and Cedel, they are under no obligation to perform or to continue to perform such procedures, and such procedures may be discontinued at any time. Neither the Company nor the Trustee nor any of their respective agents will have any responsibility for the performance by DTC, Euroclear or Cedel or their respective participants or indirect participants of their respective obligations under the rules and procedures governing their operations.

EXCHANGE OF BOOK-ENTRY NOTES FOR CERTIFICATED NOTES

A Global Note is exchangeable for definitive Notes in registered certificated form ("Certificated Notes") if:

- (1) DTC:
 - (a) notifies the Company that it is unwilling or unable to continue as depositary for the Global Notes and the Company thereupon fails to appoint a successor depositary; or
 - (b) has ceased to be a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act;
- (2) the Company, at its option, notifies the Trustee in writing that it elects to cause the issuance of the Certificated Notes; or
- (3) there shall have occurred and be continuing a Default or Event of Default with respect to the Notes.

In addition, beneficial interests in a Global Note may be exchanged for Certificated Notes upon request but only upon prior written notice given to the Trustee by or on behalf of DTC in accordance with the Indenture. In all cases, Certificated Notes delivered in exchange for any Global Note or beneficial interests therein will be registered in the names, and issued in any approved denominations, requested by or on behalf of the depositary (in accordance with its customary procedures) and will bear the applicable restrictive legend referred to in "Transfer Restrictions," unless the Company determines otherwise in compliance with applicable law.

EXCHANGE OF CERTIFICATED NOTES FOR BOOK-ENTRY NOTES

Notes issued in certificated form may not be exchanged for beneficial interests in any Global Note unless the transferor first delivers to the Trustee a written certificate (in the form provided in the Indenture) to the effect that such transfer will comply with the appropriate transfer restrictions applicable to such Notes. See "Transfer Restrictions."

SAME DAY SETTLEMENT AND PAYMENT

The Indenture requires that payments in respect of the Notes represented by the Global Notes (including principal, premium, if any, interest and Liquidated Damages, if any) be made by wire transfer of immediately available funds to the accounts specified by the Global Note Holder. With respect to Notes in certificated form, the Company will make all payments of principal, premium, if any, interest and Liquidated Damages, if any, by wire transfer of immediately available funds to the accounts specified by the Holders thereof or, if no such account is specified, by mailing a check to each such Holder's registered address. The Notes represented by the Global Notes are expected to be eligible to trade in the PORTAL market and to trade in DTC's Same-Day Funds Settlement System, and any permitted secondary market trading activity in such Notes will, therefore, be required by DTC to be settled in immediately available funds. The Company expects that secondary trading in any certificated Notes will also be settled in immediately available funds.

Because of time zone differences, the securities account of a Euroclear or Cedel participant purchasing an interest in a Global Note from a Participant in DTC will be credited, and any such crediting will be reported to the relevant Euroclear or Cedel participant, during the securities settlement processing day (which must be a business day for Euroclear and Cedel) immediately following the settlement date of DTC. DTC has advised the Company that cash received in Euroclear or Cedel as a result of sales of interests in a Global Note by or through a Euroclear or Cedel participant to a Participant in DTC will be received with value on the settlement date of DTC but will be available in the relevant Euroclear or Cedel cash account only as of the business day for Euroclear or Cedel following DTC's settlement date.

REGISTRATION RIGHTS; LIQUIDATED DAMAGES

In connection with the offering of the Original Notes, the Company, the Guarantors and Salomon Smith Barney Inc. entered into the Registration Rights Agreement. Pursuant to the Registration Rights Agreement, the Company agreed to file with the Commission the Registration Statement of which this Prospectus is a part. Upon the effectiveness of the Registration Statement of which this Prospectus is a part, Holders of Transfer Restricted Securities pursuant to the Exchange Offer who are able to make certain representations will have the opportunity to exchange their Transfer Restricted Securities for Exchange Notes.

The Company will file with the Commission a Shelf Registration Statement to cover resales of the Notes by Holders who satisfy certain conditions relating to the provision of information in connection with the Shelf Registration Statement if:

(1) the Company is not required to file the Exchange Offer Registration Statement or permitted to consummate the Exchange Offer because the Exchange Offer is not permitted by applicable law or Commission policy; or

- (2) any Holder of Transfer Restricted Securities notifies the Company prior to the 20th day following consummation of the Exchange Offer that:
 - (a) it is prohibited by law or Commission policy from participating in the Exchange Offer; or
 - (b) that it may not resell the Exchange Notes acquired by it in the Exchange Offer to the public without delivering a prospectus and the prospectus contained in the Exchange Offer Registration Statement is not appropriate or available for such resales; or
 - (c) that it is a broker-dealer and owns Notes acquired directly from the Company or an affiliate of the Company.

The Company will use its reasonable best efforts to cause the applicable registration statement to be declared effective as promptly as possible by the Commission.

For purposes of the foregoing, "Transfer Restricted Securities" means each Note until:

- (1) the date on which such Note has been exchanged by a person other than a broker-dealer for an Exchange Note in the Exchange Offer;
- (2) following the exchange by a broker-dealer in the Exchange Offer of a Note for an Exchange Note, the date on which such Exchange Note is sold to a purchaser who receives from such broker-dealer on or prior to the date of such sale a copy of the prospectus contained in the Exchange Offer Registration Statement;
- (3) the date on which the resale of such Note has been effectively registered under the Securities Act and such Note has been disposed of in accordance with the Shelf Registration Statement; or
- (4) the date on which such Note is distributed to the public pursuant to Rule 144 under the Act.

The Registration Rights Agreement provides that:

- the Company will file an Exchange Offer Registration Statement with the Commission on or prior to 90 days after the Closing Date;
- (2) the Company will use its reasonable best efforts to have the Exchange Offer Registration Statement declared effective by the Commission on or prior to 270 days after the Closing Date;
- (3) unless the Exchange Offer would not be permitted by applicable law or Commission policy, the Company will commence the Exchange Offer and use its reasonable best efforts to issue on or prior to 30 business days after the date on which the Exchange Offer Registration Statement was declared effective by the Commission, Exchange Notes in exchange for all Notes tendered prior thereto in the Exchange Offer; and
- (4) if obligated to file the Shelf Registration Statement, the Company will use its reasonable best efforts to file the Shelf Registration Statement with the Commission on or prior to 30 days after such filing obligation arises and to cause the Shelf Registration to be declared effective by the Commission on or prior to 90 days after such obligation arises.

The Company will pay Liquidated Damages to each Holder of Transfer Restricted Securities if:

 the Company fails to file any of the Registration Statements required by the Registration Rights Agreement on or before the date specified for such filing;

- (2) any of such Registration Statements is not declared effective by the Commission on or prior to the date specified for such effectiveness (the "Effectiveness Target Date");
- (3) the Company fails to consummate the Exchange Offer within 30 business days of the Effectiveness Target Date with respect to the Exchange Offer Registration Statement; or
- (4) the Shelf Registration Statement or the Exchange Offer Registration Statement is declared effective but thereafter ceases to be effective or usable in connection with resales of Transfer Restricted Securities during the periods specified in the Registration Rights (each such event referred to in clauses (1) through (4) above a "Registration Default").

The amount of Liquidated Damages will be \$.05 per week per \$1,000 principal amount of Notes held by each Holder, with respect to the first 90-day period immediately following the occurrence of the first Registration Default.

Liquidated Damages will increase by \$.05 per week per \$1,000 principal amount of Notes with respect to each subsequent 90-day period until all Registration Defaults have been cured, up to a maximum amount of Liquidated Damages for all Registration Defaults of \$.50 per week per \$1,000 principal amount of Notes. All accrued Liquidated Damages will be paid by the Company on each Damages Payment Date to the Global Note Holder by wire transfer of immediately available funds or by federal funds check and to Holders of Certificated Securities by wire transfer to the accounts specified by them or by mailing checks to their registered addresses if no such accounts have been specified. Following the cure of all Registration Defaults, the accrual of Liquidated Damages will cease.

CERTAIN DEFINITIONS

Set forth below are certain defined terms used in the Indenture. Reference is made to the Indenture for a full disclosure of all such terms, as well as any other capitalized terms used herein for which no definition is provided.

"Acquired Debt" means, with respect to any specified Person:

- (1) Indebtedness of any other Person existing at the time such other Person is merged with or into or became a Subsidiary of such specified Person, whether or not such Indebtedness is incurred in connection with, or in contemplation of, such other Person merging with or into, or becoming a Subsidiary of, such specified Person; and
- (2) Indebtedness secured by a Lien encumbering any asset acquired by such specified Person.

"Affiliate" of any specified Person means any other Person directly or indirectly controlling or controlled by or under direct or indirect common control with such specified Person. For purposes of this definition, "control," as used with respect to any Person, shall mean the possession, directly or indirectly, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management or policies of such Person, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by agreement or otherwise; provided that beneficial ownership of 25% or more of the Voting Stock of a Person shall be deemed to be control. For purposes of this definition, the terms "controlling," "controlled by" and "under common control with" shall have correlative meanings.

"Asset Sale" means:

(1) the sale, lease, conveyance or other disposition of any assets or rights, other than sales of inventory in the ordinary course of business consistent with past practices; provided that the sale, conveyance or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries taken as a whole will be governed by the provisions of the Indenture described above under the caption " --Change of Control" and/or the provisions described above under the caption " --Merger, Consolidation or Sale of Assets" and not by the provisions of the Asset Sale covenant; and (2) the issuance of Equity Interests by any of the Company's Restricted Subsidiaries or the sale of Equity Interests in any of its Subsidiaries.

Notwithstanding the preceding, the following items shall not be deemed to be Asset Sales:

- (1) any single transaction or series of related transactions that: (a) involves assets having a fair market value of less than \$2.5 million; or (b) results in net proceeds to the Company and its Subsidiaries of less than \$2.5 million;
- (2) a transfer of assets (a) between or among the Company and its Wholly Owned Restricted Subsidiaries, (b) by a Restricted Subsidiary to the Company or any of its Wholly Owned Restricted Subsidiaries or (c) by the Company or any of its Wholly Owned Restricted Subsidiaries to any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company that is not a Wholly Owned Restricted Subsidiary if, in the case of this clause (c), the Company or the Wholly Owned Restricted Subsidiary, as the case may be, either retains title to or ownership of the assets being transferred or receives consideration at the time of such transfer at least equal to the fair market value of the transferred assets;
- (3) an issuance of Equity Interests by a Restricted Subsidiary to the Company or to a Wholly Owned Restricted Subsidiary;
- (4) the sale, transfer or discount of any receivables to lenders under any Credit Facilities or to special purpose entities formed to borrow from lenders under Credit Facilities against such receivables;
- (5) a sale of assets (other than assets specified in any other clause of this paragraph) by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries prior to September 30, 2002, provided that (a) the Company (or the Restricted Subsidiary, as the case may be) receives consideration at the time of each such sale at least equal to the fair market value of the assets sold and (b) the aggregate fair market value of all such assets sold in any fiscal year shall not exceed an amount equal to:
 - (i) for the Company's fiscal year ended September 30, 1999, \$25,000,000, and
 - (ii) for each of the Company's fiscal years ended September 30, 2000, 2001 and 2002, an amount equal to the sum of \$25,000,000 plus the difference between (A) \$25,000,000 and (B) the aggregate consideration received by the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries for all sales of assets (excluding assets specified in any other clause of this paragraph) during the previous fiscal year;
- (6) a Restricted Payment that is permitted by the covenant described above under the caption $\tt "$ -- Restricted Payments"; and
- (7) a disposition of inventory in the ordinary course of business or a disposition of obsolete equipment or equipment that is no longer useful in the conduct of the business of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries and that is disposed of in the ordinary course of business.

"Attributable Debt" in respect of a sale and leaseback transaction means, at the time of determination, the present value of the obligation of the lessee for net rental payments during the remaining term of the lease included in such sale and leaseback transaction including any period for which such lease has been extended or may, at the option of the lessor, be extended. Such present value shall be calculated using a discount rate equal to the rate of interest implicit in such transaction, determined in accordance with GAAP.

"Beneficial Owner" has the meaning assigned to such term in Rule 13d-3 and Rule 13d-5 under the Exchange Act, except that in calculating the beneficial ownership of any particular "person" (as such term is used in Section 13(d)(3) of the Exchange Act), such "person" shall be deemed to have beneficial ownership of all securities that such "person" has the right to acquire, whether such right is currently exercisable or is exercisable only upon the occurrence of a subsequent condition.

"Capital Lease Obligation" means, at the time any determination thereof is to be made, the amount of the liability in respect of a capital lease that would at that time be required to be capitalized on a balance sheet in accordance with

"Capital Stock" means:

- (1) in the case of a corporation, corporate stock;
- (2) in the case of an association or business entity, any and all shares, interests, participations, rights or other equivalents (however designated) of corporate stock;
- (3) in the case of a partnership or limited liability company, partnership or membership interests (whether general or limited); and
- (4) any other interest or participation that confers on a Person the right to receive a share of the profits and losses of, or distributions of assets of, the issuing Person.

"Cash Equivalents" means:

- (1) United States dollars;
- (2) securities issued or directly and fully guaranteed or insured by the United States government or any agency or instrumentality thereof (provided that the full faith and credit of the United States is pledged in support thereof) having maturities of not more than six months from the date of acquisition;
- (3) certificates of deposit and eurodollar time deposits with maturities of six months or less from the date of acquisition, bankers' acceptances with maturities not exceeding six months and overnight bank deposits, in each case, with any lender party to the Credit Facility or with any domestic commercial bank having capital and surplus in excess of \$500 million and a Thompson Bank Watch Rating of "B" or better;
- (4) repurchase obligations with a term of not more than seven days for underlying securities of the types described in clauses (2) and (3) above entered into with any financial institution meeting the qualifications specified in clause (3) above;
- (5) commercial paper having the highest rating obtainable from Moody's Investors Service, Inc. or Standard & Poor's Corporation and in each case maturing within six months after the date of acquisition; and
- (6) money market funds at least 95% of the assets of which constitute Cash Equivalents of the kinds described in clauses (1) through (5) of this definition.

"Change of Control" means the occurrence of any of the following:

- (1) the sale, lease, transfer, conveyance or other disposition (other than by way of merger or consolidation), in one or a series of related transactions, of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries taken as a whole to any "person" (as such term is used in Section 13(d)(3) of the Exchange Act) other than a Principal or a Related Party of a Principal;
- (2) the adoption of a plan relating to the liquidation or dissolution of the Company;
- (3) the consummation of any transaction (including, without limitation, any merger or consolidation) the result of which is that any "person" (as defined above), other than the Principals and their Related Parties, becomes the Beneficial Owner, directly or indirectly, of more than 30% of the Voting Stock of the Company, measured by voting power rather than number of shares;

- (4) the first day on which a majority of the members of the Board of Directors of the Company are not Continuing Directors; or
- (5) the consolidation or merger of the Company with or into any Person, or the consolidation or merger of any Person with or into the Company, in any such event pursuant to a transaction in which any of the outstanding Voting Stock of the Company is converted into or exchanged for cash, securities or other property, excluding any such transaction where the Voting Stock of the Company outstanding immediately prior to such transaction is converted into or exchanged for Voting Stock (other than Disqualified Stock) of the surviving or transferee Person constituting a majority of the outstanding shares of such Voting Stock of such surviving or transferee Person (immediately after giving effect to such issuance).

"Class A Convertible Preferred Stock" means 195,000 shares of the Company's 5% Class A Convertible Preferred Stock, liquidation preference \$1,000 per share, outstanding as of the Issue Date, which is redeemable at the option of the Company at any time after May 19, 2000.

"Consolidated Cash Flow" means, with respect to any Person for any period, the Consolidated Net Income of such Person for such period plus, without duplication:

- (1) an amount equal to any extraordinary gain or loss plus any net gain or loss realized in connection with an Asset Sale or any other sale, lease, conveyance or other disposition of any assets or rights (other than sales of inventory in the ordinary course of business) in a single transaction or in a series of related transactions that involves assets or rights having an aggregate fair market value equal to or greater than \$2.5 million, in any such case to the extent such gains or losses were excluded in computing such Consolidated Net Income; plus
- (2) provision for taxes based on income or profits of such Person and its Restricted Subsidiaries for such period, to the extent that such provision for taxes was deducted in computing such Consolidated Net Income; plus
- (3) consolidated net interest expense of such Person and its Restricted Subsidiaries for such period, whether paid or accrued and whether or not capitalized (including, without limitation, amortization of original issue discount, non-cash interest payments, the interest component of any deferred payment obligations, the interest component of all payments associated with Capital Lease Obligations, imputed interest with respect to Attributable Debt, commissions, discounts and other fees and charges incurred in respect of letter of credit or bankers' acceptance financings, and net payments, if any, pursuant to Hedging Obligations but excluding amortization of debt issuance costs), to the extent that any such expense was deducted in computing such Consolidated Net Income; plus
- (4) depreciation, amortization (including amortization of goodwill and other intangibles but excluding amortization of prepaid cash expenses that were paid in a prior period), other non-cash expenses (excluding any such non-cash expense to the extent that it represents an accrual of or reserve for cash expenses in any future period or amortization of a prepaid cash expense that was paid in a prior period) and, in the case of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries, restructuring charges recorded in the Company's fourth fiscal quarter of fiscal 1998 in an amount not to exceed \$20.4 million in the aggregate, of such Person and its Restricted Subsidiaries for such period to the extent that such depreciation, amortization and other non-cash expenses were deducted in computing such Consolidated Net Income; minus
- (5) non-cash items increasing such Consolidated Net Income for such period, other than items that were accrued in the ordinary course of business, in each case, on a consolidated basis and determined in accordance with GAAP.

Notwithstanding the preceding, the provision for taxes based on the income or profits of, and the depreciation and amortization and other non-cash charges of, a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company shall be added to Consolidated

Net Income to compute Consolidated Cash Flow of the Company only to the extent that a corresponding amount would be permitted at the date of determination to be dividended to the Company by such Restricted Subsidiary without prior approval (that has not been obtained), pursuant to the terms of its charter and all agreements, instruments, judgments, decrees, orders, statutes, rules and governmental regulations applicable to that Subsidiary or its stockholders (other than restrictions in effect on the Issue Date and other than restrictions that are created or exist in compliance with the covenant under the caption "Dividends and Other Payment Restrictions Affecting Subsidiaries").

"Consolidated Net Income" means, with respect to any specified Person for any period, the aggregate of the Net Income of such Person and its Restricted Subsidiaries for such period, on a consolidated basis, determined in accordance with GAAP; provided that:

- (1) the Net Income (but not loss) of any Person that is not a Restricted Subsidiary or that is accounted for by the equity method of accounting shall be included only to the extent of the amount of dividends or distributions paid in cash to the specified Person or a Restricted Subsidiary thereof;
- (2) the Net Income of any Restricted Subsidiary shall be excluded to the extent that the declaration or payment of dividends or similar distributions by that Restricted Subsidiary of that Net Income is not at the date of determination permitted without any prior governmental approval (that has not been obtained) or, directly or indirectly, by operation of the terms of its charter or any agreement, instrument, judgment, decree, order, statute, rule or governmental regulation applicable to that Restricted Subsidiary or its stockholders (other than restrictions in effect on the Issue Date and other than restrictions that are created or exist in compliance with the covenant under the caption "Dividends and Other Payment Restrictions Affecting Subsidiaries");
- (3) the Net Income of any Person acquired in a pooling of interests transaction for any period prior to the date of such acquisition shall be excluded;
- (4) the Net Income (but not loss) of any Unrestricted Subsidiary shall be excluded, whether or not distributed to the specified Person or one of its Subsidiaries;
- (5) restructuring charges and write-offs recorded prior to the first anniversary of the date of the Indenture, in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$12.5 million, shall be excluded; and
- (6) the cumulative effect of a change in accounting principles shall be excluded.

"Continuing Directors" means, as of any date of determination, any member of the Board of Directors of the Company who:

- (1) was a member of such Board of Directors on the date of the Indenture; or
- (2) nominated for election or elected to such Board of Directors with the approval of a majority of the Continuing Directors who were members of such Board at the time of such nomination or election.

"Credit Facility" means, with respect to the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries:

(1) that certain Credit Facility, dated as of December 4, 1998, by and among the Company, certain of the Company's Subsidiaries, the lenders party thereto, the Chase Manhattan Bank, as Administrative Agent, Salomon Smith Barney Inc., as Syndication Agent, Credit Lyonnais Chicago Branch, as Co-Documentation Agent and NBD Bank, as Co-Documentation Agent providing for up to \$500.0 million of revolving credit borrowings and \$525.0 million in term loans, in each case including any related notes, guarantees, collateral documents, instruments and agreements executed in connection therewith, and in each case as amended, modified, renewed, refunded, replaced or refinanced from time to time; and

(2) one or more debt facilities or commercial paper facilities, in each case with banks or other institutional lenders providing for revolving credit loans, term loans, receivables financing (including through the sale of receivables to such lenders or to special purpose entities formed to borrow from such lenders against such receivables) or letters of credit, in each case, as amended, restated, modified, renewed, refunded, replaced or refinanced in whole or in part from time to time.

"Default" means any event that is, or with the passage of time or the giving of notice or both would be, an Event of Default.

"Designated Senior Debt" means:

- (1) any Indebtedness outstanding under the Credit Facility; and
- (2) any other Senior Debt permitted under the Indenture the principal amount of which is \$10.0 million or more and that has been designated by the Company as "Designated Senior Debt."

"Disqualified Stock" means any Capital Stock that, by its terms (or by the terms of any security into which it is convertible, or for which it is exchangeable, in each case at the option of the holder thereof), or upon the happening of any event, matures or is mandatorily redeemable, pursuant to a sinking fund obligation or otherwise, or redeemable at the option of the holder thereof, in whole or in part, on or prior to the date that is 91 days after the date on which the Notes mature. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, any Capital Stock that would constitute Disqualified Stock solely because the holders thereof have the right to require the Company to repurchase such Capital Stock upon the occurrence of a change of control or an asset sale shall not constitute Disqualified Stock.

"Domestic Restricted Subsidiary" means, with respect to the Company, any Restricted Subsidiary that was formed under the laws of the United States of America or any State thereof.

"Equity Interests" means Capital Stock and all warrants, options or other rights to acquire Capital Stock (but excluding any debt security that is convertible into, or exchangeable for, Capital Stock).

"Exclusive Agency and Marketing Agreement" means the Exclusive Agency and Marketing Agreement between the Company and Monsanto Company, dated as of September 30, 1998 (as amended and restated as of November 11, 1998) as the same may be amended, modified, restated, extended, renewed or replaced from time to time.

"Existing Indebtedness" means Indebtedness of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries (in addition to Indebtedness under the Credit Facility) in existence on the date of the Indenture, until such amounts are repaid.

"Fixed Charges" means, with respect to any Person for any period, the sum, without duplication, of:

- (1) the consolidated net interest expense of such Person and its Restricted Subsidiaries for such period, whether paid or accrued, including, without limitation, amortization of original issue discount, non-cash interest payments, the interest component of any deferred payment obligations, the interest component of all payments associated with Capital Lease Obligations, imputed interest with respect to Attributable Debt, commissions, discounts and other fees and charges incurred in respect of letter of credit or bankers' acceptance financings, and net payments, if any, pursuant to Hedging Obligations, but excluding amortization of debt issuance costs and other non-cash amortization; plus
- (2) the consolidated interest of such Person and its Restricted Subsidiaries that was capitalized during such period; plus
- (3) any interest expense on Indebtedness of another Person that is Guaranteed by such Person or one of its Restricted Subsidiaries or secured by a Lien on assets of such Person or one of its Restricted Subsidiaries, whether or not such Guarantee or Lien is called upon; plus

(4) the product of (a) all dividend payments, whether or not in cash, on any series of preferred stock of such Person or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries, other than dividend payments on Equity Interests payable solely in Equity Interests of the Company (other than Disqualified Stock) or to the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company, times (b) a fraction, the numerator of which is one and the denominator of which is one minus the then current combined federal, state and local statutory tax rate of such Person, expressed as a decimal, in each case, on a consolidated basis and in accordance with GAAP.

"Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio" means with respect to any specified Person for any period, the ratio of the Consolidated Cash Flow of such Person and its Restricted Subsidiaries for such period to the Fixed Charges of such Person for such period. In the event that the specified Person or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries incurs, assumes, Guarantees or redeems any Indebtedness (other than revolving credit borrowings) or issues or redeems preferred stock subsequent to the commencement of the period for which the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio is being calculated but prior to the date on which the event for which the calculation of the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio is made (the "Calculation Date"), then the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio shall be calculated giving pro forma effect to such incurrence, assumption, Guarantee or redemption of Indebtedness, or such issuance or redemption of preferred stock, as if the same had occurred at the beginning of the applicable four-quarter reference period.

In addition, for purposes of calculating the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio:

- (1) acquisitions that have been made by the specified Person or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries, including through mergers or consolidations and including any related financing transactions, during the four-quarter reference period or subsequent to such reference period and on or prior to the Calculation Date shall be deemed to have occurred on the first day of the four-quarter reference period and Consolidated Cash Flow for such reference period shall be calculated without giving effect to clause (3) of the proviso set forth in the definition of Consolidated Net Income;
- (2) the Consolidated Cash Flow attributable to discontinued operations, as determined in accordance with GAAP, and operations or businesses disposed of prior to the Calculation Date, shall be excluded; and
- (3) the Fixed Charges attributable to discontinued operations, as determined in accordance with GAAP, and operations or businesses disposed of prior to the Calculation Date, shall be excluded, but only to the extent that the obligations giving rise to such Fixed Charges will not be obligations of the specified Person or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries following the Calculation Date.

"Foreign Subsidiary" means, with respect to the Company, any Subsidiary that does not meet the definition of a Domestic Subsidiary.

"GAAP" means generally accepted accounting principles set forth in the opinions and pronouncements of the Accounting Principles Board of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and statements and pronouncements of the Financial Accounting Standards Board or in such other statements by such other entity as have been approved by a significant segment of the accounting profession, which are in effect from time to time.

"Guarantee" means a guarantee other than by endorsement of negotiable instruments for collection in the ordinary course of business, direct or indirect, in any manner including, without limitation, by way of a pledge of assets or through letters of credit or reimbursement agreements in respect thereof, of all or any part of any Indebtedness.

"Guarantors" means:

- (1) each Wholly Owned Domestic Restricted Subsidiary of the Company on the date of the Indenture; and
- (2) any other Subsidiary of the Company that executes a Subsidiary Guarantee in accordance with the provisions of the Indenture;

and their respective successors and assigns.

"Hedging Obligations" means, with respect to any Person, the obligations of such Person under:

- (1) interest rate swap agreements, interest rate cap agreements and interest rate collar agreements or exchange rate or raw materials price risk agreements; and
- (2) other agreements or arrangements designed to protect such Person against fluctuations in interest rates, in each case pursuant to any Credit Facilities permitted pursuant to the covenant under the caption "Incurrence of Indebtedness and Issuance of Preferred Stock."

"Indebtedness" means, with respect to any specified Person, without duplication, any indebtedness of such Person, whether or not contingent, in respect of:

- (1) borrowed money;
- (2) evidenced by bonds, notes, debentures or similar instruments or letters of credit (or reimbursement agreements in respect thereof);
- (3) banker's acceptances;
- (4) representing Capital Lease Obligations;
- (5) the balance deferred and unpaid of the purchase price of any property, except any such balance that constitutes an accrued expense or trade payable; or
- (6) representing any Hedging Obligations,

if and to the extent any of the preceding items (other than letters of credit and Hedging Obligations) would appear as a liability upon a balance sheet of the specified Person prepared in accordance with GAAP. In addition, the term "Indebtedness" includes, without duplication, all Indebtedness of others secured by a Lien on any asset of the specified Person (whether or not such Indebtedness is assumed by the specified Person) and, to the extent not otherwise included, the Guarantee by such Person of any indebtedness of any other Person.

The amount of any Indebtedness outstanding as of any date shall be:

- the accreted value thereof, in the case of any Indebtedness issued with original issue discount; and
- (2) the principal amount thereof, together with any interest thereon that is more than 30 days past due, in the case of any other Indebtedness.

"Investments" means, with respect to any Person, all investments by such Person in other Persons (including Affiliates) in the forms of direct or indirect loans (including guarantees of Indebtedness or other obligations), advances or capital contributions (excluding commission, travel and similar advances to officers and employees made in the ordinary course of business), purchases or other acquisitions for consideration of Indebtedness, Equity Interests or other securities, together with all items that are or would be classified as investments on a balance sheet prepared in accordance with GAAP. If the Company or any Subsidiary of the Company sells or otherwise disposes of any Equity Interests of any direct or indirect Subsidiary of the Company such that, after giving effect to any such sale or disposition, such Person is no longer a Subsidiary of the Company, the Company shall be deemed to have made an Investment on the date of any such sale or disposition equal to the fair market value of the Equity Interests of such Subsidiary not sold or disposed of in an amount determined as provided in the final paragraph of the covenant described above under the caption "Certain Covenants -- Restricted Payments."

"Issue Date" means the date of first issuance of the Notes under the Indenture.

"Lien" means, with respect to any asset, any mortgage, lien, pledge, charge, security interest or encumbrance of any kind in respect of such asset, whether or not filed, recorded or otherwise perfected under applicable law, including any conditional sale or other title retention agreement, any lease in the nature thereof, any option or other agreement to sell or give a security interest in and any filing of or agreement to give any financing statement under the Uniform Commercial Code (or equivalent statutes) of any jurisdiction.

"Net Income" means, with respect to any Person, the net income (loss) of such Person and its Restricted Subsidiaries, determined in accordance with GAAP and before any reduction in respect of preferred stock dividends, excluding, however:

- (1) any gain or loss, together with any related provision for taxes on such gain or loss, realized in connection with: (a) any Asset Sale or any other sale, lease, conveyance or other disposition of any assets or rights (other than sales of inventory in the ordinary course of business) in a single transaction or in a series of related transactions that involves assets or rights having an aggregate fair market value equal to or greater than \$2.5 million; or (b) the disposition of any securities by such Person or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries or the extinguishment of any Indebtedness of such Person or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries; and
- (2) any extraordinary gain or loss, together with any related provision for taxes on such extraordinary gain or loss; and
- (3) any non-cash expenses attributable to grants or exercises of employee stock options.

"Net Proceeds" means the aggregate cash proceeds received by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries in respect of any Asset Sale (including, without limitation, any cash received upon the sale or other disposition of any non-cash consideration received in any Asset Sale), net of the direct costs relating to such Asset Sale, including, without limitation, legal, accounting and investment banking fees, and sales commissions, and any relocation expenses incurred as a result thereof, taxes paid or payable as a result thereof, in each case after taking into account any available tax credits or deductions and any tax sharing arrangements and amounts required to be applied to the repayment of Indebtedness, other than Senior Debt, secured by a Lien on the asset or assets that were the subject of such Asset Sale.

"Non-Recourse Debt" means Indebtedness:

- (1) as to which neither the Company nor any of its Restricted Subsidiaries (a) provides credit support of any kind (including any undertaking, agreement or instrument that would constitute Indebtedness), (b) is directly or indirectly liable as a guarantor or otherwise, or (c) constitutes the lender;
- (2) no default with respect to which (including any rights that the holders thereof may have to take enforcement action against an Unrestricted Subsidiary) would permit upon notice, lapse of time or both any holder of any other Indebtedness (other than the Notes) of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to declare a default on such other Indebtedness or cause the payment thereof to be accelerated or payable prior to its stated maturity; and
- (3) as to which the lenders have been notified in writing that they will not have any recourse to the stock or assets of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries.

"Obligations" means any principal, interest, penalties, fees, indemnifications, reimbursements, damages and other liabilities payable under the documentation governing any Indebtedness.

"Permitted Investments" means:

 any Investment in the Company or in a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company;

- (2) any Investment in Cash Equivalents;
- (3) any Investment by the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company in a Person, if as a result of such Investment:
 - (a) such Person becomes a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company; or
 - (b) such Person is merged, consolidated or amalgamated with or into, or transfers or conveys substantially all of its assets to, or is liquidated into, the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company;
- (4) any Investment made as a result of the receipt of non-cash consideration from an Asset Sale that was made pursuant to and in compliance with the covenant described above under the caption "Repurchase at the Option of Holders -- Asset Sales";
- (5) any acquisition of assets solely in exchange for the issuance of Equity Interests (other than Disqualified Stock) of the Company;
- (6) investments in accounts or notes receivable acquired in the ordinary course of business;
- (7) the designation of one or more Subsidiaries of the Company whose assets and operations are exclusively related to the professional business segment of the Company;
- (8) any payment by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries pursuant to the Exclusive Agency and Marketing Agreement; and
- (9) other Investments in any Person having an aggregate fair market value (measured on the date each such Investment was made and without giving effect to subsequent changes in value), when taken together with all other Investments made pursuant to this clause (9) that are at any time outstanding, not to exceed \$50.0 million.

"Permitted Junior Securities" means: (1) Equity Interests in the Company or any Guarantor; or (2) debt securities of the Company or any Guarantor that are subordinated to all Senior Debt and any debt securities issued in exchange for Senior Debt to substantially the same extent as, or to a greater extent than, the Notes and the Subsidiary Guarantees are subordinated to Senior Debt pursuant to Article 10 of the Indenture.

"Permitted Liens" means:

- Liens securing Senior Debt that was permitted by the terms of the Indenture to be incurred;
- (2) Liens in favor of the Company or the Guarantors;
- (3) Liens on property of a Person existing at the time such Person is merged with or into or consolidated with the Company or any Subsidiary of the Company; provided that such Liens were not entered into in contemplation of such merger or consolidation and do not extend to any assets other than those of the Person merged into or consolidated with the Company or the Subsidiary;
- (4) Liens on property existing at the time of acquisition thereof by the Company or any Subsidiary of the Company, provided that such Liens were not entered into in contemplation of such acquisition;
- (5) Liens to secure the performance of statutory obligations, surety or appeal bonds, performance bonds or other obligations of a like nature incurred in the ordinary course of business;

- (6) Liens to secure Indebtedness (including Capital Lease Obligations) permitted by clause (4) of the second paragraph of the covenant entitled "Incurrence of Indebtedness and Issuance of Preferred Stock" covering only the assets acquired with such Indebtedness;
- (7) Liens existing on the date of the Indenture;
- (8) Liens on Assets of Guarantors to secure Senior Debt of such Guarantor that was permitted by the Indenture to be incurred;
- (9) Liens for taxes, assessments or governmental charges or claims that are not yet delinquent or that are being contested in good faith by appropriate proceedings promptly instituted and diligently concluded, provided that any reserve or other appropriate provision as shall be required in conformity with GAAP shall have been made therefor;
- (10) Liens incurred in the ordinary course of business of the Company or any Subsidiary of the Company with respect to obligations that do not exceed \$5.0 million at any one time outstanding; and
- (11) Liens on assets of Unrestricted Subsidiaries that secure Non Recourse Debt of Unrestricted Subsidiaries.

"Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness" means any Indebtedness of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries issued in exchange for, or the net proceeds of which are used to extend, refinance, renew, replace, defease or refund other Indebtedness of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries (other than intercompany Indebtedness); provided that:

- (1) the principal amount (or accreted value, if applicable) of such Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness does not exceed the principal amount of (or accreted value, if applicable), plus accrued interest on, the Indebtedness so extended, refinanced, renewed, replaced, defeased or refunded (plus the amount of reasonable expenses incurred in connection therewith including premiums paid, if any, to the holders thereof);
- (2) such Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness has a final maturity date later than the final maturity date of, and has a Weighted Average Life to Maturity equal to or greater than the Weighted Average Life to Maturity of, the Indebtedness being extended, refinanced, renewed, replaced, defeased or refunded;
- (3) if the Indebtedness being extended, refinanced, renewed, replaced, defeased or refunded is subordinated in right of payment to the Notes, such Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness has a final maturity date later than the final maturity date of, and is subordinated in right of payment to, the Notes on terms at least as favorable to the Holders of Notes as those contained in the documentation governing the Indebtedness being extended, refinanced, renewed, replaced, defeased or refunded; and
- (4) such Indebtedness shall not be incurred by a Restricted Subsidiary that is not a Guarantor to refinance debt of the Company or a Guarantor.

"Person" means any individual, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, joint venture, association, joint-stock company, trust or unincorporated organization (including any subdivision or ongoing business of any such entity or substantially all of the assets of any such entity, subdivision or business).

"Principals" means the Hagedorn Partnership, L.P., and any Partner or Affiliate thereof or of such Partner.

"Qualified Securitization Transaction" means any transaction or series of transactions pursuant to which the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries may sell, convey or otherwise transfer to (a) a Securitization Entity (in the case of a transfer by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries) and (b) any other Person (in case of a transfer by a Securitization Entity), or may grant a security interest in, any accounts receivable or equipment (whether now existing or arising or acquired in the future) of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries, and any assets related thereto including, without limitation, all collateral securing such accounts receivable and

equipment, all contracts and contract rights and all Guarantees or other obligations in respect of such accounts receivable and equipment, proceeds of such accounts receivable and equipment and other assets (including contract rights) which are customarily transferred or in respect of which security interests are customarily granted in connection with asset securitization transactions involving accounts receivable and equipment.

"Related Business" means the business conducted (or proposed to be conducted) by the Company and its Subsidiaries as of the Issue Date and any and all businesses that in the good faith judgment of the Board of Directors of the Company are reasonably related thereto.

"Related Party" with respect to any Principal means:

- (1) any controlling stockholder, 80% or more owned Subsidiary, or spouse or immediate family member (in the case of an individual) of such Principal; or
- (2) any trust, corporation, partnership or other entity, the beneficiaries, stockholders, partners, owners or Persons beneficially holding an 80% or more controlling interest of which consist of such Principal and/or such other Persons referred to in the immediately preceding clause (1).

"Restricted Investment" means an Investment other than a Permitted Investment.

"Restricted Subsidiary" of a Person means any Subsidiary of the referent Person that is not an Unrestricted Subsidiary.

"Securitization Entity" means a Wholly Owned Subsidiary of the Company (or another Person in which the Company or any Subsidiary of the Company makes an Investment and to which the Company or any Subsidiary of the Company transfers accounts receivable or equipment and related assets) that engages in no activities other than in connection with the financing of accounts receivable or equipment and that is a Securitization Entity (a) no portion of the Indebtedness or any other Obligations (contingent or otherwise) of which (i) is guaranteed by the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company (excluding guarantees of Obligations (other than the principal of, and interest on, Indebtedness)) pursuant to Standard Securitization Undertakings, (ii) is recourse to or obligates the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company in any way other than pursuant to Standard Securitization Undertakings or (iii) subjects any property or asset of the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company, directly or indirectly, contingently or otherwise, to the satisfaction thereof, other than pursuant to Standard Securitization Undertakings, (b) with which neither the Company nor any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company has any material contract, agreement, arrangement or understanding other than on terms no less favorable to the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary than those that might be obtained at the time from Persons that are not Affiliates of the Company, other than fees payable in the ordinary course of business in connection with servicing receivables of such entity, and (c) to which neither the Company nor any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company has any obligation to maintain or preserve such entity's financial condition or cause such entity to achieve certain levels of operating results.

"Senior Debt" means:

- all Indebtedness outstanding under Credit Facilities and all Hedging Obligations with respect thereto;
- (2) any other Indebtedness permitted to be incurred by the Company under the terms of the Indenture, unless the instrument under which such Indebtedness is incurred expressly provides that it is on a parity with or subordinated in right of payment to the Notes or the Subsidiary Guarantees; and
- (3) all Obligations with respect to the items listed in the preceding clauses (1) and (2).

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the preceding, Senior Debt will not include:

 any liability for federal, state, local or other taxes owed or owing by the Company;

- (2) any Indebtedness of the Company to any of its Subsidiaries or other Affiliates;
- (3) any trade payables; or
- (4) any Indebtedness that is incurred in violation of the Indenture.

"Significant Domestic Restricted Subsidiary" means any Domestic Restricted Subsidiary, other than any Wholly Owned Domestic Restricted Subsidiary, that both is a Significant Subsidiary of the Company and guarantees or otherwise provides direct credit support for any Senior Debt of the Company.

"Significant Subsidiary" means any Subsidiary that would be a "significant subsidiary" as defined in Article 1, Rule 1-02 of Regulation S-X, promulgated pursuant to the Act, as such Regulation is in effect on the date hereof.

"Standard Securitization Undertakings" means representations, warranties, covenants and indemnities entered into by the Company or any Subsidiary of the Company that are reasonably customary in an accounts receivable or equipment transaction.

"Stated Maturity" means, with respect to any installment of interest or principal on any series of Indebtedness, the date on which such payment of interest or principal was scheduled to be paid in the original documentation governing such Indebtedness, and shall not include any contingent obligations to repay, redeem or repurchase any such interest or principal prior to the date originally scheduled for the payment thereof.

"Subsidiary" means, with respect to any Person:

- (1) any corporation, association or other business entity of which more than 50% of the total voting power of shares of Capital Stock entitled (without regard to the occurrence of any contingency) to vote in the election of directors, managers or trustees thereof is at the time owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by such Person or one or more of the other Subsidiaries of that Person (or a combination thereof); and
- (2) any partnership (a) the sole general partner or the managing general partner of which is such Person or a Subsidiary of such Person or (b) the only general partners of which are such Person or of one or more Subsidiaries of such Person (or any combination thereof).

"Treasury Rate" means, as of any Redemption Date, the yield to maturity as of the Redemption Date of United States Treasury securities with a constant maturity (as compiled and published in the most recent Federal Reserve Statistical Release H.15 (519) that has become publicly available at least two Business Days prior to the Redemption Date (or, if such Statistical Release is no longer published, any publicly available source of similar market data)) most nearly equal to the period from the Redemption Date to January 15, 2004; provided, however, that if the period from the Redemption Date to January 15, 2004 is less than one year, the weekly average yield on actually traded United States Treasury securities adjusted to a constant maturity of one year shall be used.

"Unrestricted Subsidiary" means any Subsidiary of the Company that is designated by the Board of Directors as an Unrestricted Subsidiary pursuant to a Board Resolution, but only to the extent that such Subsidiary:

- (1) has no Indebtedness other than Non-Recourse Debt;
- (2) is not party to any agreement, contract, arrangement or understanding with the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company unless the terms of any such agreement, contract, arrangement or understanding are no less favorable to the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary than those that might be obtained at the time from Persons who are not Affiliates of the Company;
- (3) is a Person with respect to which neither the Company nor any of its Restricted Subsidiaries has any direct or indirect obligation (a) to subscribe for additional Equity Interests or (b) to maintain or preserve such

Person's financial condition or to cause such Person to achieve any specified of operating results; and

(4) has not guaranteed or otherwise directly or indirectly provided credit support for any Indebtedness of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries.

Any designation of a Subsidiary of the Company as an Unrestricted Subsidiary shall be evidenced to the Trustee by filing with the Trustee a certified copy of the Board Resolution giving effect to such designation and an Officers' Certificate certifying that such designation complied with the preceding conditions and was permitted by the covenant described above under the caption "Certain Covenants -- Restricted Payments." If, at any time, any Unrestricted Subsidiary would fail to meet the preceding requirements as an Unrestricted Subsidiary, it shall thereafter cease to be an Unrestricted Subsidiary for purposes of the Indenture and any Indebtedness of such Subsidiary shall be deemed to be incurred by a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company as of such date and, if such Indebtedness is not permitted to be incurred as of such date under the covenant described under the caption "Incurrence of Indebtedness and Issuance of Preferred Stock," the Company shall be in default of such covenant. The Board of Directors of the Company may at any time designate any Unrestricted Subsidiary to be a Restricted Subsidiary; provided that such designation shall be deemed to be an incurrence of Indebtedness by a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company of any outstanding Indebtedness of such Unrestricted Subsidiary and such designation shall only be permitted if (1) such Indebtedness is permitted under the covenant described under the caption "Certain Covenants -- Incurrence of Indebtedness and Issuance of Preferred Stock," calculated on a pro forma basis as if such designation had occurred at the beginning of the four-quarter reference period; and (2) no Default or Event of Default would be in existence following such designation.

If a Guarantor is designated as an Unrestricted Subsidiary, the Subsidiary Guarantee of that Guarantor shall be released. If an Unrestricted Subsidiary becomes a Restricted Subsidiary, such Restricted Subsidiary shall become a Guarantor in accordance with the terms of the Indenture.

"Voting Stock" of any Person as of any date means the Capital Stock of such Person that is at the time entitled to vote in the election of the Board of Directors of such Person.

"Weighted Average Life to Maturity" means, when applied to any Indebtedness at any date, the number of years obtained by dividing:

- (1) the sum of the products obtained by multiplying (a) the amount of each then remaining installment, sinking fund, serial maturity or other required payments of principal, including payment at final maturity, in respect thereof, by (b) the number of years (calculated to the nearest one-twelfth) that will elapse between such date and the making of such payment; by
- (2) the then outstanding principal amount of such Indebtedness.

"Wholly Owned Domestic Restricted Subsidiary" means, with respect to the Company, any Domestic Restricted Subsidiary that meets the definition of a Wholly Owned Restricted Subsidiary.

"Wholly Owned Restricted Subsidiary" of any Person means a Restricted Subsidiary of such Person all of the outstanding Capital Stock or other ownership interests of which (other than directors' qualifying shares) shall at the time be owned by such Person and/or by one or more Wholly Owned Restricted Subsidiaries of such Person.

CERTAIN UNITED STATES FEDERAL TAX CONSIDERATIONS

The following is a general discussion of certain U.S. federal income tax consequences of the Exchange Offer. This discussion is based on the current provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), applicable Treasury regulations, judicial authority and administrative rulings and practice. This discussion is

generally limited to the tax consequences to Holders that hold the Exchange Notes as capital assets (within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Code). There can be no assurance that the Internal Revenue Service (the "Service") will not take a contrary view, and no ruling from the Service has been or will be sought. Legislative, judicial or administrative changes or interpretations may be forthcoming that could alter or modify the statements and conditions set forth herein. Any changes or interpretations may or may not be retroactive and could affect the tax consequences to Holders. Some Holders, including insurance companies, tax-exempt organizations, financial institutions, broker-dealers, foreign corporations and persons who are not citizens or residents of the United States, may be subject to special rules not discussed below.

For U.S. federal income tax purposes, the exchange of Original Notes for Exchange Notes pursuant to the Exchange Offer should not be treated as a taxable transaction for federal income tax purposes. As a result, there should be no federal income tax consequences to Holders exchanging Original Notes for Exchange Notes pursuant to the Exchange Offer. A Holder should have the same adjusted basis and holding period in an Exchange Note as it had in an Original Note immediately prior to the exchange.

THE FOREGOING DISCUSSION IS BASED ON THE PROVISIONS OF THE CODE, REGULATIONS, TREASURY REGULATIONS, RULINGS AND JUDICIAL DECISIONS NOW IN EFFECT, ALL OF WHICH ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. ANY CHANGES MAY BE APPLIED RETROACTIVELY IN A MANNER THAT COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT HOLDERS EXCHANGING NOTES. EACH HOLDER OF ORIGINAL NOTES SHOULD CONSULT ITS OWN TAX ADVISOR WITH RESPECT TO THE TAX CONSEQUENCES TO IT, INCLUDING THE TAX CONSEQUENCES UNDER STATE, LOCAL, FOREIGN AND OTHER TAX LAWS, OF EXCHANGING ORIGINAL NOTES FOR EXCHANGE NOTES PURSUANT TO THE EXCHANGE OFFER.

LEGAL MATTERS

Certain legal matters relating to the Exchange Offer are being passed upon for the Company by Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP, Columbus, Ohio, counsel for the Company.

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

The audited consolidated financial statements of The Scotts Company and its Subsidiaries as of September 30, 1997 and 1998 and for the years ended September 30, 1996, 1997 and 1998 incorporated by reference in this Prospectus have been audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent certified public accountants, as indicated in their report with respect thereto and incorporated by reference herein.

The audited combined financial statements of Rhone-Poulenc Jardin as of December 31, 1997 and for the year then ended incorporated by reference in this Prospectus have been audited by Coopers & Lybrand, independent certified public accountants, as indicated in their report with respect thereto and incorporated by reference herein.

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\$330,000,000

THE SCOTTS COMPANY

8.625% SENIOR SUBORDINATED NOTES DUE 2009 REGISTERED UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, AS AMENDED

[LOGO]

PROSPECTUS

, 1999

PART II

INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS

ITEM 20. INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

Division (E) of Section 1701.13 of the Ohio Revised Code governs indemnification by a corporation and provides as follows:

- (E)(1) A corporation may indemnify or agree to indemnify any person who was or is a party, or is threatened to be made a party, to any threatened, pending, or completed action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative, other than an action by or in the right of the corporation, by reason of the fact that he is or was a director, officer, employee, member, manager, or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, trustee, officer, associate, or agent of another corporation, domestic or foreign, nonprofit or for profit, a limited liability company, or a partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses, including attorney's fees, judgments, fines, and amounts paid in settlement actually and $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right$ reasonably incurred by him in connection with such action, suit, or proceeding, if he acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, if he had no reasonable cause to believe his conduct was unlawful. The termination of any action, suit, or proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, or conviction, or upon a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent, shall not, of itself, create a presumption that the person did not act in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, he had reasonable cause to believe that his conduct was unlawful.
- (2) A corporation may indemnify or agree to indemnify any person who was or is a party, or is threatened to be made a party, to any threatened, pending, or completed action or suit by or in the right of the corporation to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of the fact that he is or was a director, officer, employee, member, manager, or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, trustee, officer, employee, member, manager, or agent of another corporation, domestic or foreign, nonprofit or for profit, a limited liability company, or a partnership, joint venture, trust, or other enterprise, against expenses, including attorney's fees, actually and reasonably incurred by him in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit, if he acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, except that no indemnification shall be made in respect of any of the following:
 - (a) Any claim, issue, or matter as to which such person is adjudged to be liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of his duty to the corporation unless, and only to the extent that, the court of common pleas or the court in which such action or suit was brought determines, upon application, that, despite the adjudication of liability, but in view of all the circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses as the court of common pleas or such other court shall deem proper;

- (b) Any action or suit in which the only liability asserted against a director is pursuant to section 1701.95 of the Revised Code.
- (3) To the extent that a director, trustee, officer, employee, member, manager, or agent has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action, suit, or proceeding referred to in division (E)(1) or (2) of this section, or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, he shall be indemnified against expenses, including attorney's fees, actually and reasonably incurred by him in connection with the action suit or proceeding.
- (4) Any indemnification under division (E) (1) or (2) of this section, unless ordered by a court, shall be made by the corporation only as authorized in the specific case, upon a determination that indemnification of the director, trustee, officer, employee, member, manager, or agent is proper in the circumstances because he has met the applicable standard of conduct set forth in division (E) (1) or (2) of this section. Such determination shall be made as follows:
 - (a) By a majority vote of a quorum consisting of directors of the indemnifying corporation who were not and are not parties to or threatened by the action, suit, or proceeding referred to in division (E)(1) or (2) of this section:
 - (b) If the quorum described in division (E)(4)(a) of this section is not obtainable or if a majority vote of a quorum of disinterested directors so directs, in a written opinion by independent legal counsel other than an attorney, or a firm having associated with it an attorney, who has been retained by or who has performed services for the corporation or any person to be indemnified within the past five years;
 - (c) By the shareholders; or
 - (d) By the court of common pleas or the court in which such action, suit or proceeding referred to in division (E)(1) or (2) of this section was brought.

Any determination made by the disinterested directors under division (E)(4)(a) or by independent legal counsel under division (E)(4)(b) of this section shall be promptly communicated to the person who threatened or brought the action or suit by or in the right of the corporation under division (E)(2) of this section, and, within ten days after receipt of such notification, such person shall have the right to petition the court of common pleas or the court in which such action or suit was brought to review the reasonableness of such determination.

- (5) (a) Unless at the time of a director's act or omission that is the subject of an action, suit, or proceeding referred to in division (E)(1) or (2) of this section, the articles or the regulations of a corporation state, by specific reference to this division, that the provisions of this division do not apply to the corporation and unless the only liability asserted against a director in an action, suit, or proceeding referred to in division (E)(1) or (2) of this section is pursuant to section 1701.95 of the Revised Code, expenses, including attorney's fees, incurred by a director in defending the action, suit, or proceeding shall be paid by the corporation as they are incurred, in advance of the final disposition of the action, suit, or proceeding, upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of the director in which he agrees to both of the following:
 - (i) Repay such amount if it is proved by clear and convincing evidence in a court of competent jurisdiction that his action or failure to act

involved an act or omission undertaken with deliberate intent to cause injury to the corporation or undertaken with reckless disregard for the best interests of the corporation;

- (ii) Reasonably cooperate with the corporation concerning the action, suit, or proceeding.
- (b) Expenses, including attorney's fees, incurred by a director, trustee, officer, employee, member, manager, or agent in defending any action, suit, or proceeding referred to in division (E)(1) or (2) of this section, may be paid by the corporation as they are incurred, in advance of the final disposition of the action, suit, or proceeding, as authorized by the directors in the specific case, upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of the director, trustee, officer, employee, member, manager, or agent to repay such amount, if it ultimately is determined that he is not entitled to be indemnified by the corporation.
- (6) The indemnification authorized by this section shall not be exclusive of, and shall be in addition to, any other rights granted to those seeking indemnification under the articles, the regulations, any agreement, a vote of shareholders or disinterested directors, or otherwise, both as to action in their official capacities and as to action in another capacity while holding their offices or positions, and shall continue as to a person who has ceased to be a director, trustee, officer, employee, member, manager, or agent and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors, and administrators of such a person.
- (7) A corporation may purchase and maintain insurance or furnish similar protection, including, but not limited to, trust funds, letters of credit, or self-insurance, on behalf of or for any person who is or was a director, officer, employee, or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, trustee, officer, employee, member, manager, or agent of another corporation, domestic or foreign, nonprofit or for profit, a limited liability company, or a partnership, joint venture, trust, or other enterprise, against any liability asserted against him and incurred by him in any such capacity, or arising out of his status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify him against such liability under this section. Insurance may be purchased from or maintained with a person in which the corporation has a financial interest.
- (8) The authority of a corporation to indemnify persons pursuant to division (E)(1) or (2) of this section does not limit the payment of expenses as they are incurred, indemnification, insurance, or other protection that may be provided pursuant to divisions (E)(5), (6), and (7) of this section. Divisions (E)(1) and (2) of this section do not create any obligation to repay or return payments made by the corporation pursuant to division (E)(5), (6), or (7).
- (9) As used in division (E) of this section, "corporation" includes all constituent entities in a consolidation or merger and the new or surviving corporation, so that any person who is or was a director, officer, employee, trustee, member, manager, or agent of such a constituent entity, or is or was serving at the request of such constituent entity as a director, trustee, officer, employee, member, manager, or agent of another corporation, domestic or foreign, nonprofit or for profit, a limited liability company, or a partnership, joint venture, trust, or other enterprise, shall stand in the same position under this section with respect to the new or surviving corporation as he would if he had served the new or

Exhibit

surviving corporation in the same capacity.

Section 5.01 of the Registrant's Code of Regulations governs indemnification by Registrant and provides as follows:

SECTION 5.01. Mandatory Indemnification. The corporation shall indemnify any officer or director of the corporation who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (including, without limitation, any action threatened or instituted by or in the right of the corporation), by reason of the fact that he is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, trustee, officer, employee, member, manager or agent of another corporation (domestic or foreign, nonprofit or for profit), limited liability company, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses (including, without limitation, attorneys' fees, filing fees, court reporters' fees and transcript costs), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by him in connection with such action, suit or proceeding if he acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, he had no reasonable cause to believe his conduct was unlawful. A person claiming indemnification under this Section 5.01 shall be presumed, in respect of any act or omission giving rise to such claim for indemnification, to have acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and with respect to any criminal matter, to have had no reasonable cause to believe his conduct was unlawful, and the termination of any action, suit or proceeding by judgment, order, settlement or conviction, or upon a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent, shall not, of itself, rebut such presumption.

In addition, the Registrant currently provides insurance coverage to its directors and officers against certain liabilities which might be incurred by them in such capacity.

ITEM 21. EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES

(a) EXHIBITS

Description

4	Indenture dated as January 20, 1999 between The Scotts Company and State Street Bank and Trust Company, as trustee
5 *	Opinion of Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP
23.1*	Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, Independent Accountants
23.2*	Consent of Coopers & Lybrand, Independent Accountants

Exhibit	
No.	Description
23.3*	Consent of Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP (included in Exhibit 5) $$
24	Powers of Attorney (included on signature page)
25	Form T-1 - Statement of Eligibility of Trustee
99	Letter of Transmittal

* To be filed by amendment.

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(b) FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES

None

ITEM 22. UNDERTAKINGS.

- (1) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes as follows: that prior to any public reoffering of the securities registered hereunder through use of a prospectus which is a part of this registration statement, by any person or party who is deemed to be an underwriter within the meaning of Rule 145(c), the issuer undertakes that such reoffering prospectus will contain the information called for by the applicable registration form with respect to reofferings by persons who may be deemed underwriters, in addition to the information called for by the other Items of the applicable form.
- (2) The registrant undertakes that every prospectus (i) that is filed pursuant to paragraph (1) immediately preceding, or (ii) that purports to meet the requirements of Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933 and is used in connection with an offering of securities subject to Rule 145, will be filed as a part of an amendment to the registration statement and will not be used until such amendment is effective, and that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.
- (3) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted against the registrant by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue
- (4) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes to supply by means of a post-effective amendment all information concerning a transaction, and the company being acquired involved therein, that was not the subject of and included in the Registration Statement when it became effective.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the Registrant has duly caused this Registration Statement on Form S-4 to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Columbus, State of Ohio, on April 19, 1999.

THE SCOTTS COMPANY

POWER OF ATTORNEY

We, the undersigned directors and officers of The Scotts Company. (the "Company"), and each of us, do hereby constitute and appoint Jean H. Mordo and G. Robert Lucas, or either of them, our true and lawful attorneys and agents, each with full power of substitution, to do any and all acts and things in our name and on our behalf in our capacities as directors and officers of the Company and to execute any and all instruments for us and in our names in the capacities indicated below, which said attorneys or agents, or any of them, may deem necessary or advisable to enable the Company to comply with the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and any rules, regulations and requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission, in connection with the filing of this Registration Statement on Form S-4, including specifically but without limitation, power and authority to sign for us or any of us in our names in the capacities indicated below for the Company, any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to such Registration Statement; and we do hereby ratify and confirm all that said attorneys and agents, or their substitute or substitutes, or any of them, shall do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this Registration Statement has been signed below by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature 	Title	Date
/s/ CHARLES M. BERGER CHARLES M. BERGER	Chairman of the Board, President and CEO (Principal Executive Officer)	April 19, 1999
/s/ JEAN H. MORDO 	Executive Vice President and CFO (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)	April 19, 1999
JAMES B. BEARD	Director	April 19, 1999
JAMES B. BEARD		
JOSEPH P. FLANNERY	Director	April 19, 1999
JOSEPH P. FLANNERY		
HORACE HAGEDORN	Director	April 19, 1999
HORACE HAGEDORN		
/s/ JAMES H. HAGEDORN	Director	April 19, 1999
JAMES H. HAGEDORN		
ALBERT E. HARRIS	Director	April 19, 1999
ALBERT E. HARRIS		

Signature	Title	Date
/s/ JOHN KENLON	Director	April 19, 1999
JOHN KENLON		
KAREN G. MILLS	Director	April 19, 1999
KAREN G. MILLS		
/s/ PATRICK J. NORTON	Director	April 19, 1999
PATRICK J. NORTON		
/s/ JOHN M. SULLIVAN	Director	April 19, 1999
JOHN M. SULLIVAN		
/s/ L. JACK VAN FOSSEN	Director	April 19, 1999
L. JACK VAN FOSSEN		
JOHN WALKER, PH.D.	Director	April 19, 1999
JOHN WALKER, PH.D.		

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

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24	Powers of Attorney (included on signature page)
25	Form T-1 - Statement of Eligibility of Trustee
99	Letter of Transmittal

- ----

^{*} To be filed by amendment.

1

EXECUTION COPY

THE SCOTTS COMPANY

\$400,000,000

SERIES A AND SERIES B 8.625% SENIOR SUBORDINATED NOTES DUE 2009 INDENTURE

Dated as of January 21, 1999

STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY

Trustee

CROSS-REFERENCE TABLE*

	naenture	Section
310 (a) (1)	7.10 N.A. N.A. 7.10 7.10	
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313 (a)	7.07 7.06; 7.06 4.03; 13.04	
(c) (3)	N.A. 13.05 N.A. 7.01 7.05;	13.02
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N.A. means not applicable.
*This Cross-Reference Table is not part of the Indenture.

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Exhibit F FORM OF SUPPLEMENTAL INDENTURE

INDENTURE dated as of January 21, 1999 by and among The Scotts Company, an Ohio corporation (the "Company"), the Guarantors named on the signature pages hereto and State Street Bank and Trust Company, as trustee (the "Trustee").

The Company, the Guarantors and the Trustee agree as follows for the benefit of each other and for the equal and ratable benefit of the Holders of the 8.625% Series A Senior Subordinated Notes due 2009 (the "Series A Notes") and the 8.625% Series B Senior Subordinated Notes due 2009 (the "Series B Notes" and, together with the Series A Notes, the "Notes"):

ARTICLE 1.
DEFINITIONS AND INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

SECTION 1.01. DEFINITIONS.

"144A Global Note" means a global note in the form of Exhibit A-1 hereto bearing the Global Note Legend and the Private Placement Legend and deposited with or on behalf of, and registered in the name of, the Depositary or its nominee that will be issued in a denomination equal to the outstanding principal amount of the Notes sold in reliance on Rule 144A.

"Acquired Debt" means, with respect to any specified Person:

(1) Indebtedness of any other Person existing at the time such other Person is merged with or into or became a Subsidiary of such specified Person, whether or not such Indebtedness is incurred in connection with, or in contemplation of, such other Person merging with or into, or becoming a Subsidiary of, such specified Person; and

 $\hbox{(2) Indebtedness secured by a Lien encumbering any asset acquired by such specified Person.}$

"Additional Notes" means up to \$100.0 million in aggregate principal amount of Notes (other than the Initial Notes) issued under this Indenture in accordance with Sections 2.02 and 4.09 hereof.

"Affiliate" of any specified Person means any other Person directly or indirectly controlling or controlled by or under direct or indirect common control with such specified Person. For purposes of this definition, "control," as used with respect to any Person, shall mean the possession, directly or indirectly, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management or policies of such Person, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by agreement or otherwise; provided that beneficial ownership of 25% or more of the Voting Stock of a Person shall be deemed to be control. For purposes of this definition, the terms "controlling," "controlled by" and "under common control with" shall have correlative meanings.

"Agent" means any Registrar, Paying Agent or co-registrar.

"Applicable Procedures" means, with respect to any transfer or exchange of or for beneficial interests in any Global Note, the rules and procedures of the Depositary, Euroclear and CEDEL that apply to such transfer or exchange.

"Asset Sale" means:

- (1) the sale, lease, conveyance or other disposition of any assets or rights, other than sales of inventory in the ordinary course of business consistent with past practices; provided that the sale, conveyance or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries taken as a whole will be governed by the provisions of Section 4.15 hereof and/or the provisions of Section 5.01 hereof and not by the provisions of Section 4.10 hereof; and
- (2) the issuance of Equity Interests by any of the Company's Restricted Subsidiaries or the sale of Equity Interests in any of its Subsidiaries.
- Notwithstanding the preceding, the following items shall not be deemed to be Asset Sales:
- (1) any single transaction or series of related transactions that: (a) involves assets having a fair market value of less than \$2.5 million; or (b) results in net proceeds to the Company and its Subsidiaries of less than \$2.5 million;
- (2) a transfer of assets (a) between or among the Company and its Wholly Owned Restricted Subsidiaries, (b) by a Restricted Subsidiary to the Company or any of its Wholly Owned Restricted Subsidiaries or (c) by the Company or any of its Wholly Owned Restricted Subsidiaries to any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company that is not a Wholly Owned Restricted Subsidiary if, in the case of this clause (c), the Company or the Wholly Owned Restricted Subsidiary, as the case may be, either retains title to or ownership of the assets being transferred or receives consideration at the time of such transfer at least equal to the fair market value of the transferred assets;
- (3) an issuance of Equity Interests by a Restricted Subsidiary to the Company or to a Wholly Owned Restricted Subsidiary;
- (4) the sale, transfer or discount of any receivables to lenders under any Credit Facilities or to special purpose entities formed to borrow from lenders under Credit Facilities against such receivables;
- (5) a sale of assets (other than assets specified in any other clause of this paragraph) by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries prior to September 30, 2002, provided that (a) the Company (or the Restricted Subsidiary, as the case may be) receives consideration at the time of each such sale at least equal to the fair market value of the assets sold and (b) the aggregate fair market value of all such assets sold in any fiscal year shall not exceed an amount equal to:
- (i) for the Company's fiscal year ended September 30, 1999, \$25,000,000, and
- (ii) for each of the Company's fiscal years ended September 30, 2000, 2001 and 2002, an amount equal to the sum of \$25,000,000 plus the difference between (A) \$25,000,000 and (B) the aggregate consideration received by the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries for all sales of assets (excluding assets specified in any other clause of this paragraph) during the previous fiscal year;

(6) a Restricted Payment that is permitted by Section

4.07 hereof; and

(7) a disposition of inventory in the ordinary course of business or a disposition of obsolete equipment or equipment that is no longer useful in the conduct of the business of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries and that is disposed of in the ordinary course of business.

"Attributable Debt" in respect of a sale and leaseback transaction means, at the time of determination, the present value of the obligation of the lessee for net rental payments during the remaining term of the lease included in such sale and leaseback transaction including any period for which such lease has been extended or may, at the option of the lessor, be extended. Such present value shall be calculated using a discount rate equal to the rate of interest implicit in such transaction, determined in accordance with GAAP.

"Bankruptcy Law" means Title 11, U.S. Code or any similar federal or state law for the relief of debtors.

"Beneficial Owner" has the meaning assigned to such term in Rule 13d-3 and Rule 13d-5 under the Exchange Act, except that in calculating the beneficial ownership of any particular "person" (as such term is used in Section 13(d)(3) of the Exchange Act), such "person" shall be deemed to have beneficial ownership of all securities that such "person" has the right to acquire, whether such right is currently exercisable or is exercisable only upon the occurrence of a subsequent condition.

"Board of Directors" means the Board of Directors of the Company, or any authorized committee of the Board of Directors.

"Broker-Dealer" has the meaning set forth in the Registration Rights Agreement.

"Business Day" means any day other than a Legal Holiday.

"Capital Lease Obligation" means, at the time any determination thereof is to be made, the amount of the liability in respect of a capital lease that would at that time be required to be capitalized on a balance sheet in accordance with GAAP.

"Capital Stock" means:

- (1) in the case of a corporation, corporate stock;
- (2) in the case of an association or business entity, any and all shares, interests, participations, rights or other equivalents (however designated) of corporate stock;
- (3) in the case of a partnership or limited liability company, partnership or membership interests (whether general or limited); and
- (4) any other interest or participation that confers on a Person the right to receive a share of the profits and losses of, or distributions of assets of, the issuing Person.

"Cash Equivalents" means:

- (1) United States dollars;
- (2) securities issued or directly and fully guaranteed or insured by the United States government or any agency or instrumentality thereof (provided that the full faith and credit of the United States is pledged in support thereof) having maturities of not more than six months from the date of acquisition;
- (3) certificates of deposit and eurodollar time deposits with maturities of six months or less from the date of acquisition, bankers' acceptances with maturities not exceeding six months and overnight bank deposits, in each case, with any lender party to the Credit Facility or with any domestic commercial bank having capital and surplus in excess of \$500 million and a Thompson Bank Watch Rating of "B" or better;
- (4) repurchase obligations with a term of not more than seven days for underlying securities of the types described in clauses (2) and (3) above entered into with any financial institution meeting the qualifications specified in clause (3) above;
- (5) commercial paper having the highest rating obtainable from Moody's Investors Service, Inc. or Standard & Poor's Corporation and in each case maturing within six months after the date of acquisition; and
- (6) money market funds at least 95% of the assets of which constitute Cash Equivalents of the kinds described in clauses (1) through (5) of this definition.

"CEDEL" means CEDEL Bank, SA.

"Change of Control" means the occurrence of any of the

following:

- (1) the sale, lease, transfer, conveyance or other disposition (other than by way of merger or consolidation), in one or a series of related transactions, of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries taken as a whole to any "person" (as such term is used in Section 13(d)(3) of the Exchange Act) other than a Principal or a Related Party of a Principal;
- $\hbox{(2) the adoption of a plan relating to the liquidation or dissolution of the Company;}$
- (3) the consummation of any transaction (including, without limitation, any merger or consolidation) the result of which is that any "person" (as defined above), other than the Principals and their Related Parties, becomes the Beneficial Owner, directly or indirectly, of more than 30% of the Voting Stock of the Company, measured by voting power rather than number of shares;
- (4) the first day on which a majority of the members of the Board of Directors are not Continuing Directors; or
- (5) the consolidation or merger of the Company with or into any Person, or the consolidation or merger of any Person with or into the Company, in any such event pursuant to a transaction in which any of the outstanding Voting Stock of the Company is converted into or exchanged

for cash, securities or other property, excluding any such transaction where the Voting Stock of the Company outstanding immediately prior to such transaction is converted into or exchanged for Voting Stock (other than Disqualified Stock) of the surviving or transferee Person constituting a majority of the outstanding shares of such Voting Stock of such surviving or transferee Person (immediately after giving effect to such issuance).

"Class A Convertible Preferred Stock" means 195,000 shares of the Company's 5% Class A Convertible Preferred Stock, liquidation preference \$1,000 per share, outstanding as of the Issue Date, which is redeemable at the option of the Company at any time after May $19,\ 2000$.

"Company" means The Scotts Company, and any and all successors thereto. $\ensuremath{\,^{\circ}}$

"Consolidated Cash Flow" means, with respect to any Person for any period, the Consolidated Net Income of such Person for such period plus, without duplication:

(1) an amount equal to any extraordinary gain or loss plus any net gain or loss realized in connection with an Asset Sale or any other sale, lease, conveyance or other disposition of any assets or rights (other than sales of inventory in the ordinary course of business) in a single transaction or in a series of related transactions that involves assets or rights having an aggregate fair market value equal to or greater than \$2.5 million, in any such case to the extent such gains or losses were excluded in computing such Consolidated Net Income; plus

(2) provision for taxes based on income or profits of such Person and its Restricted Subsidiaries for such period, to the extent that such provision for taxes was deducted in computing such Consolidated Net Income; plus

(3) consolidated net interest expense of such Person and its Restricted Subsidiaries for such period, whether paid or accrued and whether or not capitalized (including, without limitation, amortization of original issue discount, non-cash interest payments, the interest component of any deferred payment obligations, the interest component of all payments associated with Capital Lease Obligations, imputed interest with respect to Attributable Debt, commissions, discounts and other fees and charges incurred in respect of letter of credit or bankers' acceptance financings, and net payments, if any, pursuant to Hedging Obligations but excluding amortization of debt issuance costs), to the extent that any such expense was deducted in computing such Consolidated Net Income; plus

(4) depreciation, amortization (including amortization of goodwill and other intangibles but excluding amortization of prepaid cash expenses that were paid in a prior period), other non-cash expenses (excluding any such non-cash expense to the extent that it represents an accrual of or reserve for cash expenses in any future period or amortization of a prepaid cash expense that was paid in a prior period) and, in the case of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries, restructuring charges recorded in the Company's fourth fiscal quarter of fiscal 1998 in an amount not to exceed \$20.4 million in the aggregate, of such Person and its Restricted Subsidiaries for such period to the extent that such depreciation, amortization and other non-cash expenses were deducted in computing such Consolidated Net Income; minus

(5) non-cash items increasing such Consolidated Net Income for such period, other than items that were accrued in the ordinary course of business, in each case, on a consolidated basis and determined in accordance with GAAP.

Notwithstanding the preceding, the provision for taxes based on the income or profits of, and the depreciation and amortization and other non-cash charges of, a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company shall be added to Consolidated Net Income to compute Consolidated Cash Flow of the Company only to the extent that a corresponding amount would be permitted at the date of determination to be dividended to the Company by such Restricted Subsidiary without prior approval (that has not been obtained), pursuant to the terms of its charter and all agreements, instruments, judgments, decrees, orders, statutes, rules and governmental regulations applicable to that Subsidiary or its stockholders (other than restrictions in effect on the Issue Date and other than restrictions that are created or exist in compliance with Section 4.08 hereof).

"Consolidated Net Income" means, with respect to any specified Person for any period, the aggregate of the Net Income of such Person and its Restricted Subsidiaries for such period, on a consolidated basis, determined in accordance with GAAP; provided that:

(1) the Net Income (but not loss) of any Person that is not a Restricted Subsidiary or that is accounted for by the equity method of accounting shall be included only to the extent of the amount of dividends or distributions paid in cash to the specified Person or a Restricted Subsidiary thereof;

(2) the Net Income of any Restricted Subsidiary shall be excluded to the extent that the declaration or payment of dividends or similar distributions by that Restricted Subsidiary of that Net Income is not at the date of determination permitted without any prior governmental approval (that has not been obtained) or, directly or indirectly, by operation of the terms of its charter or any agreement, instrument, judgment, decree, order, statute, rule or governmental regulation applicable to that Restricted Subsidiary or its stockholders (other than restrictions in effect on the Issue Date and other than restrictions that are created or exist in compliance with Section 4.08 hereof);

(3) the Net Income of any Person acquired in a pooling of interests transaction for any period prior to the date of such acquisition shall be excluded;

(4) the Net Income (but not loss) of any Unrestricted Subsidiary shall be excluded, whether or not distributed to the specified Person or one of its Subsidiaries;

(5) restructuring charges and write-offs recorded prior to the first anniversary of the date hereof, in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$12.5 million, shall be excluded; and

 $\ensuremath{\text{(6)}}$ the cumulative effect of a change in accounting principles shall be excluded.

"Continuing Directors" means, as of any date of determination, any member of the Board of Directors who (i) was a member of such Board of Directors on the date hereof or (ii) was nominated for election or elected to such Board of Directors with the approval of a majority of the Continuing Directors who were members of such Board at the time of such nomination or election.

"Corporate Trust Office of the Trustee" shall be at the address of the Trustee specified in Section 13.02 hereof or such other address as to which the Trustee may give notice to the Company.

"Credit Facility" means, with respect to the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries:

(1) that certain Credit Facility, dated as of December 4, 1998, by and among the Company, certain of the Company's Subsidiaries, the lenders party thereto, the Chase Manhattan Bank, as Administrative Agent, Salomon Smith Barney Inc., as Syndication Agent, Credit Lyonnais Chicago Branch, as Co-Documentation Agent and NBD Bank, as Co-Documentation Agent providing for up to \$500.0 million of revolving credit borrowings and \$525.0 million in term loans, in each case including any related notes, guarantees, collateral documents, instruments and agreements executed in connection therewith, and in each case as amended, modified, renewed, refunded, replaced or refinanced from time to time; and

(2) one or more debt facilities or commercial paper facilities, in each case with banks or other institutional lenders providing for revolving credit loans, term loans, receivables financing (including through the sale of receivables to such lenders or to special purpose entities formed to borrow from such lenders against such receivables) or letters of credit, in each case, as amended, restated, modified, renewed, refunded, replaced or refinanced in whole or in part from time to time.

"Default" means any event that is or with the passage of time or the giving of notice or both would be an Event of Default.

"Definitive Note" means a certificated Note registered in the name of the Holder thereof and issued in accordance with Section 2.06 hereof, in the form of EXHIBIT A-1 hereto except that such Note shall not bear the Global Note Legend and shall not have the "Schedule of Exchanges of Interests in the Global Note" attached thereto.

"Depositary" means, with respect to the Notes issuable or issued in whole or in part in global form, the Person specified in Section 2.03 hereof as the Depositary with respect to the Notes, and any and all successors thereto appointed as depositary hereunder and having become such pursuant to the applicable provision of this Indenture.

"Disqualified Stock" means any Capital Stock that, by its terms (or by the terms of any security into which it is convertible, or for which it is exchangeable, in each case at the option of the holder thereof), or upon the happening of any event, matures or is mandatorily redeemable, pursuant to a sinking fund obligation or otherwise, or redeemable at the option of the holder thereof, in whole or in part, on or prior to the date that is 91 days after the date on which the Notes mature. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, any Capital Stock that would constitute Disqualified Stock solely because the holders thereof have the right to require the Company to repurchase such Capital Stock upon the occurrence of a change of control or an asset sale shall not constitute Disqualified Stock.

"Domestic Restricted Subsidiary" means, with respect to the Company, any Restricted Subsidiary that was formed under the laws of the United States of America or any State thereof.

"Equity Interests" means Capital Stock and all warrants, options or other rights to acquire Capital Stock (but excluding any debt security that is convertible into, or exchangeable for, Capital Stock).

"Euroclear" means Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, Brussels office, as operator of the Euroclear system.

"Exchange Act" means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

"Exchange Notes" means the Series B Notes issued in the Exchange Offer pursuant to Section 2.06(f) hereof.

"Exchange Offer" has the meaning set forth in the Registration Rights Agreement.

"Exchange Offer Registration Statement" has the meaning set forth in the Registration Rights Agreement.

"Exclusive Agency and Marketing Agreement" means the Exclusive Agency and Marketing Agreement between the Company and Monsanto Company, dated as of September 30, 1998 (as amended and restated as of November 11, 1998) as the same may be amended, modified, restated, extended, renewed or replaced from time to time.

"Existing Indebtedness" means Indebtedness of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries (in addition to Indebtedness under the Credit Facility) in existence on the date hereof, until such amounts are repaid.

"fair market value" means, with respect to any asset or property, the price which could be negotiated in an arm's-length, free market transaction, for cash, between a willing seller and a willing and able buyer, neither of whom is under undue pressure or compulsion to complete the transaction. Unless the TIA otherwise requires, fair market value shall be determined by the Board of Directors of the Company acting reasonably and in good faith and shall be evidenced by a Board Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Company delivered to the Trustee.

"Fixed Charges" means, with respect to any Person for any period, the sum, without duplication, of:

(1) the consolidated net interest expense of such Person and its Restricted Subsidiaries for such period, whether paid or accrued, including, without limitation, amortization of original issue discount, non-cash interest payments, the interest component of any deferred payment obligations, the interest component of all payments associated with Capital Lease Obligations, imputed interest with respect to Attributable Debt, commissions, discounts and other fees and charges incurred in respect of letter of credit or bankers' acceptance financings, and net payments, if any, pursuant to Hedging Obligations, but excluding amortization of debt issuance costs and other non-cash amortization; plus

 $\hbox{(2) the consolidated interest of such Person and its } Restricted Subsidiaries that was capitalized during such period; plus$

(3) any interest expense on Indebtedness of another Person that is Guaranteed by such Person or one of its Restricted Subsidiaries or secured by a Lien on assets of such Person or one of its Restricted Subsidiaries, whether or not such Guarantee or Lien is called upon; plus

(4) the product of (a) all dividend payments, whether or not in cash, on any series of preferred stock of such Person or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries, other than dividend payments on Equity Interests payable solely in Equity Interests of the Company (other than Disqualified Stock) or to the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company, times (b) a fraction, the numerator of which is one and the denominator of which is one minus the then current combined federal, state and local statutory tax rate of such Person, expressed as a decimal, in each case, on a consolidated basis and in accordance with GAAP.

"Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio" means with respect to any specified Person for any period, the ratio of the Consolidated Cash Flow of such Person and its Restricted Subsidiaries for such period to the Fixed Charges of such Person for such period. In the event that the specified Person or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries incurs, assumes, Guarantees or redeems any Indebtedness (other than revolving credit borrowings) or issues or redeems preferred stock subsequent to the commencement of the period for which the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio is being calculated but prior to the date on which the event for which the calculation of the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio is made (the "Calculation Date"), then the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio shall be calculated giving pro forma effect to such incurrence, assumption, Guarantee or redemption of Indebtedness, or such issuance or redemption of preferred stock, as if the same had occurred at the beginning of the applicable four-quarter reference period.

 $\hbox{ In addition, for purposes of calculating the Fixed Charge} \\ \hbox{ Coverage Ratio:}$

(1) acquisitions that have been made by the specified Person or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries, including through mergers or consolidations and including any related financing transactions, during the four-quarter reference period or subsequent to such reference period and on or prior to the Calculation Date shall be deemed to have occurred on the first day of the four-quarter reference period and Consolidated Cash Flow for such reference period shall be calculated without giving effect to clause (3) of the proviso set forth in the definition of Consolidated Net Income;

(2) the Consolidated Cash Flow attributable to discontinued operations, as determined in accordance with GAAP, and operations or businesses disposed of prior to the Calculation Date, shall be excluded; and

(3) the Fixed Charges attributable to discontinued operations, as determined in accordance with GAAP, and operations or businesses disposed of prior to the Calculation Date, shall be excluded, but only to the extent that the obligations giving rise to such Fixed Charges will not be obligations of the specified Person or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries following the Calculation Date.

"Foreign Subsidiary" means, with respect to the Company, any Subsidiary that does not meet the definition of a Domestic Subsidiary.

"GAAP" means generally accepted accounting principles set forth in the opinions and pronouncements of the Accounting Principles Board of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and statements and pronouncements of the Financial Accounting Standards Board or in such other statements by such other entity as have been approved by a significant segment of the accounting profession, which are in effect from time to time.

"Global Note Legend" means the legend set forth in Section $2.06\left(g\right)$ (ii), which is required to be placed on all Global Notes issued under this Indenture.

"Global Notes" means, individually and collectively, each of the Restricted Global Notes and the Unrestricted Global Notes, in the form of EXHIBIT A-1 or A-2 hereto issued in accordance with Section 2.01, 2.06(b)(iv), 2.06(d)(ii) or 2.06(f) hereof.

"Government Securities" means direct obligations of, or obligations guaranteed by, the United States of America, and the payment for which the United States pledges its full faith and credit.

"Guarantee" means a guarantee other than by endorsement of negotiable instruments for collection in the ordinary course of business, direct or indirect, in any manner including, without limitation, by way of a pledge of assets or through letters of credit or reimbursement agreements in respect thereof, of all or any part of any Indebtedness.

"Guarantors" means:

- $\hbox{(1) each Wholly Owned Domestic Restricted Subsidiary} of the Company on the date hereof; and \\$
- (2) any other Subsidiary of the Company that executes a Subsidiary Guarantee in accordance with the provisions of this Indenture;

and their respective successors and assigns.

"Hedging Obligations" means, with respect to any Person, the obligations of such Person under: $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right) +\left(1\right) \left(1\right) \left(1\right) +\left(1\right) \left(1\right$

- (1) interest rate swap agreements, interest rate cap agreements and interest rate collar agreements or exchange rate or raw materials price risk agreements; and
- $(2) \ \, \text{other agreements or arrangements designed to} \\ \text{protect such Person against fluctuations in interest rates, in each case} \\ \text{pursuant to any Credit Facilities permitted pursuant to Section 4.09 hereof.} \\$

"Holder" means a Person in whose name a Note is registered.

"IAI Global Note" means the global Note in the form of EXHIBIT A-1 hereto bearing the Global Note Legend and the Private Placement Legend and deposited with or on behalf of and registered in the name of the Depositary or its nominee that will be issued in a denomination equal to the outstanding principal amount of the Notes sold to Institutional Accredited Investors.

"Indebtedness" means, with respect to any specified Person, without duplication, any indebtedness of such Person, whether or not contingent, in respect of:

- (1) borrowed money;
- $\hbox{(2) evidenced by bonds, notes, debentures or similar instruments or letters of credit (or reimbursement agreements in respect thereof);}$
 - (3) banker's acceptances;
 - (4) representing Capital Lease Obligations;
- (5) the balance deferred and unpaid of the purchase price of any property, except any such balance that constitutes an accrued expense or trade payable; or
 - (6) representing any Hedging Obligations,

if and to the extent any of the preceding items (other than letters of credit and Hedging Obligations) would appear as a liability upon a balance sheet of the specified Person prepared in accordance with GAAP. In addition, the term "Indebtedness" includes, without duplication, all Indebtedness of others secured by a Lien on any asset of the specified Person (whether or not such Indebtedness is assumed by the specified Person) and, to the extent not otherwise included, the Guarantee by such Person of any indebtedness of any other Person.

The amount of any Indebtedness outstanding as of any date shall be:

- $\hbox{(1) the accreted value thereof, in the case of any } \\ Indebtedness issued with original issue discount; and }$
- $\,$ (2) the principal amount thereof, together with any interest thereon that is more than 30 days past due, in the case of any other Indebtedness.
- "Indenture" means this Indenture, as amended or supplemented from time to time.
- "Indirect Participant" means a Person who holds a beneficial interest in a Global Note through a Participant.
- "Initial Notes" means \$300.0 million in aggregate principal amount of Notes issued under this Indenture on the date hereof.
- "Initial Purchaser" shall have the meaning assigned to such term in the Offering Memorandum.
- "Institutional Accredited Investor" means an institution that is an "accredited investor" as defined in Rule 501(a)(1), (2), (3) or (7) under the Securities Act, who are not also QIBs.
- "Investments" means, with respect to any Person, all investments by such Person in other Persons (including Affiliates) in the forms of direct or indirect loans (including guarantees of Indebtedness or other obligations), advances or capital contributions (excluding commission, travel and similar advances to officers and employees made in the ordinary course of business), purchases or other

acquisitions for consideration of Indebtedness, Equity Interests or other securities, together with all items that are or would be classified as investments on a balance sheet prepared in accordance with GAAP. If the Company or any Subsidiary of the Company sells or otherwise disposes of any Equity Interests of any direct or indirect Subsidiary of the Company such that, after giving effect to any such sale or disposition, such Person is no longer a Subsidiary of the Company, the Company shall be deemed to have made an Investment on the date of any such sale or disposition equal to the fair market value of the Equity Interests of such Subsidiary not sold or disposed of in an amount determined as provided in the final paragraph of Section 4.07 hereof.

"Issue Date" means the date of first issuance of the Notes under this Indenture. $\ensuremath{\mbox{}}$

"Legal Holiday" means a Saturday, a Sunday or a day on which banking institutions in the City of New York, or the city in which the principal corporate trust office of the Trustee is located, or at a place of payment are authorized by law, regulation or executive order to remain closed. If a payment date is a Legal Holiday at a place of payment, payment may be made at that place on the next succeeding day that is not a Legal Holiday, and no interest shall accrue on such payment for the intervening period.

"Letter of Transmittal" means the letter of transmittal to be prepared by the Company and sent to all Holders of the Notes for use by such Holders in connection with the Exchange Offer.

"Lien" means, with respect to any asset, any mortgage, lien, pledge, charge, security interest or encumbrance of any kind in respect of such asset, whether or not filed, recorded or otherwise perfected under applicable law, including any conditional sale or other title retention agreement, any lease in the nature thereof, any option or other agreement to sell or give a security interest in and any filing of or agreement to give any financing statement under the Uniform Commercial Code (or equivalent statutes) of any jurisdiction.

"Liquidated Damages" means all amounts owing pursuant to Section 5 of the Registration Rights Agreement.

"Net Income" means, with respect to any Person, the net income (loss) of such Person and its Restricted Subsidiaries, determined in accordance with GAAP and before any reduction in respect of preferred stock dividends, excluding, however:

(1) any gain or loss, together with any related provision for taxes on such gain or loss, realized in connection with: (a) any Asset Sale or any other sale, lease, conveyance or other disposition of any assets or rights (other than sales of inventory in the ordinary course of business) in a single transaction or in a series of related transactions that involves assets or rights having an aggregate fair market value equal to or greater than \$2.5 million; or (b) the disposition of any securities by such Person or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries or the extinguishment of any Indebtedness of such Person or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries; and

(2) any extraordinary gain or loss, together with any related provision for taxes on such extraordinary gain or loss; and

 $\hbox{(3) any non-cash expenses attributable to grants or exercises of employee stock options.}$

Company.

"Net Proceeds" means the aggregate cash proceeds received by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries in respect of any Asset Sale (including, without limitation, any cash received upon the sale or other disposition of any non-cash consideration received in any Asset Sale), net of the direct costs relating to such Asset Sale, including, without limitation, legal, accounting and investment banking fees, and sales commissions, and any relocation expenses incurred as a result thereof, taxes paid or payable as a result thereof, in each case after taking into account any available tax credits or deductions and any tax sharing arrangements and amounts required to be applied to the repayment of Indebtedness, other than Senior Debt, secured by a Lien on the asset or assets that were the subject of such Asset Sale.

"Non-Recourse Debt" means Indebtedness:

(1) as to which neither the Company nor any of its Restricted Subsidiaries (a) provides credit support of any kind (including any undertaking, agreement or instrument that would constitute Indebtedness), (b) is directly or indirectly liable as a guarantor or otherwise, or (c) constitutes the lender;

(2) no default with respect to which (including any rights that the holders thereof may have to take enforcement action against an Unrestricted Subsidiary) would permit upon notice, lapse of time or both any holder of any other Indebtedness (other than the Notes) of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to declare a default on such other Indebtedness or cause the payment thereof to be accelerated or payable prior to its stated maturity; and

(3) as to which the lenders have been notified in writing that they will not have any recourse to the stock or assets of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries.

"Non-U.S. Person" means a Person who is not a U.S. Person.

"Note Custodian" means the Trustee, as custodian with respect to the Notes in global form, or any successor entity thereto.

"Notes" has the meaning assigned to it in the preamble to this Indenture. $\ensuremath{\mbox{^{\prime\prime}}}$

"Offering" means the offering of the Initial Notes by the

"Offering Memorandum" means the Offering Memorandum, dated January 21, 1999, pursuant to which the Initial Notes were offered and sold.

"Officer" means, with respect to the Company or any Guarantor, any Chairman of the Board, Vice Chairman of the Board, President, Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operating Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Executive Vice President, Senior Vice President, Vice President, Treasurer or Secretary of such Person.

"Officers Certificate" means a certificate that meets the requirements of Section 13.5 and has been signed by two Officers.

"Opinion of Counsel" means an opinion in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Trustee and from legal counsel who is reasonably acceptable to the Trustee, that meets the requirements of Section 13.05 hereof. The counsel may be an employee of or counsel to the Company, any Subsidiary of the Company or the Trustee.

"Participant" means, with respect to the Depositary, Euroclear or CEDEL, a Person who has an account with the Depositary, Euroclear or CEDEL, respectively (and, with respect to The Depository Trust Company, shall include Euroclear and CEDEL).

"Obligations" means any principal, interest, penalties, fees, indemnifications, reimbursements, damages and other liabilities payable under the documentation governing any Indebtedness.

"Permitted Investments" means:

- $\qquad \qquad \text{(1) any Investment in the Company or in a Restricted} \\ \text{Subsidiary of the Company;}$
 - (2) any Investment in Cash Equivalents;
- (3) any Investment by the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company in a Person, if as a result of such Investment:
 - (a) such Person becomes a Restricted

Subsidiary of the Company; or

- (b) such Person is merged, consolidated or amalgamated with or into, or transfers or conveys substantially all of its assets to, or is liquidated into, the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company;
- (4) any Investment made as a result of the receipt of non-cash consideration from an Asset Sale that was made pursuant to and in compliance with Section 4.10 hereof;
- (5) any acquisition of assets solely in exchange for the issuance of Equity Interests (other than Disqualified Stock) of the Company;
- (6) investments in accounts or notes receivable acquired in the ordinary course of business;
- (7) the designation of one or more Subsidiaries of the Company whose assets and operations are exclusively related to the professional business segment of the Company;
- (8) any payment by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries pursuant to the Exclusive Agency and Marketing Agreement; and
- (9) other Investments in any Person having an aggregate fair market value (measured on the date each such Investment was made and without giving effect to subsequent changes

in value), when taken together with all other Investments made pursuant to this clause (9) that are at any time outstanding, not to exceed \$50.0 million.

"Permitted Liens" means:

- $\hbox{(1) Liens securing Senior Debt that was permitted by the terms of this Indenture to be incurred;}\\$
 - (2) Liens in favor of the Company or the Guarantors;
- (3) Liens on property of a Person existing at the time such Person is merged with or into or consolidated with the Company or any Subsidiary of the Company; provided that such Liens were not entered into in contemplation of such merger or consolidation and do not extend to any assets other than those of the Person merged into or consolidated with the Company or the Subsidiary;
- (4) Liens on property existing at the time of acquisition thereof by the Company or any Subsidiary of the Company, provided that such Liens were not entered into in contemplation of such acquisition;
- (5) Liens to secure the performance of statutory obligations, surety or appeal bonds, performance bonds or other obligations of a like nature incurred in the ordinary course of business;
- (6) Liens to secure Indebtedness (including Capital Lease Obligations) permitted by clause (4) of the second paragraph of Section 4.09 hereof covering only the assets acquired with such Indebtedness;
 - (7) Liens existing on the date hereof;
- (8) Liens on Assets of Guarantors to secure Senior Debt of such Guarantor that was permitted by this Indenture to be incurred;
- (9) Liens for taxes, assessments or governmental charges or claims that are not yet delinquent or that are being contested in good faith by appropriate proceedings promptly instituted and diligently concluded, provided that any reserve or other appropriate provision as shall be required in conformity with GAAP shall have been made therefor;
- \$(10)\$ Liens incurred in the ordinary course of business of the Company or any Subsidiary of the Company with respect to obligations that do not exceed \$5.0 million at any one time outstanding; and
- (11) Liens on assets of Unrestricted Subsidiaries that secure Non Recourse Debt of Unrestricted Subsidiaries.

"Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness" means any Indebtedness of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries issued in exchange for, or the net proceeds of which are used to extend, refinance, renew, replace, defease or refund other Indebtedness of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries (other than intercompany Indebtedness); provided that:

(1) the principal amount (or accreted value, if applicable) of such Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness does not exceed the principal amount of (or accreted value, if applicable), plus accrued interest on, the Indebtedness so extended, refinanced, renewed, replaced, defeased or refunded (plus the amount of reasonable expenses incurred in connection therewith including premiums paid, if any, to the holders thereof);

(2) such Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness has a final maturity date later than the final maturity date of, and has a Weighted Average Life to Maturity equal to or greater than the Weighted Average Life to Maturity of, the Indebtedness being extended, refinanced, renewed, replaced, defeased or refunded;

(3) if the Indebtedness being extended, refinanced, renewed, replaced, defeased or refunded is subordinated in right of payment to the Notes, such Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness has a final maturity date later than the final maturity date of, and is subordinated in right of payment to, the Notes on terms at least as favorable to the Holders of Notes as those contained in the documentation governing the Indebtedness being extended, refinanced, renewed, replaced, defeased or refunded; and

(4) such Indebtedness shall not be incurred by a Restricted Subsidiary that is not a Guarantor to refinance debt of the Company or a Guarantor.

"Person" means any individual, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, joint venture, association, joint-stock company, trust or unincorporated organization (including any subdivision or ongoing business of any such entity or substantially all of the assets of any such entity, subdivision or business).

"Principals" means the Hagedorn Partnership, L.P., and any Partner or Affiliate thereof or of such Partner.

"Private Placement Legend" means the legend set forth in Section $2.06\,(g)\,(i)$ to be placed on all Notes issued under this Indenture except where otherwise permitted by the provisions of this Indenture.

"QIB" means a "qualified institutional buyer" as defined in

Rule 144A.

"Qualified Securitization Transaction" means any transaction or series of transactions pursuant to which the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries may sell, convey or otherwise transfer to (a) a Securitization Entity (in the case of a transfer by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries) and (b) any other Person (in case of a transfer by a Securitization Entity), or may grant a security interest in, any accounts receivable or equipment (whether now existing or arising or acquired in the future) of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries, and any assets related thereto including, without limitation, all collateral securing such accounts receivable and equipment, all contracts and contract rights and all Guarantees or other obligations in respect of such accounts receivable and equipment, proceeds of such accounts receivable and equipment, proceeds of such accounts receivable and equipment and other assets (including contract

rights) which are customarily transferred or in respect of which security interests are customarily granted in connection with asset securitization transactions involving accounts receivable and equipment.

"Registration Rights Agreement" means the Registration Rights Agreement, dated as of the date hereof, by and among the Company and the other parties named on the signature pages thereof, as such agreement may be amended, modified or supplemented from time to time and, with respect to any Additional Notes, one or more registration rights agreements between the Company and the other parties thereto, as such agreement(s) may be amended, modified or supplemented from time to time, relating to rights given by the Company to the purchasers of Additional Notes to register such Additional Notes under the Securities Act.

"Regulation S" means Regulation S promulgated under the Securities $\mbox{{\sc Act.}}$

"Regulation S Global Note" means a Regulation S Temporary Global Note or Regulation S Permanent Global Note, as appropriate.

"Regulation S Permanent Global Note" means a permanent global Note in the form of EXHIBIT A-1 hereto bearing the Global Note Legend and the Private Placement Legend and deposited with or on behalf of and registered in the name of the Depositary or its nominee, issued in a denomination equal to the outstanding principal amount of the Regulation S Temporary Global Note upon expiration of the Restricted Period.

"Regulation S Temporary Global Note" means a temporary global Note in the form of EXHIBIT A-2 hereto bearing the Private Placement Legend and deposited with or on behalf of and registered in the name of the Depositary or its nominee, issued in a denomination equal to the outstanding principal amount of the Notes initially sold in reliance on Rule 903 of Regulation S.

"Related Business" means the business conducted (or proposed to be conducted) by the Company and its Subsidiaries as of the Issue Date and any and all businesses that in the good faith judgment of the Board of Directors of the Company are reasonably related thereto.

"Related Party" with respect to any Principal means:

 $\,$ (1) any controlling stockholder, 80% or more owned Subsidiary, or spouse or immediate family member (in the case of an individual) of such Principal; or

(2) any trust, corporation, partnership or other entity, the beneficiaries, stockholders, partners, owners or Persons beneficially holding an 80% or more controlling interest of which consist of such Principal and/or such other Persons referred to in the immediately preceding clause (1).

"Responsible Officer," when used with respect to the Trustee, means any officer within the Corporate Trust Administration of the Trustee (or any successor group of the Trustee) or any other officer of the Trustee customarily performing functions similar to those performed by any of the above designated officers and also means, with respect to a particular corporate trust matter, any other officer to whom such matter is referred because of his knowledge of and familiarity with the particular subject.

"Restricted Definitive Note" means a Definitive Note bearing the Private Placement Legend.

"Restricted Global Note" means a Global Note bearing the Private Placement Legend. $\,$

"Restricted Investment" means an Investment other than a Permitted Investment.

"Restricted Period" means the 40-day restricted period as defined in Regulation S.

"Restricted Subsidiary" of a Person means any Subsidiary of the referent Person that is not an Unrestricted Subsidiary.

"Rule 144" means Rule 144 promulgated under the Securities

Act.

"Rule 144A" means Rule 144A promulgated under the Securities

Act.

"Rule 903" means Rule 903 promulgated under the Securities

Act.

"Rule 904" means Rule 904 promulgated the Securities Act.

"SEC" means the Securities and Exchange Commission.

"Securities Act" means the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

"Securitization Entity" means a Wholly Owned Subsidiary of the Company (or another Person in which the Company or any Subsidiary of the Company makes an Investment and to which the Company or any Subsidiary of the Company transfers accounts receivable or equipment and related assets) that engages in no activities other than in connection with the financing of accounts receivable or equipment and that is a Securitization Entity (a) no portion of the Indebtedness or any other Obligations (contingent or otherwise) of which (i) is guaranteed by the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company (excluding guarantees of Obligations (other than the principal of, and interest on, Indebtedness)) pursuant to Standard Securitization Undertakings, (ii) is recourse to or obligates the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company in any way other than pursuant to Standard Securitization Undertakings or (iii) subjects any property or asset of the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company, directly or indirectly, contingently or otherwise, to the satisfaction thereof, other than pursuant to Standard Securitization Undertakings, (b) with which neither the Company nor any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company has any material contract, agreement, arrangement or understanding other than on terms no less favorable to the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary than those that might be obtained at the time from Persons that are not Affiliates of the Company, other than fees payable in the ordinary course of business in connection with servicing receivables of such entity, and (c) to which neither the Company nor any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company has any obligation to maintain or preserve such entity's financial condition or cause such entity to achieve certain levels of operating results.

"Shelf Registration Statement" means the Shelf Registration Statement as defined in the Registration Rights Agreement.

"Significant Domestic Restricted Subsidiary" means any Domestic Restricted Subsidiary, other than any Wholly Owned Domestic Restricted Subsidiary, that both is a Significant Subsidiary of the Company and guarantees or otherwise provides direct credit support for any Senior Debt of the Company.

"Significant Subsidiary" means any Subsidiary that would be a "significant subsidiary" as defined in Article 1, Rule 1-02 of Regulation S-X, promulgated pursuant to the Act, as such Regulation is in effect on the date hereof.

"Standard Securitization Undertakings" means representations, warranties, covenants and indemnities entered into by the Company or any Subsidiary of the Company that are reasonably customary in an accounts receivable or equipment transaction.

"Stated Maturity" means, with respect to any installment of interest or principal on any series of Indebtedness, the date on which such payment of interest or principal was scheduled to be paid in the original documentation governing such Indebtedness, and shall not include any contingent obligations to repay, redeem or repurchase any such interest or principal prior to the date originally scheduled for the payment thereof.

"Subsidiary" means, with respect to any Person:

(1) any corporation, association or other business entity of which more than 50% of the total voting power of shares of Capital Stock entitled (without regard to the occurrence of any contingency) to vote in the election of directors, managers or trustees thereof is at the time owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by such Person or one or more of the other Subsidiaries of that Person (or a combination thereof); and

(2) any partnership (a) the sole general partner or the managing general partner of which is such Person or a Subsidiary of such Person or (b) the only general partners of which are such Person or of one or more Subsidiaries of such Person (or any combination thereof).

"Subsidiary Guarantee" means the subordinated Guarantee by each Guarantor of the Company's payment obligations under this Indenture and the Notes, executed pursuant to the provisions of this Indenture.

"TIA" means the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 (15 U.S.C sections 77aaa-77bbbb) as in effect on the date on which this Indenture is qualified under the TIA.

"Treasury Rate" means, as of any Redemption Date, the yield to maturity as of the Redemption Date of United States Treasury securities with a constant maturity (as compiled and published in the most recent Federal Reserve Statistical Release H.15 (519) that has become publicly available at least two Business Days prior to the Redemption Date (or, if such Statistical Release is no longer published, any publicly available source of similar market data)) most nearly equal to the period from the Redemption Date to January 15, 2004; provided, however, that if the period from the Redemption Date to January 15, 2004 is less than one year, the weekly average yield on actually traded United States Treasury securities adjusted to a constant maturity of one year shall be used.

"Trustee" means the party named as such above until a successor replaces it in accordance with the applicable provisions of this Indenture and thereafter means the successor serving hereunder.

"Unrestricted Definitive Note" means one or more Definitive Notes that do not bear and are not required to bear the Private Placement Legend.

"Unrestricted Global Note" means a permanent global Note in the form of EXHIBIT A-1 attached hereto that bears the Global Note Legend and that has the "Schedule of Exchanges of Interests in the Global Note" attached thereto, and that is deposited with or on behalf of and registered in the name of the Depositary, representing a series of Notes that do not bear the Private Placement Legend.

"Unrestricted Subsidiary" means any Subsidiary of the Company that is designated by the Board of Directors as an Unrestricted Subsidiary pursuant to a Board Resolution, but only to the extent that such Subsidiary:

- (1) has no Indebtedness other than Non-Recourse Debt;
- (2) is not party to any agreement, contract, arrangement or understanding with the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company unless the terms of any such agreement, contract, arrangement or understanding are no less favorable to the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary than those that might be obtained at the time from Persons who are not Affiliates of the Company;
- (3) is a Person with respect to which neither the Company nor any of its Restricted Subsidiaries has any direct or indirect obligation (a) to subscribe for additional Equity Interests or (b) to maintain or preserve such Person's financial condition or to cause such Person to achieve any specified levels of operating results; and

(4) has not guaranteed or otherwise directly or indirectly provided credit support for any Indebtedness of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries.

Any designation of a Subsidiary of the Company as an Unrestricted Subsidiary shall be evidenced to the Trustee by filing with the Trustee a certified copy of the Board Resolution giving effect to such designation and an Officers' Certificate certifying that such designation complied with the preceding conditions and was permitted by Section 4.07 hereof. If, at any time, any Unrestricted Subsidiary would fail to meet the preceding requirements as an Unrestricted Subsidiary, it shall thereafter cease to be an Unrestricted Subsidiary for purposes of this Indenture and any Indebtedness of such Subsidiary shall be deemed to be incurred by a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company as of such date and, if such Indebtedness is not permitted to be incurred as of such date pursuant to Section 4.09 hereof, the Company shall be in default of such covenant. The Board of Directors of the Company may at any time designate any Unrestricted Subsidiary to be a Restricted Subsidiary; provided that such designation shall be deemed to be an incurrence of Indebtedness by a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company of any outstanding Indebtedness of such Unrestricted Subsidiary and such designation shall only be permitted if (1) such Indebtedness is permitted pursuant to Section 4.09 hereof, calculated on a pro forma basis as if such designation had occurred at the beginning of the four-quarter reference period; and (2) no Default or Event of Default would be in existence following such designation.

If a Guarantor is designated as an Unrestricted Subsidiary, the Subsidiary Guarantee of that Guarantor shall be released. If an Unrestricted Subsidiary becomes a Restricted Subsidiary, such Restricted Subsidiary shall become a Guarantor in accordance with the terms of this Indenture.

"U.S. Person" means a U.S. person as defined in Rule $902\,(\mathrm{o})$ under the Securities Act.

"Voting Stock" of any Person as of any date means the Capital Stock of such Person that is at the time entitled to vote in the election of the Board of Directors of such Person.

"Weighted Average Life to Maturity" means, when applied to any Indebtedness at any date, the number of years obtained by dividing:

(1) the sum of the products obtained by multiplying (a) the amount of each then remaining installment, sinking fund, serial maturity or other required payments of principal, including payment at final maturity, in respect thereof, by (b) the number of years (calculated to the nearest one-twelfth) that will elapse between such date and the making of such payment; by

(2) the then outstanding principal amount of such

Indebtedness.

"Wholly Owned Domestic Restricted Subsidiary" means, with respect to the Company, any Domestic Restricted Subsidiary that meets the definition of a Wholly Owned Restricted Subsidiary.

"Wholly Owned Restricted Subsidiary" of any Person means a Restricted Subsidiary of such Person all of the outstanding Capital Stock or other ownership interests of which (other than directors' qualifying shares) shall at the time be owned by such Person and/or by one or more Wholly Owned Restricted Subsidiaries of such Person.

SECTION 1.02. OTHER DEFINITIONS.

Term	Defined in Section
"Affiliate Transaction"	4.11
"Asset Sale Offer"	4.10
"Authentication Order"	2.02
"Change of Control Offer"	4.15
"Change of Control Payment"	4.15
"Change of Control Payment Date"	4.15
"Covenant Defeasance"	8.03
"Designated Senior Debt"	10.02
"Event of Default"	6.01
"Excess Proceeds"	4.10
"incur"	4.09
"Legal Defeasance"	8.02
"Offer Amount"	3.09
"Offer Period"	3.09
"Paying Agent"	2.03

"Payment Blockage Notice"	10.04
"Permitted Indebtedness"	4.09
"Permitted Junior Securities"	10.02
"Purchase Date"	3.09
"Redemption Date"	3.07
"Registrar"	2.03
"Representative"	10.02
"Restricted Payments"	4.07
"Revocation"	4.07
"Senior Debt"	10.02

SECTION 1.03. TRUST INDENTURE ACT DEFINITIONS

Whenever this Indenture refers to a provision of the TIA, the provision is incorporated by reference in and made a part of this Indenture.

 $$\operatorname{\mathtt{The}}$$ following TIA terms used in this Indenture have the following meanings:

- "indenture securities" means the Notes;
- "indenture security Holder" means a Holder of a Note;
- "indenture to be qualified" means this Indenture;
- "indenture trustee" or "institutional trustee" means the

Trustee; and

"obligor" on the Notes or the Subsidiary Guarantees means the Company and the Guarantors, respectively and any successor obligor upon the Notes and the Subsidiary Guarantees, respectively.

All other terms used in this Indenture that are defined by the TIA, defined by TIA reference to another statute or defined by SEC rule under the TIA have the meanings so assigned to them.

SECTION 1.04. RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.

Unless the context otherwise requires:

- (1) a term has the meaning assigned to it;
- (2) an accounting term not otherwise defined has the meaning assigned to it in accordance with GAAP;
 - (3) "or" is not exclusive;
- $\mbox{\ensuremath{\mbox{(4)}}}$ words in the singular include the plural, and in the plural include the singular;

(5) provisions apply to successive events and

transactions; and

(6) references to sections of or rules under the Securities Act shall be deemed to include substitute, replacement of successor sections or rules adopted by the SEC from time to time.

ARTICLE 2.
THE NOTES

SECTION 2.01. FORM AND DATING.

(a) General.

The Notes and the Trustee's certificate of authentication shall be substantially in the form of EXHIBITS A-1 and A-2 hereto. The Notes may have notations, legends or endorsements required by law, stock exchange rule or usage. Each Note shall be dated the date of its authentication. The Notes shall be in denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples thereof.

The terms and provisions contained in the Notes shall constitute, and are hereby expressly made, a part of this Indenture and the Company, the Guarantors and the Trustee, by their execution and delivery of this Indenture, expressly agree to such terms and provisions and to be bound thereby. However, to the extent any provision of any Note conflicts with the express provisions of this Indenture, the provisions of this Indenture shall govern and be controlling.

(b) Global Notes.

Notes issued in global form shall be substantially in the form of EXHIBITS A-1 or A-2 attached hereto (including the Global Note Legend thereon and the "Schedule of Exchanges of Interests in the Global Note" attached thereto). Notes issued in definitive form shall be substantially in the form of EXHIBIT A-1 attached hereto (but without the Global Note Legend thereon and without the "Schedule of Exchanges of Interests in the Global Note" attached thereto). Each Global Note shall represent such of the outstanding Notes as shall be specified therein and each shall provide that it shall represent the aggregate principal amount of outstanding Notes from time to time endorsed thereon and that the aggregate principal amount of outstanding Notes represented thereby may from time to time be reduced or increased, as appropriate, to reflect exchanges and redemptions. Any endorsement of a Global Note to reflect the amount of any increase or decrease in the aggregate principal amount of outstanding Notes represented thereby shall be made by the Trustee or the Note Custodian, at the direction of the Trustee, in accordance with instructions given by the Holder thereof as required by Section 2.06 hereof.

(c) Temporary Global Notes.

Notes offered and sold in reliance on Regulation S shall be issued initially in the form of the Regulation S Temporary Global Note, which shall be deposited on behalf of the purchasers of the Notes represented thereby with the Trustee, at its New York office, as custodian for the Depositary, and registered in the name of the Depositary or the nominee of the Depositary for the accounts of designated agents holding on behalf of Euroclear or CEDEL Bank, duly executed by the Company and authenticated by the Trustee as hereinafter provided. The Restricted Period shall be terminated upon the receipt by the

Trustee of (i) a written certificate from the Depositary, together with copies of certificates from Euroclear and CEDEL Bank certifying that they have received certification of non-United States beneficial ownership of 100% of the aggregate principal amount of the Regulation S Temporary Global Note (except to the extent of any beneficial owners thereof who acquired an interest therein during the Restricted Period pursuant to another exemption from registration under the Securities Act and who will take delivery of a beneficial ownership interest in a 144A Global Note or an IAI Global Note bearing a Private Placement Legend, all as contemplated by Section 2.06(a)(ii) hereof), and (ii) an Officers' Certificate from the Company. Following the termination of the Restricted Period, beneficial interests in the Regulation S Temporary Global Note shall be exchanged for beneficial interests in Regulation S Permanent Global Notes pursuant to the Applicable Procedures. Simultaneously with the authentication of Regulation S Permanent Global Notes, the Trustee shall cancel the Regulation S Temporary Global Note. The aggregate principal amount of the Regulation S Temporary Global Note and the Regulation S Permanent Global Notes may from time to time be increased or decreased by adjustments made on the records of the Trustee and the Depositary or its nominee, as the case may be, in connection with transfers of interest as hereinafter provided.

(d) Euroclear and CEDEL Procedures Applicable.

The provisions of the "Operating Procedures of the Euroclear System" and "Terms and Conditions Governing Use of Euroclear" and the "General Terms and Conditions of CEDEL Bank" and "Customer Handbook" of CEDEL Bank shall be applicable to transfers of beneficial interests in the Regulation S Temporary Global Note and the Regulation S Permanent Global Notes that are held by Participants through Euroclear or CEDEL Bank.

SECTION 2.02. EXECUTION AND AUTHENTICATION.

 $$\operatorname{\mathtt{Two}}$ Officers shall sign the Notes for the Company by manual or facsimile signature.

If an Officer whose signature is on a Note no longer holds that office at the time a Note is authenticated, the Note shall nevertheless be valid.

A Note shall not be valid until authenticated by the manual signature of the Trustee. The signature shall be conclusive evidence that the Note has been authenticated under this Indenture.

The Trustee shall, upon a written order of the Company signed by two Officers (an "Authentication Order"), authenticate Notes for original issue up to the aggregate principal amount stated in paragraph 4 of the Notes. The aggregate principal amount of Notes outstanding at any time may not exceed such amount except as provided in Section 2.07 hereof.

The Trustee may appoint an authenticating agent acceptable to the Company to authenticate Notes. An authenticating agent may authenticate Notes whenever the Trustee may do so. Each reference in this Indenture to authentication by the Trustee includes authentication by such agent. An authenticating agent has the same rights as an Agent to deal with Holders or an Affiliate of the Company.

SECTION 2.03. REGISTRAR AND PAYING AGENT.

The Company shall maintain an office or agency where Notes may be presented for registration of transfer or for exchange ("Registrar") and an office or agency where Notes may be presented for payment ("Paying Agent"). The Registrar shall keep a register of the Notes and of their transfer and exchange. The Company may appoint one or more co-registrars and one or more additional paying agents. The term "Registrar" includes any co-registrar and the term "Paying Agent" includes any additional paying agent. The Company may change any Paying Agent or Registrar without notice to any Holder. The Company shall notify the Trustee in writing of the name and address of any Agent not a party to this Indenture. If the Company fails to appoint or maintain another entity as Registrar or Paying Agent, the Trustee shall act as such. The Company or any of its Subsidiaries may act as Paying Agent or Registrar.

 $\hbox{The Company initially appoints The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") to act as Depositary with respect to the Global Notes.}$

The Company initially appoints the Trustee to act as the Registrar and Paying Agent and to act as Note Custodian with respect to the Global Notes.

 $\hbox{The Trustee is authorized to enter into a letter of } \\ \hbox{representations with DTC in the form provided to the Trustee by the Company and to act in accordance with such letter.} \\$

SECTION 2.04. PAYING AGENT TO HOLD MONEY IN TRUST.

The Company shall require each Paying Agent other than the Trustee to agree in writing that the Paying Agent will hold in trust for the benefit of Holders or the Trustee all money held by the Paying Agent for the payment of principal, premium or Liquidated Damages, if any, or interest on the Notes, and will notify the Trustee of any default by the Company in making any such payment. While any such default continues, the Trustee may require a Paying Agent to pay all money held by it to the Trustee. The Company at any time may require a Paying Agent to pay all money held by it to the Trustee. Upon payment over to the Trustee, the Paying Agent (if other than the Company or a Subsidiary) shall have no further liability for the money. If the Company or a Subsidiary acts as Paying Agent, it shall segregate and hold in a separate trust fund for the benefit of the Holders all money held by it as Paying Agent. Upon any bankruptcy or reorganization proceedings relating to the Company, the Trustee shall serve as Paying Agent for the Notes.

SECTION 2.05. HOLDER LISTS.

The Trustee shall preserve in as current a form as is reasonably practicable the most recent list available to it of the names and addresses of all Holders and shall otherwise comply with TIA section 312(a). If the Trustee is not the Registrar, the Company shall furnish to the Trustee at least seven Business Days before each interest payment date and at such other times as the Trustee may request in writing, a list in such form and as of such date as the Trustee may reasonably require of the names and addresses of the Holders of Notes and the Company shall otherwise comply with TIA section 312(a).

SECTION 2.06. TRANSFER AND EXCHANGE.

(a) Transfer and Exchange of Global Notes.

A Global Note may not be transferred as a whole except by the Depositary to a nominee of the Depositary, by a nominee of the Depositary to the Depositary or to another nominee of the Depositary, the Depositary or any such nominee to a successor Depositary or a nominee of such successor Depositary. All Global Notes will be exchanged by the Company for Definitive Notes if (i) the Company delivers to the Trustee notice from the Depositary that it is unwilling or unable to continue to act as Depositary or that it is no longer a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act and, in either case, a successor Depositary is not appointed by the Company within 120 days after the date of such notice from the Depositary or (ii) the Company in its sole discretion determines that the Global Notes (in whole but not in part) should be exchanged for Definitive Notes and delivers a written notice to such effect to the Trustee; provided that in no event shall the Regulation S Temporary Global Note be exchanged by the Company for Definitive Notes prior to (x) the expiration of the Restricted Period and (y) the receipt by the Registrar of any certificates determined by the Company to be required pursuant to Rule 903(c)(3)(ii)(B) under the Securities Act. Upon the occurrence of either of the preceding events in (i) or (ii) above, Definitive Notes shall be issued in such names as the Depositary shall instruct the Trustee. Global Notes also may be exchanged or replaced, in whole or in part, as provided in Sections 2.07 and 2.10 hereof. Every Note authenticated and delivered in exchange for, or in lieu of, a Global Note or any portion thereof, pursuant to this Section 2.06 or Section 2.07 or 2.10 hereof, shall be authenticated and delivered in the form of, and shall be, a Global Note. A Global Note may not be exchanged for another Note other than as provided in this Section 2.06(a), however, beneficial interests in a Global Note may be transferred and exchanged as provided in Section 2.06(b), (c) or (f) hereof.

 $\mbox{\footnote{A}}$ (b) Transfer and Exchange of Beneficial Interests in the Global Notes.

The transfer and exchange of beneficial interests in the Global Notes shall be effected through the Depositary, in accordance with the provisions of this Indenture and the Applicable Procedures. Beneficial interests in the Restricted Global Notes shall be subject to restrictions on transfer comparable to those set forth herein to the extent required by the Securities Act. Transfers of beneficial interests in the Global Notes also shall require compliance with either subparagraph (i) or (ii) below, as applicable, as well as one or more of the other following subparagraphs, as applicable:

- (i) Transfer of Beneficial Interests in the Same Global Note. Beneficial interests in any Restricted Global Note may be transferred to Persons who take delivery thereof in the form of a beneficial interest in the same Restricted Global Note in accordance with the transfer restrictions set forth in the Private Placement Legend; provided, however, that prior to the expiration of the Restricted Period, transfers of beneficial interests in the Temporary Regulation S Global Note may not be made to a U.S. Person or for the account or benefit of a U.S. Person (other than an Initial Purchaser). Beneficial interests in any Unrestricted Global Note may be transferred to Persons who take delivery thereof in the form of a beneficial interest in an Unrestricted Global Note. No written orders or instructions shall be required to be delivered to the Registrar to effect the transfers described in this Section 2.06(b)(i).
- (ii) All Other Transfers and Exchanges of Beneficial Interests in Global Notes. In connection with all transfers and exchanges of beneficial interests that are not subject to Section

2.06(b)(i) above, the transferor of such beneficial interest must deliver to the Depositary either (A) (1) a written order from a Participant or an Indirect Participant given to the Depositary in accordance with the Applicable Procedures directing the Depositary to credit or cause to be credited a beneficial interest in another Global Note in an amount equal to the beneficial interest to be transferred or exchanged and (2) instructions given in accordance with the $\mbox{Applicable Procedures containing information}$ regarding the Participant account to be credited with such increase or (B) (1) a written order from a Participant or an Indirect Participant given to the Depositary in accordance with the Applicable Procedures directing the Depositary to cause to be issued a Definitive Note in an amount equal to the beneficial interest to be transferred or exchanged and (2) instructions given by the Depositary to the Registrar containing information regarding the Person in whose name such Definitive Note shall be registered to effect the transfer or exchange referred to in (1) above, provided that in no event shall Definitive Notes be issued upon the transfer or exchange of beneficial interests in the Regulation S Temporary Global Note prior to (x) the expiration of the Restricted Period and (y) the receipt by the Registrar of any certificates determined by the Company to be required pursuant to Rule 903 under the Securities Act. Upon consummation of an Exchange Offer by the Company in accordance with Section 2.06(f) hereof, the requirements of this Section 2.06(b)(ii) shall be deemed to have been satisfied upon receipt by the Registrar of the instructions contained in the Letter of Transmittal delivered by the Holder of such beneficial interests in the Restricted Global Notes. Upon satisfaction of all of the requirements for transfer or exchange of beneficial interests in Global Notes contained in this Indenture and the Notes or otherwise applicable under the Securities Act, the Trustee shall adjust the principal amount of the relevant Global Note(s) pursuant to Section 2.06(h) hereof.

(iii) Transfer of Beneficial Interests to Another Restricted Global Note. A beneficial interest in any Restricted Global Note may be transferred to a Person who takes delivery thereof in the form of a beneficial interest in another Restricted Global Note if the transfer complies with the requirements of Section 2.06(b)(ii) above and the Registrar receives the following:

- (A) if the transferee will take delivery in the form of a beneficial interest in the 144A Global Note, then the transferor must deliver a certificate in the form of EXHIBIT B hereto, including the certifications in item (1) thereof;
- (B) if the transferee will take delivery in the form of a beneficial interest in the Regulation S Temporary Global Note or the Regulation S Global Note, then the transferor must deliver a certificate in the form of EXHIBIT B hereto, including the certifications in item (2) thereof; and
- (C) if the transferee will take delivery in the form of a beneficial interest in the IAI Global Note, then the transferor must deliver a certificate in the form of EXHIBIT B hereto, including the certifications and certificates and Opinion of Counsel required by item (3) thereof, if applicable.

(iv) Transfer and Exchange of Beneficial Interests in a Restricted Global Note for Beneficial Interests in the Unrestricted Global Note. A beneficial interest in any Restricted Global Note may be exchanged by any holder thereof for a beneficial interest in an Unrestricted Global Note or transferred to a Person who takes delivery thereof in the form of a beneficial interest in an

Unrestricted Global Note if the exchange or transfer complies with the requirements of Section 2.06(b)(ii) above and:

- (A) such exchange or transfer is effected pursuant to the Exchange Offer in accordance with the Registration Rights Agreement and the holder of the beneficial interest to be transferred, in the case of an exchange, or the transferee, in the case of a transfer, certifies in the applicable Letter of Transmittal or via the Depositary's book-entry system that it is not (1) a broker-dealer, (2) a Person participating in the distribution of the Exchange Notes or (3) a Person who is an affiliate (as defined in Rule 144) of the Company;
- (B) such transfer is effected pursuant to the Shelf Registration Statement in accordance with the Registration Rights Agreement;
- (C) such transfer is effected by a Broker-Dealer pursuant to the Exchange Offer Registration Statement in accordance with the Registration Rights Agreement; or
 - (D) the Registrar receives the following:
- (1) if the holder of such beneficial interest in a Restricted Global Note proposes to exchange such beneficial interest for a beneficial interest in an Unrestricted Global Note, a certificate from such holder in the form of EXHIBIT C hereto, including the certifications in item (1)(a) thereof; or
- (2) if the holder of such beneficial interest in a Restricted Global Note proposes to transfer such beneficial interest to a Person who shall take delivery thereof in the form of a beneficial interest in an Unrestricted Global Note, a certificate from such holder in the form of EXHIBIT B hereto, including the certifications in item (4) thereof;

and, in each such case set forth in this subparagraph (D), if the Registrar so requests or if the Applicable Procedures so require, an Opinion of Counsel in form reasonably acceptable to the Registrar to the effect that such exchange or transfer is in compliance with the Securities Act and that the restrictions on transfer contained herein and in the Private Placement Legend are no longer required in order to maintain compliance with the Securities Act.

If any such transfer is effected pursuant to subparagraph (B) or (D) above at a time when an Unrestricted Global Note has not yet been issued, the Company shall issue and, upon receipt of an Authentication Order in accordance with Section 2.02 hereof, the Trustee shall authenticate one or more Unrestricted Global Notes in an aggregate principal amount equal to the aggregate principal amount of beneficial interests transferred pursuant to subparagraph (B) or (D) above.

Beneficial interests in an Unrestricted Global Note cannot be exchanged for, or transferred to Persons who take delivery thereof in the form of, a beneficial interest in a Restricted Global Note.

(c) Transfer or Exchange of Beneficial Interests for Definitive Notes.

- (i) Beneficial Interests in Restricted Global Notes to Restricted Definitive Notes. If any holder of a beneficial interest in a Restricted Global Note proposes to exchange such beneficial interest for a Restricted Definitive Note or to transfer such beneficial interest to a Person who takes delivery thereof in the form of a Restricted Definitive Note, then, upon receipt by the Registrar of the following documentation:
 - (A) if the holder of such beneficial interest in a Restricted Global Note proposes to exchange such beneficial interest for a Restricted Definitive Note, a certificate from such holder in the form of EXHIBIT C hereto, including the certifications in item (2) (a) thereof;
 - (B) if such beneficial interest is being transferred to a QIB in accordance with Rule 144A, a certificate to the effect set forth in Exhibit B hereto, including the certifications in item (1) thereof;
 - (C) if such beneficial interest is being transferred to a Non-U.S. Person in an offshore transaction in accordance with Rule 903 or Rule 904, a certificate to the effect set forth in EXHIBIT B hereto, including the certifications in item (2) thereof;
 - (D) if such beneficial interest is being transferred pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act in accordance with Rule 144, a certificate to the effect set forth in Exhibit B hereto, including the certifications in item (3)(a) thereof;
 - (E) if such beneficial interest is being transferred to an Institutional Accredited Investor in reliance on an exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act other than those listed in subparagraphs (B) through (D) above, a certificate to the effect set forth in EXHIBIT B hereto, including the certifications, certificates and Opinion of Counsel required by item (3) thereof, if applicable;
 - (F) if such beneficial interest is being transferred to the Company or any of its Subsidiaries, a certificate to the effect set forth in EXHIBIT B hereto, including the certifications in item (3)(b) thereof; or
 - (G) if such beneficial interest is being transferred pursuant to an effective registration statement under the Securities Act, a certificate to the effect set forth in EXHIBIT B hereto, including the certifications in item (3) (c) thereof,

the Trustee shall cause the aggregate principal amount of the applicable Global Note to be reduced accordingly pursuant to Section 2.06(h) hereof, and the Company shall execute and the Trustee shall authenticate and deliver to the Person designated in the instructions a Definitive Note in the appropriate principal amount. Any Definitive Note issued in exchange for a beneficial interest in a Restricted Global Note pursuant to this Section 2.06(c) shall be registered in such name or names and in such authorized denomination or denominations as the holder of such beneficial interest shall instruct the Registrar through instructions from the Depositary and the Participant or Indirect Participant. The Trustee shall deliver such Definitive Notes to the Persons in whose names such Notes are so registered. Any Definitive Note issued in exchange

for a beneficial interest in a Restricted Global Note pursuant to this Section 2.06(c)(i) shall bear the Private Placement Legend and shall be subject to all restrictions on transfer contained therein.

- (ii) Notwithstanding Sections 2.06(c) (i) (A) and (C) hereof, a beneficial interest in the Regulation S Temporary Global Note may not be exchanged for a Definitive Note or transferred to a Person who takes delivery thereof in the form of a Definitive Note prior to (x) the expiration of the Restricted Period and (y) the receipt by the Registrar of any certificates determined by the Company to be required pursuant to Rule 903(c)(3)(ii)(B) under the Securities Act, except in the case of a transfer pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act other than Rule 903 or Rule 904.
- (iii) Beneficial Interests in Restricted Global Notes to Unrestricted Definitive Notes. A holder of a beneficial interest in a Restricted Global Note may exchange such beneficial interest for an Unrestricted Definitive Note or may transfer such beneficial interest to a Person who takes delivery thereof in the form of an Unrestricted Definitive Note only if:
 - (A) such exchange or transfer is effected pursuant to the Exchange Offer in accordance with the Registration Rights Agreement and the holder of such beneficial interest, in the case of an exchange, or the transferee, in the case of a transfer, certifies in the applicable Letter of Transmittal that it is not (1) a broker-dealer, (2) a Person participating in the distribution of the Exchange Notes or (3) a Person who is an affiliate (as defined in Rule 144) of the Company;
 - (B) such transfer is effected pursuant to the Shelf Registration Statement in accordance with the Registration Rights Agreement;
 - (C) such transfer is effected by a Broker-Dealer pursuant to the Exchange Offer Registration Statement in accordance with the Registration Rights Agreement; or
 - (D) the Registrar receives the following:
 - (1) if the holder of such beneficial interest in a Restricted Global Note proposes to exchange such beneficial interest for a Definitive Note that does not bear the Private Placement Legend, a certificate from such holder in the form of EXHIBIT C hereto, including the certifications in item (1)(b) thereof; or
 - (2) if the holder of such beneficial interest in a Restricted Global Note proposes to transfer such beneficial interest to a Person who shall take delivery thereof in the form of a Definitive Note that does not bear the Private Placement Legend, a certificate from such holder in the form of EXHIBIT B hereto, including the certifications in item (4) thereof;
 - and, in each such case set forth in this subparagraph (D), if the Registrar so requests or if the Applicable Procedures so require, an Opinion of Counsel in form reasonably acceptable to the Registrar to the effect that such exchange or transfer is in compliance with the Securities Act and

that the restrictions on transfer contained herein and in the Private Placement Legend are no longer required in order to maintain compliance with the Securities Act.

- (iv) Beneficial Interests in Unrestricted Global Notes to Unrestricted Definitive Notes. If any holder of a beneficial interest in an Unrestricted Global Note proposes to exchange such beneficial interest for a Definitive Note or to transfer such beneficial interest to a Person who takes delivery thereof in the form of a Definitive Note, then, upon satisfaction of the conditions set forth in Section 2.06(b)(ii) hereof, the Trustee shall cause the aggregate principal amount of the applicable Global Note to be reduced accordingly pursuant to Section 2.06(h) hereof, and the Company shall execute and the Trustee shall authenticate and deliver to the Person designated in the instructions a Definitive Note in the appropriate principal amount. Any Definitive Note issued in exchange for a beneficial interest pursuant to this Section 2.06(c)(iii) shall be registered in such name or names and in such authorized denomination or denominations as the holder of such beneficial interest shall instruct the Registrar through instructions from the Depositary and the Participant or Indirect Participant. The Trustee shall deliver such Definitive Notes to the Persons in whose names such Notes are so registered. Any Definitive Note issued in exchange for a beneficial interest pursuant to this Section 2.06(c)(iii) shall not bear the Private Placement Legend.
 - (d) Transfer and Exchange of Definitive Notes for Beneficial Interests.
- (i) Restricted Definitive Notes to Beneficial Interests in Restricted Global Notes. If any Holder of a Restricted Definitive Note proposes to exchange such Note for a beneficial interest in a Restricted Global Note or to transfer such Restricted Definitive Notes to a Person who takes delivery thereof in the form of a beneficial interest in a Restricted Global Note, then, upon receipt by the Registrar of the following documentation:
 - (A) if the Holder of such Restricted Definitive Note proposes to exchange such Note for a beneficial interest in a Restricted Global Note, a certificate from such Holder in the form of EXHIBIT C hereto, including the certifications in item (2)(b) thereof;
 - (B) if such Restricted Definitive Note is being transferred to a QIB in accordance with Rule 144A, a certificate to the effect set forth in EXHIBIT B hereto, including the certifications in item (1) thereof;
 - (C) if such Restricted Definitive Note is being transferred to a Non-U.S. Person in an offshore transaction in accordance with Rule 903 or Rule 904, a certificate to the effect set forth in EXHIBIT B hereto, including the certifications in item (2)
 - (D) if such Restricted Definitive Note is being transferred pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act in accordance with Rule 144, a certificate to the effect set forth in EXHIBIT B hereto, including the certifications in item (3)(a) thereof;
 - $\mbox{(E)}$ if such Restricted Definitive Note is being transferred to an Institutional Accredited Investor in reliance on an exemption from the registration requirements

of the Securities Act other than those listed in subparagraphs (B) through (D) above, a certificate to the effect set forth in EXHIBIT B hereto, including the certifications, certificates and Opinion of Counsel required by item (3) thereof, if applicable;

- (F) if such Restricted Definitive Note is being transferred to the Company or any of its Subsidiaries, a certificate to the effect set forth in EXHIBIT B hereto, including the certifications in item (3) (b) thereof; or
- (G) if such Restricted Definitive Note is being transferred pursuant to an effective registration statement under the Securities Act, a certificate to the effect set forth in EXHIBIT B hereto, including the certifications in item (3)(c) thereof,

the Trustee shall cancel the Restricted Definitive Note, increase or cause to be increased the aggregate principal amount of, in the case of clause (A) above, the appropriate Restricted Global Note, in the case of clause (B) above, the 144A Global Note, in the case of clause (c) above, the Regulation S Global Note, and in all other cases, the IAI Global Note.

- (ii) Restricted Definitive Notes to Beneficial Interests in Unrestricted Global Notes. A Holder of a Restricted Definitive Note may exchange such Note for a beneficial interest in an Unrestricted Global Note or transfer such Restricted Definitive Note to a Person who takes delivery thereof in the form of a beneficial interest in an Unrestricted Global Note only if:
 - (A) such exchange or transfer is effected pursuant to the Exchange Offer in accordance with the Registration Rights Agreement and the Holder, in the case of an exchange, or the transferee, in the case of a transfer, certifies in the applicable Letter of Transmittal that it is not (1) a broker-dealer, (2) a Person participating in the distribution of the Exchange Notes or (3) a Person who is an affiliate (as defined in Rule 144) of the Company;
 - (B) such transfer is effected pursuant to the Shelf Registration Statement in accordance with the Registration Rights Agreement;
 - (C) such transfer is effected by a Broker-Dealer pursuant to the Exchange Offer Registration Statement in accordance with the Registration Rights Agreement; or
 - (D) the Registrar receives the following:
 - (1) if the Holder of such Definitive Notes proposes to exchange such Notes for a beneficial interest in the Unrestricted Global Note, a certificate from such Holder in the form of EXHIBIT C hereto, including the certifications in item (1)(c) thereof; or
 - (2) if the Holder of such Definitive Notes proposes to transfer such Notes to a Person who shall take delivery thereof in the form of a beneficial interest in the Unrestricted Global Note, a certificate from such Holder in the form of EXHIBIT B hereto, including the certifications in item (4) thereof;

and, in each such case set forth in this subparagraph (D), if the Registrar so requests or if the Applicable Procedures so require, an Opinion of Counsel in form reasonably acceptable to the Registrar to the effect that such exchange or transfer is in compliance with the Securities Act and that the restrictions on transfer contained herein and in the Private Placement Legend are no longer required in order to maintain compliance with the Securities Act.

Upon satisfaction of the conditions of any of the subparagraphs in this Section 2.06(d)(ii), the Trustee shall cancel the Definitive Notes and increase or cause to be increased the aggregate principal amount of the Unrestricted Global Note.

(iii) Unrestricted Definitive Notes to Beneficial Interests in Unrestricted Global Notes. A Holder of an Unrestricted Definitive Note may exchange such Note for a beneficial interest in an Unrestricted Global Note or transfer such Definitive Notes to a Person who takes delivery thereof in the form of a beneficial interest in an Unrestricted Global Note at any time. Upon receipt of a request for such an exchange or transfer, the Trustee shall cancel the applicable Unrestricted Definitive Note and increase or cause to be increased the aggregate principal amount of one of the Unrestricted Global Notes.

If any such exchange or transfer from a Definitive Note to a beneficial interest in a Global Note is effected pursuant to subparagraphs (ii) (B), (ii) (D) or (iii) above at a time when an Unrestricted Global Note has not yet been issued, the Company shall issue and, upon receipt of an Authentication Order in accordance with Section 2.02 hereof, the Trustee shall authenticate one or more Unrestricted Global Notes in an aggregate principal amount equal to the principal amount of Definitive Notes so transferred.

(e) Transfer and Exchange of Definitive Notes for Definitive Notes.

Upon request by a Holder of Definitive Notes and such Holder's compliance with the provisions of this Section 2.06(e), the Registrar shall register the transfer or exchange of Definitive Notes. Prior to such registration of transfer or exchange, the requesting Holder shall present or surrender to the Registrar the Definitive Notes duly endorsed or accompanied by a written instruction of transfer in form satisfactory to the Registrar duly executed by such Holder or by his attorney, duly authorized in writing. In addition, the requesting Holder shall provide any additional certifications, documents and information, as applicable, required pursuant to the following provisions of this Section 2.06(e).

- (i) Restricted Definitive Notes to Restricted Definitive Notes. Any Restricted Definitive Note may be transferred to and registered in the name of Persons who take delivery thereof in the form of a Restricted Definitive Note if the Registrar receives the following:
 - (A) if the transfer will be made pursuant to Rule 144A, then the transferor must deliver a certificate in the form of EXHIBIT B hereto, including the certifications in item (1) thereof;
 - (B) if the transfer will be made pursuant to Rule 903 or Rule 904, then the transferor must deliver a certificate in the form of EXHIBIT B hereto, including the certifications in item (2) thereof; and

- (C) if the transfer will be made pursuant to any other exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act, then the transferor must deliver a certificate in the form of EXHIBIT B hereto, including the certifications, certificates and Opinion of Counsel required by item (3) thereof, if applicable.
- (ii) Restricted Definitive Notes to Unrestricted Definitive Notes. Any Restricted Definitive Note may be exchanged by the Holder thereof for an Unrestricted Definitive Note or transferred to a Person or Persons who take delivery thereof in the form of an Unrestricted Definitive Note if:
 - (A) such exchange or transfer is effected pursuant to the Exchange Offer in accordance with the Registration Rights Agreement and the Holder, in the case of an exchange, or the transferee, in the case of a transfer, certifies in the applicable Letter of Transmittal that it is not (1) a broker-dealer, (2) a Person participating in the distribution of the Exchange Notes or (3) a Person who is an affiliate (as defined in Rule 144) of the Company;
 - (B) any such transfer is effected pursuant to the Shelf Registration Statement in accordance with the Registration Rights Agreement;
 - (C) any such transfer is effected by a Broker-Dealer pursuant to the Exchange Offer Registration Statement in accordance with the Registration Rights Agreement; or
 - (D) the Registrar receives the following:
 - (1) if the Holder of such Restricted Definitive Notes proposes to exchange such Notes for an Unrestricted Definitive Note, a certificate from such Holder in the form of EXHIBIT C hereto, including the certifications in item (1) (d) thereof; or
 - (2) if the Holder of such Restricted Definitive Notes proposes to transfer such Notes to a Person who shall take delivery thereof in the form of an Unrestricted Definitive Note, a certificate from such Holder in the form of EXHIBIT B hereto, including the certifications in item (4) thereof;
 - and, in each such case set forth in this subparagraph (D), if the Registrar so requests, an Opinion of Counsel in form reasonably acceptable to the Company to the effect that such exchange or transfer is in compliance with the Securities Act and that the restrictions on transfer contained herein and in the Private Placement Legend are no longer required in order to maintain compliance with the Securities
- (iii) Unrestricted Definitive Notes to Unrestricted Definitive Notes. A Holder of Unrestricted Definitive Notes may transfer such Notes to a Person who takes delivery thereof in the form of an Unrestricted Definitive Note. Upon receipt of a request to register such a transfer, the Registrar shall register the Unrestricted Definitive Notes pursuant to the instructions from the Holder thereof.
 - (f) Exchange Offer.

Upon the occurrence of the Exchange Offer in accordance with the Registration Rights Agreement, the Company shall issue and, upon receipt of an Authentication Order in accordance with Section 2.02 hereof, the Trustee shall authenticate (i) one or more Unrestricted Global Notes in an aggregate principal amount equal to the principal amount of the beneficial interests in the Restricted Global Notes tendered for acceptance by Persons that certify in the applicable Letters of Transmittal or via the Depositary's book-entry system that (x) they are not broker-dealers, (y) they are not participating in a distribution of the Exchange Notes and (z) they are not affiliates (as defined in Rule 144) of the Company, and accepted for exchange in the Exchange Offer and (ii) Definitive Notes in an aggregate principal amount equal to the principal amount of the Restricted Definitive Notes accepted for exchange in the Exchange Offer. Concurrently with the issuance of such Notes, the Trustee shall cause the aggregate principal amount of the applicable Restricted Global Notes to be reduced accordingly, and the Company shall execute and the Trustee shall authenticate and make available for delivery to the Persons designated by the Holders of Definitive Notes so accepted Definitive Notes in the appropriate principal amount.

(g) Legends. The following legends shall appear on the face of all Global Notes and Definitive Notes issued under this Indenture unless specifically stated otherwise in the applicable provisions of this Indenture.

(i) Private Placement Legend.

(A) Except as permitted by subparagraph (B) below, each Global Note and each Definitive Note (and all Notes issued in exchange therefor or substitution thereof) shall bear the legend in substantially the following form:

"THIS NOTE HAS NOT BEEN REGISTERED UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, AS AMENDED (THE "SECURITIES ACT"), AND THIS NOTE MAY NOT BE OFFERED, SOLD, PLEDGED OR OTHERWISE TRANSFERRED EXCEPT PURSUANT TO AN EFFECTIVE REGISTRATION STATEMENT OR IN ACCORDANCE WITH AN APPLICABLE EXEMPTION FROM THE REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS OF THE SECURITIES ACT (SUBJECT TO THE DELIVERY OF SUCH EVIDENCE, IF ANY REQUIRED UNDER THE INDENTURE PURSUANT TO WHICH THIS NOTE IS ISSUED) AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANY APPLICABLE SECURITIES LAWS OF ANY STATE OF THE UNITED STATES OR ANY OTHER JURISDICTION. EACH PURCHASER OF THE SECURITY EVIDENCED HEREBY IS HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT THE SELLER MAY BE RELYING ON THE EXEMPTION FROM THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 5 OF THE SECURITIES ACT PROVIDED BY RULE 144A THEREUNDER OR ANOTHER EXEMPTION UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT. THE HOLDER OF THE SECURITY EVIDENCED HEREBY AGREES FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COMPANY THAT (A) SUCH SECURITY MAY BE RESOLD, PLEDGED OR OTHERWISE TRANSFERRED ONLY (1)(a) TO A PERSON WHO THE SELLER REASONABLY BELIEVES IS A QUALIFIED INSTITUTIONAL BUYER (AS DEFINED IN RULE 144A UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT) IN A TRANSACTION MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF RULE 144A, (b) IN A TRANSACTION MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF RULE 144 UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT, (c) OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES TO A FOREIGN PERSON IN A TRANSACTION MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF RULE 904 UNDER THE

SECURITIES ACT OR (d) IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANOTHER EXEMPTION FROM THE REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS OF THE SECURITIES ACT (AND BASED UPON AN OPINION OF COUNSEL IF THE COMPANY SO REQUESTS), SUBJECT TO THE RECEIPT BY THE REGISTRAR OF A CERTIFICATION OF THE TRANSFEROR AND AN OPINION OF COUNSEL TO THE EFFECT THAT SUCH TRANSFER IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE SECURITIES ACT, (2) TO THE COMPANY OR (3) PURSUANT TO AN EFFECTIVE REGISTRATION STATEMENT AND, IN EACH CASE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANY APPLICABLE SECURITIES LAWS OF ANY STATE OF THE UNITED STATES OR ANY OTHER APPLICABLE SECURITIES LAWS OF ANY STATE OF THE UNITED STATES OR ANY OTHER APPLICABLE JURISDICTION AND (B) THE HOLDER WILL AND EACH SUBSEQUENT HOLDER IS REQUIRED TO NOTIFY ANY PURCHASER FROM IT OF THE SECURITY EVIDENCED HEREBY OF THE RESALE RESTRICTION SET FORTH IN (A) ABOVE."

- (B) Notwithstanding the foregoing, any Global Note or Definitive Note issued pursuant to subparagraphs (b)(iv), (c)(ii), (c)(iii), (d)(ii), (d)(iii), (e)(iii) or (f) to this Section 2.06 (and all Notes issued in exchange therefor or substitution thereof) shall not bear the Private Placement Legend.
- (ii) Global Note Legend. Each Global Note shall bear a legend in substantially the following form:

"THIS GLOBAL NOTE IS HELD BY THE DEPOSITARY (AS DEFINED IN THE INDENTURE GOVERNING THIS NOTE) OR ITS NOMINEE IN CUSTODY FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE BENEFICIAL OWNERS HEREOF, AND IS NOT TRANSFERABLE TO ANY PERSON UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES EXCEPT THAT (I) THE TRUSTEE MAY MAKE SUCH NOTATIONS HEREON AS MAY BE REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SECTION 2.07 OF THE INDENTURE, (II) THIS GLOBAL NOTE MAY BE EXCHANGED IN WHOLE BUT NOT IN PART PURSUANT TO SECTION 2.06(a) OF THE INDENTURE, (III) THIS GLOBAL NOTE MAY BE DELIVERED TO THE TRUSTEE FOR CANCELLATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 2.11 OF THE INDENTURE AND (IV) THIS GLOBAL NOTE MAY BE TRANSFERRED TO A SUCCESSOR DEPOSITARY WITH THE PRIOR WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE COMPANY."

(iii) Regulation S Temporary Global Note Legend. The Regulation S Temporary Global Note shall bear a legend in substantially the following form:

"THE RIGHTS ATTACHING TO THIS REGULATION S TEMPORARY GLOBAL NOTE, AND THE CONDITIONS AND PROCEDURES GOVERNING ITS EXCHANGE FOR CERTIFICATED NOTES, ARE AS SPECIFIED IN THE INDENTURE (AS DEFINED HEREIN). NEITHER THE HOLDER NOR THE BENEFICIAL OWNERS OF THIS REGULATION S TEMPORARY GLOBAL NOTE SHALL BE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE PAYMENT OF INTEREST HEREON."

(h) Cancellation and/or Adjustment of Global Notes.

At such time as all beneficial interests in a particular Global Note have been exchanged for Definitive Notes or a particular Global Note has been redeemed, repurchased or canceled in whole and not in part, each such Global Note shall be returned to or retained and canceled by the Trustee in accordance with Section 2.11 hereof. At any time prior to such cancellation, if any beneficial interest in a Global Note is exchanged for or transferred to a Person who will take delivery thereof in the form of a beneficial interest in another Global Note or for Definitive Notes, the principal amount of Notes represented by such Global Note shall be reduced accordingly and an endorsement shall be made on such Global Note by the Trustee or by the Depositary at the direction of the Trustee to reflect such reduction; and if the beneficial interest is being exchanged for or transferred to a Person who will take delivery thereof in the form of a beneficial interest in another Global Note, such other Global Note shall be increased accordingly and an endorsement shall be made on such Global Note by the Trustee or by the Depositary at the direction of the Trustee to reflect such increase.

- (i) General Provisions Relating to Transfers and Exchanges.
- (i) To permit registrations of transfers and exchanges, the Company shall execute and the Trustee shall authenticate Global Notes and Definitive Notes upon the Company's order or at the Registrar's request.
- (ii) No service charge shall be made to a holder of a beneficial interest in a Global Note or to a Holder of a Definitive Note for any registration of transfer or exchange, but the Company may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any transfer tax or similar governmental charge payable in connection therewith (other than any such transfer taxes or similar governmental charge payable upon exchange or transfer pursuant to Sections 2.10, 3.06, 3.09, 4.10, 4.15 and 9.05 hereof).
- (iii) The Registrar shall not be required to register the transfer of or exchange any Note selected for redemption in whole or in part, except the unredeemed portion of any Note being redeemed in part.
- (iv) All Global Notes and Definitive Notes issued upon any registration of transfer or exchange of Global Notes or Definitive Notes shall be the valid obligations of the Company, evidencing the same debt, and entitled to the same benefits under this Indenture, as the Global Notes or Definitive Notes surrendered upon such registration of transfer or exchange.
- (v) The Company shall not be required (A) to issue, to register the transfer of or to exchange any Notes during a period beginning at the opening of business 15 days before the day of the mailing of notice of redemption under Section 3.02 hereof and ending at the close of business on such day, (B) to register the transfer of or to exchange any Note so selected for redemption in whole or in part, except the unredeemed portion of any Note being redeemed in part or (c) to register the transfer of or to exchange a Note between a record date and the next succeeding Interest Payment Date.
- (vi) Prior to due presentment for the registration of a transfer of any Note, the Trustee, any Agent and the Company may deem and treat the Person in whose name any Note is registered as the absolute owner of such Note for the purpose of receiving payment of principal of and interest on such Notes and for all other purposes, and none of the Trustee, any Agent or the Company shall be affected by notice to the contrary.

(vii) The Trustee shall authenticate Global Notes and Definitive Notes in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.02 hereof.

(viii) All certifications, certificates and Opinions of Counsel required to be submitted to the Registrar pursuant to this Section 2.06 to effect a registration of transfer or exchange may be submitted by facsimile.

SECTION 2.07. REPLACEMENT NOTES

If any mutilated Note is surrendered to the Trustee or the Company and the Trustee receives evidence to its satisfaction of the destruction, loss or theft of any Note, the Company shall issue and the Trustee, upon receipt of an Authentication Order, shall authenticate a replacement Note if the Trustee's requirements are met. If required by the Trustee or the Company, an indemnity bond must be supplied by the Holder that is sufficient in the judgment of the Trustee and the Company to protect the Company, the Trustee, any Agent and any authenticating agent from any loss that any of them may suffer if a Note is replaced. The Company may charge for its expenses in replacing a Note.

Every replacement Note is an additional obligation of the Company and shall be entitled to all of the benefits of this Indenture equally and proportionately with all other Notes duly issued hereunder.

SECTION 2.08. OUTSTANDING NOTES.

The Notes outstanding at any time are all the Notes authenticated by the Trustee except for those canceled by it, those delivered to it for cancellation, those reductions in the interest in a Global Note effected by the Trustee in accordance with the provisions hereof, and those described in this Section as not outstanding. Except as set forth in Section 2.09 hereof, a Note does not cease to be outstanding because the Company or an Affiliate of the Company holds the Note; however, Notes held by the Company or a Subsidiary of the Company shall not be deemed to be outstanding for purposes of Section 3.07(b) hereof.

If a Note is replaced pursuant to Section 2.07 hereof, it ceases to be outstanding unless the Trustee receives proof satisfactory to it that the replaced Note is held by a bona fide purchaser or protected purchaser.

 $\qquad \qquad \text{If the principal amount of any Note is considered paid under Section 4.01 hereof, it ceases to be outstanding and interest on it ceases to accrue.} \\$

If the Paying Agent (other than the Company, a Subsidiary or an Affiliate of any thereof) holds, on a redemption date or maturity date, money sufficient to pay Notes payable on that date, then on and after that date such Notes shall be deemed to be no longer outstanding and shall cease to accrue interest.

SECTION 2.09. TREASURY NOTES.

In determining whether the Holders of the required principal amount of Notes have concurred in any direction, waiver or consent, Notes owned by the Company, or by any Person directly or

indirectly controlling or controlled by or under direct or indirect common control with the Company, shall be considered as though not outstanding, except that for the purposes of determining whether the Trustee shall be protected in relying on any such direction, waiver or consent, only Notes that the Trustee knows are so owned shall be so disregarded.

SECTION 2.10. TEMPORARY NOTES

Until certificates representing Notes are ready for delivery, the Company may prepare and the Trustee, upon receipt of an Authentication Order, shall authenticate temporary Notes. Temporary Notes shall be substantially in the form of certificated Notes but may have variations that the Company considers appropriate for temporary Notes and as shall be reasonably acceptable to the Trustee. Without unreasonable delay, the Company shall prepare and the Trustee shall, as soon as practicable upon its receipt of an Authentication Order, authenticate Definitive Notes in exchange for temporary Notes.

 $\,\,$ Holders of temporary Notes shall be entitled to all of the benefits of this Indenture.

SECTION 2.11. CANCELLATION.

The Company at any time may deliver Notes to the Trustee for cancellation. The Registrar and Paying Agent shall forward to the Trustee any Notes surrendered to them for registration of transfer, exchange or payment. The Trustee and no one else shall cancel all Notes surrendered for registration of transfer, exchange, payment, replacement or cancellation and shall destroy canceled Notes (subject to the record retention requirements of the Exchange Act). Certification of the destruction of all canceled Notes shall be delivered to the Company. The Company may not issue new Notes to replace Notes that it has paid or that have been delivered to the Trustee for cancellation.

SECTION 2.12. DEFAULTED INTEREST.

If the Company defaults in a payment of interest on the Notes, it shall pay the defaulted interest in any lawful manner plus, to the extent lawful, interest payable on the defaulted interest, to the Persons who are Holders on a subsequent special record date, in each case at the rate provided in the Notes and in Section 4.01 hereof. The Company shall notify the Trustee in writing of the amount of defaulted interest proposed to be paid on each Note and the date of the proposed payment. The Company shall fix or cause to be fixed each such special record date and payment date, provided that no such special record date shall be less than 10 days prior to the related payment date for such defaulted interest. At least 15 days before the special record date, the Company (or, upon the written request of the Company, the Trustee in the name and at the expense of the Company) shall mail or cause to be mailed to Holders a notice that states the special record date, the related payment date and the amount of such interest to be paid.

SECTION 2.13. CUSTP NUMBERS.

The Company in issuing the Notes may use "CUSIP" numbers (if then generally in use), and, if so, the Trustee shall use CUSIP numbers in notices of redemption as a convenience to Holders; provided that any such notice may state that no representation is made as to the correctness of such numbers either as printed on the Notes or as contained in any notice of a redemption and that reliance may be placed only on the other identification numbers printed on the Notes, and any such redemption

shall not be affected by any defect in or the omission of such numbers. The Company will promptly notify the Trustee of any change in the CUSIP numbers.

ARTICLE 3. REDEMPTION AND PREPAYMENT

SECTION 3.01. NOTICES TO TRUSTEE.

If the Company elects to redeem Notes pursuant to the optional redemption provisions of Section 3.07 hereof, it shall furnish to the Trustee, at least 30 days but not more than 60 days before a redemption date, an Officers' Certificate setting forth (i) the clause of this Indenture pursuant to which the redemption shall occur, (ii) the redemption date, (iii) the principal amount of Notes to be redeemed, (iv) the redemption price and (v) the CUSIP numbers of the Notes to be redeemed.

SECTION 3.02. SELECTION OF NOTES TO BE REDEEMED

If less than all of the Notes are to be redeemed or purchased in an offer to purchase at any time, the Trustee shall select the Notes to be redeemed or purchased among the Holders of the Notes in compliance with the requirements of the principal national securities exchange, if any, on which the Notes are listed or, if the Notes are not so listed, on a pro rata basis, by lot or in accordance with any other method the Trustee considers fair and appropriate. In the event of partial redemption by lot, the particular Notes to be redeemed shall be selected, unless otherwise provided herein, not less than 30 nor more than 60 days prior to the redemption date by the Trustee from the outstanding Notes not previously called for redemption.

The Trustee shall promptly notify the Company in writing of the Notes selected for redemption and, in the case of any Note selected for partial redemption, the principal amount thereof to be redeemed. Notes and portions of Notes selected shall be in amounts of \$1,000 or whole multiples of \$1,000; except that if all of the Notes of a Holder are to be redeemed, the entire outstanding amount of Notes held by such Holder, even if not a multiple of \$1,000, shall be redeemed. Except as provided in the preceding sentence, provisions of this Indenture that apply to Notes called for redemption also apply to portions of Notes called for redemption.

SECTION 3.03. NOTICE OF REDEMPTION

Subject to the provisions of Section 3.09 hereof, at least 30 days but not more than 60 days before a redemption date, the Company shall mail or cause to be mailed, by first class mail, a notice of redemption to each Holder whose Notes are to be redeemed at its registered address.

The notice shall identify the Notes to be redeemed and shall

state:

- (a) the redemption date;
- (b) the redemption price;

(c) if any Note is being redeemed in part, the portion of the principal amount of such Note to be redeemed and that, after the redemption date upon surrender of such Note, a new Note or

Notes in principal amount equal to the unredeemed portion shall be issued upon cancellation of the original Note;

- (d) the name and address of the Paying Agent;
- (e) that Notes called for redemption must be surrendered to the Paying Agent to collect the redemption price;
- $\,$ (f) that, unless the Company defaults in making such redemption payment, interest on Notes called for redemption ceases to accrue on and after the redemption date;
- $\,$ (g) the paragraph of the Notes and/or Section of this Indenture pursuant to which the Notes called for redemption are being redeemed; and
- $\,$ (h) that no representation is made as to the correctness or accuracy of the CUSIP number, if any, listed in such notice or printed on the Notes.

At the Company's request, the Trustee shall give the notice of redemption in the Company's name and at its expense; provided, however, that the Company shall have delivered to the Trustee, at least 45 days prior to the redemption date, an Officers' Certificate requesting that the Trustee give such notice and setting forth the information to be stated in such notice as provided in the preceding paragraph.

SECTION 3.04. EFFECT OF NOTICE OF REDEMPTION

Once notice of redemption is mailed in accordance with Section 3.03 hereof, Notes called for redemption become irrevocably due and payable on the redemption date at the redemption price. A notice of redemption may not be conditional.

SECTION 3.05. DEPOSIT OF REDEMPTION PRICE

One Business Day prior to the redemption date, the Company shall deposit with the Trustee or with the Paying Agent money sufficient to pay the redemption price of and accrued interest on all Notes to be redeemed on that date. The Trustee or the Paying Agent shall promptly return to the Company any money deposited with the Trustee or the Paying Agent by the Company in excess of the amounts necessary to pay the redemption price of, and accrued interest on, all Notes to be redeemed.

If the Company complies with the provisions of the preceding paragraph, on and after the redemption date, interest shall cease to accrue on the Notes or the portions of Notes called for redemption. If a Note is redeemed on or after an interest record date but on or prior to the related interest payment date, then any accrued and unpaid interest shall be paid to the Person in whose name such Note was registered at the close of business on such record date. If any Note called for redemption shall not be so paid upon surrender for redemption because of the failure of the Company to comply with the preceding paragraph, interest shall be paid on the unpaid principal, from the redemption date until such principal is paid, and to the extent lawful on any interest not paid on such unpaid principal, in each case at the rate provided in the Notes and in Section 4.01 hereof.

SECTION 3.06. NOTES REDEEMED IN PART.

Upon surrender of a Note that is redeemed in part, the Company shall issue and, upon receipt of the Company's written request, the Trustee shall, as soon as practicable, authenticate for the Holder at the expense of the Company a new Note equal in principal amount to the unredeemed portion of the Note surrendered.

SECTION 3.07. OPTIONAL REDEMPTION.

(a) The Notes will not be redeemable at the Company's option prior to January 15, 2004. Thereafter, the Notes will be subject to redemption at any time at the option of the Company, in whole or in part, upon not less than 30 nor more than 60 days' notice, at the redemption prices (expressed as percentages of principal amount) set forth below plus accrued and unpaid interest and Liquidated Damages thereon, if any, to the applicable redemption date, if redeemed during the twelve-month period beginning on January 15 of the years indicated below:

YEAR	PERCENTAGE
2004	104.313%
2005	102.875%
2006	101.438%
2007 and thereafter	100.000%

(b) Notwithstanding the foregoing, during the first 36 months after the Issue Date, the Company may redeem up to 35% of the aggregate principal amount of Notes originally issued under this Indenture at a redemption price of 108.625% of the principal amount thereof, plus accrued and unpaid interest and Liquidated Damages thereon, if any, to the redemption date, with the net cash proceeds of one or more public equity offerings; provided that at least 65% of the aggregate principal amount of Notes originally issued under this Indenture remains outstanding immediately after the occurrence of such redemption (excluding Notes held by the Company and its Subsidiaries); and provided, further, that such redemption shall occur within 90 days of the date of the closing of such public equity offering.

(c) Any redemption pursuant to this Section 3.07 shall be made pursuant to the provisions of Section 3.01 through 3.06 hereof.

SECTION 3.08. MANDATORY REDEMPTION.

 $\qquad \qquad \text{The Company shall not be required to make mandatory redemption} \\ \text{or sinking fund payments with respect to the Notes.}$

SECTION 3.09. OFFER TO PURCHASE BY APPLICATION OF EXCESS PROCEEDS.

In the event that, pursuant to Section 4.10 hereof, the Company shall be required to commence an Asset Sale Offer, it shall follow the procedures specified below.

The Asset Sale Offer shall remain open for a period of 20 Business Days following its commencement and no longer, except to the extent that a longer period is required by applicable law (the "Offer Period"). No later than five Business Days after the termination of the Offer Period (the "Purchase Date"), the Company shall purchase the principal amount of Notes required to be purchased pursuant to Section 4.10 hereof (the "Offer Amount") or, if less than the Offer Amount has been tendered, all Notes tendered in response to the Asset Sale Offer. Payment for any Notes so purchased shall be made in the same manner as interest payments are made.

If the Purchase Date is on or after an interest record date and on or before the related interest payment date, any accrued and unpaid interest shall be paid to the Person in whose name a Note is registered at the close of business on such record date, and no additional interest shall be payable to Holders who tender Notes pursuant to the Asset Sale Offer.

Upon the commencement of an Asset Sale Offer, the Company shall send, by first class mail, a notice to the Trustee and each of the Holders, with a copy to the Trustee. The notice shall contain all instructions and materials necessary to enable such Holders to tender Notes pursuant to the Asset Sale Offer. The Asset Sale Offer shall be made to all Holders. The notice, which shall govern the terms of the Asset Sale Offer, shall state:

- (a) that the Asset Sale Offer is being made pursuant to this Section 3.09 and Section 4.10 hereof and the length of time the Asset Sale Offer shall remain open;
- (b) the Offer Amount, the purchase price and the Purchase Date; $% \left\{ \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) +\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) +\frac$
- (c) that any Note not tendered or accepted for payment shall continue to accrue interest;
- (d) that, unless the Company defaults in making such payment, any Note accepted for payment pursuant to the Asset Sale Offer shall cease to accrue interest after the Purchase Date;
- (e) that Holders electing to have a Note purchased pursuant to an Asset Sale Offer may only elect to have all of such Note purchased and may not elect to have only a portion of such Note purchased;
- (f) that Holders electing to have a Note purchased pursuant to any Asset Sale Offer shall be required to surrender the Note, with the form entitled "Option of Holder to Elect Purchase" on the reverse of the Note completed, or transfer by book-entry transfer, to the Company, a depositary, if appointed by the Company, or a Paying Agent at the address specified in the notice at least three days before the Purchase Date;
- (g) that Holders shall be entitled to withdraw their election if the Company, the depositary or the Paying Agent, as the case may be, receives, not later than the expiration of the Offer Period, a telegram, telex, facsimile transmission or letter setting forth the name of the Holder, the principal amount of the Note the Holder delivered for purchase and a statement that such Holder is withdrawing his election to have such Note purchased;

(h) that, if the aggregate principal amount of Notes surrendered by Holders exceeds the Offer Amount, the Company shall select the Notes to be purchased on a pro rata basis (with such adjustments as may be deemed appropriate by the Company so that only Notes in denominations of \$1,000, or integral multiples thereof, shall be purchased); and

(i) that Holders whose Notes were purchased only in part shall be issued new Notes equal in principal amount to the unpurchased portion of the Notes surrendered (or transferred by book-entry transfer).

On or before 10:00 a.m. on the Purchase Date, the Company shall, to the extent lawful, accept for payment, on a pro rata basis to the extent necessary, the Offer Amount or portions thereof tendered pursuant to the Asset Sale Offer, or if less than the Offer Amount has been tendered, all Notes tendered, and shall deliver to the Trustee an Officers' Certificate stating that such Notes or portions thereof were accepted for payment by the Company in accordance with the terms of this Section 3.09. The Company, the Depositary or the Paying Agent, as the case may be, shall promptly (but in any case not later than five days after the Purchase Date) mail or deliver to each tendering Holder an amount equal to the purchase price of the Notes tendered by such Holder and accepted by the Company for purchase, and the Company shall promptly issue a new Note, and the Trustee, upon written request from the Company shall authenticate and mail or deliver such new Note to such Holder, in a principal amount equal to any unpurchased portion of the Note surrendered. Any Note not so accepted shall be promptly mailed or delivered by the Company to the Holder thereof. The Company shall publicly announce the results of the Asset Sale Offer on the Purchase Date.

Other than as specifically provided in this Section 3.09, any purchase pursuant to this Section 3.09 shall be made pursuant to the provisions of Sections 3.01 through 3.06 hereof.

ARTICLE 4. COVENANTS

SECTION 4.01. PAYMENT OF NOTES.

The Company shall pay or cause to be paid the principal of, premium, if any, and interest and Liquidated Damages, if any, on the Notes on the dates and in the manner provided in the Notes. Principal, premium, if any, and interest and Liquidated Damages, if any, shall be considered paid on the date due if the Paying Agent, if other than the Company or a Subsidiary thereof, (i) holds as of 10:00 a.m. Eastern Time on the due date money deposited by the Company in immediately available funds and designated for and sufficient to pay all principal, premium, if any, and interest and Liquidated Damages, if any, then due and (ii) is not prohibited from paying such money to the Holders pursuant to the terms of this Indenture or the Notes. The Company shall pay all Liquidated Damages, if any, in the same manner on the dates and in the amounts set forth in the Registration Rights Agreement.

The Company shall pay interest (including post-petition interest in any proceeding under any Bankruptcy Law) on overdue principal at the rate equal to 1% per annum in excess of the then applicable interest rate on the Notes to the extent lawful; it shall pay interest (including post-petition interest in any proceeding under any Bankruptcy Law) on overdue installments of interest and Liquidated Damages (without regard to any applicable grace period) at the same rate to the extent lawful.

SECTION 4.02. MAINTENANCE OF OFFICE OR AGENCY.

The Company shall maintain in the Borough of Manhattan, the City of New York, an office or agency (which may be an office of the Trustee or an affiliate of the Trustee, Registrar or co-registrar) where Notes may be surrendered for registration of transfer or for exchange and where notices and demands to or upon the Company in respect of the Notes and this Indenture may be served. The Company shall give prompt written notice to the Trustee of the location, and any change in the location, of such office or agency. If at any time the Company shall fail to maintain any such required office or agency or shall fail to furnish the Trustee with the address thereof, such presentations, surrenders, notices and demands may be made or served at the Corporate Trust Office of the Trustee.

The Company may also from time to time designate one or more other offices or agencies where the Notes may be presented or surrendered for any or all such purposes and may from time to time rescind such designations; provided, however, that no such designation or rescission shall in any manner relieve the Company of its obligation to maintain an office or agency in the Borough of Manhattan, the City of New York for such purposes. The Company shall give prompt written notice to the Trustee of any such designation or rescission and of any change in the location of any such other office or agency.

 $\qquad \qquad \text{The Company hereby designates the Corporate Trust Office of the Trustee as one such office or agency of the Company in accordance with Section 2.03 hereof. }$

SECTION 4.03. REPORTS.

Whether or not required by the SEC, so long as any Notes are outstanding, the Company shall furnish to the Holders of Notes, within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and regulations:

(1) all quarterly and annual financial information that would be required to be contained in a filing with the SEC on Forms 10-Q and 10-K if the Company were required to file such Forms, including a "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and, with respect to the annual information only, a report on the annual financial statements by the Company's certified independent accountants; and

 $\,$ (2) all current reports that would be required to be filed with the SEC on Form 8-K if the Company were required to file such reports.

In addition, whether or not required by the SEC, the Company shall file a copy of all of the information and reports referred to in clauses (1) and (2) above with the SEC for public availability within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and regulations (unless the SEC will not accept such a filing) and make such information available to securities analysts and prospective investors upon request.

SECTION 4.04. COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATE.

(a) The Company and each Guarantor shall (to the extent that such Guarantor is so required under the TIA) deliver to the Trustee within 90 days after the end of each fiscal year, an Officers' Certificate stating that a review of the activities of the Company and its Subsidiaries during the preceding fiscal year has been made under the supervision of the signing Officers with a view to

determining whether the Company has kept, observed, performed and fulfilled its obligations under this Indenture, and further stating, as to each such Officer signing such certificate, that to the best of his or her knowledge the Company has kept, observed, performed and fulfilled each and every covenant contained in this Indenture and is not in default in the performance or observance of any of the terms, provisions and conditions of this Indenture (or, if a Default or Event of Default shall have occurred, describing all such Defaults or Events of Default of which he or she may have knowledge and what action the Company is taking or proposes to take with respect thereto) and that to the best of his or her knowledge no event has occurred and remains in existence by reason of which payments on account of the principal of or interest, if any, on the Notes is prohibited or if such event has occurred, a description of the event and what action the Company is taking or proposes to take with respect thereto. For purposes of this paragraph, such compliance shall be determined without regard to any period of grace or requirement of notice provided under this Indenture.

(b) So long as not contrary to the then current recommendations of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the year-end financial statements delivered pursuant to Section 4.03(a) hereof shall be accompanied by a written statement of the Company's independent public accountants (who shall be a firm of established national reputation) that in making the examination necessary for certification of such financial statements, nothing has come to their attention that would lead them to believe that the Company has violated any provisions of Article 4 or Article 5 hereof or, if any such violation has occurred, specifying the nature and period of existence thereof, it being understood that such accountants shall not be liable directly or indirectly to any Person for any failure to obtain knowledge of any such violation.

(c) The Company shall, so long as any of the Notes are outstanding, deliver to the Trustee, forthwith upon any Officer becoming aware of any Default or Event of Default, an Officers' Certificate specifying such Default or Event of Default and what action the Company is taking or proposes to take with respect thereto.

SECTION 4.05. TAXES.

The Company shall pay, and shall cause each of its Subsidiaries to pay, prior to delinquency, all material taxes, assessments, and governmental levies except such as are contested in good faith and by appropriate proceedings or where the failure to effect such payment is not adverse in any material respect to the Holders of the Notes.

SECTION 4.06. STAY, EXTENSION AND USURY LAWS.

The Company and each of the Guarantors covenants (to the extent that it may lawfully do so) that it shall not at any time insist upon, plead, or in any manner whatsoever claim or take the benefit or advantage of, any stay, extension or usury law wherever enacted, now or at any time hereafter in force, that may affect the covenants or the performance of this Indenture; and the Company and each of the Guarantors (to the extent that it may lawfully do so) hereby expressly waives all benefit or advantage of any such law, and covenants that it shall not, by resort to any such law, hinder, delay or impede the execution of any power herein granted to the Trustee, but shall suffer and permit the execution of every such power as though no such law has been enacted.

SECTION 4.07. RESTRICTED PAYMENTS.

The Company shall not, and shall not permit any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to, directly or indirectly:

- (1) declare or pay any dividend or make any other payment or distribution on account of the Company's Equity Interests (including, without limitation, any payment in connection with any merger or consolidation involving the Company) or to the direct or indirect holders of the Company's Equity Interests in their capacity as such (other than dividends or distributions payable in Equity Interests (other than Disqualified Stock) of the Company);
- (2) purchase, redeem or otherwise acquire or retire for value (including, without limitation, in connection with any merger or consolidation involving the Company) any Equity Interests of the Company or any direct or indirect parent of the Company, in each case held by Persons other than the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company;
- (3) make any payment on or with respect to, or purchase, redeem, defease or otherwise acquire or retire for value any Indebtedness that is subordinated to the Notes or the Subsidiary Guarantees, except a payment of interest or principal at the Stated Maturity thereof; or
- (4) make any Restricted Investment (all such payments and other actions set forth in clauses (1) through (4) above being collectively referred to as "Restricted Payments"),

 $$\operatorname{unless},$$ at the time of and after giving effect to such Restricted Payment:

- (1) no Default or Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing or would occur as a consequence thereof; and
- (2) the Company would, at the time of such Restricted Payment and after giving pro forma effect thereto as if such Restricted Payment had been made at the beginning of the applicable four-quarter period, have been permitted to incur at least \$1.00 of additional Indebtedness pursuant to the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio test set forth in the first paragraph of Section 4.09 hereof; and
- (3) such Restricted Payment, together with the aggregate amount of all other Restricted Payments made by the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries after the date hereof (excluding Restricted Payments permitted by clause (2), (3), (4) or (5) of the next succeeding paragraph), is less than the sum, without duplication, of:
- (a) 50% of the Consolidated Net Income of the Company for the period (taken as one accounting period) from January 3, 1999 to the end of the Company's most recently ended fiscal quarter for which internal financial statements are available at the time of such Restricted Payment (or, if such Consolidated Net Income for such period is a deficit, less 100% of such deficit); plus
- (b) 100% of the aggregate net cash proceeds received by the Company since the date hereof as a contribution to its common equity capital or from the issue or sale of Equity Interests of the Company (other than Disqualified Stock) or from the issue or sale of Disqualified

Stock or debt securities of the Company that have been converted into or exchanged for such Equity Interests (other than Equity Interests (or Disqualified Stock or debt securities) sold to a Subsidiary of the Company); plus

(c) to the extent that any Restricted Investment that was made after the date hereof is sold for cash or otherwise liquidated or repaid for cash, the lesser of (i) the cash return of capital with respect to such Restricted Investment (less the cost of disposition, if any) and (ii) the initial amount of such Restricted Investment; plus

(d) \$25 million.

So long as no Default has occurred and is continuing or would be caused thereby, the preceding provisions shall not prohibit:

(1) the payment of any dividend within 60 days after the date of declaration thereof, if at said date of declaration such payment would have complied with the provisions of this Indenture;

(2) the redemption, repurchase, retirement, defeasance or other acquisition (including the payment of any accrued and unpaid interest, premium or consent fee, if any, in connection therewith) of the Company's 9 7/8% Senior Subordinated Notes due 2004 or of any of the Series A Notes or the Series B Notes;

(3) the redemption, repurchase, retirement, defeasance or other acquisition of any subordinated Indebtedness of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries or any Equity Interests of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries in exchange for, or out of the net cash proceeds of the substantially concurrent sale (other than to a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company) of, Equity Interests of the Company (other than Disqualified Stock); provided that the amount of any such net cash proceeds that are utilized for any such redemption, repurchase, retirement, defeasance or other acquisition shall be excluded from clause (3) (b) of the preceding paragraph;

(4) the redemption, repurchase, retirement, defeasance or other acquisition of subordinated Indebtedness or Disqualified Stock of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries with the net cash proceeds from an incurrence of Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness;

 $\hbox{(5) the payment of any dividend by the Company to holders of its Class A Convertible Preferred Stock; and}\\$

(6) the repurchase, redemption or other acquisition or retirement for value of any Equity Interests of the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company held by any member of the Company's (or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries') management pursuant to any management equity subscription agreement or stock option agreement; provided that the aggregate price paid for all such repurchased, redeemed, acquired or retired Equity Interests shall not exceed \$5.0 million in any twelve-month period.

The amount of all Restricted Payments (other than cash) shall be the fair market value on the date of the Restricted Payment of the asset(s) or securities proposed to be transferred or issued by the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary, as the case may be, pursuant to the Restricted Payment. The fair market value of any assets or securities that are required to be valued by this covenant shall be determined in good faith by the Board of Directors whose resolution with respect thereto shall be delivered to the Trustee. Not later than the date of making any Restricted Payment other than payments pursuant to paragraphs (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of this covenant, the Company shall deliver to the Trustee an Officers' Certificate stating that such Restricted Payment is permitted and setting forth the basis upon which the calculations required by this Section 4.07 were computed.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if any payment is made pursuant to the second paragraph of this covenant and at the time of such payment there was a Default (other than any Default caused thereby) that had occurred and was continuing, then such payment shall not cause a Default under this covenant if the pre-existing Default shall have been cured or waived prior to such Default becoming an Event of Default.

The Board of Directors may designate any Restricted Subsidiary to be an Unrestricted Subsidiary if the designation would not cause a Default. All outstanding Investments owned by the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries in the designated Unrestricted Subsidiary will be treated as an Investment made at the time of the designation and will reduce the amount available for Restricted Payments under the first paragraph of this Section 4.07 or Permitted Investments, as applicable. All such outstanding Investments will be treated as Restricted Investments equal to the fair market value of such Investments at the time of the designation. The designation shall not be permitted if such Restricted Payment would not be permitted at that time and if such Restricted Subsidiary does not otherwise meet the definition of an Unrestricted Subsidiary. The Board of Directors may redesignate any Unrestricted Subsidiary to be a Restricted Subsidiary if that redesignation would not cause a Default.

SECTION 4.08. DIVIDEND AND OTHER PAYMENT RESTRICTIONS AFFECTING SUBSIDIARIES.

The Company shall not, and shall not permit any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to, directly or indirectly, create or permit to exist or become effective any encumbrance or restriction on the ability of any Restricted Subsidiary to:

- (1) pay dividends or make any other distributions on its Capital Stock to the Company or any of the Company's Restricted Subsidiaries, or with respect to any other interest or participation in, or measured by, its profits, or pay any indebtedness owed to the Company or any of the Company Restricted Subsidiaries;
- $\hbox{\ensuremath{\mbox{(2)}} make loans or advances to the Company or any of the Company's Restricted Subsidiaries; or }$
- $\hbox{(3) transfer any of its properties or assets to the Company or any of the Company's Restricted Subsidiaries.}$

 $\hbox{However, the preceding restrictions shall not apply to encumbrances or restrictions existing under or by reason of:}$

- (1) Existing Indebtedness as in effect on the date hereof and any amendments, modifications, restatements, renewals, increases, supplements, refundings, replacements or refinancings thereof, provided that such amendments, modifications, restatements, renewals, increases, supplements, refundings, replacement or refinancings are no more restrictive, taken as a whole, with respect to such dividend and other payment restrictions than those contained in such Existing Indebtedness, as in effect on the date hereof;
- (2) this Indenture, the Series A Notes, the Subsidiary Guarantees, the Series B Notes and the Guarantees thereof;
 - (3) applicable law;
- (4) any instrument governing Indebtedness or Capital Stock of a Person acquired by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries as in effect at the time of such acquisition (except to the extent such Indebtedness was incurred in connection with or in contemplation of such acquisition), which encumbrance or restriction is not applicable to any Person, or the properties or assets of any Person, other than the Person, or the property or assets of the Person, so acquired, provided that, in the case of Indebtedness, such Indebtedness was permitted by the terms of this Indenture to be incurred;
- (5) customary non-assignment provisions in leases, licenses, contracts and other agreements entered into in the ordinary course of business and consistent with past practices;
- (6) purchase money obligations for property acquired in the ordinary course of business that impose restrictions on the property so acquired of the nature described in clause (3) of the preceding paragraph;
- (7) any agreement for the sale or other disposition of a Restricted Subsidiary that restricts distributions by such Restricted Subsidiary pending its sale or other disposition;
- (8) Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness, provided that the restrictions contained in the agreements governing such Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness are no more restrictive, taken as a whole, than those contained in the agreements governing the Indebtedness being refinanced;
- (9) Liens securing Indebtedness otherwise permitted to be incurred pursuant to Section 4.12 hereof that limit the right of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to dispose of the assets subject to such Lien:
- (10) provisions with respect to the disposition or distribution of assets or property in joint venture agreements and other similar agreements entered into in the ordinary course of business;
- $\hbox{(11) customary provisions under Indebtedness of any } \\ Foreign Subsidiary permitted to be incurred under this Indenture;}$
- (12) restrictions on cash or other deposits or net worth imposed by customers under contracts entered into in the ordinary course of business; and

 $\qquad \qquad (13) \ \ restrictions \ \ created \ \ in \ \ connection \ \ with \ \ a$ Qualified Securitization Transaction.

SECTION 4.09. INCURRENCE OF INDEBTEDNESS AND ISSUANCE OF PREFERRED STOCK.

 $\qquad \qquad \text{The Company shall not, and shall not permit any of its } \\ \text{Restricted Subsidiaries to, directly or indirectly, create, incur, issue, } \\$ assume, guarantee or otherwise become directly or indirectly liable, contingently or otherwise, with respect to (collectively, "incur") any Indebtedness (including Acquired Debt), and the Company shall not issue any Disqualified Stock and shall not permit any of its Restricted Subsidiaries that is not a Guarantor to issue any shares of preferred stock; provided, however, that the Company and any Restricted Subsidiary may incur Indebtedness (including Acquired Debt) or issue Disqualified Stock, and the Company's Restricted Subsidiaries may issue preferred stock, if the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio for the Company's most recently ended four full fiscal quarters for which internal financial statements are available immediately preceding the date on which such additional Indebtedness is incurred or such Disqualified Stock or preferred stock is issued would have been at least 2.0 to 1.0, determined on a pro forma basis (including a pro forma application of the net proceeds therefrom) as if the additional Indebtedness had been incurred, or the Disqualified Stock or preferred stock had been issued, as the case may be, at the beginning of such four-quarter period.

The first paragraph of this covenant shall not prohibit the incurrence of any of the following items of Indebtedness (collectively, "Permitted Debt"):

(1) the incurrence by the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries of Indebtedness and letters of credit under the Credit Facility in an aggregate principal amount (with letters of credit being deemed to have a principal amount equal to the maximum potential liability of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries thereunder) not to exceed an amount equal to \$1.125 billion, including all Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness incurred pursuant to clause (5) of this paragraph to refund, refinance or replace any Indebtedness incurred pursuant to this clause (1), less the aggregate amount of all Net Proceeds of Asset Sales applied by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to repay term Indebtedness under the Credit Facility or to reduce commitments with respect to revolving credit borrowings under the Credit Facility pursuant to Section 4.10 hereof:

 $\hbox{(2) the incurrence by the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries of Existing Indebtedness;}$

(3) the incurrence by the Company and the Guarantors of Indebtedness represented by the Series A Notes, the Subsidiary Guarantees, the Series B Notes and the Guarantees thereof;

(4) the incurrence by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries of Indebtedness represented by Capital Lease Obligations, mortgage financings or purchase money obligations, in each case, incurred for the purpose of financing all or any part of the purchase price or cost of construction or improvement of property, plant or equipment used in the business of the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary, or in respect of a sale and leaseback transaction, in an aggregate principal amount, including all Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness incurred pursuant to clause (5) of this paragraph to refund, refinance or replace any Indebtedness incurred pursuant to this clause (4), not to exceed \$20.0 million at any time outstanding;

- (5) the incurrence by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries of Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness in exchange for, or the net proceeds of which are used to refund, refinance or replace, Indebtedness (other than intercompany Indebtedness) that is either Existing Indebtedness or that was permitted to be incurred by this Indenture;
- (6) the incurrence by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries of intercompany Indebtedness between or among the Company and any of its Restricted Subsidiaries; provided, however, that:
- (a) if the Company or any Guarantor is the obligor on such Indebtedness, and such Indebtedness is held by a Restricted Subsidiary that is not a Guarantor, such Indebtedness must be expressly subordinated to the prior payment in full in cash of all Obligations with respect to the Notes, in the case of the Company, or the Subsidiary Guarantee of such Guarantor, in the case of a Guarantor; and
- (b) (i) any subsequent issuance or transfer of Equity Interests that results in any such Indebtedness being held by a Person other than the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary thereof and (ii) any sale or other transfer of any such Indebtedness to a Person that is not either the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary thereof shall be deemed, in each case, to constitute an incurrence of such Indebtedness by the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary, as the case may be, that was not permitted by this clause (6);
- (7) the incurrence by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries of Hedging Obligations that are incurred for the purpose of fixing or hedging (1) interest rate risk with respect to any floating rate Indebtedness that is permitted by the terms of this Indenture to be outstanding or (2) exchange rate risk or raw materials price risk;
- (8) the guarantee by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries of Indebtedness of the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company that was permitted to be incurred by another provision of this covenant;
- $\qquad \qquad (9) \ \ \text{the shares of Class A Convertible Preferred Stock} \\ \text{outstanding as of the date hereof;} \\$
- (10) the incurrence by any of the Company's Foreign Subsidiaries of Indebtedness in an aggregate principal amount, including all Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness incurred pursuant to clause (5) of this paragraph to refund, refinance or replace any Indebtedness incurred pursuant to this clause (10), not to exceed \$60.0 million at any time outstanding;
- (11) the incurrence by a Securitization Entity of Indebtedness in a Qualified Securitization Transaction that is Non-Recourse Debt with respect to the Company and its other Restricted Subsidiaries (except for Standard Securitization Undertakings); and
- (12) the incurrence by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries of additional Indebtedness in an aggregate principal amount (or accreted value, as applicable) at any time outstanding, including all Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness incurred to refund, refinance or replace any Indebtedness incurred pursuant to this clause (12), not to exceed \$40.0 million.

For purposes of determining compliance with this covenant, in the event that an item of proposed Indebtedness meets the criteria of more than one of the categories of Permitted Debt described in clauses (1) through (12) above, or is entitled to be incurred pursuant to the first paragraph of this covenant, the Company shall be permitted to classify such item of Indebtedness on the date of its incurrence (or later reclassify such Indebtedness in whole or in part) in any manner that complies with this covenant. In addition, the accrual of interest, accretion or amortization of original issue discount, the payment of interest on any Indebtedness in the form of additional Indebtedness with the same terms, and the payment of dividends on Disqualified Stock in the form of additional shares of the same class of Disqualified Stock will not be treated as an incurrence of Indebtedness; provided, in each such case, that the amount thereof is included in Fixed Charges of the Company as accrued. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any Indebtedness outstanding pursuant to the Credit Facility on the date hereof will be deemed to have been incurred pursuant to clause (1) of the definition of Permitted Debt.

SECTION 4.10. ASSET SALES

 $\label{thm:company} \quad \text{The Company shall not, and shall not permit any of its } \\ \text{Restricted Subsidiaries to, consummate an Asset Sale unless:}$

(1) the Company (or the Restricted Subsidiary, as the case may be) receives consideration at the time of such Asset Sale at least equal to the fair market value of the assets or Equity Interests issued or sold or otherwise disposed of, as determined in good faith by the Company's Board of Directors; and

(2) either:

(a) the Company (or the Restricted Subsidiary, as the case may be) issues Equity Interests or transfers assets in an exchange in connection with which the Company receives an opinion of counsel that such exchange should qualify under the provisions of Section 351 or Section 368 of the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended; or

(b) at least 75% of the consideration therefor received by the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary is in the form of cash or Cash Equivalents. For purposes of this provision, each of the following shall be deemed to be cash:

(i) any liabilities (as shown on the Company's or such Restricted Subsidiary's most recent balance sheet) of the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary (other than contingent liabilities and liabilities that are by their terms subordinated to the Notes or any Subsidiary Guarantee) that are assumed by the transferee of any such assets; and

(ii) any securities, notes or other obligations received by the Company or any such Restricted Subsidiary from such transferee that within 90 days are converted by the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary into cash (to the extent of the cash received in that conversion).

 $\hbox{Within 360 days after the receipt of any Net Proceeds from an Asset Sale, the Company may apply such Net Proceeds at its option:}$

(1) to repay Senior Debt (and to effect a corresponding commitment reduction if such Senior Debt is revolving credit borrowings);

(2) to acquire all or substantially all of the assets of, or a majority of the Voting Stock of, another Related Business;

- (3) to make a capital expenditure; and/or
- $\ensuremath{\mbox{(4)}}$ to acquire other long-term assets that are used or useful in a Related Business.

Pending the final application of any such Net Proceeds, the Company may temporarily reduce revolving credit borrowings or otherwise invest such Net Proceeds in any manner that is not prohibited by this Indenture.

Any Net Proceeds from Asset Sales that are not applied or invested as provided in the preceding paragraph will constitute Excess Proceeds. When the aggregate amount of Excess Proceeds exceeds \$10.0 million, the Company shall make an Asset Sale Offer to all Holders of Notes and all holders of other Indebtedness that is pari passu with the Notes containing provisions similar to those set forth in Section 3.09 hereof with respect to offers to purchase or redeem with the proceeds of sales of assets to purchase the maximum principal amount of Notes and such other pari passu Indebtedness that may be purchased out of the Excess Proceeds. The offer price in any Asset Sale Offer shall be equal to 100% of principal amount plus accrued and unpaid interest and Liquidated Damages, if any, to the date of purchase, and will be payable in cash. If any Excess Proceeds remain after consummation of an Asset Sale Offer, the Company may use such Excess Proceeds for any purpose not otherwise prohibited by this Indenture. If the aggregate principal amount of Notes and such other pari passu Indebtedness tendered into such Asset Sale Offer exceeds the amount of Excess Proceeds, the Trustee shall select the Notes and such other pari passu Indebtedness to be purchased on a pro rata basis as set forth below. Upon completion of each Asset Sale Offer, the amount of Excess Proceeds shall be reset at zero.

SECTION 4.11. TRANSACTIONS WITH AFFILIATES.

The Company shall not, and shall not permit any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to, make any payment to, or sell, lease, transfer or otherwise dispose of any of its properties or assets to, or purchase any property or assets from, or enter into or make or amend any transaction, contract, agreement, understanding, loan, advance or guarantee with, or for the benefit of, any Affiliate (each, an "Affiliate Transaction"), unless:

(1) such Affiliate Transaction is on terms that are no less favorable to the Company or the relevant Restricted Subsidiary than those that would have been obtained in a comparable transaction by the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary with an unrelated Person; and

(2) the Company delivers to the Trustee:

(a) with respect to any Affiliate Transaction or series of related Affiliate Transactions involving aggregate consideration in excess of \$3.0 million, a resolution of the Board of Directors set forth in an Officers' Certificate certifying that such Affiliate Transaction complies

with this covenant and that such Affiliate Transaction has been approved by a majority of the disinterested members of the Board of Directors; and

(b) with respect to any Affiliate Transaction or series of related Affiliate Transactions involving aggregate consideration in excess of \$10.0 million, an opinion as to the fairness to the Holders of such Affiliate Transaction from a financial point of view issued by an accounting, appraisal or investment banking firm of national standing.

The following items shall not be deemed to be Affiliate Transactions and, therefore, will not be subject to the provisions of the prior paragraph:

- (1) any employment, consulting or similar agreement (including any loan, but not any forgiveness thereof) entered into by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries in the ordinary course of business or any payment of directors' and officers' insurance premiums;
- (2) transactions between or among the Company and/or its Restricted Subsidiaries;
- $\hbox{(3) payment of reasonable directors fees to Persons} \\$ who are not otherwise Affiliates of the Company;}
- (4) dividends on or any repurchases of any shares of any series or class of equity securities of the Company;
- $$\left(5\right)$$ Restricted Payments that are permitted by the provisions of Section 4.07 hereof;
- (6) any merger between or among the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries solely for the purpose of reincorporating the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary in another jurisdiction for tax purposes; and
- $\qquad \qquad (7) \ \text{transactions in connection with a Qualified Securitization Transaction or an industrial revenue bond financing.}$

SECTION 4.12. LIENS.

The Company shall not, and shall not permit any of its Subsidiaries to, directly or indirectly, (1) assign or convey any right to receive income on any asset now owned or hereafter acquired or (2) create, incur, assume or suffer to exist any Lien of any kind securing Indebtedness, Attributable Debt or trade payables on any asset now owned or hereafter acquired or on any income or profits therefrom except Permitted Liens, unless the Notes and the Subsidiary Guarantees, as applicable, are either (i) secured by a Lien on such property, assets, income or profits that is senior in priority to the Lien securing such other Obligations, if such Obligations are subordinated in right of payment to the Notes and/or the Subsidiary Guarantees or (ii) equally and ratably secured by a Lien on such property, assets, income or profits with the Lien securing such other Obligations, if such Obligations are pari passu in right of payment with the Notes.

SECTION 4.13. SALE AND LEASEBACK TRANSACTIONS.

The Company shall not, and shall not permit any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to, enter into any sale and leaseback transaction; provided that the Company and any Restricted Subsidiary may enter into a sale and leaseback transaction if:

(1) the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary, as applicable, could have (a) incurred Indebtedness in an amount equal to the Attributable Debt relating to such sale and leaseback transaction under the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio test in the first paragraph of Section 4.09 hereof and (b) incurred a Lien to secure such Indebtedness pursuant to Section 4.12 hereof; provided that the Lien to secure such Indebtedness does not extend to or cover any assets of the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary other than the assets which are the subject of the sale and leaseback transaction;

(2) the gross cash proceeds of that sale and leaseback transaction are at least equal to the fair market value, as determined in good faith by the Board of Directors, of the property that is the subject of such sale and leaseback transaction; and

(3) the transfer of assets in that sale and leaseback transaction is permitted by, and the Company applies the proceeds of such transaction in compliance with, Section 4.10 hereof

SECTION 4.14. CORPORATE EXISTENCE.

Subject to Article 5 hereof, the Company shall do or cause to be done all things necessary to preserve and keep in full force and effect (i) its corporate existence, and the corporate, partnership or other existence of each of its Subsidiaries, in accordance with the respective organizational documents (as the same may be amended from time to time) of the Company or any such Subsidiary and (ii) the rights (charter and statutory), licenses and franchises of the Company and its Subsidiaries; provided, however, that the Company shall not be required to preserve any such right, license or franchise, or the corporate, partnership or other existence of any of its Subsidiaries, if the Board of Directors shall determine that the preservation thereof is no longer desirable in the conduct of the business of the Company and its Subsidiaries, taken as a whole, and that the loss thereof is not adverse in any material respect to the Holders of the Notes.

SECTION 4.15. OFFER TO REPURCHASE UPON CHANGE OF CONTROL.

(a) If a Change of Control occurs, each Holder of Notes shall have the right to require the Company to repurchase all or any part (equal to \$1,000 or an integral multiple thereof) of that Holder's Notes pursuant to the Change of Control Offer. In the Change of Control Offer, the Company shall offer a Change of Control Payment in cash equal to 101% of the aggregate principal amount of Notes repurchased plus accrued and unpaid interest and Liquidated Damages thereon, if any, to the date of purchase. Within 30 days following any Change of Control, the Company shall mail a notice to each Holder describing the transaction or transactions that constitute the Change of Control and offering to repurchase Notes on the Change of Control Payment Date specified in such notice, pursuant to the procedures required by this Indenture and described in such notice. The Company shall comply with the requirements of Rule 14e-1 under the Exchange Act and any other securities laws and regulations thereunder to the extent such laws and regulations are applicable in connection with the repurchase of the Notes as a result of a Change of Control.

(b) On the Change of Control Payment Date, the Company shall, to the extent lawful:

- (1) accept for payment all Notes or portions thereof properly tendered pursuant to the Change of Control Offer;
- (2) deposit with the Paying Agent an amount equal to the Change of Control Payment in respect of all Notes or portions thereof so tendered; and
- (3) deliver or cause to be delivered to the Trustee the Notes so accepted together with an Officers' Certificate stating the aggregate principal amount of Notes or portions thereof being purchased by the Company.

The Paying Agent shall promptly mail to each Holder of Notes so tendered the Change of Control Payment for such Notes, and the Trustee shall promptly authenticate and mail (or cause to be transferred by book entry) to each Holder a new Note equal in principal amount to any unpurchased portion of the Notes surrendered, if any; provided that each such new Note will be in a principal amount of \$1,000 or an integral multiple thereof.

Prior to complying with any of the provisions of this "Change of Control" covenant, but in any event within 90 days following a Change of Control, the Company shall either repay all outstanding Senior Debt or obtain the requisite consents, if any, under all agreements governing outstanding Senior Debt to permit the repurchase of Notes required by this covenant. The Company shall publicly announce the results of the Change of Control Offer on or as soon as practicable after the Change of Control Payment Date.

(d) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Section 4.15, the Company shall not be required to make a Change of Control Offer upon the occurrence of a Change of Control if a third party makes the Change of Control Offer in the manner, at the times and otherwise in compliance with the requirements set forth in this Section 4.15, and purchases all Notes validly tendered and not withdrawn under such Change of Control Offer.

SECTION 4.16. NO SENIOR SUBORDINATED DEBT.

The Company shall not incur, create, issue, assume, guarantee or otherwise become liable for any Indebtedness that is subordinate or junior in right of payment to any Senior Debt of the Company and senior in any respect in right of payment to the Notes. No Guarantor shall incur, create, issue, assume, guarantee or otherwise become liable for any Indebtedness that is subordinate or junior in right of payment to any Senior Debt of such Guarantor and senior in any respect in right of payment to such Guarantor's Subsidiary Guarantee.

SECTION 4.17. ADDITIONAL SUBSIDIARY GUARANTEES.

If, after the date hereof, the Company or any of its Wholly Owned Domestic Restricted Subsidiaries acquires or creates another Wholly Owned Domestic Restricted Subsidiary or a Significant Domestic Restricted Subsidiary, including any other Domestic Restricted Subsidiary that at any time becomes a Wholly Owned Domestic Restricted Subsidiary or a Significant Domestic Restricted

Subsidiary, then that newly acquired or created Wholly Owned Domestic Restricted Subsidiary or Significant Domestic Restricted Subsidiary shall, within 10 Business Days of the date on which it was acquired or created, execute a supplemental indenture or other instrument evidencing its Subsidiary Guarantee, in either case in form satisfactory to the Trustee, and deliver an Opinion of Counsel to the Trustee.

SECTION 4.18. PAYMENTS FOR CONSENT.

The Company shall not, and shall not permit any of its Subsidiaries to, directly or indirectly, pay or cause to be paid any consideration to or for the benefit of any Holder of Notes for or as an inducement to any consent, waiver or amendment of any of the terms or provisions of this Indenture or the Notes unless such consideration is offered to be paid and is paid to all Holders of the Notes that consent, waive or agree to amend in the time frame set forth in the solicitation documents relating to such consent, waiver or agreement.

ARTICLE 5.

SECTION 5.01. MERGER, CONSOLIDATION, OR SALE OF ASSETS.

The Company shall not, directly or indirectly: (1) consolidate or merge with or into another Person (whether or not the Company is the surviving corporation); or (2) sell, assign, transfer, convey or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of its properties or assets, in one or more related transactions, to another Person; unless:

(1) either: (a) the Company is the surviving corporation; or (b) the Person formed by or surviving any such consolidation or merger (if other than the Company) or to which such sale, assignment, transfer, conveyance or other disposition shall have been made is a corporation organized or existing under the laws of the United States, any state thereof or the District of Columbia;

(2) the Person formed by or surviving any such consolidation or merger (if other than the Company) or the Person to which such sale, assignment, transfer, conveyance or other disposition shall have been made assumes all the obligations of the Company under the Notes, this Indenture and the Registration Rights Agreement pursuant to agreements reasonably satisfactory to the Trustee;

 $\hbox{(3) immediately after such transaction no Default or } \\$ Event of Default exists; and

(4) except in the case of a merger entered into solely for the purpose of reincorporating the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary in another jurisdiction, the Company or the Person formed by or surviving any such consolidation or merger (if other than the Company) shall, on the date of such transaction after giving pro forma effect thereto and any related financing transactions as if the same had occurred at the beginning of the applicable four-quarter period, be permitted to incur at least \$1.00 of additional Indebtedness pursuant to the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio test set forth in the first paragraph of Section 4.09 hereof.

In addition, the Company shall not, directly or indirectly, lease all or substantially all of its properties or assets, in one or more related transactions, to any other Person. This Section 5.01 will not apply to a sale, assignment, transfer, conveyance or other disposition of assets between or among the Company and any of its Wholly Owned Restricted Subsidiaries.

SECTION 5.02. SUCCESSOR CORPORATION SUBSTITUTED.

Upon any consolidation or merger, or any sale, assignment, transfer, lease, conveyance or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company in accordance with Section 5.01 hereof, the successor corporation formed by such consolidation or into or with which the Company is merged or to which such sale, assignment, transfer, lease, conveyance or other disposition is made shall succeed to, and be substituted for (so that from and after the date of such consolidation, merger, sale, lease, conveyance or other disposition, the provisions of this Indenture referring to the "Company" shall refer instead to the successor corporation and not to the Company), and may exercise every right and power of the Company under this Indenture with the same effect as if such successor Person had been named as the Company herein; provided, however, that the predecessor Company shall not be relieved from the obligation to pay the principal of and interest on the Notes except in the case of a sale of all of the Company's assets that meets the requirements of Section 5.01 hereof.

ARTICLE 6. DEFAULTS AND REMEDIES

SECTION 6.01. EVENTS OF DEFAULT.

Each of the following is an Event of Default:

- (1) default for 30 days in the payment when due of interest on, or Liquidated Damages with respect to, the Notes, whether or not prohibited by Article 10 hereof;
- (2) default in payment when due of the principal of or premium, if any, on the Notes, whether or not prohibited by Article 10 hereof;
- (3) failure by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries for 30 days after notice to comply with Sections 4.07, 4.09, 4.10 or 4.15 hereof;
- $\,$ (4) failure by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries for 60 days after notice to comply with any of the other agreements in this Indenture;
- (5) default under any mortgage, indenture or instrument under which there may be issued or by which there may be secured or evidenced any Indebtedness for money borrowed by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries (or the payment of which is guaranteed by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries) whether such Indebtedness or guarantee now exists, or is created after the date hereof, if that default:
 - (a) is caused by a failure to pay principal of or premium, if any, or interest on such Indebtedness prior to the expiration of the grace period provided in such Indebtedness on the date of such default (a "Payment Default"); or

(b) results in the acceleration of such Indebtedness prior to its express maturity,

and, in each case, the principal amount of any such Indebtedness, together with the principal amount of any other such Indebtedness under which there has been a Payment Default or the maturity of which has been so accelerated, aggregates \$10.0 million or more;

- (6) failure by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries to pay final judgments aggregating in excess of \$10.0 million, which judgments are not paid, discharged or stayed for a period of 60 days;
- (7) except as permitted by this Indenture, any Subsidiary Guarantee(s) of any Guarantor that is a Significant Subsidiary or of any group of Guarantors that collectively would constitute a Significant Subsidiary shall be held in any judicial proceeding to be unenforceable or invalid or shall cease for any reason to be in full force and effect or any Guarantor that is a Significant Subsidiary or any group of Guarantors that collectively would constitute a Significant Subsidiary, or any Person acting on behalf of any such Guarantor or group of Guarantors, shall deny or disaffirm the obligations of each such Guarantor under its Subsidiary Guarantee; and
 - (8) the Company or any of its Significant Subsidiaries:
 - (a) commences a voluntary case,
 - (b) consents to the entry of an order for relief against it in an involuntary case,
 - (c) consents to the appointment of a custodian of it or for all or substantially all of its property, $% \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) =\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) +\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{1}{$
 - (d) makes a general assignment for the benefit of its creditors, or
 - (e) generally is not paying its debts as they become due; or
- (9) a court of competent jurisdiction enters an order or decree under any Bankruptcy Law that:
 - (a) is for relief against the Company or any of its Significant Subsidiaries:
 - (b) appoints a custodian of the Company or any of its Significant Subsidiaries or for all or substantially all of the property of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries; or
 - (c) orders the liquidation of the Company or any of its Significant Subsidiaries;

 $\,$ and the order or decree remains unstayed and in effect for 60 consecutive days.

SECTION 6.02. ACCELERATION.

If any Event of Default occurs and is continuing, the Trustee or the Holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes may declare all the Notes to be due and payable immediately. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if an Event of Default specified in clause (viii) or (ix) of

Section 6.01 hereof occurs with respect to the Company, any Significant Subsidiary or any group of Subsidiaries that, taken together, would constitute a Significant Subsidiary, all outstanding Notes shall be due and payable immediately without further action or notice. The Holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the Notes then outstanding by notice to the Trustee may on behalf of the Holders rescind an acceleration and its consequences if the rescission would not conflict with any judgment or decree and if all existing Events of Default (except nonpayment of principal, interest or premium that has become due solely because of the acceleration) have been cured or waived.

If an Event of Default occurs on or after January 15, 2004 by reason of any willful action (or inaction) taken (or not taken) by or on behalf of the Company with the intention of avoiding payment of the premium that the Company would have had to pay if the Company then had elected to redeem the Notes pursuant to Section 3.07 hereof, then, upon acceleration of the Notes, the Holders of a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes may direct the Trustee that an equivalent premium shall also become and be immediately due and payable, to the extent permitted by law, anything in this Indenture or in the Notes to the contrary notwithstanding. If an Event of Default occurs prior to January 15, 2004 by reason of any willful action (or inaction) taken (or not taken) by or on behalf of the Company with the intention of avoiding the prohibition on redemption of the Notes prior to January 15, 2004, then, upon acceleration of the Notes, the Holders of a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes may direct the Trustee that an additional premium shall also become and be immediately due and payable in an amount, for each of the years beginning on January 15 of the years set forth below, as set forth below (expressed as a percentage of the aggregate principal amount to the date of payment that would otherwise be due but for the provisions of this sentence):

YEAR	PERCENTAGE
1999	
2000	
2001	.108.627%
2002	.107.189%
2003	.105.751%

SECTION 6.03. OTHER REMEDIES.

If an Event of Default occurs and is continuing, the Trustee may pursue any available remedy to collect the payment of principal, premium, if any, and interest and Liquidated Damages, if any, on the Notes or to enforce the performance of any provision of the Notes or this Indenture.

The Trustee may maintain a proceeding even if it does not possess any of the Notes or does not produce any of them in the proceeding. A delay or omission by the Trustee or any Holder of a Note in exercising any right or remedy accruing upon an Event of Default shall not impair the right or remedy or constitute a waiver of or acquiescence in the Event of Default. All remedies are cumulative to the extent permitted by law.

SECTION 6.04. WAIVER OF PAST DEFAULTS.

Holders of not less than a majority in aggregate principal amount of the then outstanding Notes by notice to the Trustee may on behalf of the Holders of all of the Notes waive an existing Default

or Event of Default and its consequences hereunder, except a continuing Default or Event of Default in the payment of the principal of, premium and Liquidated Damages, if any, or interest on, the Notes (including in connection with an offer to purchase) (provided, however, that the Holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the then outstanding Notes may rescind an acceleration and its consequences, including any related payment default that resulted from such acceleration). Upon any such waiver, such Default shall cease to exist, and any Event of Default arising therefrom shall be deemed to have been cured for every purpose of this Indenture; but no such waiver shall extend to any subsequent or other Default or impair any right consequent thereon.

SECTION 6.05. CONTROL BY MAJORITY.

Holders of a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes may direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for exercising any remedy available to the Trustee or exercising any trust or power conferred on it. However, the Trustee may refuse to follow any direction that conflicts with law or this Indenture that the Trustee determines may be unduly prejudicial to the rights of other Holders of Notes or that may result in the incurrence of liability by the Trustee.

SECTION 6.06. LIMITATION ON SUITS.

 $\mbox{\sc A}$ Holder of a Note may pursue a remedy with respect to this Indenture or the Notes only if:

- (a) the Holder of a Note gives to the Trustee written notice of a continuing Event of Default;
- (b) the Holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes make a written request to the Trustee to pursue the remedy;
- (c) such Holder of a Note or Holders of Notes offer and, if requested, provide to the Trustee indemnity satisfactory to the Trustee against any loss, liability or expense;
- (d) the Trustee does not comply with the request within 60 days after receipt of the request and the offer and, if requested, the provision of indemnity; and
- (e) during such 60-day period the Holders of a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes do not give the Trustee a direction inconsistent with the request.

A Holder of a Note may not use this Indenture to prejudice the rights of another Holder of a Note or to obtain a preference or priority over another Holder of a Note.

SECTION 6.07. RIGHTS OF HOLDERS OF NOTES TO RECEIVE PAYMENT.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Indenture, the right of any Holder of a Note to receive payment of principal, premium and Liquidated Damages, if any, and interest on the Note, on or after the respective due dates expressed in the Note (including in connection with an offer to purchase), or to bring suit for the enforcement of any such payment on or after such respective dates, shall not be impaired or affected without the consent of such Holder.

SECTION 6.08. COLLECTION SUIT BY TRUSTEE.

If an Event of Default specified in Section 6.01(i) or (ii) hereof occurs and is continuing, the Trustee is authorized to recover judgment in its own name and as trustee of an express trust against the Company for the whole amount of principal of, premium and Liquidated Damages, if any, and interest remaining unpaid on the Notes and interest on overdue principal and, to the extent lawful, interest and such further amount as shall be sufficient to cover the costs and expenses of collection, including the reasonable compensation, expenses, disbursements and advances of the Trustee, its agents and counsel.

SECTION 6.09. TRUSTEE MAY FILE PROOFS OF CLAIM.

The Trustee is authorized to file such proofs of claim and other papers or documents as may be necessary or advisable in order to have the claims of the Trustee (including any claim for the reasonable compensation, expenses, disbursements and advances of the Trustee, its agents and counsel) and the Holders of the Notes allowed in any judicial proceedings relative to the Company (or any other obligor upon the Notes), its creditors or its property and shall be entitled and empowered to collect, receive and distribute any money or other property payable or deliverable on any such claims and any custodian in any such judicial proceeding is hereby authorized by each Holder to make such payments to the Trustee, and in the event that the Trustee shall consent to the making of such payments directly to the Holders, to pay to the Trustee any amount due to it for the reasonable compensation, expenses, disbursements and advances of the Trustee, its agents and counsel, and any other amounts due the Trustee under Section 7.07 hereof. To the extent that the payment of any such compensation, expenses, disbursements and advances of the Trustee, its agents and counsel, and any other amounts due the Trustee under Section 7.07 hereof out of the estate in any such proceeding, shall be denied for any reason, payment of the same shall be secured by a Lien on, and shall be paid out of, any and all distributions, dividends, money, securities and other properties that the Holders may be entitled to receive in such proceeding whether in liquidation or under any plan of reorganization or arrangement or otherwise. Nothing herein contained shall be deemed to authorize the Trustee to authorize or consent to or accept or adopt on behalf of any Holder any plan of reorganization, arrangement, adjustment or composition affecting the Notes or the rights of any Holder, or to authorize the Trustee to vote in respect of the claim of any Holder in any such proceeding.

SECTION 6.10. PRIORITIES.

If the Trustee collects any money pursuant to this Article 6, it shall pay out the money in the following order:

First: to the Trustee, its agents and attorneys for amounts due under Section 7.07 hereof, including payment of all compensation, expense and liabilities incurred, and all advances made, by the Trustee and the costs and expenses of collection;

Second: to Holders of Notes for amounts due and unpaid on the Notes for principal, premium and Liquidated Damages, if any, and interest, ratably, without preference or priority of any kind, according to the amounts due and payable on the Notes for principal, premium and Liquidated Damages, if any, and interest, respectively; and

 $\,$ Third: to the Company or to such party as a court of competent jurisdiction shall direct.

 $\,$ The Trustee may fix a record date and payment date for any payment to Holders of Notes pursuant to this Section 6.10.

SECTION 6.11. UNDERTAKING FOR COSTS.

In any suit for the enforcement of any right or remedy under this Indenture or in any suit against the Trustee for any action taken or omitted by it as a Trustee, a court in its discretion may require the filing by any party litigant in the suit of an undertaking to pay the costs of the suit, and the court in its discretion may assess reasonable costs, including reasonable attorneys' fees, against any party litigant in the suit, having due regard to the merits and good faith of the claims or defenses made by the party litigant. This Section 6.11 does not apply to a suit by the Trustee, a suit by a Holder of a Note pursuant to Section 6.07 hereof, or a suit by Holders of more than 10% in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes.

ARTICLE 7.

SECTION 7.01. DUTIES OF TRUSTEE.

- (a) If an Event of Default has occurred and is continuing, the Trustee shall exercise such of the rights and powers vested in it by this Indenture, and use the same degree of care and skill in its exercise, as a prudent man would exercise or use under the circumstances in the conduct of his own affairs.
 - (b) Except during the continuance of an Event of Default:
 - (i) the duties of the Trustee shall be determined solely by the express provisions of this Indenture and the Trustee need perform only those duties that are specifically set forth in this Indenture and no others, and no implied covenants or obligations shall be read into this Indenture against the Trustee; and
 - (ii) in the absence of bad faith on its part, the Trustee may conclusively rely, as to the truth of the statements and the correctness of the opinions expressed therein, upon certificates or opinions furnished to the Trustee and conforming to the requirements of this Indenture. However, the Trustee shall examine the certificates and opinions to determine whether or not they conform to the requirements of this Indenture but need not verify the contents thereof.
- (c) The Trustee may not be relieved from liabilities for its own negligent action, its own negligent failure to act, or its own willful misconduct, except that:
 - (i) this paragraph does not limit the effect of paragraph (b) of this Section 7.01;
 - (ii) the Trustee shall not be liable for any error of judgment made in good faith by a Responsible Officer, unless it is proved that the Trustee was negligent in ascertaining the pertinent facts; and
 - (iii) the Trustee shall not be liable with respect to any action it takes or omits to take in good faith in accordance with a direction received by it pursuant to Sections 6.02, 6.04 or 6.05 hereof.

- (d) Whether or not therein expressly so provided, every provision of this Indenture that in any way relates to the Trustee is subject to paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (e) and (f) of this Section 7.01 and Section 7.02.
- (e) No provision of this Indenture shall require the Trustee to expend or risk its own funds or incur any liability. The Trustee shall be under no obligation to exercise any of its rights and powers under this Indenture at the request of any Holders, unless such Holder shall have offered to the Trustee security and indemnity satisfactory to it against any loss, liability or expense.
- (f) The Trustee shall not be liable for interest on any money received by it except as the Trustee may agree in writing with the Company. Money held in trust by the Trustee need not be segregated from other funds except to the extent required by law.

SECTION 7.02. RIGHTS OF TRUSTEE.

- (a) The Trustee may conclusively rely and shall be fully protected in acting or refraining from acting upon any document believed by it to be genuine and to have been signed or presented by the proper Person. The Trustee need not investigate any fact or matter stated in the document.
- (b) Before the Trustee acts or refrains from acting, it may require an Officers' Certificate or an Opinion of Counsel or both. The Trustee shall not be liable for any action it takes or omits to take in good faith in reliance on such Officers' Certificate or Opinion of Counsel. The Trustee may consult with counsel of its selection and the advice of such counsel or any Opinion of Counsel shall be full and complete authorization and protection from liability in respect of any action taken, suffered or omitted by it hereunder in good faith and in reliance thereon.
- (c) The Trustee may act through its attorneys and agents and shall not be responsible for the misconduct or negligence of any agent appointed with due care.
- (d) The Trustee shall not be liable for any action it takes or omits to take in good faith that it believes to be authorized or within the rights or powers conferred upon it by this Indenture.
- (e) Unless otherwise specifically provided in this Indenture, any demand, request, direction or notice from the Company shall be sufficient if signed by an Officer of the Company.
- (f) The Trustee shall be under no obligation to exercise any of the rights or powers vested in it by this Indenture at the request or direction of any of the Holders unless such Holders shall have offered to the Trustee reasonable security or indemnity against the costs, expenses and liabilities that might be incurred by it in compliance with such request or direction
- $\,$ (g) The Trustee shall not be required to give any bond or surety in respect of the performance of its powers and duties hereunder.
- (h) Delivery of reports, information and documents to the Trustee under Section 4.03 is for informational purposes only and the Trustee's receipt of the foregoing shall not constitute constructive notice of any information contained therein or determinable from information contained

therein, including the Company's compliance with any of their covenants hereunder (as to which the Trustee is entitled to rely exclusively on Officers' Certificates).

(i) The Trustee shall not be charged with knowledge of any Defaults or Events of Default unless either (1) a Trust Officer of the Trustee shall have actual knowledge of such Default or Event of Default or (2) written notice of such Default or Event of Default shall have been given to the Trustee by any Holder or by the Company or any other obligor on the Notes or any holder of Senior Debt or any representative thereof.

SECTION 7.03. INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS OF TRUSTEE.

The Trustee may become the owner or pledgee of Notes and may otherwise deal with the Company or any Affiliate of the Company with the same rights it would have if it were not Trustee. However, in the event that the Trustee acquires any conflicting interest it must eliminate such conflict within 90 days, apply to the SEC for permission to continue as trustee or resign. Any Agent may do the same with like rights and duties. The Trustee is also subject to Sections 7.10 and 7.11 hereof.

SECTION 7.04. TRUSTEE'S DISCLAIMER.

The Trustee shall not be responsible for and makes no representation as to the validity or adequacy of this Indenture or the Notes, it shall not be accountable for the Company's use of the proceeds from the Notes or any money paid to the Company or upon the Company's direction under any provision of this Indenture, it shall not be responsible for the use or application of any money received by any Paying Agent other than the Trustee, and it shall not be responsible for any statement or recital herein or any statement in the Notes or any other document in connection with the sale of the Notes or pursuant to this Indenture other than its certificate of authentication.

SECTION 7.05. NOTICE OF DEFAULTS.

If a Default or Event of Default occurs and is continuing and if it is known to the Trustee, the Trustee shall mail to Holders of Notes a notice of the Default or Event of Default within 90 days after such Default or Event of Default becomes known to the Trustee. Except in the case of a Default or Event of Default in payment of principal of, premium, if any, or interest on any Note, the Trustee may withhold the notice if and so long as a committee of its Responsible Officers in good faith determines that withholding the notice is in the interests of the Holders of the Notes.

SECTION 7.06. REPORTS BY TRUSTEE TO HOLDERS OF THE NOTES.

Within 60 days after each May 15 beginning with the May 15 following the date of this Indenture, and for so long as Notes remain outstanding, the Trustee shall mail to the Holders of the Notes a brief report dated as of such reporting date that complies with TIA section 313(a) (but if no event described in TIA section 313(a) has occurred within the twelve months preceding the reporting date, no report need be transmitted). The Trustee also shall comply with TIA section 313(b)(2). The Trustee shall also transmit by mail all reports as required by TIA section 313(c).

A copy of each report at the time of its mailing to the Holders of Notes shall be mailed to the Company and filed with the SEC and each stock exchange on which the Notes are listed in

accordance with TIA section $313\,(d)$. The Company shall promptly notify the Trustee when the Notes are listed on any stock exchange.

SECTION 7.07. COMPENSATION AND INDEMNITY.

The Company shall pay to the Trustee from time to time reasonable compensation for its acceptance of this Indenture and services hereunder. The Trustee's compensation shall not be limited by any law on compensation of a trustee of an express trust. The Company shall reimburse the Trustee promptly upon request for all reasonable disbursements, advances and expenses incurred or made by it in addition to the compensation for its services. Such expenses shall include the reasonable compensation, disbursements and expenses of the Trustee's agents and counsel.

The Company and the Guarantors shall jointly and severally indemnify the Trustee and its agents, employees, officers, directors and shareholders for, and hold same harmless against, any and all losses, liabilities or expenses (including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses) incurred by it arising out of or in connection with the acceptance or administration of its duties under this Indenture, including the costs and expenses of enforcing this Indenture against the Company (including this Section 7.07) and defending itself against any claim (whether asserted by the Company or any Holder or any other person) or liability in connection with the exercise or performance of any of its powers or duties hereunder, except to the extent any such loss, liability or expense may be attributable to its negligence or bad faith. The Trustee shall notify the Company promptly of any claim for which it may seek indemnity. Failure by the Trustee to so notify the Company shall not relieve the Company of its obligations hereunder. At the Trustee's sole discretion, the Company shall defend the claim with counsel reasonably satisfactory to the Trustee, and the Trustee shall cooperate in the defense at the Company's expense. The Trustee may have separate counsel and the Company shall pay the reasonable fees and expenses of such counsel. The Company need not pay for any settlement made without its consent, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

The obligations of the Company and the Guarantors under this Section 7.07 shall survive the resignation or removal of the Trustee and/or the satisfaction and discharge or termination of this Indenture.

To secure the Company's payment obligations in this Section, the Trustee shall have a Lien prior to the Notes on all money or property held or collected by the Trustee, except that held in trust to pay principal and interest on particular Notes. Such Lien shall survive the resignation or removal of the Trustee and/or the satisfaction and discharge or termination of this Indenture

When the Trustee incurs expenses or renders services after an Event of Default specified in Section 6.01(viii) or (ix) hereof occurs, the expenses and the compensation for the services (including the fees and expenses of its agents and counsel) are intended to constitute expenses of administration under any Bankruptcy Law.

 $$\operatorname{\textsc{Trustee}}$$ shall comply with the provisions of TIA section 313(b)(2) to the extent applicable.

SECTION 7.08. REPLACEMENT OF TRUSTEE.

A resignation or removal of the Trustee and appointment of a successor Trustee shall become effective only upon the successor Trustee's acceptance of appointment as provided in this Section 7.08.

The Trustee may resign in writing at any time and be discharged from the trust hereby created by so notifying the Company. The Holders of Notes of a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes may remove the Trustee by so notifying the Trustee and the Company in writing. The Company may remove the Trustee if:

- (a) the Trustee fails to comply with Section 7.10 hereof;
- (b) the Trustee is adjudged a bankrupt or an insolvent or an order for relief is entered with respect to the Trustee under any Bankruptcy Law;
- $\,$ (c) a custodian or public officer takes charge of the Trustee or its property; or
 - (d) the Trustee becomes incapable of acting.

If the Trustee resigns or is removed or if a vacancy exists in the office of Trustee for any reason, the Company shall promptly appoint a successor Trustee. Within one year after the successor Trustee takes office, the Holders of a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes may appoint a successor Trustee to replace the successor Trustee appointed by the Company.

If a successor Trustee does not take office within 60 days after the retiring Trustee resigns or is removed, the retiring Trustee, the Company, or the Holders of Notes of at least 10% in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes may petition any court of competent jurisdiction for the appointment of a successor Trustee.

If the Trustee, after written request by any Holder of a Note who has been a Holder of a Note for at least six months, fails to comply with Section 7.10 hereof, such Holder of a Note may petition any court of competent jurisdiction for the removal of the Trustee and the appointment of a successor Trustee.

A successor Trustee shall deliver a written acceptance of its appointment to the retiring Trustee and to the Company. Thereupon, the resignation or removal of the retiring Trustee shall become effective, and the successor Trustee shall have all the rights, powers and duties of the Trustee under this Indenture. The successor Trustee shall mail a notice of its succession to Holders of the Notes. The retiring Trustee shall promptly transfer all property held by it as Trustee to the successor Trustee, provided all sums owing to the Trustee hereunder have been paid and subject to the Lien provided for in Section 7.07 hereof. Notwithstanding replacement of the Trustee pursuant to this Section 7.08, the Company's obligations under Section 7.07 hereof shall continue for the benefit of the retiring Trustee.

SECTION 7.09. SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE BY MERGER, ETC.

If the Trustee consolidates, merges or converts into, or transfers all or substantially all of its corporate trust business to, another corporation, the successor corporation without any further act shall be the successor Trustee.

SECTION 7.10. ELIGIBILITY; DISQUALIFICATION.

There shall at all times be a Trustee hereunder that is a corporation organized and doing business under the laws of the United States of America or of any state thereof that is authorized under such laws to exercise corporate trustee power, that is subject to supervision or examination by federal or state authorities and that has a combined capital and surplus of at least \$100.0 million as set forth in its most recent published annual report of condition.

This Indenture shall always have a Trustee who satisfies the requirements of TIA section 310(a)(1), (2) and (5). The Trustee is subject to TIA section 310(b).

SECTION 7.11. PREFERENTIAL COLLECTION OF CLAIMS AGAINST COMPANY.

The Trustee is subject to TIA section 311(a), excluding any creditor relationship listed in TIA section 311(b). A Trustee who has resigned or been removed shall be subject to TIA section 311(a) to the extent indicated therein.

ARTICLE 8. LEGAL DEFEASANCE AND COVENANT DEFEASANCE

SECTION 8.01. OPTION TO EFFECT LEGAL DEFEASANCE OR COVENANT DEFEASANCE.

The Company may, at the option of its Board of Directors evidenced by a resolution set forth in an Officers' Certificate, at any time, elect to have either Section 8.02 or 8.03 hereof applied to all outstanding Notes upon compliance with the conditions set forth below in this Article 8.

SECTION 8.02. LEGAL DEFEASANCE AND DISCHARGE.

Upon the Company's exercise under Section 8.01 hereof of the option applicable to this Section 8.02, the Company shall, subject to the satisfaction of the conditions set forth in Section 8.04 hereof, be deemed to have been discharged from its Obligations with respect to all outstanding Notes on the date the conditions set forth below are satisfied (hereinafter, "Legal Defeasance"). For this purpose, Legal Defeasance means that the Company shall be deemed to have paid and discharged the entire Indebtedness represented by the outstanding Notes, which shall thereafter be deemed to be "outstanding" only for the purposes of Section 8.05 hereof and the other Sections of this Indenture referred to in (a) and (b) below, and to have satisfied all of its obligations under such Notes and this Indenture (and the Trustee, on demand of and at the expense of the Company, shall execute proper instruments acknowledging the same), except for the following provisions which shall survive until otherwise terminated or discharged hereunder: (a) the rights of Holders of outstanding Notes to receive solely from the trust fund described in Section 8.04 hereof, and as more fully set forth in such Section 8.04, payments in respect of the principal of and premium, interest and Liquidated Damages, if any, on such Notes when such payments are due,

Defeasance:

date;

(b) the Company's obligations with respect to such Notes under Article 2 and Section 4.02 hereof, (c) the rights, powers, trusts, duties and immunities of the Trustee hereunder and the Company's obligations in connection therewith and (d) this Article 8. Subject to compliance with this Article 8, the Company may exercise its option under this Section 8.02 notwithstanding the prior exercise of its option under Section 8.03 hereof.

SECTION 8.03. COVENANT DEFEASANCE.

Upon the Company's exercise under Section 8.01 hereof of the option applicable to this Section 8.03, the Company and each Guarantor shall, subject to the satisfaction of the conditions set forth in Section 8.04 hereof, be released from their respective obligations under the covenants contained in Sections 4.07, 4.08, 4.09, 4.10, 4.11, 4.12, 4.13, 4.15, 4.16, 4.17 and 4.18 hereof with respect to the outstanding Notes on and after the date the conditions set forth in Section 8.04 are satisfied (hereinafter, "Covenant Defeasance"), and the Notes shall thereafter be deemed not "outstanding" for the purposes of any direction, waiver, consent or declaration or act of Holders (and the consequences of any thereof) in connection with such covenants, but shall continue to be deemed "outstanding" for all other purposes hereunder (it being understood that such Notes shall not be deemed outstanding for accounting purposes). For this purpose, Covenant Defeasance means that, with respect to the outstanding Notes, the Company may omit to comply with and shall have no liability in respect of any term, condition or limitation set forth in any such covenant, whether directly or indirectly, by reason of any reference elsewhere herein to any such covenant or by reason of any reference in any such covenant to any other provision herein or in any other document and such omission to comply shall not constitute a Default or an Event of Default under Section 6.01 hereof, but, except as specified above, the remainder of this Indenture and such Notes shall be unaffected thereby. In addition, upon the Company's exercise under Section 8.01 hereof of the option applicable to this Section 8.03, subject to the satisfaction of the conditions set forth in Section 8.04 hereof, Sections 6.01(iii) through 6.01(vii) hereof shall not constitute Events of Default.

SECTION 8.04. CONDITIONS TO LEGAL OR COVENANT DEFEASANCE.

 $$\operatorname{\textsc{The}}$$ following shall be the conditions to the application of either Section 8.02 or 8.03 hereof to the outstanding Notes:

In order to exercise either Legal Defeasance or Covenant

(a) the Company must irrevocably deposit, with the Trustee, in trust, for the benefit of the Holders, cash in U.S. dollars, non-callable Government Securities, or a combination thereof, in such amounts as will be sufficient, in the opinion of a nationally recognized firm of independent public accountants, to pay the principal of, premium, if any, and interest and Liquidated Damages on the outstanding Notes on the stated maturity thereof or on the applicable redemption date, as the case may be, and the Company must specify whether the Notes are being defeased to maturity or to a particular redemption

(b) in the case of Legal Defeasance, the Company must deliver to the Trustee an Opinion of Counsel in the United States reasonably acceptable to the Trustee confirming that the Company has received from, or there has been published by, the Internal Revenue Service a ruling, or since the date of this Indentures, there has been a change in the applicable federal income tax law, in either case to the effect that, and based thereon such Opinion of Counsel shall confirm that, the Holders of the outstanding

Notes will not recognize income, gain or loss for federal income tax purposes as a result of such Legal Defeasance, and will be subject to federal income tax on the same amounts, in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if such Legal Defeasance had not occurred;

- (c) in the case of Covenant Defeasance, the Company must deliver to the Trustee an Opinion of Counsel in the United States reasonably acceptable to the Trustee confirming that the Holders of the outstanding Notes will not recognize income, gain or loss for federal income tax purposes as a result of such Covenant Defeasance, and such Holders will be subject to federal income tax on the same amounts, in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if such Covenant Defeasance had not occurred;
- (d) no Default or Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing on the date of such deposit (other than a Default or Event of Default resulting from the borrowing of funds to be applied to such deposit) or insofar as Events of Default from bankruptcy or insolvency events are concerned, at any time in the period ending on the 91st day after the date of deposit;
- (e) such Legal Defeasance or Covenant Defeasance will not result in a breach or violation of, or constitute a default under, any material agreement or instrument (other than this Indenture) to which the Company or any of its Subsidiaries is a party or by which the Company or any of its Subsidiaries is bound;
- (f) the Company must deliver to the Trustee an Opinion of Counsel in the United States reasonably acceptable to the Trustee to the effect that after the 91st day following the deposit, the trust funds will not be subject to the effect of any applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization or similar laws affecting creditors' rights and remedies generally;
- (g) the Company must deliver to the Trustee an Officers'
 Certificate stating that the deposit was not made by the Company with the intent
 of preferring the Holders of the Notes over other creditors of the Company, or
 with the intent of defeating, hindering, delaying or defrauding creditors of the
 Company or others; and
- (h) the Company must deliver to the Trustee an Officers'
 Certificate and an Opinion of Counsel in the United States reasonably acceptable
 to the Trustee, each stating that all conditions precedent provided for or
 relating to Legal Defeasance or Covenant Defeasance, as applicable, have been
 complied with.

SECTION 8.05. DEPOSITED MONEY AND GOVERNMENT SECURITIES TO BE HELD IN TRUST; OTHER MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

Subject to Section 8.06 hereof, all money and non-callable Government Securities (including the proceeds thereof) deposited with the Trustee (or other qualifying trustee, collectively for purposes of this Section 8.05, the "Trustee") pursuant to Section 8.04 hereof in respect of the outstanding Notes shall be held in trust and applied by the Trustee, in accordance with the provisions of such Notes and this Indenture, to the payment, either directly or through any Paying Agent (including the Company acting as Paying Agent) as the Trustee may determine, to the Holders of such Notes of all sums due and to become due thereon in respect of principal, premium, if any, and interest, but such money need not be segregated from other funds except to the extent required by law.

The Company shall pay and indemnify the Trustee against any tax, fee or other charge imposed on or assessed against the cash or non-callable Government Securities deposited pursuant to Section 8.04 hereof or the principal and interest received in respect thereof other than any such tax, fee or other charge which by law is for the account of the Holders of the outstanding Notes.

Anything in this Article 8 to the contrary notwithstanding, the Trustee shall deliver or pay to the Company from time to time upon the request of the Company any money or non-callable Government Securities held by it as provided in Section 8.04 hereof which, in the opinion of a nationally recognized firm of independent public accountants expressed in a written certification thereof delivered to the Trustee (which may be the opinion delivered under Section 8.04(a) hereof), are in excess of the amount thereof that would then be required to be deposited to effect an equivalent Legal Defeasance or Covenant Defeasance.

SECTION 8.06. REPAYMENT TO COMPANY.

Any money deposited with the Trustee or any Paying Agent, or then held by the Company, in trust for the payment of the principal of, premium, interest or Liquidated Damages, if any, on any Note and remaining unclaimed for two years after such principal, and premium, if any, or interest has become due and payable shall be paid to the Company on its request or (if then held by the Company) shall be discharged from such trust; and the Holder of such Note shall thereafter, as a secured creditor, look only to the Company for payment thereof, and all liability of the Trustee or such Paying Agent with respect to such trust money, and all liability of the Company as trustee thereof, shall thereupon cease; provided, however, that the Trustee or such Paying Agent, before being required to make any such repayment, may at the expense of the Company cause to be published once, in the New York Times and The Wall Street Journal (national edition), notice that such money remains unclaimed and that, after a date specified therein, which shall not be less than 30 days from the date of such notification or publication, any unclaimed balance of such money then remaining will be repaid to the Company.

SECTION 8.07. REINSTATEMENT.

If the Trustee or Paying Agent is unable to apply any United States dollars or non-callable Government Securities in accordance with Section 8.02 or 8.03 hereof, as the case may be, by reason of any order or judgment of any court or governmental authority enjoining, restraining or otherwise prohibiting such application, then the Company's obligations under this Indenture and the Notes shall be revived and reinstated as though no deposit had occurred pursuant to Section 8.02 or 8.03 hereof until such time as the Trustee or Paying Agent is permitted to apply all such money in accordance with Section 8.02 or 8.03 hereof, as the case may be; provided, however, that, if the Company makes any payment of principal of, premium, if any, or interest on any Note following the reinstatement of its obligations, the Company shall be subrogated to the rights of the Holders of such Notes to receive such payment from the money held by the Trustee or Paying Agent.

ARTICLE 9. AMENDMENT, SUPPLEMENT AND WAIVER

SECTION 9.01. WITHOUT CONSENT OF HOLDERS OF NOTES.

Notwithstanding Section 9.02 hereof, the Company, the Guarantors and the Trustee may amend or supplement this Indenture, the Notes or the Subsidiary Guarantees without the consent of any Holder of a Note:

- (a) to cure any ambiguity, defect or inconsistency;
- (b) to provide for uncertificated Notes in addition to or in place of certificated Notes or to alter the provisions of Article 2 hereof (including the related definitions) in a manner that does not materially adversely affect any Holder;
- (c) to provide for the assumption of the Company's or any Guarantor's obligations to the Holders of the Notes by a successor to the Company or a Guarantor pursuant to Article 5 hereof;
- (d) to make any change that would provide any additional rights or benefits to the Holders of the Notes or that does not adversely affect the legal rights hereunder of any Holder of the Note;
- (e) to comply with requirements of the SEC in order to effect or maintain the qualification of this Indenture under the TIA;
- (f) to provide for the issuance of Additional Notes in accordance with the provisions set forth in this Indenture as of the date hereof: or
- $\,$ (g) to allow any Guarantor to execute a supplemental indenture and/or a Subsidiary Guarantee with respect to the Notes.

Upon the request of the Company accompanied by a resolution of its Board of Directors authorizing the execution of any such amended or supplemental indenture, and upon receipt by the Trustee of the documents described in Section 7.02 hereof, the Trustee shall join with the Company and the Guarantors in the execution of any amended or supplemental indenture authorized or permitted by the terms of this Indenture and to make any further appropriate agreements and stipulations that may be therein contained, but the Trustee shall not be obligated to enter into such amended or supplemental indenture that affects its own rights, duties or immunities under this Indenture or otherwise.

SECTION 9.02. WITH CONSENT OF HOLDERS OF NOTES.

Except as provided below in this Section 9.02, the Company, the Guarantors and the Trustee may amend or supplement this Indenture (including Section 3.09, 4.10 and 4.15 hereof), the Notes or the Subsidiary Guarantees with the consent of the Holders of at least a majority in principal amount Notes (including Additional Notes, if any) then outstanding voting as a single class (including consents obtained in connection with a tender offer or exchange offer for, or purchase of, the Notes), and, subject to Sections 6.04 and 6.07 hereof, any existing Default or Event of Default (other than a Default or Event of Default in the payment of the principal of, premium, if any, or interest on the Notes, except a

payment default resulting from an acceleration that has been rescinded) or compliance with any provision of this Indenture, the Notes or the Subsidiary Guarantees may be waived with the consent of the Holders of a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes (including Additional Notes, if any) voting as a single class (including consents obtained in connection with a tender offer or exchange offer for, or purchase of, the Notes). Without the consent of at least 75% in principal amount of the Notes then outstanding (including consents obtained in connection with a tender offer or exchange offer for, or purchase of, the Notes), no waiver or amendment to this Indenture may make any change in the provisions of Article 10 hereof that adversely affects the rights of any Holder of Notes. Section 2.08 hereof shall determine which Notes are considered to be "outstanding" for purposes of this Section 9.02.

Upon the request of the Company accompanied by a resolution of its Board of Directors authorizing the execution of any such amended or supplemental indenture, and upon the filing with the Trustee of evidence satisfactory to the Trustee of the consent of the Holders of Notes as aforesaid, and upon receipt by the Trustee of the documents described in Section 7.02 hereof, the Trustee shall join with the Company in the execution of such amended or supplemental indenture unless such amended or supplemental indenture directly affects the Trustee's own rights, duties or immunities under this Indenture or otherwise, in which case the Trustee may in its discretion, but shall not be obligated to, enter into such amended or supplemental indenture.

It shall not be necessary for the consent of the Holders of Notes under this Section 9.02 to approve the particular form of any proposed amendment or waiver, but it shall be sufficient if such consent approves the substance thereof.

After an amendment, supplement or waiver under this Section 9.02 becomes effective, the Company shall mail to the Holders of Notes affected thereby a notice briefly describing the amendment, supplement or waiver. Any failure of the Company to mail such notice, or any defect therein, shall not, however, in any way impair or affect the validity of any such amended or supplemental indenture or waiver. Subject to Sections 6.04 and 6.07 hereof, the Holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the Notes (including Additional Notes, if any) then outstanding voting as a single class may waive compliance in a particular instance by the Company with any provision of this Indenture or the Notes. However, without the consent of each Holder affected, an amendment or waiver under this Section 9.02 may not (with respect to any Notes held by a non-consenting Holder):

- (a) reduce the principal amount of Notes whose Holders must consent to an amendment, supplement or waiver;
- (b) reduce the principal of or change the fixed maturity of any Note or alter or waive any of the provisions with respect to the redemption of the Notes, other than provisions relating to Sections 3.09, 4.10 or 4.15 hereof:
- (c) reduce the rate of or change the time for payment of interest, including default interest, on any Note;
- (d) waive a Default or Event of Default in the payment of principal of or premium or Liquidated Damages, if any, or interest on the Notes (except a rescission of acceleration of the Notes by the Holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of the then outstanding Notes (including Additional Notes, if any) and a waiver of the payment default that resulted from such acceleration;

- (e) make any Note payable in money other than that stated in the Notes;
- (f) make any change in the provisions of this Indenture relating to waivers of past Defaults or the rights of Holders of Notes to receive payments of principal of or premium, interest or Liquidated Damages, if any, on the Notes;
- (g) waive a redemption payment with respect to any Note, other than a payment required by Section 3.09, 4.10 or 4.15 hereof;
- $% \left(h\right) =\left(h\right) =0$ (h) make any change in the foregoing amendment and waiver provisions; or
- (i) release any Guarantor from any of its obligations under its Subsidiary Guarantee or this Indenture, except in accordance with the terms of this Indenture.
- SECTION 9.03. COMPLIANCE WITH TRUST INDENTURE ACT.

Every amendment or supplement to this Indenture or the Notes shall be set forth in an amended or supplemental indenture that complies with the TIA as then in effect.

SECTION 9.04. REVOCATION AND EFFECT OF CONSENTS.

Until an amendment, supplement or waiver becomes effective, a consent to it by a Holder of a Note is a continuing consent by the Holder of a Note and every subsequent Holder of a Note or portion of a Note that evidences the same debt as the consenting Holder's Note, even if notation of the consent is not made on any Note. However, any such Holder of a Note or subsequent Holder of a Note may revoke the consent as to its Note if the Trustee receives written notice of revocation before the date the waiver, supplement or amendment becomes effective. An amendment, supplement or waiver becomes effective in accordance with its terms and thereafter binds every Holder.

SECTION 9.05. NOTATION ON OR EXCHANGE OF NOTES.

The Trustee may place an appropriate notation about an amendment, supplement or waiver on any Note thereafter authenticated. The Company in exchange for all Notes may issue and the Trustee shall, upon receipt of an Authentication Order, authenticate new Notes that reflect the amendment, supplement or waiver.

Failure to make the appropriate notation or issue a new Note shall not affect the validity and effect of such amendment, supplement or

SECTION 9.06. TRUSTEE TO SIGN AMENDMENTS, ETC.

The Trustee shall sign any amended or supplemental indenture authorized pursuant to this Article 9 if the amendment or supplement does not adversely affect the rights, duties, liabilities or immunities of the Trustee. The Company may not sign an amendment or supplemental indenture until the Board of Directors approves it. In executing any amended or supplemental indenture, the Trustee shall be entitled to receive and (subject to Section 7.01 hereof) shall be fully protected in relying upon an Officer's Certificate and an Opinion of Counsel stating that the execution of such amended or

supplemental indenture is authorized or permitted by this Indenture and that such amendment is the legal, valid and binding obligation of the Company and any Guarantors, enforceable against them in accordance with their terms, subject to customary exceptions, and complies with the provisions hereof (including Section 9.03).

ARTICLE 10. SUBORDINATION

SECTION 10.01. AGREEMENT TO SUBORDINATE.

The Company agrees, and each Holder by accepting a Note agrees, that the principal of and premium, interest and Liquidated Damages, if any, with respect to the Notes are subordinated in right of payment, to the extent and in the manner provided in this Article 10, to the prior payment in full of all Senior Debt of the Company (whether outstanding on the date hereof or hereafter created, incurred, assumed or guaranteed), and that the subordination is for the benefit of the holders of Senior Debt.

SECTION 10.02. CERTAIN DEFINITIONS.

"Designated Senior Debt" means:

(1) any Indebtedness outstanding under the Credit

Facility; and

 $(2) \ \ \text{any other Senior Debt permitted under this} \\$ Indenture the principal amount of which is \$10.0 million or more and that has been designated by the Company as "Designated Senior Debt."

"Permitted Junior Securities" means: (1) Equity Interests in the Company or any Guarantor; or (2) debt securities of the Company or any Guarantor that are subordinated to all Senior Debt and any debt securities issued in exchange for Senior Debt to substantially the same extent as, or to a greater extent than, the Notes and the Subsidiary Guarantees are subordinated to Senior Debt pursuant to Article 10 hereof.

"Representative" means the indenture trustee or other trustee, agent or representative for any Senior Debt.

"Senior Debt" means:

 $\hbox{(1) all Indebtedness outstanding under Credit} \\ \text{Facilities and all Hedging Obligations with respect thereto;}$

(2) any other Indebtedness permitted to be incurred by the Company under the terms of this Indenture, unless the instrument under which such Indebtedness is incurred expressly provides that it is on a parity with or subordinated in right of payment to the Notes or the Subsidiary Guarantees; and

(3) all Obligations with respect to the items listed in the preceding clauses (1) and (2).

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the preceding, Senior Debt shall not include:

- (1) any liability for federal, state, local or other taxes owed or owing by the Company;
- $\hbox{(2) any Indebtedness of the Company to any of its } \\ \text{Subsidiaries or other Affiliates;}$
 - (3) any trade payables; or
 - (4) any Indebtedness that is incurred in violation of

this Indenture.

 $\mbox{\tt A}$ "distribution" may consist of cash, securities or other property, by set-off or otherwise.

SECTION 10.03. LIQUIDATION; DISSOLUTION; BANKRUPTCY.

Upon any distribution to creditors of the Company in a liquidation or dissolution of the Company or in a bankruptcy, reorganization, insolvency, receivership or similar proceeding relating to the Company or its property, in an assignment for the benefit of creditors or any marshalling of the Company's assets and liabilities:

- (1) holders of Senior Debt shall be entitled to receive payment in full of all Obligations due in respect of such Senior Debt (including interest after the commencement of any such proceeding at the rate specified in the applicable Senior Debt) before Holders of the Notes shall be entitled to receive any payment with respect to the Notes (except that Holders may receive (i) Permitted Junior Securities and (ii) payments and other distributions made from any defeasance trust created pursuant to Article 8 hereof); and
- (2) until all Obligations with respect to Senior Debt (as provided in subsection (1) above) are paid in full, any distribution to which Holders would be entitled but for this Article 10 shall be made to holders of Senior Debt (except that Holders of Notes may receive (i) Permitted Junior Securities and (ii) payments and other distributions made from any defeasance trust created pursuant to Article 8 hereof), as their interests may appear.

SECTION 10.04. DEFAULT ON DESIGNATED SENIOR DEBT.

The Company may not make any payment or distribution to the Trustee or any Holder in respect of Obligations with respect to the Notes and may not acquire from the Trustee or any Holder any Notes for cash or property (other than (a) Permitted Junior Securities and (b) payments and other distributions made from any defeasance trust created pursuant to Article 8 hereof) until all principal and other Obligations with respect to the Senior Debt have been paid in full if:

(i) a default in the payment of any principal or other Obligations with respect to Designated Senior Debt occurs and is continuing beyond any applicable grace period in the agreement, indenture or other document governing such Designated Senior Debt; or

(ii) a default, other than a payment default, on Designated Senior Debt occurs and is continuing that then permits holders of such Designated Senior Debt to accelerate its maturity and the Trustee receives a notice of the default (a "Payment Blockage Notice") from a Person who may give it pursuant to Section 10.12 hereof. If the Trustee receives any such Payment Blockage Notice, no subsequent Payment Blockage Notice shall be effective for purposes of this Section 10.04 unless and until (i) at least 360 days shall have elapsed since the effectiveness of the immediately prior Payment Blockage Notice and (ii) all scheduled payments of principal, premium and Liquidated Damages, if any, and interest on the Notes that have come due have been paid in full in cash. No nonpayment default that existed or was continuing on the date of delivery of any Payment Blockage Notice to the Trustee shall be, or be made, the basis for a subsequent Payment Blockage Notice unless such default shall have been waived for a period of not less than 90 days.

The Company may and shall resume payments on and distributions in respect of the Notes and may acquire them upon the earlier of:

- (1) the date upon which the default is cured or waived, or
- (2) in the case of a default referred to in Section 10.04(ii) hereof, 179 days pass after notice is received if the maturity of such Designated Senior Debt has not been accelerated,

if this Article 10 otherwise permits the payment, distribution or acquisition at the time of such payment or acquisition.

SECTION 10.05. ACCELERATION OF NOTES.

 $\hbox{ If payment of the Notes is accelerated because of an Event of Default, the Company shall promptly notify holders of Senior Debt of the acceleration. } \\$

SECTION 10.06. WHEN DISTRIBUTION MUST BE PAID OVER.

In the event that the Trustee or any Holder receives any payment of any Obligations with respect to the Notes at a time when the Trustee or such Holder, as applicable, has actual knowledge that such payment is prohibited by Section 10.03 or 10.04 hereof, such payment shall be held by the Trustee or such Holder, in trust for the benefit of, and shall be paid forthwith over and delivered, upon written request, to the holders of Senior Debt as their interests may appear or their Representative under the indenture or other agreement (if any) pursuant to which such Senior Debt may have been issued, as their respective interests may appear, for application to the payment of all Obligations with respect to Senior Debt remaining unpaid to the extent necessary to pay such Obligations in full in accordance with their terms, after giving effect to any concurrent payment or distribution to or for the holders of Senior Debt.

With respect to the holders of Senior Debt, the Trustee undertakes to perform only such obligations on the part of the Trustee as are specifically set forth in this Article 10, and no implied covenants or obligations with respect to the holders of Senior Debt shall be read into this Indenture against the Trustee. The Trustee shall not be deemed to owe any fiduciary duty to the holders of Senior Debt, and shall not be liable to any such holders if the Trustee shall pay over or distribute to or on behalf of Holders or the Company or any other Person money or assets to which any holders of Senior Debt

shall be entitled by virtue of this Article 10, except if such payment is made as a result of the willful misconduct or gross negligence of the Trustee.

SECTION 10.07. NOTICE BY COMPANY.

The Company shall promptly notify the Trustee and the Paying Agent of any facts known to the Company that would cause a payment of any Obligations with respect to the Notes to violate this Article 10, but failure to give such notice shall not affect the subordination of the Notes to the Senior Debt as provided in this Article 10.

SECTION 10.08. SUBROGATION.

After all Senior Debt is paid in full and until the Notes are paid in full, Holders of Notes shall be subrogated (equally and ratably with all other Indebtedness pari passu with the Notes) to the rights of holders of Senior Debt to receive distributions applicable to Senior Debt to the extent that distributions otherwise payable to the Holders of Notes have been applied to the payment of Senior Debt. A distribution made under this Article 10 to holders of Senior Debt that otherwise would have been made to Holders of Notes is not, as between the Company and Holders, a payment by the Company on the Notes.

SECTION 10.09. RELATIVE RIGHTS.

- (1) impair, as between the Company and Holders of Notes, the obligation of the Company, which is absolute and unconditional, to pay principal of and interest and Liquidated Damages, if any, on the Notes in accordance with their terms;
- (2) affect the relative rights of Holders of Notes and creditors of the Company other than their rights in relation to holders of Senior Debt; or
- (3) prevent the Trustee or any Holder of Notes from exercising its available remedies upon a Default or Event of Default, subject to the rights of holders and owners of Senior Debt to receive distributions and payments otherwise payable to Holders of Notes.

If the Company fails because of this Article 10 to pay principal of or interest on a Note on the due date, the failure shall nevertheless be a Default or Event of Default.

SECTION 10.10. SUBORDINATION MAY NOT BE IMPAIRED BY COMPANY.

No right of any holder of Senior Debt to enforce the subordination of the Indebtedness evidenced by the Notes shall be impaired by any act or failure to act by the Company or any Holder or by the failure of the Company or any Holder to comply with this Indenture.

SECTION 10.11. DISTRIBUTION OR NOTICE TO REPRESENTATIVE.

Whenever a distribution is to be made or a notice given to holders of Senior Debt, the distribution may be made and the notice given to their Representative.

Upon any payment or distribution of assets of the Company referred to in this Article 10, the Trustee and the Holders of Notes shall be entitled to rely upon any order or decree made by any court of competent jurisdiction or upon any certificate of such Representative or of the liquidating trustee or agent or other Person making any distribution to the Trustee or to the Holders of Notes for the purpose of ascertaining the Persons entitled to participate in such distribution, the holders of the Senior Debt and other Indebtedness of the Company, the amount thereof or payable thereon, the amount or amounts paid or distributed thereon and all other facts pertinent thereto or to this Article 10.

SECTION 10.12. RIGHTS OF TRUSTEE AND PAYING AGENT.

Notwithstanding the provisions of this Article 10 or any other provision of this Indenture, the Trustee shall not be charged with knowledge of the existence of any facts that would prohibit the making of any payment or distribution by the Trustee, and the Trustee and the Paying Agent may continue to make payments on the Notes, unless the Trustee shall have received at its Corporate Trust Office at least five Business Days prior to the date of such payment written notice of facts that would cause the payment of any Obligations with respect to the Notes to violate this Article 10. Only the Company or a Representative may give the notice. Nothing in this Article 10 shall impair the claims of, or payments to, the Trustee under or pursuant to Section 7.07 hereof.

 $\hbox{The Trustee may hold Senior Debt with the same rights it would have if it were not Trustee. Any Agent may do the same with like rights. }$

SECTION 10.13. AUTHORIZATION TO EFFECT SUBORDINATION.

Each Holder of Notes, by the Holder's acceptance thereof, authorizes and directs the Trustee on such Holder's behalf to take such action as may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate the subordination as provided in this Article 10, and appoints the Trustee to act as such Holder's attorney-in-fact for any and all such purposes. If the Trustee does not file a proper proof of claim or proof of debt in the form required in any proceeding referred to in Section 6.09 hereof at least 30 days before the expiration of the time to file such claim, the Representatives are hereby authorized to file an appropriate claim for and on behalf of the Holders of the Notes.

SECTION 10.14. TRUSTEE'S COMPENSATION NOT PREJUDICED.

 $\hbox{Nothing in this Article 10 shall apply to amounts due to the } \\ \hbox{Trustee pursuant to other Sections of this Indenture.}$

ARTICLE 11. SUBSIDIARY GUARANTEES

SECTION 11.01. SUBSIDIARY GUARANTEE.

Subject to this Article 11, each of the Guarantors hereby, jointly and severally, unconditionally guarantees to each Holder of a Note authenticated and delivered by the Trustee and to the Trustee and its successors and assigns, irrespective of the validity and enforceability of this Indenture, the Notes or the obligations of the Company hereunder or thereunder, that: (a) the principal of and interest on the Notes, and Liquidated Damages, if any, will be promptly paid in full when due, whether at maturity, by acceleration, redemption or otherwise, and interest on the overdue principal of and interest on the Notes, if any, if lawful, and all other obligations of the Company to the Holders or the Trustee hereunder or thereunder will be promptly paid in full or performed, all in accordance with the terms hereof and thereof; and (b) in case of any extension of time of payment or renewal of any Notes or any of such other obligations, that same will be promptly paid in full when due or performed in accordance with the terms of the extension or renewal, whether at stated maturity, by acceleration or otherwise. Failing payment when due of any amount so guaranteed or any performance so guaranteed for whatever reason, the Guarantors shall be jointly and severally obligated to pay the same immediately. Each Guarantor agrees that this is a guarantee of payment and not a guarantee of collection.

The Guarantors hereby agree that their obligations hereunder shall be unconditional, irrespective of the validity, regularity or enforceability of the Notes or this Indenture, the absence of any action to enforce the same, any waiver or consent by any Holder of the Notes with respect to any provisions hereof or thereof, the recovery of any judgment against the Company, any action to enforce the same or any other circumstance which might otherwise constitute a legal or equitable discharge or defense of a guarantor. Each Guarantor hereby waives diligence, presentment, demand of payment, filing of claims with a court in the event of insolvency or bankruptcy of the Company, any right to require a proceeding first against the Company, protest, notice and all demands whatsoever and covenant that this Subsidiary Guarantee shall not be discharged except by complete performance of the obligations contained in the Notes and this Indenture.

If any Holder or the Trustee is required by any court or otherwise to return to the Company, the Guarantors or any custodian, trustee, liquidator or other similar official acting in relation to either the Company or the Guarantors, any amount paid by either to the Trustee or such Holder, this Subsidiary Guarantee, to the extent theretofore discharged, shall be reinstated in full force and effect.

Each Guarantor agrees that it shall not be entitled to any right of subrogation in relation to the Holders in respect of any obligations guaranteed hereby until payment in full of all obligations guaranteed hereby. Each Guarantor further agrees that, as between the Guarantors, on the one hand, and the Holders and the Trustee, on the other hand, (x) the maturity of the obligations guaranteed hereby may be accelerated as provided in Article 6 hereof for the purposes of this Subsidiary Guarantee, notwithstanding any stay, injunction or other prohibition preventing such acceleration in respect of the obligations guaranteed hereby, and (y) in the event of any declaration of acceleration of such obligations as provided in Article 6 hereof, such obligations (Whether or not due and payable) shall forthwith become due and payable by the Guarantors for the purpose of this Subsidiary Guarantee. The Guarantors shall have the right to seek contribution from any non-paying Guarantor so long as the exercise of such right does not impair the rights of the Holders under the Subsidiary Guarantee.

SECTION 11.02. SUBORDINATION OF SUBSIDIARY GUARANTEE.

The Obligations of each Guarantor under its Subsidiary Guarantee pursuant to this Article 11 shall be junior and subordinated to the Senior Debt of such Guarantor on the same basis as the Notes are junior and subordinated to Senior Debt of the Company. For the purposes of the foregoing sentence, the Trustee and the Holders shall have the right to receive and/or retain payments by any of the Guarantors only at such times as they may receive and/or retain payments in respect of the Notes pursuant to this Indenture, including Article 10 hereof.

SECTION 11.03. LIMITATION ON GUARANTOR LIABILITY.

Each Guarantor, and by its acceptance of Notes, each Holder, hereby confirms that it is the intention of all such parties that the Subsidiary Guarantee of such Guarantor not constitute a fraudulent transfer or conveyance for purposes of Bankruptcy Law, the Uniform Fraudulent Conveyance Act, the Uniform Fraudulent Transfer Act or any similar federal or state law to the extent applicable to any Subsidiary Guarantee. To effectuate the foregoing intention, the Trustee, the Holders and the Guarantors hereby irrevocably agree that the obligations of such Guarantor under its Subsidiary Guarantee and this Article 11 shall be limited to the maximum amount as will, after giving effect to such maximum amount and all other contingent and fixed liabilities of such Guarantor that are relevant under such laws, and after giving effect to any collections from, rights to receive contribution from or payments made by or on behalf of any other Guarantor in respect of the obligations of such other Guarantor under this Article 11, result in the obligations of such Guarantor under its Subsidiary Guarantee not constituting a fraudulent transfer or conveyance.

SECTION 11.04. EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF SUBSIDIARY GUARANTEE.

To evidence its Subsidiary Guarantee set forth in Section 11.01, each Guarantor hereby agrees that a notation of such Subsidiary Guarantee substantially in the form included in EXHIBIT E shall be endorsed by an Officer of such Guarantor on each Note authenticated and delivered by the Trustee and that this Indenture shall be executed on behalf of such Guarantor by an Officer thereof.

Each Guarantor hereby agrees that its Subsidiary Guarantee set forth in Section 11.01 shall remain in full force and effect notwithstanding any failure to endorse on each Note a notation of such Subsidiary Guarantee.

If an Officer whose signature is on this Indenture or on the Subsidiary Guarantee no longer holds that office at the time the Trustee authenticates the Note on which a Subsidiary Guarantee is endorsed, the Subsidiary Guarantee shall be valid nevertheless.

The delivery of any Note by the Trustee, after the authentication thereof hereunder, shall constitute due delivery of the Subsidiary Guarantee set forth in this Indenture on behalf of the Guarantors.

In the event that the Company creates or acquires any other Domestic Subsidiaries subsequent to the date of this Indenture, or if any current or future Subsidiaries become Domestic Subsidiaries subsequent to the date of this Indenture, if required by Section 4.17 hereof, the Company shall cause such Subsidiaries to execute supplemental indentures to this Indenture in accordance with Section 4.17 hereof, and this Article 11, to the extent applicable.

SECTION 11.05. GUARANTORS MAY CONSOLIDATE, ETC., ON CERTAIN TERMS.

No Guarantor may consolidate with or merge with or into (whether or not such Guarantor is the surviving Person) another corporation, Person or entity whether or not affiliated with such Guarantor unless:

(a) subject to Section 11.06 hereof, the Person formed by or surviving any such consolidation or merger (if other than such Guarantor) assumes all the obligations of such Guarantor, pursuant to a supplemental indenture in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Trustee, under the Notes, this Indenture, the Registration Rights Agreement and the Subsidiary Guarantee on the terms set forth herein or therein; and

 $\mbox{\ensuremath{\mbox{(b)}}}$ immediately after giving effect to such transaction, no Default or Event of Default exists.

In case of any such consolidation, merger, sale or conveyance and upon the assumption by the successor Person, by supplemental indenture, executed and delivered to the Trustee and satisfactory in form to the Trustee, of the Subsidiary Guarantee endorsed upon the Notes and the due and punctual performance of all of the covenants and conditions of this Indenture to be performed by the Guarantor, such successor Person shall succeed to and be substituted for the Guarantor with the same effect as if it had been named herein as a Guarantor. Such successor Person thereupon may cause to be signed any or all of the Subsidiary Guarantees to be endorsed upon all of the Notes issuable hereunder which theretofore shall not have been signed by the Company and delivered to the Trustee. All the Subsidiary Guarantees so issued shall in all respects have the same legal rank and benefit under this Indenture as the Subsidiary Guarantees theretofore and thereafter issued in accordance with the terms of this Indenture as though all of such Subsidiary Guarantees had been issued at the date of the execution hereof.

Notwithstanding clauses (a) and (b) above, nothing contained in this Indenture or in any of the Notes shall prevent any consolidation or merger of a Guarantor with or into the Company or another Guarantor, or shall prevent any sale or conveyance of the property of a Guarantor as an entirety or substantially as an entirety to the Company or another Guarantor.

SECTION 11.06. RELEASES FOLLOWING SALE OF ASSETS.

In the event of a sale or other disposition of all of the assets of any Guarantor, by way of merger, consolidation or otherwise, or a sale or other disposition of all of the capital stock of any Guarantor, then such Guarantor (in the event of a sale or other disposition, by way of merger, consolidation or otherwise, of all of the capital stock of such Guarantor) or the corporation acquiring the property (in the event of a sale or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of such Guarantor) will be released and relieved of any obligations under its Subsidiary Guarantee; provided that the Net Proceeds of such sale or other disposition are applied in accordance with the applicable provisions of this Indenture, including without limitation Section 4.10 hereof. Upon delivery by the Company to the Trustee of an Officers' Certificate and an Opinion of Counsel to the effect that such sale or other disposition was made by the Company in accordance with the applicable provisions of this Indenture, including without limitation Section 4.10 hereof, the Trustee shall execute any documents

reasonably required in order to evidence the release of any Guarantor from its obligations under its Subsidiary Guarantee.

Any Guarantor not released from its obligations under its Subsidiary Guarantee shall remain liable for the full amount of principal of and interest on the Notes and for the other obligations of any Guarantor under this Indenture as provided in this Article 11.

ARTICLE 12. SATISFACTION AND DISCHARGE

SECTION 12.01. SATISFACTION AND DISCHARGE OF INDENTURE.

 $$\operatorname{\textsc{This}}$ Indenture shall be discharged and shall cease to be of further effect as to all Notes issued hereunder, when either

(a) all such Notes theretofore authenticated and delivered (except lost, stolen or destroyed Notes which have been replaced or paid and Notes for whose payment money has theretofore been deposited in trust and thereafter repaid to the Company) have been delivered to the Trustee for cancellation; or

- (b) (i) all such Notes not theretofore delivered to such Trustee for cancellation have become due and payable by reason of the making of a notice of redemption or otherwise or will become due and payable within one year and the Company or a Guarantor, has irrevocably deposited or caused to be deposited with such Trustee as trust funds in trust an amount of money sufficient to pay and discharge the entire Indebtedness on such Notes not theretofore delivered to the Trustee for cancellation for principal, premium, accrued interest and Liquidated Damages, if any, to the date of maturity or redemption;
- (ii) no Default or Event of Default with respect to this Indenture or the Notes shall have occurred and be continuing on the date of such deposit or shall occur as a result of such deposit and such deposit will not result in a breach or violation of, or constitute a default under, any other instrument to which the Company or a Guarantor, is a party or by which the Company or a Guarantor is bound;
- (iii) the Company or a Guarantor has paid or caused to be paid all sums payable by it under this Indenture; and
- (iv) the Company has delivered irrevocable instructions to the Trustee under this Indenture to apply the deposited money toward the payment of such Notes at maturity or the redemption date, as the case may be.

In addition, the Company must deliver an Officers' Certificate and an Opinion of Counsel to the Trustee stating that all conditions precedent to satisfaction and discharge have been satisfied.

SECTION 12.02. APPLICATION OF TRUST MONEY

Subject to the provisions of the last paragraph of Section 4.19 hereof, all money deposited with the Trustee pursuant to Section 12.01 hereof shall be held in trust and applied by it, in accordance with the provisions of the Notes and this Indenture, to the payment, either directly or through any Paying Agent (including the Company acting as Paying Agent) as the Trustee may determine, to Persons entitled thereto, of the principal (and premium, if any), interest and Liquidated Damages, if any, for whose payment such money has been deposited with the Trustee.

If the Trustee or Paying Agent is unable to apply any money or Government Securities in accordance with Section 12.01 hereof by reason of any legal proceeding or by reason of any order or judgment of any court or governmental authority enjoining, restraining or otherwise prohibiting such application, the Company's obligations under this Indenture and the Notes shall be revived and reinstated as though such deposit had occurred pursuant to Section 11.01 hereof; provided that if the Company has made any payment of principal of, premium, if any, or interest on any Notes because of the reinstatement of its obligations, the Company shall be subrogated to the rights of the Holders of such Notes to receive such payment from the money or Government Securities held by the Trustee or Paying Agent.

ARTICLE 13. MISCELLANEOUS

SECTION 13.01. TRUST INDENTURE ACT CONTROLS.

 $$\operatorname{If}$ any provision of this Indenture limits, qualifies or conflicts with the duties imposed by TIA section 318(c), the imposed duties shall control.

SECTION 13.02. NOTICES.

Any notice or communication by the Company, any Guarantor or the Trustee to the others is duly given if in writing and delivered in Person or mailed by first class mail (registered or certified, return receipt requested), telecopier or overnight air courier guaranteeing next day delivery, to the others' address:

If to the Company and/or any Guarantor:

The Scotts Company 14111 Scottslawn Road Marysville, Ohio 43041 Telecopier No.: (937) 644-7136 Attention: Treasurer With a copy to:

Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP 52 East Gay Street Columbus, Ohio 43215 Telecopier No.: (614) 464-6350 Attention: Ronald A. Robins, Jr, Esq.

If to the Trustee:

State Street Bank and Trust Company Goodwin Square 225 Asylum Street, 23rd Fl. Hartford, Connecticut 06103 Telecopier No.: (860) 244-1897 Attention: Corporate Trust Administration

With a copy to:

Brown, Rudnick, Freed & Gesmer, P.C. CityPlace I Hartford, Connecticut 06103-3402 Telecopier No.: (860) 509-6501 Attention: David E. Golden, Esq.

 $$\operatorname{\textsc{The}}$ Company, or the Trustee, by notice to the others may designate additional or different addresses for subsequent notices or communications.

All notices and communications (other than those sent to Holders) shall be deemed to have been duly given: at the time delivered by hand, if personally delivered; five Business Days after being deposited in the mail, postage prepaid, if mailed; when receipt acknowledged, if telecopied; and the next Business Day after timely delivery to the courier, if sent by overnight air courier guaranteeing next day delivery.

Any notice or communication to a Holder shall be mailed by first class mail, certified or registered, return receipt requested, or by overnight air courier guaranteeing next day delivery to its address shown on the register kept by the Registrar. Any notice or communication shall also be so mailed to any Person described in TIA section 313(c), to the extent required by the TIA. Failure to mail a notice or communication to a Holder or any defect in it shall not affect its sufficiency with respect to other Holders.

 $\hbox{ If a notice or communication is mailed in the manner provided above within the time prescribed, it is duly given, whether or not the addressee receives it.}\\$

 $\hbox{ If the Company mails a notice or communication to Holders, it shall mail a copy to the Trustee and each Agent at the same time.}\\$

SECTION 13.03. COMMUNICATION BY HOLDERS OF NOTES WITH OTHER HOLDERS OF NOTES.

Holders may communicate pursuant to TIA section 312(b) with other Holders with respect to their rights under this Indenture or the Notes. The Company, the Trustee, the Registrar and anyone else shall have the protection of TIA section 312(c).

SECTION 13.04. CERTIFICATE AND OPINION AS TO CONDITIONS PRECEDENT.

Upon any request or application by the Company to the Trustee to take any action under this Indenture, the Company shall furnish to the Trustee:

- (a) an Officers' Certificate in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Trustee (which shall include the statements set forth in Section 13.05 hereof) stating that, in the opinion of the signers, all conditions precedent and covenants, if any, provided for in this Indenture relating to the proposed action have been satisfied; and
- (b) an Opinion of Counsel in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Trustee (which shall include the statements set forth in Section 13.05 hereof) stating that, in the opinion of such counsel, all such conditions precedent and covenants have been satisfied.

SECTION 13.05. STATEMENTS REQUIRED IN CERTIFICATE OR OPINION.

Each certificate or opinion with respect to compliance with a condition or covenant provided for in this Indenture (other than a certificate provided pursuant to TIA section 314(a)(4)) shall comply with the provisions of TIA section 314(e) and shall include:

- (a) a statement that the Person making such certificate or opinion has read such covenant or condition;
- (b) a brief statement as to the nature and scope of the examination or investigation upon which the statements or opinions contained in such certificate or opinion are based;
- (c) a statement that, in the opinion of such Person, he or she has or they have made such examination or investigation as is necessary to enable him to express an informed opinion as to whether or not such covenant or condition has been satisfied; and
- $\,$ (d) a statement as to whether or not, in the opinion of such Person, such condition or covenant has been satisfied.

SECTION 13.06. RULES BY TRUSTEE AND AGENTS.

 $\qquad \qquad \text{The Trustee may make reasonable rules for action by or at a } \\ \text{meeting of Holders. The Registrar or Paying Agent may make reasonable rules and set reasonable requirements for its functions.}$

SECTION 13.07. NO PERSONAL LIABILITY OF DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES AND SHAREHOLDERS.

No past, present or future director, officer, employee, incorporator or shareholder of the Company or any Guarantor, as such, shall have any liability for any obligations of the Company or such Guarantor under the Notes, the Subsidiary Guarantees, this Indenture or for any claim based on, in respect of, or by reason of, such obligations or their creation. Each Holder by accepting a Note waives and releases all such liability.

The waiver and release are part of the consideration for issuance of the Notes.

SECTION 13.08. GOVERNING LAW.

THIS INDENTURE, THE NOTES AND THE SUBSIDIARY GUARANTEES SHALL BE GOVERNED BY, AND CONSTRUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH, THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

SECTION 13.09. NO ADVERSE INTERPRETATION OF OTHER AGREEMENTS.

This Indenture may not be used to interpret any other indenture, loan or debt agreement of the Company or its Subsidiaries or of any other Person. Any such indenture, loan or debt agreement may not be used to interpret this Indenture.

SECTION 13.10. SUCCESSORS.

 $\,$ All agreements of the Company in this Indenture and the Notes shall bind its successors. All agreements of the Trustee in this Indenture shall bind its successors.

SECTION 13.11. SEVERABILITY.

In case any provision in this Indenture or in the Notes shall be invalid, illegal or unenforceable, the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining provisions shall not in any way be affected or impaired thereby.

SECTION 13.12. COUNTERPART ORIGINALS.

The parties may sign any number of copies of this Indenture. Each signed copy shall be an original, but all of them together represent the same agreement.

SECTION 13.13. TABLE OF CONTENTS, HEADINGS, ETC.

The Table of Contents, Cross-Reference Table and Headings of the Articles and Sections of this Indenture have been inserted for convenience of reference only, are not to be considered a part of this Indenture and shall in no way modify or restrict any of the terms or provisions hereof.

[Indenture signature page follows]

[Indenture signature page]

DATED AS OF JANUARY 21, 1999 THE SCOTTS COMPANY

BY: /s/ G. Robert Lucas

Name: G. Robert Lucas Title: Senior Vice President

SCOTTS' MIRACLE-GRO PRODUCTS, INC.

BY: /s/ G. Robert Lucas

Name: G. Robert Lucas

Title: President

MIRACLE-GRO LAWN PRODUCTS, INC.

BY: /s/ G. Robert Lucas
Name: G. Robert Lucas
Title: Vice President

MIRACLE-GRO PRODUCTS LTD.

BY: /s/ G. Robert Lucas
Name: G. Robert Lucas
Title: Vice President

OMS INVESTMENTS, INC.

BY: /s/ G. Robert Lucas

Name: G. Robert Lucas Title: President

OLD FORT FINANCIAL CORP.

BY: /s/ G. Robert Lucas

Name: G. Robert Lucas Title: Vice President

HYPONEX CORPORATION

BY: /s/ G. Robert Lucas

Name: G. Robert Lucas Title: Vice President

EARTHGRO, INC.

BY: /s/ G. Robert Lucas

Name: G. Robert Lucas Title: Vice President

SCOTTS PRODUCTS CO.

BY: /s/ G. Robert Lucas

Name: G. Robert Lucas Title: Vice President

SCOTTS PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS CO.

BY: /S/ G. Robert Lucas

Name: G. Robert Lucas Title: Vice President

REPUBLIC TOOL & MANUFACTURING CORP.

BY: /s/ G. Robert Lucas

Name: G. Robert Lucas Title: Vice President

SCOTTS-SIERRA HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTS COMPANY

BY: /s/ G. Robert Lucas

Name: G. Robert Lucas Title: Vice President

SCOTTS-SIERRA CORP. PROTECTION COMPANY

BY: /s/ G. Robert Lucas

Name: G. Robert Lucas Title: Vice President SCOTTS-SIERRA INVESTMENTS, INC.

BY: /s/ G. Robert Lucas

Name: G. Robert Lucas Title: President

SWISS FARMS PRODUCTS, INC.

BY: /s/ G. Robert Lucas

Name: G. Robert Lucas Title: President STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY, as Trustee

BY: /s/ Steven Cimalore

Name: Steven Cimalore Title: Vice President

EXHIBIT A-1

(Face (of Note)
0. 625% [CEDIEC A] [CEDIEC D] C	CUSIP 810186 AA4
	ENIOR SUBORDINATED NOTES DUE 2009 \$
No	TS COMPANY
promises to pay to Cede & Co	
or registered assigns, the principal sun	m of
Dollars on January 15, 2009.	
Interest Payment Dates	: January 15 and July 15
Record Dates: Jan	nuary 1 and July 1
	THE SCOTTS COMPANY
	BY:
	Name: Title:
	BY:
	Name: Title:
This is one of the Global Notes referred to in the within-mentioned Indenture:	(SEAL)
STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY as Trustee	
By:	Dated: January 21, 1999

· -----

Name: Title:

(Back of Note)

8.625% [Series A] [Series B] Senior Subordinated Notes due 2009

[INSERT THE GLOBAL NOTE LEGEND, IF APPLICABLE PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE INDENTURE]

[INSERT THE PRIVATE PLACEMENT LEGEND, IF APPLICABLE PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE INDENTURE]

Capitalized terms used herein shall have the meanings assigned to them in the Indenture referred to below unless otherwise indicated.

- 1. INTEREST. The Scotts Company, an Ohio corporation (the "Company"), promises to pay interest on the principal amount of this Note at 8.625% per annum from January 21, 1999 until maturity and shall pay the Liquidated Damages payable pursuant to Section 5 of the Registration Rights Agreement referred to below. The Company shall pay interest and Liquidated Damages semi-annually on January 15 and July 15 of each year, or if any such day is not a Business Day, on the next succeeding Business Day (each an "Interest Payment Date"). Interest on the Notes shall accrue from the most recent date to which interest has been paid or, if no interest has been paid, from the date of issuance; provided that if there is no existing Default in the payment of interest, and if this Note is authenticated between a record date referred to on the face hereof and the next succeeding Interest Payment Date, interest shall accrue from such next succeeding Interest Payment Date; provided, further, that the first Interest Payment Date shall be July 15, 1999. The Company shall pay interest (including post-petition interest in any proceeding under any Bankruptcy Law) on overdue principal and premium, if any, from time to time on demand at a rate that is 1.0% per annum in excess of the rate then in effect; it shall pay interest (including post-petition interest in any proceeding under any Bankruptcy Law) on overdue installments of interest and Liquidated Damages (without regard to any applicable grace periods) from time to time on demand at the same rate to the extent lawful. Interest shall be computed on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months.
- 2. METHOD OF PAYMENT. The Company shall pay interest on the Notes (except defaulted interest) and Liquidated Damages to the Persons who are registered Holders of Notes at the close of business on the January 1 or July 1 next preceding the Interest Payment Date, even if such Notes are canceled after such record date and on or before such Interest Payment Date, except as provided in Section 2.12 of the Indenture with respect to defaulted interest. The Notes shall be payable as to principal, premium and Liquidated Damages, if any, and interest at the office or agency of the Company maintained for such purpose within or without the City and State of New York, or, at the option of the Company, payment of interest and Liquidated Damages may be made by check mailed to the Holders at their addresses set forth in the register of Holders, and provided that payment by wire transfer of immediately available funds shall be required with respect to principal of and interest, premium and Liquidated Damages on, all Global Notes and all other Notes the Holders of which shall have provided wire transfer instructions to the Company or the Paying Agent. Such payment shall be in such coin or currency of the United States of America as at the time of payment is legal tender for payment of public and private debts.
- 3. PAYING AGENT AND REGISTRAR. Initially, State Street Bank and Trust Company, the Trustee under the Indenture, shall act as Paying Agent and Registrar. The Company may change any Paying Agent or Registrar without notice to any Holder. The Company or any of its Subsidiaries may act in any such capacity.

4. INDENTURE. The Company issued the Notes under an Indenture dated as of January 21, 1999 ("Indenture") among the Company, the Guarantors and the Trustee. The terms of the Notes include those stated in the Indenture and those made part of the Indenture by reference to the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended (15 U.S. Code ss.ss. 77aaa-77bbbb) (the "TIA"). The Notes are subject to all such terms, and Holders are referred to the Indenture and the TIA for a statement of such terms. To the extent any provision of this Note conflicts with the express provisions of the Indenture, the provisions of the Indenture shall govern and be controlling. The Notes are obligations of the Company limited to \$400.0 million in aggregate principal amount plus amounts, if any, issued to pay Liquidated Damages on outstanding Notes as set forth in Paragraph 2 hereof.

5. OPTIONAL REDEMPTION.

(a) Except as set forth in subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph 5, the Notes will not be redeemable at the Company's option prior to January 15, 2004. Thereafter, the Notes will be subject to redemption at any time at the option of the Company, in whole or in part, upon not less than 30 nor more than 60 days' notice, at the redemption prices (expressed as percentages of principal amount) set forth below plus accrued and unpaid interest and Liquidated Damages thereon to the applicable redemption date, if redeemed during the twelve-month period beginning on January 15 of the years indicated below:

YEAR	PERCENTAGE
2004	104.313%
2005	102.875%
2006	101.438%
2007 and thereafter	100.000%

(b). Notwithstanding the foregoing, during the first 36 months after the Issue Date, the Company may redeem up to 35% of the aggregate principal amount of Notes originally issued under this Indenture at a redemption price of 108.625% of the principal amount thereof, plus accrued and unpaid interest and Liquidated Damages thereon, if any, to the redemption date, with the net cash proceeds of one or more public equity offerings; provided that at least 65% of the aggregate principal amount of Notes originally issued under the Indenture remains outstanding immediately after the occurrence of such redemption (excluding Notes held by the Company and its Subsidiaries); and provided, further, that such redemption shall occur within 60 days of the date of the closing of such public equity offering.

6. MANDATORY REDEMPTION.

Except as set forth in Paragraph 7 below, the Company shall not be required to make mandatory redemption or sinking fund payments with respect to the Notes.

7. REPURCHASE AT OPTION OF HOLDER.

- (a) Upon the occurrence of a Change of Control, the Company shall make an offer (a "Change of Control Offer") to repurchase all or any part (equal to \$1,000 or an integral multiple thereof) of each Holder's Notes at a purchase price equal to 101% of the aggregate principal amount thereof, plus accrued and unpaid interest and Liquidated Damages thereon, if any, to the date of repurchase (the "Change of Control Payment"). Within 30 days following any Change of Control, the Company shall mail a notice to each Holder setting forth the procedures governing the Change of Control Offer as required by the Indenture.
- If the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary consummates any Asset Sales, when the aggregate amount of Excess Proceeds exceeds \$10.0 million, the Company shall be required to make an offer to all Holders of Notes and all holders of other Indebtedness containing provisions similar to those set forth in the Indenture with respect to offers to purchase or redeem with the proceeds of sales of assets (an "Asset Sale Offer") to purchase the maximum principal amount of Notes and such other Indebtedness that may be purchased out of the Excess Proceeds, at an offer price in cash in an amount equal to 100% of the principal amount thereof plus accrued and unpaid interest and Liquidated Damages thereon, if any, to the date of purchase, in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Indenture and such other Indebtedness. To the extent that any Excess Proceeds remain after consummation of an Asset Sale Offer, the Company may use such Excess Proceeds for any purpose not otherwise prohibited by this Indenture. If the aggregate principal amount of Notes and such other Indebtedness tendered into such Asset Sale Offer surrendered by Holders thereof exceeds the amount of Excess Proceeds, the Trustee shall select the Notes and such other Indebtedness to be purchased on a pro rata basis. Upon completion of such offer to purchase, the amount of Excess Proceeds shall be reset at zero. Holders of Notes that are the subject of an offer to purchase will receive an Asset Sale Offer from the Company prior to any related purchase date and may elect to have such Notes purchased by completing the form entitled "Option of Holder to Elect Purchase" on the reverse of the Notes.
- 8. NOTICE OF REDEMPTION. Notice of redemption shall be mailed at least 30 days but not more than 60 days before the redemption date to each Holder whose Notes are to be redeemed at its registered address. Notes in denominations larger than \$1,000 may be redeemed in part but only in whole multiples of \$1,000, unless all of the Notes held by a Holder are to be redeemed. On and after the redemption date interest shall cease to accrue on Notes or portions thereof called for redemption.
- 9. DENOMINATIONS, TRANSFER, EXCHANGE. The Notes are in registered form without coupons in denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000. The transfer of Notes may be registered and Notes may be exchanged as provided in the Indenture. The Registrar and the Trustee may require a Holder, among other things, to furnish appropriate endorsements and transfer documents and the Company may require a Holder to pay any taxes and fees required by law or permitted by the Indenture. The Company need not exchange or register the transfer of any Note or portion of a Note selected for redemption, except for the unredeemed portion of any Note being redeemed in part. Also, the Company need not exchange or register the transfer of any Notes for a period of 15 days before a selection of Notes to be redeemed or during the period between a record date and the corresponding Interest Payment Date.
- 10. PERSONS DEEMED OWNERS. The registered Holder of a Note may be treated as its owner for all purposes under the Indenture.

11. AMENDMENT, SUPPLEMENT AND WAIVER. Subject to certain exceptions, the Indenture, the Notes or the Subsidiary Guarantees may be amended or supplemented with the consent of the Holders of at least a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes (and Additional Notes, if any) voting as a single class, and any existing default or compliance with any provision of the Indenture, the Notes or the Subsidiary Guarantees may be waived with the consent of the Holders of a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes (and Additional Notes, if any) voting as a single class. Without the consent of any Holder of a Note, the Indenture, the Notes or the Subsidiary Guarantees or may be amended or supplemented to cure any ambiguity, defect or inconsistency, to provide for uncertificated Notes in addition to or in place of certificated Notes, to provide for the assumption of the Company's or the Guarantor's obligations to Holders of the Notes in case of a merger or consolidation, to make any change that would provide any additional rights or benefits to the Holders of the Notes or that does not adversely affect the legal rights under the Indenture of any such Holder, to comply with the requirements of the SEC in order to effect or maintain the qualification of the Indenture under the TIA, to provide for the issuance of Additional Notes in accordance with the limitations set forth in the Indenture or to allow any Guarantor to execute a supplemental indenture to the Indenture.

DEFAULTS AND REMEDIES.

Events of Default under the Indenture include: (i) default for 30 days in the payment when due of interest on, or Liquidated Damages with respect to, the Notes (whether or not prohibited by the subordination provisions of the Indenture); (ii) default in payment when due of the principal of or premium, if any, on the Notes (whether or not prohibited by the subordination provisions of the Indenture); (iii) failure by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries for 30 days after notice to comply with the provisions of Sections 4.07, 4.09, 4.10 or 4.15 of the Indenture; (iv) failure by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries for 60 days after notice to comply with any of its other agreements in the Indenture or the Notes; (v) default under any mortgage, indenture or instrument under which there may be issued or by which there may be secured or evidenced any Indebtedness for money borrowed by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries (or the payment of which is guaranteed by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries) whether such Indebtedness or guarantee now exists, or is created after the date of the Indenture, which default (a) is caused by a failure to pay principal of or premium, if any, or interest on such Indebtedness prior to the expiration of the grace period provided in such Indebtedness on the date of such default (a "Payment Default") or (b) results in the acceleration of such Indebtedness prior to its express maturity and, in each case, the principal amount of any such Indebtedness, together with the principal amount of any other such Indebtedness under which there has been a Payment Default or the maturity of which has been so accelerated, aggregates \$10.0 million or more; (vi) failure by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries to pay final judgments aggregating in excess of \$10.0 million, which judgments are not paid, discharged or stayed for a period of 60 days; (vii) except as permitted by the Indenture, any Subsidiary Guarantee(s) of any Guarantor that is a Significant Subsidiary or of any group of Guarantors that collectively would constitute a Significant Subsidiary shall be held in any judicial proceeding to be unenforceable or invalid or shall cease for any reason to be in full force and effect or any Guarantor that is a Significant Subsidiary or any group of Guarantors that collectively would constitute a Significant Subsidiary, or any Person acting on behalf of any such Guarantor or group of Guarantors, shall deny or disaffirm the obligations of each such Guarantor under its Subsidiary Guarantee; and (viii) certain events of bankruptcy or insolvency with respect to the Company or any of its Significant Subsidiaries.

(b) If any Event of Default occurs and is continuing, the Trustee or the Holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes may declare all the Notes to be due and

payable. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the case of an Event of Default arising from certain events of bankruptcy or insolvency, all outstanding Notes shall become due and payable without further action or notice. Holders may not enforce the Indenture or the Notes except as provided in the Indenture. Subject to certain limitations, Holders of a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes may direct the Trustee in its exercise of any trust or power. The Trustee may withhold from Holders of the Notes notice of any continuing Default or Event of Default (except a Default or Event of Default relating to the payment of principal or interest) if it determines that withholding notice is in their interest. The Holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the then outstanding Notes by notice to the Trustee may on behalf of the Holders of all of the Notes waive any existing Default or Event of Default and its consequences under the Indenture, except a continuing Default or Event of Default in the payment of interest on, or principal of, the Notes. The Company shall deliver to the Trustee annually a statement regarding compliance with the Indenture, and the Company, upon becoming aware of any Default or Event of Default, deliver to the Trustee a statement specifying such Default or Event of Default.

- 13. SUBORDINATION. The Company agrees, and each Holder by accepting this Note agrees, that the principal of and premium, interest and Liquidated Damages, if any, with respect to this Notes are subordinated in right of payment, to the extent and in the manner provided in Article 10 of the Indenture, to the prior payment in full in cash or Cash Equivalents of all Senior Debt of the Company (whether outstanding on the date hereof or hereafter created, incurred, assumed or guaranteed), and that the subordination is for the benefit of the holders of Senior Debt.
- 14. TRUSTEE DEALINGS WITH COMPANY. The Trustee, in its individual or any other capacity, may make loans to, accept deposits from, and perform services for the Company or its Affiliates, and may otherwise deal with the Company or its Affiliates, as if it were not the Trustee.
- 15. NO RECOURSE AGAINST OTHERS. A director, officer, employee, incorporator or shareholder, of the Company or any Guarantor, as such, shall not have any liability for any obligations of the Company or any Guarantor under the Notes, any Subsidiary Guarantee or the Indenture or for any claim based on, in respect of, or by reason of, such obligations or their creation. Each Holder by accepting a Note waives and releases all such liability. The waiver and release are part of the consideration for the issuance of the Notes.
- 16. AUTHENTICATION. This Note shall not be valid until authenticated by the manual signature of the Trustee or an authenticating agent.
- ABBREVIATIONS. Customary abbreviations may be used in the name of a Holder or an assignee, such as: TEN COM (= tenants in common), TEN ENT (= tenants by the entirety), JT TEN (= joint tenants with right of survivorship and not as tenants in common), CUST (= Custodian), and U/G/M/A (= Uniform Gifts to Minors Act).
- 18. ADDITIONAL RIGHTS OF HOLDERS OF RESTRICTED GLOBAL NOTES AND RESTRICTED DEFINITIVE NOTES. In addition to the rights provided to Holders of Notes under the Indenture, Holders of Initial Notes shall have all the rights set forth in the Registration Rights Agreement or, in the case of Additional Notes, Holders of Restricted Global Notes and Restricted Definitive Notes shall have the rights set forth in one or more registration rights agreements, if any, between the Company and the other parties thereto, relating to rights given by the Company to the purchasers of any Additional Notes.

19. CUSIP NUMBERS. Pursuant to a recommendation promulgated by the Committee on Uniform Security Identification Procedures, the Company has caused CUSIP numbers to be printed on the Notes and the Trustee may use CUSIP numbers in notices of redemption as a convenience to Holders. No representation is made as to the accuracy of such numbers either as printed on the Notes or as contained in any notice of redemption and reliance may be placed only on the other identification numbers placed thereon.

A-1-7

The Company shall furnish to any Holder upon written request and without charge a copy of the Indenture and/or the Registration Rights Agreement. Requests may be made to:

The Scotts Company 14111 Scottslawn Road Marysville, Ohio 43041 Telecopier No.: (937) 644-7136 Attention: Treasurer

A-1-8

ASSIGNMENT FORM

To assign this Note		Note,	fill	in the	e form	below:	(I)	or	(we)	assign	and	transfer
		(II)	nsert	assign	iee's	soc. se	c. 01	r ta	х І.І). no.)		
(Print or and irrevo	type ocably er thi	assign y appo: is Note	nee's	name,	addre	ss and	zip (code)			ubstitute
 Date:					Yo (S fa	ur Sign ign exa ce of t	ature ctly	e: as Note	your	name a	ippeaı	rs on the
						x Ident GNATURE				:		

Signatures must be guaranteed by an "eligible guarantor institution" meeting the requirements of the Registrar, which requirements include membership or participation in the Security Transfer Agent Medallion Program ("STAMP") or such other "signature guarantee program" as may be determined by the Registrar in addition to, or in substitution for, STAMP, all in accordance with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

A-1-9

OPTION OF HOLDER TO ELECT PURCHASE

 $\hbox{ If you want to elect to have this Note purchased by the } \\ \hbox{Company pursuant to Section 4.10 or 4.15 of the Indenture, check the box below:} \\$

[] Section 4.10 [] Section 4.15

If you want to elect to have only part of the Note purchased by the Company pursuant to Section 4.10 or Section 4.15 of the Indenture, state the amount you elect to have purchased:

Date:_____

Your Signature:______(Sign exactly as your name appears on the face of this Note)

Tax Identification No: _____

SIGNATURE GUARANTEE:

Signatures must be guaranteed by an "eligible guarantor institution" meeting the requirements of the Registrar, which requirements include membership or participation in the Security Transfer Agent Medallion Program ("STAMP") or such other "signature guarantee program" as may be determined by the Registrar in addition to, or in substitution for, STAMP, all in accordance with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

A-1-10

SCHEDULE OF EXCHANGES OF INTERESTS IN THE GLOBAL NOTE1

The following exchanges of a part of this Global Note for an interest in another Global Note or for a Definitive Note, or exchanges of a part of another Global Note or Definitive Note for an interest in this Global Note, have been made:

Date Of Exchange

Amount of decrease Amount of increase of this Global Note Signature of authorized officer
Amount of this Amount of this decrease of Trustee or Global Note Global Note (or increase) Note Custodian

¹ Include only if Note is issued in Global Form.

EXHIBIT A-2

(Face of Regulation S Temporary Global Note) ------CUSIP 481014 AA7 8.625% SERIES A SENIOR SUBORDINATED NOTES DUE 2009 THE SCOTTS COMPANY promises to pay to Cede & Co. or registered assigns, the principal sum of Dollars on July 15, 2009. Interest Payment Dates: January 15 and July 15. Record Dates: January 1 and July 1. THE SCOTTS COMPANY BY:_ Name: Title: Name: Title: This is one of the Global Notes referred to in the within-mentioned Indenture: (SEAL) STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY, as Trustee Dated: January 21, 1999

Name: Title:

(Back of Regulation S Temporary Global Note)

8.625% Series A Senior Subordinated Notes due 2009

UNLESS AND UNTIL IT IS EXCHANGED IN WHOLE OR IN PART FOR NOTES IN DEFINITIVE FORM, THIS NOTE MAY NOT BE TRANSFERRED EXCEPT AS A WHOLE BY THE DEPOSITARY TO A NOMINEE OF THE DEPOSITARY OR BY A NOMINEE OF THE DEPOSITARY TO THE DEPOSITARY OR ANOTHER NOMINEE OF THE DEPOSITARY OR BY THE DEPOSITARY OR ANY SUCH NOMINEE TO A SUCCESSOR DEPOSITARY OR A NOMINEE OF SUCH SUCCESSOR DEPOSITARY. UNLESS THIS CERTIFICATE IS PRESENTED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPOSITORY TRUST COMPANY (55 WATER STREET, NEW YORK, NEW YORK) ("DTC") TO THE COMPANY OR ITS AGENT FOR REGISTRATION OF TRANSFER, EXCHANGE OR PAYMENT, AND ANY CERTIFICATE ISSUED IS REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF CEDE & CO. OR SUCH OTHER NAME AS MAY BE REQUESTED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF DTC (AND ANY PAYMENT IS MADE TO CEDE & CO. OR SUCH OTHER ENTITY AS MAY BE REQUESTED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF DTC), ANY TRANSFER, PLEDGE OR OTHER USE HEREOF FOR VALUE OR OTHERWISE BY OR TO ANY PERSON IS WRONGFUL INASMUCH AS THE REGISTERED OWNER HEREOF, CEDE & CO., HAS AN INTEREST HEREIN.

THIS GLOBAL NOTE IS HELD BY THE DEPOSITARY (AS DEFINED IN THE INDENTURE GOVERNING THIS NOTE) OR ITS NOMINEE IN CUSTODY FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE BENEFICIAL OWNERS HEREOF, AND IS NOT TRANSFERABLE TO ANY PERSON UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES EXCEPT THAT (I) THE TRUSTEE MAY MAKE SUCH NOTATIONS HEREON AS MAY BE REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SECTION 2.07 OF THE INDENTURE, (II) THIS GLOBAL NOTE MAY BE EXCHANGED IN WHOLE BUT NOT IN PART PURSUANT TO SECTION 2.06(a) OF THE INDENTURE, (III) THIS GLOBAL NOTE MAY BE DELIVERED TO THE TRUSTEE FOR CANCELLATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 2.11 OF THE INDENTURE AND (IV) THIS GLOBAL NOTE MAY BE TRANSFERRED TO A SUCCESSOR DEPOSITARY WITH THE PRIOR WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE COMPANY

THE NOTES EVIDENCED HEREBY HAVE NOT BEEN REGISTERED UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933 (THE "SECURITIES ACT"), AND MAY NOT BE OFFERED, SOLD, PLEDGED OR OTHERWISE TRANSFERRED EXCEPT (A)(1) TO A PERSON WHOM THE SELLER REASONABLY BELIEVES IS A QUALIFIED INSTITUTIONAL BUYER WITHIN THE MEANING OF RULE 144A UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT PURCHASING FOR ITS OWN ACCOUNT OR THE ACCOUNT OF A QUALIFIED INSTITUTIONAL BUYER IN A TRANSACTION MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF RULE 144A, (2) IN AN OFFSHORE TRANSACTION MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF RULE 903 OR RULE 904 OF REGULATION S UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT, (3) TO AN INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITED INVESTOR IN A TRANSACTION EXEMPT FROM THE REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS OF THE SECURITIES ACT, (4) PURSUANT TO AN EXEMPTION FROM REGISTRATION UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT PROVIDED BY RULE 144 THEREUNDER (IF AVAILABLE) OR (5) PURSUANT TO AN EFFECTIVE REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT AND (B) IN ACCORDANCE WITH ALL APPLICABLE SECURITIES LAWS OF THE STATES OF THE UNITED STATES AND OTHER JURISDICTIONS.

THE RIGHTS ATTACHING TO THIS REGULATION S TEMPORARY GLOBAL NOTE, AND THE CONDITIONS AND PROCEDURES GOVERNING ITS EXCHANGE FOR CERTIFICATED NOTES, ARE AS SPECIFIED IN THE INDENTURE (AS DEFINED HEREIN). NEITHER THE HOLDER NOR THE BENEFICIAL OWNERS OF THIS REGULATION S TEMPORARY GLOBAL NOTE SHALL BE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE PAYMENT OF INTEREST HEREON.

Capitalized terms used herein shall have the meanings assigned to them in the Indenture referred to below unless otherwise indicated.

1. INTEREST. The Scotts Company, an Ohio corporation (the "Company"), promises to pay interest on the principal amount of this Note at 8.625% per annum from January 21, 1999 until maturity and shall pay the Liquidated Damages payable pursuant to Section 5 of the Registration Rights Agreement referred to below. The Company shall pay interest and Liquidated Damages semi-annually on January 15 and July 15 of each year, or if any such day is not a Business Day, on the next succeeding Business Day (each an "Interest Payment Date"). Interest on the Notes shall accrue from the most recent date to which interest has been paid or, if no interest has been paid, from the date of issuance; provided that if there is no existing Default in the payment of interest, and if this Note is authenticated between a record date referred to on the face hereof and the next succeeding Interest Payment Date, interest shall accrue from such next succeeding Interest Payment Date; provided, further, that the first Interest Payment Date shall be July 15, 1999. The Company shall pay interest (including post-petition interest in any proceeding under any Bankruptcy Law) on overdue principal and premium, if any, from time to time on demand at a rate that is 1.0% per annum in excess of the rate then in effect; it shall pay interest (including post-petition interest in any proceeding under any Bankruptcy Law) on overdue installments of interest and Liquidated Damages (without regard to any applicable grace periods) from time to time on demand at the same rate to the extent lawful. Interest shall be computed on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months.

Until this Regulation S Temporary Global Note is exchanged for one or more Regulation S Permanent Global Notes, the Holder hereof shall not be entitled to receive payments of interest hereon; until so exchanged in full, this Regulation S Temporary Global Note shall in all other respects be entitled to the same benefits as other Notes under the Indenture.

2. METHOD OF PAYMENT. The Company shall pay interest on the Notes (except defaulted interest) and Liquidated Damages to the Persons who are registered Holders of Notes at the close of business on the January 1 or July 1 next preceding the Interest Payment Date, even if such Notes are canceled after such record date and on or before such Interest Payment Date, except as provided in Section 2.12 of the Indenture with respect to defaulted interest. The Notes shall be payable as to principal, premium and Liquidated Damages, if any, and interest at the office or agency of the Company maintained for such purpose within or without the City and State of New York, or, at the option of the Company, payment of interest and Liquidated Damages may be made by check mailed to the Holders at their addresses set forth in the register of Holders, and provided that payment by wire transfer of immediately available funds shall be required with respect to principal of and interest, premium and Liquidated Damages on, all Global Notes and all other Notes the Holders of which shall have provided wire transfer instructions to the Company or the Paying Agent. Such payment shall be in such coin or currency of the United States of America as at the time of payment is legal tender for payment of public and private debts.

- 3. PAYING AGENT AND REGISTRAR. Initially, State Street Bank and Trust Company, the Trustee under the Indenture, shall act as Paying Agent and Registrar. The Company may change any Paying Agent or Registrar without notice to any Holder. The Company or any of its Subsidiaries may act in any such capacity.
- 4. INDENTURE. The Company issued the Notes under an Indenture dated as of January 21, 1999 ("Indenture") among the Company, the Guarantors and the Trustee. The terms of the Notes include those stated in the Indenture and those made part of the Indenture by reference to the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended (15 U.S. Code ss.ss. 77aaa-77bbbb) (the "TIA"). The Notes are subject to all such terms, and Holders are referred to the Indenture and the TIA for a statement of such terms. To the extent any provision of this Note conflicts with the express provisions of the Indenture, the provisions of the Indenture shall govern and be controlling. The Notes are obligations of the Company limited to \$400.0 million in aggregate principal amount plus amounts, if any, issued to pay Liquidated Damages on outstanding Notes as set forth in Paragraph 2 hereof.

5. OPTIONAL REDEMPTION.

(a) Except as set forth in subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph 5, the Notes will not be redeemable at the Company's option prior to January 15, 2004. Thereafter, the Notes will be subject to redemption at any time at the option of the Company, in whole or in part, upon not less than 30 nor more than 60 days' notice, at the redemption prices (expressed as percentages of principal amount) set forth below plus accrued and unpaid interest and Liquidated Damages thereon to the applicable redemption date, if redeemed during the twelve-month period beginning on January 15 of the years indicated below:

YEAR	PERCENTAGE
2004	. 104.313%
2005	. 102.875%
2006	. 101.438%
2007 and thereafter	. 100.000%

(b) Notwithstanding the foregoing, during the first 36 months after the Issue Date, the Company may redeem up to 35% of the aggregate principal amount of Notes originally issued under this Indenture at a redemption price of 108.625% of the principal amount thereof, plus accrued and unpaid interest and Liquidated Damages thereon, if any, to the redemption date, with the net cash proceeds of one or more public equity offerings; provided that at least 65% of the aggregate principal amount of Notes originally issued under the Indenture remains outstanding immediately after the occurrence of such redemption (excluding Notes held by the Company and its Subsidiaries); and provided, further, that such redemption shall occur within 60 days of the date of the closing of such public equity offering.

6. MANDATORY REDEMPTION.

Except as set forth in Paragraph 7 below, the Company shall not be required to make mandatory redemption or sinking fund payments with respect to the Notes.

7. REPURCHASE AT OPTION OF HOLDER.

- (a) Upon the occurrence of a Change of Control, the Company shall make an offer (a "Change of Control Offer") to repurchase all or any part (equal to \$1,000 or an integral multiple thereof) of each Holder's Notes at a purchase price equal to 101% of the aggregate principal amount thereof, plus accrued and unpaid interest and Liquidated Damages thereon, if any, to the date of repurchase (the "Change of Control Payment"). Within 30 days following any Change of Control, the Company shall mail a notice to each Holder setting forth the procedures governing the Change of Control Offer as required by the Indenture.
- If the Company or a Subsidiary consummates any Asset Sales, when the aggregate amount of Excess Proceeds exceeds \$10.0 million, the Company shall be required to make an offer to all Holders of Notes and all holders of other Indebtedness containing provisions similar to those set forth in the Indenture with respect to offers to purchase or redeem with the proceeds of sales of assets (an "Asset Sale Offer") to purchase the maximum principal amount of Notes and such other Indebtedness that may be purchased out of the Excess Proceeds, at an offer price in cash in an amount equal to 100% of the principal amount thereof plus accrued and unpaid interest and Liquidated Damages thereon, if any, to the date of purchase, in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Indenture and such other Indebtedness. To the extent that any Excess Proceeds remain after consummation of an Asset Sale Offer, the Company may use such Excess Proceeds for any purpose not otherwise prohibited by this Indenture. If the aggregate principal amount of Notes and such other Indebtedness tendered into such Asset Sale Offer surrendered by Holders thereof exceeds the amount of Excess Proceeds, the Trustee shall select the Notes and such other Indebtedness to be purchased on a pro rata basis. Upon completion of such offer to purchase, the amount of Excess Proceeds shall be reset at zero. Holders of Notes that are the subject of an offer to purchase will receive an Asset Sale Offer from the Company prior to any related purchase date and may elect to have such Notes purchased by completing the form entitled "Option of Holder to Elect Purchase" on the reverse of the Notes.

8.NOTICE OF REDEMPTION. Notice of redemption shall be mailed at least 30 days but not more than 60 days before the redemption date to each Holder whose Notes are to be redeemed at its registered address. Notes in denominations larger than \$1,000 may be redeemed in part but only in whole multiples of \$1,000, unless all of the Notes held by a Holder are to be redeemed. On and after the redemption date interest shall cease to accrue on Notes or portions thereof called for redemption.

9. DENOMINATIONS, TRANSFER, EXCHANGE. The Notes are in registered form without coupons in denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000. The transfer of Notes may be registered and Notes may be exchanged as provided in the Indenture. The Registrar and the Trustee may require a Holder, among other things, to furnish appropriate endorsements and transfer documents and the Company may require a Holder to pay any taxes and fees required by law or permitted by the Indenture. The Company need not exchange or register the transfer of any Note or portion of a Note selected for redemption, except for the unredeemed portion of any Note being redeemed in part. Also, the Company need not exchange or register the transfer of any Notes for a period of 15 days before a selection of Notes to be redeemed or during the period between a record date and the corresponding Interest Payment Date.

This Regulation S Temporary Global Note is exchangeable in whole or in part for one or more Global Notes only (i) on or after the termination of the 40-day restricted period (as defined in Regulation S) and (ii) upon presentation of certificates (accompanied by an Opinion of Counsel, if

applicable) required by Article 2 of the Indenture. Upon exchange of this Regulation S Temporary Global Note for one or more Global Notes, the Trustee shall cancel this Regulation S Temporary Global Note.

- $\,$ 10. PERSONS DEEMED OWNERS. The registered Holder of a Note may be treated as its owner for all purposes under the Indenture.
- AMENDMENT, SUPPLEMENT AND WAIVER. Subject to certain 11. exceptions, the Indenture, the Notes or the Subsidiary Guarantees may be amended or supplemented with the consent of the Holders of at least a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes (and Additional Notes, if any) voting as a single class, and any existing default or compliance with any provision of the Indenture, the Notes or the Subsidiary Guarantees may be waived with the consent of the Holders of a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes (and Additional Notes, if any) voting as a single class. Without the consent of any Holder of a Note, the Indenture, the Notes or the Subsidiary Guarantees may be amended or supplemented to cure any ambiguity, defect or inconsistency, to provide for uncertificated Notes in addition to or in place of certificated Notes, to provide for the assumption of the Company's or the Guarantor's obligations to Holders of the Notes in case of a merger or consolidation, to make any change that would provide any additional rights or benefits to the Holders of the Notes or that does not adversely affect the legal rights under the Indenture of any such Holder, to comply with the requirements of the SEC in order to effect or maintain the qualification of the Indenture under the TIA, to provide for the issuance of Additional Notes in accordance with the limitations set forth in the Indenture or to allow any Guarantor to execute a supplemental indenture to the Indenture.

12. DEFAULTS AND REMEDIES.

Events of Default under the Indenture include: (i) default for 30 days in the payment when due of interest on, or Liquidated Damages with respect to, the Notes (whether or not prohibited by the subordination provisions of the Indenture); (ii) default in payment when due of the principal of or premium, if any, on the Notes (whether or not prohibited by the subordination provisions of the Indenture); (iii) failure by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries for 30 days after notice to comply with the provisions of Sections 4.07, 4.09, 4.10 or 4.15 of the Indenture; (iv) failure by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries for 60 days after notice to comply with any of its other agreements in the Indenture or the Notes; (v) default under any mortgage, indenture or instrument under which there may be issued or by which there may be secured or evidenced any Indebtedness for money borrowed by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries (or the payment of which is guaranteed by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries) whether such Indebtedness or guarantee now exists, or is created after the date of the Indenture, which default (a) is caused by a failure to pay principal of or premium, if any, or interest on such Indebtedness prior to the expiration of the grace period provided in such Indebtedness on the date of such default (a "Payment Default") or (b) results in the acceleration of such Indebtedness prior to its express maturity and, in each case, the principal amount of any such Indebtedness, together with the principal amount of any other such Indebtedness under which there has been a Payment Default or the maturity of which has been so accelerated, aggregates \$10.0 million or more; (vi) failure by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries to pay final judgments aggregating in excess of \$10.0 million, which judgments are not paid, discharged or stayed for a period of 60 days; (vii) except as permitted by the Indenture, any Subsidiary Guarantee(s) of any Guarantor that is a Significant Subsidiary or of any group of Guarantors that collectively would constitute a Significant

Subsidiary shall be held in any judicial proceeding to be unenforceable or invalid or shall cease for any reason to be in full force and effect or any Guarantor that is a Significant Subsidiary or any group of Guarantors that collectively would constitute a Significant Subsidiary, or any Person acting on behalf of any such Guarantor or group of Guarantors, shall deny or disaffirm the obligations of each such Guarantor under its Subsidiary Guarantee; and (viii) certain events of bankruptcy or insolvency with respect to the Company or any of its Significant Subsidiaries.

- If any Event of Default occurs and is continuing, the Trustee or the Holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes may declare all the Notes to be due and payable. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the case of an Event of Default arising from certain events of bankruptcy or insolvency, all outstanding Notes shall become due and payable without further action or notice. Holders may not enforce the Indenture or the Notes except as provided in the Indenture. Subject to certain limitations, Holders of a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes may direct the Trustee in its exercise of any trust or power. The Trustee may withhold from Holders of the Notes notice of any continuing Default or Event of Default (except a Default or Event of Default relating to the payment of principal or interest) if it determines that withholding notice is in their interest. The Holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the then outstanding Notes by notice to the Trustee may on behalf of the Holders of all of the Notes waive any existing Default or Event of Default and its consequences under the Indenture, except a continuing Default or Event of Default in the payment of interest on, or principal of, the Notes. The Company shall deliver to the Trustee annually a statement regarding compliance with the Indenture, and the Company, upon becoming aware of any Default or Event of Default, deliver to the Trustee a statement specifying such Default or Event of Default.
- 13. SUBORDINATION. The Company agrees, and each Holder by accepting this Note agrees, that the principal of and premium, interest and Liquidated Damages, if any, with respect to this Notes are subordinated in right of payment, to the extent and in the manner provided in Article 10 of the Indenture, to the prior payment in full in cash or Cash Equivalents of all Senior Debt of the Company (whether outstanding on the date hereof or hereafter created, incurred, assumed or guaranteed), and that the subordination is for the benefit of the holders of Senior Debt.
- 14. TRUSTEE DEALINGS WITH COMPANY. The Trustee, in its individual or any other capacity, may make loans to, accept deposits from, and perform services for the Company or its Affiliates, and may otherwise deal with the Company or its Affiliates, as if it were not the Trustee.
- 15. NO RECOURSE AGAINST OTHERS. A director, officer, employee, incorporator or shareholder, of the Company or any Guarantor, as such, shall not have any liability for any obligations of the Company or any Guarantor under the Notes, any Subsidiary Guarantee or the Indenture or for any claim based on, in respect of, or by reason of, such obligations or their creation. Each Holder by accepting a Note waives and releases all such liability. The waiver and release are part of the consideration for the issuance of the Notes.
- 16. AUTHENTICATION. This Note shall not be valid until authenticated by the manual signature of the Trustee or an authenticating agent.
- 17. ABBREVIATIONS. Customary abbreviations may be used in the name of a Holder or an assignee, such as: TEN COM (= tenants in common), TEN ENT (= tenants by the entirety), JT TEN (= joint tenants with right of survivorship and not as tenants in common), CUST (= Custodian), and U/G/M/A (= Uniform Gifts to Minors Act).
- 18. ADDITIONAL RIGHTS OF HOLDERS OF RESTRICTED GLOBAL NOTES AND RESTRICTED DEFINITIVE NOTES. In addition to the rights provided to Holders of Notes under the

Indenture, Holders of Initial Notes shall have all the rights set forth in the Registration Rights Agreement or, in the case of Additional Notes, Holders of Restricted Global Notes and Restricted Definitive Notes shall have the rights set forth in one or more registration rights agreements, if any, between the Company and the other parties thereto, relating to rights given by the Company to the purchasers of any Additional Notes.

19. CUSIP NUMBERS. Pursuant to a recommendation promulgated by the Committee on Uniform Security Identification Procedures, the Company has caused CUSIP numbers to be printed on the Notes and the Trustee may use CUSIP numbers in notices of redemption as a convenience to Holders. No representation is made as to the accuracy of such numbers either as printed on the Notes or as contained in any notice of redemption and reliance may be placed only on the other identification numbers placed thereon.

The Company shall furnish to any Holder upon written request and without charge a copy of the Indenture and/or the Registration Rights Agreement. Requests may be made to:

The Scotts Company 14111 Scottslawn Road Marysville, Ohio 43041 Telecopier No.: (937) 644-7136 Attention: Treasurer

A-2-9

ASSIGNMENT FORM

To assign this Note, fill in the this Note to	form below: (I) or (we) assign and transfer
	e's soc. sec. or tax I.D. no.)
and irrevocably appointto transfer this Note on the book another to act for him.	assignee's name, address and zip code) s of the Company. The agent may substitute
Date:	
	Your Signature: (Sign exactly as your name appears on the face of this Note)
	Tax Identification No:
	SIGNATURE GUARANTEE:

Signatures must be guaranteed by an "eligible guarantor institution" meeting the requirements of the Registrar, which requirements include membership or participation in the Security Transfer Agent Medallion Program ("STAMP") or such other "signature guarantee program" as may be determined by the Registrar in addition to, or in substitution for, STAMP, all in accordance with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

OPTION OF HOLDER TO ELECT PURCHASE

If you want to elect to have this Note purchased by the Company pursuant to Section 4.10 or 4.15 of the Indenture, check the appropriate box below:

[] Section 4.10 [] Section 4.15

If you want to elect to have only part of the Note purchased by the Company pursuant to Section 4.10 or Section 4.15 of the Indenture, state the amount you elect to have purchased: $\frac{1}{2}$

_ _____

Date: _____

Your Signature:
(Sign exactly as your name appears on the face of this Note)

Tax Identification No:_____

SIGNATURE GUARANTEE:

Signatures must be guaranteed by an "eligible guarantor institution" meeting the requirements of the Registrar, which requirements include membership or participation in the Security Transfer Agent Medallion Program ("STAMP") or such other "signature guarantee program" as may be determined by the Registrar in addition to, or in substitution for, STAMP, all in accordance with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

A-2-11

SCHEDULE OF EXCHANGES OF REGULATION S TEMPORARY GLOBAL NOTE

The following exchanges of a part of this Regulation ${\tt S}$ Temporary Global Note for an interest in another Global Note, or of other Restricted Global Notes for an interest in this Regulation S Temporary Global Note, have been made:

Amount of decrease Amount of increase of this Global Note Signature of authorized officer
Amount of this Amount of this decrease of Trustee or
Global Note Global Note (Or Increase) Note Custodian Date Of Exchange

Principal Amount

EXHIBIT B

FORM OF CERTIFICATE OF TRANSFER

The Scotts Company 14111 Scottslawn Road Marysville, Ohio 43041 Attention: Treasurer

State Street Bank and Trust Company Corporate Trust Goodwin Square 225 Asylum Street, 23rd Fl. Hartford, Connecticut 06103 Attention: Corporate Trust Administration

Re: 8.625% Senior Subordinated Notes Due 2009

Reference is hereby made to the Indenture, dated as of January 21, 1999 (the "Indenture"), among The Scotts Company, as issuer (the "Company"), the Guarantors and State Street Bank and Trust Company, as trustee. Capitalized terms used but not defined herein shall have the meanings given to them in the Indenture

, (the "Transferor") owns and proposes to transfer the Note[s] or interest in such Note[s] specified in Annex A hereto, in the principal amount of \$______ in such Note[s] or interests (the "Transfer"), to______ (the "Transferee"), as further specified in Annex A hereto. In connection with the Transfer, the Transferor hereby certifies that:

[CHECK ALL THAT APPLY]

- 1. [] CHECK IF TRANSFEREE WILL TAKE DELIVERY OF A BENEFICIAL INTEREST IN THE 144A GLOBAL NOTE OR A DEFINITIVE NOTE PURSUANT TO RULE 144A. The Transfer is being effected pursuant to and in accordance with Rule 144A under the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), and, accordingly, the Transferor hereby further certifies that the beneficial interest or Definitive Note is being transferred to a Person that the Transferor reasonably believed and believes is purchasing the beneficial interest or Definitive Note for its own account, or for one or more accounts with respect to which such Person exercises sole investment discretion, and such Person and each such account is a "qualified institutional buyer" within the meaning of Rule 144A in a transaction meeting the requirements of Rule 144A and such Transfer is in compliance with any applicable blue sky securities laws of any state of the United States. Upon consummation of the proposed Transfer in accordance with the terms of the Indenture, the transferred beneficial interest or Definitive Note will be subject to the restrictions on transfer enumerated in the Private Placement Legend printed on the 144A Global Note and/or the Definitive Note and in the Indenture and the Securities Act.
- 2. [] CHECK IF TRANSFEREE WILL TAKE DELIVERY OF A BENEFICIAL INTEREST IN THE TEMPORARY REGULATION S GLOBAL NOTE, THE REGULATION S GLOBAL NOTE OR A DEFINITIVE NOTE PURSUANT TO

REGULATION S. The Transfer is being effected pursuant to and in accordance with Rule 903 or Rule 904 under the Securities Act and, accordingly, the Transferor hereby further certifies that (i) the Transfer is not being made to a person in the United States and (x) at the time the buy order was originated, the Transferee was outside the United States or such Transferor and any Person acting on its behalf reasonably believed and believes that the Transferee was outside the United States or (y) the transaction was executed in, on or through the facilities of a designated offshore securities market and neither such Transferor nor any Person acting on its behalf knows that the transaction was prearranged with a buyer in the United States, (ii) no directed selling efforts have been made in contravention of the requirements of Rule 903(b) or Rule 904(b) of Regulation S under the Securities Act, (iii) the transaction is not part of a plan or scheme to evade the registration requirements of the Securities Act and (iv) if the proposed transfer is being made prior to the expiration of the Restricted Period, the transfer is not being made to a U.S. Person or for the account or benefit of a U.S. Person (other than an Initial Purchaser). Upon consummation of the proposed transfer in accordance with the terms of the Indenture, the transferred beneficial interest or Definitive Note will be subject to the restrictions on Transfer enumerated in the Private Placement Legend printed on the Regulation S Global Note, the Temporary Regulation S Global Note and/or the Definitive Note and in the Indenture and the Securities Act.

- 3. [] CHECK AND COMPLETE IF TRANSFEREE WILL TAKE DELIVERY OF A BENEFICIAL INTEREST IN THE IAI GLOBAL NOTE OR A DEFINITIVE NOTE PURSUANT TO ANY PROVISION OF THE SECURITIES ACT OTHER THAN RULE 144A OR REGULATION S. The Transfer is being effected in compliance with the transfer restrictions applicable to beneficial interests in Restricted Global Notes and Restricted Definitive Notes and pursuant to and in accordance with the Securities Act and any applicable blue sky securities laws of any state of the United States, and accordingly the Transferor hereby further certifies that (check one):
- (a) [] such Transfer is being effected pursuant to and in accordance with Rule 144 under the Securities Act;

or

(b) [] such Transfer is being effected to the Company or a subsidiary thereof;

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(c) [] such Transfer is being effected pursuant to an effective registration statement under the Securities Act and in compliance with the prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act;

Οľ

(d) [] such Transfer is being effected to an Institutional Accredited Investor and pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act other than Rule 144A, Rule 144 or Rule 904, and the Transferor hereby further certifies that it has not engaged in any general solicitation within the meaning of Regulation D under the Securities Act and the Transfer complies with the transfer restrictions applicable to beneficial interests in a Restricted Global Note or Restricted Definitive Notes and the requirements of the exemption claimed, which certification is supported by (1) a certificate executed by the Transferee in the form of EXHIBIT D to the Indenture and (2) if such Transfer is in respect of a principal amount of Notes at the time of transfer of less than \$250,000, an Opinion of

Counsel provided by the Transferor or the Transferee (a copy of which the Transferor has attached to this certification), to the effect that such Transfer is in compliance with the Securities Act. Upon consummation of the proposed transfer in accordance with the terms of the Indenture, the transferred beneficial interest or Definitive Note will be subject to the restrictions on transfer enumerated in the Private Placement Legend printed on the IAI Global Note and/or the Definitive Notes and in the Indenture and the Securities Act.

- 4. [] Check if Transferee will take delivery of a beneficial interest in an Unrestricted Global Note or of an Unrestricted Definitive Note.
- (a) [] CHECK IF TRANSFER IS PURSUANT TO RULE 144. (i) The Transfer is being effected pursuant to and in accordance with Rule 144 under the Securities Act and in compliance with the transfer restrictions contained in the Indenture and any applicable blue sky securities laws of any state of the United States and (ii) the restrictions on transfer contained in the Indenture and the Private Placement Legend are not required in order to maintain compliance with the Securities Act. Upon consummation of the proposed Transfer in accordance with the terms of the Indenture, the transferred beneficial interest or Definitive Note will no longer be subject to the restrictions on transfer enumerated in the Private Placement Legend printed on the Restricted Global Notes, on Restricted Definitive Notes and in the Indenture.
- (b) [] CHECK IF TRANSFER IS PURSUANT TO REGULATION S. (i) The Transfer is being effected pursuant to and in accordance with Rule 903 or Rule 904 under the Securities Act and in compliance with the transfer restrictions contained in the Indenture and any applicable blue sky securities laws of any state of the United States and (ii) the restrictions on transfer contained in the Indenture and the Private Placement Legend are not required in order to maintain compliance with the Securities Act. Upon consummation of the proposed Transfer in accordance with the terms of the Indenture, the transferred beneficial interest or Definitive Note will no longer be subject to the restrictions on transfer enumerated in the Private Placement Legend printed on the Restricted Global Notes, on Restricted Definitive Notes and in the Indenture.
- (c) [] CHECK IF TRANSFER IS PURSUANT TO OTHER EXEMPTION.

 (i) The Transfer is being effected pursuant to and in compliance with an exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act other than Rule 144, Rule 903 or Rule 904 and in compliance with the transfer restrictions contained in the Indenture and any applicable blue sky securities laws of any State of the United States and (ii) the restrictions on transfer contained in the Indenture and the Private Placement Legend are not required in order to maintain compliance with the Securities Act. Upon consummation of the proposed Transfer in accordance with the terms of the Indenture, the transferred beneficial interest or Definitive Note will not be subject to the restrictions on transfer enumerated in the Private Placement Legend printed on the Restricted Global Notes or Restricted Definitive Notes and in the Indenture.

This certificate and the statements contained herein are made for your benefit and the benefit of the Company.

Dated: ,	
	[Insert Name of Transferor]
	By:
	Name:
	Title:

ANNEX A TO CERTIFICATE OF TRANSFER

1.	The Tran	sferor owns	s and proposes to transfer the following:
			[CHECK ONE OF (a) OR (b)]
	(a)	[] a ber	neficial interest in the:
		(i)	[] 144A Global Note (CUSIP), or
		(ii)	[] Regulation S Global Note (CUSIP), or
		(iii)	[] IAI Global Note (CUSIP); or
	(b) []	a Restricte	ed Definitive Note.
2. After	the Tran	sfer the Tr	ransferee will hold:
			[CHECK ONE]
	(a)	[] a be	eneficial interest in the:
		(i)	[] 144A Global Note (CUSIP), or
		(ii)	[] Regulation S Global Note (CUSIP), or
		(iii)	[] IAI Global Note (CUSIP); or
		(iv)	[] Unrestricted Global Note (CUSIP); or
	(b)	[] a Res	stricted Definitive Note; or
	(c)	[] an Ur	nrestricted Definitive Note,

in accordance with the terms of the Indenture.

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EXHIBIT C

FORM OF CERTIFICATE OF EXCHANGE

The Scotts Company 14111 Scottslawn Road Marysville, Ohio 43041 Attention: Treasurer

State Street Bank and Trust Company Goodwin Square 225 Asylum Street, 23rd Fl. Hartford, Connecticut 06103 Attention: Corporate Trust Administration

Re: 8.625% SENIOR SUBORDINATED NOTES DUE 2009

(CUSIP)

Reference is hereby made to the Indenture, dated as of January 21, 1999 (the "Indenture"), among The Scotts Company, as issuer (the "Company"), the Guarantors and State Street Bank and Trust Company, as trustee. Capitalized terms used but not defined herein shall have the meanings given to them in the Indenture.

Note[s] or interest in such Note[s] specified herein, in the principal amount of $\frac{1}{2}$ in such Note[s] or interests (the "Exchange"). In connection with the Exchange, the Owner hereby certifies that:

- 1. EXCHANGE OF RESTRICTED DEFINITIVE NOTES OR BENEFICIAL INTERESTS IN A RESTRICTED GLOBAL NOTE FOR UNRESTRICTED DEFINITIVE NOTES OR BENEFICIAL INTERESTS IN AN UNRESTRICTED GLOBAL NOTE
- (a) []CHECK IF EXCHANGE IS FROM BENEFICIAL INTEREST IN A RESTRICTED GLOBAL NOTE TO BENEFICIAL INTEREST IN AN UNRESTRICTED GLOBAL NOTE. In connection with the Exchange of the Owner's beneficial interest in a Restricted Global Note for a beneficial interest in an Unrestricted Global Note in an equal principal amount, the Owner hereby certifies (i) the beneficial interest is being acquired for the Owner's own account without transfer, (ii) such Exchange has been effected in compliance with the transfer restrictions applicable to the Global Notes and pursuant to and in accordance with the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), (iii) the restrictions on transfer contained in the Indenture and the Private Placement Legend are not required in order to maintain compliance with the Securities Act and (iv) the beneficial interest in an Unrestricted Global Note is being acquired in compliance with any applicable blue sky securities laws of any state of the United States.
- (b) []CHECK IF EXCHANGE IS FROM BENEFICIAL INTEREST IN A RESTRICTED GLOBAL NOTE TO UNRESTRICTED DEFINITIVE NOTE. In connection with the Exchange of the Owner's beneficial interest in a Restricted Global Note for an Unrestricted Definitive Note, the Owner hereby certifies (i) the Definitive Note is being acquired for the Owner's own account without transfer, (ii) such Exchange has

been effected in compliance with the transfer restrictions applicable to the Restricted Global Notes and pursuant to and in accordance with the Securities Act, (iii) the restrictions on transfer contained in the Indenture and the Private Placement Legend are not required in order to maintain compliance with the Securities Act and (iv) the Definitive Note is being acquired in compliance with any applicable blue sky securities laws of any state of the United States.

- (c) []CHECK IF EXCHANGE IS FROM RESTRICTED DEFINITIVE NOTE TO BENEFICIAL INTEREST IN AN UNRESTRICTED GLOBAL NOTE. In connection with the Owner's Exchange of a Restricted Definitive Note for a beneficial interest in an Unrestricted Global Note, the Owner hereby certifies (i) the beneficial interest is being acquired for the Owner's own account without transfer, (ii) such Exchange has been effected in compliance with the transfer restrictions applicable to Restricted Definitive Notes and pursuant to and in accordance with the Securities Act, (iii) the restrictions on transfer contained in the Indenture and the Private Placement Legend are not required in order to maintain compliance with the Securities Act and (iv) the beneficial interest is being acquired in compliance with any applicable blue sky securities laws of any state of the United States.
- (d) []CHECK IF EXCHANGE IS FROM RESTRICTED DEFINITIVE NOTE TO UNRESTRICTED DEFINITIVE NOTE. In connection with the Owner's Exchange of a Restricted Definitive Note for an Unrestricted Definitive Note, the Owner hereby certifies (i) the Unrestricted Definitive Note is being acquired for the Owner's own account without transfer, (ii) such Exchange has been effected in compliance with the transfer restrictions applicable to Restricted Definitive Notes and pursuant to and in accordance with the Securities Act, (iii) the restrictions on transfer contained in the Indenture and the Private Placement Legend are not required in order to maintain compliance with the Securities Act and (iv) the Unrestricted Definitive Note is being acquired in compliance with any applicable blue sky securities laws of any state of the United States.
- 2. EXCHANGE OF RESTRICTED DEFINITIVE NOTES OR BENEFICIAL INTERESTS IN RESTRICTED GLOBAL NOTES FOR RESTRICTED DEFINITIVE NOTES OR BENEFICIAL INTERESTS IN RESTRICTED GLOBAL NOTES
- (a) []CHECK IF EXCHANGE IS FROM BENEFICIAL INTEREST IN A RESTRICTED GLOBAL NOTE TO RESTRICTED DEFINITIVE NOTE. In connection with the Exchange of the Owner's beneficial interest in a Restricted Global Note for a Restricted Definitive Note with an equal principal amount, the Owner hereby certifies that the Restricted Definitive Note is being acquired for the Owner's own account without transfer. Upon consummation of the proposed Exchange in accordance with the terms of the Indenture, the Restricted Definitive Note issued will continue to be subject to the restrictions on transfer enumerated in the Private Placement Legend printed on the Restricted Definitive Note and in the Indenture and the Securities Act.

(b) []CHECK IF EXCHANGE IS FROM RESTRICTED
DEFINITIVE NOTE TO BENEFICIAL INTEREST IN A RESTRICTED GLOBAL NOTE. In
connection with the Exchange of the Owner's Restricted Definitive Note for a
beneficial interest in the [CHECK ONE] [] 144A Global Note, [] Regulation S
Global Note, [] IAI Global Note with an equal principal amount, the Owner
hereby certifies (i) the beneficial interest is being acquired for the Owner's
own account without transfer and (ii) such Exchange has been effected in
compliance with the transfer restrictions applicable to the Restricted Global
Notes and pursuant to and in accordance with the Securities Act, and in
compliance with any applicable blue sky securities laws of any state of the
United States. Upon consummation of the proposed Exchange in accordance with the
terms of the Indenture, the beneficial interest issued will be subject to the
restrictions on transfer enumerated in the Private Placement Legend printed on
the relevant Restricted Global Note and in the Indenture and the Securities Act.

 $\,$ This certificate and the statements contained herein are made for your benefit and the benefit of the Company.

	[Insert Name of Owner]
	By:
	Name:
	Title:
Dated: ,	

EXHIBIT D

FORM OF CERTIFICATE FROM ACQUIRING INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITED INVESTOR

The Scotts Company 14111 Scottslawn Road Marysville, Ohio 43041 Attention: Treasurer

State Street Bank and Trust Company Goodwin Square 225 Asylum Street, 23rd Fl. Hartford, Connecticut 06103 Attention: Corporate Trust Administration

Re: 8.625% SENIOR SUBORDINATED NOTES DUE 2009

Reference is hereby made to the Indenture, dated as of January 21, 1999 (the "Indenture"), among The Scotts Company., as issuer (the "Company"), the Guarantors and State Street Bank and Trust Company, as trustee. Capitalized terms used but not defined herein shall have the meanings given to them in the Indenture.

\$ aggregate p	In connection with our proposed purchase of principal amount of:	
(a)	[] a beneficial interest in a Global Note, or	
(b)	[] a Definitive Note,	
we cont	Firm that:	

- 1. We understand that any subsequent transfer of the Notes or any interest therein is subject to certain restrictions and conditions set forth in the Indenture and the undersigned agrees to be bound by, and not to resell, pledge or otherwise transfer the Notes or any interest therein except in compliance with, such restrictions and conditions and the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act").
- 2. We understand that the offer and sale of the Notes have not been registered under the Securities Act, and that the Notes and any interest therein may not be offered or sold except as permitted in the following sentence. We agree, on our own behalf and on behalf of any accounts for which we are acting as hereinafter stated, that if we should sell the Notes or any interest therein, we will do so only (A) to the Company or any subsidiary thereof, (B) in accordance with Rule 144A under the Securities Act to a "qualified institutional buyer" (as defined therein), (c) to an institutional "accredited investor" (as defined below) that, prior to such transfer, furnishes (or has furnished on its behalf by a U.S. broker-dealer) to you and to the Company a signed letter substantially in the form of this letter and, if such transfer is in respect of a principal amount of Notes, at the time of transfer of less than \$250,000, an

Opinion of Counsel in form reasonably acceptable to the Company to the effect that such transfer is in compliance with the Securities Act, (D) outside the United States in accordance with Rule 904 of Regulation S under the Securities Act, (E) pursuant to the provisions of Rule 144(k) under the Securities Act or (F) pursuant to an effective registration statement under the Securities Act, and we further agree to provide to any person purchasing the Definitive Note or beneficial interest in a Global Note from us in a transaction meeting the requirements of clauses (A) through (E) of this paragraph a notice advising such purchaser that resales thereof are restricted as stated herein.

- 3. We understand that, on any proposed resale of the Notes or beneficial interest therein, we will be required to furnish to you and the Company such certifications, legal opinions and other information as you and the Company may reasonably require to confirm that the proposed sale complies with the foregoing restrictions. We further understand that the Notes purchased by us will bear a legend to the foregoing effect.
- 4. We are an institutional "accredited investor" (as defined in Rule 501(a)(1), (2), (3) or (7) of Regulation D under the Securities Act) and have such knowledge and experience in financial and business matters as to be capable of evaluating the merits and risks of our investment in the Notes, and we and any accounts for which we are acting are each able to bear the economic risk of our or its investment.
- 5. We are acquiring the Notes or beneficial interest therein purchased by us for our own account or for one or more accounts (each of which is an institutional "accredited investor") as to each of which we exercise sole investment discretion.

You and the Company are entitled to rely upon this letter and are irrevocably authorized to produce this letter or a copy hereof to any interested party in any administrative or legal proceedings or official inquiry with respect to the matters covered hereby.

	[Insert Name of Accredited Investor]
	Ву:
	Name: Title:
ated:,	

EXHIBIT E

FORM OF NOTATION OF SUBSIDIARY GUARANTEE ON NOTE

For value received, each Guarantor (which term includes any successor Person under the Indenture) has, jointly and severally, unconditionally guaranteed, to the extent set forth in the Indenture and subject to the provisions in the Indenture dated as of January 21, 1999 (the "Indenture") among The Scotts Company, the Guarantors signatories thereto and State Street Bank and Trust Company, as trustee (the "Trustee"), (a) the due and punctual payment of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Notes (as defined in the Indenture), whether at maturity, by acceleration, redemption or otherwise, the due and punctual payment of interest on overdue principal and premium, and, to the extent permitted by law, interest, and the due and punctual performance of all other obligations of the Company to the Holders or the Trustee all in accordance with the terms of the Indenture and (b) in case of any extension of time of payment or renewal of any Notes or any of such other obligations, that the same will be promptly paid in full when due or performed in accordance with the terms of the extension or renewal, whether at stated maturity, by acceleration or otherwise. The obligations of the Guarantors to the Holders of Notes and to the Trustee pursuant to the Subsidiary Guarantee and the Indenture are expressly set forth in Article 11 of the Indenture and reference is hereby made to the Indenture for the precise terms of the Subsidiary Guarantee. Each Holder of a Note, by accepting the same, (a) agrees to and shall be bound by such provisions, (b) authorizes the Trustee, on behalf of such Holder, to make such action as may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate the subordination as provided in the Indenture and (c) appoints the Trustee attorney-in-fact of such Holder for such purpose; provided, however, that the Indebtedness evidenced by this Subsidiary Guarantee shall cease to be so subordinated and subject in right of payment upon any defeasance of this Note in accordance with the provisions of the Indenture.

[Guarantor]

By:_____Name:

Title:

EXHIBIT F

FORM OF SUPPLEMENTAL INDENTURE TO BE DELIVERED BY SUBSEQUENT GUARANTORS

	SUPPLEMENTAL	INDENTURE	(this	"Supplemental	Indenture")	dated
as of	, amo	ng		(the	"Guaranteei	ng
Subsidiary"), a	subsidiary of T	he Scotts	Compan	y (or its succ	essor), a	
corporation org	anized under the	laws of C	hio (t	he "Company"),	and State	Street
Bank and Trust	Company, as trus	tee under	the in	denture referr	ed to below	(the
"Trustee").						

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, the Company has heretofore executed and delivered to the Trustee an indenture (the "Indenture"), dated as of January 21, 1999, providing for the issuance of an aggregate principal amount at maturity of \$400,000,000 of 8.625% Senior Subordinated Notes due 2009 (the "Notes");

WHEREAS, the Indenture provides that under certain circumstances the Guaranteeing Subsidiary shall execute and deliver to the Trustee a supplemental indenture pursuant to which the Guaranteeing Subsidiary shall unconditionally guarantee all of the Company's Obligations under the Notes and the Indenture on the terms and conditions set forth herein (the "Subsidiary Guarantee"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 9.01 of the Indenture, the Trustee is authorized to execute and deliver this Supplemental Indenture.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the Guaranteeing Subsidiary and the Trustee mutually covenant and agree for the equal and ratable benefit of the Holders of the Notes as follows:

- $\hbox{1. Capitalized Terms. Capitalized terms used herein without definition shall have the meanings assigned to them in the Indenture.}$
- $\,$ 2. Agreement to Guarantee. The Guaranteeing Subsidiary hereby agrees as follows:
 - (a) Along with all Guarantors named in the Indenture, to jointly and severally Guarantee to each Holder of a Note authenticated and delivered by the Trustee and to the Trustee and its successors and assigns, irrespective of the validity and enforceability of the Indenture, the Notes or the obligations of the Company hereunder or thereunder, that:
 - the principal of and interest on the Notes will be promptly paid in full when due, whether at maturity, by acceleration, redemption or otherwise, and interest on the overdue principal of and interest on the Notes, if any, if lawful, and all other obligations of the Company to the Holders or the Trustee hereunder or thereunder will be promptly paid in full or performed, all in accordance with the terms hereof and thereof; and

- (ii) in case of any extension of time of payment or renewal of any Notes or any of such other obligations, that same will be promptly paid in full when due or performed in accordance with the terms of the extension or renewal, whether at stated maturity, by acceleration or otherwise. Failing payment when due of any amount so guaranteed or any performance so guaranteed for whatever reason, the Guarantors shall be jointly and severally obligated to pay the same immediately.
- (b) The obligations hereunder shall be unconditional, irrespective of the validity, regularity or enforceability of the Notes or the Indenture, the absence of any action to enforce the same, any waiver or consent by any Holder of the Notes with respect to any provisions hereof or thereof, the recovery of any judgment against the Company, any action to enforce the same or any other circumstance which might otherwise constitute a legal or equitable discharge or defense of a guarantor.
- (c) The following is hereby waived: diligence presentment, demand of payment, filing of claims with a court in the event of insolvency or bankruptcy of the Company, any right to require a proceeding first against the Company, protest, notice and all demands whatsoever.
- (d) This Subsidiary Guarantee shall not be discharged except by complete performance of the obligations contained in the Notes and the Indenture.
- (e) If any Holder or the Trustee is required by any court or otherwise to return to the Company, the Guarantors, or any Custodian, Trustee, liquidator or other similar official acting in relation to either the Company or the Guarantors, any amount paid by either to the Trustee or such Holder, this Subsidiary Guarantee, to the extent theretofore discharged, shall be reinstated in full force and effect.
- (f) The Guaranteeing Subsidiary shall not be entitled to any right of subrogation in relation to the Holders in respect of any obligations guaranteed hereby until payment in full of all obligations guaranteed hereby.
- (g) As between the Guarantors, on the one hand, and the Holders and the Trustee, on the other hand, (x) the maturity of the obligations guaranteed hereby may be accelerated as provided in Article 6 of the Indenture for the purposes of this Subsidiary Guarantee, notwithstanding any stay, injunction or other prohibition preventing such acceleration in respect of the obligations guaranteed hereby, and (y) in the event of any declaration of acceleration of such obligations as provided in Article 6 of the Indenture, such obligations (whether or not due and payable) shall forthwith become due and payable by the Guarantors for the purpose of this Subsidiary Guarantee.

- (h) The Guarantors shall have the right to seek contribution from any non-paying Guarantor so long as the exercise of such right does not impair the rights of the Holders under the Guarantee.
- (i) The obligations hereunder shall be subject to the subordination provisions of the Indenture.
- 3. Execution and Delivery. Each Guaranteeing Subsidiary agrees that the Subsidiary Guarantees shall remain in full force and effect notwithstanding any failure to endorse on each Note a notation of such Subsidiary Guarantee.
 - 4. Guaranteeing Subsidiary May Consolidate, Etc. on Certain
 - (a) The Guaranteeing Subsidiary may not consolidate with or merge with or into (whether or not such Guarantor is the surviving Person) another corporation, Person or entity whether or not affiliated with such Guarantor unless:
 - (i) subject to Section 11.05 of the Indenture, the Person formed by or surviving any such consolidation or merger (if other than a Guarantor or the Company) unconditionally assumes all the obligations of such Guarantor, pursuant to a supplemental indenture in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Trustee, under the Notes, the Indenture and the Subsidiary Guarantee on the terms set forth herein or therein: and
- $\,$ (ii) immediately after giving effect to such transaction, no Default or Event of Default exists.
 - In case of any such consolidation, merger, sale or conveyance (b) and upon the assumption by the successor corporation, by supplemental indenture, executed and delivered to the Trustee and satisfactory in form to the Trustee, of the Subsidiary Guarantee endorsed upon the Notes and the due and punctual performance of all of the covenants and conditions of the Indenture to be performed by the Guarantor, such successor corporation shall succeed to and be substituted for the Guarantor with the same effect as if it had been named herein as a Guarantor. Such successor corporation thereupon may cause to be signed any or all of the Subsidiary Guarantees to be endorsed upon all of the Notes issuable hereunder which theretofore shall not have been signed by the Company and delivered to the Trustee. All the Subsidiary Guarantees so issued shall in all respects have the same legal rank and benefit under the Indenture as the Subsidiary Guarantees theretofore and thereafter issued in accordance with the terms of the Indenture as though all of such Subsidiary Guarantees had been issued at the date of the execution hereof.
- (c) Except as set forth in Articles 4 and 5 of the Indenture, and notwithstanding clauses (a) and (b) above, nothing contained in the Indenture or in any of the Notes shall prevent any consolidation or merger of a Guarantor with or into the Company or another Guarantor, or shall prevent any sale or conveyance of the property of a Guarantor as an entirety or substantially as an entirety to the Company or another Guarantor.

5. Releases.

- In the event of a sale or other disposition of all of the (a) assets of any Guarantor, by way of merger, consolidation or otherwise, or a sale or other disposition of all to the capital stock of any Guarantor, then such Guarantor (in the event of a sale or other disposition, by way of merger, consolidation or otherwise, of all of the capital stock of such Guarantor) or the corporation acquiring the property (in the event of a sale or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of such Guarantor) will be released and relieved of any obligations under its Subsidiary Guarantee; provided that the Net Proceeds of such sale or other disposition are applied in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Indenture, including without limitation Section 4.10 of the Indenture. Upon delivery by the Company to the Trustee of an Officers' Certificate and an Opinion of Counsel to the effect that such sale or other disposition was made by the Company in accordance with the provisions of the Indenture, including without limitation Section 4.10 of the Indenture, the Trustee shall execute any documents reasonably required in order to evidence the release of any Guarantor from its obligations under its Subsidiary Guarantee.
- (b) Any Guarantor not released from its obligations under its Subsidiary Guarantee shall remain liable for the full amount of principal of and interest on the Notes and for the other obligations of any Guarantor under the Indenture as provided in Article 11 of the Indenture.
- 6. No Recourse Against Others. No past, present or future director, officer, employee, incorporator, stockholder or agent of the Guaranteeing Subsidiary, as such, shall have any liability for any obligations of the Company or any Guaranteeing Subsidiary under the Notes, any Subsidiary Guarantees, the Indenture or this Supplemental Indenture or for any claim based on, in respect of, or by reason of, such obligations or their creation. Each Holder of the Notes by accepting a Note waives and releases all such liability. The waiver and release are part of the consideration for issuance of the Notes. Such waiver may not be effective to waive liabilities under the federal securities laws and it is the view of the Commission that such a waiver is against public policy.
- 7. NEW YORK LAW TO GOVERN. THE INTERNAL LAW OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK SHALL GOVERN AND BE USED TO CONSTRUE THIS SUPPLEMENTAL INDENTURE BUT WITHOUT GIVING EFFECT TO APPLICABLE PRINCIPLES OF CONFLICTS OF LAW TO THE EXTENT THAT THE APPLICATION OF THE LAWS OF ANOTHER JURISDICTION WOULD BE REQUIRED THEREBY.
- 8. Counterparts. The parties may sign any number of copies of this Supplemental Indenture. Each signed copy shall be an original, but all of them together represent the same agreement.
- $\,$ 9. Effect of Headings. The Section headings herein are for convenience only and shall not affect the construction hereof.
- 10. The Trustee. The Trustee shall not be responsible in any manner whatsoever for or in respect of the validity or sufficiency of this Supplemental Indenture or for or in respect of the recitals contained herein, all of which recitals are made solely by the Guaranteeing Subsidiary and the Company.

caused this Supplemental Indenture	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have to be duly executed and attested, all as
of the date first above written.	to be duty executed and accessed, arr as
Dated:,	
	[Guaranteeing Subsidiary]
	Pour
	Ву:
	Name:
	Title:
	[TRUSTEE]
	as Trustee
	as ilustee
	By:
	Name:
	Title:

1 Exhibit 25

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM T-1

STATEMENT OF ELIGIBILITY UNDER THE TRUST INDENTURE ACT OF 1939 OF A CORPORATION DESIGNATED TO ACT AS TRUSTEE

Check if an Application to Determine Eligibility of a Trustee Pursuant to Section 305(b)(2)

STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY (Exact name of trustee as specified in its charter)

Massachusetts
(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organization if not a U.S. national bank)

04-1867445 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

225 Franklin Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02110 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Maureen Scannell Bateman, Esq. Executive Vice President and General Counsel
225 Franklin Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02110
(617) 654-3253

(Name, address and telephone number of agent for service)

(THE SCOTTS COMPANY) (Exact name of obligor as specified in its charter)

OHIO (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

31-1199481 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

(14111 SCOTTSLAWN ROAD MARYSVILLE, OHIO 43041)

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(8.625% SERIES A SENIOR SUBORDINATED NOTES DUE 2009)

(Title of indenture securities)

GENERAL

ITEM 1. GENERAL INFORMATION.

FURNISH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION AS TO THE TRUSTEE:

(a) NAME AND ADDRESS OF EACH EXAMINING OR SUPERVISORY AUTHORITY TO WHICH IT IS SUBJECT.

 ${\tt Department\ of\ Banking\ and\ Insurance\ of\ The\ Commonwealth\ of\ Massachusetts,\ 100\ Cambridge\ Street,\ Boston,\ Massachusetts.}$

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington, D.C., Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Washington, D.C.

(b) WHETHER IT IS AUTHORIZED TO EXERCISE CORPORATE TRUST POWERS. Trustee is authorized to exercise corporate trust powers.

ITEM 2. AFFILIATIONS WITH OBLIGOR.

 $\,$ IF THE OBLIGOR IS AN AFFILIATE OF THE TRUSTEE, DESCRIBE EACH SUCH AFFILIATION.

 $$\operatorname{\textsc{The}}$ obligor is not an affiliate of the trustee or of its parent, State Street Corporation.

(See note on page 2.)

ITEM 3. THROUGH ITEM 15. NOT APPLICABLE.

ITEM 16. LIST OF EXHIBITS.

LIST BELOW ALL EXHIBITS FILED AS PART OF THIS STATEMENT OF ELIGIBILITY.

1. A COPY OF THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION OF THE TRUSTEE AS NOW IN EFFECT.

A copy of the Articles of Association of the trustee, as now in effect, is on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission as Exhibit 1 to Amendment No. 1 to the Statement of Eligibility and Qualification of Trustee (Form T-1) filed with the Registration Statement of Morse Shoe, Inc. (File No. 22-17940) and is incorporated herein by reference thereto.

2. A COPY OF THE CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY OF THE TRUSTEE TO COMMENCE BUSINESS, IF NOT CONTAINED IN THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION.

A copy of a Statement from the Commissioner of Banks of Massachusetts that no certificate of authority for the trustee to commence business was necessary or issued is on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission as Exhibit 2 to Amendment No. 1 to the Statement of Eligibility and Qualification of Trustee (Form T-1) filed with the Registration Statement of Morse Shoe, Inc. (File No. 22-17940) and is incorporated herein by reference thereto.

3. A COPY OF THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE TRUSTEE TO EXERCISE CORPORATE TRUST POWERS, IF SUCH AUTHORIZATION IS NOT CONTAINED IN THE DOCUMENTS SPECIFIED IN PARAGRAPH (1) OR (2), ABOVE.

A copy of the authorization of the trustee to exercise corporate trust powers is on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission as Exhibit 3 to Amendment No. 1 to the Statement of Eligibility and Qualification of Trustee (Form T-1) filed with the Registration Statement of Morse Shoe, Inc. (File No. 22-17940) and is incorporated herein by reference thereto.

4. A COPY OF THE EXISTING BY-LAWS OF THE TRUSTEE, OR INSTRUMENTS CORRESPONDING THERETO.

A copy of the by-laws of the trustee, as now in effect, is on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission as Exhibit 4 to the Statement of Eligibility and Qualification of Trustee (Form T-1) filed with the Registration Statement of Eastern Edison Company (File No. 33-37823) and is incorporated herein by reference thereto.

5. A COPY OF EACH INDENTURE REFERRED TO IN ITEM 4. IF THE OBLIGOR IS IN DEFAULT

Not applicable.

6. THE CONSENTS OF UNITED STATES INSTITUTIONAL TRUSTEES REQUIRED BY SECTION 321(b) OF THE ACT.

The consent of the trustee required by Section 321(b) of the Act is annexed hereto as Exhibit 6 and made a part hereof.

7. A COPY OF THE LATEST REPORT OF CONDITION OF THE TRUSTEE PUBLISHED PURSUANT TO LAW OR THE REQUIREMENTS OF ITS SUPERVISING OR EXAMINING AUTHORITY.

A copy of the latest report of condition of the trustee published pursuant to law or the requirements of its supervising or examining authority is annexed hereto as Exhibit 7 and made a part hereof.

NOTES

In answering any item of this Statement of Eligibility which relates to matters peculiarly within the knowledge of the obligor or any underwriter for the obligor, the trustee has relied upon information furnished to it by the obligor and the underwriters, and the trustee disclaims responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of such information.

The answer furnished to Item 2. of this statement will be amended, if necessary, to reflect any facts which differ from those stated and which would have been required to be stated if known at the date hereof.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, the trustee, State Street Bank and Trust Company, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, has duly caused this statement of eligibility to be signed

on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, all in the City of Boston and The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, on the {APRIL 13, 1999}.

STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY

By: /s/ Steven Cimalore NAME: STEVEN CIMALORE TITLE: VICE PRESIDENT

EXHIBIT 6

CONSENT OF THE TRUSTEE

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 321(b) of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, in connection with the proposed issuance by {THE SCOTTS COMPANY} of its {8.625% SERIES A SENIOR SUBORDINATED NOTES DUE 2009}, we hereby consent that reports of examination by Federal, State, Territorial or District authorities may be furnished by such authorities to the Securities and Exchange Commission upon request therefor.

STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY

By: /s/ Steven Cimalore NAME: STEVEN CIMALORE TITLE: VICE PRESIDENT

DATED: APRIL 13, 1999

EXHIBIT 7

Consolidated Report of Condition of State Street Bank and Trust Company, Massachusetts and foreign and domestic subsidiaries, a state banking institution organized and operating under the banking laws of this commonwealth and a member of the Federal Reserve System, at the close of business MARCH 31, 1998, published in accordance with a call made by the Federal Reserve Bank of this District pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Reserve Act and in accordance with a call made by the Commissioner of Banks under General Laws, Chapter 172, Section 22(a).

ASSETS		Thousands of Dollars
Cash and balances due from depository institutions: Noninterest-bearing balances and currency and coin		1,144,309 9,914,704 10,062,052
Federal funds sold and securities purchased under agreements to resell in domestic offices of the bank and its Edge subsidiary		8,073,970
Loans and lease financing receivables: Loans and leases, net of unearned income Allowance for loan and lease losses Allocated transfer risk reserve	6,433,627 88,820 0	6 244 207
Loans and leases, net of unearned income and allowances Assets held in trading accounts Premises and fixed assets Other real estate owned Investments in unconsolidated subsidiaries Customers' liability to this bank on acceptances outstanding Intampible assets		6,344,807 1,117,547 453,576 100 44,985 66,149 263,249
Other assets Total assets		1,066,572 38,552,020
LIABILITIES		========
Deposits:		0.066.400
In domestic offices Noninterest-bearing Interest-bearing	6,824,432	9,266,492
Interest-bearing In foreign offices and Edge subsidiary Noninterest-bearing Interest-bearing Federal funds purchased and securities sold under	2,442,060 75,909 14,309,139	14,385,048
agreements to repurchase in domestic offices of the bank and of its Edge subsidiary Demand notes issued to the U.S. Treasury and Trading Liabilities Trading liabilities		9,949,994 171,783 1,078,189
Other borrowed money		406,583
Subordinated notes and debentures Bank's liability on acceptances executed and outstanding Other liabilities		0 66,149 878,947
Total liabilities		36,203,185
EQUITY CAPITAL Perpetual preferred stock and related		0
surplus Common stock Surplus Undivided profits and capital reserves/Net unrealized holding gains (losses)		0 29,931 450,003 1,857,021
Net unrealized holding gains (losses) on available-for-sale securities Cumulative foreign currency translation adjustments Total equity capital		18,136 (6,256)
Total liabilities and equity capital		2,348,835 38,552,020
10001 1100110100 und oquito, capital		

4

I, Rex S. Schuette, Senior Vice President and Comptroller of the above named bank do hereby declare that this Report of Condition has been prepared in conformance with the instructions issued by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Rex S. Schuette

We, the undersigned directors, attest to the correctness of this Report of Condition and declare that it has been examined by us and to the best of our knowledge and belief has been prepared in conformance with the instructions issued by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and is true and correct.

David A. Spina Marshall N. Carter Truman S. Casner 1 EXHIBIT 99

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

THE SCOTTS COMPANY

OFFER TO EXCHANGE

ITS 8.625% SENIOR SUBORDINATED NOTES DUE 2009
WHICH HAVE BEEN REGISTERED
UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, AS AMENDED
FOR AN EQUAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT
OF ITS 8.625% SENIOR SUBORDINATED NOTES DUE 2009
WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN SO REGISTERED
PURSUANT TO THE PROSPECTUS
DATED , 1999

The Exchange Agent for the Exchange Offer is:

STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY

By Registered or Certified Mail or Hand or Overnight Delivery:

DELIVERY OF THIS LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL TO AN ADDRESS OTHER THAN AS SET FORTH ABOVE OR TRANSMISSION OF THIS LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL VIA FACSIMILE TO A NUMBER OTHER THAN AS SET FORTH ABOVE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A VALID DELIVERY.

THE INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED HEREIN SHOULD BE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE THIS LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL IS COMPLETED.

THE EXCHANGE OFFER AND WITHDRAWAL RIGHTS WILL EXPIRE AT 5:00 P.M., NEW YORK CITY TIME, ON _____, 1999, UNLESS THE OFFER IS EXTENDED.

Capitalized terms used but not defined herein shall have the same meaning given them in the Prospectus (as defined below).

This Letter of Transmittal is to be completed by holders of Original Notes (as defined below) either if Original Notes are to be forwarded herewith or if tenders of Original Notes are to be made by book-entry transfer to an account maintained by State Street Bank and Trust Company (the "Exchange Agent") at The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") pursuant to the procedures set forth in "The Exchange Offer--Procedures for Tendering" in the Prospectus and an Agent's Message (as defined herein) is not delivered.

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Holders of Original Notes whose certificates (the "Certificates") for such Original Notes are not immediately available or who cannot deliver their Certificates and all other required documents to the Exchange Agent on or prior to the Expiration Date (as defined in the Prospectus) or who cannot complete the procedures for book-entry transfer on a timely basis, must tender their Original Notes according to the guaranteed delivery procedures set forth in "The Exchange Offer--Procedures for Tendering" in the Prospectus.

DELIVERY OF DOCUMENTS TO DTC DOES NOT CONSTITUTE DELIVERY TO THE EXCHANGE AGENT. NOTE: SIGNATURES MUST BE PROVIDED BELOW PLEASE READ THE ACCOMPANYING INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY ALL TENDERING HOLDERS COMPLETE THIS BOX:

DESCRIPTION OF ORIGINAL NOTES TENDERED

	NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) OF REGISTERED OWNER(S) EASE FILL IN, IF BLANK, EXACTLY AS NAME(S) APPEAR(S) ON ORIGINAL NOTE(S))		PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF ORIGINAL NOTES TENDERED **
(If yo	u need more space, attach a list and sign the list)		
			TOTAL AMOUNT TENDERED:
*	Need not be completed by book-entry holders.		
**	All Original Notes held shall be deemed tendered unless a is specified in this column.	lesser number	
	(BOXES BELOW TO BE CHECKED BY ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS ON	ILY)	
/ /	CHECK HERE IF TENDERED ORIGINAL NOTES ARE BEING DELIVERED TRANSFER MADE TO THE ACCOUNT MAINTAINED BY THE EXCHANGE A AND COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:		
	Name of Tendering Institution		
	DTC Account Number		
	Transaction Code Number		
, ,	GURDA UEDE AND ENGLOSE A DUOTOSCADA OF THE NOTICE OF GUADA		
/ /	CHECK HERE AND ENCLOSE A PHOTOCOPY OF THE NOTICE OF GUARA IF TENDERED ORIGINAL NOTES ARE BEING DELIVERED PURSUANT T GUARANTEED DELIVERY PREVIOUSLY SENT TO THE EXCHANGE AGENT THE FOLLOWING:	O A NOTICE OF	
	Name(s) of Registered Holder(s)		
	Window Ticket Number (if any)		
	Date of Execution of Notice of Guaranteed Delivery		
	Name of Institution which Guaranteed Delivery		
	If Guaranteed Delivery is to be made by Book-Entry Transf		

3	
	Name of Tendering Institution
	DTC Account Number
	Transaction Code Number
/	CHECK HERE IF TENDERED BY BOOK-ENTRY TRANSFER AND NON-EXCHANGED ORIGINAL NOTES ARE TO BE RETURNED BY CREDITING THE DTC ACCOUNT NUMBER SET FORTH ABOVE.
/	CHECK HERE IF YOU ARE A BROKER-DEALER AND WISH TO RECEIVE 10 ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THE PROSPECTUS AND 10 COPIES OF ANY AMENDMENTS OR SUPPLEMENTS THERETO.

Address:

Name:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

The undersigned hereby tenders to The Scotts Company, an Ohio corporation (the "Company"), the above described principal amount of the Company's outstanding 8.625% Senior Subordinated Notes due 2009 (the "Original Notes") in exchange for a like principal amount of the Company's 8.625% Senior Subordinated Notes due 2009 (the "Exchange Notes") which have been registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the Prospectus dated , 1999 (as the same may be amended or supplemented from time to time, the "Prospectus"), receipt of which is acknowledged, and in this Letter of Transmittal (which, together with the Prospectus, constitutes the "Exchange Offer"). Subject to and effective upon the acceptance for exchange of all or any portion of the Original Notes tendered herewith in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Exchange Offer (including, if the Exchange Offer is extended or amended, the terms and conditions of any such extension or amendment), the undersigned hereby sells, assigns and transfer to or upon the order of the Company all right, title and interest in and to such Original Notes as are being tendered herewith. The undersigned hereby irrevocably constitutes and appoints the Exchange Agent as its agent and attorney-in-fact (with full knowledge that the Exchange Agent is also acting as agent of the Company in connection with the Exchange Offer) with respect to the tendered Original Notes, with full power of substitution (such power of attorney being deemed to be an irrevocable power coupled with an interest), subject only to the right of withdrawal described in the Prospectus, to (i) deliver Certificates for Original Notes to the Company together with all accompanying evidences of transfer and authenticity to, or upon the order of, the Company, upon receipt by the Exchange Agent, as the undersigned's agent, of the Exchange Notes to be issued in exchange for such Original Notes, (ii) present Certificates for such Original Notes for transfer, and to transfer the Original Notes on the books of the Company, and (iii) receive for the account of the Company all benefits and otherwise exercise all rights of beneficial ownership of such Original Notes, all in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Exchange Offer.

The undersigned hereby represents and warrants that the undersigned has full power and authority to tender, exchange, sell, assign and transfer the Original Notes tendered hereby and that, when the same are accepted for exchange, the Company will acquire good, marketable and unencumbered title thereto, free and clear of all liens, restrictions, charges and encumbrances, and that the Original Notes tendered hereby are not subject to any adverse claims or proxies. The undersigned will, upon request, execute and deliver any additional documents deemed by the Company or the exchange agent to be necessary or desirable to complete the exchange, assignment and transfer of the original notes tendered hereby, and the undersigned will comply with its obligations under the registration rights agreement. The undersigned has read and agrees to all of the terms of the exchange offer.

The name(s) and address(es) of the registered holder(s) of the Original Notes tendered hereby should be printed above, if they are not already set forth above, as they appear on the Certificates representing such Original Notes. The Certificate number(s) and the Original Notes that the undersigned wishes to tender should be indicated in the appropriate boxes above. If any tendered Original Notes are not exchanged pursuant to the Exchange Offer for any reason, or if Certificates are submitted for more Original Notes than are tendered or accepted for exchange, Certificates for such nonexchanged or nontendered Original Notes will be returned (or, in the case of Original Notes tendered by book-entry transfer, such Original Notes will be credited to an account maintained at DTC), without expense to the tendering holder, promptly following the expiration or termination of the Exchange Offer. If the undersigned is a broker-dealer holding Original Notes acquired for its own account as a result of market-making activities or other trading activities, it agrees to deliver a prospectus meeting the requirements of the Securities Actin connection with any resale of Exchange Notes received in respect of such Original Notes pursuant to the Exchange Offer. The undersigned understands that tenders of Original Notes pursuant to any one of the procedures described in "The Exchange Offer -Procedures for Tendering" in the Prospectus and in the instructions will, upon the Company's acceptance for exchange of such tendered Original Notes, constitute a binding agreement between the undersigned and the Company upon the terms and subject to the conditions of the Exchange Offer.

The undersigned recognizes that, under certain circumstances set forth in the Prospectus, the Company may not be required to accept for exchange any of the Original Notes tendered hereby. Unless otherwise indicated herein in the box entitled "Special Issuance Instructions" below, the undersigned hereby directs that the Exchange Notes be issued in the name(s) of the undersigned or, in the case of a book-entry transfer of Original Notes, that

such Exchange Notes be credited to the account indicated above maintained at DTC. If applicable, substitute Certificates representing Original Notes not exchanged or not accepted for exchange will be issued to the undersigned or, in the case of a book-entry transfer of Original Notes, will be credited to the account indicated above maintained at DTC. Similarly, unless otherwise indicated under "Special Delivery Instructions," please deliver Exchange Notes to the undersigned at the address shown below the undersigned's signature.

By tendering original notes and executing this letter of transmittal, the undersigned hereby represents and agrees that (i) the undersigned is not an "affiliate" of the Company, (ii) any Exchange Notes to be received by the undersigned are being acquired in the ordinary course of its business, for the undersigned's own account, for investment and not with a view to or for sale in connection with any distribution of the Exchange Notes, (iii) the undersigned has no arrangement or understanding with any person to participate in the distribution (within the meaning of the Securities Act) of Exchange Notes to be received in the Exchange Offer, (iv) if the undersigned is not a broker-dealer, the undersigned is not engaged in, and does not intend to engage in, a distribution (within the meaning of the Securities Act) of such Exchange Notes, and (v) the undersigned will provide the Company with any additional representations so requested in order for the Company to ensure compliance with applicable state securities or "blue sky" laws. Any holder of original notes which is not a broker-dealer, and which is using the Exchange Offer to participate in a distribution (within the meaning of the Securities Act) of Exchange Notes, is hereby notified (1) that it will not be able to rely on the position of the staff of the Division of Corporate Finance of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Staff") set forth in Exxon Capital Holdings Corporation (avail. April 13, 1989) and similar letters and (2) that it must comply with the registration and prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act in connection with any resale of Exchange Notes.

If the undersigned is not a broker-dealer, the undersigned represents that it is not engaged in, and does not intend to engage in, a distribution of Exchange Notes. Any holder of Original Notes which is a broker-dealer by tendering Original Notes pursuant to the Exchange Offer and executing this letter of transmittal, represents and agrees, consistent with certain interpretive letters issued by the Staff to third parties, that (a) such Original Notes held by the broker-dealer are held only as a nominee, or (b) such Original Notes were acquired by such broker-dealer for its own account as a result of market-making activities or other trading activities and it will deliver the Prospectus (as amended or supplemented from time to time) meeting the requirements of the Securities Act in connection with any resale of such Exchange Notes (provided that, by so acknowledging and by delivering a prospectus, such broker-dealer will not be deemed to admit that it is an "underwriter" within the meaning of the Securities Act). All resales must be made in compliance with applicable state securities or "blue sky" laws. Such compliance may require that the Exchange Notes be registered or qualified in a particular state or that the resale be made by or through a licensed broker-dealer, unless exemptions from these requirements are available. The Company assumes no responsibility with regard to compliance with such requirements. The Exchange Offer is not being made to, nor will the Company accept surrenders for exchange from, holders of Original Notes in any jurisdiction in which the Exchange Offer or the acceptance thereof would not be in compliance with the securities or blue sky laws of such jurisdiction. [Original Notes may only be tendered by holders in New Mexico and Pennsylvania who are holders of the kind described in Appendix A hereto. By signing this Letter of Transmittal, such holders will be deemed to represent that they are holders of the kind described in Appendix A hereto.]

The Company has agreed that, subject to the provisions of the Registration Rights Agreement, the Prospectus, as it may be amended or supplemented from time to time, may be used by a broker-dealer in connection with resales of Exchange Notes received in exchange for Original Notes, where such Original Notes were acquired by such broker-dealer for its own account as a result of market- making activities or other trading activities, for a period ending 90 days after the Expiration Date (subject to extension under certain limited circumstances described in the Prospectus) or, if earlier, when all such Exchange Notes have been disposed of by such broker-dealer. In that regard, each broker-dealer who acquired Original Notes for its own account and as a result of market-making or other trading activities, by tendering such Original Notes and executing this letter of transmittal, agrees that, upon receipt of notice from the Company of the occurrence of any event or the discovery of any fact which makes any statement contained or incorporated by reference therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, misleading or of the occurrence of certain other events specified in the Registration Rights Agreement, such broker-dealer will suspend the sale of Exchange Notes pursuant to the Prospectus until the Company has amended or

supplemented the Prospectus to correct such misstatement or omission and has furnished copies of the amended or supplemented Prospectus to the broker-dealer or the Company given notice that the sale of the Exchange Notes may be resumed, as the case may be. If the Company gives such notice to suspend the sale of the Exchange Notes, it shall extend the 90-day period referred to above during which broker-dealers are entitled to use the Prospectus in connection with the resale of Exchange Notes by the number of days during the period from and including the date of the giving of such notice to and including the date when broker-dealers shall have received copies of the supplemented or amended Prospectus necessary to permit resales of the Exchange Notes or to and including the date on which the Company has given notice that the sale of Exchange Notes may be resumed, as the case may be. As a result, a broker-dealer who intends to use the Prospectus in connection with resales of Exchange Notes received in exchange for Original Notes pursuant to the Exchange Offer must notify the Company, or cause the Company to be notified, on or prior to the Expiration Date, that it is a broker-dealer. Such notice may be given in the space provided above or may be delivered to the Exchange Agent at the address set forth in the Prospectus under "The Exchange Offer -- Exchange Agent." All authority herein conferred or agreed to be conferred in this Letter of Transmittal shall survive the death or incapacity of the undersigned and any obligation of the undersigned hereunder shall be binding upon the heirs, executors, administrators, personal representatives, trustees in bankruptcy, legal representatives, successors and assigns of the undersigned. Except as stated in the Prospectus, this tender is irrevocable.

SPECIAL ISSUANCE INSTRUCTIONS (SEE INSTRUCTIONS 1, 5 AND 6)

To be completed ONLY if Exchange Notes or any Original Notes that are not tendered are to be issued in the name of someone other than the registered holder(s) of the Original Notes whose name(s) appear above. Issue and mail:

/ /	Exchange Notes to:			
/ /	Original Notes not tendered to:			
Name	(s):			
	(PRINT)			
Address:				
(INCLUDE ZIP CODE)				
TAVDAVED TREMTTETCATTON OD				

SPECIAL DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS (SEE INSTRUCTIONS 1, 5 AND 6)

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

To be completed ONLY if the Exchange Notes or any Original Notes that are not tendered are to be sent to someone other than the registered holder(s) of the Original Notes whose name(s) appear above, or to the registered holder(s) at an address other than that shown above. Mail:

	ddress bove. N		thar	n that	sho	wn	
′ / Ex	change	Notes	to:				
/ / Or	iginal	Notes	not	tender	red	to:	
Name(s):							
(PRINT) Address:							
(INCLUDE ZIP CODE)							
TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION OR							

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

INSTRUCTIONS

FORMING PART OF THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE EXCHANGE OFFER

Delivery of Letter of Transmittal and Certificates; Guaranteed Delivery Procedures. This Letter of Transmittal is to be completed either if (a) tenders are to be made pursuant to the procedures for tender by book-entry transfer set forth in "The Exchange Offer -- Procedures for Tendering" in the Prospectus and an Agent's Message is not delivered or (b) Certificates are to be forwarded herewith. Timely confirmation of a book-entry transfer of such Original Notes into the Exchange Agent's account at DTC, or Certificates as well as this Letter of Transmittal (or facsimile thereof), properly completed and duly executed, with any required signature guarantees, and any other documents required by this Letter of Transmittal, must be received by the Exchange Agent at its addresses set forth herein on or prior to the Expiration Date. Tenders by book-entry transfer may also be made by delivering an Agent's Message in lieu of this Letter of Transmittal. The term "Agent's Message" means a message, transmitted by DTC to and received by the Exchange Agent and forming a part of a book-entry confirmation, which states that DTC has received an express acknowledgment from the tendering Participant, which acknowledgment states that such Participant has received and agrees to be bound by the Letter of Transmittal and that the Company may enforce the Letter of Transmittal against such Participant. The term "book-entry confirmation" means a timely confirmation of book-entry transfer of Original Notes into the Exchange Agent's account at DTC.

Holders who wish to tender their Original Notes and (i) who cannot deliver their Original Notes, this Letter of Transmittal and all other required documents to the Exchange Agent on or prior to the Expiration Date or (ii) whose Original Notes are not immediately available may tender their Original Notes by properly completing and duly executing a Notice of Guaranteed Delivery pursuant to the guaranteed delivery procedures set forth in "The Exchange Offer -- Guaranteed Delivery Procedures" in the Prospectus. Pursuant to such procedures: (a) such tender must be made through an Eligible Institution (as defined below); (b) on or prior to the applicable Expiration Date, the Exchange Agent must receive from such Eligible Institution a properly completed and duly executed Notice of Guaranteed Delivery (by mail, hand delivery or facsimile transmission) setting forth the name and address of the holder, the certificate number(s) of such Original Notes and the principal amount of the Original Notes being tendered, stating that the tender is being made thereby and guaranteeing that, within five business days after the applicable Expiration Date, the applicable Letter of Transmittal together with the certificate(s) representing the Original Notes (or Book-Entry Confirmation) and any other documents required by the applicable Letter of Transmittal will be delivered by the Eligible Institution to the Exchange Agent; and (c) such properly completed and executed Letter of Transmittal, as well as the Certificate(s) representing the tendered Original Notes in proper form for transfer (or Book-Entry Confirmation) and all other documents required by the Letter of Transmittal are received by the Exchange Agent within five business days after the applicable Expiration Date, all as provided in "The Exchange Offer--Guaranteed Delivery Procedures" in the Prospectus.

The Notice of Guaranteed Delivery may be delivered by mail, hand delivery or facsimile transmission to the Exchange Agent, and must include a guarantee by an Eligible Institution in the form set forth in such Notice. For Original Notes to be properly tendered pursuant to the guaranteed delivery procedure, the Exchange Agent must receive a Notice of Guaranteed Delivery on or prior to the Expiration Date. As used herein and in the Prospectus, "Eligible Institution" means a firm or other entity identified in Rule 17Ad-15 under the Exchange Act as "an eligible guarantor institution," including (as such terms are defined therein) (i) a bank; (ii) a broker, dealer, municipal securities broker or dealer or government securities broker or dealer; (iii) a credit union; (iv) a national securities exchange, registered securities association or clearing agency; or (v) a savings association that is a participant in a Securities Transfer Association.

THE METHOD OF DELIVERY OF CERTIFICATES, THIS LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL AND ALL OTHER REQUIRED DOCUMENTS IS AT THE OPTION AND SOLE RISK OF THE TENDERING HOLDER, AND THE DELIVERY WILL BE DEEMED MADE ONLY WHEN ACTUALLY RECEIVED BY THE EXCHANGE AGENT. IF DELIVERY IS BY MAIL, REGISTERED MAIL WITH RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED, PROPERLY INSURED, OR OVERNIGHT DELIVERY SERVICE IS RECOMMENDED. IN ALL CASES, SUFFICIENT TIME SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO ENSURE TIMELY DELIVERY. THE COMPANY WILL NOT ACCEPT ANY ALTERNATIVE, CONDITIONAL OR CONTINGENT

2. Guarantee of Signatures. No signature guarantee on this Letter of Transmittal is required if:

RIGHT TO RECEIVE ANY NOTICE OF THE ACCEPTANCE OF SUCH TENDER.

- (a) this Letter of Transmittal is signed by the registered holder (which term, for purposes of this document, shall include any participant in DTC whose name appears on a security position listing as the owner of the Original Notes) of Original Notes tendered herewith, unless such holder(s) has completed either the box entitled "Special Issuance Instructions" or the box entitled "Special Delivery Instructions" above, or
 - (b) such Original Notes are tendered for the account of a firm that is an Eligible Institution.

In all other cases, an Eligible Institution must guarantee the signature(s) on this Letter of Transmittal. See Instruction 5.

- 3. Inadequate Space. If the space provided in the box captioned "Description of Original Notes Tendered" is inadequate, the Certificate number(s) and/or the principal amount of Original Notes and any other required information should be listed on a separate signed schedule which is attached to this Letter of Transmittal.
- 4. Partial Tenders and Withdrawal Rights. If less than all the Original Notes evidenced by any Certificate submitted are to be tendered, fill in the principal amount of Original Notes which are to be tendered in the box entitled "Principal Amount of Original Notes Tendered." In such case, new Certificate(s) for the remainder of the Original Notes that were evidenced by your old Certificate(s) will be sent to the holder of the Original Notes, promptly after the Expiration Date. All Original Notes represented by Certificates delivered to the Exchange Agent will be deemed to have been tendered unless otherwise indicated.

Except as otherwise provided herein, tenders of Original Notes pursuant to an Exchange Offer may be withdrawn, unless theretofore accepted for exchange as provided in the applicable Exchange Offer, at any time prior to the Expiration Date of that Exchange Offer.

To be effective, a written or facsimile transmission notice of withdrawal must be received by the Exchange Agent at its address set forth herein prior to the Expiration Date. Any such notice of withdrawal must (i) specify the name of the person having deposited the Original Notes to be withdrawn (the "Depositor"), (ii) identify the Original Notes to be withdrawn (including the Certificate number or numbers and aggregate principal amount of such Original Notes), and (iii) be signed by the holder in the same manner as the original signature on the applicable Letter of Transmittal (including any required signature guarantees). All questions as to the validity, form and eligibility (including time of receipt) of such notices will be determined by the Company in its sole respective discretion, which determination shall be final and binding on all parties. Any Original Notes so withdrawn will be deemed not to have been validly tendered for purposes of the Exchange Offer and no Exchange Notes will be issued with respect thereto unless the Original Notes so withdrawn are retendered. Properly withdrawn Original Notes may be retendered by following one of the procedures described in the Prospectus under "The Exchange Offer--Procedures for Tendering" at any time prior to the applicable Expiration Date.

Any Original Notes which have been tendered but which are not accepted for exchange due to the rejection of the tender due to uncured defects or the prior termination of the applicable Exchange Offer, or which have been validly withdrawn, will be returned to the holder thereof (unless otherwise provided in the Letter of Transmittal), as soon as practicable following the applicable Expiration Date or, if so requested in the notice of withdrawal, promptly after receipt by the issuer of the Original Notes of notice of withdrawal without cost to such holder.

5. Signatures on Letter of Transmittal, Assignments and Endorsements. If this Letter of Transmittal is signed by the registered holder(s) of the Original Notes tendered hereby, the signature(s) must correspond exactly with the If any of the Original Notes tendered hereby are owned of record by two or more joint owners, all such owners must sign this Letter of Transmittal.

If any tendered Original Notes are registered in different name(s) on several Certificates, it will be necessary to complete, sign and submit as many separate Letters of Transmittal (or facsimiles thereof or Agent's Message in lieu thereof) as there are different registrations of Certificates.

If this Letter of Transmittal or any Certificates or bond powers are signed by trustees, executors, administrators, guardians, attorneys-in-fact, officers of corporations or others acting in a fiduciary or representative capacity, such persons should so indicate when signing and must submit proper evidence satisfactory to the Company, in its sole discretion, of such persons' authority to so act.

When this Letter of Transmittal is signed by the registered owner(s) of the Original Notes listed and transmitted hereby, no endorsement(s) of Certificate(s) or separate bond power(s) are required unless Exchange Notes are to be issued in the name of a person other than the registered holder(s).Signature(s) on such Certificate(s) or bond power(s) must be guaranteed by an Eligible Institution.

If this Letter of Transmittal is signed by a person other than the registered owner(s) of the Original Notes listed, the Certificates must be endorsed or accompanied by appropriate bond powers, signed exactly as the name or names of the registered owner(s) appear(s) on the Certificates, and also must be accompanied by such opinions of counsel, certifications and other information as the Company may require in accordance with the restrictions on transfer applicable to the Original Notes. Signatures on such Certificates or bond powers must be guaranteed by an Eligible Institution.

- 6. Special Issuance and Delivery Instructions. If Exchange Notes are to be issued in the name of a person other than the signer of this Letter of Transmittal, or if Exchange Notes are to be sent to someone other than the signer of this Letter of Transmittal or to an address other than that shown above, the appropriate boxes on this Letter of Transmittal should be completed. Certificates for Original Notes not exchanged will be returned by mail or, if tendered by book-entry transfer, by crediting the account indicated above maintained at DTC. See Instruction 4.
- 7. Irregularities. The Company will determine, in its sole discretion, all questions as to the form of documents, validity, eligibility (including time of receipt) and acceptance for exchange of any tender of Original Notes which determination shall be final and binding on all parties. The Company reserves the absolute right, in its sole and absolute discretion, to reject any and all tenders determined by it not to be in proper form or the acceptance of which, or exchange for, may, in the view of counsel to the Company, be unlawful. The Company also reserves the absolute right, subject to applicable law, to waive any of the conditions of the Exchange Offer set forth in the Prospectus under "The Exchange Offer -- Conditions of the Exchange Offer" or any conditions or irregularity in any tender of Original Notes of any particular holder whether or not similar conditions or irregularities are waived in the case of other holders. The Company's interpretation of the terms and conditions of the Exchange Offer (including this Letter of Transmittal and the instructions hereto) will be final and binding. No tender of Original Notes will be deemed to have been validly made until all irregularities with respect to such tender have been cured or waived. Neither the Company, any affiliates or assigns of the Company, the Exchange Agent, or any other person shall be under any duty to give notification of any irregularities in tenders or incur any liability for failure to give such notification.
- 8. Questions, Requests for Assistance and Additional Copies. Questions and requests for assistance may be directed to the Exchange Agent at its address and telephone number set forth on the front of this Letter of Transmittal. Additional copies of the Prospectus, this Letter of Transmittal and the Notice of Guaranteed Delivery may be obtained from the Exchange Agent or from your broker, dealer, commercial bank, trust company or other nominee.

31% Backup Withholding; Substitute Form W-9. Under U.S. Federal income tax law, a holder whose tendered Original Notes are accepted for exchange is required to provide the Exchange Agent with such holder's correct taxpayer identification number ("TIN") on Substitute Form W-9 below. If the Exchange Agent is not provided with the correct TIN, the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") may subject the holder or other payee to a \$50 penalty. In addition, payments to such holders or other payees with respect to Original Notes exchanged pursuant to the Exchange Offer may be subject to 31% backup withholding.

The box in Part 2 of the Substitute Form W-9 may be checked if the tendering holder has not been issued a TIN and has applied for a TIN or intends to apply for a TIN in the near future. If the box in Part 2 is checked, the holder or other payee must also complete the Certificate of Awaiting Taxpayer Identification Number below in order to avoid backup withholding. Notwithstanding that the box in Part 2 is checked and the Certificate of Awaiting Taxpayer Identification Number is completed, the Exchange Agent will withhold 31% of all payments made prior to the time a properly certified TIN is provided to the Exchange Agent. The Exchange Agent will retain such amounts withheld during the 60 day period following the date of the Substitute Form W-9. If the holder furnishes the Exchange Agent with its TIN within 60 days after the date of the Substitute Form W-9, the amounts retained during the 60 day period will be remitted to the holder and no further amounts shall be retained or withheld from payments made to the holder thereafter. If, however, the holder has not provided the Exchange Agent with its TIN within such 60 day period, amounts withheld will be remitted to the IRS as backup withholding. In addition, 31% of all payments made thereafter will be withheld and remitted to the IRS until a correct TIN is provided.

The holder is required to give the Exchange Agent the TIN (e.g., social security number or employer identification number) of the registered owner of the Original Notes or of the last transferse appearing on the transfers attached to, or endorsed on, the Original Notes. If the Original Notes are registered in more than one name or are not in the name of the actual owner, consult the enclosed "Guidelines for Certification of Taxpayer Identification Number on Substitute Form W-9" for additional guidance on which number to report.

Certain holders (including, among others, corporations, financial institutions and certain foreign persons) may not be subject to these backup withholding and reporting requirements. Such holders should nevertheless complete the attached Substitute Form W-9 below, and write "exempt" on the face thereof, to avoid possible erroneous backup withholding. A foreign person may qualify as an exempt recipient by submitting a properly completed IRS Form W-8, signed under penalties of perjury, attesting to that holder's exempt status. Please consult the enclosed "Guidelines for Certification of Taxpayer Identification Number on Substitute Form W-9" for additional guidance on which holders are exempt from backup withholding. Backup withholding is not an additional U.S. Federal income tax. Rather, the U.S. Federal income tax liability of a person subject to backup withholding will be reduced by the amount of tax withheld. If withholding results in an overpayment of taxes, a refund may be obtained.

- 10. Lost, Destroyed or Stolen Certificates. If any Certificate(s) representing Original Notes have been lost, destroyed or stolen, the holder should promptly notify the Exchange Agent. The holder will then be instructed as to the steps that must be taken in order to replace the Certificate(s). This Letter of Transmittal and related documents cannot be processed until the procedures for replacing lost, destroyed or stolen Certificate(s) have been followed.
- 11. Security Transfer Taxes. Holders who tender their Original Notes for exchange will not be obligated to pay any transfer taxes in connection therewith. If, however, Exchange Notes are to be delivered to, or are to be issued in the name of, any person other than the registered holder of the Original Notes tendered, or if a transfer tax is imposed for any reason other than the exchange of Original Notes in connection with the Exchange Offer, then the amount of any such transfer tax (whether imposed on the registered holder or any other persons) will be payable by the tendering holder. If satisfactory evidence of payment of such taxes or exemption therefrom is not submitted with the Letter of Transmittal, the amount of such transfer taxes will be billed directly to such tendering holder.

IMPORTANT: THIS LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL (OR FACSIMILE THEREOF) AND ALL OTHER REQUIRED DOCUMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE EXCHANGE AGENT ON OR PRIOR TO THE EXPIRATION DATE.

HOLDER(S) SIGN HERE (SEE INSTRUCTIONS 2, 5 AND 6) (PLEASE COMPLETE SUBSTITUTE FORM W-9 BELOW)

>	
>	
	(SIGNATURE(S) OF HOLDER(S))
Dated:	1999
Certificate(s) for t listing, or by any p endorsements and doc counsel, certificate for the Original Not the Original Notes). administrator, trust	registered holder(s) exactly as name(s) appear(s) on he Original Notes hereby tendered or on a security position person(s) authorized to become the registered holder(s) by the unents transmitted herewith (including such opinions of its and other information as may be required by the Company est to comply with any restrictions on transfer applicable to If signature is by an attorney-in-fact, executor, ee, guardian, officer of a corporation or another acting in or representative capacity, please set forth the signer's ruction 5.)
Name(s):	
	(PLEASE PRINT)
Capacity (full title	·):
Address:	
	(INCLUDE ZIP CODE)
Daytime Area Code an	d Telephone No.:
-	
Taxpayer Identificat	ion or Social Security No.:
	(SEE SUBSTITUTE FORM W-9 INCLUDED HEREIN)
	GUARANTEE OF SIGNATURE(S) (IF REQUIRED - SEE INSTRUCTION 2)
	FOR USE BY FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS ONLY.
Authorized Signature	:
Name:	
	(PLEASE PRINT)
Title:	
Name of Firm:	
Address:	
	(INCLUDE ZIP CODE)
Area Code and Teleph	one No.:
Dated:	. 1999

12 SUBSTITUTE FORM W-9 DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

PART 1 -- PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR TIN IN THE BOX AT RIGHT AND CERTIFY BY SIGNING AND DATING BELOW.

_ _____

Social Security Number or Employer Identification Number

PAYER'S REQUEST FOR TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER ("TIN")

PART 2 -- Certification -- Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

- (1) The number shown on this form is my correct Taxpayer Identification Number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me), and
- (2) I am not subject to backup withholding either because I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of failure to report all interest or dividends, or the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding.

PART 3 -- AWAITING TIN / /

CERTIFICATE INSTRUCTIONS -- You must cross out item (2) above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are subject to backup withholding because of underreporting interest or dividends on your tax return. However, if after being notified by the IRS that you were subject to backup withholding you received another notification from the IRS that you are no longer subject to backup withholding, do not cross out item (2). (Also see instructions in the enclosed Guidelines.)

Signature	Date	1999

APPENDIX A NEW MEXICO HOLDERS

Any "financial or institutional investor" (as defined below) or brokerdealer. The term "financial or institutional investor" means any of the following whether acting for itself or others in a fiduciary capacity other than as an agent; depository institution (as defined), insurance company, insurance company separate account, investment company as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940; an employee pension, profit-sharing or benefit plan (i) if the plan has total assets in excess of \$5,000,000, or (ii) if the investment decisions are made by a plan fiduciary, as defined in the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, which is either a broker-dealer registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, an investment adviser registered or exempt from registration under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, a depository institution or an insurance company; a business development company as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, a small business investment company licensed by the United States Small Business Administration under Section 301(c) or 301(d) of the United States Small Business Investment Act of 1958; or any other financial or institutional investor as the Director of the New Mexico Securities Division by rule or order designates.

The Director has designated the following additional "financial or institutional investors": an entity, other than a natural person, which is directly engaged in the business of, and derives at least eighty percent of its annual gross income from, investing, purchasing, selling or trading in securities of more than one issuer and not of its own issue, and that has gross assets in excess of five million dollars (\$5,000,000) at the end of its latest fiscal year; an entity organized and operated not for private profit as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code with total assets in excess of five million dollars (\$5,000,000); a state, apolitical subdivision of a state or an agency or corporate or other instrumentality of a state or a political subdivision of a state; and an employee pension, profit sharing or benefit plan, if the investment decisions are made by one or more plan fiduciaries, as defined in the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, so long as at least one of such plan fiduciaries is either a broker-dealer registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, an investment adviser registered or exempt from registration under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, a depository institution, or an insurance company.

PENNSYLVANIA HOLDERS

Any bank as defined, insurance company, pension or profit-sharing plan or trust, investment company as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, other financial institution or any person, other than an individual, which controls any of the foregoing, the federal government, the State or any agency or political subdivision thereof, any other person so designated by regulation of the Pennsylvania Securities Commission, or any broker-dealer, whether the buyer is acting for itself or in some fiduciary capacity. Entities so designated by regulation include: (i) a corporation or business trust or a wholly-owned subsidiary of the person which has been in existence for 18 months and which has a tangible net worth on a consolidated basis, as reflected in its most recent audited financial statements, of \$10,000,000 or more; (ii) a college, university or other public or private institution which has received exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 and which has total endowment or trust funds, including annuity and life income funds, of \$5,000,000or more according to its most recent audited financial statements; provided that the aggregate dollar amount of securities being sold to purchasers in this category may not exceed 5% of the endowment or trust funds; (iii) a Small Business Investment Company as that term is defined in section 103 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 which either; (1) has a total capital of\$1,000,000 or more; or (2) is controlled by institutional investors as defined herein; (iv) a Seed Capital Fund, as defined in section 2 and authorized in section 6 of the Small Business Incubators Act; (v) a Business Development Credit Corporation, as authorized by the Business Development Credit Corporation Law; (vi) a person whose security holders consist solely of institutional investors as defined herein or broker-dealers; or (vii) a qualified institutional buyer as that term is defined in 17 CFR 230.144A (relating to private resales of securities to institutions), or any successor rule thereto.

NOTICE OF GUARANTEED DELIVERY FOR TENDER OF 8.625% SENIOR SUBORDINATED NOTES DUE 2009 OF

THE SCOTTS COMPANY

This Notice of Guaranteed Delivery, or one substantially equivalent to this form, must be used to accept the Exchange Offer (as defined below) if (i) the procedures for delivery by book-entry transfer cannot be completed on a timely basis (ii) certificates for the Company's (as defined below) 8.625% Senior Subordinated Notes due 2009 (the "Original Notes") are not immediately available or (iii) Original Notes, the Letter of Transmittal and all other required documents cannot be delivered to State Street Bank and Trust Company(the "Exchange Agent") on or prior to the Expiration Date (as defined in the Prospectus referred to below).

This Notice of Guaranteed Delivery may be delivered by hand, overnight courier or mail, or transmitted by facsimile transmission, to the Exchange Agent. See "The Exchange Offer -- Procedures for Tendering" in the Prospectus.

The Exchange Agent for the Exchange Offer is:

STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY

By Registered or Certified Mail or Hand or Overnight Delivery:

State Street Bank and Trust Company Two International Place Fourth Floor Boston, MA 02110 Attention: Corporate Trust Department Facsimile Transmissions: (Eligible Institutions Only) [

DELIVERY OF THIS NOTICE OF GUARANTEED DELIVERY TO AN ADDRESS OTHER THAN AS SET FORTH ABOVE OR TRANSMISSION OF THIS NOTICE OF GUARANTEED DELIVERY VIA FACSIMILE TO A NUMBER OTHER THAN AS SET FORTH ABOVE WILL NOT CONSTITUTE A VALID DELIVERY.

THIS NOTICE OF GUARANTEED DELIVERY IS NOT TO BE USED TO GUARANTEE SIGNATURES.

IF A SIGNATURE ON A LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL IS REQUIRED TO BE GUARANTEED BY AN"ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION" UNDER THE INSTRUCTIONS THERETO, SUCH SIGNATURE GUARANTEE MUST APPEAR IN THE APPLICABLE SPACE PROVIDED IN THE SIGNATURE BOX ON THE LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

THE GUARANTEE ON THE REVERSE SIDE MUST BE COMPLETED.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

The undersigned hereby tenders to The Scotts Company, an Ohio corporation (the "Company"), upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the Prospectus dated , 1999 (as the same may be amended or supplemented from time to time, the "Prospectus"), and the related Letter of Transmittal (which together constitute the "Exchange Offer"), receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the aggregate liquidation amount of Original Notes set forth below pursuant to the guaranteed delivery procedures set forth in the Prospectus under the caption "The Exchange Offer -- Procedures for Tendering."

Aggregate Pri	incipal Amount Tendered:
Name(s) of Re	egistered Holder(s):
	(PLEASE PRINT)
Certificate N	Nos.:
Address of Re	(IF AVAILABLE) eqistered Holder(s):
11441000 01 116	
	ZIP CODE
Daytime Area	Code and Telephone No.:
Check box if account number	Original Notes will be delivered by book-entry transfer and provide er:
	Depository Trust Company Account Number:
Signature(s)	
Dated:	
Dateu.	

Nama of Firm.

GUARANTEE OF DELIVERY (NOT TO BE USED FOR SIGNATURE GUARANTEES)

The undersigned, a firm or other entity identified in Rule 17Ad-15 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, as an "eligible guarantor institution," including (as such terms are defined therein): (1) a bank; (2) a broker, dealer, municipal securities broker, municipal securities dealer, government securities broker, government securities dealer; (3) a credit union; (4) a national securities exchange, registered securities association or clearing agency; or (5) a savings association that is a participant in a Securities Transfer Association recognized program (each of the foregoing being referred to as an "Eligible Institution"), hereby guarantees to deliver to the Exchange Agent at one of its addresses set forth above, either the Original Notes tendered hereby in proper form for transfer, or confirmation of the book-entry transfer of such Original Notes to the Exchange Agent's account at The Depository Trust Company ("DTC"), pursuant to the procedures for book-entry transfer set forth in the Prospectus, in either case together with one or more properly completed and duly executed Letter(s) of Transmittal (or facsimile thereof or Agent's Message in lieu thereof) and any other required documents within three business days after the date of execution of this Notice of Guaranteed Delivery. The undersigned acknowledges that it must deliver the ${\tt Letter(s)} \ \, {\tt of} \ \, {\tt Transmittal} \ \, ({\tt or} \ \, {\tt facsimile} \ \, {\tt thereof} \ \, {\tt or} \ \, {\tt Agent's} \ \, {\tt Message} \ \, {\tt in} \ \, {\tt lieu}$ thereof) and the Original Notes tendered hereby to the Exchange Agent within the time period set forth above and that failure to do so could result in a financial loss to the undersigned.

Name of film.		
Address:		
		(ZIP CODE)
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE:		
Name :		
Name:		
Title:		
Daytime Area Code and Telephone No.:		
Dated:	. 1999	
	·	

NOTE: DO NOT SEND ORIGINAL NOTES WITH THIS NOTICE OF GUARANTEED DELIVERY.

ACTUAL SURRENDER OF ORIGINAL NOTES MUST BE MADE PURSUANT TO, AND BE

ACCOMPANIED BY, A PROPERLY COMPLETED AND DULY EXECUTED LETTER OF

TRANSMITTAL AND ANY OTHER REQUIRED DOCUMENTS.