

HERCULES TECHNOLOGY GROWTH CAPITAL INC

Form 497

September 27, 2012

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This preliminary prospectus supplement relates to an effective registration statement under the Securities Act of 1933, but is not complete and may be changed. This preliminary prospectus supplement is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

**Filed Pursuant to Rule 497
Registration Statement No. 333-179431**

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED SEPTEMBER 27, 2012

PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

(To prospectus dated March 29, 2012)

3,100,000 Shares

Common Stock

We are offering 3,100,000 shares of our common stock. Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange, or NYSE, under the trading symbol HTGC. The last sale price, as reported on NYSE on September 26, 2012, was \$11.25 per share. The net asset value per share of our common stock at June 30, 2012 (the last date prior to the date of this prospectus supplement on which we determined net asset value) was \$9.54.

We are an internally-managed, non-diversified closed-end management investment company that has elected to be regulated as a business development company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended. Our investment objective is to maximize our portfolio total return by generating current income from our debt investments and capital appreciation from our equity-related investments.

The underwriter has agreed to purchase our shares of common stock from us at a price of \$ per share which will result in approximately \$ million of net proceeds, after deducting estimated offering expenses, to us. We expect that our expenses for this offering will be approximately \$300,000. The underwriter may offer our shares of common stock on the NYSE, in the over-the-counter market or through negotiated transactions at market prices or at negotiated prices. See Underwriting.

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Please read this prospectus supplement, and the accompanying prospectus, before investing, and keep it for future reference. The prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus contain important information about us that a prospective investor should know before investing in our common stock. We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information about us with the Securities and Exchange Commission. This information is available free of charge by contacting us at 400 Hamilton Avenue, Suite 310, Palo Alto, California 94301, or by telephone by calling collect at (650) 289-3060 or on our website at www.herculestech.com. The information on our website is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus or the accompanying prospectus. The SEC also maintains a website at www.sec.gov that contains such information.

An investment in our common stock involves risks, including the risk of a total loss of investment. In addition, the companies in which we invest are subject to special risks. See Supplementary Risk Factors beginning on page S-15 in this prospectus supplement and the Risk Factors section beginning on page 16 of the accompanying prospectus to read about risks that you should consider before investing in our common stock, including the risk of leverage.

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

Delivery of the shares of common stock will be made on or about _____, 2012.

Credit Suisse

The date of this prospectus supplement is September _____, 2012.

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You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. We have not, and the underwriters have not, authorized any other person to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are not, and the underwriters are not, making an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should assume that the information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is accurate only as of the date on the front cover of this prospectus supplement or such prospectus, as applicable. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since that date.

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

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The following table is intended to assist you in understanding the various costs and expenses that an investor in our common stock will bear directly or indirectly. However, we caution you that some of the percentages indicated in the table below are estimates and may vary. Except where the context suggests otherwise, whenever this prospectus contains a reference to fees or expenses paid by you or us or that we will pay fees or expenses, stockholders will indirectly bear such fees or expenses as investors in Hercules Technology Growth Capital, Inc.

Stockholder Transaction Expenses (as a percentage of the public offering price):	
Sales load (as a percentage of offering price) ⁽¹⁾	%
Offering expenses	%(2)
Dividend reinvestment plan fees	%(3)
Total stockholder transaction expenses (as a percentage of the public offering price)	%
Annual Expenses (as a percentage of net assets attributable to common stock):⁽¹⁰⁾	
Operating expenses	5.2%(4)(5)
Interest payments on borrowed funds	3.5%(6)
Fees paid in connection with borrowed funds	0.8%(7)
Acquired fund fees and expenses ⁽⁸⁾	0.0%
Total annual expenses	9.5%(9)

- (1) The sales load (underwriting discounts and commissions) with respect to our common stock sold in this offering, which is a one time fee, is the only sales load paid in connection with this offering. For the purpose of calculating sales load, we assume the underwriter will sell to the public at a stock price of \$ per share, our closing stock price on September , 2012.
- (2) The percentage reflects estimated offering expenses of approximately \$300,000. For the purpose of calculating offering expenses, we assume the underwriter will sell to the public at a stock price of \$ per share, our closing stock price on , 2012.
- (3) The expenses associated with the administration of our dividend reinvestment plan are included in Operating expenses. We pay all brokerage commissions incurred with respect to open market purchases, if any, made by the administrator under the plan. For more details about the plan, see Dividend Reinvestment Plan in the accompanying prospectus.
- (4) Operating expenses represent our estimated operating expenses estimated by annualizing our operating expenses incurred for the six months ended June 30, 2012, including income tax expense (benefit) including excise tax, excluding interests and fees on indebtedness. This percentage for the year ended December 31, 2011 was 5.8%. See Management's Discussion and Analysis and Results of Operations, Management, and Compensation of Executive Officers and Directors in the accompanying prospectus.
- (5) We do not have an investment adviser and are internally managed by our executive officers under the supervision of our Board of Directors. As a result, we do not pay investment advisory fees, but instead we pay the operating costs associated with employing investment management professionals.
- (6) Interest payments on borrowed funds represents estimated interest payments on borrowed funds estimated by annualizing our actual interest and credit facility expenses incurred for the six months ended June 30, 2012, including our Wells Facility, Union Bank Facility, the Convertible Senior Notes, the April 2019 Notes, the Citigroup Warrant Participation Agreement and the SBA debentures, each of which is defined herein. This percentage for the year ended December 31, 2011 was 3.2%. See Prospectus Supplement Summary Recent Developments in this prospectus supplement and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus for additional information regarding the issuance of the April 2019 Notes and the September 2019 Notes, as defined herein.
- (7) Fees paid in connection with borrowed funds represents estimated fees paid in connection with borrowed funds estimated by annualizing actual fees paid in connection with borrowed funds for the six months ended June 30, 2012, including our Wells Facility, Union Bank Facility, Convertible Senior Notes, the April 2019 Notes, Citigroup Warrant Participation Agreement and the SBA debentures. This percentage for the year ended December 31, 2011 was approximately 0.6%.
- (8) As of June 30, 2012 and for the year ended December 31, 2011, we did not have any investments in shares of Acquired Funds that are not consolidated and, as a result, we did not directly or indirectly incur any fees from Acquired Funds.
- (9) Total annual expenses is the sum of operating expenses, interest payments on borrowed funds and fees paid in connection with borrowed funds.
- (10) Net assets attributable to common stock equals net assets as of June 30, 2012, which is approximately \$477.4 million.

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Example

The following example demonstrates the projected dollar amount of total cumulative expenses that would be incurred over various periods with respect to a \$1,000 hypothetical investment in our common stock, assuming (1) a % sales load (underwriting discounts and commissions) and offering expenses totaling %, (2) total net annual expenses of % of net assets attributable to common shares as set forth in the table above and (3) a % annual return. These amounts assume no additional leverage.

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

The example and the expenses in the tables above should not be considered a representation of our future expenses, and actual expenses may be greater or lesser than those shown. Moreover, while the example assumes, as required by the applicable rules of the SEC, a 5% annual return, our performance will vary and may result in a return greater or lesser than 5%. In addition, while the example assumes reinvestment of all dividends and distributions at net asset value, participants in our dividend reinvestment plan may receive shares valued at the market price in effect at that time. This price may be at, above or below net asset value. See Dividend Reinvestment Plan in the accompanying prospectus for additional information regarding our dividend reinvestment plan.

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FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

The matters discussed in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, as well as in future oral and written statements by management of Hercules Technology Growth Capital, that are forward-looking statements are based on current management expectations that involve substantial risks and uncertainties which could cause actual results to differ materially from the results expressed in, or implied by, these forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements relate to future events or our future financial performance. We generally identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as may, will, should, expects, plans, anticipates, could, intends, target, project, believes, estimates, predicts, potential or continue or the negative of these terms or other similar words. Important assumptions include our ability to originate new investments, achieve certain margins and levels of profitability, the availability of additional capital, and the ability to maintain certain debt to asset ratios. In light of these and other uncertainties, the inclusion of a projection or forward-looking statement in this prospectus should not be regarded as a representation by us that our plans or objectives will be achieved. The forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus include statements as to:

our future operating results;

our business prospects and the prospects of our prospective portfolio companies;

the impact of investments that we expect to make;

the impact of a protracted decline in the liquidity of credit markets on our business;

our informal relationships with third parties including in the venture capital industry;

the expected market for venture capital investments and our addressable market;

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

our ability to access debt markets and equity markets;

the ability of our portfolio companies to achieve their objectives;

our expected financings and investments;

our regulatory structure and tax status;

our ability to operate as a business development company, a small business investment company and a regulated investment company, or RIC;

the adequacy of our cash resources and working capital;

the timing of cash flows, if any, from the operations of our portfolio companies;

the timing, form and amount of any dividend distributions;

the impact of fluctuations in interest rates on our business;

the valuation of any investments in portfolio companies, particularly those having no liquid trading market; and

our ability to recover unrealized losses.

For a discussion of factors that could cause our actual results to differ from forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, please see the discussion under **Supplemental Risk Factors** in this prospectus supplement and **Risk Factors** in the accompanying prospectus. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements made in this prospectus relate only to events as of the date on which the statements are made and are excluded from the safe harbor protection provided by Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933.

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Industry and Market Data

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus contain third-party estimates and data regarding valuations of venture capital-backed companies. This data was reported by Dow Jones VentureSource, an independent venture capital industry research company which we refer to as VentureSource. VentureSource is commonly relied upon as an information source in the venture capital industry. Although we have not independently verified any such data, we believe that the industry information contained in such releases and data tables and included in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is reliable.

We have compiled certain industry estimates presented in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus from internally generated information and data. While we believe our estimates are reliable, they have not been verified by any independent sources. The estimates are based on a number of assumptions, including increasing investment in venture capital and private equity-backed companies. Actual results may differ from projections and estimates, and this market may not grow at the rates projected, or at all. If this market fails to grow at projected rates, our business and the market price of our securities, including our common stock, could be materially adversely affected.

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PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

This summary highlights some of the information in this prospectus supplement and may not contain all of the information that is important to you. For a more complete understanding of this offering, we encourage you to read this entire prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and the documents that are referenced in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, together with any accompanying supplements. In this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, unless the context otherwise requires, the Company, Hercules Technology Growth Capital, we, us and our refer to Hercules Technology Growth Capital, Inc. and our wholly-owned subsidiaries.

Our Company

We are a specialty finance company focused on providing senior secured loans to entrepreneurial venture capital and private equity-backed companies in technology-related markets at all stages of development, including technology, biotechnology, life science, healthcare services and cleantech industries. Our investment objective is to maximize our portfolio total return by generating current income from our debt investments and capital appreciation from our equity-related investments. We are an internally-managed, non-diversified closed-end investment company that has elected to be treated as a business development company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, or the 1940 Act.

As of June 30, 2012, our total assets were approximately \$802.0 million, of which, our investments comprised \$722.8 million at fair value and \$743.7 million at cost. Our investments at fair value were comprised of our debt investments, warrant portfolio and equity investments valued at approximately \$647.1 million, \$28.1 million and \$47.6 million, respectively, or 89.5%, 3.9% and 6.6% of total investments, respectively. At June 30, 2012, total investments at fair value in foreign companies were approximately \$11.6 million or 1.6% of total assets. During the six month period ended June 30, 2012 we made debt and equity commitments to new and existing portfolio companies, including restructured loans, totaling \$240.3 million. Debt commitments for the six month period ended June 30, 2012 included commitments of approximately \$134.7 million to seventeen new portfolio companies and \$88.7 million to eleven existing companies. Equity commitments for the six month period ended June 30, 2012 included commitments of approximately \$14.6 million to two new portfolio companies and \$2.3 million to two existing portfolio companies. Since inception through June 30, 2012, we have made debt and equity commitments of approximately \$2.9 billion to our portfolio companies.

We also make investments in qualifying small businesses through two wholly-owned, small business investment company (SBIC) subsidiaries, Hercules Technology II, L.P. (HT II) and Hercules Technology III, L.P. (HT III). As SBICs, HT II and HT III are subject to a variety of regulations concerning, among other things, the size and nature of the companies in which they may invest and the structure of those investments. As of June 30, 2012, we held investments in HT II in 52 companies with a fair value of approximately \$179.7 million. HT II s portfolio companies accounted for approximately 24.9% of our total portfolio at June 30, 2012. As of June 30, 2012, we held investments in HT III in 27 companies with a fair value of approximately \$140.3 million. HT III s portfolio accounted for approximately 19.4% of our total portfolio at June 30, 2012.

We primarily finance privately-held companies backed by leading venture capital and private equity firms and also may finance certain select publicly-traded companies that lack access to public capital or are sensitive to equity ownership dilution. As of June 30, 2012, our proprietary structured query language (SQL)-based database system included over 29,000 technology-related companies and approximately 7,500 venture capital, private equity sponsors/investors, as well as various other industry contacts. Our principal executive office is located in Silicon Valley, and we have additional offices in Boston, MA, Boulder, CO and McLean, VA. Our goal is to be the leading structured debt financing provider of choice for venture capital and private equity backed

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technology-related companies requiring sophisticated and customized financing solutions. Our strategy is to evaluate and invest in a broad range of technology-related companies including, technology, biotechnology, life science, healthcare services and cleantech companies and to offer a full suite of growth capital products up and down the capital structure. We invest primarily in structured debt with warrants and, to a lesser extent, in senior debt and equity investments. We use the term structured debt with warrants to refer to any debt investment, such as a senior or subordinated secured loan, that is coupled with an equity component, including warrants, options or rights to purchase common or preferred stock. Our structured debt with warrants investments will typically be secured by select or all of the assets of the portfolio company.

We focus our investments in companies active in technology industry sub-sectors characterized by products or services that require advanced technologies, including, but not limited to, computer software and hardware, networking systems, semiconductors, semiconductor capital equipment, information technology infrastructure or services, Internet consumer and business services, telecommunications, telecommunications equipment, renewable or alternative energy, media and life science. Within the life science sub-sector, we generally focus on medical devices, bio-pharmaceutical, drug discovery, drug delivery, health care services and information systems companies. Within the clean technology sub-sector, we focus on sustainable and renewable energy technologies and energy efficiency and monitoring technologies. We refer to all of these companies as technology-related companies and intend, under normal circumstances, to invest at least 80% of the value of our assets in such businesses.

Our investment objective is to maximize our portfolio total return by generating current income from our debt investments and capital appreciation from our equity-related investments. Our primary business objectives are to increase our net income, net operating income and net asset value by investing in structured debt with warrants and equity of venture capital and private equity backed technology-related companies with attractive current yields and the potential for equity appreciation and realized gains. Our structured debt investments typically include warrants or other equity interests, giving us the potential to realize equity-like returns on a portion of our investments. Our equity ownership in our portfolio companies may represent a controlling interest. In some cases, we receive the right to make additional equity investments in our portfolio companies including the right to convert some portion of our debt into equity in connection with future equity financing rounds. Capital that we provide directly to venture capital and private equity backed technology-related companies is generally used for growth and general working capital purposes as well as in select cases for acquisitions or recapitalizations.

Our portfolio is comprised of, and we anticipate that our portfolio will continue to be comprised of, investments in technology-related companies at various stages of development. Consistent with regulatory requirements, we invest primarily in United States based companies and to a lesser extent in foreign companies. See Regulation Qualifying Assets in the accompanying prospectus. Our investing emphasis has been primarily on private companies following or in connection with a subsequent institutional round of equity financing, which we refer to as expansion-stage companies and private companies in their later rounds of financing and certain public companies, which we refer to as established stage companies and lower middle market companies. We have also historically focused our investment activities in private companies following or in connection with the first institutional round of financing, which we refer to as emerging-growth companies.

As of June 30, 2012, our investment professionals, including Manuel A. Henriquez, our co-founder, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, are currently comprised of 28 professionals who have, on average, more than 15 years of experience in venture capital, structured finance, commercial lending or acquisition finance with the types of technology-related companies that we are targeting. We believe that we can leverage the experience and relationships of our management team to successfully identify attractive investment opportunities, underwrite prospective portfolio companies and structure customized financing solutions.

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Our Market Opportunity

We believe that technology-related companies compete in one of the largest and most rapidly growing sectors of the U.S. economy and that continued growth is supported by ongoing innovation and performance improvements in technology products as well as the adoption of technology across virtually all industries in response to competitive pressures. We believe that an attractive market opportunity exists for a specialty finance company focused primarily on investments in structured debt with warrants in technology-related companies for the following reasons:

Technology-related companies have generally been underserved by traditional lending sources;

Unfulfilled demand exists for structured debt financing to technology-related companies as the number of lenders has declined due to the recent financial market turmoil; and

Structured debt with warrants products are less dilutive and complement equity financing from venture capital and private equity funds.

Technology-Related Companies are Underserved by Traditional Lenders. We believe many viable technology-related companies backed by financial sponsors have been unable to obtain sufficient growth financing from traditional lenders, including financial services companies such as commercial banks and finance companies, because traditional lenders have continued to consolidate and have adopted a more risk-averse approach to lending. More importantly, we believe traditional lenders are typically unable to underwrite the risk associated with financial sponsor-backed emerging-growth or expansion-stage companies effectively.

The unique cash flow characteristics of many technology-related companies include significant research and development expenditures and high projected revenue growth thus often making such companies difficult to evaluate from a credit perspective. In addition, the balance sheets of emerging-growth and expansion-stage companies often include a disproportionately large amount of intellectual property assets, which can be difficult to value. Finally, the speed of innovation in technology and rapid shifts in consumer demand and market share add to the difficulty in evaluating technology-related companies.

Due to the difficulties described above, we believe traditional lenders are generally refraining from entering the structured mezzanine marketplace, instead preferring the risk-reward profile of asset based lending. Traditional lenders generally do not have flexible product offerings that meet the needs of technology-related companies. The financing products offered by traditional lenders typically impose on borrowers many restrictive covenants and conditions, including limiting cash outflows and requiring a significant depository relationship to facilitate rapid liquidation.

Unfulfilled Demand for Structured Debt Financing to Technology-Related Companies. Private debt capital in the form of structured debt financing from specialty finance companies continues to be an important source of funding for technology-related companies. We believe that the level of demand for structured debt financing is a function of the level of annual venture equity investment activity. In the first six months of 2012, venture capital-backed companies received, in approximately 1,595 transactions, equity financing in an aggregate amount of approximately \$15.3 billion, as reported by Dow Jones VentureSource. In addition, overall, the median round size during the six month period ended June 30, 2012 was approximately \$5.0 million. We believe the number of venture-backed companies receiving financing provides us an opportunity to provide debt financing to these companies. Overall, seed- and first-round deals made up 46% of the deal flow in the six months ended June 30, 2012 and later-stage deals made up roughly 54% of the deal activity in the quarter.

We believe that demand for structured debt financing is currently underserved, in part because of the credit market collapse in 2008 and the resulting exit of debt capital providers to technology-related companies. The

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venture capital market for the technology-related companies in which we invest has been active and is continuing to show signs of increased investment activity. Therefore, to the extent we have capital available, we believe this is an opportune time to be active in the structured lending market for technology-related companies.

Structured Debt with Warrants Products Complement Equity Financing From Venture Capital and Private Equity Funds. We believe that technology-related companies and their financial sponsors will continue to view structured debt securities as an attractive source of capital because it augments the capital provided by venture capital and private equity funds. We believe that our structured debt with warrants product provides access to growth capital that otherwise may only be available through incremental investments by existing equity investors. As such, we provide portfolio companies and their financial sponsors with an opportunity to diversify their capital sources. Generally, we believe technology-related companies at all stage of development target a portion of their capital to be debt in an attempt to achieve a higher valuation through internal growth. In addition, because financial sponsor-backed companies have potentially reached a more mature stage prior to reaching a liquidity event, we believe our investments provide the debt capital needed to grow or recapitalize companies during the extended period prior to liquidity events.

Our Business Strategy

Our strategy to achieve our investment objective includes the following key elements:

Leverage the Experience and Industry Relationships of Our Management Team and Investment Professionals. We have assembled a team of experienced investment professionals with extensive experience as venture capitalists, commercial lenders, and originators of structured debt and equity investments in technology-related companies. Our investment professionals have, on average, more than 15 years of experience as equity investors in, and/or lenders to, technology-related companies.

Mitigate Risk of Principal Loss and Build a Portfolio of Equity-Related Securities. We expect that our investments have the potential to produce attractive risk adjusted returns through current income, in the form of interest and fee income, as well as capital appreciation from equity-related securities. We believe that we can mitigate the risk of loss on our debt investments through the combination of loan principal amortization, cash interest payments, relatively short maturities, security interests in the assets of our portfolio companies, and, on select investments, covenants requiring prospective portfolio companies to have certain amounts of available cash and the continued support from a venture capital or private equity firm at the time we make our investment.

Provide Customized Financing Complementary to Financial Sponsors' Capital. We offer a broad range of investment structures and possess expertise and experience to effectively structure and price investments in technology-related companies. Unlike many of our competitors that only invest in companies that fit a specific set of investment parameters, we have the flexibility to structure our investments to suit the particular needs of our portfolio companies. We offer customized financing solutions ranging from senior debt to equity capital, with a focus on structured debt with warrants.

Invest at Various Stages of Development. We provide growth capital to technology-related companies at all stages of development, from emerging-growth companies, to expansion-stage companies, including select publicly listed companies and select lower middle market companies and established-stage companies.

Benefit from Our Efficient Organizational Structure. We believe that the perpetual nature of our corporate structure enables us to be a long-term partner for our portfolio companies in contrast to traditional mezzanine and investment funds, which typically have a limited life. In addition, because of our access to the equity markets, we believe that we may benefit from a lower cost of capital than that available to private investment funds.

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Deal Sourcing Through Our Proprietary Database. We have developed a proprietary and comprehensive SQL-based database system to track various aspects of our investment process including sourcing, originations, transaction monitoring and post-investment performance. As of June 30, 2012, our proprietary SQL-based database system included over 29,000 technology-related companies and over 7,500 venture capital, private equity sponsors/investors, as well as various other industry contacts. This proprietary SQL system allows us to maintain, cultivate and grow our industry relationships while providing us with comprehensive details on companies in the technology-related industries and their financial sponsors.

Recent Developments

New Investments Since June 30, 2012

As of September 10, 2012, we have originated commitments of approximately \$93.0 million to new and existing portfolio companies, including approximately \$24.5 million in commitments to existing portfolio companies. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in this prospectus supplement for more information relating to our commitments. Our new investments included:

\$10.5 million commitment to Oraya Therapeutics, Inc., a company that develops innovative and non-invasive therapies.

\$8.0 million commitment to Clickfox, Inc., a company that delivers Customer Behavior Intelligence software to large and mid-sized businesses.

\$5.3 million commitment to SCIEnergy, Inc., a leading provider of energy efficiency and system optimization solutions for the \$5 billion commercial building market.

\$500,000 commitment to Box.net, Inc., an online storage and sharing service that gives users access to their files from anywhere.

\$71,000 commitment to Gynesonics, Inc., a medical device company committed to improving women's health.

\$22,000 commitment to Novasys Medical, Inc., dedicated to the development of innovative therapies in women's health.

\$30.5 million commitment to EducationDynamics, LLC, higher education's leading marketing information and technology services company dedicated to helping institutions find, enroll and retain students.

\$20.0 million commitment to Fulcrum BioEnergy, Inc., a leader in the development of next-generation ethanol production in the United States.

\$15.0 million commitment to Coronado Biosciences, Inc., (Nasdaq: CND) a company focused on the development of novel immunotherapy agents for the treatment of autoimmune diseases and cancer.

\$3.0 million commitment to EndPlay, Inc., a leading provider of SaaS content management, engagement and monetization solutions delivered in the cloud.

\$100,000 commitment to Loku, Inc., a company that enables users to tap into the local scene.

Principal Repayments

As of September 10, 2012, we received approximately \$40.0 million in principal repayments, of which approximately \$5.6 million were unscheduled early repayments. In addition, in July 2012 we received a payment of \$2.0 million for our total debt investments in MaxVision Holding, L.L.C. As of June 30, 2012, we valued these debt investments, which had a total cost basis of approximately \$7.1 million, at a fair value of approximately \$169,000. These investments were accounted for on a non-accrual basis. In the third quarter of

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2012, we will record a realized loss of \$5.1 million and a reversal of previously recorded unrealized depreciation of \$6.9 million for the MaxVision debt investments.

Unfunded Commitments

As of September 10, 2012, we had unfunded debt commitments of approximately \$69.8 million. Since these commitments may expire without being drawn upon, unfunded commitments do not necessarily represent future cash requirements or future earning assets. Approximately \$35.0 million of these unfunded commitments are dependent upon the portfolio company reaching certain milestones before our debt commitment would become available.

Signed Term Sheets

As of September 10, 2012, we had approximately \$141.5 million of signed non-binding term sheets subject to completion of definitive documentation with prospective portfolio companies, which generally convert to contractual commitments within approximately 45 to 60 days. Non-binding term sheets are subject to completion of our due diligence, investment committee approval, legal review, and negotiation of definitive documentation. Not all signed non-binding term sheets are expected to close and do not necessarily represent any future cash requirements.

Filed IPOs

As of September 10, 2012, we had warrants or equity positions in three portfolio companies which had filed Form S-1 Registration Statements with the SEC in contemplation of a potential IPO. There can be no assurances that these companies will complete their respective IPOs in a timely manner or at all.

On September 19, 2012, Trulia, Inc. completed its initial public offering of 6,000,000 shares of common stock at a price to the public of \$17.00 per share.

Portfolio Company Developments

In August 2012, we received a milestone payment of approximately \$825,000 from Covidien PLC's acquisition of our portfolio company, BARRX Medical, Inc. in the first quarter of 2012, which will result in the recognition of approximately \$825,000 of realized gains in the third quarter of 2012. Under the terms of the acquisition agreement, additional milestone payments may be received within sixty days of the eighteen month and second anniversaries of the closing. These milestone payments are subject to performance factors and, therefore, their future receipt cannot be reasonably assured at this time.

New BDC Legislation

On June 8, 2012, legislation was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives intended to revise certain regulations applicable to business development companies, or BDCs. The legislation provides for (i) increasing the amount of funds BDCs may borrow by reducing asset to debt limitations from 2:1 to 3:2, (ii) permitting BDCs to file registration statements with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission that incorporate information from already-filed reports by reference, (iii) utilizing other streamlined registration processes afforded to operating companies, and (iv) allowing BDCs to own investment adviser subsidiaries.

There are no assurances as to when the legislation will be enacted by Congress, if at all, or, if enacted, what final form the legislation would take.

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Liquidity and Capital Resources

September 2019 Notes

On September 24, 2012, we issued approximately \$75.0 million in aggregate principal amount of our 7.00% Senior Notes due 2019 (the September 2019 Notes) pursuant to an underwriting agreement among us and Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated, as representative of the several underwriters named therein, relating to the issuance, offer and sale of the September 2019 Notes. We granted the underwriters an option to purchase up to an additional amount of approximately \$11.3 million of the September 2019 Notes. The sale of the September 2019 Notes generated net proceeds to us, before expenses, of approximately \$72.8 million.

On September 24, 2012, we and U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee (the Trustee) entered into a Second Supplemental Indenture (the Second Supplemental Indenture) to the Indenture (the Base Indenture, and together with the First Supplemental Indenture, dated as of April 17, 2012, and the Second Supplemental Indenture, the Indenture), between us and U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee (the Trustee), dated as of March 6, 2012, relating to the issuance, offer and sale of the September 2019 Notes.

The September 2019 Notes will mature on September 30, 2019 and may be redeemed in whole or in part at our option at any time or from time to time on or after September 30, 2015, upon not less than 30 days nor more than 60 days written notice by mail prior to the date fixed for redemption thereof, at a redemption price of 100% of the outstanding principal amount thereof plus accrued and unpaid interest payments otherwise payable for the then-current quarterly interest period accrued to but not including the date fixed for redemption. The September 2019 Notes bear interest at a rate of 7.00% per year payable quarterly on March 30, June 30, September 30 and December 30 of each year, commencing on December 30, 2012.

The September 2019 Notes will be our direct unsecured obligations and will rank: (i) *pari passu* with our other outstanding and future senior unsecured indebtedness, including without limitation the \$75.0 million Convertible Senior Notes and April 2019 Notes (as defined herein); (ii) senior to any of our future indebtedness that expressly provides it is subordinated to the September 2019 Notes (iii) effectively subordinated to all of our existing and future secured indebtedness (including indebtedness that is initially unsecured to which we subsequently grant security), to the extent of the value of the assets securing such indebtedness, including without limitation, borrowings under our credit facilities; (iv) structurally subordinated to all existing and future indebtedness and other obligations of any of our subsidiaries, including without limitation, the indebtedness of Hercules Technology II, L.P. and Hercules Technology III, L.P. and borrowings under our revolving senior secured credit facility with Wells Fargo Capital Finance.

The Indenture, contains certain covenants including covenants requiring us to comply with (regardless of whether it is subject to) the asset coverage requirements set forth in Section 18(a)(1)(A) as modified by Section 61(a)(1) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, to comply with the restrictions on dividends, distributions and purchase of capital stock set forth in Section 18(a)(1)(B) as modified by Section 61(a)(1) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, and to provide financial information to the holders of the September 2019 Notes and the Trustee if the Company should no longer be subject to the reporting requirements under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. These covenants are subject to important limitations and exceptions that are described in the Base Indenture, as supplemented by the First Supplemental Indenture and Second Supplemental Indenture. The Base Indenture provides for customary events of default and further provides that the Trustee or the holders of 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding September 2019 Notes in a series may declare such September 2019 Notes immediately due and payable upon the occurrence of any event of default after expiration of any applicable grace period.

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April 2019 Notes

On July 6, 2012 we re-opened our 7.00% Senior Notes due 2019 (the April 2019 Notes) and issued approximately \$38.8 million in aggregate principal amount of additional April 2019 Notes pursuant to an underwriting agreement among us and Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated, as representative of the several underwriters named therein, relating to the issuance, offer and sale of the additional April 2019 Notes. We granted the underwriters an option to purchase up to an additional \$5.8 million in aggregate principal amount of the April 2019 Notes to cover overallocments, if any. Pursuant to this option, approximately \$2.7 million in aggregate principal amount of the additional April 2019 Notes were issued and sold on July 12, 2012. The sale of the additional April 2019 Notes generated net proceeds to us, before expenses and excluding accrued interest, of approximately \$40.2 million.

The additional April 2019 Notes are a further issuance of, rank equally in right of payment with, and form a single series for all purposes under the Indenture (as defined below) including, without limitation, waivers, amendments, consents, redemptions and other offers to purchase and voting, with the \$43.0 million aggregate principal amount of the April 2019 Notes initially issued by us on April 17, 2012.

On April 17, 2012, we and U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee (the Trustee) entered into the First Supplemental Indenture (the First Supplemental Indenture) to the Indenture (the Base Indenture, and together with the First Supplemental Indenture, the Indenture), between us and U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee (the Trustee), dated March 6, 2012, relating to the issuance, offer and sale of the April 2019 Notes. The additional April 2019 Notes were offered under the same Indenture.

The additional April 2019 Notes will mature on April 30, 2019 and may be redeemed in whole or in part at our option at any time or from time to time on or after April 30, 2015, upon not less than 30 days nor more than 60 days written notice by mail prior to the date fixed for redemption thereof, at a redemption price of 100% of the outstanding principal amount thereof plus accrued and unpaid interest payments otherwise payable for the then-current quarterly interest period accrued to but not including the date fixed for redemption. The additional April 2019 Notes bear interest at a rate of 7.00% per year payable quarterly on January 30, April 30, July 30 and October 30 of each year, commencing on July 30, 2012.

The additional April 2019 Notes will be our direct unsecured obligations and will rank: (i) *pari passu* with our other outstanding and future senior unsecured indebtedness, including without limitation, the \$75.0 million of Convertible Senior Notes, the September 2019 Notes and the April 2019 Notes; (ii) senior to any of our future indebtedness that expressly provides that it is subordinated to the April 2019 Notes; (iii) effectively subordinated to all of our existing and future secured indebtedness (including indebtedness that is initially unsecured to which we subsequently grant security), to the extent of the value of the assets securing such indebtedness, including without limitation, borrowings under our credit facilities; (iv) structurally subordinated to all existing and future indebtedness and other obligations of any of our subsidiaries, including without limitation, the indebtedness of Hercules Technology II, L.P. and Hercules Technology III, L.P. and borrowings under the Wells Facility.

The Indenture, as supplemented by the First Supplemental Indenture, contains certain covenants including covenants that requires us to comply with (regardless of whether it is subject to) the asset coverage requirements set forth in Section 18(a)(1)(A) as modified by Section 61(a)(1) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, to comply with the restrictions on dividends, distributions and purchase of capital stock set forth in Section 18(a)(1)(B) as modified by Section 61(a)(1) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, and to provide financial information to the holders of the April 2019 Notes and the Trustee if we should no longer be subject to the reporting requirements under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. These covenants are subject to important limitations and exceptions that are described in the Indenture, as supplemented by the First Supplemental Indenture. The Indenture provides for customary events of default and further provides that

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the Trustee or the holders of 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding April 2019 Notes in a series may declare such April 2019 Notes immediately due and payable upon the occurrence of any event of default after expiration of any applicable grace period.

Wells Facility

In August 2012, we amended the Wells Facility with Wells Fargo Capital Finance, LLC (WFCF) under which WFCF has committed \$75.0 million in initial credit capacity under a \$300.0 million accordion credit facility. We can increase the credit line up to an aggregate of \$300.0 million, funded by additional lenders who may join the facility and with the agreement of WFCF and subject to other customary conditions. There can be no assurances that additional lenders will join the Wells Facility.

The Wells Facility has an advance rate equal to 50% of eligible loans placed in the collateral pool. The Wells Facility generally requires payment of interest on a monthly basis. We paid an amendment fee of \$375,000.

Borrowings under the Wells Facility will continue to be at an interest rate per annum equal to LIBOR plus 3.50%, consistent with prior facilities while the floor has been lowered from 5.00% to 4.25%, a 75 basis point reduction. Additionally, an amortization period of 12 months was added to pay down the principal balance as of the maturity date, the maturity date was extended by one year to August 2015, and the unused line fee was reduced. The amendment also increased the minimum tangible net worth when added to outstanding subordinated indebtedness from in excess of \$314.0 million plus 90% of the cumulative amount of equity raised after March 31, 2011 to in excess of \$362.0 million plus 90% of the cumulative amount of equity raised after June 30, 2012. The amendment was effective as of August 1, 2012.

The Wells Facility provides for customary events of default, including, but not limited to, payment defaults, breach of representations or covenants, bankruptcy events and change of control. The Wells Facility also includes various financial and operating covenants applicable to us and our subsidiaries. The covenants require, among other things, that we maintain certain financial ratios and a minimum tangible net worth.

Union Bank Facility

On September 17, 2012, we entered into an amendment to the Union Bank Facility. Pursuant to the terms of the amendment, the Company is permitted to increase its unsecured indebtedness by an aggregate original principal amount not to exceed \$200.0 million incurred after March 30, 2012 in one or more issuances, provided certain conditions are satisfied for each issuance.

Dividend Declaration

On July 30, 2012, our Board of Directors declared a cash dividend of \$0.24 per share that will be payable on August 24, 2012 to shareholders of record as of August 17, 2012. This dividend represents our twenty-eighth consecutive dividend declaration since our initial public offering, bringing the total cumulative dividend declared to date to \$7.40 per share.

Renewal of Stock Repurchase Plan

On July 25, 2012, we approved the extension of the stock repurchase plan as previously approved under the same terms and conditions that allows us to repurchase up to \$35.0 million of our common stock. Unless renewed, the stock repurchase plan will expire on February 26, 2013.

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Chief Financial Officer

Effective March 27, 2012, our board of directors appointed Jessica T. Baron as our permanent Chief Financial Officer. In connection with such appointment, Ms. Baron will receive an annual base salary of \$235,000 subject to review and adjustment at least annually by our Board of Directors or compensation committee. Ms. Baron also will be awarded 25,000 shares of restricted common stock, \$0.001 par value per share (the Common Stock), under our 2004 Equity Incentive Plan pursuant to which such restricted stock awards vest subject to continued employment one-fourth on the one year anniversary of the date of grant and ratably over the succeeding 36 months.

Ms. Baron, age 37, joined the Company in October 2006 as Corporate Controller and was promoted to Vice President of Finance in October 2010. Effective June 1, 2011, the Board of Directors appointed Ms. Baron as Vice President of Finance and Interim Chief Financial Officer. See Management Directors, Executive Officers and Key Employees Non-director executive officers in the accompanying prospectus for additional information regarding Ms. Baron.

Chief Compliance Officer and Secretary

Effective August 20, 2012, H. Scott Harvey's employment as our Chief Legal Officer, Chief Compliance Officer and Secretary ended, and K. Nicholas Martitsch was appointed as our Associate General Counsel, Chief Compliance Officer and Secretary.

Re-Election of Director

On May 30, 2012, at the Company's 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, Allyn C. Woodward Jr. was re-elected to serve as a member of the Company's Board of Directors until the 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

General Information

Our principal executive offices are located at 400 Hamilton Avenue, Suite 310, Palo Alto, California 94301, and our telephone number is (650) 289-3060. We also have offices in Boston, Massachusetts, Boulder, Colorado and McLean, Virginia. We maintain a website on the Internet at www.herculestech.com. Information contained in our website is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus, and you should not consider that information to be part of this prospectus.

We file annual, quarterly and current periodic reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, which we refer to as the Exchange Act. This information is available at the SEC's public reference room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You may obtain information about the operation of the SEC's public reference room by calling the SEC at (202) 551-8090. In addition, the SEC maintains an Internet website, at www.sec.gov, that contains reports, proxy and information statements, and other information regarding issuers, including us, who file documents electronically with the SEC.

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Investing in our common stock involves a number of significant risks. Before you invest in our securities, you should be aware of various risks, including those described below in this prospectus supplement and those set forth in the accompanying prospectus. You should carefully consider these risk factors, together with all of the other information included in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, before you decide whether to make an investment in our common stock. The risks set out below and in the accompanying prospectus are not the only risks we face. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or not presently deemed material by us may also impair our operations and performance. If any of the following events occur, our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows could be materially and adversely affected. In such case, our net asset value and the trading price of our common stock could decline and you may lose all or part of your investment. The risk factors described below, together with those set forth in the accompanying prospectus, are the principal risk factors associated with an investment in our common stock, as well as those factors generally associated with an investment company with investment objectives, investment policies, capital structure or trading markets similar to ours.

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

Under our borrowings and credit facilities, including the Union Bank Facility and the Wells Facility, current lenders have, and any future lender or lenders may have, fixed dollar claims on our assets that are senior to the claims of our stockholders and, thus, will have a preference over our stockholders with respect to our assets in the collateral pool. Our current credit facilities and borrowings also subject us to various financial and operating covenants, including, but not limited to, maintaining certain financial ratios and minimum tangible net worth amounts. Future credit facilities and borrowings will likely subject us to similar or additional covenants. In addition, we may grant a securities interest in our assets in connection with any such credit facilities and borrowings.

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

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

There is no assurance that HT II or HT III will be able to draw up to the maximum limit available under the SBIC program.

On September 27, 2006, HT II received a license to operate as a SBIC under the SBIC program and is able to borrow funds from the SBA against eligible investments and additional contributions to regulatory capital. As of June 30, 2012, HT II had the potential to borrow up to \$125.0 million of SBA-guaranteed debentures under the SBIC program. With our net investment of \$75.0 million in HT II as of June 30, 2012, HT II has the capacity to issue a total of \$125.0 million of SBA guaranteed debentures, subject to SBA approval, of which \$100.7 million is outstanding as of June 30, 2012.

On May 26, 2010, HT III received a license to operate as a SBIC under the SBIC program and is able to borrow funds from the SBA against eligible investments and additional contributions to regulatory capital. As of

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June 30, 2012, HT III had the potential to borrow up to \$100.0 million of SBA-guaranteed debentures under the SBIC program. With our net investment of \$50.0 million in HT III as of June 30, 2012, HT III has the capacity to issue a total of \$100.0 million of SBA guaranteed debentures, subject to SBA approval, of which \$100.0 million was outstanding as of June 30, 2012.

As of June 30, 2012, there was \$200.7 million principal amount of indebtedness outstanding incurred by our SBIC subsidiaries. Access to the remaining leverage is subject to SBA approval and compliance with SBA regulations.

There is no assurance that HT II or HT III will be able to draw up to the maximum limit available under the SBIC program.

Pending legislation may allow us to incur additional leverage.

As a business development company, under the 1940 Act generally we are not permitted to incur indebtedness unless immediately after such borrowing we have an asset coverage for total borrowings of at least 200% (i.e., the amount of debt may not exceed 50% of the value of our assets). Recent legislation introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives, if passed, would modify this section of the 1940 Act and increase the amount of debt that business development companies may incur by modifying the percentage from 200% to 150%. See Prospectus Supplement Summary Recent Developments New BDC Legislation for more information with respect to this legislation. As a result, we may be able to incur additional indebtedness in the future and therefore your risk of an investment in our common stock may increase.

In addition to regulatory restrictions that restrict our ability to raise capital, the Wells Facility, the Union Bank Facility and the Convertible Senior Notes, the April 2019 Notes and September 2019 Notes contain various covenants which, if not complied with, could accelerate repayment under the facility or require us to repurchase the Convertible Senior Notes, the April 2019 Notes or the September 2019 Notes, thereby materially and adversely affecting our liquidity, financial condition, results of operations and ability to pay dividends.

The credit agreements governing the Wells Facility, Union Bank Facility, the Convertible Senior Notes, the April 2019 Notes and the September 2019 Notes require us to comply with certain financial and operational covenants. These covenants require us to, among other things, maintain certain financial ratios, including asset coverage, debt to equity and interest coverage. Our ability to continue to comply with these covenants in the future depends on many factors, some of which are beyond our control. There are no assurances that we will be able to comply with these covenants. Failure to comply with these covenants would result in a default which, if we were unable to obtain a waiver from the lenders under the Wells Facility and the Union Bank Facility or the trustee or holders under the Convertible Senior Notes, the April 2019 Notes and the September 2019 Notes, could accelerate repayment under the facilities or the Convertible Senior Notes, the April 2019 Notes or the September 2019 Notes and thereby have a material adverse impact on our liquidity, financial condition, results of operations and ability to pay dividends. In addition, holders of the Convertible Senior Notes will have the right to require us to repurchase the Convertible Senior Notes upon the occurrence of a fundamental change at a repurchase price equal to 100% of their principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any. We may not have enough available cash or be able to obtain financing at the time we are required to make repurchases. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Results of Operations and Financial Condition Borrowings.

Depending on funding requirements, we may need to raise additional capital to meet our unfunded commitments either through equity offerings or through additional borrowings.

As of June 30, 2012, we had unfunded commitments of approximately \$92.7 million. Approximately \$32.6 million of these unfunded debt commitments are dependent upon the portfolio company reaching certain milestones before the debt commitment becomes available. These commitments will be subject to the same underwriting and ongoing portfolio maintenance. Since these commitments may expire without being drawn

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upon, the total commitment amount does not necessarily represent future cash requirements. Closed commitments generally fund 70-80% of the committed amount in aggregate over the life of the commitment. We intend to use cash flow from normal and early principal repayments, SBA debentures, our Wells Facility, our Union Bank Facility and proceeds from the Convertible Senior Notes, the April 2019 Notes and the September 2019 Notes to fund these commitments. However, there can be no assurance that we will have sufficient capital available to fund these commitments as they come due.

Our financial results could be negatively affected if a significant portfolio investment fails to perform as expected.

Our total investment in companies may be significant individually or in the aggregate. As a result, if a significant investment in one or more companies fails to perform as expected, our financial results could be more negatively affected and the magnitude of the loss could be more significant than if we had made smaller investments in more companies. The following table shows the fair value of the totals of investments held in portfolio companies at June 30, 2012 that represent greater than 5% of net assets:

(in thousands)	June 30, 2012	
	Fair Value	Percentage of Net Assets
Box.net, Inc.	\$ 43,093	9.1%
BrightSource Energy, Inc.	\$ 35,487	7.5%
Aveo Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	\$ 29,071	6.1%
Women s Marketing, Inc.	\$ 27,447	5.8%
Tectura Corporation	\$ 26,451	5.6%
Anthera Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	\$ 24,099	5.1%

Box.net Inc. is an online storage and sharing service that gives users access to their files from anywhere.

Brightsource Energy, Inc. designs, develops and sells solar thermal power systems that deliver reliable, clean energy to utilities and industrial companies.

Aveo Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is a biopharmaceutical company dedicated to the discovery and development of new, targeted cancer therapeutics.

Women s Marketing, Inc. is a media solutions company, delivering premium media at value pricing across all platforms.

Tectura Corporation is an IT services firm that specializes in Microsoft Business Solutions applications.

Anthera Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is a biopharmaceutical company focused on developing and commercializing products to treat serious diseases, including cardiovascular and autoimmune diseases.

Our financial results could be negatively affected if these portfolio companies or any of our other significant portfolio companies encounter financial difficulty and fail to repay their obligations or to perform as expected.

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

We could experience fluctuations in our quarterly and annual operating results due to a number of factors, some of which are beyond our control, including, but not limited to, the interest rate payable on the debt securities that we acquire, the default rate on such securities, the level of our expenses, variations in and the

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timing of the recognition of realized and unrealized gains or losses, changes in our portfolio composition, the degree to which we encounter competition in our markets, market volatility in our publicly traded securities and the securities of our portfolio companies, and general economic conditions. As a result of these factors, results for any period should not be relied upon as being indicative of performance in future periods. In addition, any of these factors could negatively impact our ability to achieve our investment objectives, which may cause our net asset value of our common stock to decline.

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

We expect that our portfolio will continue to consist of investments that may have relatively limited operating histories. These companies may be particularly vulnerable to U.S. and foreign economic downturns such as the current recession and European financial crisis may have more limited access to capital and higher funding costs, may have a weaker financial position and may need more capital to expand or compete. These businesses also may experience substantial variations in operating results. They may face intense competition, including from companies with greater financial, technical and marketing resources. Furthermore, some of these companies do business in regulated industries and could be affected by changes in government regulation. Accordingly, these factors could impair their cash flow or result in other events, such as bankruptcy, which could limit their ability to repay their obligations to us, and may adversely affect the return on, or the recovery of, our investment in these companies. We cannot assure you that any of our investments in our portfolio companies will be successful. Our portfolio companies compete with larger, more established companies with greater access to, and resources for, further development in these new technologies. We may lose our entire investment in any or all of our portfolio companies.

Our investment strategy focuses on technology-related companies, which are subject to many risks, including volatility, intense competition, shortened product life cycles and changes in regulatory and governmental programs, periodic downturns, and you could lose all or part of your investment.

We have invested and will continue investing primarily in technology-related companies, many of which may have narrow product lines and small market shares, which tend to render them more vulnerable to competitors' actions and market conditions, as well as to general economic downturns. The revenues, income (or losses), and valuations of technology-related companies can and often do fluctuate suddenly and dramatically. In addition, technology-related markets are generally characterized by abrupt business cycles and intense competition. Overcapacity in technology-related industries, together with cyclical economic downturns, may result in substantial decreases in the market capitalization of many technology-related companies. While such valuations have recovered to some extent, such decreases in market capitalization may occur again, and any future decreases in technology-related company valuations may be substantial and may not be temporary in nature. Therefore, our portfolio companies may face considerably more risk of loss than do companies in other industry sectors.

Because of rapid technological change, the average selling prices of products and some services provided by technology-related companies have historically decreased over their productive lives. As a result, the average selling prices of products and services offered by technology-related companies may decrease over time, which could adversely affect their operating results, their ability to meet obligations under their debt securities and the value of their equity securities. This could, in turn, materially adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

A natural disaster may also impact the operations of our portfolio companies, including our technology-related portfolio companies. The nature and level of natural disasters cannot be predicted and may be exacerbated by global climate change. A portion of our technology-related portfolio companies rely on items assembled or produced in areas susceptible to natural disasters, and may sell finished goods into markets susceptible to natural disasters. A major disaster, such as an earthquake, tsunami, flood or other catastrophic event could result in disruption to the business and operations of our technology-related portfolio companies.

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We will invest in technology-related companies that are reliant on U.S. and foreign regulatory and governmental programs. Any material changes or discontinuation, due to change in administration or U.S. Congress or otherwise could have a material adverse effect on the operations of a portfolio company in these industries and, in turn, impair our ability to timely collect principal and interest payments owed to us to the extent applicable.

Cleantech companies are subject to extensive government regulation and certain other risks particular to the sectors in which they operate and our business and growth strategy could be adversely affected if government regulations, priorities and resources impacting such sectors change or if our portfolio companies fail to comply with such regulations.

As part of our investment strategy, we plan to invest in portfolio companies in Cleantech sectors that may be subject to extensive regulation by foreign, U.S. federal, state and/or local agencies. Changes in existing laws, rules or regulations, or judicial or administrative interpretations thereof, or new laws, rules or regulations could have an adverse impact on the business and industries of our portfolio companies. In addition, changes in government priorities or limitations on government resources could also adversely impact our portfolio companies. We are unable to predict whether any such changes in laws, rules or regulations will occur and, if they do occur, the impact of these changes on our portfolio companies and our investment returns. Furthermore, if any of our portfolio companies fail to comply with applicable regulations, they could be subject to significant penalties and claims that could materially and adversely affect their operations. Our portfolio companies may be subject to the expense, delay and uncertainty of the regulatory approval process for their products and, even if approved, these products may not be accepted in the marketplace.

In addition, there is considerable uncertainty about whether foreign, U.S., state and/or local governmental entities will enact or maintain legislation or regulatory programs that mandate reductions in greenhouse gas emissions or provide incentives for Cleantech companies. Without such regulatory policies, investments in Cleantech companies may not be economical and financing for Cleantech companies may become unavailable, which could materially adversely affect the ability of our portfolio companies to repay the debt they owe to us. Any of these factors could materially and adversely affect the operations and financial condition of a portfolio company and, in turn, the ability of the portfolio company to repay the debt they owe to us.

Our investments in the life science industry are subject to extensive government regulation, litigation risk and certain other risks particular to that industry.

We have invested and plan to continue investing in companies in the life science industry that are subject to extensive regulation by the Food and Drug Administration (the FDA) and to a lesser extent, other federal, state and other foreign agencies. If any of these portfolio companies fail to comply with applicable regulations, they could be subject to significant penalties and claims that could materially and adversely affect their operations. Portfolio companies that produce medical devices or drugs are subject to the expense, delay and uncertainty of the regulatory approval process for their products and, even if approved, these products may not be accepted in the marketplace. In addition, governmental budgetary constraints effecting the regulatory approval process, new laws, regulations or judicial interpretations of existing laws and regulations might adversely affect a portfolio company in this industry. Portfolio companies in the life science industry may also have a limited number of suppliers of necessary components or a limited number of manufacturers for their products, and therefore face a risk of disruption to their manufacturing process if they are unable to find alternative suppliers when needed. Any of these factors could materially and adversely affect the operations of a portfolio company in this industry and, in turn, impair our ability to timely collect principal and interest payments owed to us.

Our investments in the drug discovery industry are subject to numerous risks, including competition, extensive government regulation, product liability and commercial difficulties.

Our investments in the drug discovery industry are subject to numerous risks. The successful and timely implementation of the business model of our drug discovery portfolio companies depends on their ability to adapt

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to changing technologies and introduce new products. As competitors continue to introduce competitive products, the development and acquisition of innovative products and technologies that improve efficacy, safety, patient's and clinician's ease of use and cost-effectiveness are important to the success of such portfolio companies. The success of new product offerings will depend on many factors, including the ability to properly anticipate and satisfy customer needs, obtain regulatory approvals on a timely basis, develop and manufacture products in an economic and timely manner, obtain or maintain advantageous positions with respect to intellectual property, and differentiate products from those of competitors. Failure by our portfolio companies to introduce planned products or other new products or to introduce products on schedule could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Further, the development of products by drug discovery companies requires significant research and development, clinical trials and regulatory approvals. The results of product development efforts may be affected by a number of factors, including the ability to innovate, develop and manufacture new products, complete clinical trials, obtain regulatory approvals and reimbursement in the US and abroad, or gain and maintain market approval of products. In addition, regulatory review processes by U.S. and foreign agencies may extend longer than anticipated as a result of decreased funding and tighter fiscal budgets. Further, patents attained by others can preclude or delay the commercialization of a product. There can be no assurance that any products now in development will achieve technological feasibility, obtain regulatory approval, or gain market acceptance. Failure can occur at any point in the development process, including after significant funds have been invested. Products may fail to reach the market or may have only limited commercial success because of efficacy or safety concerns, failure to achieve positive clinical outcomes, inability to obtain necessary regulatory approvals, failure to achieve market adoption, limited scope of approved uses, excessive costs to manufacture, the failure to establish or maintain intellectual property rights, or the infringement of intellectual property rights of others.

Future legislation, and/or regulations and policies adopted by the FDA or other U.S. or foreign regulatory authorities may increase the time and cost required by some of our portfolio companies to conduct and complete clinical trials for the product candidates that they develop, and there is no assurance that these companies will obtain regulatory approval to market and commercialize their products in the U.S. and in foreign countries

The FDA has established regulations, guidelines and policies to govern the drug development and approval process, as have foreign regulatory authorities, which affect some of our portfolio companies. Any change in regulatory requirements due to the adoption by the FDA and/or foreign regulatory authorities of new legislation, regulations, or policies may require some of our portfolio companies to amend existing clinical trial protocols or add new clinical trials to comply with these changes. Such amendments to existing protocols and/or clinical trial applications or the need for new ones, may significantly impact the cost, timing and completion of the clinical trials.

In addition, increased scrutiny by the U.S. Congress of the FDA's and other authorities approval processes may significantly delay or prevent regulatory approval, as well as impose more stringent product labeling and post-marketing testing and other requirements. Foreign regulatory authorities may also increase their scrutiny of approval processes resulting in similar delays. Increased scrutiny and approvals processes may limit the ability of our portfolio companies to market and commercialize their products in the U.S. and in foreign countries.

Changes in healthcare laws and other regulations applicable to some of our portfolio companies' businesses may constrain their ability to offer their products and services.

Changes in healthcare or other laws and regulations applicable to the businesses of some of our portfolio companies may occur that could increase their compliance and other costs of doing business, require significant systems enhancements, or render their products or services less profitable or obsolete, any of which could have a material adverse effect on their results of operations. There has also been an increased political and regulatory focus on healthcare laws in recent years, and new legislation could have a material effect on the business and operations of some of our portfolio companies.

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Economic recessions or slowdowns could impair the ability of our portfolio companies to repay loans, which, in turn, could increase our non-performing assets, decrease the value of our portfolio, reduce our volume of new loans and have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

Many of our portfolio companies may be susceptible to economic slowdowns or recessions in both the U.S. and foreign countries and may be unable to repay our loans during such periods. In such periods, our non-performing assets are likely to increase and the value of our portfolio is likely to decrease. Adverse economic conditions also may decrease the value of collateral securing some of our loans and the value of our equity investments. Economic slowdowns or recessions could lead to financial losses in our portfolio and a decrease in revenues, net income and assets. Unfavorable economic conditions also could increase our funding costs, limit our access to the capital markets or result in a decision by lenders not to extend credit to us.

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

Generally, we do not control our portfolio companies. These portfolio companies may face intense competition, including competition from companies with greater financial resources, more extensive research and development, manufacturing, marketing and service capabilities and greater number of qualified and experienced managerial and technical personnel. They may need additional financing which they are unable to secure and which we are unable or unwilling to provide, or they may be subject to adverse developments unrelated to the technologies they acquire.

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

The business and operating results of our portfolio companies may be impacted by worldwide economic conditions. Although the U.S. economy has in recent quarters shown signs of recovery from the 2008-2009 global recession, the strength and duration of any economic recovery will be impacted by worldwide economic growth. For instance, a number of recent reports indicate that growth in China and other emerging markets may be slowing relative to historical growth rates. The significant debt in U.S. and European countries is expected to hinder growth in those countries for the foreseeable future. Multiple factors relating to the international operations of some of our portfolio companies and to particular countries in which they operate could negatively impact their business, financial condition and results of operations.

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

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Some of our portfolio companies may need additional capital, which may not be readily available and may be needed if necessary regulatory review processes are extended or approvals not obtained.

Our portfolio companies will often require substantial additional equity financing to satisfy their continuing working capital and other requirements, and in most instances to service the interest and principal payments on our investments. Each round of venture financing is typically intended to provide a company with only enough capital to reach the next stage of development. We cannot predict the circumstances or market conditions under which our portfolio companies will seek additional capital. It is possible that one or more of our portfolio companies will not be able to raise additional financing or may be able to do so only at a price or on terms unfavorable to us, either of which would negatively impact our investment returns. Some of these companies may be unable to obtain sufficient financing from private investors, public capital markets or traditional lenders. This may have a significant impact if the companies are unable to obtain certain federal, state or foreign agency approval for their products or the marketing thereof, or if regulatory review processes extend longer than anticipated, and the companies need continued funding for their operations during these times. Accordingly, financing these types of companies may entail a higher risk of loss than would financing companies that are able to utilize traditional credit sources.

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USE OF PROCEEDS

Our net proceeds from the sale of the 3,100,000 shares of common stock we are offering will be approximately \$ million, after deducting the underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us.

We expect to use the net proceeds from this offering to fund investments in debt and equity securities in accordance with our investment objective and for other general corporate purposes.

We intend to seek to invest the net proceeds received in this offering as promptly as practicable after receipt thereof consistent with our investment objective. We anticipate that substantially all of the net proceeds from any offering of our securities will be used as described above within three to six months, depending on market conditions. We anticipate that the remainder will be used for working capital and general corporate purposes, including potential payments or distributions to shareholders. Pending such use, we will invest a portion of the net proceeds of this offering in short-term investments, such as cash and cash equivalents, which we expect will earn yields substantially lower than the interest income that we anticipate receiving in respect of investments in accordance with our investment objective.

We may change the size of this offering based on demand and market conditions. The amount of net proceeds may be more or less than the amount described in this preliminary prospectus supplement depending on the amount of common stock we sell in the offering, which will be determined at pricing. To the extent that we receive more than the amount described in this preliminary prospectus supplement, we intend to use the net proceeds for investment in portfolio companies in accordance with our investment objective and strategies and for working capital and general corporate purposes. To the extent we receive less, the amount we have available for such purposes will be reduced.

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The following table sets forth our capitalization as of June 30, 2012:

- (i) on an actual basis,
- (ii) on an as adjusted basis to give effect to (a) the issuance of approximately \$41.5 million in aggregate principal amount of the April 2019 Notes in July 2012 and the application of the proceeds therefrom and (b) the issuance of \$75.0 million in aggregate principal amount of the September 2019 Notes in September 2012 and the application of the proceeds therefrom; and
- (iii) on an as further adjusted basis to give effect to the sale of 3,100,000 shares of common stock in this offering at a price of \$ per share and the application of the proceeds therefrom.

You should read this table together with the Use of Proceeds section and our statement of assets and liabilities included elsewhere in this prospectus supplement.

	As of June 30, 2012		
	Actual (i)	As Adjusted (ii) (in thousands)	As Further Adjusted (iii)
Investments at fair value	\$ 722,813	\$ 722,813	\$
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 56,140	\$ 168,185	\$
Debt:			
Wells Facility ⁽¹⁾	3,130	3,130	
Union Bank Facility			
Long-term SBA debentures	200,750	200,750	
Convertible Senior Notes	70,894	70,894	
April 2019 Notes	43,000	84,490	
September 2019 Notes		75,000	
Total debt ⁽²⁾	\$ 317,774	\$ 434,264	\$
Stockholders' equity:			
Common stock, par value \$0.001 per share; 100,000,000 shares authorized; 49,742,983 shares issued and outstanding	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$
Capital in excess of par value	534,165	534,165	
Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	(21,102)	(21,102)	
Accumulated realized gains (losses) on investments	(31,902)	(31,902)	
Distributions in excess of investment income	(6,430)	(6,430)	
Total stockholders' equity	\$ 474,781	\$ 474,781	\$
Total capitalization	\$ 792,555	\$ 909,045	\$

(1) As of September 10, 2012, there were no borrowings outstanding under the Wells Facility.

(2) See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Subsequent Events in this prospectus supplement for more information with respect to the April 2019 Notes, and Prospectus Supplement Summary - Recent Developments in this prospectus supplement for more information regarding the September 2019 Notes and April 2019 Notes.

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

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and related notes and other financial information appearing elsewhere in this prospectus supplement. In addition to historical information, the following discussion and other parts of this prospectus supplement contain forward-looking information that involves risks and uncertainties. Our actual results could differ materially from those anticipated by such forward-looking information due to the factors discussed under Supplemental Risk Factors, Risk Factors and Forward-Looking Statements appearing elsewhere herein.

Overview

We are a specialty finance firm focused on providing senior secured loans to entrepreneurial venture capital and private equity-backed companies in technology-related markets at all stages of development, including technology, biotechnology, life science, healthcare services and cleantech industries. We primarily finance privately-held companies backed by leading venture capital and private equity firms, and also may finance certain publicly-traded companies that lack access to public capital or are sensitive to equity ownership dilution. We source our investments through our principal office located in Silicon Valley, as well as through additional offices in Boston, MA, Boulder, CO, and McLean, VA.

Our goal is to be the leading structured debt financing provider of choice for venture capital and private equity backed technology-related companies requiring sophisticated and customized financing solutions. Our strategy is to evaluate and invest in a broad range of technology-related companies including technology, biotechnology, life science, healthcare services and cleantech companies and to offer a full suite of growth capital products up and down the capital structure. We invest primarily in structured debt with warrants and, to a lesser extent, in senior debt and equity investments. We use the term structured debt with warrants to refer to any debt investment, such as a senior or subordinated secured loan, that is coupled with an equity component, including warrants, options or rights to purchase common or preferred stock. Our structured debt with warrants investments will typically be secured by some or all of the assets of the portfolio companies.

Our investment objective is to maximize our portfolio total return by generating current income from our debt investments and capital appreciation from our equity-related investments. Our primary business objectives are to increase our net income, net operating income and net asset value by investing in structured debt with warrants and equity of venture capital and private equity backed technology-related companies with attractive current yields and the potential for equity appreciation and realized gains. Our structured debt investments typically include warrants or other equity interests, giving us the potential to realize equity-like returns on a portion of our investments. Our equity ownership in our portfolio companies may represent a controlling interest. In some cases, we receive the right to make additional equity investments in our portfolio companies in connection with future equity financing rounds. Capital that we provide directly to venture capital and private equity backed technology-related companies is generally used for growth and general working capital purposes as well as in select cases for acquisitions or recapitalizations.

We are an internally managed, non-diversified closed-end investment company that has elected to be regulated as a business development company under the 1940 Act. As a business development company, we are required to comply with certain regulatory requirements. For instance, we generally have to invest at least 70% of our total assets in qualifying assets, including securities of private U.S. companies, cash, cash equivalents, and high-quality debt investments that mature in one year or less.

From incorporation through December 31, 2005, we were taxed as a corporation under Subchapter C of the Internal Revenue Code, or the Code. As of January 1, 2006, we have elected to be treated for federal income tax purposes as a regulated investment company, or a RIC, under Subchapter M of the Code. Pursuant to this election, we generally will not have to pay corporate-level taxes on any income that we distribute to our stockholders. However, such an election and qualification to be treated as a RIC requires that we comply with

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certain requirements contained in Subchapter M of the Code. For example, a RIC must meet certain requirements, including source-of income, asset diversification and income distribution requirements. The income source requirement mandates that we receive 90% or more of our income from qualified earnings, typically referred to as good income. Qualified earnings may exclude such income as management fees received in connection with our SBIC or other potential outside managed funds and certain other fees.

Our portfolio is comprised of, and we anticipate that our portfolio will continue to be comprised of, investments primarily in technology-related companies at various stages of their development. Consistent with regulatory requirements, we invest primarily in United States based companies and to a lesser extent in foreign companies. Our investing emphasis has been primarily on private companies following or in connection with a subsequent institutional round of equity financing, which we refer to as expansion-stage companies and private companies in later rounds of financing and certain public companies, which we refer to as established-stage companies and select lower middle market technology companies. We have focused our investment activities in private companies following or in connection with the first institutional round of financing, which we refer to as emerging-growth companies.

We regularly engage in discussions with third parties in respect of various potential transactions. We may acquire an investment or a portfolio of investments or an entire company or sell a portion of our portfolio on an opportunistic basis. We or our subsidiaries may also agree to manage certain other funds that invest in debt, equity or provide other financing or services to companies in a variety of industries for which we may earn management or other fees for our services. We may also invest in the equity of these funds, along with other third parties, from which we would seek to earn a return and/or future incentive allocations. Some of these transactions could be material to our business. Consummation of any such transaction will be subject to completion of due diligence, finalization of key business and financial terms (including price) and negotiation of final definitive documentation as well as a number of other factors and conditions including, without limitation, the approval of our board of directors and required regulatory or third party consents and, in certain cases, the approval of our stockholders. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that any such transaction would be consummated. Any of these transactions or funds may require significant management resources either during the transaction phase or on an ongoing basis depending on the terms of the transaction.

Portfolio and Investment Activity

The total value of our investment portfolio was \$722.8 million at June 30, 2012 as compared to \$652.9 million at December 31, 2011.

During the six-month period ended June 30, 2012 we made debt and equity commitments to new and existing portfolio companies, including restructured loans, totaling \$223.4 million and \$16.9 million, respectively. Debt commitments for the six-month period ended June 30, 2012 included commitments of approximately \$134.7 million to 17 new portfolio companies and \$88.7 million, including restructured loans, to 11 existing companies. Equity commitments for the six-month period ended June 30, 2012 included commitments of approximately \$14.6 million to two new portfolio companies and \$2.3 million to two existing companies.

During the three and six-month periods ended June 30, 2012, we funded investments in debt securities, totaling approximately \$106.9 million and \$169.8 million, respectively. During the three and six-month periods ended June 30, 2012, we funded equity investments of approximately \$5.0 million and \$7.1 million, respectively. During the six-month period ended June 30, 2012, the Company converted approximately \$356,000 of debt to equity in one portfolio company, and the investment in Facebook, Inc. of approximately \$9.6 million was transferred from Other Assets to Investments.

At June 30, 2012, we had unfunded contractual commitments of approximately \$92.7 million to 22 new and existing companies. Approximately \$32.6 million of these unfunded origination activity commitments are dependent upon the portfolio company reaching certain milestones before the Hercules debt commitment becomes available.

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These commitments will be subject to the same underwriting and ongoing portfolio maintenance as the on-balance sheet financial instruments that we hold. Since these commitments may expire without being drawn, unfunded commitments do not necessarily represent future cash requirements. In addition, we have approximately \$48.0 million of non-binding term sheets outstanding to six new and existing companies at June 30, 2012. Non-binding outstanding term sheets are subject to completion of our due diligence and final approval process, as well as the negotiation of definitive documentation with the prospective portfolio companies. Not all non-binding term sheets are expected to close and do not necessarily represent future cash requirements.

The fair value of the loan portfolio at June 30, 2012 was approximately \$647.1 million, compared to a fair value of approximately \$411.6 million at June 30, 2011. The fair value of the equity portfolio at June 30, 2012 and 2011 was approximately \$47.6 million and \$31.1 million, respectively. The fair value of our warrant portfolio at June 30, 2012 and 2011 was approximately \$28.1 million and \$32.5 million, respectively.

We receive payments in our loan portfolio based on scheduled amortization of the outstanding balances. In addition, we receive repayments of some of our loans prior to their scheduled maturity date. The frequency or volume of these repayments may fluctuate significantly from period to period. During the six month period ended June 30, 2012, we received approximately \$99.6 million of principal repayments, including normal principal amortization repayments of approximately \$37.1 million, and early repayments of approximately \$62.5 million. During the six month period ended June 30, 2012, we restructured our debt investments in two portfolio companies for approximately \$49.1 million and converted \$356,000 of debt to equity.

During the three-month period ended June 30, 2012, two of our portfolio companies completed initial public offerings. On May 10, 2012, WageWorks, Inc. completed its initial public offering of 6,500,000 shares of common stock at a price to the public of \$9.00 per share, and on May 18, 2012, Facebook Inc. completed its initial public offering of 421,233,615 shares of common stock at a price to the public of \$38.00 per share.

As of June 30, 2012, we held warrants or equity positions in three companies which filed registration statements on Form S-1 with the SEC in contemplation of potential initial public offerings, including Glori Energy, Inc., iWatt, Inc., and one company that filed a registration statement confidentially under the JOBS Act. During the second quarter of 2012, BrightSource Energy, Inc. withdrew its registration statement for its initial public offering. There can be no assurance that these companies will complete their initial public offerings in a timely manner or at all.

Total portfolio investment activity as of June 30, 2012 (unaudited) and for the year ended December 31, 2011 is as follows:

(in millions)	June 30, 2012	December 31, 2011
Beginning Portfolio	\$ 652.9	\$ 472.0
Purchase of debt investments	169.8	433.4
Equity Investments	7.1	2.1
Sale of Investments	(5.6)	(18.6)
Principal payments received on investments	(37.1)	(65.2)
Early pay-offs and recoveries	(62.5)	(182.1)
Accretion of loan discounts and paid-in-kind principal	6.2	6.6
Net change in unrealized depreciation in investments	(17.7)	4.7
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) in Citigroup participation	0.1	(0.2)
Conversion of Other Assets to Equity	9.6	0.2
Restructure fundings		16.1
Restructure payoffs		(16.1)