CorMedix Inc. Form DEF 14A April 24, 2017

#### **SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION**

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

**Preliminary Proxy Statement** 

Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

**Definitive Proxy Statement** 

**Definitive Additional Materials** 

Soliciting Material Pursuant to § 240.14a-12

CorMedix Inc.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement if Other Than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

No fee required.

Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(4) and 0-11.

- 1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:
- 2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:
- 3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):
- 4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:
- 5) Total fee paid:

Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

- 1) Amount Previously Paid:
- 2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:
- 3) Filing Party:

4) Date Filed:

CORMEDIX INC. 1430 U.S. Highway 206, Suite 200 Bedminster, New Jersey 07921

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS TO BE HELD JUNE 6, 2017

TO THE STOCKHOLDERS OF CORMEDIX INC.

A special meeting of stockholders of CorMedix Inc. will be held at 1545 U.S. Highway 206, First Floor Conference Room, Bedminster, New Jersey, on June 6, 2017, at 11:00 a.m. Eastern time, for the following purposes:

- 1. To elect six directors to serve until the 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders and until their successors are duly elected and qualified;
- To approve an amendment to our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to increase the number of
- 2. authorized shares of capital stock from 82,000,000 shares to 202,000,000 shares and to increase the number of authorized shares of common stock from 80,000,000 shares to 200,000,000 shares;
- 3. To ratify the appointment of Friedman LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017; and
- 4. To act upon such other matters as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

These matters are more fully described in the proxy statement accompanying this notice.

The Board has fixed the close of business on April 13, 2017 as the record date for the determination of stockholders entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting or any adjournment thereof. A list of stockholders eligible to vote at the meeting will be available for review during our regular business hours at our principal offices in Bedminster, New Jersey for the 10 days prior to the meeting for review for any purposes related to the meeting.

You are cordially invited to attend the meeting in person. However, to assure your representation at the meeting, you are urged to vote by proxy by following the instructions contained in the accompanying proxy statement. You may revoke your proxy in the manner described in the proxy statement at any time before it has been voted at the meeting. Any stockholder attending the meeting may vote in person even if he or she has returned a proxy. Your vote is important. Whether or not you plan to attend the special meeting, we hope that you will vote as soon as possible.

We are pleased to take advantage of the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, rules that allow us to furnish proxy materials, including this notice, and the proxy statement (including an electronic proxy card for the meeting) for the special meeting via the Internet. Taking advantage of these rules allows us to lower the cost of delivering annual meeting materials to our stockholders and reduce the environmental impact of printing and mailing these materials.

Bedminster, New Jersey Dated: April 24, 2017

By Order of the Board of Directors Antony E. Pfaffle, M.D., Secretary

### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE SPECIAL MEETING

Q: Who may vote at the meeting?

The Board of Directors has set April 13, 2017 as the record date for the meeting. If you owned shares of our common stock at the close of business on April 13, 2017, you may attend and vote at the meeting. Each stockholder is entitled to one vote for each share of common stock held on all matters to be voted on. As of April 13, 2017, there were 40,720,838 shares of our common stock outstanding and entitled to vote at the meeting. Our outstanding Series C-2, C-3, D and E preferred stock is non-voting and therefore has no voting rights at the Special Meeting.

Q: What is the difference between holding shares as a stockholder of record and as a beneficial owner?

If your shares are registered directly in your name with our transfer agent, VStock Transfer, LLC, you are A: considered, with respect to those shares, a "stockholder of record." If you are a stockholder of record, we have sent the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials to you directly.

If your shares are held in a stock brokerage account or by a bank or other holder of record, you are considered the "beneficial owner" of shares held in street name. In that case, the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials has been forwarded to you by your broker, bank, or other holder of record who is considered, with respect to those shares, the stockholder of record. As the beneficial owner, you have the right to direct your broker, bank, or other holder of record on how to vote your shares by using the voting instruction card you receive.

Q: What is the quorum requirement for the meeting?

A majority of our outstanding shares of capital stock entitled to vote as of the record date must be present at the A: meeting in order for us to hold the meeting and conduct business. This is called a quorum. Your shares will be counted as present at the meeting if you:

are present and entitled to vote in person at the meeting; or

properly submitted a proxy card or voter instruction card in advance of or at the meeting.

If you are present in person or by proxy at the meeting, but abstain from voting on any or all proposals, your shares are still counted as present and entitled to vote. The proposal listed in this proxy statement identifies the votes needed to approve or ratify the proposed action.

Q: What proposals will be voted on at the meeting?

1.

2.

A: The proposals to be voted on at the meeting are as follows:

To elect the six directors named in the proxy statement to serve until our next annual meeting or until their successors have been elected and qualified;

To approve an amendment to our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to increase the number of authorized shares of capital stock from 82,000,000 shares to 202,000,000 shares and to increase the number of

authorized shares of common stock from 80,000,000 shares to 200,000,000 shares; and 3.

To ratify the appointment of Friedman LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017.

We will also consider any other business that properly comes before the meeting. As of the record date, we are not aware of any other matters to be submitted for consideration at the meeting. If any other matters are properly brought before the meeting, the persons named in the enclosed proxy card or voter instruction card will vote the shares they represent using their best judgment.

i

Q: How may I vote my shares in person at the meeting?

If your shares are registered directly in your name with our transfer agent, VStock Transfer, LLC, you are considered, with respect to those shares, the stockholder of record. As the stockholder of record, you have the right to vote in person at the meeting. You will need to present a form of personal photo identification in order to be admitted to the meeting. If your shares are held in a brokerage account or by another nominee or trustee, you are considered the beneficial owner of shares held in street name. As the beneficial owner, you are also invited to attend the meeting. Because a beneficial owner is not the stockholder of record, you may not vote these shares in person at the meeting unless you obtain a "legal proxy" from your broker, nominee, or trustee that holds your shares, giving you the right to vote the shares at the meeting.

Q: How can I vote my shares without attending the meeting?

Whether you hold shares directly as a registered stockholder of record or beneficially in street name, you may vote without attending the meeting. If your common stock is held by a broker, bank or other nominee, they should send you instructions that you must follow in order to have your shares voted. If you hold shares in your own name, you may vote by proxy in any one of the following ways:

Via the Internet by accessing the proxy materials on the secured website https://www.IPROXYDIRECT.com/CRMD and following the voting instructions on that website;

Via telephone by calling toll free 1-866-752-8683 in the United States or 1-866-752-VOTE (8683) outside the United States and following the recorded instructions; or

By requesting that printed copies of the proxy materials be mailed to you pursuant to the instructions provided in the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials and completing, dating, signing and returning the proxy card that you receive in response to your request.

The Internet and telephone voting procedures are designed to authenticate stockholders' identities by use of a control number to allow stockholders to vote their shares and to confirm that stockholders' instructions have been properly recorded. Voting via the Internet or telephone must be completed by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on June 5, 2017. Of course, you can always come to the meeting and vote your shares in person. If you submit or return a proxy card without giving specific voting instructions, your shares will be voted as recommended by the Board of Directors.

Q: How can I change my vote after submitting it?

A: If you are a stockholder of record, you can revoke your proxy before your shares are voted at the meeting by:

Filing a written notice of revocation bearing a later date than the proxy with our Corporate Secretary either before the meeting or at the meeting at 1430 U.S. Highway 206, Suite 200, Bedminster, New Jersey 07921;

Duly executing a later-dated proxy relating to the same shares and delivering it to our Corporate Secretary either before the meeting or at the meeting and before the taking of the vote, at 1430 U.S. Highway 206, Suite 200,

Bedminster, New Jersey 07921; or

Attending the meeting and voting in person (although attendance at the meeting will not in and of itself constitute a revocation of a proxy).

If you are a beneficial owner of shares, you may submit new voting instructions by contacting your bank, broker, or other holder of record. You may also vote in person at the meeting if you obtain a legal proxy from them as described in the answer to a previous question.

Q: Where can I find the voting results of the meeting?

A: We will announce the voting results at the special meeting. We will publish the results in a Form 8-K filed with the SEC within four business days of the special meeting.

ii

CORMEDIX INC. 1430 U.S. Highway 206, Suite 200 Bedminster, New Jersey 07921

PROXY STATEMENT SPECIAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS JUNE 6, 2017

This proxy statement has been prepared by the management of CorMedix Inc. "We," "our" and the "Company" each refers to CorMedix Inc.

In accordance with the rules of the SEC, instead of mailing a printed copy of our proxy materials to each stockholder of record, we are furnishing proxy materials, including the notice, this proxy statement, and a proxy card for the meeting, by providing access to them on the Internet to save printing costs and benefit the environment. These materials were first available on the Internet on or about April 24, 2017. We mailed a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials on or about April 24, 2017 to our stockholders of record and beneficial owners as of April 13, 2017, the record date for the meeting. This proxy statement and the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials contain instructions for accessing and reviewing our proxy materials on the Internet and for voting by proxy over the Internet. You will need to obtain your own Internet access if you choose to access the proxy materials and/or vote over the Internet. If you prefer to receive printed copies of our proxy materials, the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials contains instructions on how to request the materials by mail. You will not receive printed copies of the proxy materials unless you request them. If you elect to receive the materials by mail, you may also vote by proxy on the proxy card or voter instruction card that you will receive in response to your request.

# GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT SOLICITATION VOTING AND ATTENDING

### Who Can Vote

You are entitled to attend the meeting and vote your common stock if you held shares as of the close of business on April 13, 2017. At the close of business on April 13, 2017, a total of 40,720,838 shares of common stock were outstanding and entitled to vote. Each share of common stock has one vote.

## Counting Votes

Consistent with state law and our bylaws, the presence, in person or by proxy, of at least a majority of the shares entitled to vote at the meeting will constitute a quorum for purposes of voting on a particular matter at the meeting. Once a share is represented for any purpose at the meeting, it is deemed present for quorum purposes for the remainder of the meeting and any adjournment thereof unless a new record date is set for the adjournment. Shares held of record by stockholders or their nominees who do not vote by proxy or attend the meeting in person will not be considered present or represented and will not be counted in determining the presence of a quorum. Signed proxies that withhold authority or reflect abstentions and "broker non-votes" will be counted for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present. "Broker non-votes" are proxies received from brokerage firms or other nominees holding shares on behalf of their clients who have not been given specific voting instructions from their clients with respect to non-routine matters.

Assuming the presence of a quorum at the meeting:

The election of directors will be determined by a plurality of the votes cast at the meeting. This means that the six nominees receiving the highest number of "FOR" votes will be elected as directors. Withheld votes and broker non-votes, if any, are not treated as votes cast, and therefore will have no effect on the proposal to elect directors.

The vote on the amendment to our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to increase the number of authorized shares of capital stock from 82,000,000 shares to 202,000,000 shares and to increase the number of authorized shares of common stock from 80,000,000 shares to 200,000,000 shares requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares outstanding and able to vote at the meeting. Withheld votes and broker non-votes, if any, will effectively be a vote against this proposal.

The ratification of the appointment of our independent registered public accounting firm requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast at the meeting. Withheld votes and broker non-votes, if any, are not treated as votes cast, and therefore will have no effect on this proposal.

With respect to "routine" matters, such as the ratification of the selection of our independent registered public accounting firm, a bank, brokerage firm, or other nominee has the authority (but is not required) under the rules governing self-regulatory organizations, or SRO rules, including the NYSE MKT, on which our common stock is listed, to vote its clients' shares if the clients do not provide instructions. When a bank, brokerage firm, or other nominee votes its clients' shares on routine matters without receiving voting instructions, these shares are counted both for establishing a quorum to conduct business at the meeting and in determining the number of shares voted FOR, AGAINST or ABSTAINING with respect to such routine matters.

With respect to "non-routine" matters, such as the amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation, a bank, brokerage firm, or other nominee is not permitted under the SRO rules to vote its clients' shares if the clients do not provide instructions. The bank, brokerage firm, or other nominee will so note on the voting instruction form, and this constitutes a "broker non-vote." "Broker non-votes" will be counted for purposes of establishing a quorum. Because the proposal requires a majority of outstanding shares to vote for approval, a broker non-vote will effectively be a vote against this proposal.

While the election of directors is a non-routine matter, directors are elected by a plurality of the votes cast, which means that the six nominees receiving the highest number of votes will be elected. As a result, broker non-votes have no effect on the election.

In summary, if you do not vote your proxy, your bank, brokerage firm, or other nominee may either:

cast a "broker non-vote" on non-routine matters; or

leave your shares unvoted altogether.

We strongly encourage you to provide instructions to your bank, brokerage firm, or other nominee by voting your proxy. This action ensures that your shares will be voted in accordance with your wishes at the meeting.

Cost of this Proxy Solicitation

We will pay the cost of this proxy solicitation. In addition to soliciting proxies by mail, our directors and employees might solicit proxies personally and by telephone. None of these individuals will receive any additional compensation for this. We did not, but may in the future, retain a proxy solicitor to assist in the solicitation of proxies for a fee. We

will, upon request, reimburse brokers, banks and other nominees for their expenses in sending proxy materials to their principals and obtaining their proxies.

# Attending the Special Meeting

If you are a holder of record and plan to attend the special meeting, please bring a photo identification to confirm your identity. If you are a beneficial owner of common stock held by a bank or broker, i.e., in "street name," you will need proof of ownership to be admitted to the meeting. A recent brokerage statement or letter from a bank or broker are examples of proof of ownership. If you want to vote in person your common stock held in street name, you must get a proxy in your name from the registered holder.

#### PROPOSAL NO. 1 – ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Our bylaws currently provide that the number of directors constituting the Board shall be not less than five nor more than nine. The Board may establish the number of directors within this range. There are six directors presently serving on our Board, and the number of directors to be elected at this annual meeting is six. In March 2015, in connection with a backstop financing agreement, we granted Manchester Securities Corp., our largest stockholder, the right for as long as it or its affiliates hold any of our common stock or securities convertible into our common stock the right to appoint up to two members to our Board of Directors and/or to have up to two observers attend Board meetings in a non-voting capacity. Manchester has exercised these rights and has appointed Janet Dillione and Myron Kaplan as members of the Board.

The Board proposes the six nominees listed below for election to the Board for a one-year term. The Board has determined that directors Janet Dillione, Michael George, Myron Kaplan, Taunia Markvicka and Cora Tellez are independent as defined in Rule 803A(2) of the NYSE MKT Rules. The Board has determined that director Khoso Baluch, who is also our Chief Executive Officer, is not independent under that definition. In addition to the specific bars to independence set forth in that rule, we also consider whether a director or his or her affiliates have provided any services to, worked for or received any compensation from us or any of our subsidiaries in the past three years in particular. In addition, none of the nominees is related by blood, marriage or adoption to any other nominee or any of our executive officers.

## Director Nominees with Terms Expiring in 2017

Name	Age	Director Since	Position(s) with CorMedix
Khoso Baluch	59	October 2016	Director and Chief Executive Officer
Janet M. Dillione	57	August 2015	Director
Michael W. George	68	February 2014	Director
Myron Kaplan	72	April 2016	Director
Taunia Markvicka	48	April 2014	Director
Cora M. Tellez	67	April 2014	Director

Khoso Baluch joined our Board in October 2016 upon his appointment as our Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Baluch previously served as Senior Vice President and President Europe, Middle East & Africa EMEA of UCB, SA, or UCB, from January 2015 to early 2016, Senior Vice President and President of the European Region of UCB from February 2013 to December 2014, and Senior Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer of UCB from January 2010 to February 2013. Prior to joining UCB, Mr. Baluch worked for Eli Lilly & Co for 24 years, holding international positions spanning Europe, the Middle East and the United States in general management, business development, market access and product leadership. He has served as an independent director of Poxel SA, a French publicly traded biotech company, since 2013. Mr. Baluch holds a BSc in Aeronautical Engineering from City University London and a Masters of Business Administration from Cranfield School of Management. Among other qualifications, attributes and skills, Mr. Baluch's business expertise and significant executive management experience in the pharmaceutical industry led to the conclusion of our Board that he should serve as a director of our company in light of our business and structure.

Janet M. Dillione has been a director of CorMedix since August 2015. Ms. Dillione has served as the Chief Executive Officer of Bernoulli (formerly known as Cardiopulmonary Corp.), a leader in medical device connectivity for EMR integration, and integrated clinical applications and workflows for over 20 years, since 2014. Previously, she was at Nuance Communications, Inc., a leading provider of voice and language solutions for businesses and consumers around the world, having joined Nuance in April 2010 as Executive Vice President and General Manager of the Healthcare Division and serving as an executive officer from May 2010 until March 2014. From June 2000 to April 2010, Ms. Dillione held several senior level management positions at Siemens Medical Solutions, a global leader in

medical imaging, laboratory diagnostics, and healthcare information technology, including President and CEO of the global healthcare IT division. Ms. Dillione received her B.A. from Brown University in 1981 and completed the Executive Program at The Wharton School of Business of the University of Pennsylvania in 1995. She has over 25 years of experience leading global teams in the development and delivery of healthcare technology and services. Among other qualifications, attributes and skills, Ms. Dillione's financial expertise and significant executive management experience with medical device and healthcare companies led to the conclusion of our Board that she should serve as a director of our company in light of our business and structure.

Michael W. George joined our Board in February 2014. Mr. George is currently the Chief Executive Officer of Michael George & Associates, a health care consulting firm. Prior to forming Michael George & Associates, Mr. George served as a restructuring and turnaround executive for aaiPharma Inc., Derm Tech International and Urocor, Inc. Prior to that, he served as President/North America of Elan Pharmaceuticals. He has over 25 years of sales and marketing experience, including senior management positions, with three large pharmaceutical companies, DuPont Merck Pharmaceutical Company, Bristol Myers Pharmaceutical Company and Sandoz Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (now Novartis). Mr. George recently served on the board of ClearPath Diagnostics, Inc., a private company that was sold in the fall of 2016, and Coastal Horizons, Inc., a non-profit corporation, until his term ended. He has served on the boards of two other public companies. He holds a B.S. in Business Administration from Central Missouri State University (now the University of Central Missouri) and a Masters of Business Administration from New Hampshire College (now the University of Southern New Hampshire). Among other experience, qualifications, attributes and skills, Mr. George's executive, commercial and marketing expertise with pharmaceutical companies led to the conclusion of our Board that he should serve as a director of our company in light of our business and structure.

Myron Kaplan became a director of CorMedix in April 2016. He is a founding partner of Kleinberg, Kaplan, Wolff & Cohen, P.C., a New York City general practice law firm, where he has practiced corporate and securities law for more than forty years. In 2012, Mr. Kaplan became a trustee of the Lehman Brothers Plan Holding Trust. Previously, he served as a member of the board of directors of SAirGroup Finance (USA) Inc., a subsidiary of SAirGroup that had publicly issued debt securities, Trans World Airlines, Inc. and Kitty Hawk, Inc. Among his business and civic involvements, Mr. Kaplan currently serves on the boards of directors of a number of private companies and has been active for many years on the Boards of Trustees and various board committees of The Children's Museum of Manhattan and JBI International (formerly The Jewish Braille Institute of America). Mr. Kaplan graduated from Columbia College and holds a Juris Doctor from Harvard Law School. Among other experience, qualifications, attributes and skills, Mr. Kaplan's experience in a broad range of corporate and securities matters and service as a director of public companies led to the conclusion of our Board that he should serve as a director of our company in light of our business and structure.

Taunia Markvicka PharmD, MBA became a director of CorMedix in April 2014. She is Chief Commercial Officer at Symbiomix Therapeutics. Prior to this, she was Senior Vice President, Chief Commercial Officer at Pacira Pharmaceuticals (Nasdaq: PCRX), a position she held since January 2014 to January 2016, prior to which she served as Vice President, Commercial at Pacira, beginning in November 2010, and where she first began working in 2008. Ms. Markvicka has a strong commercial and clinical background, and has extensive experience in managing a product strategy from development to commercialization. She has been responsible for all facets of commercialization, market analysis, pre-launch planning, forecasts, budgets and launches. She has held leadership roles at Stack Pharma, The Medicines Company, Watson Pharmaceuticals, and Sandoz Pharmaceuticals (now Novartis). Among other experience, qualifications, attributes and skills, Ms. Markvicka's commercial and marketing expertise with pharmaceutical companies led to the conclusion of our Board that she should serve as a director of our company in light of our business and structure.

Cora M. Tellez joined the Board of CorMedix in April 2014. She is currently President and CEO of Sterling HSA, a company she founded in 2004. Mr. Tellez has 25 years of management experience in health care finance and delivery. Prior to founding Sterling HSA, Ms. Tellez was President of the Health Plans division of Health Net, Inc., an insurance provider that operated in seven states and achieved revenue of \$8 billion from health plans. She has also served as President of Prudential's western health operations, CEO of Blue Shield of California, Bay Region and Regional Manager for Kaiser Permanente of Hawaii. She serves on the boards of HMS Holdings, Inc. (NASDAQ:HMSY) and Pacific Premier Bancorp Inc. (NASDAQ:PPBI). She previously served as a former board director of Crescent Healthcare, Bank of Hawaii, Glendale Federal Bank, Cal Fed Bank, Catellus Development Company, First Consulting Group and Practice Fusion. Among other experience, qualifications, attributes and skills, Ms. Tellez's business experience in the healthcare industry, and her service as a director of a public company, led to

the conclusion of our Board that she should serve as a director of our company in light of our business and structure.

# Vote Required

Directors are elected by a plurality of the votes cast at the annual meeting. This means that the six nominees receiving the highest number of votes will be elected.

## Recommendation

The Board recommends that stockholders vote FOR the election of the six nominees for election to the Board for a one-year term.

PROPOSAL NO. 2-APPROVAL OF THE AMENDMENT TO OUR AMENDED AND RESTATED CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF AUTHORIZED SHARES OF CAPITAL STOCK FROM 82,000,000 SHARES TO 202,000,000 SHARES AND TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF AUTHORIZED SHARES OF COMMON STOCK FROM 80,000,000 SHARES TO 200,000,000 SHARES

Our Board of Directors has approved and recommended a proposal to amend our amended and restated Certificate of Incorporation ("Certificate of Incorporation"), substantially in the form of Appendix A hereto, to increase our shares of authorized capital stock from 82,000,000 shares to 202,000,000 shares and to increase the number of authorized shares of common stock from 80,000,000 to 200,000,000 shares.

If approved by our stockholders, we intend to file the amendment with the Secretary of State of Delaware as soon as practicable following the annual meeting, and the amendment will be effective upon such filing. If the proposal is not approved by our stockholders, our Certificate of Incorporation will continue as currently in effect.

### **Current Structure**

As of April 13, 2017, we had 82,000,000 authorized shares, with 80,000,000 shares designated as common stock, \$0.001 par value per share, of which 40,720,838 shares were issued and outstanding, and 2,000,000 shares of preferred stock, \$0.001 par value per share, of which 442,585 shares were issued and outstanding. Of the remaining 39,279,162 authorized shares of common stock, 6,228,999 shares are reserved for issuance upon the conversion of the outstanding shares of our Series C, Series D and Series E preferred stock, 5,667,045 shares are reserved for issuance upon the exercise of issued and outstanding options, 107,931 shares are reserved for issuance upon the vesting of restricted stock units, 81,038 shares are reserved for issuance pursuant to deferred director compensation, 4,507,569 shares are reserved for future issuance under our 2013 Stock Incentive Plan, and 4,006,468 shares are reserved for issuance upon the exercise of issued and outstanding warrants. This leaves an aggregate of only 18,680,112 shares of our authorized common stock remaining available for future issuance.

### Background and Purpose of the Amendment

The Board of Directors believes it continues to be in our best interest to have sufficient additional authorized but unissued shares of common stock available in order to provide flexibility for corporate action in the future. Management believes that the availability of additional authorized shares for issuance from time to time in the Board of Directors' discretion in connection with possible future financings or for other corporate uses is critical to our long-term success and is in the best interests of our company and our stockholders. While we currently have no specific understandings, arrangements or agreements with respect to any future actions that would require us to issue a material amount of the additional new shares of our common stock, in light of our need for additional financing in 2017 and in the future, the Board of Directors believes that the currently available unissued shares do not provide sufficient flexibility and anticipates having to draw on the proposed increase in authorized shares in 2017. In addition, we have entered into an At Market Issuance Sales Agreement with FBR for an at-the-market common stock program, which, in order to access the full \$40.0 million available, we would need the proposed increase in the authorized shares.

### Effects of the Amendment

If the proposed amendment of our Certificate of Incorporation is approved, the number of authorized shares of capital stock will be increased from 82,000,000 shares to 202,000,000 shares and the number of authorized shares of common stock of our Company will be increased from 80,000,000 to 200,000,000. The amendment will not change the par value of the shares of our common stock, affect the number of shares of our common stock that are outstanding, or affect the legal rights or privileges of holders of existing shares of common stock. The increase will not have any

effect on the authorized or outstanding shares of preferred stock. The increase will not have any effect on any outstanding equity incentive awards or warrants to purchase our common stock.

# Vote Required

Approval of the amendment to our Certificate of Incorporation to increase our authorized shares of capital stock from 82,000,000 shares to 202,000,000 shares and the authorized shares of common stock from 80,000,000 to 200,000,000 requires the receipt of the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of our common stock issued and outstanding as of the record date.

## Possible Anti-Takeover Implications of the Authorized Share Increase

We have no intent or plan to employ the additional unissued authorized shares as an anti-takeover device. As indicated above, the purpose of the increase in our authorized shares of common stock is to ensure that we have sufficient authorized common stock to, among other things, to provide flexibility to consummate future equity financings and other corporate opportunities. However, our authorized but unissued shares of common stock could (within the limits imposed by applicable law and regulation) be issued in one or more transactions that could make a change of control more difficult and therefore more unlikely.

Our Board did not propose the increase in our authorized shares of capital and common stock in response to any effort known to our Board to accumulate common stock or to obtain control of our company by means of a merger, tender offer or solicitation in opposition to management. Further, our Board does not currently contemplate recommending the adoption of any other amendments to our Certificate of Incorporation that could be construed as limiting the ability of third parties to consummate a takeover or effect a change of control. Although this proposal to increase the authorized number of shares of capital and common stock has been prompted by business and financial considerations and not by the threat of any known or threatened hostile takeover attempt, stockholders should be aware that approval of this proposal could facilitate future efforts by our Company to oppose changes in control of our company and perpetuate our company's management, including transactions in which the stockholders might otherwise receive a premium for their shares over then-current market prices.

The issuance in the future of additional authorized shares of common stock may have the effect of diluting the earnings or loss per share and book value per share, as well as the ownership and voting rights of the holders of our then-outstanding shares of common stock. In addition, an increase in the number of authorized but unissued shares of common stock may have a potential anti-takeover effect, as our ability to issue additional shares could be used to thwart persons, or otherwise dilute the stock ownership of stockholders, seeking to control our company. The increase in the authorized shares of capital and common stock is not being recommended by our Board as part of an anti-takeover strategy.

#### Recommendation

The Board of Directors has unanimously approved the amendment to our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and recommends that you vote FOR Proposal No. 2.

#### PROPOSAL NO. 3 – RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT

### REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

Pursuant to its charter, the Audit Committee of our Board has appointed the firm Friedman LLP, New York, New York, to serve as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017. While the Audit Committee is solely responsible for the appointment, compensation, retention and oversight of the independent registered public accounting firm, the Committee and the Board are requesting that the stockholders ratify this appointment. If the stockholders ratify this appointment, the Audit Committee, in its discretion, may appoint a different independent registered public accounting firm at any time during the year if it believes that doing so would be in the best interests of our stockholders. If the stockholders do not ratify this appointment, the Audit Committee may reconsider, but might not change, its appointment.

Representatives of Friedman LLP are expected to be present at the annual meeting of stockholders with the opportunity to make a statement if they desire to do so and are expected to be available to respond to appropriate questions.

## Vote Required

Ratification of the appointment of Friedman LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast at the meeting.

#### Recommendation

The Board unanimously recommends that stockholders vote FOR the ratification of the appointment of Friedman LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017.

#### CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Information about the Board of Directors and its Committees

### **Board Composition**

Our Board currently consists of six members. Directors elected at this meeting and each subsequent annual meeting will be elected for one-year terms or until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

We separate the positions of Chairman, currently held by independent director Cora M. Tellez, and that of Chief Executive Officer, currently held by Khoso Baluch. While the Board believes that separation of these positions serves our company well, and intends to maintain this separation where appropriate and practicable, the Board does not believe that it is appropriate to prohibit one person from serving as both Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.

### Selection of Nominees for our Board of Directors

To be considered as a director nominee, an individual must have, among other attributes: high personal and professional ethics, integrity and values; commitment to our company and its stockholders; an inquisitive and objective perspective and mature judgment; availability to perform all Board and committee responsibilities; and independence. In addition to these minimum requirements, the Nominating and Governance Committee will also evaluate whether the nominee's skills are complementary to the existing directors' skills and the Board's need for operational, management, financial, international, industry-specific or other expertise. We do not have a specific written policy with regard to the consideration of diversity in identifying director nominees. We focus on identifying nominees with experience, qualifications, attributes and skills to work with the other directors to serve the long-term interests of our stockholders. All those matters being equal, we do and will consider diversity a positive additional characteristic in potential nominees.

The Nominating and Governance Committee invites Board members to submit nominations for director. In addition to candidates submitted by Board members, director nominees recommended by stockholders will be considered. Stockholder recommendations must be made in accordance with the procedures described in the section titled "Stockholder Proposals" below and will receive the same consideration that other nominees receive. All nominees are evaluated by the Nominating and Governance Committee to determine whether they meet the minimum qualifications and whether they will satisfy the Board's needs for specific expertise at that time. The Committee recommends to the full Board nominees for election as directors at our annual meeting of stockholders.

No stockholder has nominated anyone for election as a director at this annual meeting.

#### GOVERNMENTAL AND REGULATORY RISKS

As A Holding Company, Limitations On The Ability Of Our Operating Subsidiaries To Make Distributions To Us Could Adversely Affect The Funding Of Our Operations.

We are a holding company that conducts operations through foreign (principally African) subsidiaries and joint ventures, and substantially all of our assets consist of equity in these entities. Accordingly, any limitation on the transfer of cash or other assets between the parent corporation and these entities, or among these entities, could restrict our ability to fund our operations efficiently. Any such limitations, or the perception that such limitations may exist now or in the future, could have an adverse impact on our valuation and stock price.

We Are Subject To Changes In The Regulatory Environment In Ghana.

Our mining operations and exploration activities in Ghana are subject to extensive regulation governing various matters, including: licensing production taxes water disposal toxic substances mine safety development exports imports labor standards occupational health and safety environmental protections Compliance with these regulations increases the costs of the following: planning designing 18 drilling

We believe that we are in substantial compliance with current laws and regulations in Ghana. However, these laws and regulations are subject to frequent change. For example, the Ghanaian government has adopted new, more stringent environmental regulations. Amendments to current laws and regulations governing operations and activities of mining companies or more stringent implementation or interpretation of these laws and regulations could have a material adverse impact on us, cause a reduction in levels of production and delay or prevent the development or expansion of our properties in Ghana.

Government regulations limit the proceeds from gold sales that may be withdrawn from Ghana. Changes in regulations that increase these restrictions could have a material adverse impact on us, as Bogoso/Prestea is our principal source of internally generated cash.

The Government Of Ghana Has The Right To Participate In The Ownership And Control Of Our Subsidiaries.

operating

developing

constructing

mine and other facilities closure

The Ghanaian government currently has a 10% carried interest in our subsidiaries that own our Bogoso/Prestea mine, Wassa development property and Prestea Underground property. The Ghanaian government also has or will have the right to acquire up to an additional 20% equity interest in each of these subsidiaries for a price to be determined by agreement or arbitration. We cannot assure you that the government will not seek to acquire additional equity interests in our Ghanaian operations, or as to the purchase price that the Government of Ghana would pay for any additional equity interest. A reduction in our equity interest could reduce our income or cash flows from Bogoso/Prestea, our anticipated income or cash flows from Wassa and amounts available to us for reinvestment.

#### We Are Subject To Risks Relating To Exploration, Development And Operations In Foreign Countries.

Certain laws, regulations and statutory provisions in certain countries in which we have mineral rights could, as they are currently written, have a material negative impact on our ability to develop or operate a commercial mine. For countries where we have exploration or development stage projects, we intend to negotiate mineral agreements with the governments of these countries and seek variances or otherwise be exempted from the provisions of these laws, regulations and/or statutory provisions. We cannot assure you, however, that we will be successful in obtaining mineral agreements or variances or exemptions on commercially acceptable terms.

Our assets and operations are affected by various political and economic uncertainties, including:

the risks of war or civil unrest;

expropriation and nationalization;

renegotiation or nullification of existing concessions, licenses, permits, and contracts;

illegal mining;

changes in taxation policies;

restrictions on foreign exchange and repatriation; and

changing political conditions, currency controls and governmental regulations that favor or require the awarding of contracts to local contractors or require foreign contractors to employ citizens of, or purchase supplies from, a particular jurisdiction.

19

## Illegal Mining Occurs On Our Properties, Is Difficult To Control, Can Disrupt Our Business And Can Expose Us To Liability.

In Ghana and French Guiana, artisanal miners illegally work on our properties from time to time, despite the fact that we have hired security personnel to protect our properties. The presence of illegal miners could lead to project delays and disputes regarding the development or operation of commercial gold deposits. The work performed by the illegal miners could cause environmental damage or other damage to our properties, or personal injury or death for which we could potentially be held responsible.

Our Activities Are Subject To Complex Laws, Regulations And Accounting Standards That Can Adversely Affect Operating And Development Costs, The Timing Of Operations, The Ability To Operate And Financial Results.

Our business, mining operations and exploration and development activities are subject to extensive Canadian, U.S., Ghanaian and other foreign, federal, state, provincial, territorial and local laws and regulations governing exploration, development, production, exports, taxes, labor standards, waste disposal, protection of the environment, reclamation, historic and cultural resources preservation, mine safety and occupational health, toxic substances, reporting and other matters, as well as accounting standards. Compliance with these laws, regulations and standards or the imposition of new such requirements could adversely affect operating and development costs, the timing of operations, the ability to operate and financial results.

### MARKET RISKS

The Market Price Of Our Common Shares May Experience Volatility And Could Decline Significantly.

Our common shares are listed on the American Stock Exchange, the Toronto Stock Exchange and the Berlin Stock Exchange. Securities of micro-cap and small-cap companies have experienced substantial volatility in the past, often based on factors unrelated to the financial performance or prospects of the companies involved. These factors include macroeconomic developments in North America and globally and market perceptions of the attractiveness of particular industries. Our share price is also likely to be significantly affected by short-term changes in gold prices or in our financial condition or results of operations as reflected in our quarterly earnings reports. Other factors unrelated to our performance that may have an effect on the price of our common shares include the following:

the extent of analytical coverage available to investors concerning our business may be limited if investment banks with research capabilities do not continue to follow our securities;

the limited trading volume and general market interest in our securities may affect an investor's ability to trade significant numbers of common shares;

the relatively small size of the public float will limit the ability of some institutions to invest in our securities;

under certain circumstances, our common shares could be classified as "penny stock" under applicable SEC rules; in that event, broker-dealers in the United States executing trades in our common shares would be subject to substantial administrative and procedural restrictions which could limit broker interest in involvement in our common shares; and

a substantial decline in our stock price that persists for a significant period of time could cause our securities to be delisted from the American Stock Exchange, the Toronto Stock Exchange and the Berlin Stock Exchange, further reducing market liquidity.

As a result of any of these factors, the market price of our common shares at any given point in time may not accurately reflect our long-term value. Securities class action litigation often has been

20

brought against companies following periods of volatility in the market price of their securities. We may in the future be the target of similar litigation. Securities litigation could result in substantial costs and damages and divert management's attention and resources.

### You May Have Difficulty Or Be Unable To Enforce Certain Civil Liabilities On Us, Certain Of Our Directors And Our Experts.

We are a Canadian corporation. Substantially all of our assets are located outside of Canada and the United States, and our head office is located in the United States. Additionally, a number of our directors and the experts named in this prospectus are residents of Canada. Although we have appointed Koffman Kalef, Suite 1900, 885 West Georgia Street, Vancouver, British Columbia and Field LLP, 1900, 350 - 7th Avenue S.W., Calgary, Alberta as our agents for service of process in the Provinces of British Columbia and Alberta respectively, it may not be possible for investors to collect judgments obtained in Canadian courts predicated on the civil liability provisions of securities legislation. It may also be difficult for you to effect service of process in connection with any action brought in the United States upon such directors and experts. Execution by United States courts of any judgment obtained against us, any of the directors, executive officers or experts named in this prospectus in United States courts would be limited to the assets of Golden Star Resources Ltd. or the assets of such persons or corporations, as the case may be, in the United States. The enforceability in Canada of United States judgments or liabilities in original actions in Canadian courts predicated solely upon the civil liability provisions of the federal securities laws of the United States is doubtful.

## We Do Not Anticipate Paying Dividends In The Foreseeable Future.

We anticipate that we will retain all future earnings and other cash resources for the future operation and development of our business. We do not intend to declare or pay any cash dividends in the foreseeable future. Payment of any future dividends will be at the discretion of our board of directors after taking into account many factors, including our operating results, financial condition, and current and anticipated cash needs.

Future Sales Of Our Common Shares By Our Existing Shareholders Could Decrease The Trading Price Of The Common Shares.

Sales of a large number of our common shares in the public markets, or the potential for such sales, could decrease the trading price of our common shares and could impair our ability to raise capital through future sales of our common shares. We completed sales of units, comprised of common shares and warrants, in January, July and December 2002 and February 2003 at prices significantly less than the current market price of our common shares. Accordingly, a significant number of our shareholders have an investment profit in our securities that they may seek to liquidate. Substantially all of our common shares not held by affiliates can be resold without material restriction in the United States, and Canada.

#### The Existence Of Outstanding Rights To Purchase Common Shares May Impair Our Ability To Raise Capital.

As of July 25, 2003, approximately 27.4 million common shares are issuable on exercise of warrants, option or other rights to purchase common shares at prices ranging from Cdn\$0.97 to \$4.60. During the life of the warrants, options and other rights, the holders are given an opportunity to profit from a rise in the market price of our common shares with a resulting dilution in the interest of the other shareholders. Our ability to obtain additional financing during the period such rights are outstanding may be adversely affected, and the existence of the rights may have an adverse effect on the price of our common shares. The holders of the warrants, options and other rights can be expected

21

to exercise them at a time when we would, in all likelihood, be able to obtain any needed capital by a new offering of securities on terms more favorable than those provided by the outstanding rights.

#### RISKS RELATED TO THIS OFFERING

You Will Suffer Immediate Dilution Of Your Investment, And Are Subject To Future Dilution By The Exercise Of Currently Outstanding Options And Warrants.

We anticipate that the offering price of the common shares will be substantially higher than the net tangible book value per share of our common shares after this offering. As a result, based on a public offering price of Cdn\$3.90 or \$2.82, you would incur immediate dilution of approximately \$1.87 in net tangible book value calculated in accordance with Canadian GAAP and \$1.97 calculated in accordance with U.S. GAAP for each common share you purchase.

As of July 25, there were options outstanding to purchase up to 5,253,735 common shares at prices from Cdn\$1.02 to Cdn\$3.14 per share under our stock option plans and warrants outstanding to purchase up to 22,162,834 common shares at a weighted average exercise price of \$1.99 per share. If currently outstanding options or warrants to purchase our common shares are exercised, your investment will be further diluted.

#### PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

#### Underwriting

We have entered into a Canadian underwriting agreement dated August , 2003 with Orion Securities Inc., BMO Nesbitt Burns Inc., Canaccord Capital Corporation, National Bank Financial Inc., RBC Dominion Securities Inc. and Westwind Partners Inc., as the Canadian underwriters, under which the Canadian underwriters have agreed to purchase 30%, 30%, 15%, 10%, 10% and 5% respectively, of the 8,200,000 common shares offered by this prospectus. We have also entered into an agency agreement dated August , 2003 with Orion Securities (USA) Inc., BMO Nesbitt Burns Corp., Canaccord Capital Corporation (USA) Inc., NBC International (USA) Inc. and RBC Dain Rauscher Inc., as the U.S. agents, to offer the common shares in the United States on a best efforts basis. The obligations of the Canadian underwriters under the agreement may be terminated at their discretion on the basis of their assessment of the state of the financial markets and may also be terminated upon the occurrence of certain stated events. The Canadian underwriters are, however, obligated to take up and pay for all of the securities, if any of the securities are purchased under the agreement.

Subject to the terms of the Canadian underwriting agreement, we have agreed to issue and sell and the Canadian underwriters have agreed to purchase on or about August 14, 2003, or such other date as may be agreed upon, 100% of the common shares offered at a price of Cdn\$3.90 per common share for a total consideration of Cdn\$31,980,000, payable in cash, net of the underwriters' fee, against delivery of certificates. The price of the common shares was determined by negotiation between us and the Canadian underwriters. Any common shares sold by the U.S. agents under the U.S. agency agreement will reduce the obligation of the Canadian underwriters to take up and pay for common shares in an

equal amount. The Canadian underwriters may sell common shares to the U.S. agents pursuant to the inter-dealer agreement described below. The Canadian underwriting agreement provides for us to pay the Canadian underwriters a fee of Cdn\$0.2145 per common share sold by them, which will be paid out of the gross proceeds from the offering.

The Canadian underwriting agreement also provides that we will indemnify the Canadian underwriters against certain liabilities and expenses, including liabilities under applicable securities legislation, or will contribute to payments that the Canadian underwriters may be required to make in respect thereof. We have been advised that, in the opinion of the United States Securities and

22

Exchange Commission, indemnification for liabilities under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933 is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and is therefore unenforceable.

Subject to the terms of the U.S. agency agreement, we have appointed the U.S. agents to offer the common shares for sale to the public in the United States on a best efforts basis at a price of Cdn\$3.90 per common share. The U.S. agency agreement provides for us to pay the U.S. agents a fee of Cdn\$0.2145 per common share sold by them, which will be paid out of the gross proceeds from the offering. The U.S. agents have not committed to purchase a minimum amount of common shares under the U.S. agency agreement. The obligations of the U.S. agents under the U.S. agency agreement may be terminated at their discretion upon the occurrence of certain stated events.

The U.S. agency agreement also provides that we will indemnify the U.S. agents against certain liabilities and expenses, including liabilities under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, or will contribute to payments that the U.S. agents may be required to make in respect thereof. We have been advised that, in the opinion of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission, indemnification for liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933 is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and is therefore unenforceable.

We have agreed to pay the legal fees of the underwriters as well as certain other out-of-pocket expenses.

The underwriters have entered into an inter-dealer agreement among themselves that permits, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in such agreement, one group of underwriters to purchase common shares from or through the other group and to offer them for resale. The price and currency of settlement of any common shares so purchased will be determined by agreement between the selling and purchasing groups of underwriters at the time of any such transaction. Any such common shares purchased by the underwriters will be offered on the terms set forth in this prospectus.

The underwriters have informed us that they do not expect to confirm sales of our common shares offered by this prospectus to any accounts over which they exercise discretionary authority.

The prospectus qualifies for distribution the common shares.

### **Underwriters' option**

We granted the Canadian underwriters the Option to purchase up to 1,230,000 Additional Shares at the price to the public as set forth on the cover page of this prospectus less the underwriters' fee, exercisable at any time until 30 days after the closing of the offering. This prospectus also qualifies the distribution of the Option and the Additional Shares issued pursuant to the exercise of the Option. Under the inter-dealer agreement, the Canadian underwriters may allocate any portion of Additional Shares purchased to the U.S. agents to sell in the United States.

### Stabilization

In connection with the offering, the underwriters may engage in stabilizing transactions, over-allotment transactions and syndicate covering transactions in accordance with Regulation M under the United States Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Stabilizing transactions permit bids to purchase the underlying security so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum.

Stabilizing transactions and syndicate-covering transactions may have the effect of raising or maintaining the market price of our common shares or preventing or retarding a decline in their market price. As a result, the price of our common shares may be higher than the price that might otherwise exist in the open market. These transactions may be effected on the Toronto Stock Exchange, the American Stock Exchange or otherwise and, if commenced, may be discontinued at any time.

Pursuant to policy statements of the Ontario Securities Commission, the underwriters may not, throughout the period of distribution under this prospectus, bid for or purchase common shares. The foregoing restriction is subject to certain exceptions including a bid or purchase permitted under the by-laws and rules of the Toronto Stock Exchange relating to market stabilization and passive market making activities; and a bid or purchase made for and on behalf of a customer where the order was not solicited during the period of the distribution, provided that the bid or purchase was not engaged in for the purpose of creating actual or apparent active trading in, or raising the price of, the common shares. All of these transactions must also be effected in accordance with Regulation M under the United States Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended

#### **Determination of Offering Price**

The offering price of the common shares offered by this prospectus was determined by negotiation between us and the underwriters. Among the factors considered in determining the offering price of the common shares were:

the market price of our common shares;

our history and our prospects;

the industry in which we operate;

gold prices and trends;

our past and present operating results;

the previous experience of our executive officers; and

the general condition of the securities markets at the time of this offering.

The offering price stated on the cover page of this prospectus should not be considered an indication of the actual value of the common shares. That price is subject to change as a result of market conditions and other factors, and we cannot assure you that the common shares can be resold at or above the offering price.

24

#### **CAPITALIZATION**

The following table sets forth our consolidated capitalization (i) as of the dates indicated, and (ii) as adjusted to give effect to this offering. The following table should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes for the year ended December 31, 2002 and the unaudited consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes for the three months ended March 31, 2003, incorporated by reference in this prospectus.

				31,		
		As at Dec. 31, 2002(1) (\$000's)		(\$000's) Actual		(\$000's) Adjusted(2)
	(\$00			(unaudited)		
Canadian GAAP						
Current Debt	\$	3,563	\$	1,005	\$	775

As at March 31, 2003

	Ī			2003	
	1,727		1,632		-0-
	201 030		234 656(3	)	256,536(3)(4)
				)	(146,826)
	(131,033)		(110,020)		(110,020)
	49,384		87,830		109,710
\$	54,674	\$	90,467	\$	110,485
				March 31, 2003	
				(\$000's) As Adjusted(2)	
(\$6	000's)		(un	audited)	
\$		\$	1,005	\$	775
	1,727		1,632		-0-
	198,070		231,685(3	)	253,265(3)(4)
	1,864		3,375		3,375
	(158,865)	(	(158,686)		(158,686)
	41,069		76,374		98,254
	As at 20	201,039 (151,655) 49,384 \$ 54,674 As at Dec. 31, 2002(1) (\$000's) \$ 3,563 1,727	201,039 (151,655) 49,384 \$ 54,674 \$ \$ 54,674 \$ (\$000's) \$ 3,563 \$ 1,727	201,039 234,656(3 (151,655) (146,826) 49,384 87,830 \$ 54,674 \$ 90,467 As at Dec. 31, (\$000's) Actual (\$000's) (un) \$ 3,563 \$ 1,005 1,727 1,632 198,070 231,685(3 1,864 3,375	201,039 234,656(3) (151,655) (146,826)  49,384 87,830  \$ 54,674 \$ 90,467 \$  As at March 31, 2003  (\$000's) (\$  (\$000's) (unaudited)  \$ 3,563 \$ 1,005 \$ 1,727 1,632  198,070 231,685(3) 1,864 3,375

- (1) These numbers are derived from audited financial statements.
- (2) Amounts shown are before estimated expenses of the offering.
- (3) Changes to share capital in the three months ended March 31, 2003 reflect our issuance of an aggregate of (i) 17,000,000 common shares pursuant to a public offering of units that closed in February 2003, (ii) 72,250 common shares issued pursuant to the exercise of incentive stock options, (iii) 57,200 common shares issued for management bonuses, and (iv) 2,792,083 common shares issued pursuant to the exercise of common share purchase warrants.
- Amounts shown do not include (i) 521,759 common shares issued after March 31, 2003 pursuant to the exercise of incentive stock options, (ii) 570,750 common shares issued after March 31, 2003 pursuant to the exercise of common share purchase warrants, (iii) 5,253,735 common shares issuable on the exercise of outstanding stock options, or (iv) 22,162,834 common shares issuable on the exercise of outstanding warrants.

(5)
"Other" includes the cumulative foreign currency translation adjustment and accumulated comprehensive income.

#### USE OF PROCEEDS

We estimate that the proceeds that we will receive from the sale of the 8,200,000 common shares offered by this prospectus will be approximately Cdn\$30,221,100 or \$21,880,076, based on an offering price of Cdn\$3.90 per share after deducting the underwriters' fees and before estimated offering expenses of Cdn\$ . If the Option is exercised in full, we estimate that we will receive additional net proceeds of approximately Cdn\$4,533,165 or \$3,282,011 after deducting underwriters' fees and before estimated offering expenses.

We intend to use the net proceeds for the buyback of debt and royalties related to the 2002 acquisition of Wassa and for exploration, acquisitions, development activities and general corporate purposes. We estimate that approximately \$11.5 million will be used to buy back the Wassa debt and royalties, \$6 million will be used for exploration and development activities in Ghana, and the balance will be used for general corporate purposes, possibly including acquisitions. The amount and timing of any use of the proceeds will depend on various factors, including gold prices, production costs, the quality of the ores that we produce and business growth including acquisitions and exploration.

There may be circumstances where, for sound business reasons, a reallocation of funds may be necessary. Pending the use of the proceeds of this offering, we intend to invest the net proceeds of this offering in U.S. treasury bills or short-term, investment grade, interest-bearing securities.

#### INTERESTS OF EXPERTS

The financial statements incorporated in this prospectus by reference to the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002 have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent accountants, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

Certain data, of a scientific or technical nature, regarding our mineral reserves and mineral resources included in this prospectus or included in documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus, have been verified by our full-time employees, Mr. Dave Alexander, Mine Planning and Engineering Superintendent in Ghana, and Mr. Mitchell Wasel, Exploration Manager in Ghana. While an independent Technical Report dated April 30, 2003 supporting estimates of mineral resources at Wassa was prepared by Mr. Keith McCandlish, P. Geol., of Associated Mining Consultants Ltd., given on their authority as experts in mining engineering and geology and as "qualified persons" within the meaning of Canada's National Instrument 43-101 neither Mr. McCandlish nor any of the officers, directors and other employees of Associated Mining Consultants Ltd. hold any of our common shares. The statement of reserves at Wassa included in this prospectus were prepared by Mr. Alexander and Mr. Wasel are each "qualified persons" within the meaning of Canada's National Instrument 43-101 Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects. In addition to their employment with us, Messrs. Alexander and Wasel each beneficially own common shares, including common shares issuable upon exercise of options, consisting of less than 1% of our outstanding common shares.

The statements of reserves, production and mineral deposits at Bogoso/Prestea incorporated in this prospectus by reference from our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002 and an independent Technical Report dated December 13, 2001 supporting our estimates of mineral reserves and resources at Bogoso/Prestea were prepared by Mr. Keith McCandlish, P.Geol., and Mr. Alan L. Craven, P.Eng., of Associated Mining Consultants Ltd., given on their authority as experts in mining engineering and geology and as "qualified persons" within the meaning of Canada's National

26

Instrument 43-101. Neither Messrs. McCandlish and Craven nor any of the officers, directors and other employees of Associated Mining Consultants Ltd. hold any of our common shares.

The statements of estimated mineral resources for the Yaou and Dorlin properties incorporated in this prospectus by reference from our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002 were prepared by Mr. Francis Clouston, former Project Assessment Engineer, Cambior Inc., given on his authority as an expert in mining engineering and geology and as a "qualified person" within the meaning of

Canada's National Instrument 43-101. Mr. Clouston is now our full-time employee, and his beneficial ownership of our common shares, including common shares issuable upon exercise of options, is less than 1% of the outstanding shares.

The statements of mineral resources for the Paul Isnard project incorporated in this prospectus by reference from our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002 were prepared by Mr. Declan Costelloe, our former Manager Mining Geology, given on his authority as an expert in mining engineering and geology and as a "qualified person" within the meaning of Canada's National Instrument 43-101. Mr. Costelloe's beneficial ownership of our common shares, including common shares issuable upon exercise of warrants, is less than 1% of the outstanding shares.

### AUDITORS, TRANSFER AGENT AND REGISTRAR

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, Chartered Accountants, are our auditors. The transfer agent and registrar for our common shares is CIBC Mellon Trust Company at its principal office in the City of Vancouver, British Columbia.

#### **LEGAL MATTERS**

Certain legal matters relating to the offering and to the common shares to be distributed pursuant to this prospectus will be reviewed by Field LLP, Calgary, Alberta and Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP, Denver, Colorado on behalf of the Company and Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto, Ontario and Dorsey & Whitney LLP, Toronto, Ontario on behalf of the underwriters. As of the date hereof, the partners and associates of Field LLP, as a group, beneficially owned directly or indirectly less than 1% of the issued and outstanding common shares of the Company. As of the date hereof, the partners and associates of Stikeman Elliott LLP, as a group, beneficially owned directly or indirectly less than 1% of the issued and outstanding common shares of the Company.

### PURCHASERS' STATUTORY RIGHTS OF WITHDRAWAL OR RESCISSION

Securities legislation in certain of the provinces and territories in Canada provides purchasers with the right to withdraw from an agreement to purchase securities. This right may be exercised within two business days after receipt or deemed receipt of a prospectus and any amendment. In several of the provinces and territories, the securities legislation further provides a purchaser with remedies for rescission or, in some jurisdictions, damages if the prospectus and any amendment contains a misrepresentation or is not delivered to the purchaser, provided that such remedies for rescission or damages are exercised by the purchaser within the time limit prescribed by the securities legislation of the purchaser's province or territory. Purchasers should refer to applicable provisions of the securities legislation of their province for the particulars of these rights or consult with a legal advisor.

27

SCHEDULE A U.S. PROSPECTUS

28

**PROSPECTUS** 

GOLDEN STAR RESOURCES LTD.

Common Shares
Preferred Shares
Convertible Debt Securities
Warrants

Golden Star Resources Ltd. (the "Company" or "Golden Star") may offer from time to time (i) common shares without par value (the "Common Shares"), (ii) first preferred shares (the "Preferred Shares") in one or more series, (iii) convertible debt securities (the "Convertible Debt Securities"), consisting of debentures, notes and/or other evidences of indebtedness representing unsecured obligations of the Company convertible into Common Shares and (iv) warrants (the "Warrants") to purchase Common Shares, Preferred Shares or Convertible Debt Securities. The foregoing securities are collectively referred to as the "Securities." Any Securities may be offered with other Securities or separately. Securities may be sold for U.S. dollars, foreign currency or currency units, including the European Currency Unit; amounts payable with respect to any Convertible Debt Securities may likewise be payable in U.S. dollars, foreign currency or currency units, including the European Currency Unit, in each case, as the Company specifically designates. The amounts payable by the Company in respect of Convertible Debt Securities may be calculated by reference to the value, rate or price of one or more specified commodities, currencies or indices as set forth in an accompanying Prospectus Supplement. The Securities will be offered at an aggregate initial offering price not to exceed U.S. \$100,000,000 or the equivalent (based on the applicable exchange rate at the time of sale) if Convertible Debt Securities of the Company are issued in principal amounts denominated in one or more foreign currencies or currency units as shall be designated by the Company.

### See "Risk Factors" commencing on page 6 for certain considerations relevant to an investment in the securities.

This Prospectus will be supplemented by one or more accompanying Prospectus Supplements, which will set forth with regard to the particular Securities in respect of which this Prospectus is being delivered (i) in the case of Common Shares, the number of Common Shares and the terms of the offering thereof, (ii) in the case of Preferred Shares, the designation, aggregate principal amount and stated value and liquidation preference per share, initial public offering price, dividend rate (or method of calculation), dates on which dividends shall be payable, any redemption or sinking fund provisions, any conversion or exchange rights, whether the Company has elected to offer the Preferred Shares as depositary shares, any listing of such Preferred Shares on a securities exchange, and any other terms in connection with the offering and sale of such Preferred Shares, (iii) in the case of Convertible Debt Securities, title, aggregate principal amount, currency of denomination, maturity, interest rate, if any (which may be fixed or variable), or method of calculation thereof, time of payment of any interest, any terms for redemption at the option of the Company or the holder, any terms for sinking fund payments, any index or other method used to determine the amounts payable, the ranking of such Convertible Debt Securities (whether senior, senior subordinated or subordinated), any conversion rights, at the option of the Company or the holder, any listing on a securities exchange, the initial public offering price and any other terms in connection with the offering and sale of such Convertible Debt Securities, and (iv) in the case of Warrants, the number and terms thereof, the number of shares of Common Shares or Preferred Shares or amount of Convertible Debt Securities issuable upon their exercise, the exercise price, the periods during which the Warrants are exercisable, any listing of such Warrants on a securities exchange and any other terms in connection with the offering, sale and exercise of such Warrants. The Prospectus Supplement will also contain information, as applicable, about certain United States and Canadian Federal income tax considerations relating to the Securities in respect of which this Prospectus is being delivered.

The Company's Common Shares are traded on the American Stock Exchange under the symbol "GSR" and The Toronto Stock Exchange under the symbol "GSC." Each Prospectus Supplement will indicate if the Securities offered thereby will be listed on any securities exchange.

The Company may sell Securities to or through one or more underwriters, and may also sell Securities directly to other purchasers or through agents. See "Plan of Distribution." Each Prospectus Supplement will set forth the names of any underwriters, dealers or agents involved in the sale of the Securities in respect of which this Prospectus is being delivered, the principal amount, if any, to be purchased by any such Underwriters, and any applicable fee, commission or discount arrangements with them.

These securities have not been approved or disapproved by the Securities and Exchange Commission or any state securities commission nor has the Securities and Exchange Commission or any state securities commission passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

This Prospectus may not be used to consummate sales of Securities unless accompanied by a Prospectus Supplement.

The date of this Prospectus is October 2, 1997.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Available Information
Enforcement of Certain Civil Liabilities
Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference
Canadian Prospectuses
Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

Reporting Currency and Financial Information

The Company

**Risk Factors** 

Use of Proceeds

Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges

Description of Share Capital

**Description of Warrants** 

Description of Convertible Debt Securities

Plan of Distribution

**Experts** 

Legal Matters

No dealer, salesman, or other person has been authorized to give any information or to make any representations other than those contained in or incorporated by reference in this Prospectus or in the Prospectus Supplement and, if given or made, such information or representation must not be relied upon as having been authorized by the Company or any underwriter, agent or dealer. Neither the delivery of this Prospectus or the accompanying Prospectus Supplement nor any sale made hereunder shall create, under any circumstances, an implication that there has been no change in the facts set forth in this Prospectus or the accompanying Prospectus Supplement, or in the affairs of the Company since such date. Neither this Prospectus nor the accompanying Prospectus Supplement constitutes an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities other than the securities offered hereby, nor do they constitute an offer to sell or solicitation of an offer to buy any of the securities offered hereby in any jurisdiction in which such offer or sale is unlawful or not authorized or in any jurisdiction in which the person making such offer or solicitation is not qualified to do so.

2

### AVAILABLE INFORMATION

The Company is subject to the informational requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") and in accordance therewith files, reports, proxy statements and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission"). Such reports, proxy statements and other information can be inspected and copied at the public reference facilities of the Commission at 450 Fifth Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549; and at its regional offices located at Suite 1400, 500 West Madison Street, Chicago, Illinois 60661- 2511; and 13th Floor, 7 World Trade Center, New York, New York 10048. Copies of such material can be obtained by mail from the Public Reference Section of the Commission at 450 Fifth Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549, at prescribed rates. The Company also is subject to the information and reporting requirements of the securities regulatory authorities of certain provinces of Canada and files similar reports, proxy statements and other information with such authorities. Such reports, proxy statements and other information concerning the Company also can be inspected and copied at the offices of the American Stock Exchange, 86 Trinity Place, New York, New York 10006 and the offices of The Toronto Stock Exchange, 2 First Canadian Place, Toronto Ontario, Canada M5X 1J2. The Commission maintains a Web site that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding registrants that file electronically with the Commission. The address of the Commission's Web site is http://www.sec.gov.

The Company has filed with the Commission a Registration Statement on Form S-3 (herein, together with all amendments and exhibits, referred to as the "Registration Statement") under the Securities Act of 1933 (the "Securities Act") with respect of the Securities covered by this Prospectus. This Prospectus, which forms part of the Registration Statement, does not contain all of the information set forth in the Registration Statement, certain parts of which have been omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Commission. For further information with respect to the Company and such securities, reference is hereby made to such Registration Statement, including the exhibits filed therewith. The Registration Statement and the exhibits thereto can be obtained by mail from or inspected and copied at the public reference facilities maintained by the Commission as provided in the prior paragraph.

### ENFORCEMENT OF CERTAIN CIVIL LIABILITIES

Golden Star Resources Ltd. is a corporation subsisting under the laws of Canada and certain of its directors and officers, as well as certain of the experts named herein, are neither citizens nor residents of the United States. A substantial part of the assets of several of such persons and of the Company are located outside the United States. As a result, it may be difficult for investors to effect service of process within the United States upon such persons or to enforce against them or the Company within the United States judgment of courts of the United States predicated upon the civil liability provisions of the federal securities laws of the United States. There is doubt as to the enforceability against such persons

and Golden Star Resources Ltd. in Canada, in original actions or actions to enforce judgments of United States courts, of liabilities predicated solely upon the federal securities laws of the United States.

### INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The following documents filed by the Company with the Commission are incorporated by reference in this Prospectus:

- (1) Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1996, filed with the Commission on March 31, 1997.
- (2) Current Reports on Form 8-K, filed with the Commission on March 10, 1997, May 8, 1997 and September 23, 1997.

3

- Ouarterly Report on Form 10-O, filed with the Commission on May 15, 1997.
- (4) Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, filed with the Commission on August 14, 1997.
- (5)
  1997 Proxy Statement and Information Circular for the 1997 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, filed with the Commission on April 29, 1997.
- (6)
  The description of the Common Shares contained in the Company's Articles (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 1.1 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form 20-F, filed on May 10, 1993).
- (7)
  The Company's Shareholder Rights Plan included in the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the Commission on May 8, 1996.

All documents subsequently filed by the Company pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act prior to the termination of the Offering of the Securities offered hereby shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this Prospectus and to be a part hereof from the date of filing of such documents. Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this Prospectus to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such statement. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this Prospectus.

The Company will provide without charge to each person to whom a copy of this Prospectus is delivered, on the oral or written request of such person, a copy of any or all of the documents incorporated herein by reference (other than exhibits, unless such exhibits are specifically incorporated by reference in such documents). Requests for such copies should be directed to the Secretary, Golden Star Resources Ltd., 1660 Lincoln Street, Suite 3000, Denver, Colorado 80264, (303) 830-9000.

References in this Prospectus to the term "Golden Star" or to the term "Company" refer to Golden Star Resources Ltd. and its consolidated subsidiaries, including, without limitation, Guyanor Ressources S.A. ("Guyanor") and Pan African Resources Corporation ("PARC"), unless the context otherwise requires.

The information in this Prospectus is qualified in its entirety by the more detailed information and consolidated financial statements and notes thereto appearing in this Prospectus or incorporated by reference herein.

#### **CANADIAN PROSPECTUSES**

The Company is filing with certain Canadian securities regulatory authorities a shelf prospectus relating to the potential offering in Canada of up to 12,000,000 common shares (including the Common Shares offered hereunder) and a shelf prospectus relating to the potential offering in

Canada of convertible debt securities at an aggregate initial offering price of up to U.S. \$100,000,000 (including the Convertible Debt Securities offered hereunder). Canadian securities laws do not permit the use of an unallocated (as between common shares and debt securities) shelf prospectus.

#### SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements in this Prospectus and any Prospectus Supplement constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (the "Reform Act"). Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other factors which may cause the actual results, performance, or achievements of the Company to be materially different from any future results, performance, or achievements express or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such factors include, among others, gold and diamond exploration and

4

development costs and results, fluctuation of gold prices, foreign operations and foreign government regulation, competition, uninsured risks, recovery of reserves, capitalization and commercial viability and requirements for obtaining permits and licenses. See "Risk Factors."

### REPORTING CURRENCY AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION

For the periods prior to May 15, 1992, the Company's reporting currency was the Canadian dollar. In addition, the Company historically has raised most of its equity capital in Canadian dollars. Since May 15, 1992, the Company's reporting currency has been the United States dollar.

All amounts in this Prospectus and any Prospectus Supplement or incorporated herein by reference are expressed in United States dollars, unless otherwise indicated. References to (i) "Cdn" are to Canadian dollars, (ii) "FF" are to French francs and (iii) "R" are to Brazilian reals.

Financial information is presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in Canada ("Canadian GAAP"). Differences between generally accepted accounting principles in the United States ("U.S. GAAP") and Canadian GAAP as applicable to the Company, are explained in the notes to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements incorporated by reference herein.

### THE COMPANY

Golden Star is an international gold and diamond exploration company with a diverse portfolio of active exploration and development projects and an operating mine in approximately ten countries on two continents. The Company's core focus is on the acquisition, discovery and development of gold and diamond projects. Once it identifies such projects, Golden Star's business strategy is, if appropriate, to enter into partnership arrangements with major mining companies to develop and operate mines. The Company currently has properties in various stages of development in Guyana, French Guiana (through its approximately 68% owned publicly traded subsidiary, Guyanor), Suriname, Brazil and Bolivia in South America and Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Kenya and Mali in Africa (through its approximately 64% owned publicly traded subsidiary, PARC).

Golden Star is a substantial mining exploration organization, with over 70 professional geologists on staff and approximately 550 other employees working in countries in which the Company has projects. The Company's efforts are concentrated in a geologic domain known as greenstone belts, which are ancient volcanic-sedimentary rock assemblages. Greenstone belts are known to be favorable geologic environments for gold mineralization and account for a significant proportion of the world's historic gold production. The Company began its exploration activities in 1985 in the tropical, Proterozoic greenstone belts of the Guiana Shield and more recently extended its activities to the geologically related greenstone belts of the Brazilian Shield and the West African Shield and finally to the greenstone belts of eastern Africa.

The head office of the Company is located at 1660 Lincoln Street, Suite 3000, Denver, Colorado 80264; its telephone number is (303) 830-9000. The Company's registered and records office is located at 19th Floor, 885 West Georgia Street, Vancouver, British Columbia V6C 3H4; its telephone number is (604) 891-3688.

### RISK FACTORS

Prospective purchasers of securities should carefully read this prospectus, any prospectus supplement delivered herewith, and the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein. Ownership of securities involves certain risks. In determining whether to purchase securities, prospective investors should consider carefully the following risk factors and the other information contained in this prospectus, as well as the other risk factors and information set forth in any prospectus supplement delivered herewith.

### **Risks Of Exploration And Development**

Mineral exploration and development involves a high degree of risk and few properties which are explored ultimately are developed into commercially producing mines. The long-term success of the Company's operations will be substantially and directly related to the cost and success of its exploration programs. The risks associated with the exploration for new mineralization include the identification of potential gold mineralization based on surficial analysis, the attraction and retention of experienced geologists and drilling personnel, the quality and availability of third party assaying, sampling errors, geological, geophysical, geochemical and other technical analyses and other factors. Substantial early stage expenditures are required to outline mineralized prospects and establish ore reserves through, among other things, drilling and the preparation of feasibility studies and mine plans, and to develop and construct the mining and processing facilities at any site chosen for mining. Although substantial benefits may be derived from the discovery of a major mineralized deposit, no assurance can be given that (i) minerals will be discovered in sufficient quantities and/or grades to constitute reserves or justify commercial operations, (ii) the Company will be successful in partnering with companies to develop and operate those properties that are commercially attractive on acceptable or attractive terms or (iii) the funds required for development can be obtained by the Company or any of its partners on a timely or commercially reasonable basis. Further, even if reserves are delineated, it may require a number of years and significant expenditures until production is possible, during which time the economic feasibility of a property may change. Additionally, the Company will be reliant on its partners in each project for technical expertise in the development and operation phases of the project, and, in certain instances, for financing, until cash flow is generated from the property for the Company's account. Finally, to the extent the Company's mineral reserves are produced and sold, the Company must continually acquire new mineral prospects and explore for and develop new mineral reserves to replace such reserves.

### **Uncertainty Of Reserve And Other Mineralization Estimates**

There are numerous uncertainties inherent in estimating proven and probable reserves and other mineralization, including many factors beyond the control of the Company. The estimation of reserves and other mineralization is a subjective process and the accuracy of any such estimate is a function of the quality of available data and of engineering and geological interpretation and judgment. Results of drilling, metallurgical testing and production and the evaluation of mine plans subsequent to the date of any estimate may justify revision of such estimates. No assurance can be given that the volume and grade of reserves recovered and rates of production will not be less than anticipated. Assumptions about prices are subject to great uncertainty and gold prices have fluctuated widely in the past. Declines in the market price of gold or other precious metals also may render reserves or other mineralization containing relatively lower grades of mineralization or requiring more extensive processing uneconomic to exploit. If the price realized by the Company for its gold bullion were to decline substantially below the price at which ore reserves were calculated for a sustained period of time, the Company potentially could experience reductions in reserves and asset write-downs. Under such circumstances, the Company may discontinue the development of a project or mining at one or more of its properties. Further, changes in operating and capital costs and other factors, including but

6

not limited to short-term operating factors such as the need for sequential development of ore bodies and the processing of new or different ore grades, may materially and adversely affect reserves.

#### Risks Associated With The Fluctuation Of Gold Prices

To the extent that the Company has any revenues from operations, such revenues are expected to be in large part derived from the mining and sale of gold. The price of gold can fluctuate significantly, and recently has been at depressed levels compared to its price in the past several years. The price of gold is affected by numerous factors beyond the Company's control, including international economic and political trends, inflation expectations, interest rates, central bank sales and purchases, global or regional consumptive patterns (such as the development of gold coin programs), speculative activities and increased production due to new mine developments and improved mining and production methods. The effect of these factors on the price of gold cannot be accurately predicted.

The current demand for, and supply of, gold affect gold prices but not necessarily in the same manner as current demand and supply affect the prices of other commodities. The potential supply of gold consists of new mine production plus existing stocks of bullion and fabricated gold held by governments, financial institutions, industrial organizations and individuals. Since mine production in any single year constitutes a very small portion of the total potential supply of gold, normal variations in current production do not necessarily have a significant effect on the supply of gold or on its price. If gold prices should decline below the Company's cash costs of production and remain at such levels for any sustained period, the Company could determine that it is not economically feasible to continue commercial production at any or all of its mines or to pursue further exploration or development activities on such properties.

Moreover, at the time the Company's ore reserves are estimated, the parameters used in estimating such reserves are based on a variety of factors, including the spot and future prices of gold at the time of such calculation. If the Company were to determine that its reserves and future cash flows should be recalculated at significantly lower gold prices than those that were used on the measurement date, there would likely be a material reduction in the amount of its gold reserves. Current gold prices are below the prices used in the calculation of reserves at the Company's Omai, Gross Rosebel and Yaou properties. In addition, should gold prices continue at current levels for an extended period, delays in the development of certain projects may occur, and material write-downs of the Company's investment in mining properties may be required.

### **Capitalization And Commercial Viability**

The Company has limited financial resources. To date, and for the reasonably foreseeable future, its exploration and development activities have not generated and are not expected to generate substantial revenues, which has caused, and is expected to continue for the reasonably foreseeable future to cause, the Company to incur losses. In addition, the Company historically has incurred significant expenditures in connection with its exploration activities and contemplates doing so for the foreseeable future. The Company's ability to obtain financing may be negatively affected by the price of gold which recently has been at depressed levels compared to its price in the past several years. There can be no assurance that additional funding will be available to the Company for further exploration or development of its properties or to fulfill its obligations under any applicable agreements with its partners or the nations in which the Company is operating. Although the Company has been successful in the past in obtaining financing through the sale of equity securities and through partnership arrangements involving several of the Company's properties, there can be no assurance that the Company will be able to obtain adequate financing in the future or that the terms of such financing will be favorable, or that such partnership arrangements will continue to be available for the Company's properties on acceptable terms. Failure to obtain such additional financing could result in delay or

7

indefinite postponement of further exploration and development of the Company's properties with the possible loss of the Company's interest in such properties.

If the Company proceeds to production on a particular property, commercial viability will be affected by certain factors that are beyond the Company's control, including the specific attributes of the deposit (such as mineral grade and stripping ratio), the fluctuation in metal prices, the costs of constructing and operating a mine in a specific environment, processing and refining facilities, the availability of economic sources of energy, adequacy of water supply, adequate access, government regulations including regulations relating to prices, royalties, duties, taxes, restrictions on production, quotas on exportation of minerals, as well as the costs of protection of the environment and agricultural lands. In addition, a decrease in the price of gold, or a continuation of the price of gold at depressed levels, could negatively affect investment demand for the stock of gold exploration or mining companies, including the Company, or may negatively impact the Company's stock price. The occurrence of any such factors may materially and adversely affect the Company's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flow.

### **Risks Associated With Diamond Exploration**

The exploration and development of diamond deposits involve exposure to significant financial risks over a significant period of time. Very few properties which are explored are ultimately developed into producing diamond mines. Major expenses over a period of several years may be required to establish reserves by sampling and drilling and to construct mining and processing facilities at a site. It is impossible to ensure that the current exploration programs of the Company, or any programs undertaken in the future will result in a profitable commercial diamond mining operation.

Whether a diamond deposit will be commercially viable depends on a number of factors, some of which are the particular attributes of the deposit, such as its size, the size, quantity and quality of the diamonds, proximity to infrastructure, financing costs and governmental regulations, including regulations relating to prices, taxes, royalties, land tenure, land use, importing and exporting of diamonds and environmental protection. The effect of these factors cannot be accurately predicted, but the combination of these factors may result in the Company not receiving an adequate return on invested capital.

### **Marketability Of Diamonds**

The marketability of diamonds which may result from projects undertaken by the Company will be affected by numerous factors beyond the control of the Company. These factors include market fluctuations, government regulations, including regulations relating to prices, taxes, royalties, land tenure, land use, importing and exporting of diamonds and environmental protection. The exact effect of these factors cannot be accurately predicted, but the combination of these factors may result in the Company not receiving an adequate return on invested capital. The price for diamonds is, among other things, based on the size, cut, color and quality of individual diamonds sold and, to a lesser extent, the market supply and demand for diamonds in general.

### **Risks Of Foreign Operations**

In certain countries in which the Company has mineral rights (whether held directly or indirectly), there are certain laws, regulations and statutory provisions which, as currently written, could have a material negative impact on the ability of the Company to develop a commercial mine in such countries. The range and diversity of such laws and regulations are such that the Company could not adequately summarize them in this document. Through, among other things, the negotiation of mineral agreements with the governments of these countries, management of the Company intends to seek variances or otherwise to be exempted from the provisions of these laws, regulations and/or statutory

8

provisions. There can be no assurance, however, that the Company will be successful in obtaining such mineral agreements, that any such variances or exemptions can be obtained on commercially acceptable terms or that such agreements will be enforceable in accordance with their terms.

Further, many of the mineral rights and interests of the Company are subject to government approvals, licenses and permits. Such approvals, licenses and permits are, as a practical matter, subject to the discretion of the applicable governments or governmental officials. No assurance can be given that the Company will be successful in obtaining any or all of such approvals, licenses and permits, will obtain them in a timely fashion or will be able to maintain them in full force and effect without modification or revocation.

The Company's assets and operations are subject to various political, economic and other uncertainties, including, among other things, the risks of war or civil unrest, expropriation, nationalization, renegotiation or nullification of existing concessions, licenses, permits, approvals and contracts, taxation policies, foreign exchange and repatriation restrictions, changing political conditions, international monetary fluctuations, currency controls and foreign governmental regulations that favor or require the awarding of drilling contracts to local contractors or require foreign contractors to employ citizens of, or purchase supplies from, a particular jurisdiction. In addition, in the event of a dispute arising from foreign operations, the Company may be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of foreign courts or may not be successful in subjecting foreign persons to the jurisdiction of courts in the United States or Canada. The Company also may be hindered or prevented from enforcing its rights with respect to a governmental instrumentality because of the doctrine of sovereign immunity. The Company has suspended its operations in Sierra Leone due to the unstable political situation there and has invoked the <u>force majeure</u> provisions of the contracts pertaining to its Sierra Leone operations. Currently, it is not possible for the Company to accurately predict such developments or changes of law or policy and which, if any, of such developments or changes may have a material adverse impact on the Company's operations.

### **Requirements For Permits And Licenses**

The operations of the Company require licenses and permits from various governmental authorities. Except as otherwise described in any Prospectus Supplement delivered herewith or in documents incorporated by reference in this Prospectus, management believes that the Company presently holds substantially all necessary licenses and permits to carry on the activities which it currently is conducting or expects to conduct in the near term under applicable laws and regulations in respect of its properties, and also believes the Company is presently complying in all material respects with the terms of such laws, regulations, licenses and permits, although the Company is in breach of certain provisions of such laws, regulations, licenses and permits from time to time. Such licenses and permits are subject to modification or revocation as discussed above in "Risks of Foreign Operations," as well as changes in regulations and in various operating circumstances. While the Company does not believe that any such breaches will have a material adverse effect on its operations, there can be no assurance that the Company will be able to obtain or maintain in force all necessary licenses and permits that may be required for it to conduct further exploration or commence construction or operation of mining facilities at properties under exploration or to maintain continued operations at economically justifiable costs.

### **Dependence On Key Personnel**

The Company is dependent on the services of certain key officers and employees, including its Chief Executive Officer, its Chief Financial Officer and certain of its geologists. Competition in the mining exploration industry for qualified individuals is intense, and the loss of any of

these key officers or employees if not replaced could have a material adverse effect on the Company's business and its operations. The Company has entered into agreements with certain of its officers which provide for

C

payments upon termination without cause or, in certain cases, upon a change in control of the Company.

### **Operational Hazards And Responsibilities**

The business of gold mining is generally subject to a number of risks and hazards, including environmental hazards, the discharge of pollutants or hazardous chemicals, industrial accidents, labor disputes, encountering unusual or unexpected geological or operating conditions, slope failures, cave-ins, failure of pit walls or dams and fire, changes in the regulatory environment and natural phenomena such as inclement weather conditions, floods and earthquakes, as well as other hazards. Such occurrences could result in damage to, or destruction of, mineral properties or production facilities, personal injury or death, environmental damage, delays in mining, monetary losses and possible legal liability. The Company or its subsidiaries or partnership arrangements to which they are parties also may incur liability as a result of pollution and other casualties. The Company may not be able to insure fully or at all against such risks, due to political or other reasons, or the Company may decide not to insure against such risks as a result of high premiums or for other reasons. Such occurrences, against which it cannot insure, or may elect not to insure, may delay production, increase production costs or result in liability. Paying compensation for obligations resulting from such liability may entail significant costs for the Company and may have an adverse effect on the Company's financial position. Furthermore, insurance against certain risks (including certain liabilities for environmental pollution or other hazards as result of exploration and production) is not generally available to the Company or to other companies within the industry.

### **Mining And Processing**

The Company's business operations are subject to risks and hazards inherent in the mining industry, including but not limited to unanticipated grade and other geological problems, water conditions, surface or underground conditions, metallurgical and other processing problems and mechanical equipment performance problems, the unavailability of materials and equipment, accidents, labor force and force majeure factors, unanticipated transportation costs and weather conditions, and prices and production levels of by-products, any of which can materially and adversely affect, among other things, the development of properties, production quantities and rates, costs and expenditures and production commencement dates. In addition, the Company relies upon its partners to manage the development and operating stages of the projects in which it has an interest and, therefore, has less control over such matters than would be the case if the Company were the operator.

In the case of the Company's exploration properties, there generally is no operating history upon which to base estimates of future operating costs and capital requirements. The economic feasibility of any individual project is based upon, among other things, the interpretation of geological data obtained from drill holes and other sampling techniques, feasibility studies, which derive estimates of cash operating costs based upon anticipated tonnage and grades of ore to be mined and processed, the configuration of the ore body, expected recovery rates of metals from the ore, comparable facility and equipment costs, anticipated climatic conditions, estimates of labor productivity and other factors. Such exploration properties also are subject to the successful completion of final feasibility studies, issuance of necessary permits and receipt of adequate financing. Accordingly, uncertainties related to operations are magnified in the case of exploration properties.

As a result of the foregoing risks, expenditures on any and all projects, actual production quantities and rates and cash operating costs, among other things, may be materially and adversely affected and may differ materially from anticipated expenditures, production quantities and rates, and costs, just as estimated production dates may be delayed materially, in each case, especially to the extent exploration properties are involved. Any such events can materially and adversely affect the Company's business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

10

### Competition

The Company competes with major mining companies and other natural resource companies in the acquisition, exploration, financing and development of new properties and projects. Many of these companies are more experienced, larger, and better capitalized than the Company. The Company's competitive position will depend upon its ability to successfully and economically explore, acquire and develop new and existing mineral resource properties or projects. Factors which allow producers to remain competitive in the market over the long term are the quality and size of the ore body, cost of production and operation generally, and proximity to market. The Company also competes with other

mining companies for skilled geologists, geophysicists and other technical personnel, which may result in higher turnover and greater labor costs for the Company.

### Currency

The Company historically has raised most of its equity capital in Canadian dollars, primarily maintains its accounts in U.S. dollars and converts such U.S. dollars into various local currencies on an as needed basis in order to conduct local operations. The Company currently maintains all or the majority of its working capital in U.S. dollars or U.S. dollar denominated securities and converts funds to foreign currencies as payment obligations come due. Accordingly, the Company is subject to fluctuations in the rates of currency exchange between the U.S. dollar and these currencies, and such fluctuations may materially affect the Company's financial position and results of operations. The Company currently has future obligations which are payable in French francs and Brazilian reals and receivables payable in French francs. The Company currently does not actively take steps to hedge against such risks.

It is anticipated that, on January 1, 1999, the European Union will commence the introduction of a single currency (the "Euro"), which will be legal tender in substitution for the national currencies of those member states that adopt the Euro. It is anticipated that the Council of the European Union and the member states will adopt regulations providing specific rules for the introduction of the Euro. The Company cannot predict when and if the Euro will be adopted or what effect the adoption of the Euro may have, if any, with respect to the Company's French franc denominated obligations and receivables.

### **Governmental Regulations**

Management believes that compliance with existing regulations in the jurisdictions in which the Company operates which are applicable to the discharge of materials into the environment, or otherwise relating to environmental protection, will not have a material adverse effect on the Company's exploration activities, earnings, expenditures or competitive position. However, there can be no assurance that this will always be the case. New or expanded regulations, if adopted, could affect the exploration or development of the Company's mining projects or otherwise have a material adverse effect on the operations of the Company.

### Risk Of Company Being Classified As A Passive Foreign Investment Company

Under the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), the Company may be classified as a passive foreign investment company (a "PFIC"). United States shareholders of a PFIC are subject to certain adverse tax consequences. These consequences can be mitigated, under certain circumstances, if the United States shareholder makes a timely election to treat the Company as a "qualified electing fund" (a "QEF") or, commencing January 1, 1998 (or later for taxpayers other than calendar year taxpayers), such United States shareholder makes a timely "mark to market election" with respect to shares deemed owned by such shareholder. The Company has been advised by Coopers & Lybrand L.L.P. that it should not be treated as a PFIC with respect to shares purchased by United States shareholders during the years 1993 through 1996, although it could potentially be a PFIC

11

with respect to shares acquired by United States shareholders prior to 1993. The Company also intends to engage Coopers & Lybrand L.L.P., or such other advisor, in the future to analyze whether it is a PFIC in 1997 and subsequent years and will continue to notify shareholders of the results of such future analyses. There can be no assurance as to whether or not Coopers & Lybrand L.L.P., or such other advisor, will conclude that the Company is a PFIC for any such period. Moreover, even if Coopers & Lybrand L.L.P., or such other advisor, concludes that the Company is not a PFIC, its conclusion is not binding on the United States Internal Revenue Service. Accordingly, it is possible that the PFIC rules will apply with respect to holders of the Securities. If the Company is classified as a PFIC, the consequences to United States holders of each type of Security may differ; in particular, neither the QEF election nor the mark to market election may be available to all types of the Securities. Such consequences will be further described in the applicable Prospectus Supplement. ALL PROSPECTIVE PURCHASERS OF THE SECURITIES IN THE UNITED STATES ARE URGED TO CONSULT THEIR OWN TAX ADVISORS ABOUT THE ADVISABILITY OF MAKING A QEF ELECTION OR A MARK TO MARKET ELECTION WITH RESPECT TO THE COMPANY. ALL PROSPECTIVE PURCHASERS OF THE SECURITIES IN THE UNITED STATES ALSO ARE URGED TO REVIEW THE PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT CAREFULLY AND TO CONSULT THEIR OWN TAX ADVISERS ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF CREDITING CANADIAN TAXES PAID AGAINST UNITED STATES TAXES PAYABLE.

### USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless a Prospectus Supplement indicates otherwise, the net proceeds to be received by the Company from the issue and sale from time to time of the Securities will be added to the general funds of the Company to be used to finance the Company's operations and for other general corporate purposes. Pending such application, such net proceeds may be invested in short-term investment grade marketable securities. Each Prospectus Supplement will contain specific information concerning the use of proceeds from the sale of Securities to which it relates.

### RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

The ratio of earnings to fixed charges<sup>(1)</sup> for the Company and its subsidiaries was as follows for the six months ended June 30, 1996 and 1997, the years ended December 31, 1996, 1995, 1994 and 1993 and the periods from May 16, 1992 to December 31, 1992 and July 1, 1991 to May 15, 1992:

	onths June 30,	Y	ears Ended	December 3	51,		
1997	1996	1996	1995	1994	1993	Period From May 16, 1992 to December 31, 1992	Period From July 1, 1991 to May 15, 1992
N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M

The Company's projects are in the exploration or development stages. As a result, the Company has reported net losses for each of the periods presented. The Company has not had any material fixed charge obligations for each of the periods presented. Therefore, the ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the Company is not meaningful ("N/M") under both U.S. GAAP and Canadian GAAP.

### DESCRIPTION OF SHARE CAPITAL

The Company's Articles currently authorize the issuance of an unlimited number of Common Shares and an unlimited number of Preferred Shares, issuable in series. As of July 27, 1997, 29,690,136 Common Shares and no Preferred Shares were outstanding.

12

### **Common Shares**

(1)

The holders of Commons Shares are entitled to receive dividends as, when and if declared by the Board of Directors of the Company out of funds legally available therefor, provided that if any Preferred Shares are at the time outstanding, the payment of dividends on Common Shares or other distributions (including purchases of Common Shares) will be subject to any preferential rights attaching to any other class or series of shares of the Company.

The holders of Common Shares are entitled to one vote for each share on all matters voted on by shareholders, including elections of directors. The holders of Common Shares do not have any conversion, redemption or preemptive rights. In the event of the dissolution, liquidation or winding up of the Company, holders of Common Shares are entitled to share ratably in any assets remaining after the satisfaction in full of the prior rights of creditors, including holders of the Company's indebtedness, and the aggregate liquidation preference of any other class or series of shares then outstanding.

On June 11, 1996, the shareholders of the Company confirmed the adoption of a Shareholder Rights Plan (the "Rights Plan"). Pursuant to the Rights Plan, the Company issued one right (a "Right") for each Common Share outstanding on April 24, 1996 and will issue one Right for each Common Share issued in the future. The terms of the Rights Plan are set forth in the Rights Agreement (the "Rights Agreement") dated as of April 24, 1996 between the Company and CIBC Mellon Trust Company as Rights Agent. For additional information on the Rights Plan and the Rights Agreement, see the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Commission on May 8, 1996, incorporated by reference herein.

Any material United States or Canadian federal income tax consequences with respect to any offered Common Shares will be described in the Prospectus Supplement relating to the offering and sale of such Common Shares.

All outstanding Common Shares are, and the Common Shares offered hereby will be, issued as fully paid and non-assessable.

The registrar and transfer agent for the Common Shares is CIBC Mellon Trust Company. ChaseMellon Shareholder Services, L.L.C. acts as co-registrar and co-transfer agent for the Common Shares in the United States.

#### **Preferred Shares**

The following is a description of certain general terms and provisions of the Preferred Shares. The particular terms of any series of Preferred Shares will be described in the applicable Prospectus Supplement. If so indicated in a Prospectus Supplement, the terms of any such series may differ from the terms set forth below.

The summary of the terms of the Company's Preferred Shares contained in this Prospectus does not purport to be complete and is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by, the provisions of the Company's Articles relating to each series of Preferred Shares, which will be filed as an exhibit to or incorporated by reference in this Prospectus at or prior to the time of issuance of any such series of the Preferred Shares.

The Board of Directors of the Company is authorized to approve the issuance of one or more series of Preferred Shares without further authorization of the shareholders of the Company and to fix the number of shares, the designations, rights, privileges, restrictions and conditions of any such series.

13

The applicable Prospectus Supplement will set forth the number of shares, particular designation, relative rights and preferences and the limitations of any series of Preferred Shares in respect of which this Prospectus is delivered. The particular terms of any such series will include the following:

- The maximum number of shares to constitute the series and the designation thereof;
- (ii)

  The annual dividend rate, if any, on shares of the series, whether such rate is fixed or variable or both, the date or dates from which dividends will begin to accrue or accumulate, whether dividends will be cumulative and whether such dividends shall be paid in cash, Common Shares or otherwise;
- (iii) Whether the shares of the series will be redeemable and, if so, the price at and the terms and conditions on which the shares of the series may be redeemed, including the time during which shares of the series may be redeemed and any accumulated dividends thereon that the holders of shares of the series shall be entitled to receive upon the redemption thereof;
- (iv) The liquidation preference, if any, applicable to shares of the series;
- (v)

  Whether the shares of the series will be subject to operation of a retirement or sinking fund and, if so, the extent and manner in which any such fund shall be applied to the purchase or redemption of the shares of the series for retirement or for other corporate purposes, and the terms and provisions relating to the operation of such fund;
- (vi)

  The terms and conditions, if any, on which the shares of the series shall be convertible into, or exchangeable for, shares of any other class or classes of capital stock of the Company or any series of any other class or classes, or of any other series of the same class, including the price or prices or the rate or rates of conversion or exchange and the method, if any, of adjusting the same;

(vii)

The voting rights, if any, of the shares of the series;

- (viii)

  The currency or units based on or relating to currencies in which such series is denominated and/or in which payments will or may be payable;
- (ix)

  The methods by which amounts payable in respect of such series may be calculated and any commodities, currencies or indices, or price, rate or value, relevant to such calculation;
- (x)
  Any listing of the shares of the series on a securities exchange; and
- (xi)

  Any other preferences and relative, participating, optional or other rights or qualifications, limitations or restrictions thereof.

Any material United States or Canadian federal income tax consequences and other special considerations with respect to any offered Preferred Shares will be described in the Prospectus Supplement relating to the offering and sale of such Preferred Shares.

### DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS

The Company may issue Warrants to purchase Common Shares, Preferred Shares or Convertible Debt Securities. Warrants may be issued, subject to regulatory approvals, independently or together with any Common Shares, Preferred Shares or Convertible Debt Securities, as the case may be and may be attached to or separate from such Common Shares, Preferred Shares or Convertible Debt Securities. Each series of Warrants will be issued under a separate warrant agreement (each, a "Warrant Agreement") to be entered into between the Company and a warrant agent (each, a "Warrant Agent will act solely as an agent of the Company in connection with the Warrants of such series and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any holders or beneficial owners of Warrants. The following sets forth certain general terms and

14

provisions of the Warrants offered hereby. Further terms of the Warrants and the applicable Warrant Agreement will be set forth in the applicable Prospectus Supplement.

The applicable Prospectus Supplement will describe the following terms of any Warrants in respect of which this Prospectus is being delivered; (1) the title of such Warrants; (2) the securities (which may include Common Shares, Preferred Shares or Convertible Debt Securities) for which such Warrants are exercisable; (3) the price or prices at which such Warrants will be issued; (4) the periods during which the Warrants are exercisable; (5) the number of Common Shares, Preferred Shares or amount of Convertible Debt Securities for which each Warrant is exercisable; (6) the exercise price for such Warrants, including any changes to or adjustments in the exercise price; (7) the currency or currencies, including composite currencies, in which the exercise price of such Warrants may be payable; (8) if applicable, the designation and terms of the Preferred Shares with which such Warrants are issued; (9) if applicable, the terms of the Convertible Debt Securities with which such Warrants are issued; (10) the number of Warrants issued with each Common Share or Preferred Share or the Convertible Debt Securities; (11), if applicable, the date on and after which such Warrants and the related Common Shares, Preferred Shares or Convertible Debt Securities will be separately transferable; (12) any listing of the Warrants on a securities exchange; (13) if applicable, a discussion of material United States or Canadian federal income tax consequences and other special considerations with respect to any Warrants; and (14) any other terms of such Warrants, including terms, procedures and limitations relating to the exchange and exercise of such Warrants.

## DESCRIPTION OF CONVERTIBLE DEBT SECURITIES

The Convertible Debt Securities may be issued from time to time in one or more series under an indenture among the Company, as issuer, and the trustee specified in the applicable Prospectus Supplement. The following statements with respect to the Convertible Debt Securities are subject to the detailed provisions of the indenture, the form of which is filed as an exhibit to the Registration Statement. Parenthetical references below are to the indenture (or the form of security contained therein if so specified) and, whenever any particular provision of the indenture or any term used therein is referred to, such provision or term is incorporated by reference as a part of the statement in connection with which such reference is made, and the statement in connection with which such reference is made is qualified in its entirety by such reference.

The Convertible Debt Securities will constitute either indebtedness designated as Senior Indebtedness ("Senior Debt Securities"), indebtedness designated as Senior Subordinated Indebtedness ("Senior Subordinated Debt Securities") or indebtedness designated as Subordinated Indebtedness ("Subordinated Debt Securities"). Senior Debt Securities, Senior Subordinated Debt Securities and Subordinated Debt Securities will each be issued under a separate indenture (individually an "Indenture" and collectively the "Indentures") to be entered into prior to the issuance of such Convertible Debt Securities. The Indentures will be substantially identical, except for provisions relating to subordination. See "Subordination of Senior Subordinated Debt Securities and Subordinated Debt Securities". There will be a separate Trustee (individually a "Trustee" and collectively the "Trustees") under each Indenture. Information regarding the Trustee under an Indenture will be included in any Prospectus Supplement relating to the Convertible Debt Securities issued thereunder.

The particular terms of each series of Convertible Debt Securities, as well as any modification or addition to the general terms of the Convertible Debt Securities as herein described, which may be applicable to a particular series of Convertible Debt Securities, are described in the Prospectus Supplement relating to such series of Convertible Debt Securities and will be set forth in a filing with the Commission. Accordingly, for a description of the terms of a particular series of Convertible Debt Securities, reference must be made to both the Prospectus Supplement relating to such series and to the description of Convertible Debt Securities set forth in this Prospectus.

15

#### General

The Convertible Debt Securities offered pursuant to this Prospectus will be limited to \$100,000,000 aggregate principal amount (or (i) its equivalent (based on the applicable exchange rate at the time of sale), if Convertible Debt Securities are issued with principal amounts denominated in one or more foreign currencies, composite currencies or currency units as shall be designated by the Company, or (ii) such greater amount, if Convertible Debt Securities are issued at an original issue discount, as shall result in aggregate proceeds of \$100,000,000 to the Company). The Indenture provides that additional convertible debt securities may be issued thereunder up to the aggregate principal amount, which is not limited by the Indenture, authorized from time to time by the Company's Board of Directors or any duly authorized committee thereof. So long as a single Trustee is acting for the benefit of the holders of all the Convertible Debt Securities offered hereby and any such additional convertible debt securities issued under the Indenture, the Convertible Debt Securities and any such additional convertible debt securities are herein collectively referred to as the "Indenture Securities." The Indenture also provides that there may be more than one Trustee under the Indenture, each with respect to one or more different series of Indenture Securities. At any time when two or more Trustees are acting, each with respect to only certain series, the term "Indenture Securities" as used herein shall mean the one or more series with respect to which each respective Trustee is acting and the powers and the trust obligations of each such Trustee as described herein shall extend only to the one or more series of Indenture Securities for which it is acting as trustee. The effect of the provisions contemplating that there might be more than one Trustee acting for different series of Indenture Securities is that, in that event, those Indenture.

The applicable Prospectus Supplement will set forth a description of the particular series of Convertible Debt Securities being offered thereby, including but not limited to: (1) the designation or title of such Convertible Debt Securities; (2) the aggregate principal amount of such Convertible Debt Securities; (3) the percentage of their principal amount at which such Convertible Debt Securities will be offered; (4) the date or dates on which the principal of such Convertible Debt Securities will be payable and on which such Convertible Debt Securities will mature; (5) the rate or rates (which may be fixed or variable) at which such Convertible Debt Securities shall bear interest, or the method of determination of such rate or rates at which such Convertible Debt Securities shall bear interest, if any; (6) the date or dates from which interest will accrue or the method of determination of such date or dates, and the date or dates on which any such interest shall be payable; (7) the currencies or currency units in which such Convertible Debt Securities are issued or payable; (8) the terms for redemption, extension or early repayment of such Convertible Debt Securities, if any; (9) if other than denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiple thereof, the denominations in which such Convertible Debt Securities are authorized to be issued; (10) the terms and conditions upon which conversion will be effected, including the conversion price, the conversion period and other conversion provisions; (11) the provisions for a sinking fund, if any; (12) whether such Convertible Debt Securities are issuable as a Global Security or Securities; (13) any index or formula to be used to determine the amount of payments of principal, premium, if any, and interest on such Convertible Debt Securities, and any commodities, currencies, currency units or indices, or value, rate or price, relevant to such determination; (14) if the principal of, premium, if any, or interest on such Convertible Debt Securities is to be payable, at the election of the Company or a Holder thereof, in one or more currencies or currency units other than that or those in which such Convertible Debt Securities are stated to be payable, the currencies or currency units in which payment of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on such Convertible Debt Securities as to which election is made shall be payable, and the periods within which and the terms and conditions upon which such election is to be made; (15) if other than the principal amount thereof, the portion of the principal amount of such Convertible Debt Securities of the series which will be payable upon acceleration of the Maturity thereof; (16) whether such Convertible Debt Securities are subordinate in right of payment to any Senior Indebtedness of the

Company and, if so, the terms and conditions of such subordination and the aggregate principal amount of such Senior Indebtedness outstanding as of a recent date; (17) any covenants to which the Company may be subject with respect to such Convertible Debt Securities; (18) the applicability of the provisions described under "Defeasance" below; (19) United States and Canadian Federal income tax consequences, if any; (20) the provisions for the payment of additional amounts with respect to any Canadian withholding taxes in certain cases; (21) any term or provision relating to such Convertible Debt Securities which is not inconsistent with the provisions of the Indenture; (22) the Trustee; and (23) any other special terms pertaining to such Convertible Debt Securities. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, the Convertible Debt Securities will not be listed on any securities exchange.

One or more series of Convertible Debt Securities may be sold at a substantial discount below their stated principal amount, bearing no interest or interest at a rate which at the time of issuance is below market rates. Any material United States or Canadian federal income tax consequences and other special considerations with respect to any series of Convertible Debt Securities will be described in the Prospectus Supplement relating to any such series of Convertible Debt Securities.

If the purchase price of any series of Convertible Debt Securities is denominated in a foreign currency or currencies or a foreign currency unit or units or if the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on any series of Convertible Debt Securities are payable in a foreign currency or currencies or a foreign currency unit or units, the restrictions, elections, general tax considerations, specific terms and other information with respect to such series of Convertible Debt Securities will be set forth in the applicable Prospectus Supplement.

Convertible Debt Securities may be issued from time to time with payment terms which are calculated by reference to the value, rate or price of one or more commodities, currencies, currency units or indices. Holders of such Convertible Debt Securities may receive a principal amount (including premium, if any) on any principal payment date, or a payment of interest on any interest payment date, that is greater than or less than the amount of principal (including premium, if any) or interest otherwise payable on such dates, depending upon the value, rate or price on the applicable dates of the applicable currency, currency unit, commodity or index. Information as to the methods for determining the amount of principal, premium, if any, or interest payable on any date, the currencies, currency units, commodities or indices to which the amount payable on such date is linked and any additional tax considerations will be set forth in the applicable Prospectus Supplement.

Except as may be set forth in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, Holders of Convertible Debt Securities will not have the benefit of any specific covenants or provisions in the applicable Indenture or such Convertible Debt Securities in the event that the Company engages in or becomes the subject of a highly leveraged transaction, other than the limitations on mergers, consolidations and transfers of substantially all of the Company's properties and assets as an entirety to any person as described below under "Consolidation, Merger and Sale of Assets".

The Convertible Debt Securities will be general unsecured obligations of the Company.

Except as otherwise provided in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, principal, premium, if any, and interest, if any, will be payable at an office or agency to be maintained by the Company in New York, New York, except that at the option of the Company interest may be paid by check mailed to the person entitled thereto.

The Convertible Debt Securities will be issued only in fully registered form without coupons and may be presented for the registration of transfer or exchange at the corporate trust office of the Trustee. Not all Convertible Debt Securities of any one series need be issued at the same time, and, unless otherwise provided, a series may be reopened for issuances of additional Convertible Debt Securities of such series.

17

### **Senior Debt Securities**

The Senior Debt Securities will rank <u>pari passu</u> with all other unsecured and unsubordinated debt of the Company and senior to the Senior Subordinated Debt Securities and Subordinated Debt Securities.

#### Subordination Of Senior Subordinated Debt Securities And Subordinated Debt Securities

The payment of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Senior Subordinated Debt Securities and the Subordinated Debt Securities will, to the extent set forth in the respective Indentures and Indenture Supplements governing such Senior Subordinated Debt Securities and Subordinated Debt Securities, be subordinated in right of payment to the prior payment in full of all Senior Indebtedness. Upon any payment or distribution of assets to creditors upon any liquidation, dissolution, winding up, reorganization, assignment for the benefit of

creditors, marshalling of assets or any bankruptcy, insolvency or similar proceedings of the Company, the holders of all Senior Indebtedness will be entitled to receive payment in full of all amounts due or to become due thereon before the Holders of the Senior Subordinated Debt Securities or the Subordinated Debt Securities will be entitled to receive any payment in respect of the principal of, premium, if any, or interest on such Senior Subordinated Debt Securities or Subordinated Debt Securities, as the case may be. In the event of the acceleration of the maturity of any Senior Subordinated Debt Securities or Subordinated Debt Securities, the holders of all Senior Indebtedness will be entitled to receive payment in full of all amounts due or to become due thereon before the Holders of the Senior Subordinated Debt Securities or Subordinated Debt Securities, as the case may be, will be entitled to receive any payment upon the principal of, premium, if any, or interest on such Senior Subordinated Debt Securities or Subordinated Debt Securities or Subordinated Debt Securities may be made if there shall have occurred and be continuing in a default in the payment of principal of (or premium, if any) or interest on any Senior Indebtedness beyond any applicable grace period, or a default with respect to any Senior Indebtedness permitting the holders thereof to accelerate the maturity thereof, or if any judicial proceedings shall be pending with respect to any such default. For purposes of the subordination provisions, the payment, issuance or delivery of cash, property or securities (other than stock, and certain subordinated securities, of the Company) upon conversion or exchange or a Senior Subordinated Debt Security or Subordinated Debt Security, as the case may be.

By reason of such provisions, in the event of insolvency, holders of Senior Subordinated Debt Securities and Subordinated Debt Securities may recover less, ratably, than holders of Senior Indebtedness with respect thereto.

The term "Senior Indebtedness", when used with respect to any series of Senior Subordinated Debt Securities or Subordinated Debt Securities, is defined to include all amounts due on and obligations in connection with any of the following, whether outstanding at the date of execution of the Indenture or thereafter incurred, assumed, guaranteed or otherwise created (including, without limitation, interest accruing on or after a bankruptcy or other similar event, whether or not an allowed claim therein):

- (a) indebtedness, obligations and other liabilities (contingent or otherwise) of the Company for money borrowed or evidenced by bonds, debentures, notes or similar instruments;
- (b)
  reimbursement obligations and other liabilities (contingent or otherwise) of the Company with respect to letters of credit or bankers' acceptances issued for the account of the Company and interest rate protection agreements and currency exchange or purchase agreements;

18

- (c) obligations and liabilities (contingent or otherwise) of the Company related to capitalized lease obligations;
- (d) indebtedness, obligations and other liabilities (contingent or otherwise) of the Company related to agreements or arrangements designed to protect the Company against fluctuations in commodity prices, including without limitation, commodity futures contracts or similar hedging instruments;
- (e) indebtedness of others of the kinds described in the preceding clauses (a) through (d) that the Company has assumed, guaranteed or otherwise assured the payment of, directly or indirectly;
- (f) indebtedness of another Person of the type described in the preceding clauses (a) through (e) secured by any mortgage, pledge, lien or other encumbrance on property owned or held by the Company; and
- (g)

  deferrals, renewals, extensions and refundings of, or amendments, modifications or supplements to, any indebtedness, obligation or liability described in the preceding clauses (a) through (f) whether or not there is any notice to or consent of the Holders of such series of Senior Subordinated Debt Securities or Subordinated Debt Securities, as the case may be;

except that, with respect to the Senior Subordinated Debt Securities, any particular indebtedness, obligation, liability, guaranty, assumption, deferral, renewal, extension or refunding shall not constitute "Senior Indebtedness" if it is expressly stated in the governing terms, or in the assumption or guarantee, thereof that the indebtedness involved is not senior in right of payment to the Senior Subordinated Debt Securities or

that such indebtedness is <u>pari passu</u> with or junior to the Senior Subordinated Debt Securities and, with respect to Subordinated Debt Securities, any particular indebtedness, obligation, liability, guaranty, assumption, deferral, renewal, extension or refunding shall not constitute "Senior Indebtedness" if it is expressly stated in the governing terms, or in the assumption or guarantee, thereof that the indebtedness involved is not senior in right of payment to the Subordinated Debt Securities or that such indebtedness is <u>pari passu</u> with or junior to the Subordinated Debt Securities.

In certain circumstances, such as the bankruptcy or insolvency of the Company, Canadian or U.S. bankruptcy or insolvency legislation may be applicable and the application of such legislation may lead to different results with respect to, for example, payments to be made to Holders of Convertible Debt Securities, or priorities between Holders of the Convertible Debt Securities and holders of Senior Indebtedness, than those provided for in the applicable Indenture.

If this Prospectus is being delivered in connection with a series of Senior Subordinated Debt Securities or Subordinated Debt Securities, the accompanying Prospectus Supplement or the information incorporated herein by reference will set forth the approximate amount of Senior Indebtedness outstanding as of the end of the Company's most recent fiscal quarter.

### Form, Exchange, Registration, Conversion, Transfer And Payment

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, the Convertible Debt Securities will be issued only in fully registered form in denominations of U.S. \$1,000 or integral multiples thereof. Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, payment of principal, premium, if any, and interest on the Convertible Debt Securities will be payable, and the exchange, conversion and transfer of Convertible Debt Securities will be registerable, at the office or agency of the Company maintained for such purposes. No service charge will be made for any registration of a transfer or exchange of the Convertible Debt Securities, but the Company may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge imposed in connection therewith.

19

All monies paid by the Company to a Paying Agent for the payment of principal of, premium, if any, or interest on any Convertible Debt Security which remain unclaimed for two years after such principal, premium or interest has become due and payable may be repaid to the Company and thereafter the holder of such Convertible Debt Security may look only to the Company for payment thereof.

### **Events Of Default**

The following will be Events of Default under the Indenture with respect to Convertible Debt Securities of any series: (a) failure to pay principal (or premium, if any) on any Convertible Debt Security of that series at its maturity, whether or not such failure is a result of the subordination provisions of the Indenture with respect to such series; (b) failure to pay any interest on any Convertible Debt Security of that series when due, continued for 30 days, whether or not such failure is a result of the subordination provisions of the Indenture with respect to such series; (c) failure to make any sinking fund payment, when due, in respect of any Convertible Debt Security of that series; (d) failure to perform any other covenant of the Company in the applicable Indenture or any other covenant to which the Company may be subject with respect to Convertible Debt Securities of that series (other than a covenant solely for the benefit of a series of Convertible Debt Securities other than that series), continued for 90 days after written notice as provided in the applicable Indenture; (e) failure to pay when due on final maturity (after the expiration of any applicable grace period), or upon acceleration, any indebtedness for money borrowed by the Company in excess of U.S. \$10 million; (f) certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization; and (g) any other Event of Default provided with respect to Convertible Debt Securities of that series.

If an Event of Default with respect to outstanding Convertible Debt Securities of any series shall occur and be continuing, either the Trustee or the Holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding Convertible Debt Securities of that series, by notice as provided in the applicable Indenture, may declare the principal amount (or, if the Convertible Debt Securities of that series are original issue discount securities, such portion of the principal amount as may be specified in the terms of that series) of all Convertible Debt Securities of that series to be due and payable immediately, except that upon the occurrence of an Event of Default specified in (f) above, the principal amount (or in the case of original issue discount securities, such portion) of all Convertible Debt Securities shall be immediately due and payable without notice. However, at any time after a declaration of acceleration with respect to Convertible Debt Securities of any series has been made, but before judgment or decree based on such acceleration has been obtained, the Holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding Convertible Debt Securities of that series may, under certain circumstances, rescind and annul such acceleration. For information as to waiver of defaults, see "Modification and Waiver" below.

The Indentures will provide that, subject to the duty of the respective Trustees thereunder during an Event of Default to act with the required standard of care, each such Trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers under the respective Indentures at

the request or direction of any of the Holders, unless such Holders shall have offered to such Trustee reasonable security or indemnity. Subject to certain provisions, including those requiring security or indemnification of the applicable Trustee, the Holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding Convertible Debt Securities of any series will have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to such Trustee, or to exercise any trust or power conferred on such Trustee, with respect to the Convertible Debt Securities of that series.

No Holder of a Convertible Debt Security of any series will have any right to institute any proceeding with respect to the applicable Indenture or for any remedy thereunder, unless such Holder shall have previously given to the applicable Trustee written notice of a continuing Event of Default and unless also the Holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Convertible Debt Securities of the same series shall have made written requests, and offered reasonable

20

indemnity, to such Trustee to institute such proceeding as trustee, and the Trustee shall not have received from the Holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Convertible Debt Securities of the same series a direction inconsistent with such request and shall have failed to institute such proceeding within 60 days. However, such limitations do not apply to a suit instituted by a Holder of a Convertible Debt Security for enforcement of payment of the principal of and interest on such Convertible Debt Security on or after the respective due dates expressed in such Convertible Debt Security.

The Company will be required to furnish to the Trustees annually a statement as to the performance by the Company of its obligations under the respective Indentures and as to any default in such performance.

### **Modification And Waiver**

Without the consent of any Holder of outstanding Convertible Debt Securities, the Company and the Trustees may amend or supplement the Indentures or the Convertible Debt Securities to cure any ambiguity, defect or inconsistency, or to make any change that does not adversely affect the rights of any Holder of Convertible Debt Securities. Other modifications and amendments of the respective Indentures may be made by the Company and the applicable Trustee with the consent of the Holders of not less than a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Convertible Debt Securities of each series affected thereby; provided, however, that no such modification or amendment may, without the consent of the Holder of each outstanding Convertible Debt Security affected thereby: (a) change the stated maturity of the principal of, or any installment of principal of, or premium, if any, or interest on any Convertible Debt Security; (b) reduce the principal amount of, the rate of interest on, or the premium, if any, payable upon the redemption of, any Convertible Debt Security; (c) reduce the amount of principal of an original issue discount security payable upon acceleration of the maturity thereof; (d) change the place or currency of payment of principal of, premium, if any, or interest on any Convertible Debt Security; (e) impair the right to institute suit for the enforcement of any payment on or with respect to any Convertible Debt Security on or after the stated maturity or redemption date thereof; (f) modify the conversion provisions in a manner adverse to the holders thereof; (g) modify the subordination provisions applicable to Senior Subordinated Debt Securities or Subordinated Debt Securities in a manner adverse to the Holders thereof; (h) reduce the percentage in principal amount of outstanding Convertible Debt Securities of any series, the consent of the Holders of which is required for modification or amendment of the applicable Indenture or for waiver of compliance with certain provisions of the applicable Indenture or for waiver of certain defaults or (i) modify any of the provisions of certain sections as specified in the Indenture including the provisions summarized in this paragraph, except to increase any such percentage or to designate additional provisions of the Indenture, which, with respect to such series, cannot be modified or waived without the consent of the Holder of each outstanding Convertible Debt Security affected thereby.

The Holders of at least a majority in principal amount of the outstanding Convertible Debt Securities of any series may on behalf of the Holders of all Convertible Debt Securities of that series waive, insofar as that series is concerned, compliance by the Company with certain covenants of the applicable Indenture. The Holders of not less than a majority in principal amount of the outstanding Convertible Debt Securities of any series may, on behalf of the Holders of all Convertible Debt Securities of that series, waive any past default under the applicable Indenture with respect to that series, except a default in the payment of the principal of, premium, if any, or interest on, any Convertible Debt Security of that series or in respect of a provision which under the applicable Indenture cannot be modified or amended without the consent of the Holder of each outstanding Convertible Debt Security of that series affected.

2

The Company, without the consent of any Holders of any series of outstanding Convertible Debt Securities, may consolidate with or merge into, or transfer or lease its assets substantially as an entirety (treating the Company and each of its Subsidiaries as a single consolidated entity) to, any corporation, and any other corporation may consolidate with or merge into, or transfer or lease its assets substantially as an entirety to, the Company, provided that the corporation (if other than the Company) formed by such consolidation or into which the Company is merged or which acquires or leases the assets of the Company substantially as an entirety is organized and existing under the laws of the United States of America or Canada or any political subdivision of either, and assumes the Company's obligations under each series of outstanding Convertible Debt Securities and the Indentures applicable thereto and that the Trustee is satisfied that the transaction will not result in the successor being required to make any deduction or withholding on account of certain Canadian taxes from any payments in respect of the Securities, and that, after giving effect to such transaction, no Event of Default, and no event which, after notice or lapse of time or both, would become an Event of Default, shall have occurred and be continuing, and the delivery of an officer's certificate and an opinion of counsel with respect to compliance with the foregoing requirements.

#### Defeasance

If so indicated in the applicable Prospectus Supplement with respect to the Convertible Debt Securities of a series, the Company at its option will be released from its obligations to comply with certain covenants specified in the applicable Prospectus Supplement with respect to the Convertible Debt Securities of such series, and the occurrence of an event described in clause (d) under "Events of Default" above with respect to any defeased covenants, and clauses (e) and (g) under "Events of Default" above shall no longer be an Event of Default, if the Company irrevocably deposits with the applicable Trustee, in trust, money, government obligations of the government issuing the currency in which the Convertible Debt Securities of the relevant series are denominated, or a combination thereof that through the payment of interest thereon and principal thereof in accordance with the terms will provide money in an amount sufficient to pay all the principal of and premium, if any, and interest on the Securities of such series on the dates such payments are due (up to the stated maturity date, or the redemption date, as the case may be) in accordance with the terms of such Convertible Debt Securities. Such a trust may only be established if, among other things, (a) no Event of Default described under "Events of Default" above or event that, after notice or lapse of time, or both, would become an Event of Default under the applicable Indenture, shall have occurred and be continuing on the date of such deposit, or, with regard to an Event of Default described under clause (f) under "Events of Default" above or an event that, after notice or lapse of time, or both, would become an Event of Default described under such clause (f), shall have occurred and be continuing at any time during the period ending on the 123rd day following such date of deposit, (b) the Company shall have delivered an opinion of counsel to the effect that the Holders of the Convertible Debt Securities will not recognize gain or loss for United States Federal income tax purposes as a result of such deposit or defeasance and will be subject to United States Federal income tax in the same manner as if such defeasance had not occurred, and (c) such covenant defeasance will not result in the trust being in violation of the Investment Company Act of 1940. In the event the Company omits to comply with its remaining obligations under the applicable Indenture after a defeasance of such Indenture with respect to the Convertible Debt Securities of any series as described above and the Convertible Debt Securities of such series are declared due and payable because of the occurrence of any undefeased Event of Default, the amount of money and government obligations on deposit with the applicable Trustee may be insufficient to pay amounts due on the Convertible Debt Securities of such series at the time of the acceleration resulting from such Event of Default, However, the Company will remain liable in respect to such payments.

22

Notwithstanding the description set forth under "Subordination of Senior Subordinated Debt Securities and Subordinated Debt Securities" above, in the event that the Company deposits money or government obligations in compliance with the Indenture that governs any Senior Subordinated Debt Securities or Subordinated Debt Securities, as the case may be, in order to defease all or certain of its obligations with respect to the applicable series of Convertible Debt Securities, the money or government obligations so deposited will not be subject to the subordinated in right of payment to the holders of applicable Senior Indebtedness to the extent of the money or government obligations so deposited.

### **Governing Law**

The Indentures and the Convertible Debt Securities will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York.

### **Regarding The Trustees**

The Indenture contains certain limitations on the right of each Trustee, should it become a creditor of the Company, to obtain payment of claims in certain cases, or to realize for its own account on certain property received in respect of any such claim as security or otherwise. Each Trustee will be permitted to engage in certain other transactions with the Company; however, if it acquires any conflicting interest and there is a default under the Convertible Debt Securities issued under the applicable Indenture, it must eliminate such conflict or resign.

### **Book-Entry System**

The Convertible Debt Securities of a Series may be issued in the form of one or more global certificates representing the Convertible Debt Securities (the "Global Securities") that will be deposited with a depository (the "Depository") or with a nominee for the Depository identified in the applicable Prospectus supplement and will be registered in the name of the Depository or a nominee thereof. In such a case one or more Global Securities will be issued in a denomination or aggregate denominations equal to the portion of the aggregate principal amount of outstanding Convertible Debt Securities of the series to be represented by such Global Security or Securities. Unless and until it is exchanged in whole or in part for Convertible Debt Securities in definitive certificated form, a Global Security may be transferred, in whole but not in part, only to another nominee of the Depository for such series, or to a successor Depository for such series selected or approved by the Company, or to a nominee of such successor Depository.

The specific depository arrangement with respect to any series of Convertible Debt Securities to be represented by a Global Security will be described in the applicable Prospectus Supplement. The Company expects that the following provisions will apply to depository arrangements.

Upon the issuance of any Global Security, and the deposit of such Global Security with or on behalf of the Depository for such Global Security, the Depository will credit, on its book-entry registration and transfer system, the respective principal amounts of the Convertible Debt Securities represented by such Global Security to the accounts of institutions ("participants") that have accounts with the Depository or its nominee. The accounts to be credited will be designated by the underwriters or agents engaging in the distribution of such Convertible Debt Securities or by the Company, if such Convertible Debt Securities are offered and sold directly by the Company. Ownership of beneficial interests in a Global Security will be limited to participants or persons that may hold interests through participants. Ownership of beneficial interests by participants in such Global Security will be shown on, and the transfer of such beneficial interests will be effected only through, records maintained by the Depository for such Global Security or by its nominee. Ownership of beneficial interests in such Global

23

Security by persons that hold through participants will be shown on, and the transfer of such beneficial interests within such participants will be effected only through, records maintained by such participants. The laws of some jurisdictions may require that certain purchasers of securities take physical delivery of such securities in certificated form. The foregoing limitations and such laws may impair the ability to own, pledge or transfer beneficial interests in such Global Securities.

So long as the Depository for a Global Security, or its nominee, is the registered owner of such Global Security, such Depository or such nominee, as the case may be, will be considered the sole owner or holder of the Convertible Debt Securities represented by such Global Security for all purposes under the Indenture. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable Prospectus Supplement and except as specified below, owners of beneficial interests in such Global Security will not be entitled to have Convertible Debt Securities of the series represented by such Global Security registered in their names, will not receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of Convertible Debt Securities of such series in certificated form and will not be considered the holders thereof for any purposes under the Indenture. Accordingly, each person owning a beneficial interest in such Global Security must rely on the procedures of the Depository and, if such person is not a participant, on the procedures of the participant through which such person owns its interest, to exercise any rights of a holder under the Indenture. The Company understands that, under existing industry practices, if the Company requests any action of holders or an owner of a beneficial interest in such Global Security desires to give any notice or take any action a holder is entitled to give or take under the Indenture, the Depository would authorize the participants to give such notice or take such action, and participants would authorize beneficial owners owning through them.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, payments with respect to principal, premium, if any, and interest, if any, on Convertible Debt Securities represented by a Global Security registered in the name of a Depository or its nominee will be made to such Depository or its nominee, as the case may be, as the registered owner of such Global Security.

The Company expects that the Depository for any Convertible Debt Securities represented by a Global Security, upon receipt of any payment of principal, premium or interest in respect of such Global Security, will immediately credit participants' accounts with payments in amounts proportionate to their respective beneficial interests in the principal amount of such Global Security as shown on the records of such Depository. The Company also expects that payments by participants to owners of beneficial interests in such Global Security held through such participants will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is now the case with securities held for the accounts of customers registered in "street names," and will be the responsibility of such participants. None of the Company, the Trustee or any agent of the Company or the Trustee shall have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the records relating to or payments made on account of beneficial ownership interests of a Global Security, or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to such beneficial ownership interests.

If the Depository for any Convertible Debt Securities represented by a Global Security is at any time unwilling or unable to continue as Depository or ceases to be registered or in good standing under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and a successor Depository is not appointed by the Company within 90 days after the Company receives notice or becomes aware of such condition, the Company will issue such Convertible Debt Securities in definitive certificated form in exchange for such Global Security. In addition, the Company may at any time and in its sole discretion determine not to have any of the Convertible Debt Securities of a series represented by one or more Global Securities and, in such event, will issue Convertible Debt Securities of such series in definitive certificated form in exchange for all of the Global Security or Securities representing such Convertible Debt Securities.

24

#### PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

The Company may offer and sell the Securities to or through underwriters or dealers, and also may offer and sell Securities directly to other purchasers or through agents.

Each Prospectus Supplement will set forth the terms of the offering of the particular series of Securities to which the Prospectus Supplement relates, including the name or names of any underwriters, dealers or agents, the purchase price or prices of the Securities, the proceeds to the Company from the sale of such series of Securities, the use of such proceeds, any initial public offering price or purchase price of such series of Securities, any underwriting discount or commission, any discounts, concessions or commissions allowed or reallowed or paid by any underwriters to other dealers, any commissions paid to any agents and the securities exchanges, if any, on which such Securities will be listed. Any initial public offering price or purchase price and any discounts, concessions or commissions allowed or reallowed or paid by any underwriter to other dealers may be changed from time to time.

Sales of Common Shares or Preferred Shares offered pursuant to any Prospectus Supplement may be effected from time to time in one or more transactions on the American Stock Exchange or, in appropriate circumstances, The Toronto Stock Exchange, or in negotiated transactions or any combination of such methods of sale, at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to such prevailing market prices, or at other negotiated prices.

In connection with the sale of Securities, underwriters or agents may receive compensation from the Company or from purchasers of Securities for whom they may act as agents in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions, Underwriters may sell Securities to or through dealers, and such dealers may receive compensation in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions from the underwriters and/or commissions from the purchasers for whom they may act as agents. Underwriters, dealers and agents that participate in the distribution of Securities may be deemed to be underwriters, and any discounts or commissions received by them from the Company and any profit on the resale of Securities by them may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act. Any such underwriter or agent will be identified, and any such compensation received from the Company will be described, in the applicable Prospectus Supplement.

Under agreements which may be entered into by the Company, underwriters and agents who participate in the distribution of Securities may be entitled to indemnification by the Company against certain liabilities, including liabilities under Canadian and United States securities legislation.

The Company may grant underwriters who participate in the distribution of Securities an option to purchase additional Securities to cover over-allotments, if any.

The place and date of delivery for the Securities in respect of which this Prospectus is being delivered will be set forth in the applicable Prospectus Supplement.

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, the Securities in respect of which this Prospectus is being delivered (other than Common Shares) will be a new issue of securities, will not have an established trading market when issued and will not be listed on any securities exchange. Any underwriters or agents to or through whom such Securities are sold by the Company for public offering and sale may make a market in such Securities, but such underwriters or agents will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. No assurance can be given as to the liquidity of the trading market for any such Securities.

Certain of the underwriters and their affiliates may from time to time perform various commercial banking and investment banking services for the Company, for which customary compensation is received.

#### **EXPERTS**

The consolidated balance sheets of Golden Star Resources Ltd. as of December 31, 1996 and 1995 and the consolidated statement of operations, shareholders' equity and cash flows for the years ended December 31, 1996, 1995 and 1994, included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1996, incorporated by reference herein have been included in this Form S-3 in reliance on the report of Coopers & Lybrand, chartered accountants, given on the authority of that firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

### LEGAL MATTERS

Certain legal matters relating to the validity of the Securities will be passed upon for the Company by Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison, New York, New York, and by Koffman Birnie & Kalef, Vancouver, British Columbia. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the underwriters, if any, by the counsel named in the applicable Prospectus Supplement.

26

#### CERTIFICATE OF THE COMPANY

July 28, 2003

This short form prospectus, together with the documents incorporated herein by reference, constitutes full, true and plain disclosure of all material facts relating to the securities offered by this short form prospectus as required by the securities legislation of the Provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

"Peter J.L. Bradford"	"Allan J. Marter"	
Peter J.L. Bradford President and Chief Executive Officer	Allan J. Marter Chief Financial Officer	
ON	BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS	
"Robert R. Stone"	"David K. Fagin"	
Robert R. Stone Director	David K. Fagin Director C-1	

# CERTIFICATE OF THE CANADIAN UNDERWRITERS

July 28, 2003

To the best of our knowledge, information and belief, this short form prospectus, together with the documents incorporated herein by reference, constitutes full, true and plain disclosure of all material facts relating to the securities offered by this short form prospectus as required by the securities legislation of the Provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

ORION SECURITIES INC.	BMO NESBITT BURNS INC.		
"Kenneth Gillis"	"Peter Collibee"		
Kenneth Gillis Managing Director, Mining	Peter Collibee Vice President Mining		
	CANACCORD CAPITAL CORPORATION		
	"Michael G. Greenwood"		
	Michael G. Greenwood President and Chief Operating Officer		
NATIONAL BANK FINANCIAL INC.	RBC DOMINION SECURITIES INC.		
"William A. Washington"	"Gordon J. Bell"		
William A. Washington Director, Investment Banking	Gordon J. Bell Managing Director		
	WESTWIND PARTNERS INC.		
	"David M. Beatty"		
	David M. Beatty Managing Director C-2		