

ARC Group Worldwide, Inc.
Form 10-K
September 26, 2017
Table of Contents

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10 – K

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from to

ARC Group Worldwide, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Utah

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

001-33400

87-0454148

(Commission File Number)

(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

810 Flightline Blvd.

Deland, FL 32724

(Address of principal executive offices including zip code)

(303) 467-5236

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Exchange Act: None

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Exchange Act:

\$.0005 par value common stock

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.
Yes No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for at least the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§229.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K (§229.405 of this chapter) is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10 K.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer	Accelerated filer
	(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)
Non-accelerated filer	Smaller reporting company
	Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No

As of January 1, 2017, the aggregate market value of the voting common stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant was approximately \$40.8 million, based on the closing sale price of the registrant's common stock on such date as reported on the NASDAQ Capital Market Exchange.

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the registrant's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date:

As of September 8, 2017, there were 18,209,485 shares of the registrant's \$0.0005 par value common stock outstanding.

Portions of the registrant's Definitive Proxy Statement for the 2017 Annual Meeting of Stockholders are incorporated herein by reference in Part III of this Annual Report on Form 10-K to the extent stated herein.

Table of Contents

ARC Group Worldwide, Inc.

Table of Contents

	Page No.
<u>PART I</u>	
<u>Item 1. Business</u>	1
<u>Item 1A. Risk Factors</u>	8
<u>Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments</u>	26
<u>Item 2. Properties</u>	26
<u>Item 3. Legal Proceedings</u>	26
<u>Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures</u>	26
<u>PART II</u>	
<u>Item 5. Market for Registrant’s Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities</u>	27
<u>Item 6. Selected Financial Data</u>	28
<u>Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	28
<u>Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	38
<u>Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data</u>	39
<u>Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure</u>	69
<u>Item 9A. Controls and Procedures</u>	69
<u>Item 9B. Other Information</u>	71
<u>PART III</u>	
<u>Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance</u>	71
<u>Item 11. Executive Compensation</u>	71
<u>Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters</u>	71
<u>Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions and Director Independence</u>	71
<u>Item 14. Principal Accounting Fees and Services</u>	71
<u>Part IV</u>	
<u>Item 15. Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules</u>	72
<u>Signatures</u>	74

Table of Contents

PART I

Cautionary Statement Concerning Forward-Looking Statements

The information contained in this Annual Report (this “Report”) may contain certain statements about ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. (the “Company” or “ARC”) that are or may be “forward-looking statements,” that is, statements related to future, not past, events, including forward-looking statements within the meaning of the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements are based on the current expectations of the management of ARC and are subject to uncertainty and changes in circumstances and involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in such forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause our results to differ materially from current expectations include, but are not limited to factors detailed in our reports filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”), including but not limited to those under the caption “Risk Factors” contained herein. In addition, these statements are based on a number of assumptions that are subject to change. The forward-looking statements contained in this Report may include all other statements in this document other than historical facts. Without limitation, any statements preceded or followed by, or that include the words “targets,” “plans,” “believes,” “expects,” “aims,” “intends,” “will,” “may,” “anticipates,” “estimates,” “approximates,” “sees,” “should,” “would,” “expect,” “positioned,” “strategy,” or words or terms of similar substance or derivative variation or negative thereof, are forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements include statements relating to the following: (1) future capital expenditures, expenses, revenues, earnings, synergies, economic performance, indebtedness, financial condition, losses, and future prospects; (2) business and management strategies and the expansion and growth of ARC; (3) the effects of government regulation on ARC’s business; and (4) our plans, objectives, expectations and intentions generally.

There are a number of factors that could cause actual results and developments to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Additional particular uncertainties that could cause our actual results to be materially different than those expressed in forward-looking statements include: risks associated with our international operations; significant movements in foreign currency exchange rates; changes in the general economy, as well as the cyclical nature of our markets; availability and cost of raw materials, parts and components used in our products; the competitive environment in the areas of our planned industrial activities; our ability to identify, finance, acquire and successfully integrate attractive acquisition targets; expected earnings of ARC; the amount of and our ability to estimate known and unknown liabilities; material disruption at any of our significant manufacturing facilities; the solvency of our insurers and the likelihood of their payment for losses; our ability to manage and grow our business and execution of our business and growth strategies; our ability and the ability of our customers to access required capital at a reasonable cost; our ability to expand our business in our targeted markets; the level of capital investment and expenditures by our customers in our strategic markets; our financial performance; our ability to identify, address and remediate any material weakness in our internal control over financial reporting; our ability to achieve or maintain credit ratings and the impact on our funding costs and competitive position if we do not do so; and other risk factors as disclosed herein under the caption “Risk Factors.” Other unknown or unpredictable factors could also cause actual results to differ materially from those in any forward-looking statement.

Due to such uncertainties and risks, readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on any forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date hereof. ARC undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except to the extent legally required. Nothing contained herein shall be deemed to be a forecast, projection or estimate of the future financial performance of ARC unless otherwise expressly stated.

ITEM 1. BUSINESS

Overview

ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. is a global advanced manufacturer offering a full suite of products and services to our customers, with specific expertise in metal injection molding (“MIM”) and metal 3D printing (also referred to herein as additive manufacturing or “AM”). To further advance and support these core capabilities, the Company also offers complementary services associated with: (i) precision metal stamping; (ii) traditional and clean room plastic injection molding; and (iii) advanced rapid and conformal tooling. Through our diverse product offering, we provide our customers with a holistic prototyping and full-run production solution for both precision metal and plastic fabrication.

Table of Contents

We further differentiate ourselves from our competitors by providing innovative, custom capabilities, which improve high-precision manufacturing efficiency and speed-to-market for our customers.

Our Business Model

Our business model is to accelerate the widespread adoption of MIM and AM, along with other key technologies, including automation, robotics, and production software in traditional manufacturing, thereby benefiting from the elimination of inefficiencies currently present in the global supply chain. More specifically, the two key pillars of our business strategy are centered on the following areas:

- **Holistic Manufacturing Solution.** The metal and plastic fabrication industries are highly fragmented sectors with numerous single-solution providers. Given the inefficiencies associated with working with these disjointed groups, many manufacturers seek to improve their supplier base by working with more scaled, holistic providers. Our strategy is to facilitate the consolidation and streamlining of global supply chains by offering a holistic solution to our customers' manufacturing needs. In particular, ARC provides a "one-stop shop" solution to our customers by offering a spectrum of highly advanced products, processes, and services, thereby delivering highly-engineered precision components at efficient production yields.
- **Accelerating Speed-to-Market.** The traditional prototype-to-production process is often subject to lengthy bottlenecks and is characterized by inefficient price quoting delays, time-consuming tooling procedures, and outdated production methodologies. To differentiate itself from competitors, ARC focuses on reducing inefficiencies in the development cycle by offering the seamless integration of a wide-variety of proprietary technologies in order to dramatically reduce the time and cost associated with new product development. Specifically, the Company has developed rapid and instant online quoting solutions, rapid prototype solutions, short-run production services, in-house rapid and advanced conformal tooling, and rapid full production capabilities.

Separately, U.S. manufacturing has been rejuvenated as global wage disparities mitigate and traditional labor-intensive processes are displaced by technology. These macroeconomic trends will aid in the adoption of our business strategy.

Our key fundamental strengths are built upon core capabilities, including:

- **Metal Injection Molding.** We are a large and well-respected MIM provider. As a pioneer of MIM technology, and driven by our material science understanding, powder metallurgy experience, and established global facilities, we are one of the most advanced MIM operators in the marketplace. ARC provides high-quality, complex, precise, net-shape metal components to market-leading companies in numerous sectors, including the medical and dental, firearm and defense, automotive, aerospace, consumer durable, and electronic device industries. Further, our process is highly automated, utilizing advanced robotics and automation to ensure high levels of quality and

efficiency.

- **Metal 3D Printing.** We offer a variety of 3D printing solutions, with an emphasis on metal 3D printing. In general, given promising signs of growth and related barriers to entry, we believe the metal 3D printing sector is one of the more attractive segments of the overall additive manufacturing industry. Furthermore, metal 3D printing, while a complex technology still in its early stages, shares several fundamental similarities with our MIM business, thereby helping to accelerate our research and development. Separately, our metal 3D printing capabilities enable ARC to offer a variety of new services, including rapid prototyping, rapid tooling and short-run production, helping our customers improve their product speed-to-market. Given our established customer base, diverse metallurgy background, and scalable injection molding capabilities, we believe we are well-positioned in the industrial metal 3D printing market.
- **Additional Complementary Metal and Plastic Fabrication Capabilities.** We offer a number of additional specialty metal and plastic fabrication capabilities that enable us to provide our customers with a full suite of custom-component products. Our specialty capabilities include precision stamping, magnesium injection molding, computer numerical control machining, plastic injection molding (including medical clean room applications), and fitting and flange manufacturing.

Our overall growth strategy is centered on:

- driving organic improvement through the expansion and cross-selling of our core services to existing clients;
- accelerating the adoption of our technology by new customers in traditional manufacturing markets;

2

Table of Contents

- expanding our holistic service offerings through strategic vertical and horizontal acquisitions; and
- improving financial and operational results from the implementation of operational best practices.

Accordingly, all of our business divisions are managed consistently with this strategy in order to drive organic sales growth and cash flow generation, while improving quality, speed, and service to our customers.

Our History

ARC was incorporated in the State of Utah on September 30, 1987. On August 8, 2012, we acquired Advanced Forming Technology, Inc. (“AFT”), a leading provider of MIM components to a variety of industries. AFT is comprised of two operating units, AFT-U.S. and AFT-Hungary. Concurrently, we acquired all of the shares of Quadrant Metals Technology, LLC (“QMT”), whose subsidiaries, Tekna Seal LLC (“Tekna Seal”), FloMet LLC (“FloMet”) and General Flange & Forge LLC (“GF&F”), provided high-quality fabricated metal components to diverse industries, among them medical and dental device, firearm and defense industries, electronic device, and the fluid handling industries, including energy.

On April 7, 2014, we acquired two companies, Advance Tooling Concepts, LLC (“ATC”) and Thixoforming LLC (“Thixoforming”). ATC is a leading plastic injection molding company, offering complete, turnkey plastic injection molding capabilities, as well as fully-staffed and equipped in-house molding and tooling for diverse markets, including the medical and dental device, electronic, consumer, and defense industries. Thixoforming is a leading provider of magnesium injection molding, producing complex, high-density injection molding components from magnesium alloys.

On June 25, 2014, we acquired substantially all of the assets of Key Corporation (“Key”) and 411 Munson Holding (“Munson”). Key is a precision metal stamping company that also offers value-added secondary design and production processing. The Key acquisition, along with the purchase of certain real property from Munson used in Key operations, allows ARC to provide its customers with metal stamping applications in order to offer a more holistic solution and improve the speed-to-market.

During 2017, the Company determined two subsidiaries, Tekna Seal and ARC Wireless, LLC, were not essential to core, ongoing growth operations and subsequently divested them. Also, during 2017, the Company decided to divest GF&F and classified the business as held for sale at June 30, 2017. GF&F was sold on September 15, 2017 (see Note 3, Divestitures, of the accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Part II, Item 8, for further information).

Everest Hill Group Inc. (“Everest Hill Group”) has been our major stockholder since 2008. Over its 35 year investment history, Everest Hill Group and its affiliated investment vehicles have invested in over 75 companies, including approximately 40 active portfolio companies. We believe that Everest Hill Group’s successful investment track record and long-term investment horizon provides value to our Company and its shareholders.

Industry Overview

We serve the global manufacturing industry as a provider of holistic prototype development and production solutions. In particular, we manufacture highly-engineered, precision components for OEMs in the medical and dental device, defense and firearm, automotive, aerospace, and defense industries, among others. While our manufacturing technologies continue to gain market acceptance, they currently represent a fractional share of the global manufacturing market.

The global manufacturing industries we compete in are generally highly fragmented, consisting of many privately-held production companies and some publicly traded companies. We believe the industry offers opportunities for consolidation, as many small, privately-held companies lack the financial resources to invest in the emerging technologies that are necessary to remain competitive.

Further, manufacturing technology in our industry has been rapidly evolving, creating improvements in accuracy, complexity, and the development of an increasing variety of feedstock alternatives. We expect these trends to continue, and believe new technologies, including processing capabilities, advanced materials, and additive manufacturing advancements will enable us to create new and more efficient parts and services, thereby providing an excellent opportunity for long-term, future growth.

Table of Contents

Key Industry Trends

The global manufacturing industry is evolving as characterized by a number of key trends, including:

- **On-shoring of Global Manufacturing to the United States and the Developed World.** U.S. manufacturing may capture a growing portion of global manufacturing revenue as technological improvements, lower domestic energy prices, and the equalization of developing country wage disparity reestablishes the United States as a desirable location for select manufacturing operations.
- **Growth Opportunity in Industrial 3D Printing.** The additive manufacturing industry has begun to displace certain traditional manufacturing technologies, and we believe this trend may continue. In particular, the industrial metal 3D printing service sector could outpace growth in the overall additive manufacturing industry given associated cost and production efficiencies, particularly in the aerospace, firearm and defense, and medical and dental industries.
- **Accelerating Pace of New Product Development.** As the landscape for global OEMs becomes increasingly competitive, our OEM customers face increasing pressure to launch both new products and new versions of existing products with greater frequency. In order to meet these objectives, our OEM customers seek to improve and accelerate the supply of highly-engineered, high-quality parts and components, enabling them to increase speed-to-market. These customers are increasingly selecting suppliers on the basis of quality and speed of execution.
- **Demand for Efficient and Consolidated Supply Chain.** The existing supply chain offers opportunities for improvement as OEMs procure parts, components, and sub-assemblies from many suppliers. A large supplier base requires OEM customers to invest substantial time and capital in the coordination and management of their supply chains, with OEMs maintaining large numbers of employees devoted solely to procurement and supply chain management. Additionally, the lead times necessary to fulfill OEM purchase orders often require several weeks-to-months due to the time associated with tooling, testing, manufacturing, and shipping complex parts. Consequently, our OEM customers are seeking solutions that will achieve the following goals:
 - **Reduced Lead Times.** Our OEM customers experience production bottlenecks in the quoting and quick-turn/prototyping phases of the production cycle. In order to reduce overall lead times, our customers are seeking technologically-enabled solutions that eliminate inefficiencies in their procurement process.
 - **Rationalization of Suppliers.** Many of our customers have implemented company-wide initiatives to reduce the complexity of their respective supply chains. In selecting their ongoing supply partners, these customers are seeking industry leaders that offer an established market presence, financial flexibility and stability, the ability to supply multiple parts/components and an established track record of supplying technologically-advanced, highly-engineered parts/components with rapid turnaround times.

Competitive Strengths

We believe our competitive strengths include:

- **Leading Market Position in MIM, with High Barriers to Entry.** We believe we are one of the largest companies in the fragmented global MIM industry. Further, we believe our unique, proprietary production processes, metallurgical expertise, longstanding customer relationships, well-established industry reputation, and track record for quality products and services provide us with a competitive advantage over other market participants. Additionally, we have made a sizeable capital investment in MIM machinery, as well as the software and other complementary services necessary to maintain and grow our business. We believe there are a limited number of other market participants of comparable size and experience, with the vast majority of competitors substantially smaller in size, scale, capabilities, and expertise. We believe that the development of high-quality, commercially scalable MIM production would require any new competitors to invest significant capital and years of research and development before being able to commercially compete with us, thereby resulting in high barriers to entry for any new participants in the industry.

Table of Contents

- **Metal 3D Printing Part Production.** Due to the complementary nature of the MIM process and metal 3D printing, we established our 3DMT Group segment in 2014 to develop and advance our 3D printing operations. Given this early technological adoption and subsequent advancement, we believe we are well-positioned to utilize technologies associated with the emerging industrial metal 3D printing industry. Further, while additive manufacturing is still in its infancy, barriers to entry remain high, principally due to the demands of properly understanding and applying associated technology, as well as scaling and building such a business. Experience working with metal powder and producing complex metal components is critical to making quality, production-capable metal 3D parts. 3D printing services are a relatively new offering for us and currently represents a small portion of our business; however, we believe our experience and ancillary know-how are material competitive advantages to significantly grow this area of our operations during the foreseeable future.
- **Emphasis on Other Advanced Manufacturing Technologies.** In addition to our 3D printing initiatives, we believe our adoption and continued implementation of other advanced manufacturing technologies, such as robotics, RapidMIM, rapid tooling, and instant online quoting, are key competitive advantages in the fragmented market in which we operate. These technologies provide our customers with reduced order turnaround times and customized engineering solutions, while strengthening our customer relationships and enhancing our ability to market a broader and differentiated suite of products. We believe our capital investment and collective experience with these technologies would be difficult to replicate for smaller or limited-product-suite competitors.
- **Differentiated Business Model.** We believe that our business model is highly differentiated from many of our competitors. Historically, we generally manufactured some of the most critical and difficult-to-produce components for our customers' products. As such, we have been able to expand the scope of products we offer to our customers to include other value-added services including 3D printing, plastic injection molding, and rapid tool making, among others. We believe our full-service solution represents a distinct competitive advantage in the marketplace and will increasingly become an even more important value differentiator going forward.
- **Lean Manufacturing Technology and Operating Best Practices.** We manage our manufacturing operation on a decentralized basis, whereby each of our operating subsidiaries is run by a general manager. Our general managers are often recognized experts in lean manufacturing and general operating best practices. We have an orientation process whereby lean-manufacturing leaders groom our rising managers and mentor them on operating efficiency and excellence. These internal best practices are shared among our facilities and implemented when we acquire or initiate new operations.

Business Strategy

Our business strategy focuses on growing revenues through the addition of new customers, organically increasing our "wallet share" from existing customers, developing technology to improve the manufacturing process, and making strategic acquisitions to advance the scope and scale of our product offerings. In order to achieve this, we are implementing the following strategic initiatives:

- Provide Customers with Faster and Higher Quality Solutions. We believe that a key competitive differentiator in our business is utilizing technological solutions to increase customers' speed-to-market. We believe our technology-enhanced service offerings, including metal 3D printing, can reduce lead times and produce greater manufacturing efficiency. We also focus on utilizing our team of engineers and production experts to engage with customers at the design phase of their product development and endeavor to have them adopt our solutions throughout the entire manufacturing process, from prototype through large-scale commercial production, in order to create a more long term partnership.
- Cross-Sell Products and Services Across Our Customer Base. We are able to gain greater access and better serve our customers by cross-selling our full suite of products and services. We believe our customers are interested in new and complementary products and services our Company can offer, while at the same time valuing the simplification of their supply chains. Consequently, we have found cross-selling provides us with a compelling symbiotic strategy for revenue growth, and we plan to continue to capitalize on cross-selling opportunities as we add products and services to our existing capabilities.

Table of Contents

- **Expand Sales Force and Marketing.** We have a highly skilled, technically focused sales force and look to strategically expand our presence in markets and sectors as appropriate. Each ARC sales representative is generally responsible for selling our complete suite of solutions to target customers. Traditional sales methodologies are supported and complemented by our online initiatives, including improving our search engine optimization and other online marketing solutions. Further, we believe that international markets present a compelling growth opportunity for our business, and we have been exploring those opportunities.
- **Increase Market Penetration of 3D Technology.** We believe additive manufacturing, and in particular, metal 3D printing, can create growth opportunities in traditional manufacturing. Over the next several years, metal 3D printing could continue to displace traditional forms of metal fabrication. Given this opportunity, ARC has made, and will continue to make, investments in research and development in order to further develop and expand this capability. At the same time, given their complementary attributes to our MIM business, these metal 3D printing capabilities provide opportunities to further integrate with the Company's traditional fabrication processes.
- **Continue to Pursue Strategic Acquisitions.** We intend to continue to pursue acquisitions that meet our core strategic and financial criteria. In particular, we seek companies that offer complementary products and services to our existing portfolio, while at the same time, provide us with access to new customer bases to cross-sell our existing solutions. We believe there are numerous potential acquisition targets that meet our targeted criteria, and we intend to continue to pursue such acquisitions in the future.

Reporting Segments

See Note 14, Segment Information, of the accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Part II, Item 8, for further information on our segments.

Employees

As of June 30, 2017, our global workforce, excluding contractors, totaled approximately 576 employees. None of our U.S. employees are covered by a collective bargaining agreement. Substantially all of our international employees are members of unions or subject to workers' councils or similar statutory arrangements. Management considers its relations with all of its employees to be in good standing.

Customer Base

Our largest five customers accounted for approximately 45.0% and 42.4% of our 2017 and 2016 revenue, respectively. The concentration of our business with a relatively small number of customers may expose us to a material adverse effect if one or more of these large customers were to experience financial difficulty or were to cease being a customer for non-financial related issues.

Suppliers

We have good working relationships with our suppliers. Given our volume of purchases, we are often able to secure certain volume purchase discounts from our vendors. Each of our manufacturing facilities has a network of local partners that work very closely with us to deliver additional value-added services for manufactured components.

For certain of our raw material and component purchases, including certain polymers, copper rod, copper and aluminum tapes, fine aluminum wire, steel wire, carbon steel, and other components, we are dependent on key suppliers. While we rely upon long-term relationships, we generally do not enter into long-term contracts with our key suppliers. The timely procurement of necessary raw materials is critical to each of our operations. Consequently, poor supply capacity amid tight demand for these materials, as well as natural disasters or accidents, or other events that negatively impact our suppliers, could adversely affect their timely procurement and harm our business.

Table of Contents

Regulation

Our operations are regulated under various federal, state, local and international laws governing the environment, including laws governing the discharge of pollutants into the soil, air and water, the management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes, and the cleanup of contaminated sites. We have infrastructures in place to ensure that our operations are in compliance with all applicable environmental regulations. The costs of compliance with these laws and regulations have not had a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations or competitive position, and we do not believe that they will in the future. The imposition of more stringent standards or requirements under environmental laws or regulations or a determination that we are responsible for the release of hazardous substances at our sites could result in expenditures in excess of amounts currently estimated to be required for such matters. While no material exposures have been identified to date that we are aware of, there can be no assurance that additional environmental matters will not arise in the future or that costs will not be incurred with respect to sites as to which no problem is currently known.

As an exporter, we must comply with various laws and regulations relating to the export of products, services and technology from the U.S. and other countries having jurisdiction over our operations. In the U.S., these laws include, among others, the U.S. Export Administration Regulations (“EAR”) administered by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Industry and Security, the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (“ITAR”) administered by the U.S. Department of State, Directorate of Defense Trade Controls, and trade sanctions, regulations and embargoes administered by the U.S. Department of Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control. Certain of our products have military or strategic applications and are on the munitions list of the ITAR or represent so-called “dual use” items governed by the EAR. As a result, these products require individual validated licenses in order to be exported to certain jurisdictions. Any failures to comply with these laws and regulations could result in civil or criminal penalties, fines, investigations, adverse publicity and restrictions on our ability to export our products, and repeat failures could carry more significant penalties. Any changes in export regulations may further restrict the export of our products. The length of time required by the licensing processes can vary, potentially delaying the shipment of products and the recognition of the corresponding revenue. Any restrictions on the export of our products or product lines could have a material adverse effect on our competitive position, results of operations, cash flows, or financial condition.

Intellectual Property

We actively pursue development of intellectual property. We have registered and applied for the registration of U.S. and international trademarks, service marks, domain names and copyrights. Additionally, we have filed U.S. and international patent applications covering certain of our proprietary technology and processes. However, most of the technology used in our business is unpatented, but is protected by trade secrets and nondisclosure and confidentiality agreements. We are not currently engaged in any intellectual property litigation, nor are there any intellectual property claims pending either by or against us.

Available Information

Our corporate website address is <http://www.arcw.com>. Our Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to reports filed pursuant to Sections 13(a) and 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (Exchange Act), are filed with the SEC. Such reports and other information filed by ARC with the SEC are available free of charge on our website when such reports are available on the SEC's website. We intend to use our website as a regular means of disclosing material non-public information and for complying with disclosure obligations under Regulation FD promulgated by the SEC. Such disclosures will be included on the website under the heading "News" or "Investor Relations."

We also encourage investors, the media, and others interested in ARC to review the information posted on the Company's Facebook site (<https://www.facebook.com/ArcGroupWorldwide>) and the Company's LinkedIn account (<https://www.linkedin.com/company/arc-group-worldwide-inc->). Any updates to the list of social media channels ARC will use to announce material information will be posted on the "News" or "Investor Relations" page of the Company's website. Accordingly, investors should monitor such portions of our website and social media channels, in addition to following our press releases, SEC filings, public conference calls, and webcasts.

Table of Contents

The public may read and copy any materials filed by ARC with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, NE, Room 1580, Washington, DC 20549. The public may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC maintains an Internet site that contains reports, proxy and information statements, and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC at www.sec.gov.

The information on the websites referred above are not incorporated by reference and are not part of this Report. Further, our references to the URLs for these websites are intended to be inactive textual references only.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

In addition to the other information provided in this Report, the following risk factors should be considered when evaluating the results of our operations, future prospects and an investment in shares of our common stock ("Common Stock"). Any of these factors could cause our actual financial results to differ materially from our historical results and could give rise to events that might have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Risks Related to Our Business

The traditional manufacturing, advanced manufacturing, and 3D printing markets in which we compete are highly competitive and some of our competitors may have superior resources. Responding to this competition could reduce our sales and operating margins.

We sell most of our products in highly fragmented and competitive prototyping and production manufacturing and 3D printing markets, including those serviced by traditional and additive manufacturing suppliers. We believe that our principal challenges of competition in these markets are:

- ability to meet customer specifications and quantities within competitive time periods responsive to high customization demands from our customers;
- application expertise and engineering capabilities using novel materials that vary widely according to our customers' requirements;

- product quality and brand name in different industrial manufacturing areas, which may take years to develop;
- timeliness of delivery of raw materials to our plants and finished products to our customers;
- competitive pricing of our products at levels sufficient to attract and retain customers;
- quality of our aftermarket sales and support for customers utilizing our products in widely variable physical and environmental conditions;
- our ability to develop new advanced materials or related capabilities;
- our applied research and development capabilities that rely mainly on individual initiatives and experience of our employees; and
- our 3D printing services, which currently constitute only a small portion of our overall business.

In each of our major traditional manufacturing, advanced manufacturing, and 3D printing product lines, we compete with a substantial number of foreign and domestic companies, some of which have greater resources (financial or otherwise) or lower operating costs than we have. Competitors' actions, such as price reductions or introduction of new innovative products, may have a material adverse impact on our sales and profitability. In addition, the rapid technological changes occurring in the design and engineering industry could lead to the entry of new competitors in traditional manufacturing and 3D printing. We cannot provide assurance that we will continue to compete successfully with our existing competitors or with new competitors.

Table of Contents

Some of our traditional manufacturing, advanced manufacturing and 3D printing competitors are larger than us and have greater financial, technical, marketing, and other resources than we have. These larger competitors may be in a better position to withstand any significant reduction in capital spending by customers in our markets. They may have broader product lines and greater market focus and may not be as susceptible to downturns in a single market. These competitors may also be able to bundle their products together to meet the needs of a particular customer and may be capable of delivering more complete solutions than we are able to provide. To the extent large enterprises that currently do not compete directly with us choose to enter our markets by acquisition or otherwise, competition would likely intensify.

Further, some of our competitors that have greater financial resources have offered, and in the future may offer, their products at lower prices than we offer for our competing products or on more attractive financing or payment terms, which may cause us to lose sales opportunities and the resulting revenue or to reduce our prices in response to that competition. Reductions in prices for any of our products could have a material adverse effect on our operating margins and revenue. In addition, many of our competitors have been in operation longer than we have and, therefore, have more long-standing and established relationships with domestic and foreign customers, making it difficult for us to sell to those customers.

If any of our competitors' traditional manufacturing, advanced manufacturing, and 3D printing products or technologies were to become the industry standard, our business would be seriously harmed. If our competitors are successful in bringing their products to market earlier than us, or if these products are more technologically capable than ours, our revenue could be materially and adversely affected. Our competitors may decide to expand their presence in this market through mergers and acquisitions. The consolidation of our manufacturing and 3D printing competitors could have a significant negative impact on our business.

If we are unable to compete in the traditional manufacturing, advanced manufacturing, and 3D printing sectors at the same level as we have in the past, in any of our markets, or are forced to reduce the prices of our products in order to continue to be competitive, our operating results, financial condition, and cash flows would be materially and adversely affected.

In order to maintain and enhance our traditional manufacturing, advanced manufacturing, and 3D printing competitive position, we intend to continue our investment in technology, marketing, customer service, and support, and distribution networks. We may not have sufficient resources to continue to make these investments, and we may not be able to maintain our competitive position. Our competitors may develop products that are superior to our traditional manufacturing, advanced manufacturing, and 3D printing products, develop methods of more efficiently and effectively providing products and services, or adapt more quickly than us to new technologies or evolving customer requirements. We may not be able to compete successfully with our competitors. If we fail to compete successfully, the failure may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

We rely on a small number of customers for a large percentage of our revenues.

A relatively small number of customers have historically contributed a material percentage of our manufacturing product sales. Our five largest customers accounted for approximately 45.0% of our fiscal year 2017 revenue. Our metal 3D printing operations also rely on a small number of customers. The concentration of our business with a relatively small number of customers may expose us to a material adverse effect if one or more of these large customers were to experience financial difficulty or were to cease being customer for non-financial related issues. Through acquisitions and organic growth, we seek to diversify both our offerings and our customer base. Assuming our continued customer diversification, we do not believe the loss of any one of our core customers would have a long-term material adverse effect on our results of operations. However, there can be no assurance that the loss of any one or more of our core customers would not have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, at least in the short term.

Table of Contents

Due in part to the unpredictability of customer orders, our business is difficult to forecast with accuracy on a quarterly basis and is subject to variability.

Our manufacturing businesses have a high degree of quarterly variability, given the production lifecycle, success of our customers' products, and specific order timing, which is reliant on purchase orders rather than long-term contracts. Thus, depending on the product shipment dates for orders received, our revenue recognized for each quarter may experience variability and may vary significantly from our expectations. These potential quarterly fluctuations could have an adverse effect on our stock price as well as potentially impact our compliance under our agreements with lenders or other providers of credit to the Company.

We face customer pricing pressures.

Our customers are under pressure to reduce pricing on their products amid intense competition and pressure from their own cost-conscious customers. Weak revenue growth leads companies to reduce prices in order to boost sales, which reduces the value of those sales and further affects all participants in the supply chain. Consequently, we also face these pricing pressures. For example, our sales to the medical industry could be adversely affected by hospitals that are subject to smaller reimbursements, rising costs and a rapidly changing health-care system, which could result in hospitals reducing the size of orders and negotiating lower costs for supplies. Such events could result in hospital suppliers lowering prices in order to win business with an ultimate effect on us that would result in fewer component orders and pressure to lower our prices. Such order reductions and pricing adjustments could put pressure on our gross margins, negatively impacting the overall profitability of our businesses. Further, we and our customers also face pricing pressure from global competition, primarily from Asia and other low-cost areas. Our sales could be negatively impacted if customers move production of devices offshore.

Our future success depends on our ability to anticipate and to adapt to technological changes and develop, implement, and market product innovations.

Many of our traditional manufacturing, advanced manufacturing, and 3D printing markets are characterized by fast-moving advances in design and engineering that require ongoing improvements in our production capabilities and the competitive quality of our products. The supply chains in which we operate are subject to technological change and changes in customer requirements. We cannot provide any assurance that we will successfully develop new or modified types of traditional manufacturing, advanced manufacturing, and 3D printing products or technologies that may be required by our customers in the future. Should we not be able to maintain or enhance the competitive values of our traditional manufacturing, advanced manufacturing, and 3D printing products or develop and introduce new products or technologies successfully, or if new products or technologies fail to generate sufficient revenues to offset research and development costs, our businesses, financial condition, and operating results could be materially and adversely affected. We may not be successful in those efforts if, among other things, our traditional manufacturing, advanced manufacturing, and 3D printing products:

- are not cost effective;
- are not brought to market in a timely manner;
- are not in accordance with evolving traditional manufacturing, advanced manufacturing and 3D printing industry standards;
- fail to achieve market acceptance or meet customer requirements; and
- are in advance of the needs of their markets.

We may not fully realize anticipated benefits from past or future acquisitions or equity investments, and future acquisitions may expose us to significant unanticipated liabilities that could adversely affect our business, financial conditions, and results of operations.

We anticipate that a portion of any future growth of our business might be accomplished by acquiring existing traditional manufacturing, advanced manufacturing, and 3D printing businesses, products, or ancillary technologies. The success of any acquisition will depend upon, among other things, our ability to integrate acquired personnel, operations, products,

Table of Contents

and technologies into our organization effectively, to retain and motivate key personnel of acquired businesses and to retain their customers. In addition, we might not be able to identify suitable acquisition opportunities or obtain any necessary financing on acceptable terms. We might also invest time and money investigating and negotiating with a potential acquisition or investment target but not complete the transaction.

Our acquisitions could create unforeseen risks and liabilities that may adversely impact our results and operations. These liabilities could include employment, retirement or severance-related obligations under applicable law or other benefits arrangements, legal claims, warranty or similar liabilities to customers, and claims made by vendors. Future acquisitions could also expose us to tax liabilities and other amounts owed by the acquired companies. The incurrence of such unforeseen or unanticipated liabilities, should they be significant, could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, and financial condition.

Although we hope to realize strategic, operational, and financial benefits as a result of our past or future acquisitions and equity investments, we cannot predict whether, and to what extent, such benefits will be achieved. There are significant challenges to integrating an acquired operation into our business, including, but not limited to:

- successfully managing the operations, manufacturing facilities and technology;
- integrating the sales organizations and maintaining and increasing the customer base;
- retaining key employees, customers, suppliers, and distributors;
- integrating management information, inventory, accounting, and research and development activities; and
- addressing operating losses related to individual facilities or product lines.

Any future acquisition could involve other risks, including the assumption of additional liabilities and expenses, issuances of debt, transaction costs, and diversion of management's attention from other business concerns, and such acquisition may be dilutive to our financial results.

A material disruption at any of our manufacturing facilities could adversely affect our ability to generate sales and meet customer demand.

In case of a disruption of our operations at our manufacturing facilities due to significant equipment failures, natural disasters, power outages, fires, explosions, terrorism, adverse weather conditions, labor disputes, or other reasons, our financial performance could be adversely affected as a result of our inability to meet customer demand for our products. Interruptions in production could increase our cost of sales, harm our reputation, and adversely affect our ability to attract or retain our customers. Our highly automated manufacturing equipment and 3D printers may take longer to repair or replace than conventional manufacturing systems. In addition, some of our equipment may be heavily modified over time with adaptations and customization for specific customers that may make our equipment more susceptible to malfunctions that cannot be easily repaired. In addition, our business continuity plans may not be sufficient to address disruptions attributable to all magnitudes of natural disaster risks at our geographically disparate facilities, such as hurricane risk at our Florida plant, seismic risks at our Colorado facility, and severe winter weather risks at our Colorado, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Pennsylvania facilities. Any interruption in production capability could require us to make substantial capital expenditures to remedy the situation, which could negatively affect our profitability and financial condition. We maintain property damage insurance, which we believe to be adequate to provide for reconstruction of facilities and equipment, as well as business interruption insurance to mitigate losses resulting from any production interruption or shutdown caused by an insured loss. However, any recovery under our insurance policies may not offset the lost sales or increased costs that may be experienced during the disruption of operations, which could adversely affect our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

A sustained economic downturn could adversely impact our Company.

Demand for our products and components could be adversely impacted by deterioration in general economic conditions. Furthermore, a recession could result in reduced demand for our traditional manufacturing, advanced manufacturing, and 3D printing products, which would negatively impact revenues. In addition, a significant slowdown in the global economy could reduce overall demand for our products. For example, during periods of sustained economic downturn

Table of Contents

or significant supply/demand imbalances, new vehicle sales may be negatively impacted as consumers shift their purchases to used vehicles, which could result in loss of sales to our customers who supply the automobile manufacturers. The diversified customer base and product applications of our companies may help mitigate the effects of economic fluctuations, however, many of our customers and suppliers are reliant on liquidity from global credit markets and, in some cases, require external financing to purchase products or finance operations. Lack of liquidity or inability to access the credit markets by our customers could adversely affect our ability to collect the outstanding amounts due to us. The occurrence of any of the foregoing could have a material and adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Product liability lawsuits could harm our business.

We face an inherent risk of exposure to product liability claims. We sell components for medical and dental, aerospace, firearm and defense, automotive, consumer durable, and electronic device industries, any of which may be susceptible to failure that may cause physical injury or death. We may incur significant losses due to lawsuits, including potential class actions, resulting from such adverse events. We may also incur losses from lawsuits relating to the improper use of any of our products and components. In addition, claims or lawsuits related to products that we sell or the unavailability of insurance for product liability claims, could result in the elimination of these products from our product line thus reducing revenues, possibly significantly. Although we maintain production quality controls and procedures, we cannot assure that the products sold will be free from defects. In addition, when manufacturing our products, we also use components manufactured by third parties, which may have defects. We maintain insurance coverage for product liability claims. The insurance policies have limits, however, and may not be sufficient to cover claims made. In addition, this insurance may not continue to be available at a reasonable cost. With respect to components manufactured by third-party suppliers, the contractual indemnification that we may seek from our third-party suppliers may be limited and thus insufficient to cover claims made against us. If insurance coverage or contractual indemnification is insufficient to satisfy product liability claims made against us, the claims could have an adverse effect on our business and financial condition. Even claims without merit could harm our reputation, reduce demand for our products, cause us to incur substantial legal costs and distract the attention of our management. The occurrence of any of the foregoing could have a material and adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Our operations are subject to environmental, health, and safety regulations.

Our traditional manufacturing, advanced manufacturing, and 3D printing operations are subject to stringent and complex federal, state, local, and European Union laws and regulations, governing environmental protection, health and safety, including the discharge of materials into the environment. These laws and regulations may, among other things:

- require the acquisition of various permits before operations commence or to continue ongoing operations;

- restrict the types, quantities, and concentrations of various substances that may be employed in manufacturing operations;
- restrict the types, quantities, and concentrations of various substances that may be released into the environment or otherwise disposed of; and
- require remedial measures to mitigate pollution from former and ongoing operations, such as requirements to remove contamination from real property, whether or not caused by past or ongoing operations.

The regulatory burden increases the cost of doing business and affects profitability. Additionally, the U.S. Congress and federal and state agencies, as well as the European Union regulatory authorities, frequently revise environmental, health and safety laws and regulations, and any changes that result in more stringent and costly health and safety, pollution control, waste handling, disposal, cleanup, and remediation requirements could have a significant negative impact on our operating costs.

Some of the existing environmental, health and safety laws and regulations to which we are subject include, among others:

- (i) regulations by the Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) and various state agencies regarding approved methods of disposal for certain hazardous and nonhazardous wastes;

Table of Contents

- (ii) the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (“CERCLA”) and analogous state laws that may require the removal of previously disposed wastes (including wastes disposed of or released by prior owners or operators of real estate), the cleanup of property contamination (including groundwater contamination) and remedial plugging operations to prevent future contamination;
- (iii) the Clean Air Act and comparable state and local requirements, which establish pollution control requirements with respect to air emissions from our operations;
- (iv) the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, which contains numerous requirements relating to the prevention of, and response to, oil spills into waters of the United States;
- (v) the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, or the Clean Water Act, and analogous state laws which impose restrictions and strict controls with respect to the discharge of pollutants, including heavy metals and other substances generated by our operations, into waters of the United States, state waters, or publicly owned treatment works;
- (vi) the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, which is the principal federal statute governing the treatment, storage and disposal of solid and hazardous wastes, and comparable state statutes;
- (vii) the federal Occupational Safety and Health Act and comparable state statutes, which require worker protection from raw materials, products, and wastes;
- (viii) the federal Toxic Substances Control Act and comparable state and local statutes and regulations requiring that we organize and/or disclose information about hazardous materials stored, used, or produced in our operations; and
- (ix) the Arms Export Control Act of 1976 (“AECA”) and the International Traffic in Arms Regulations promulgated thereunder that govern the export of firearm and defense products controlled by the AECA.

Our Company has incurred in the past, and expects to incur in the future, capital and other expenditures related to environmental compliance. Although we believe our continued compliance with existing requirements will not have a material adverse impact on our financial condition, and results of operations, there is no assurance that the passage of more stringent laws or regulations in the future will not have a negative impact on our financial position or results of operations.

As an owner or operator of real property, or generator of waste, we could become subject to liability for environmental contamination, regardless of whether we caused such contamination.

Under various U.S. federal, state and local laws, regulations and ordinances, and, in some instances, international laws, relating to the protection of the environment, a current or former owner or operator of real property may be liable for the cost to remove or remediate contamination on, under, or released from such property and for any damage to natural resources resulting from such contamination. Similarly, a generator of waste can be held responsible for contamination resulting from the treatment or disposal of such waste at any off-site location (such as a landfill), regardless of whether the generator arranged for the treatment or disposal of the waste in compliance with applicable laws. Costs associated with liability for removal or remediation of contamination or damage to natural resources could be substantial and liability under these laws may attach without regard to whether the responsible party knew of, or was responsible for, the presence of the contaminants. In addition, the liability may be joint and several. The presence of contamination or the failure to remediate contamination at our properties, or properties for which we are deemed responsible, may expose us to liability for property damage or personal injury, or materially adversely affect our ability to sell our real property interests or to borrow using the real property as collateral. We cannot be sure that we will not be subject to environmental liabilities in the future as a result of historic or current operations that have resulted or will result in contamination. The occurrence of any of the foregoing could have a material and adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Table of Contents

Any failure to maintain and protect our trademarks, trade names, and technology may affect our operations and financial performance.

The market for many of our products is, in part, dependent upon the goodwill engendered by trademarks and trade names. The failure to protect our trademarks and trade names may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations. Litigation may be required to enforce our intellectual property rights, protect our trade secrets, or determine the validity and scope of proprietary rights of others. Any action we take to protect our intellectual property rights could be costly and could absorb significant management time and attention. As a result of any such litigation, we could lose any proprietary rights we have. In addition, it is possible that others will independently develop technology that will compete with our technology. The development of new technologies by competitors that may compete with our technologies could reduce demand for our products and affect our financial performance. The occurrence of any of the foregoing could have a material and adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

If suppliers that we rely on encounter production, quality, financial or other difficulties, we may experience difficulty in meeting customer demands.

We rely on unaffiliated contract manufacturers, both domestically and internationally, to produce certain of our products or key components of our products. If we are unable to arrange for sufficient production capacity among our contract manufacturers or if our contract manufacturers encounter production, quality, financial, or other difficulties, including labor disturbances or geopolitical risks, or if alternative suppliers cannot be identified, we may encounter difficulty in meeting customer demands. We have historically not had any material deficiencies arising from suppliers, however, any such difficulties or deficiencies arising in the future could have an adverse effect on our business, financial results, and results of operations, which could be material. If we do not have sufficient production capacity, either through our internal facilities and/or through suppliers, to meet customer demand for our products, we may experience lost sales opportunities and customer relations problems, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Our business depends on effective information management systems.

We rely on our enterprise resource planning systems to support such critical business operations as processing sales orders and invoicing, inventory control, purchasing and supply chain management, human resources, and financial reporting. If we are unable to successfully implement major systems initiatives and maintain critical information systems with adequate redundancy and backup resources as well as sufficient levels of security to protect against unauthorized access or damage to our information systems, we could encounter difficulties that could have a material adverse impact on our business, internal controls over financial reporting, or our ability to timely and accurately report our financial results.

Cyber-security incidents, including data security breaches or computer viruses, could harm our business by disrupting our delivery of services, damaging our reputation or exposing us to liability.

We receive, process, store, and transmit, often electronically, the confidential data of our customers and others. Unauthorized access to our computer systems or stored data could result in the theft or improper disclosure of confidential information, the deletion or modification of records, or could cause interruptions in our operations. These cyber-security risks increase when we transmit information from one location to another, including transmissions over the Internet or other electronic networks. Despite implemented security measures, our facilities, systems, and procedures, and those of our third-party service providers, may be vulnerable to security breaches, acts of vandalism, software viruses, misplaced or lost data, programming and/or human errors, or other similar events which may disrupt our delivery of services or expose the confidential information of our customers and others. Any security breach involving the misappropriation, loss or other unauthorized disclosure or use of confidential information of our customers or others, whether by us or a third party, could: (i) subject us to civil and criminal penalties; (ii) have a negative impact on our reputation; or (iii) expose us to liability to our customers, third parties or government authorities. Any of these developments could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Table of Contents

We have in the past discovered, and may in the future discover, material weaknesses in our internal controls. If we fail to maintain an effective system of internal controls, we may not be able to accurately report our financial results or prevent fraud. As a result, current and potential stockholders could lose confidence in our financial reporting, which could harm our business and the trading price of our stock.

Our management and our external auditors noted that we need to improve our information technology and accounting infrastructure. The auditors identified these material weaknesses as “reportable conditions,” which means that these were matters that, in the auditors’ judgment, could adversely affect our ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements. In fiscal 2018, we will need to devote significant resources to remediate and improve our internal controls. We cannot be certain that these measures will ensure that we maintain adequate controls over our financial processes and reporting in the future. Any failure to implement required new or improved controls, or difficulties encountered in their implementation, could harm our brand and operating results or cause us to fail to meet our reporting obligations. Effective internal controls are necessary for us to provide reliable financial reports and effectively prevent fraud. If we cannot provide reliable financial reports or prevent fraud, our brand and operating results could be harmed. Inferior internal controls could also cause investors to lose confidence in our reported financial information, which could have a negative effect on the trading price of our stock.

If our products, including material purchased from our suppliers, experience quality or performance issues, our business may suffer.

Our business depends on consistently delivering high-quality products. To this end, we and our customers periodically test our products for quality. Nevertheless, many of our products are highly complex and our testing procedures are limited to evaluating likely and foreseeable failure scenarios. Our tests may fail to detect possible failures and our products may fail to perform as expected. Performance issues could result from faulty design or problems in manufacturing. We have experienced such performance failures in the past and remain exposed to performance failures in the future. In some cases, recall of some or all affected products, product redesigns, or additional capital expenditures may be required to correct a defect. In some cases, we indemnify our customers against damages or losses that might arise from certain claims relating to our products. Future claims may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations. Any significant or systemic product failure could also result in lost future sales of the affected product and other products, as well as reputational damage.

We are subject to governmental export and import controls that could subject us to liability or impair our ability to compete in international markets.

Certain of our products are subject to export controls and may be exported only with the required export license or through an export license exception. If we were to fail to comply with export licensing, customs regulations, economic sanctions, and other laws, we could be subject to substantial civil and criminal penalties, including fines for

us and incarceration for responsible employees and managers, and the possible loss of export or import privileges. In addition, if our distributors fail to obtain appropriate import, export or re-export licenses or permits, we may also be adversely affected through reputational harm and penalties. Obtaining the necessary export license for a particular sale may be time-consuming and may result in the delay or loss of sales opportunities. Furthermore, export control laws and economic sanctions prohibit the shipment of certain products to embargoed or sanctioned countries, governments, and persons. While we train our employees to comply with these regulations, a violation may nonetheless occur, whether knowingly or inadvertently. Any such shipment could have negative consequences including government investigations, penalties, fines, civil and criminal sanctions, and reputational harm. Any change in export or import regulations, economic sanctions or related legislation, shift in the enforcement or scope of existing regulations, or change in the countries, governments, persons, or technologies targeted by such regulations, could result in our decreased ability to export or sell our products to existing or potential customers with international operations. Any decreased use of our products or limitation on our ability to export or sell our products could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Difficulties may be encountered in the realignment of manufacturing capacity and capabilities among our global manufacturing facilities that could adversely affect our ability to meet customer demands for our products.

We may realign manufacturing capacity among our global facilities in order to reduce costs by improving manufacturing efficiency and to strengthen our long-term competitive position. The implementation of these initiatives may include

Table of Contents

significant shifts of production capacity among facilities. There are significant risks inherent in the implementation of these initiatives, including, but not limited to, failing to ensure that: there is adequate inventory on hand or production capacity to meet customer demand while capacity is being shifted among facilities; there is no decrease in product quality as a result of shifting capacity; adequate raw material and other service providers are available to meet the needs at the new production locations; equipment can be successfully removed, transported and re-installed; and adequate supervisory, production and support personnel are available to accommodate the shifted production. In the event that manufacturing realignment initiatives are not successfully implemented, we could experience lost future sales and increased operating costs as well as customer relations problems, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

We may experience significant variability in our quarterly or annual effective income tax rate.

We have a large and complex tax profile in various jurisdictions. Variability in the mix and profitability of domestic and international activities, repatriation of earnings from our foreign subsidiary in Hungary, changes in tax laws, identification and resolution of various tax uncertainties, and the inability to use net operating losses and other carry forwards included in deferred tax assets, among other matters, may significantly impact our effective income tax rate in the future. A significant increase in our quarterly or annual effective income tax rate could have a material adverse impact on our results of operations.

There may be certain environmental and geological liabilities associated with our real estate, including our MIM manufacturing facility in Colorado.

Certain of our subsidiaries own real property at our Colorado facilities. However, our Colorado subsidiaries do not own the mineral rights related to this property as these rights were sold prior to our ownership. In the past, the property has been used for coal, oil, and natural gas extraction. Oil and natural gas extraction is ongoing. As the owner of the real estate, our Colorado subsidiaries and our Company could be strictly liable, jointly and severally, under CERCLA with the mineral rights owner and production well operators for any government mandated remediation of pollution related to the oil and gas production that could have a material adverse effect on our business, notwithstanding that our Colorado subsidiaries did not cause or contribute to the contamination. Coal extraction ceased on the property in 1947, and the mining entities are no longer in business. Consequently, our Colorado subsidiaries and our Company could be strictly liable for government mandated remediation of acid mine seeps or other pollution related to coal mining. As such liabilities are not insured, the payment of such remediation costs could result in an adverse effect on our business or reduced asset value and a reduction in available funds for other corporate purposes.

The Colorado Geological Survey has concluded that there may be a risk of ground subsidence due to the former mining operations on a small portion of our Colorado property where our principal facilities are located. In the event of a subsidence event, certain of our buildings, equipment and inventory which are material to our business could be damaged or rendered unusable. A subsidence event could also result in death, serious bodily harm or injury to our

employees and other persons in the vicinity, as well as materially harm our facilities. In addition, our Colorado subsidiaries and our Company could be liable for possible collateral damage or harm, such as possible release of any hazardous waste into the environment. As such, liabilities are not insured, the payment of any personal injury damages and facility remediation and equipment replacement costs, as well as lost revenues attributable to interruption of our ability to conduct business, could result in a material adverse effect on our business or reduced asset value and reduction in funds available for other corporate purposes.

Semi-volatile organic compounds and chlorinated solvents are present in the soil and groundwater at the facility of GF&F (although such contamination was caused off-site, and not by GF&F). GF&F has an indemnity from its landlord covering environmental liabilities pre-dating GF&F's use of the facility. GF&F does not believe that it has any liability related to the facility, however, in the event of a government-mandated remediation, GF&F and our Company could become jointly and severally strictly liable as an operator of the facility under CERCLA for the costs. As such liabilities are not insured, if for any reason the indemnity covering GF&F by its landlord is not enforceable, the non-indemnified and/or unreimbursed costs of remediation could result in an adverse effect on our business or reduced asset value and reduction in funds available for other corporate purposes.

Table of Contents

Political instability in international markets and interruptions in timely and cost-efficient delivery of raw materials from our overseas suppliers could have a negative effect on our Company.

Significant amounts of raw material purchases by the Company are made from overseas suppliers located in Germany, South Korea, India, United Kingdom, and Japan. Consequently, we may encounter risks associated with these countries and regions. Such risks include political instability, changes in legal regulations relating to trade, export and employment, as well as deterioration in underlying economic conditions.

In particular, domestic policy changes in our overseas suppliers' countries could negatively impact pricing of components purchased from manufacturers in those countries, and any increase in the prices we pay for raw materials could have a negative impact on our margins. Products purchased from our overseas suppliers may also be dependent upon vessel shipping schedules and port availability. In addition, certain of our overseas suppliers may currently operate near capacity, resulting in some of the raw materials we source from them being subject to limitations and there could be restrictions placed on the amount of our orders or timing of deliveries of such materials to us. An inability to secure the raw materials used in the manufacturing of our products or to transport such raw materials in both a cost-effective and timely manner could have a material adverse effect on our operations.

Risks associated with overseas suppliers will also apply to our subsidiary AFT-Hungary, which conducts its manufacturing in Hungary. The AFT-Hungary business is susceptible to the political and legal climate in Hungary and Europe in general. Any instability in those areas could directly and adversely impact the business prospects of the AFT-Hungary business.

Labor unrest could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

While none of our U.S. employees are represented by unions, substantially all of our international employees are members of unions or subject to workers' councils or similar statutory arrangements. In addition, many of our direct and indirect customers and vendors have unionized work forces. Strikes, work stoppages, or slowdowns experienced by these customers or vendors, contract manufacturers or their other suppliers could result in slowdowns. Organizations responsible for shipping our products may also be impacted by strikes. Any interruption in the delivery of our products could reduce demand for our products and could have a material adverse effect on us.

In general, we consider our labor relations with our employees to be in good standing. However, in the future, we may be subject to labor unrest. The inability to reach a new agreement could delay or disrupt our operations in the affected regions, including the acquisition of raw materials and components, the manufacture, sales, and distribution of products and the provision of services. Occurrences of strikes, work stoppages, or lock-outs at our facilities or at the facilities of our vendors or customers could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Our future research and development projects may not be successful.

The successful development of our future products can be affected by many factors. Products that appear to be promising at their early phases of research and development may fail to be commercialized for various reasons, including possible failure to obtain any required regulatory approvals. There is no assurance that any of our future research and development projects will be successful or completed within the anticipated time frame or budget or that we will receive the necessary approvals from relevant authorities for the production of these newly developed products, or that these newly developed products will achieve commercial success. Even if such products can be successfully commercialized, they may not achieve the level of market acceptance that we expect.

We have incurred, and will continue to incur, increased costs as a result of operating as a publicly traded company, and our management devotes substantial time to compliance initiatives.

As a publicly traded company, we have incurred, and will continue to incur, additional legal, accounting and other expenses that we did not previously incur prior to becoming a publicly traded company. In addition, the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (“Sarbanes-Oxley Act”), the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, and the rules of the SEC and The NASDAQ Capital Market, impose various requirements on public companies. Our management and other personnel devote a substantial amount of time to these compliance initiatives as well as investor relations. Moreover, these rules and regulations increase our legal and financial compliance costs and make some activities more

Table of Contents

time-consuming and costly. For example, these rules and regulations make it more difficult and more expensive for us to obtain director and officer liability insurance, and we have incurred additional costs to maintain such coverage. Furthermore, if we are not able to comply with certain requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act in a timely manner, the market price of our common stock could decline and we could be subject to potential delisting by NASDAQ and review by such exchange, the SEC, or other regulatory authorities, which would require the expenditure by us of additional financial and management resources. As a result, our stockholders could lose confidence in our financial reporting, which would harm our business and the market price of our common stock. If we fail to maintain adequate internal controls or fail to implement required new or improved controls, as such control standards are modified, supplemented, or amended from time to time, we may not be able to assert that we can conclude on an ongoing basis that we have effective internal controls over financial reporting. Effective internal controls are necessary for us to produce reliable financial reports. If we cannot produce reliable financial reports, our business and operating results could be harmed, investors could lose confidence in our reported financial information, and there could be a material adverse effect on our stock price.

Increases in the prices of raw materials would have an adverse effect on our profitability.

Our profitability may be materially affected by changes in the market price and availability of certain raw materials, most of which are linked to the commodity markets. The principal raw materials we purchase may become very expensive. Prices for copper, steel, aluminum, and certain polymers, derived from oil and natural gas, have experienced significant volatility as a result of changes in the levels of global demand, supply disruptions, and other factors. As a result, we have adjusted our prices for certain products and may have to adjust prices again in the future. Delays in implementing price increases or a failure to achieve market acceptance of price increases has in the past and could in the future have a material adverse impact on our results of operations. Any significant increase in raw material prices could have a significant adverse effect on our businesses. In particular, metal powders, especially nickel and chrome, are subject to volatile pricing on world commodity markets. Significant increases in prices of metal powders may negatively impact our MIM companies' profitability if those increases cannot be passed along to customers. Decisions made by major mining companies as to increasing or reducing capacities for mining and refinement of these metals could also significantly affect supplies. In addition, pricing and availability of steel and steel scrap in the world market has a large impact on pricing of these products and, thus, impacts both our metal stamping and flange and fittings businesses. Our margins may be adversely subject to price increases by our suppliers that we may not be able to pass along to customers because of competitive decisions by our larger competitors. There is no assurance that we will be able to obtain reasonably priced supply sources in the future.

We are dependent on a limited number of key suppliers for certain raw materials and components.

For certain of our raw material and component purchases, including certain polymers, copper rod, copper and aluminum tapes, fine aluminum wire, steel wire, optical fiber, circuit boards, and other components, we are dependent on a limited number of key suppliers. We have not to date experienced any serious disruptions in deliveries of raw materials from our key suppliers or been unable to obtain materials from alternate suppliers at comparable prices; however, there is a risk that such disruptions could occur in the future at any time and have a material adverse effect on our business. While we rely upon long-term relationships, we generally do not enter into long-term contracts with

our key suppliers. The timely procurement of necessary raw materials is critical to each of our operations. In addition, some raw materials are available only from certain suppliers. Consequently, poor supply capacity amid tight demand for these materials, as well as natural disasters or accidents, or other events that negatively impact our suppliers, could adversely affect their timely procurement. Our key suppliers have in the past and could in the future experience production, operational or financial difficulties, or there may be global shortages of the raw materials or components we use, and our inability to find sources of supply on reasonable terms could have a material adverse effect on our ability to manufacture products in a cost-effective way.

Table of Contents

A significant uninsured loss or a loss in excess of our insurance coverage could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

We maintain insurance covering our normal business operations, including property and casualty protection that we believe is adequate. We do not generally carry insurance covering wars, acts of terrorism, earthquakes, or other similar catastrophic events. We may not be able to obtain adequate insurance coverage on financially reasonable terms in the future. A significant uninsured loss or a loss in excess of our insurance coverage could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition. In addition, the financial health of our insurers may deteriorate which could result in non-payment of our claims.

The overall global manufacturing industry, and certain of its sectors in particular, tend to be cyclical and/or seasonal. A downturn or weakness in any particular sector, or in overall economic activity, could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, and operating results.

Historically, the global manufacturing industry has been subject to cyclical fluctuations. These fluctuations, which have affected different sectors of the market at different times and to different degrees, can result from sector-specific dynamics, such as changes in technology, government regulation, and end-consumer preference, as well as from changes in general economic conditions. The Company derives a significant portion of its revenues from the automotive and firearm sectors of the manufacturing industry. Both sectors have experienced significant volatility in recent years. Cyclical fluctuations in other business sectors in which we operate, such as the automotive sector, which has also seen significant volatility, could also materially adversely affect our financial condition, and results of operations. In addition, seasonality, including the variability of shipments under large contracts, customers' seasonal orders and variations in product mix and in profitability of individual orders, affects many aspects of our business and negative seasonal factors could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, and results of operations for the entire year. Our quarterly results of operations also may fluctuate based upon other factors, including production life cycles and product maturity.

Significant movements in foreign currency exchange rates may adversely affect our financial results.

Our operating results and financial position could be affected by fluctuations in foreign currency exchange markets. Significant fluctuations in the exchange rate may adversely impact the values of foreign currency-denominated product sales, materials costs, and production costs in factories overseas. In addition, conversion of foreign currency-denominated assets and liabilities, and the foreign currency-denominated financial statements of overseas subsidiaries into U.S. dollar for disclosure may also affect our companies' assets and liabilities, as well as earnings and expenses. In particular, our AFT operations in Hungary could be subject to liabilities and obligations that must be paid in the Hungarian currency of Forints. The value of the forint has been subject to substantial volatility against the U.S. dollar over the past several years. If the forint increases in value against the dollar, the costs of our prospective Hungarian operations may increase and adversely affect the anticipated results expected to be derived from the Hungarian business. In addition, increases and/or decreases in value of other

currencies on which we have predicated our business model may also adversely affect our results of operations.

We may experience problems moving funds out of the countries in which the funds were earned and difficulties in collecting accounts receivable in foreign countries where the usual accounts receivable payment cycle is longer. We may hedge certain currency transactions which might protect us against certain fluctuations in currency value, but such actions might also correspondingly increase our costs of doing business which could adversely affect our competitiveness. There can be no assurance that our risk management strategies will be effective.

We are dependent on the retention of key executives and certain senior operating personnel.

Our success is dependent upon the retention of our experienced executives and certain senior operating personnel. We currently have a small team of senior executives and the loss of our key executives or certain senior operating personnel could have a material adverse effect on our business.

Table of Contents

Any impairment in the value of our intangible assets, including goodwill, could negatively affect our operating results and total capitalization.

Our total assets as of June 30, 2017 reflect net intangible assets of \$19.6 million and goodwill of \$6.4 million. The goodwill results from our acquisitions, representing the excess of cost over the fair value of the net assets we have acquired. If future operating performance at one or more of our business units were to fall significantly below current levels, if competing or alternative technologies emerge, or if market conditions for businesses acquired declines, we could incur, under current applicable accounting rules, a non-cash charge to operating earnings for impairment of our goodwill or intangible assets. Goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible assets are reviewed for impairment at least annually in June of each fiscal year, or more frequently if a triggering event occurs between impairment testing dates. Any determination requiring the write-off of a significant portion of goodwill or unamortized intangible assets could adversely affect our business, financial condition, results of operations and total capitalization, the effect of which could be material.

During the fourth quarter of fiscal 2017, we impaired the goodwill of our ATC and Kecy subsidiaries as these businesses performed below expectations and had a corresponding decline in their future estimated discounted cash flows. We recorded a non-cash impairment charge of \$3.3 million to eliminate the carrying value of goodwill for these entities.

We are subject to the laws and regulations of the United States and many foreign countries.

We are subject to a variety of laws regarding our international operations, including the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and regulations issued by U.S. Customs and Border Protection, the U.S. Bureau of Industry and Security, and the regulations of various foreign governmental agencies. We cannot predict the nature, scope or effect of future regulatory requirements to which our international sales and manufacturing operations might be subject or the manner in which existing laws might be administered or interpreted. Future regulations could limit the countries in which we manufacture or sell some of our products, and increase the cost of obtaining products from foreign sources. In addition, actual or alleged violations of these laws could result in enforcement actions and financial penalties that could result in substantial costs. The occurrence of any of the foregoing could have a material and adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Risks Related to Our Indebtedness

Leverage and debt service obligations may adversely affect us.

As of June 30, 2017, we had approximately \$45.6 million of indebtedness on a consolidated basis. This level of indebtedness increases the possibility that we may be unable to generate cash sufficient to pay the principal of, interest on, or other amounts due with respect to our indebtedness. Our senior credit facility bears interest at floating rates related to LIBOR, Eurodollar Rates, Eurocurrency Rates, Federal Funds Rate, and Prime Rates. As a result, our interest payment obligations on such indebtedness will increase if such interest rates increase. Our leverage could have negative consequences on our financial condition, and results of operations, including:

- impairing our ability to meet one or more of the financial ratios contained in our senior and subordinated credit facilities or to generate cash sufficient to pay interest or principal, including periodic principal payments;
- increasing our vulnerability to general adverse economic and industry conditions;
- limiting our ability to obtain additional debt or equity financing;
- requiring the dedication of a portion of our cash flow from operations to service our debt, thereby reducing the amount of our cash flow available for other purposes, including capital expenditures;
- requiring us to sell debt or equity securities or to sell some of our core assets, possibly on unfavorable terms, to meet payment obligations;
- limiting our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business and the industries in which we compete; and

Table of Contents

- placing us at a possible competitive disadvantage with less leveraged competitors and competitors that may have better access to capital resources.

The credit agreements governing our senior and subordinated credit facilities require us to comply with a number of customary financial and other covenants, such as maintaining debt service coverage and leverage ratios in certain situations and maintaining insurance coverage. These covenants may limit our flexibility in our operations, and breaches of these covenants could result in defaults under the instruments governing the applicable indebtedness even if we had satisfied our payment obligations. If we were to default on the credit agreements or other debt instruments, our financial condition would be adversely affected.

If we default on any of the Financial Ratio Covenants required by our Credit Facilities, all of our outstanding loans would become due and payable, which would be materially adverse to our Company.

The terms and conditions of the respective agreements governing the Senior ABL Credit Facility and the Subordinated Loan Agreement (together, our “Credit Facilities”) each contain covenants requiring the Company to maintain certain financial ratios. Non-compliance by the Company with any of the financial ratio covenants would constitute events of default under both of the Credit Facilities pursuant to cross-default provisions and result in acceleration of payment obligations for all outstanding principal and interest for loans made under both of the Credit Facilities, unless such defaults were waived or subject to forbearance by the respective creditors.

Despite current indebtedness levels and restrictive covenants, we and our subsidiaries may incur additional indebtedness or we may pay dividends in the future. This could further exacerbate the risks associated with our substantial financial leverage.

We and our subsidiaries may incur significant additional indebtedness in the future under the agreements governing our indebtedness. Although the credit agreements governing our credit facilities contain restrictions on the incurrence of additional indebtedness, these restrictions are subject to a number of thresholds, qualifications and exceptions, and the additional indebtedness incurred in compliance with these restrictions could be material. Additionally, these restrictions also will not prevent us from incurring obligations that, although preferential to our common stock in terms of payment, may not constitute indebtedness.

In addition, if new debt is added to our Company’s and/or our subsidiaries’ debt levels, the related risks that we now face as a result of our leverage would intensify.

To service our indebtedness, we will require significant amounts of cash, and our ability to generate cash depends on many factors beyond our control.

Our operations are conducted through our subsidiaries. Our ability to make cash payments on and to refinance our indebtedness, to fund planned capital expenditures and to meet other cash requirements will depend on our financial condition and operating performance of our subsidiaries, which are subject to prevailing economic and competitive conditions and to financial, business, legislative, regulatory, and other factors beyond our control. We might not be able to maintain a level of cash flow from operating activities sufficient to permit us to pay the principal, premium, if any, and interest on our indebtedness.

Our business may not generate sufficient cash flow from operations and future borrowings may not be available under our credit facilities in an amount sufficient to enable us to pay our indebtedness or to fund our other liquidity needs. In such circumstances, we may need to refinance all or a portion of our indebtedness on or before maturity. We may not be able to refinance any of our indebtedness on commercially reasonable terms or at all. If we cannot service our indebtedness, we may have to take actions such as selling assets, seeking additional equity or reducing or delaying capital expenditures, strategic acquisitions, investments, and alliances. Such actions, if necessary, may not be effected on commercially reasonable terms or at all. Our indebtedness will restrict our ability to sell assets and use the proceeds from such sales.

If we are unable to generate sufficient cash flow or are otherwise unable to obtain funds necessary to meet required payments of principal, premium, if any, and interest on our indebtedness, or if we otherwise fail to comply with the various covenants in the instruments governing our indebtedness, we could be in default under the terms of the agreements governing such indebtedness. In the event of such default, the holders of such indebtedness could elect to

Table of Contents

declare all the funds borrowed thereunder to be due and payable, together with accrued and unpaid interest, cease making further loans and institute foreclosure proceedings against our assets, and we could be forced into bankruptcy or liquidation. If our operating performance declines, we may in the future need to obtain waivers from the required lenders under our credit facilities to avoid being in default. If we breach our covenants under our credit facilities and seek waivers, we may not be able to obtain a waiver from the required lenders. If this occurs, we would be in default under our credit facilities, and the lenders could exercise their rights, as described above, and we could be forced into bankruptcy or liquidation.

We are dependent upon our lenders for financing to execute our business strategy and meet our liquidity needs. If our lenders are unable to fund borrowings under their credit commitments or we are unable to borrow, it could negatively impact our business.

During periods of volatile credit markets, there is a risk that any lenders, even those with strong balance sheets and sound lending practices, could fail or refuse to honor their legal commitments and obligations under existing credit commitments, including, but not limited to, extending credit up to the maximum permitted by our credit agreement. If our lenders are unable to fund borrowings or we are unable to borrow (such as having insufficient capacity under our borrowing base), it could be difficult in such environments to obtain sufficient liquidity to meet our operational needs.

Our ability to obtain additional capital on commercially reasonable terms may be limited.

Although we believe our cash and cash equivalents as well as cash we expect to generate from operations and availability under our credit facilities provide adequate resources to fund ongoing operating requirements, we may need to seek additional financing to compete effectively. If we are unable to obtain capital on commercially reasonable terms, it could:

- reduce funds available to us for purposes such as working capital, capital expenditures, research and development, strategic acquisitions, and other general corporate purposes;
- restrict our ability to introduce new products or exploit business opportunities;
- increase our vulnerability to economic downturns and competitive pressures in the markets in which we operate; and
- place us at a competitive disadvantage.

Difficult and volatile conditions in the capital, credit, and commodities markets, and in the overall economy, could have a material adverse effect on our financial position, results of operations, and cash flows.

A worsening of global economic conditions, including concerns about sovereign debt and significant volatility in the capital, credit, and commodities markets could have a material adverse effect on our financial position, results of operations, and cash flows. Difficult conditions in these markets and the overall economy affect our business in a number of ways. For example:

- in the event of volatility in commodity prices, we may encounter difficulty in achieving sustained market acceptance of past or future price increases, which could have a material adverse effect on our financial position, results of operations and cash flows;
- under difficult market conditions there can be no assurance that borrowings under our credit facilities would be available or sufficient, and in such a case, we may not be able to successfully obtain additional financing on reasonable terms, or at all;
- in order to respond to market conditions, we may need to seek waivers from various provisions in our credit facilities. There can be no assurance that we can obtain such waivers at a reasonable cost, if at all;
- market conditions could cause the counterparties to the derivative financial instruments we may use to hedge our exposure to interest rate, commodity, or currency fluctuations to experience financial difficulties and, as a

Table of Contents

result, our efforts to hedge these exposures could prove unsuccessful and, furthermore, our ability to engage in additional hedging activities may decrease or become more costly; and

- market conditions could result in our key customers experiencing financial difficulties and/or electing to limit spending, which in turn could result in decreased sales and earnings for us.

Risks Related to Ownership of our Common Stock

One holder of our common stock exerts significant influence over our Company and may make decisions with which other stockholders may disagree that could reduce the value of our stock.

Everest Hill Group owns 9,068,122 shares, or 49.9%, of our total 18,171,626 outstanding shares as of June 30, 2017. As a result, Everest Hill Group has the ability to exert significant influence over our business and may make decisions with which other stockholders may disagree, including, among other things, the appointment of officers and directors, changes in our business plan, delaying, discouraging or preventing a change of control of our Company or a potential merger, consolidation, tender offer, takeover or other business combination.

The price of our Common Stock may fluctuate significantly, and investors could lose all or part of their investment.

The market price of our Common Stock has been highly volatile. During the twelve months ended June 30, 2017, the closing price of our common stock fluctuated significantly from a high of \$5.95 to a low of \$2.17 per share. The market price of our common stock may continue to be volatile in the future. Volatility in the market price of our common stock may prevent investors from being able to sell their common stock at or above the price investors paid for such common stock. The market price of our common stock could fluctuate significantly for various reasons, including:

- our operating and financial performance and prospects;
- our quarterly or annual earnings or those of other companies in our industry;
- the public's reaction to our press releases, our other public announcements and our filings with the SEC;
- changes in, or failure to meet, earnings estimates or recommendations by research analysts who track our common stock or the stock of other companies in our industry;

- the failure of research analysts to cover our common stock;
- strategic actions by us, our customers or our competitors, such as acquisitions or restructurings;
- new laws or regulations or new interpretations of existing laws or regulations applicable to our business;
- changes in accounting standards, policies, guidance, interpretations, or principles;
- the impact on our profitability temporarily caused by the time lag between when we experience cost increases until these increases flow through cost of sales because of our method of accounting for inventory, or the impact from our inability to pass on such price increases to our customers;
- material litigations or government investigations;
- changes in general conditions in the U.S. and global economies or financial markets, including those resulting from war, incidents of terrorism, or responses to such events;
- changes in key personnel;
- sales of common stock by us, Everest Hill Group, or members of our management team;
- the implementation of our employee stock purchase plan or the granting or exercise of employee stock options;

Table of Contents

- volume of trading in our common stock; and
- the realization of any risks described under this “Risk Factors” section.

These and other factors may cause the market price and demand for our common stock to fluctuate substantially, which may limit or prevent investors from readily selling their shares of common stock and may otherwise negatively affect the liquidity of our common stock. In addition, in the past, when the market price of a stock has been volatile, holders of that stock have sometimes instituted securities class action litigation against the company that issued the stock. If any of our stockholders were to bring a class action lawsuit against us, we could incur substantial costs defending the lawsuit. Such a lawsuit could also divert the time and attention of our management from our business.

In addition, volatility or lack of performance in the trading price of our common stock may also affect our ability to attract and retain qualified personnel. If we are unable to retain our employees, our business, financial condition, and results of operations would be harmed.

We do not currently intend to pay dividends on our common stock and, consequently, the ability to achieve a return on your investment in our common stock will depend on appreciation in the price of our common stock. If our common stock does not appreciate in value, investors could suffer losses in their investment in our common stock.

We do not currently expect to pay cash dividends on our common stock. Any future dividend payments are within the absolute discretion of our Board of Directors and will depend on, among other things, our results of operations, working capital requirements, capital expenditure requirements, financial condition, contractual restrictions, business opportunities, potential acquisition opportunities, anticipated cash needs, provisions of applicable law, and other factors that our Board of Directors may deem relevant. We may not generate sufficient cash from operations in the future to pay dividends on our common stock. As a result, the success of any investment in our common stock will depend on future appreciation in its value. The price of our common stock may not appreciate in value or even maintain the price at which the shares were purchased. If our common stock does not appreciate in value, investors could suffer losses in their investment in our common stock.

Investors may experience dilution of their ownership interests due to the future issuance of additional shares of our common stock which could be materially adverse to the value of our common stock.

As of the end of the period covered by this Report, we have 18,171,626 shares of our common stock outstanding. We are authorized to issue up to 250,000,000 shares of Common Stock and 2,000,000 shares of preferred stock. We, or our shareholders, including Everest Hill Group, may sell additional shares of common stock in subsequent offerings or

we may issue shares of our common stock as consideration in the future acquisitions. Our Board of Directors may authorize the issuance of additional common or preferred shares under applicable state law without shareholder approval. We may also issue additional shares of our common stock or other securities that are convertible into or exercisable for common stock in connection with the hiring of personnel, future acquisitions, future private placements of our securities for capital raising purposes or for other business purposes. If we need to raise additional capital to expand or continue operations, it may be necessary for us to issue additional equity or convertible debt securities. If we issue equity or convertible debt securities, the net tangible book value per share may decrease, the percentage ownership of our current stockholders may be diluted and such equity securities may have rights, preferences, or privileges senior or more advantageous than those of our common stockholders. We cannot predict the size of future issuances of our common stock or the effect, if any, that future issuances and sales of our common stock will have on the market price of our common stock. Sales of substantial amounts of our common stock, or the perception that such sales could occur, may adversely affect prevailing market prices for our common stock.

Table of Contents

We may issue additional common shares or other securities to finance our growth.

We may finance the development of our products and services or generate additional working capital through additional equity financing. Therefore, subject to the rules of NASDAQ, we may issue additional shares of our common stock and other equity securities of equal or senior rank, with or without stockholder approval, in a number of circumstances from time to time. The issuance by us of shares of our common stock or other equity securities of equal or senior rank will have the following effects:

- the proportionate ownership interest in us held by our existing stockholders will decrease;
- the relative voting strength of each previously outstanding share of common stock may be diminished; and
- the market price of our common stock may decline.

If our shares become subject to the penny stock rules, it would become more difficult to trade our shares.

The SEC has adopted rules that regulate broker-dealer practices in connection with transactions in penny stocks. Penny stocks are generally equity securities with a price of less than \$5.00, other than securities registered on certain national securities exchanges or authorized for quotation on certain automated quotation systems, provided that current price and volume information with respect to transactions in such securities is provided by the exchange or system. If we do not retain a listing on NASDAQ and if the price of our shares of common stock is less than \$5.00, our common stock will be deemed a penny stock. The penny stock rules require a broker-dealer, before a transaction in a penny stock not otherwise exempt from those rules, to deliver a standardized risk disclosure document containing specified information. In addition, the penny stock rules require that before effecting any transaction in a penny stock not otherwise exempt from those rules, a broker-dealer must make a special written determination that the penny stock is a suitable investment for the purchaser and receive: (i) the purchaser's written acknowledgment of the receipt of a risk disclosure statement; (ii) a written agreement to transactions involving penny stocks; and (iii) a signed and dated copy of a written suitability statement. These disclosure requirements may have the effect of reducing the trading activity in the secondary market for our common stock, and therefore stockholders may have difficulty selling their shares.

We will be required to meet NASDAQ's continued listing requirements and other NASDAQ rules, or we may risk delisting. Delisting could negatively affect the price of our common stock, which could make it more difficult for us to sell securities in a future financing or for purchasers to sell their common stock.

We are required to meet the continued listing requirements of NASDAQ and other NASDAQ rules, including those regarding minimum stockholders' equity, minimum share price, and certain other corporate governance requirements. In particular, we are required to maintain a minimum bid price for our listed common stock of \$1.00 per share. If we do not meet these continued listing requirements, our common stock could be delisted. Delisting from NASDAQ would cause us to pursue eligibility for trading of these securities on other markets, exchanges, or over-the-counter quotation systems. In such case, our stockholders' ability to trade, or obtain quotations of the market value of, our common stock would be severely limited because of lower trading volumes and transaction delays. These factors could contribute to lower prices and larger spreads in the bid and ask prices of these securities. There can be no assurance that the offered securities, if delisted from NASDAQ in the future, would be listed on a national securities exchange, a national quotation service, the over-the-counter markets or the pink sheets. Delisting from NASDAQ, or even the issuance of a notice of potential delisting, would also result in negative publicity, make it more difficult for us to raise additional capital, adversely affect the market liquidity of the offered securities, decrease securities analysts' coverage of us or diminish investor, supplier, and employee confidence.

There can be no assurance that we will ever provide liquidity to our investors through a sale of our Company.

While acquisitions of companies like ours are not uncommon, potential investors are cautioned that no assurances can be given that any form of merger, combination, or sale of our Company will take place, or that any merger, combination, or sale, even if consummated, would provide liquidity or a profit for our investors. Investors should not purchase common stock in our Company with the expectation that we will be able to sell the business in order to provide liquidity or a profit for our investors.

Table of Contents

Reports published by analysts, including projections in those reports that exceed our actual results, could adversely affect our common stock price and trading volume.

We currently expect that securities research analysts will publish their own periodic projections for our business. These projections may vary widely and may not accurately predict the results we actually achieve. Our stock price may decline if our actual results do not match the projections of these securities research analysts. Similarly, if one or more of the analysts who write reports on us downgrades our stock or publishes inaccurate or unfavorable research about our business, our stock price could decline. If one or more of these analysts ceases coverage of us or fails to publish reports on us regularly, our stock price or trading volume could decline. While we expect continued research analyst coverage, if no analysts continue coverage of us, the trading price for our stock and the trading volume could be adversely affected.

ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None

ITEM 2. PROPERTIES

At June 30, 2017, we operated in the following locations:

Segment/Entity	Location	Use	Approximate Square Feet
Precision Components Group			
FloMet LLC	Deland, Florida	MIM manufacturing and general offices	40,000 owned
Advanced Forming Technology, Inc.	Firestone, Colorado	MIM manufacturing, plastic injection molding, general offices	105,000 owned
AFT-Hungary Kft.	Retsag, Hungary	MIM manufacturing	70,000 leased
Advance Tooling Concepts, LLC	Longmont, Colorado	Specialized tool making	34,000 leased
Thixoforming LLC	Longmont, Colorado	Magnesium injection molding	23,000 owned
3DMT Group			
3D Material Technologies, LLC	Daytona Beach, Florida	Metal 3D printing	30,000 leased

Stamping Group

ARC Metal Stamping, LLC	Hudson, Michigan	Precision metal stamping and general offices	84,000 owned
-------------------------	------------------	--	--------------

ARC Metal Stamping, LLC	Wauseon, Ohio	Precision metal stamping and general offices	94,000 leased
-------------------------	---------------	--	---------------

Flanges and Fittings Group

General Flange & Forge LLC	Huntington Valley, Pennsylvania	Flanges manufacturing and general offices	24,000 leased
----------------------------	---------------------------------	---	---------------

We believe that our existing facilities are well-maintained and are sufficient to meet our current and projected needs.

ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

From time to time, we are a party to various litigation matters incidental to the conduct of our business. We are not presently a party to any legal proceedings the resolution of which, we believe, would have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results, financial condition, or cash flows.

ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

None

26

Table of Contents

PART II

ITEM 5. MARKET FOR THE REGISTRANT’S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDERS MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

On April 10, 2007, our common stock began trading on the NASDAQ Capital Market Exchange under the symbol ARCW. Because trading in our shares is limited, prices can be highly volatile.

The table below represents the high and low sales prices of our common stock on the NASDAQ during each of the quarters in the past two fiscal years.

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017:	Common Stock High	Low
	whether your note is a fixed rate note, a floating rate note, an indexed note or an exchangeable note;	
	if your note is a fixed rate note, the yearly rate at which your note will bear interest, if any, and the interest payment dates;	
	if your note is a floating rate note, the interest rate basis, which may be one of the nine interest rate bases described in Interest Rates Floating Rate Notes below; any applicable index currency or maturity, spread or spread multiplier or initial, maximum or minimum rate; and the	

Table of Contents

interest reset, determination, calculation and payment dates, all of which we describe under Interest Rates Floating Rate Notes below;

if your note is an indexed note, the principal amount, if any, we will pay you at maturity, the amount of interest, if any, we will pay you on an interest payment date or the formula we will use to calculate these amounts, if any, and whether your note will be exchangeable for or payable in cash, securities of an issuer other than Wachovia or other property;

if your note is an exchangeable note, the securities or property for which the notes may be exchanged, whether the notes are exchangeable at your option or at Wachovia's option, and the other items described in Exchangeable Notes above;

if your note is an original issue discount note, the yield to maturity;

if applicable, the circumstances under which your note may be redeemed at our option before the stated maturity, including any redemption commencement date, redemption price(s) and redemption period(s);

if applicable, the circumstances under which you may demand repayment of your note before the stated maturity, including any repayment commencement date, repayment price(s) and repayment period(s);

any special United States federal income tax consequences of the purchase, ownership or disposition of a particular issuance of notes;

the use of proceeds, if materially different than those discussed in this prospectus; and

any other terms of your note, which could be different from those described in this prospectus.

Market-Making Transactions. If you purchase your note in a market-making transaction, you will receive information about the price you pay and your trade and settlement dates in a separate confirmation of sale. A market-making transaction is one in which Wachovia Securities or another of our affiliates resells a note that it has previously acquired from another holder. A market-making transaction in a particular note occurs after the original sale of the note.

Redemption at the Option of Wachovia; No Sinking Fund

If an initial redemption date is specified in the applicable pricing supplement, we may redeem the particular notes prior to their stated maturity date at our option on any date on or after that initial redemption date in whole or from time to time in part in increments of \$1,000 or any other integral multiple of an authorized denomination specified in the applicable pricing supplement (provided that any remaining principal amount thereof shall be at least \$1,000 or other minimum authorized denomination applicable thereto), at the applicable redemption price (as defined below), together with unpaid interest accrued thereon to the date of redemption. We must give written notice to registered holders of the particular notes to be redeemed at our option not more than 60 nor less than 30 calendar days prior to the date of redemption. Redemption price, with respect to a note, means an amount equal to the initial redemption percentage specified in the applicable pricing supplement (as adjusted by the annual redemption percentage reduction, if applicable) multiplied by the unpaid principal amount thereof to be redeemed. The initial redemption percentage, if any, applicable to a note shall decline at each anniversary of the initial redemption date by an amount equal to the applicable annual redemption percentage reduction, if any, until the redemption price is equal to 100% of the unpaid principal amount thereof to be redeemed.

The notes will not be subject to, or entitled to the benefit of, any sinking fund.

Table of Contents

Repayment at the Option of the Holder

If one or more optional repayment dates are specified in the applicable pricing supplement, registered holders of the particular notes may require us to repay those notes prior to their stated maturity date on any optional repayment date in whole or from time to time in part in increments of \$1,000 or any other integral multiple of an authorized denomination specified in the applicable pricing supplement (provided that any remaining principal amount thereof shall be at least \$1,000 or other minimum authorized denomination applicable thereto), at a repayment price equal to 100% of the unpaid principal amount thereof to be repaid, together with unpaid interest accrued thereon to the date of repayment. A registered holder's exercise of the repayment option will be irrevocable.

For any note to be repaid, the applicable trustee must receive, at its corporate trust office in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York, not more than 60 nor less than 30 calendar days prior to the date of repayment, the particular notes to be repaid and, in the case of a book-entry note, repayment instructions from the applicable beneficial owner (as defined below) to the depositary and forwarded by the depositary.

Only the depositary may exercise the repayment option in respect of global notes representing book-entry notes. Accordingly, beneficial owners of global notes that desire to have all or any portion of the book-entry notes represented thereby repaid must instruct the participant (as defined below) through which they own their interest to direct the depositary to exercise the repayment option on their behalf by forwarding the repayment instructions to the applicable trustee as aforesaid. In order to ensure that these instructions are received by the applicable trustee on a particular day, the applicable beneficial owner must so instruct the participant through which it owns its interest before that participant's deadline for accepting instructions for that day. Different firms may have different deadlines for accepting instructions from their customers. Accordingly, beneficial owners should consult their participants for the respective deadlines. All instructions given to participants from beneficial owners of global notes relating to the option to elect repayment shall be irrevocable. In addition, at the time repayment instructions are given, each beneficial owner shall cause the participant through which it owns its interest to transfer the beneficial owner's interest in the global note representing the related book-entry notes, on the depositary's records, to the applicable trustee. See Global Notes.

If applicable, we will comply with the requirements of Section 14(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), and the rules promulgated thereunder, and any other securities laws or regulations in connection with any repayment of notes at the option of the registered holders thereof.

We may at any time purchase notes at any price or prices in the open market or otherwise. Notes so purchased by us may, at our discretion, be held, resold or surrendered to the applicable trustee for cancellation.

Interest

Each interest-bearing note will bear interest from its date of issue at the rate per annum, in the case of a fixed rate note, or pursuant to the interest rate formula, in the case of a floating rate note, in each case as specified in the applicable pricing supplement, until the principal thereof is paid. We will make interest payments in respect of fixed rate notes and floating rate notes in an amount equal to the interest accrued from and including the immediately preceding interest payment date in respect of which interest has been paid or from and including the date of issue, if no interest has been paid, to but excluding the applicable interest payment date or the maturity date, as the case may be (each, an interest period).

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

Interest on fixed rate notes and floating rate notes will be payable in arrears on each interest payment date and on the maturity date. The first payment of interest on any note originally issued between a regular record date and the related interest payment date will be made on the interest payment date immediately following the next succeeding record date to the registered holder on the next succeeding record date. The

Table of Contents

regular record date shall be the fifteenth calendar day, whether or not a business day, immediately preceding the related interest payment date. Business Day is defined below under Interest Rates Special Rate Calculation Terms. For the purpose of determining the holder at the close of business on a regular record date when business is not being conducted, the close of business will mean 5:00 P.M., New York City time, on that day.

Interest Rates

This subsection describes the different kinds of interest rates that may apply to your note, if it bears interest.

Fixed Rate Notes

The relevant pricing supplement will specify the interest payment dates for a fixed rate note as well as the maturity date. Interest on fixed rate notes will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months or such other day count fraction set forth in the pricing supplement.

If any interest payment date or the maturity date of a fixed rate note falls on a day that is not a business day, we will make the required payment of principal, premium, if any, and/or interest on the next succeeding business day, and no additional interest will accrue in respect of the payment made on that next succeeding business day.

Floating Rate Notes

*In this subsection, we use several specialized terms relating to the manner in which floating interest rates are calculated. These terms appear in **bold, italicized** type the first time they appear, and we define these terms in Special Rate Calculation Terms at the end of this subsection.*

The following will apply to floating rate notes.

Interest Rate Basis. We currently expect to issue floating rate notes that bear interest at rates based on one or more of the following interest rate bases:

commercial paper rate;

prime rate;

LIBOR;

EURIBOR;

treasury rate;

CMT rate;

CD rate;

consumer price index (CPI) rate; and/or

federal funds rate.

We describe each of the interest rate bases in further detail below in this subsection. If you purchase a floating rate note, your pricing supplement will specify the interest rate basis that applies to your note.

Calculation of Interest. Calculations relating to floating rate notes will be made by the calculation agent, an institution that we appoint as our agent for this purpose. That institution may include any affiliate of ours, such as Wachovia Securities or Wachovia Bank, National Association. If other than Wachovia

Table of Contents

Securities or Wachovia Bank, National Association, the pricing supplement for a particular floating rate note will name the institution that we have appointed to act as the calculation agent for that note as of its original issue date. We may appoint a different institution to serve as calculation agent from time to time after the original issue date of the note without your consent and without notifying you of the change.

For each floating rate note, the calculation agent will determine, on no later than the corresponding interest calculation date or on the interest determination date, as described below, the interest rate that takes effect on each interest reset date. In addition, the calculation agent will calculate the amount of interest that has accrued during each interest period i.e., the period from and including the original issue date, or the last date to which interest has been paid or made available for payment, to but excluding the payment date. For each interest period, the calculation agent will calculate the amount of accrued interest by multiplying the face or other specified amount of the floating rate note by an accrued interest factor for the interest period. This factor will equal the sum of the interest factors calculated for each day during the interest period. The interest factor for each day will be expressed as a decimal and will be calculated by dividing the interest rate, also expressed as a decimal, applicable to that day by 360 or by the actual number of days in the year, as specified in the relevant pricing supplement.

Upon the request of the holder of any floating rate note, the calculation agent will provide for that note the interest rate then in effect and, if determined, the interest rate that will become effective on the next interest reset date. The calculation agent's determination of any interest rate, and its calculation of the amount of interest for any interest period, will be final and binding in the absence of manifest error.

All percentages resulting from any calculation relating to a note will be rounded upward or downward, as appropriate, to the next higher or lower one hundred-thousandth of a percentage point, e.g., 9.876541% (or .09876541) being rounded down to 9.87654% (or .0987654) and 9.876545% (or .09876545) being rounded up to 9.87655% (or .0987655). All amounts used in or resulting from any calculation relating to a floating rate note will be rounded upward or downward, as appropriate, to the nearest cent, in the case of U.S. dollars, or to the nearest corresponding hundredth of a unit, in the case of a currency other than U.S. dollars, with one-half cent or one-half of a corresponding hundredth of a unit or more being rounded upward.

In determining the interest rate basis that applies to a floating rate note during a particular interest period, the calculation agent may obtain rate quotes from various banks or dealers active in the relevant market, as discussed below. Those reference banks and dealers may include the calculation agent itself and its affiliates, as well as any agent participating in the distribution of the relevant floating rate notes and its affiliates, and they may include affiliates of Wachovia.

Initial Interest Rate. For any floating rate note, the interest rate in effect from the original issue date to the first interest reset date will be the initial interest rate. We will specify the initial interest rate or the manner in which it is determined in the relevant pricing supplement.

Spread or Spread Multiplier. In some cases, the interest rate basis for a floating rate note may be adjusted:

by adding or subtracting a specified number of basis points, called the spread, with one basis point being 0.01%; or

by multiplying the interest rate basis by a specified percentage, called the spread multiplier.

If you purchase a floating rate note, your pricing supplement will indicate whether a spread or spread multiplier will apply to your note and, if so, the amount of the spread or spread multiplier.

Table of Contents

Maximum and Minimum Rates. The actual interest rate, after being adjusted by the spread or spread multiplier, may also be subject to either or both of the following limits:

a maximum rate i.e., a specified upper limit that the actual interest rate in effect at any time may not exceed; and/or

a minimum rate i.e., a specified lower limit that the actual interest rate in effect at any time may not fall below.

If you purchase a floating rate note, your pricing supplement will indicate whether a maximum rate and/or minimum rate will apply to your note and, if so, what those rates are.

Whether or not a maximum rate applies, the interest rate on a floating rate note will in no event be higher than the maximum rate permitted by New York law, as it may be modified by U.S. law of general application. Under current New York law, the maximum rate of interest, with some exceptions, for any loan in an amount less than \$250,000 is 16% and for any loan in the amount of \$250,000 or more but less than \$2,500,000 is 25% per year on a simple interest basis. These limits do not apply to loans of \$2,500,000 or more.

The rest of this subsection describes how the interest rate and the interest payment dates will be determined, and how interest will be calculated, on a floating rate note.

Interest Reset Dates. The rate of interest on a floating rate note will be reset, by the calculation agent described below, daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually. The date on which the interest rate resets and the reset rate becomes effective is called the interest reset date. Except as otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, the interest reset date will be as follows:

for floating rate notes that reset daily, each *business day*;

for floating rate notes that reset weekly and are not treasury rate notes, the Wednesday of each week;

for treasury rate notes that reset weekly, the Tuesday of each week;

for floating rate notes that reset monthly, the third Wednesday of each month;

for floating rate notes that reset quarterly, the third Wednesday of March, June, September and December of each year;

for floating rate notes that reset semi-annually, the third Wednesday of each of two months of each year as indicated in the relevant pricing supplement; and

for floating rate notes that reset annually, the third Wednesday of one month of each year as indicated in the relevant pricing supplement.

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

For a floating rate note, the interest rate in effect on any particular day will be the interest rate determined with respect to the latest interest reset date that occurs on or before that day. There are several exceptions, however, to the reset provisions described above.

The interest rate in effect from the original issue date to the first interest reset date will be the initial interest rate.

If any interest reset date for a floating rate note would otherwise be a day that is not a business day, the interest reset date will be postponed to the next day that is a business day. For a LIBOR or EURIBOR note, however, if that business day is in the next succeeding calendar month, the interest reset date will be the immediately preceding business day.

Table of Contents

Interest Determination Dates. The interest rate that takes effect on an interest reset date will be determined by the calculation agent by reference to a particular date called an interest determination date. Except as otherwise indicated in the relevant pricing supplement:

for commercial paper rate, federal funds rate and prime rate notes, the interest determination date relating to a particular interest reset date will be the business day preceding the interest reset date;

for CD rate, CPI rate, and CMT rate notes, the interest determination date relating to a particular interest reset date will be the second business day preceding the interest reset date;

for LIBOR notes, the interest determination date relating to a particular interest reset date will be the second ***London business day*** preceding the interest reset date, unless the ***index currency*** is pounds sterling, in which case the interest determination date will be the interest reset date. We refer to an interest determination date for a LIBOR note as a LIBOR interest determination date;

for EURIBOR notes, the interest determination date relating to a particular interest reset date will be the second ***euro business day*** preceding the interest reset date. We refer to an interest determination date for a EURIBOR note as a EURIBOR interest determination date; and

for treasury rate notes, the interest determination date relating to a particular interest reset date, which we refer to as a treasury interest determination date, will be the day of the week in which the interest reset date falls on which treasury bills i.e., direct obligations of the U.S. government would normally be auctioned. Treasury bills are usually sold at auction on the Monday of each week, unless that day is a legal holiday, in which case the auction is usually held on the following Tuesday, except that the auction may be held on the preceding Friday. If as the result of a legal holiday an auction is held on the preceding Friday, that Friday will be the treasury interest determination date relating to the interest reset date occurring in the next succeeding week.

The interest determination date pertaining to a floating rate note the interest rate of which is determined with reference to two or more interest rate bases will be the latest business day which is at least two business days before the related interest reset date for the applicable floating rate note on which each interest rate basis is determinable.

Interest Calculation Dates. As described above, the interest rate that takes effect on a particular interest reset date will be determined by reference to the corresponding interest determination date. Except for LIBOR notes and EURIBOR notes, however, the determination of the rate will actually be made on a day no later than the corresponding interest calculation date. The interest calculation date will be the earlier of the following:

the tenth calendar day after the interest determination date or, if that tenth calendar day is not a business day, the next succeeding business day; and

the business day immediately preceding the interest payment date or the maturity, whichever is the day on which the next payment of interest will be due.

The calculation agent need not wait until the relevant interest calculation date to determine the interest rate if the rate information it needs to make the determination is available from the relevant sources sooner.

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

Interest Payment Dates. The interest payment dates for a floating rate note will depend on when the interest rate is reset and, unless we specify otherwise in the relevant pricing supplement, will be as follows:

for floating rate notes that reset daily, weekly or monthly, the third Wednesday of each month or the third Wednesday of March, June, September and December of each year, as specified in the relevant pricing supplement;

for floating rate notes that reset quarterly, the third Wednesday of March, June, September and December of each year;

Table of Contents

for floating rate notes that reset semi-annually, the third Wednesday of the two months of each year specified in the relevant pricing supplement; or

for floating rate notes that reset annually, the third Wednesday of the month specified in the relevant pricing supplement.

Regardless of these rules, if a note is originally issued after the regular record date and before the date that would otherwise be the first interest payment date, the first interest payment date will be the date that would otherwise be the second interest payment date.

In addition, the following special provision will apply to a floating rate note with regard to any interest payment date other than one that falls on the maturity. If the interest payment date would otherwise fall on a day that is not a business day, then the interest payment date will be the next day that is a business day. However, if the floating rate note is a LIBOR note or a EURIBOR note and the next business day falls in the next calendar month, then the interest payment date will be advanced to the next preceding day that is a business day. If the maturity date of a floating rate note falls on a day that is not a business day, we will make the required payment of principal, premium, if any, and interest on the next succeeding business day, and no additional interest will accrue in respect of the payment made on that next succeeding business day.

Calculation Agent. We have initially appointed Wachovia Capital Markets, LLC as our calculation agent for the notes. See Calculation of Interest above for details regarding the role of the calculation agent.

Commercial Paper Rate Notes

If you purchase a commercial paper rate note, your note will bear interest at an interest rate equal to the commercial paper rate and adjusted by the spread or spread multiplier, if any, indicated in your pricing supplement.

The commercial paper rate will be the *money market yield* of the rate, for the relevant interest determination date, for commercial paper having the *index maturity* indicated in your pricing supplement, as published in **H.15(519)** under the heading Commercial Paper Nonfinancial . If the commercial paper rate cannot be determined as described above, the following procedures will apply.

If the rate described above does not appear in H.15(519) at 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from that source at that time, then the commercial paper rate will be the rate, for the relevant interest determination date, for commercial paper having the index maturity specified in your pricing supplement, as published in **H.15 daily update** or any other recognized electronic source used for displaying that rate, under the heading Commercial Paper Nonfinancial .

If the rate described above does not appear in H.15(519), H.15 daily update or another recognized electronic source at 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from one of those sources at that time, the commercial paper rate will be the money market yield of the arithmetic mean of the following offered rates for U.S. dollar commercial paper that has the relevant index maturity and is placed for an industrial issuer whose bond rating is AA , or the equivalent, from a nationally recognized rating agency: the rates offered as of 11:00 A.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest determination date, by three leading U.S. dollar commercial paper dealers in New York City selected by the calculation agent.

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

If fewer than three dealers selected by the calculation agent are quoting as described above, the commercial paper rate for the new interest period will be the commercial paper rate in effect for the prior interest period. If the initial interest rate has been in effect for the prior interest period, however, it will remain in effect for the new interest period.

Table of Contents

Prime Rate Notes

If you purchase a prime rate note, your note will bear interest at an interest rate equal to the prime rate and adjusted by the spread or spread multiplier, if any, indicated in your pricing supplement.

The prime rate will be the rate, for the relevant interest determination date, published in H.15(519) under the heading **Bank Prime Loan**. If the prime rate cannot be determined as described above, the following procedures will apply.

If the rate described above does not appear in H.15(519) at 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from that source at that time, then the prime rate will be the rate, for the relevant interest determination date, as published in H.15 daily update or another recognized electronic source used for the purpose of displaying that rate, under the heading **Bank Prime Loan**.

If the rate described above does not appear in H.15(519), H.15 daily update or another recognized electronic source at 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from one of those sources at that time, then the prime rate will be the arithmetic mean of the following rates as they appear on the **Reuters screen US PRIME 1 page**: the rate of interest publicly announced by each bank appearing on that page as that bank's prime rate or base lending rate, as of 11:00 A.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest determination date.

If fewer than four of these rates appear on the Reuters screen US PRIME 1 page, the prime rate will be the arithmetic mean of the prime rates or base lending rates, as of the close of business on the relevant interest determination date, of three major banks in New York City selected by the calculation agent. For this purpose, the calculation agent will use rates quoted on the basis of the actual number of days in the year divided by a 360-day year.

If fewer than three banks selected by the calculation agent are quoting as described above, the prime rate for the new interest period will be the prime rate in effect for the prior interest period. If the initial interest rate has been in effect for the prior interest period, however, it will remain in effect for the new interest period.

LIBOR Notes

If you purchase a LIBOR note, your note will bear interest at an interest rate equal to LIBOR, which will be the London interbank offered rate for deposits in U.S. dollars or any other index currency, as noted in your pricing supplement. In addition, when LIBOR is the interest rate basis the applicable LIBOR rate will be adjusted by the spread or spread multiplier, if any, indicated in your pricing supplement. LIBOR will be determined in the following manner:

LIBOR will be either:

the offered rate appearing on the **Telerate LIBOR page**; or

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

the arithmetic mean of the offered rates appearing on the *Reuters screen LIBOR page* unless that page by its terms cites only one rate, in which case that rate;

in either case, as of 11:00 A.M., London time, on the relevant LIBOR interest determination date, for deposits of the relevant index currency having the relevant index maturity beginning on the relevant interest reset date. Your pricing supplement will indicate the index currency, the index maturity and the reference page that apply to your LIBOR note. If no reference page is mentioned in your pricing supplement, Telerate LIBOR page will apply to your LIBOR note.

If Telerate LIBOR page applies and the rate described above does not appear on that page, or if Reuters screen LIBOR page applies and fewer than two of the rates described above appears on that page or no rate appears on any page on which only one rate normally appears, then LIBOR

Table of Contents

will be determined on the basis of the rates, at approximately 11:00 A.M., London time, on the relevant LIBOR interest determination date, at which deposits of the following kind are offered to prime banks in the London interbank market by four major banks in that market selected by the calculation agent: deposits of the index currency having the relevant index maturity, beginning on the relevant interest reset date, and in a *representative amount*. The calculation agent will request the principal London office of each of these banks to provide a quotation of its rate. If at least two quotations are provided, LIBOR for the relevant LIBOR interest determination date will be the arithmetic mean of the quotations.

If fewer than two quotations are provided as described above, LIBOR for the relevant LIBOR interest determination date will be the arithmetic mean of the rates for loans of the following kind to leading European banks quoted, at approximately 11:00 A.M., in the principal financial center for the country of the index currency, on that LIBOR interest determination date, by three major banks in that financial center selected by the calculation agent: loans of the index currency having the relevant index maturity, beginning on the relevant interest reset date, and in a representative amount.

If fewer than three banks selected by the calculation agent are quoting as described above, LIBOR for the new interest period will be LIBOR in effect for the prior interest period. If the initial interest rate has been in effect for the prior interest period, however, it will remain in effect for the new interest period.

EURIBOR Notes

If you purchase a EURIBOR note, your note will bear interest at an interest rate equal to the interest rate for deposits in euro, designated as EURIBOR and sponsored jointly by the European Banking Federation and ACI the Financial Market Association, or any company established by the joint sponsors for purposes of compiling and publishing that rate. In addition, when EURIBOR is the interest rate basis the EURIBOR base rate will be adjusted by the spread or spread multiplier, if any, specified in your pricing supplement. EURIBOR will be determined in the following manner:

EURIBOR will be the offered rate for deposits in euros having the index maturity specified in your pricing supplement, beginning on the second *euro business day* after the relevant EURIBOR interest determination date, as that rate appears on *Telerate page* 248 as of 11:00 A.M., Brussels time, on the relevant EURIBOR interest determination date.

If the rate described above does not appear on Telerate page 248, EURIBOR will be determined on the basis of the rates, at approximately 11:00 A.M., Brussels time, on the relevant EURIBOR interest determination date, at which deposits of the following kind are offered to prime banks in the *euro-zone* interbank market by the principal euro-zone office of each of four major banks in that market selected by the calculation agent: euro deposits having the relevant index maturity, beginning on the relevant interest reset date, and in a representative amount. The calculation agent will request the principal euro-zone office of each of these banks to provide a quotation of its rate. If at least two quotations are provided, EURIBOR for the relevant EURIBOR interest determination date will be the arithmetic mean of the quotations.

If fewer than two quotations are provided as described above, EURIBOR for the relevant EURIBOR interest determination date will be the arithmetic mean of the rates for loans of the following kind to leading euro-zone banks quoted, at approximately 11:00 A.M., Brussels time on that EURIBOR interest determination date, by three major banks in the euro-zone selected by the calculation agent: loans of euros having the relevant index maturity, beginning on the relevant interest reset date, and in a representative amount.

If fewer than three banks selected by the calculation agent are quoting as described above, EURIBOR for the new interest period will be EURIBOR in effect for the prior interest period. If the initial interest rate has been in effect for the prior interest period, however, it will remain in effect for the new interest period.

Table of Contents

Treasury Rate Notes

If you purchase a treasury rate note, your note will bear interest at an interest rate equal to the treasury rate and adjusted by the spread or spread multiplier, if any, indicated in your pricing supplement.

The treasury rate will be the rate for the auction, on the relevant treasury interest determination date, of treasury bills having the index maturity specified in your pricing supplement, as that rate appears on Telerate page 56 or 57 under the heading *Investment Rate*. If the treasury rate cannot be determined in this manner, the following procedures will apply.

If the rate described above does not appear on either page at 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from that source at that time, the treasury rate will be the ***bond equivalent yield*** of the rate, for the relevant interest determination date, for the type of treasury bill described above, as published in H.15 daily update, or another recognized electronic source used for displaying that rate, under the heading *U.S. Government Securities/Treasury Bills/Auction High*.

If the rate described in the prior paragraph does not appear in H.15 daily update or another recognized electronic source at 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from one of those sources at that time, the treasury rate will be the bond equivalent yield of the auction rate, for the relevant treasury interest determination date and for treasury bills of the kind described above, as announced by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

If the auction rate described in the prior paragraph is not so announced by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, or if no such auction is held for the relevant week, then the treasury rate will be the bond equivalent yield of the rate, for the relevant treasury interest determination date and for treasury bills having a remaining maturity closest to the specified index maturity, as published in H.15(519) under the heading *U.S. Government Securities /Treasury Bills/Secondary Market*.

If the rate described in the prior paragraph does not appear in H.15(519) at 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from one of those sources at that time, then the treasury rate will be the rate, for the relevant treasury interest determination date and for treasury bills having a remaining maturity closest to the specified index maturity, as published in H.15 daily update, or another recognized electronic source used for displaying that rate, under the heading *U.S. Government Securities/Treasury Bills/Secondary Market*.

If the rate described in the prior paragraph does not appear in H.15 daily update or another recognized electronic source at 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from one of those sources at that time, the treasury rate will be the bond equivalent yield of the arithmetic mean of the following secondary market bid rates for the issue of treasury bills with a remaining maturity closest to the specified index maturity: the rates bid as of approximately 3:30 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant treasury interest determination date, by three primary U.S. government securities dealers in New York City selected by the calculation agent.

If fewer than three dealers selected by the calculation agent are quoting as described in the prior paragraph, the treasury rate in effect for the new interest period will be the treasury rate in effect for the prior interest period. If the initial interest rate has been in effect for the prior interest period, however, it will remain in effect for the new interest period.

CD Rate Notes

If you purchase a CD rate note, your note will bear interest at an interest rate equal to the CD rate and adjusted by the spread or spread multiplier, if any, indicated in your pricing supplement.

Table of Contents

The CD rate will be the rate, on the relevant interest determination date, for negotiable U.S. dollar certificates of deposit having the index maturity specified in your pricing supplement, as published in H.15(519) under the heading **CDs (Secondary Market)**. If the CD rate cannot be determined in this manner, the following procedures will apply.

If the rate described above does not appear in H.15(519) at 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from that source at that time, then the CD rate will be the rate, for the relevant interest determination date, described above as published in H.15 daily update, or another recognized electronic source used for displaying that rate, under the heading **CDs (Secondary Market)**.

If the rate described above does not appear in H.15(519), H.15 daily update or another recognized electronic source at 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from one of those sources at that time, the CD rate will be the arithmetic mean of the following secondary market offered rates for negotiable U.S. dollar certificates of deposit of major U.S. money market banks with a remaining maturity closest to the specified index maturity, and in a representative amount: the rates offered as of 10:00 A.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest determination date, by three leading nonbank dealers in negotiable U.S. dollar certificates of deposit in New York City, as selected by the calculation agent.

If fewer than three dealers selected by the calculation agent are quoting as described above, the CD rate in effect for the new interest period will be the CD rate in effect for the prior interest period. If the initial interest rate has been in effect for the prior interest period, however, it will remain in effect for the new interest period.

CMT Rate Notes

If you purchase a CMT rate note, your note will bear interest at an interest rate equal to the CMT rate and adjusted by the spread or spread multiplier, if any, indicated in your pricing supplement.

The CMT rate will be the following rate displayed on the designated ***CMT Moneyline Telerate page*** under the heading **... Treasury Constant Maturities ... Federal Reserve Board Release H.15 Mondays Approximately 3:45 P.M.**, under the column for the ***designated CMT index maturity***:

if the designated CMT Moneyline Telerate page is Telerate page 7051, the rate for the relevant interest determination date; or

if the designated CMT Moneyline Telerate page is Telerate page 7052, the weekly or monthly average, as specified in your pricing supplement, for the week that ends immediately before the week in which the relevant interest determination date falls, or for the month that ends immediately before the month in which the relevant interest determination date falls, as applicable.

If the CMT rate cannot be determined in this manner, the following procedures will apply.

If the applicable rate described above is not displayed on the relevant designated CMT Moneyline Telerate page at 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

that source at that time, then the CMT rate will be the applicable treasury constant maturity rate described above i.e., for the designated CMT index maturity and for either the relevant interest determination date or the weekly or monthly average, as applicable as published in H.15(519).

If the applicable rate described above does not appear in H.15(519) at 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from one of those sources at that time, then the CMT rate will be the treasury constant

Table of Contents

maturity rate, or other U.S. treasury rate, for the designated CMT index maturity and with reference to the relevant interest determination date, that:

is published by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, or the U.S. Department of the Treasury; *and*

is determined by the calculation agent to be comparable to the applicable rate formerly displayed on the designated CMT Moneyline Telerate page and published in H.15(519).

If the rate described in the prior paragraph does not appear at 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from one of those sources at that time, then the CMT rate will be the yield to maturity of the arithmetic mean of the following secondary market bid rates for the most recently issued treasury notes having an original maturity of approximately the designated CMT index maturity and a remaining term to maturity of not less than the designated CMT index maturity *minus* one year, and in a representative amount: the bid rates, as of approximately 3:30 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest determination date, of three primary U.S. government securities dealers in New York City selected by the calculation agent. In selecting these bid rates, the calculation agent will request quotations from five of these primary dealers and will disregard the highest quotation or, if there is equality, one of the highest and the lowest quotation or, if there is equality, one of the lowest. Treasury notes are direct, non-callable, fixed rate obligations of the U.S. government.

If the calculation agent is unable to obtain three quotations of the kind described in the prior paragraph, the CMT rate will be the yield to maturity of the arithmetic mean of the following secondary market bid rates for treasury notes with an original maturity longer than the designated CMT index maturity, with a remaining term to maturity closest to the designated CMT index maturity and in a representative amount: the bid rates, as of approximately 3:30 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest determination date, of three primary U.S. government securities dealers in New York City selected by the calculation agent. In selecting these bid rates, the calculation agent will request quotations from five of these primary dealers and will disregard the highest quotation or, if there is equality, one of the highest and the lowest quotation or, if there is equality, one of the lowest. If two treasury notes with an original maturity longer than the designated CMT index maturity have remaining terms to maturity that are equally close to the designated CMT index maturity, the calculation agent will obtain quotations for the treasury note with the shorter remaining term to maturity.

If fewer than five but more than two of these primary dealers are quoting as described in the prior paragraph, then the CMT rate for the relevant interest determination date will be based on the arithmetic mean of the bid rates so obtained, and neither the highest nor the lowest of those quotations will be disregarded.

If two or fewer primary dealers selected by the calculation agent are quoting as described above, the CMT rate in effect for the new interest period will be the CMT rate in effect for the prior interest period. If the initial interest rate has been in effect for the prior interest period, however, it will remain in effect for the new interest period.

CPI Rate Notes

If you purchase a CPI rate note, your note will bear interest at an interest rate equal to the CPI rate and adjusted by the spread or spread multiplier, if any, indicated in your pricing supplement.

Table of Contents

Except as otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, the CPI rate will be the rate, determined as of the relevant interest determination date, expressed as a percentage and calculated in accordance with the following formula:

$$\text{CPI rate} = \frac{(C - P)}{P} \times 100$$

where

C means the CPI (as defined below) applicable for the calendar month which is two months preceding the month of the relevant interest determination date;

P means the CPI applicable for the calendar month which is twelve months immediately preceding the calendar month for which C is determined; and

CPI means the non-seasonally adjusted U.S. City Average All Items Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, published monthly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. For reference purposes only, the CPI is available on Bloomberg page CPURNSA or any successor service. In the event of an inconsistency between the CPI published on Bloomberg page CPURNSA and the CPI published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the CPI shall be the CPI published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Federal Funds Rate Notes

If you purchase a federal funds rate note, your note will bear interest at an interest rate equal to the federal funds rate and adjusted by the spread or spread multiplier, if any, indicated in your pricing supplement.

The federal funds rate will be the rate for U.S. dollar federal funds on the relevant interest determination date, as published in H.15 (519) under the heading Federal Funds (Effective) , as that rate is displayed on Telerate page 120. If the federal funds rate cannot be determined in this manner, the following procedures will apply.

If the rate described above is not displayed on Telerate page 120 at 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from that source at that time, then the federal funds rate, for the relevant interest determination date, will be the rate described above as published in H.15 daily update, or another recognized electronic source used for displaying that rate, under the heading Federal Funds (Effective) .

If the rate described above is not displayed on Telerate page 120 and does not appear in H.15(519), H.15 daily update or another recognized electronic source at 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest calculation date, unless the calculation is made earlier and the rate is available from one of those sources at that time, the federal funds rate will be the arithmetic mean of the rates for the last transaction in overnight, U.S. dollar federal funds arranged, before 9:00 A.M., New York City time, on the relevant interest determination date, by three leading brokers of U.S. dollar federal funds transactions in New York City selected by the calculation agent.

If fewer than three brokers selected by the calculation agent are quoting as described above, the federal funds rate in effect for the new interest period will be the federal funds rate in effect for the prior interest period. If the initial interest rate has been in effect for the prior interest period, however, it will remain in effect for the new interest period.

If fewer than five but more than two of these primary dealers are quoting as described in the prior paragraph, then the CMT rate for the relevant interest determination date will be based on the arithmetic mean of the offered rates so obtained, and neither the highest nor the lowest of those quotations will be disregarded.

Table of Contents

Special Rate Calculation Terms

In this subsection entitled **Interest Rates**, we use several terms that have special meanings relevant to calculating floating interest rates. We define these terms as follows:

The term ***bond equivalent yield*** means a yield expressed as a percentage and calculated in accordance with the following formula:

$$\text{bond equivalent yield} = \frac{D \times N}{360 - (D \times M)} \times 100$$

where

D means the annual rate for treasury bills quoted on a bank discount basis and expressed as a decimal;

N means 365 or 366, as the case may be; and

M means the actual number of days in the applicable interest reset period.

The term ***business day*** means, for any note, a day that meets all the following applicable requirements:

for all notes, is a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday that is not a day on which banking institutions in New York City generally are authorized or obligated by law, regulation or executive order to close;

if the note is a LIBOR note, is also a London business day;

if the note has a specified currency other than U.S. dollars or euros, is also a day on which banking institutions are not authorized or obligated by law, regulation or executive order to close in the principal financial center of the country issuing the specified currency; and

if the note is a EURIBOR note or has a specified currency of euros, or is a LIBOR note for which the index currency is euros, is also a TARGET business day.

The term ***designated CMT index maturity*** means the index maturity for a CMT rate note and will be the original period to maturity of a U.S. treasury security either 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 10, 20 or 30 years specified in the applicable pricing supplement.

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

The term **designated CMT Moneyline Telerate page** means the Telerate page mentioned in the relevant pricing supplement that displays treasury constant maturities as reported in H.15(519). If no Telerate page is so specified, then the applicable page will be Telerate page 7052. If Telerate page 7052 applies but the relevant pricing supplement does not specify whether the weekly or monthly average applies, the weekly average will apply.

The term **euro business day** means any day on which the Trans-European Automated Real-Time Gross Settlement Express Transfer (TARGET) System, or any successor system, is open for business.

The term **euro-zone** means, at any time, the region comprised of the member states of the European Economic and Monetary Union that, as of that time, have adopted a single currency in accordance with the Treaty on European Union of February 1992.

H.15(519) means the weekly statistical release entitled Statistical Release H.15 (519) , or any successor publication, published by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

H.15 daily update means the daily update of H.15(519) available through the worldwide website of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, at <http://www.federalreserve.gov/releases/h15/update>, or any successor site or publication.

Table of Contents

The term *index currency* means, with respect to a LIBOR note, the currency specified as such in the relevant pricing supplement. The index currency may be U.S. dollars or any other currency, and will be U.S. dollars unless another currency is specified in the relevant pricing supplement.

The term *index maturity* means, with respect to a floating rate note, the period to maturity of the instrument or obligation on which the interest rate formula is based, as specified in the applicable pricing supplement.

London business day means any day on which dealings in the relevant index currency are transacted in the London interbank market.

The term *money market yield* means a yield expressed as a percentage and calculated in accordance with the following formula:

$$\text{money market yield} = \frac{D \times 360}{360 - (D \times M)} \times 100$$

where

D means the annual rate for commercial paper quoted on a bank discount basis and expressed as a decimal; and

M means the actual number of days in the relevant interest reset period.

The term *representative amount* means an amount that, in the calculation agent's judgment, is representative of a single transaction in the relevant market at the relevant time.

Reuters screen LIBOR page means the display on the Reuters Monitor Money Rates Service, or any successor service, on the page designated as LIBO or any replacement page or pages on which London interbank rates of major banks for the relevant index currency are displayed.

Reuters screen US PRIME 1 page means the display on the US PRIME 1 page on the Reuters Monitor Money Rates Service, or any successor service, or any replacement page or pages on that service, for the purpose of displaying prime rates or base lending rates of major U.S. banks.

Telerate LIBOR page means Telerate page 3750 or any replacement page or pages on which London interbank rates of major banks for the relevant index currency are displayed.

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

Telerate page means the display on Moneyline Telerate, or any successor service, on the page or pages specified in this prospectus or the relevant pricing supplement, or any replacement page or pages on that service.

If, when we use the terms designated CMT Moneyline Telerate page, H.15(519), H.15 daily update, Reuters screen LIBOR page, Reuters screen US PRIME 1 page, Telerate LIBOR page or Telerate page, we refer to a particular heading or headings on any of those pages, those references include any successor or replacement heading or headings as determined by the calculation agent.

Payment of Additional Amounts to United States Aliens

Wachovia will, subject to certain exceptions and limitations listed below (unless otherwise specified in any pricing supplement), pay to the holder of any note who is a United States Alien (as defined below), as additional interest, certain amounts (Additional Amounts) as may be necessary so that every net payment on that note (including payment of the principal of and interest on that note) by Wachovia or a paying agent, after deduction or withholding for or on account of any present or future tax, assessment or other

Table of Contents

governmental charge imposed upon or as a result of such payment by the United States (or any political subdivision or taxing authority of or in the United States), will not be less than the amount provided in that note to be then due and payable; this obligation to pay Additional Amounts, however, will not apply to:

(a) any tax, assessment or other governmental charge that would not have been so imposed but for (i) the existence of any present or former connection between the holder or beneficial owner of that note (or between a fiduciary, settlor or beneficiary of, or a person holding a power over, that holder, if that holder is an estate or a trust, or a member or shareholder of that holder, if that holder is a partnership or corporation) and the United States or any political subdivision or taxing authority, including but not limited to that holder (or the fiduciary, settlor, beneficiary, person holding a power, member or shareholder) being or having been a citizen or resident of the United States or treated as a resident of the United States or being or having been engaged in a trade or business in the United States or present in the United States or having or having had a permanent establishment in the United States or (ii) that holder's or beneficial owner's past or present status as a personal holding company, foreign personal holding company, foreign private foundation or other foreign tax-exempt organization relating to the United States, controlled foreign corporation for United States tax purposes or corporation that accumulates earnings to avoid United States Federal income tax;

(b) any estate, inheritance, gift, excise, sales, transfer, wealth or personal property tax or any similar tax, assessment or other governmental charge;

(c) any tax, assessment or other governmental charge that would not have been imposed but for the presentation by the holder of a note for payment more than 30 days after the date on which that payment became due and payable or the date on which payment on that note was duly provided for, whichever occurred later;

(d) any tax, assessment or other governmental charge that is payable otherwise than by withholding from a payment on a note;

(e) any tax, assessment or other governmental charge required to be withheld by any paying agent from a payment on a note, if that payment can be made without that withholding by any other paying agent;

(f) any tax, assessment or other governmental charge that would not have been imposed but for a failure to comply with applicable certification, information, documentation, identification or other reporting requirements concerning the nationality, residence, identity or connection with the United States of the holder or beneficial owner of a note if that compliance is required by statute or regulation of the United States or by an applicable tax treaty to which the United States is a party as a precondition to relief or exemption from that tax, assessment or other governmental charge;

(g) any tax, assessment or other governmental charge imposed on a holder that actually or constructively owns 10 percent or more of the combined voting power of all classes of Wachovia's stock;

(h) any withholding or deduction imposed pursuant to any European Union Directive on the taxation of savings implementing the conclusions of the ECOFIN Council meeting of November 26 and 27, 2000 or any law or regulation implementing such directive; or

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

(i) any combination of items (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g) and (h);

nor shall Additional Amounts be paid in relation to a payment on a note to a holder that is a fiduciary or partnership or other than the sole beneficial owner of that payment to the extent a beneficiary or settlor with respect to that fiduciary or a member of that partnership or a beneficial owner would not have been entitled to Additional Amounts (or payment of Additional Amounts would not have been necessary) had that beneficiary, settlor, member or beneficial owner been the holder of that note.

For the purposes of this discussion, a United States Alien means any person who, for United States Federal income tax purposes, is a foreign corporation, a non-resident alien individual, a non-resident alien

Table of Contents

fiduciary of a foreign estate or trust, or a foreign partnership one or more of the members of which is, for United States Federal income tax purposes, a foreign corporation, a non-resident alien individual or a non-resident alien fiduciary, of a foreign estate or trust. United States means the United States of America (including the States and the District of Columbia) and its territories, its possessions and other areas that come under its jurisdiction.

Redemption for Tax Purposes

If (a) as a result of any change in the laws, regulations or rulings of the United States (or any political subdivision or taxing authority of or in the United States), or any change in the official application (including a ruling by a court of competent jurisdiction in the United States) or interpretation of those laws, regulations or rulings, which change or amendment is announced or becomes effective on or after the consummation of any offering of the notes, Wachovia is obligated to pay Additional Amounts as described above or (b) any act is taken by a taxing authority of the United States on or after the consummation of any offering of the notes, whether or not this act is taken in relation to Wachovia or any affiliate, that results in a substantial likelihood that Wachovia will or may be required to pay these Additional Amounts, then Wachovia may, at its option, redeem, as a whole, but not in part, the notes on not less than 30 nor more than 60 days prior notice, at a redemption price equal to 100% of their principal amount, together with accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption; provided that Wachovia determines, in its business judgment, that the obligation to pay these Additional Amounts cannot be avoided by the use of reasonable measures available to it, not including substitution of the obligor under the notes or any action that would entail a material cost to Wachovia. No redemption under (b) above may be made unless Wachovia shall have received an opinion of independent counsel to the effect that an act taken by a taxing authority of the United States results in a substantial likelihood that it will or may be required to pay Additional Amounts described above and Wachovia shall have delivered to the Trustee a certificate, signed by a duly authorized officer, saying that based on this opinion Wachovia is entitled to redeem the notes according to their terms.

Other Provisions; Addenda

Any provisions relating to the notes, including the determination of the interest rate basis, calculation of the interest rate applicable to a floating rate note, its interest payment dates, any redemption or repayment provisions, or any other term relating thereto, may be modified and/or supplemented by the terms as specified under Other Provisions on the face of the applicable notes or in an Addendum relating to the applicable notes, if so specified on the face of the applicable notes, and, in each case, in the relevant pricing supplement.

Subordination of the Subordinated Notes

Wachovia's obligations to make any payment of the principal and interest on any subordinated notes will, to the extent the subordinated indenture specifies, be subordinate and junior in right of payment to all of Wachovia's senior indebtedness. Unless otherwise specified in the pricing supplement relating to a specific series of subordinated notes, Wachovia's senior indebtedness is defined in the subordinated indenture to mean the principal of, premium and interest, if any, on

all Wachovia indebtedness for money borrowed, including indebtedness Wachovia guarantees, other than the subordinated notes, whether outstanding on the date of execution of the indenture or incurred afterward, except

any obligations on account of Existing Subordinated Indebtedness and

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

indebtedness as is by its terms expressly stated to be not superior in payment right to the subordinated notes or to rank equal to the subordinated notes and

any deferrals, renewals or extensions of any such senior indebtedness. (*Section 101* of the subordinated indenture)

Table of Contents

The payment of the principal and interest on the subordinated notes will, to the extent described in the subordinated indenture, be subordinated in payment right to the prior payment of all senior indebtedness. Unless otherwise described in the pricing supplement relating to the specific series of subordinated notes, in certain events of insolvency, the payment of the principal and interest on the subordinated notes, other than subordinated notes that are also Existing Subordinated Indebtedness, will, to the extent described in the subordinated indenture, also be effectively subordinated in payment right to the prior payment of all Other Financial Obligations. Upon any payment or distribution of assets to creditors under Wachovia's liquidation, dissolution, winding up, reorganization, assignment for the benefit of creditors, or any bankruptcy, insolvency or similar proceedings, all senior indebtedness holders will be entitled to receive payment in full of all amounts due before the subordinated note holders will be entitled to receive any payment in respect of the principal or interest on their securities. If upon any such payment or asset distribution to creditors, there remains, after giving effect to those subordination provisions in favor of senior indebtedness holders, any amount of cash, property or securities available for payment or distribution in respect of subordinated notes (defined in the subordinated indenture as Excess Proceeds) and if, at that time, any Entitled Persons (as defined below) in respect of Other Financial Obligations have not received payment of all amounts due on such Other Financial Obligations, then such Excess Proceeds shall first be applied to pay these Other Financial Obligations before any payment may be applied to the subordinated notes which are not Existing Subordinated Indebtedness. In the event of the acceleration of the maturity of any subordinated notes, all senior indebtedness holders will be entitled to receive payment of all amounts due before the subordinated note holders will be entitled to receive any payment upon the principal of or interest on their subordinated notes. (*Sections 1403, 1404 and 1413* of the subordinated indenture)

By reason of such subordination in favor of senior indebtedness holders, in the event of insolvency, Wachovia's creditors who are not senior indebtedness holders or subordinated note holders may recover less, ratably, than senior indebtedness holders and may recover more, ratably, than subordinated note holders. By reason of subordinated note holders (other than Existing Subordinated Indebtedness) to pay over any Excess Proceeds to Entitled Persons in respect to Other Financial Obligations, in the event of insolvency, Existing Subordinated Indebtedness holders may recover less, ratably, than Entitled Persons in respect of Other Financial Obligations and may recover more, ratably, than the subordinated note holders (other than Existing Subordinated Indebtedness).

Unless otherwise specified in the pricing supplement relating to the particular subordinated notes series offered by it, Existing Subordinated Indebtedness means subordinated notes issued under the subordinated indenture prior to November 15, 1992. (*Section 101* of the subordinated indenture)

Unless otherwise specified in the pricing supplement relating to the particular subordinated notes series offered by it, Other Financial Obligations means all obligations of Wachovia to make payment under the terms of financial instruments, such as

securities contracts and foreign currency exchange contracts;

derivative instruments such as

swap agreements (including interest rate and foreign exchange rate swap agreements);

cap agreements;

floor agreements;

collar agreements;

interest rate agreements;

foreign exchange rate agreements;

options;

Table of Contents

commodity futures contracts;

commodity option contracts; and

similar financial instruments other than

obligations on account of senior indebtedness; and

obligations on account of indebtedness for money borrowed ranking equal or subordinate to the subordinated notes.
(*Section 101* of the subordinated indenture)

Unless otherwise described in the pricing supplement relating to a specific series of subordinated notes, **Entitled Persons** means any person who is entitled to payment under the terms of Other Financial Obligations. (*Section 101* of the subordinated indenture)

Wachovia's obligations under the subordinated notes shall rank equal in right of payment with each other and with the Existing Subordinated Indebtedness, subject, unless otherwise described in the pricing supplement relating to a specific series of subordinated notes, to the obligations of subordinated note holders (other than Existing Subordinated Indebtedness) to pay over any Excess Proceeds to Entitled Persons in respect of Other Financial Obligations as provided in the subordinated indenture. (*Section 1413* of the subordinated indenture)

The relevant pricing supplement may further describe the provisions, if any, applicable to the subordination of the subordinated notes of a particular series.

Defaults

The Senior Indenture

The senior indenture defines an event of default as

default in any principal or premium payment on any senior note of that series at maturity;

default for 30 days in interest payment of any senior note of that series;

failure to deposit any sinking fund payment when due in respect of that series;

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

Wachovia's failure for 60 days after notice in performing any other covenants or warranties in the senior indenture (other than a covenant or warranty solely for the benefit of other senior notes series);

failure to pay when due any Wachovia indebtedness or Wachovia Bank, National Association indebtedness in excess of \$5,000,000, or maturity acceleration of any indebtedness exceeding that amount if acceleration results from a default under the instrument giving rise to that indebtedness and is not annulled within 30 days after due notice;

Wachovia's or Wachovia Bank, National Association's bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization; and

any other event of default provided for senior notes of that series. (*Section 501*)

The senior indenture provides that, if any event of default for senior notes of any series outstanding occurs and is continuing, either the senior trustee or the holders of not less than 25% in principal amount of the outstanding senior notes of that series may declare the principal amount (or, if the notes of that series are original issue discount notes, such principal amount portion as the terms of that series specify) of all senior notes of that series to be due and payable immediately. However, no such declaration is required upon certain bankruptcy events. In addition, upon fulfillment of certain conditions, this declaration may be annulled and past defaults waived by the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding senior notes of that

Table of Contents

series on behalf of all senior note holders of that series. (*Sections 502 and 513*) In the event of Wachovia's bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization, senior note holders' claims would fall under the broad equity power of a federal bankruptcy court, and to that court's determination of the nature of those holders' rights.

The senior indenture contains a provision entitling the senior trustee, acting under the required standard of care, to be indemnified by the holders of any outstanding senior note series before proceeding to exercise any right or power under the senior indenture at the holders' request. (*Section 603*) The holders of a majority in principal amount of outstanding senior notes of any series may direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the senior trustee, or exercising any trust or other power conferred on the senior trustee, with respect to the senior notes of such series. The senior trustee, however, may decline to act if that direction is contrary to law or the senior indenture or would involve the senior trustee in personal liability. (*Section 512*)

Wachovia will file annually with the senior trustee a compliance certificate as to all conditions and covenants in the senior indenture. (*Section 1007*)

The Subordinated Indenture

Subordinated notes principal payment may be accelerated only upon an event of default. There is no acceleration right in the case of a default in the payment of interest or principal prior to the maturity date or a default in Wachovia performing any covenants in the subordinated indenture, unless a specific series of subordinated notes provide otherwise, which will be described in the relevant pricing supplement.

The subordinated indenture defines an event of default as certain events involving Wachovia's bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization and any other event of default provided for the subordinated notes of that series. (*Section 501*) The subordinated indenture defines a default to include

any event of default;

a default in any principal or premium payment of any subordinated debt security of that series at maturity;

default in any interest payment when due and continued for 30 days;

a default in any required designation of funds as available funds; or

default in the performance, or breach, of Wachovia's covenants in the subordinated indenture or in the subordinated notes of that series and continued for 90 days after written notice to

Wachovia by the subordinated trustee; or

Wachovia and the subordinated trustee by the holders of not less than 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding subordinated notes of that series. (*Section 503*)

If an event of default for subordinated notes of any series occurs and is continuing, either the subordinated trustee or the holders of not less than 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding subordinated notes of that series may accelerate the maturity of all outstanding subordinated notes of such series. The holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding subordinated notes of that series may waive an event of default resulting in acceleration of the subordinated notes of such series, but only if all events of default have been remedied and all payments due on the subordinated notes of that series (other than those due as a result of acceleration) have been made and certain other conditions have been met. (*Section 502*) Subject to subordinated indenture provisions relating to the subordinated trustee's duties, in case a default shall occur and be continuing, the subordinated trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers under the subordinated indenture at the holders' request or direction, unless such holders shall have offered to the subordinated trustee reasonable indemnity. (*Section 603*) Subject to such indemnification provisions, the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding

Table of Contents

subordinated notes of that series will have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the subordinated trustee or exercising any trust or power conferred on the subordinated trustee. (*Section 512*) The holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding subordinated notes of that series may waive any past default under the subordinated indenture with respect to such series, except a default in principal or interest payment or a default of a subordinated indenture covenant which cannot be modified without the consent of each outstanding subordinated note holder of the series affected. (*Section 513*) In the event of Wachovia's bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization, subordinated note holders' claims would fall under the broad equity power of a federal bankruptcy court, and to that court's determination of the nature of those holders' rights.

Wachovia will file annually with the subordinated trustee a compliance certificate as to all conditions and covenants in the subordinated indenture. (*Section 1007*)

Modification and Waiver

Each indenture may be modified and amended by Wachovia and the relevant trustee. Certain modifications and amendments require the consent of the holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding notes of each series issued under that indenture and affected by the modification or amendment. No such modification or amendment may, without the consent of the holder of each outstanding note issued under such indenture and affected by it

change the stated maturity of the principal, or any installment of principal or interest, on any outstanding note;

reduce any principal amount, premium or interest, on any outstanding note, including in the case of an original issue discount note the amount payable upon acceleration of the maturity of that note;

change the place of payment where, or the coin or currency or currency unit in which, any principal, premium or interest, on any outstanding note is payable;

impair the right to institute suit for the enforcement of any payment on or after the stated maturity, or in the case of redemption, on or after the redemption date;

reduce the above-stated percentage of outstanding notes necessary to modify or amend the applicable indenture; or

modify the above requirements or reduce the percentage of aggregate principal amount of outstanding notes of any series required to be held by holders seeking to waive compliance with certain provisions of the relevant indenture or seeking to waive certain defaults. (*Section 902*)

The holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding notes of any series may on behalf of all outstanding note holders of that series waive, insofar as that series is concerned, Wachovia's compliance with certain restrictive provisions of the relevant indenture. (*Section 1008*) The holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding notes of any series may on behalf of all outstanding note holders of that series waive any past default under the relevant indenture with respect to that series, except a default in the payment of the principal, or premium, if any, or interest on any outstanding note of that series or in respect of an indenture covenant which cannot be modified or amended without each outstanding note holder consenting. (*Section 513*)

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

Certain modifications and amendments of each indenture may be made by Wachovia and the relevant trustee without the outstanding note holders consenting. (*Section 901*)

Each indenture provides that in determining whether the holders of the requisite principal amount of the outstanding notes have given any request, demand, authorization, direction, notice, consent or waiver under that indenture or are present at a meeting of holders of outstanding notes for quorum purposes

the principal amount of an original issue discount note that shall be deemed to be outstanding shall be the amount of the principal that would be due and payable as of the date of such determination upon acceleration of its maturity; and

Table of Contents

the principal amount of outstanding notes denominated in a foreign currency or currency unit shall be the U.S. dollar equivalent, determined on the date of original issuance of that outstanding note, of the principal amount of that outstanding note or, in the case of an original issue discount note, the U.S. dollar equivalent, determined on the date of original issuance of such outstanding note, of the amount determined as provided in the above bullet-point. (Section 101)

Consolidation, Merger and Sale of Assets

The indentures each provide that Wachovia may not consolidate with or merge into any other corporation or transfer its properties and assets substantially as an entirety to any person unless

the corporation formed by the consolidation or into which Wachovia is merged, or the person to which Wachovia's properties and assets are so transferred, shall be a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the U.S., any state or Washington, D.C. and shall expressly assume by supplemental indenture the payment of any principal, premium or interest on the notes, and the performance of Wachovia's other covenants under the relevant indenture;

immediately after giving effect to this transaction, no event of default or default, as applicable, and no event which, after notice or lapse of time or both, would become an event of default or default, as applicable, shall have occurred and be continuing; and

certain other conditions are met. (Section 801)

Limitation on Disposition of Wachovia Bank, National Association Stock

The indentures each contain Wachovia's covenant that, so long as any of the debt securities issued under that indenture before August 1, 1990 are outstanding, but subject to Wachovia's rights in connection with its consolidation with or merger into another corporation or a sale of Wachovia's assets, it will not sell, assign, transfer, grant a security interest in or otherwise dispose of any shares of, securities convertible into, or options, warrants or rights to subscribe for or purchase shares of, Wachovia Bank, National Association voting stock, nor will it permit Wachovia Bank, National Association to issue any shares of, or securities convertible into, or options, warrants or rights to subscribe for or purchase shares of, Wachovia Bank, National Association voting stock, unless

any such sale, assignment, transfer, issuance, grant of a security interest or other disposition is made for fair market value, as determined by Wachovia's board; and

Wachovia will own at least 80% of the issued and outstanding Wachovia Bank, National Association voting stock free and clear of any security interest after giving effect to such transaction. (Section 1006)

The above covenant is not a covenant for the benefit of any series of notes issued on or after August 1, 1990.

Restriction on Sale or Issuance of Voting Stock of Major Subsidiary Bank

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

With respect to the senior notes, the senior indenture contains Wachovia's covenant that it will not, and will not permit any subsidiary to, sell, assign, transfer, grant a security interest in, or otherwise dispose of, any shares of voting stock, or any securities convertible into shares of voting stock, of any Major Subsidiary Bank (as defined below) or any subsidiary owning, directly or indirectly, any shares of voting stock of any Major Subsidiary Bank and that it will not permit any Major Subsidiary Bank or any subsidiary owning, directly or indirectly, any shares of voting stock of a Major Subsidiary Bank to issue any shares of its voting stock or any securities convertible into shares of its voting stock, except for sales, assignments, transfers or other dispositions which

are for the purpose of qualifying a person to serve as a director;

Table of Contents

are for fair market value, as determined by Wachovia's board, and, after giving effect to such dispositions and to any potential dilution, Wachovia will own not less than 80% of the shares of voting stock of such Major Subsidiary Bank or any such subsidiary owning any shares of voting stock of such Major Subsidiary Bank;

are made

in compliance with court or regulatory authority order; or

in compliance with a condition imposed by any such court or authority permitting Wachovia's acquisition of any other bank or entity; or

in compliance with an undertaking made to such authority in connection with such an acquisition; provided, in the case of the two preceding bullet-points, the assets of the bank or entity being acquired and its consolidated subsidiaries equal or exceed 75% of the assets of such Major Subsidiary Bank or such subsidiary owning, directly or indirectly, any shares of voting stock of a Major Subsidiary Bank and its respective consolidated subsidiaries on the date of acquisition; or

to Wachovia or any wholly-owned subsidiary.

Despite the above requirements, any Major Subsidiary Bank may be merged into or consolidated with another banking institution organized under U.S. or state law, if after giving effect to that merger or consolidation Wachovia or any wholly-owned subsidiary owns at least 80% of the voting stock of the other banking institution free and clear of any security interest and if, immediately after the merger or consolidation, no event of default, and no event which, after notice or lapse of time or both, would become an event of default, shall have happened and be continuing. (Section 1007) A Major Subsidiary Bank is defined in each indenture to mean any subsidiary which is a bank and has total assets equal to 25% or more of Wachovia's consolidated assets determined on the date of the most recent audited financial statements of these entities. At present, the Major Subsidiary Bank is Wachovia Bank, National Association.

The above covenant is not a covenant for the benefit of any series of debt securities issued before August 1, 1990, or, in the case of subordinated debt securities including the subordinated notes, issued after November 15, 1992.

Form, Exchange and Transfer

If the notes cease to be issued in global form, they will be issued:

only in fully registered form;

without interest coupons; and

unless we indicate otherwise in your pricing supplement, in denominations of \$1,000 and that are multiples of \$1,000.

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

Holders may exchange their notes for notes of smaller denominations or combined into fewer notes of larger denominations, as long as the total principal amount is not changed.

Holders may exchange or transfer their notes at the office of the relevant trustee, or in the event definitive notes are issued and so long as the notes are listed on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, at the offices of the paying agent. We have appointed the respective trustees to act as our agents for registering notes in the names of holders and transferring notes. We may appoint another entity to perform these functions or perform them ourselves.

Holders will not be required to pay a service charge to transfer or exchange their notes, but they may be required to pay for any tax or other governmental charge associated with the exchange or transfer. The

Table of Contents

transfer or exchange will be made only if our transfer agent is satisfied with the holder's proof of legal ownership.

If we have designated additional transfer agents for your note, they will be named in your pricing supplement. We may appoint additional transfer agents or cancel the appointment of any particular transfer agent. We may also approve a change in the office through which any transfer agent acts.

If any notes are redeemable and we redeem less than all those notes, we may block the transfer or exchange of those notes during the period beginning 15 days before the day we mail the notice of redemption and ending on the day of that mailing, in order to freeze the list of holders to prepare the mailing. We may also refuse to register transfers of or exchange any note selected for redemption, except that we will continue to permit transfers and exchanges of the unredeemed portion of any note being partially redeemed.

If a note is issued as a global note, only the depositary (e.g., DTC, Euroclear and Clearstream) will be entitled to transfer and exchange the note as described in this subsection, since it will be the sole holder of the note.

Payment Mechanics

Who Receives Payment?

If interest is due on a note on an interest payment date, we will pay the interest to the person or entity in whose name the note is registered at the close of business on the regular record date relating to the interest payment date. If interest is due at maturity but on a day that is not an interest payment date, we will pay the interest to the person or entity entitled to receive the principal of the note. If principal or another amount besides interest is due on a note at maturity, we will pay the amount to the holder of the note against surrender of the note at a proper place of payment (or, in the case of a global note, in accordance with the applicable policies of the depositary).

How We Will Make Payments Due in U.S. Dollars

We will follow the practice described in this subsection when paying amounts due in U.S. dollars. Payments of amounts due in other currencies will be made as described in the next subsection.

Payments on Global Notes. We will make payments on a global note in accordance with the applicable policies of the depositary as in effect from time to time. Under those policies, we will pay directly to the depositary, or its nominee, and not to any indirect holders who own beneficial interests in the global note. An indirect holder's right to receive those payments will be governed by the rules and practices of the depositary and its participants, as described under "Global Notes" and "Global Notes".

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

Payments on Non-Global Notes. We will make payments on a note in non-global form as follows. We will pay interest that is due on an interest payment date by check mailed on the interest payment date to the holder at his or her address shown on the trustee's records as of the close of business on the regular record date. We will make all other payments by check at the paying agent described below, against surrender of the note. All payments by check will be made in next-day funds i.e., funds that become available on the day after the check is cashed.

Alternatively, if a non-global note has a face amount of at least \$1,000,000 and the holder asks us to do so, we will pay any amount that becomes due on the note by wire transfer of immediately available funds to an account at a bank in New York City, on the due date. To request wire payment, the holder must give the paying agent appropriate wire transfer instructions at least five business days before the requested wire payment is due. In the case of any interest payment due on an interest payment date, the instructions must be given by the person or entity who is the holder on the relevant regular record date. In the case of any other

Table of Contents

payment, payment will be made only after the note is surrendered to the paying agent. Any wire instructions, once properly given, will remain in effect unless and until new instructions are given in the manner described above.

Book-entry and other indirect holders should consult their banks or brokers for information on how they will receive payments on their notes.

How We Will Make Payments Due In Other Currencies

We will follow the practice described in this subsection when paying amounts that are due in a specified currency other than U.S. dollars.

Payments on Global Notes. We will make payments on a global note in accordance with the applicable policies as in effect from time to time of the depositary, which will be DTC, Euroclear or Clearstream. Unless we specify otherwise in the applicable pricing supplement, DTC will be the depositary for all notes in global form. We understand that DTC's policies, as currently in effect, are as follows.

Unless otherwise indicated in your pricing supplement, if you are an indirect holder of global notes denominated in a specified currency other than U.S. dollars and if you elect to receive payments in that other currency, you must notify the participant through which your interest in the global note is held of your election:

on or before the applicable regular record date, in the case of a payment of interest, or

on or before the 16th day prior to stated maturity, or any redemption or repayment date, in the case of payment of principal or any premium.

You may elect to receive all or only a portion of any interest, principal or premium payment in a specified currency other than U.S. dollars.

Your participant must, in turn, notify DTC of your election on or before the third DTC business day after that regular record date, in the case of a payment of interest, and on or before the 12th DTC business day prior to stated maturity, or on the redemption or repayment date if your note is redeemed or repaid earlier, in the case of a payment of principal or any premium.

DTC, in turn, will notify the paying agent of your election in accordance with DTC's procedures.

If complete instructions are received by the participant and forwarded by the participant to DTC, and by DTC to the paying agent, on or before the dates noted above, the paying agent, in accordance with DTC's instructions will make the payments to you or your participant by wire transfer of immediately available funds to an account maintained by the payee with a bank located in the country issuing the specified currency or in another jurisdiction acceptable to us and the paying agent.

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

If the foregoing steps are not properly completed, we expect DTC to inform the paying agent that payment is to be made in U.S. dollars. In that case, we or our agent will convert the payment to U.S. dollars in the manner described below under "Conversion to U.S. Dollars". We expect that we or our agent will then make the payment in U.S. dollars to DTC, and that DTC in turn will pass it along to its participants.

Indirect holders of a global note denominated in a currency other than U.S. dollars should consult their banks or brokers for information on how to request payment in the specified currency.

Table of Contents

Payments on Non-Global Notes. Except as described in the last paragraph under this heading, we will make payments on notes in non-global form in the applicable specified currency. We will make these payments by wire transfer of immediately available funds to any account that is maintained in the applicable specified currency at a bank designated by the holder and is acceptable to us and the trustee. To designate an account for wire payment, the holder must give the paying agent appropriate wire instructions at least five business days before the requested wire payment is due. In the case of any interest payment due on an interest payment date, the instructions must be given by the person or entity who is the holder on the regular record date. In the case of any other payment, the payment will be made only after the note is surrendered to the paying agent. Any instructions, once properly given, will remain in effect unless and until new instructions are properly given in the manner described above.

If a holder fails to give instructions as described above, we will notify the holder at the address in the trustee's records and will make the payment within five business days after the holder provides appropriate instructions. Any late payment made in these circumstances will be treated under the indenture as if made on the due date, and no interest will accrue on the late payment from the due date to the date paid.

Although a payment on a note in non-global form may be due in a specified currency other than U.S. dollars, we will make the payment in U.S. dollars if the holder asks us to do so. To request U.S. dollar payment, the holder must provide appropriate written notice to the trustee at least five business days before the next due date for which payment in U.S. dollars is requested. In the case of any interest payment due on an interest payment date, the request must be made by the person or entity who is the holder on the regular record date. Any request, once properly made, will remain in effect unless and until revoked by notice properly given in the manner described above.

Book-entry and other indirect holders of a note with a specified currency other than U.S. dollars should contact their banks or brokers for information about how to receive payments in the specified currency or in U.S. dollars.

Conversion to U.S. Dollars. When we are asked by a holder to make payments in U.S. dollars of an amount due in another currency, either on a global note or a non-global note as described above, the exchange rate agent described below will calculate the U.S. dollar amount the holder receives in the exchange rate agent's discretion.

A holder that requests payment in U.S. dollars will bear all associated currency exchange costs, which will be deducted from the payment.

When the Specified Currency is Not Available. If we are obligated to make any payment in a specified currency other than U.S. dollars, and the specified currency or any successor currency is not available to us due to circumstances beyond our control such as the imposition of exchange controls or a disruption in the currency markets we will be entitled to satisfy our obligation to make the payment in that specified currency by making the payment in U.S. dollars, on the basis of the exchange rate determined by the exchange rate agent described below, in its discretion.

The foregoing will apply to any note, whether in global or non-global form, and to any payment, including a payment at maturity. Any payment made under the circumstances and in a manner described above will not result in a default under any note or the relevant indenture.

Exchange Rate Agent. If we issue a note in a specified currency other than U.S. dollars, we will appoint a financial institution to act as the exchange rate agent and will name the institution initially appointed when the note is originally issued in the applicable pricing supplement. We may select Wachovia Bank, National Association or another of our affiliates to perform this role. We may change the exchange rate agent from

time to time after the original issue date of the note without your consent and without notifying you of the change.

Table of Contents

All determinations made by the exchange rate agent will be at its sole discretion unless we state in the applicable pricing supplement that any determination requires our approval. In the absence of manifest error, those determinations will be conclusive for all purposes and binding on you and us, without any liability on the part of the exchange rate agent.

Payment When Offices Are Closed

If any payment is due on a note on a day that is not a business day, we will make the payment on the next day that is a business day. Payments postponed to the next business day in this situation will be treated under the relevant indenture as if they were made on the original due date. Postponement of this kind will not result in a default under any note or the indenture, and no interest will accrue on the postponed amount from the original due date to the next day that is a business day. The term business day has a special meaning, which we describe above under [Interest Rates](#) [Special Rate Calculation Terms](#) .

Paying Agent

We may appoint one or more financial institutions to act as our paying agents, at whose designated offices notes in non-global entry form may be surrendered for payment at their maturity. We call each of those offices a paying agent. We may add, replace or terminate paying agents from time to time. We may also choose to act as our own paying agent. Initially, we have appointed Wachovia Bank, National Association, at its corporate trust office in New York City or its headquarters in Charlotte, North Carolina, as the paying agent. We must notify you of changes in the paying agents.

Citibank, N.A., acting through its London office (or such other agent appointed in accordance with the Senior Indenture or the Subordinated Indenture, as the case may be), will act as London paying agent and London issuing agent.

In the event definitive notes are issued as described in this prospectus and as long as the notes are listed on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, the holders of those notes will be able to receive payments and effect transfers at the offices of Dexia Banque Internationale à Luxembourg, Luxembourg or its successor as paying agent in Luxembourg relating to the notes. Each indenture provides for the replacement of a mutilated, lost, stolen or destroyed definitive note, so long as the applicant furnishes to Wachovia and the relevant trustee the security or indemnity required by them to save each of them harmless and any evidence of ownership of the note as they may require.

Dexia Banque Internationale à Luxembourg will act as a paying agent and transfer agent in Luxembourg in relation to the notes, and as long as the notes are listed on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, Wachovia will maintain a paying agent and transfer agent in Luxembourg and any change in the Luxembourg paying agent and transfer agent will be published in Luxembourg in accordance with the second paragraph below under [Notices](#) .

Unclaimed Payments

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

Regardless of who acts as paying agent, all money paid by us to a paying agent that remains unclaimed at the end of two years after the amount is due to a holder will be repaid to us. After that two-year period, the holder may look only to us for payment and not to the relevant trustee, any other paying agent or anyone else.

Notices

Notices to be given to holders of a global note will be given only to the depositary, in accordance with its applicable policies as in effect from time to time. Notices to be given to holders of notes not in global form will be sent by mail to the respective addresses of the holders as they appear in the relevant trustee's records, and will be deemed given when mailed.

Table of Contents

As long as the notes are listed on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange and its rules require, we will also give notices to holders by publication in a daily newspaper of general circulation in Luxembourg. We expect that newspaper to be, but it need not be, the *Luxemburger Wort*. If publication in Luxembourg is not practical, we will make the publication elsewhere in Western Europe. By "daily newspaper" we mean a newspaper that is published on each day, other than a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, in Luxembourg or, when applicable, elsewhere in Western Europe. You will be presumed to have received these notices on the date we first publish them. If we are unable to give notice as described in this paragraph because the publication of any newspaper is suspended or it is otherwise impracticable for us to publish the notice, then we or the relevant trustee, acting on our instructions, will give holders notice in another form. That alternate form of notice will be sufficient notice to you.

Neither the failure to give any notice to a particular holder, nor any defect in a notice given to a particular holder, will affect the sufficiency of any notice given to another holder.

Book-entry and other indirect holders should consult their banks or brokers for information on how they will receive notices.

Trustees

Either or both of the trustees may resign or be removed with respect to one or more series of notes and a successor trustee may be appointed to act with respect to that series. (*Section 610*) In the event that two or more persons are acting as trustee with respect to different series of notes, each such trustee shall be a trustee of a trust under the relevant indenture separate and apart from the trust administered by any other such trustee (*Section 611*), and any action to be taken by the trustee may then be taken by each such trustee with respect to, and only with respect to, the one or more series of notes for which it is trustee.

In the normal course of business, Wachovia and its subsidiaries conduct banking transactions with the trustees and their affiliates, and the trustees and their affiliates conduct banking transactions with Wachovia and its subsidiaries.

Title

Wachovia, the trustees and any of their agents may treat the registered owner of any note as the absolute owner of that security, whether or not that note is overdue and despite any notice to the contrary, for any purpose. See "Global Notes" .

Governing Law

The indentures and the notes will be governed by New York law.

Table of Contents

GLOBAL NOTES

We will issue each note in book-entry form only. Each note issued in book-entry form will be represented by a global note that we deposit with and register in the name of one or more financial institutions or clearing systems, or their nominees, which we select. A financial institution or clearing system that we select for this purpose is called the depository for that note. A note will usually have only one depository but it may have more.

Each series of notes will have one or more of the following as the depositories.

The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, which is known as DTC ;

JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. holding the notes on behalf of Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V., as operator of the Euroclear system, which is known as Euroclear ;

Citibank, N.A. holding the notes on behalf of Clearstream Banking, société anonyme, Luxembourg, which is known as Clearstream ; and

any other clearing system or financial institution named in the applicable pricing supplement.

The depositories named above may also be participants in one another's system. Thus, for example, if DTC is the depository for a global note, investors may hold beneficial interests in that note through Euroclear or Clearstream, as DTC participants. The depository or depositories for your notes will be named in your pricing supplement; if none is named, the depository will be DTC.

A global note may not be transferred to or registered in the name of anyone other than the depository or its nominee, unless special termination situations arise. We describe those situations below under **Holder's Option to Obtain a Non-Global Note; Special Situations When a Global Note Will Be Terminated** . As a result of these arrangements, the depository, or its nominee, will be the sole registered owner and holder of all notes represented by a global note, and investors will be permitted to own only indirect interests in a global note. Indirect interests must be held by means of an account with a broker, bank or other financial institution that in turn has an account with the depository or with another institution that does. Thus, an investor whose note is represented by a global note will not be a holder of the note, but only an indirect owner of an interest in the global note.

If the pricing supplement for a particular note indicates that the note will be issued in global form only, then the note will be represented by a global note at all times unless and until the global note is terminated. We describe the situations in which this can occur below under **Holder's Option to Obtain a Non-Global Note; Special Situations When a Global Note Will Be Terminated** . If termination occurs, we may issue the notes through another book-entry clearing system or decide that the notes may no longer be held through any book-entry clearing system.

DTC has informed Wachovia that it is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a banking organization within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a clearing corporation within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a clearing agency registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Exchange Act. DTC holds securities that DTC participants deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the settlement among DTC participants of securities transactions,

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

such as transfers and pledges, in deposited securities through electronic computerized book-entry changes in DTC participants' accounts, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of certificates. DTC participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies and clearing corporations, and may include other organizations. DTC is owned by a number of its direct participants and by the New York Stock Exchange, Inc., the American Stock Exchange, LLC and the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. Indirect access to the DTC system also is available to others such as banks, brokers, dealers and trust companies that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a participant, either directly or indirectly. The rules applicable to DTC and DTC participants are on file with the Commission.

Table of Contents

Special Considerations for Global Notes

As an indirect owner, an investor's rights relating to a global note will be governed by the account rules of the depositary and those of the investor's financial institution or other intermediary through which it holds its interest (e.g., Euroclear or Clearstream, if DTC is the depositary), as well as general laws relating to note transfers. We do not recognize this type of investor or any intermediary as a holder of notes and instead deal only with the depositary that holds the global note.

If notes are issued only in the form of a global note, an investor should be aware of the following:

An investor cannot cause the notes to be registered in his or her own name, and cannot obtain non-global certificates for his or her interest in the notes, except in the special situations we describe below;

An investor will be an indirect holder and must look to his or her own bank or broker for payments on the notes and protection of his or her legal rights relating to the note, as we describe above under "Description of the Notes We May Offer—Legal Ownership";

An investor may not be able to sell interests in the notes to some insurance companies and other institutions that are required by law to own their notes in non-book-entry form;

An investor may not be able to pledge his or her interest in a global note in circumstances where certificates representing the notes must be delivered to the lender or other beneficiary of the pledge in order for the pledge to be effective;

The depositary's policies will govern payments, deliveries, transfers, exchanges, notices and other matters relating to an investor's interest in a global note, and those policies may change from time to time. We and the relevant trustee will have no responsibility for any aspect of the depositary's policies, actions or records or ownership interests in a global note. We and the trustees also do not supervise the depositary in any way;

The depositary will require that those who purchase and sell interests in a global note within its book-entry system use immediately available funds and your broker or bank may require you to do so as well; and

Financial institutions that participate in the depositary's book-entry system and through which an investor holds its interest in the global notes, directly or indirectly, may also have their own policies affecting payments, deliveries, transfers, exchanges, notices and other matters relating to the notes, and those policies may change from time to time. For example, if you hold an interest in a global note through Euroclear or Clearstream, when DTC is the depositary, Euroclear or Clearstream, as applicable, will require those who purchase and sell interests in that note through them to use immediately available funds and comply with other policies and procedures, including deadlines for giving instructions as to transactions that are to be effected on a particular day. There may be more than one financial intermediary in the chain of ownership for an investor. We do not monitor and are not responsible for the policies or actions or records of ownership interests of any of those intermediaries.

Holder's Option to Obtain a Non-Global Note; Special Situations When a Global Note Will Be Terminated

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

If we issue any series of notes in book-entry form but we choose to give the beneficial owners of that series the right to obtain non-global notes, any beneficial owner entitled to obtain non-global notes may do so by following the applicable procedures of the depositary for that series and that owner's bank, broker or other financial institution through which that owner holds its beneficial interest in the notes. If you are entitled to request a non-global certificate and wish to do so, you will need to allow sufficient lead time to enable us or our agent to prepare the requested certificate.

Table of Contents

In addition, in a few special situations described below, a global note will be terminated and interests in it will be exchanged for certificates in non-global form representing the notes it represented. After that exchange, the choice of whether to hold the notes directly or in street name will be up to the investor. Investors must consult their own banks or brokers to find out how to have their interests in a global note transferred on termination to their own names, so that they will be holders. We have described the rights of holders and street name investors above under Description of the Notes We May Offer Legal Ownership .

Unless otherwise mentioned in the relevant pricing supplement, the special situations for termination of a global note are as follows:

if the depositary notifies Wachovia that it is unwilling, unable or no longer qualified to continue as depositary for that global note;

if Wachovia executes and delivers to the relevant trustee an order complying with the requirements of the relevant indenture that this global note shall be so exchangeable; or

if there has occurred and is continuing a default in the payment of any amount due in respect of the notes or an event of default or an event that, with the giving of notice or lapse of time, or both, would constitute an event of default with respect to these notes.

If a global note is terminated, only the depositary, and not we or the relevant trustee, is responsible for deciding the names of the institutions in whose names the notes represented by the global note will be registered and, therefore, who will be the holders of those notes.

Considerations Relating to Clearstream and Euroclear

Clearstream and Euroclear are securities clearance systems in Europe. Clearstream and Euroclear have informed Wachovia that Clearstream and Euroclear each hold securities for their customers and facilitate the clearance and settlement of securities transactions by electronic book-entry transfer between their respective account holders. Clearstream and Euroclear provide various services including safekeeping, administration, clearance and settlement of internationally traded securities and securities lending and borrowing. Clearstream and Euroclear also deal with domestic securities markets in several countries through established depositary and custodial relationships. Clearstream and Euroclear have established an electronic bridge between their two systems across which their respective participants may settle trades with each other. Clearstream and Euroclear customers are world-wide financial institutions including underwriters, securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies and clearing corporations. Indirect access to Clearstream and Euroclear is available to other institutions which clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with an account holder of either system.

Euroclear and Clearstream may be depositaries for a global note. In addition, if DTC is the depositary for a global note, Euroclear and Clearstream may hold interests in the global note as participants in DTC.

As long as any global note is held by Euroclear or Clearstream, as depositary, you may hold an interest in the global note only through an organization that participates, directly or indirectly, in Euroclear or Clearstream. If Euroclear or Clearstream is the depositary for a global note and there is no depositary in the United States, you will not be able to hold interests in that global note through any securities clearance system in the United States.

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

Payments, deliveries, transfers, exchanges, notices and other matters relating to the notes made through Euroclear or Clearstream must comply with the rules and procedures of those systems. Those systems could change their rules and procedures at any time. We have no control over those systems or their participants and we take no responsibility for their activities. Transactions between participants in Euroclear or Clearstream, on one hand, and participants in DTC, on the other hand, when DTC is the depositary, would also be subject to DTC's rules and procedures.

Table of Contents

Special Timing Considerations for Transactions in Euroclear and Clearstream

Investors will be able to make and receive through Euroclear and Clearstream payments, deliveries, transfers, exchanges, notices and other transactions involving any notes held through those systems only on days when those systems are open for business. Those systems may not be open for business on days when banks, brokers and other institutions are open for business in the United States.

In addition, because of time-zone differences, U.S. investors who hold their interests in the notes through these systems and wish to transfer their interests, or to receive or make a payment or delivery or exercise any other right with respect to their interests, on a particular day may find that the transaction will not be effected until the next business day in Luxembourg or Brussels, as applicable. Thus, investors who wish to exercise rights that expire on a particular day may need to act before the expiration date. In addition, investors who hold their interests through both DTC and Euroclear or Clearstream may need to make special arrangements to finance any purchases or sales of their interest between the U.S. and European clearing systems, and those transactions may settle later than would be the case for transactions within one clearing system.

Table of Contents

UNITED STATES TAXATION

This section describes the material United States federal income tax consequences of owning the notes we are offering. It is the opinion of Sullivan & Cromwell LLP, counsel to Wachovia. It applies to you only if you hold your notes as capital assets for tax purposes. This section does not apply to you if you are a member of a class of holders subject to special rules, such as:

a dealer in securities or currencies,

a trader in securities that elects to use a mark-to-market method of accounting for your securities holdings,

a bank,

a life insurance company,

a tax-exempt organization,

a person that owns notes that are a hedge or that are hedged against interest rate or currency risks,

a person that owns notes as part of a straddle or conversion transaction for tax purposes, or

a United States holder (as defined below) whose functional currency for tax purposes is not the U.S. dollar.

This section deals only with notes that are due to mature 30 years or less from the date on which they are issued. The United States federal income tax consequences of owning notes that are due to mature more than 30 years from their date of issue will be discussed in an applicable pricing supplement. This section is based on the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, its legislative history, existing and proposed regulations under the Internal Revenue Code, published rulings and court decisions, all as currently in effect. These laws are subject to change, possibly on a retroactive basis.

If a partnership holds the notes, the United States federal income tax treatment of a partner will generally depend on the status of the partner and the tax treatment of the partnership. A partner in a partnership holding the notes should consult its tax advisor with regard to the United States federal income tax treatment of an investment in the notes.

Please consult your own tax advisor concerning the consequences of owning these notes in your particular circumstances under the Code and the laws of any other taxing jurisdiction.

United States Holders

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

This subsection describes the tax consequences to a United States holder. You are a United States holder if you are a beneficial owner of a note and you are:

a citizen or resident of the United States,

a domestic corporation,

an estate whose income is subject to United States federal income tax regardless of its source, or

a trust if a United States court can exercise primary supervision over the trust's administration and one or more United States persons are authorized to control all substantial decisions of the trust.

If you are not a United States holder, this subsection does not apply to you and you should refer to [United States Alien Holders](#) below.

Payments of Interest

Except as described below in the case of interest on a discount note that is not qualified stated interest each as defined below under [Original Issue Discount - General](#), you will be taxed on any interest on your note, whether payable in U.S. dollars or a foreign currency, including a composite currency or basket of currencies other than U.S. dollars, as ordinary income at the time you receive the interest or when it accrues, depending on your method of accounting for tax purposes.

Table of Contents

Cash Basis Taxpayers. If you are a taxpayer that uses the cash receipts and disbursements method of accounting for tax purposes and you receive an interest payment that is denominated in, or determined by reference to, a foreign currency, you must recognize income equal to the U.S. dollar value of the interest payment, based on the exchange rate in effect on the date of receipt, regardless of whether you actually convert the payment into U.S. dollars.

Accrual Basis Taxpayers. If you are a taxpayer that uses an accrual method of accounting for tax purposes, you may determine the amount of income that you recognize with respect to an interest payment denominated in, or determined by reference to, a foreign currency by using one of two methods. Under the first method, you will determine the amount of income accrued based on the average exchange rate in effect during the interest accrual period or, with respect to an accrual period that spans two taxable years, that part of the period within the taxable year.

If you elect the second method, you would determine the amount of income accrued on the basis of the exchange rate in effect on the last day of the accrual period, or, in the case of an accrual period that spans two taxable years, the exchange rate in effect on the last day of the part of the period within the taxable year. Additionally, under this second method, if you receive a payment of interest within five business days of the last day of your accrual period or taxable year, you may instead translate the interest accrued into U.S. dollars at the exchange rate in effect on the day that you actually receive the interest payment. If you elect the second method it will apply to all debt instruments that you hold at the beginning of the first taxable year to which the election applies and to all debt instruments that you subsequently acquire. You may not revoke this election without the consent of the Internal Revenue Service.

When you actually receive an interest payment, including a payment attributable to accrued but unpaid interest upon the sale or retirement of your note, denominated in, or determined by reference to, a foreign currency for which you accrued an amount of income, you will recognize ordinary income or loss measured by the difference, if any, between the exchange rate that you used to accrue interest income and the exchange rate in effect on the date of receipt, regardless of whether you actually convert the payment into U.S. dollars.

Original Issue Discount

General. If you own a note, other than a short-term note with a term of one year or less, it will be treated as a discount note issued at an original issue discount if the amount by which the note's stated redemption price at maturity exceeds its issue price is more than a *de minimis* amount. Generally, a note's issue price will be the first price at which a substantial amount of notes included in the issue of which the note is a part is sold to persons other than bond houses, brokers, or similar persons or organizations acting in the capacity of underwriters, placement agents, or wholesalers. A note's stated redemption price at maturity is the total of all payments provided by the note that are not payments of qualified stated interest. Generally, an interest payment on a note is qualified stated interest if it is one of a series of stated interest payments on a note that are unconditionally payable at least annually at a single fixed rate, with certain exceptions for lower rates paid during some periods, applied to the outstanding principal amount of the note. There are special rules for variable rate notes that are discussed under [Variable Rate Notes](#).

In general, your note is not a discount note if the amount by which its stated redemption price at maturity exceeds its issue price is less than the *de minimis* amount of $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1 percent of its stated redemption price at maturity multiplied by the number of complete years to its maturity. Your note will have *de minimis* original issue discount if the amount of the excess is less than the *de minimis* amount. If your note has *de minimis* original issue discount, you must include the *de minimis* amount in income as stated principal payments are made on the note, unless you make the election described below under [Election to Treat All Interest as Original Issue Discount](#). You can determine the includible amount with respect to each such payment by multiplying the total amount of your note's *de minimis* original issue discount by a fraction equal to:

the amount of the principal payment made

Table of Contents

divided by:

the stated principal amount of the note.

Generally, if your discount note matures more than one year from its date of issue, you must include original issue discount, or OID, in income before you receive cash attributable to that income. The amount of OID that you must include in income is calculated using a constant-yield method, and generally you will include increasingly greater amounts of OID in income over the life of your note. More specifically, you can calculate the amount of OID that you must include in income by adding the daily portions of OID with respect to your discount note for each day during the taxable year or portion of the taxable year that you hold your discount note. You can determine the daily portion by allocating to each day in any accrual period a pro rata portion of the OID allocable to that accrual period. You may select an accrual period of any length with respect to your discount note and you may vary the length of each accrual period over the term of your discount note. However, no accrual period may be longer than one year and each scheduled payment of interest or principal on the discount note must occur on either the first or final day of an accrual period.

You can determine the amount of OID allocable to an accrual period by:

multiplying your discount note's adjusted issue price at the beginning of the accrual period by your note's yield to maturity, and then

subtracting from this figure the sum of the payments of qualified stated interest on your note allocable to the accrual period.

You must determine the discount note's yield to maturity on the basis of compounding at the close of each accrual period and adjusting for the length of each accrual period. Further, you determine your discount note's adjusted issue price at the beginning of any accrual period by:

adding your discount note's issue price and any accrued OID for each prior accrual period, and then

subtracting any payments previously made on your discount note that were not qualified stated interest payments.

If an interval between payments of qualified stated interest on your discount note contains more than one accrual period, then, when you determine the amount of OID allocable to an accrual period, you must allocate the amount of qualified stated interest payable at the end of the interval, including any qualified stated interest that is payable on the first day of the accrual period immediately following the interval, pro rata to each accrual period in the interval based on their relative lengths. In addition, you must increase the adjusted issue price at the beginning of each accrual period in the interval by the amount of any qualified stated interest that has accrued prior to the first day of the accrual period but that is not payable until the end of the interval. You may compute the amount of OID allocable to an initial short accrual period by using any reasonable method if all other accrual periods, other than a final short accrual period, are of equal length.

The amount of OID allocable to the final accrual period is equal to the difference between:

the amount payable at the maturity of your note, other than any payment of qualified stated interest, and

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

your note's adjusted issue price as of the beginning of the final accrual period.

Acquisition Premium. If you purchase your note for an amount that is less than or equal to the sum of all amounts, other than qualified stated interest, payable on your note after the purchase date but is greater than the amount of your note's adjusted issue price, as determined above under General , the excess is

Table of Contents

acquisition premium. If you do not make the election described below under Election to Treat All Interest as Original Issue Discount , then you must reduce the daily portions of OID by a fraction equal to:

the excess of your adjusted basis in the note immediately after purchase over the adjusted issue price of the note

divided by:

the excess of the sum of all amounts payable, other than qualified stated interest, on the note after the purchase date over the note's adjusted issue price.

Pre-Issuance Accrued Interest. An election may be made to decrease the issue price of your note by the amount of pre-issuance accrued interest if:

a portion of the initial purchase price of your note is attributable to pre-issuance accrued interest,

the first stated interest payment on your note is to be made within one year of your note's issue date, and

the payment will equal or exceed the amount of pre-issuance accrued interest.

If this election is made, a portion of the first stated interest payment will be treated as a return of the excluded pre-issuance accrued interest and not as an amount payable on your note.

Notes Subject to Contingencies Including Optional Redemption. Your note is subject to a contingency if it provides for an alternative payment schedule or schedules applicable upon the occurrence of a contingency or contingencies, other than a remote or incidental contingency, whether such contingency relates to payments of interest or of principal. In such a case, you must determine the yield and maturity of your note by assuming that the payments will be made according to the payment schedule most likely to occur if:

the timing and amounts of the payments that comprise each payment schedule are known as of the issue date and

one of such schedules is significantly more likely than not to occur.

If there is no single payment schedule that is significantly more likely than not to occur, other than because of a mandatory sinking fund, you must include income on your note in accordance with the general rules that govern contingent payment obligations. These rules will be discussed in the applicable pricing supplement.

Notwithstanding the general rules for determining yield and maturity, if your note is subject to contingencies, and either you or we have an unconditional option or options that, if exercised, would require payments to be made on the note under an alternative payment schedule or

schedules, then:

in the case of an option or options that we may exercise, we will be deemed to exercise or not exercise an option or combination of options in the manner that minimizes the yield on your note and

in the case of an option or options that you may exercise, you will be deemed to exercise or not exercise an option or combination of options in the manner that maximizes the yield on your note.

If both you and we hold options described in the preceding sentence, those rules will apply to each option in the order in which they may be exercised. You may determine the yield on your note for the purposes of those calculations by using any date on which your note may be redeemed or repurchased as the maturity date and the amount payable on the date that you chose in accordance with the terms of your note as the principal amount payable at maturity.

Table of Contents

If a contingency, including the exercise of an option, actually occurs or does not occur contrary to an assumption made according to the above rules then, except to the extent that a portion of your note is repaid as a result of this change in circumstances and solely to determine the amount and accrual of OID, you must redetermine the yield and maturity of your note by treating your note as having been retired and reissued on the date of the change in circumstances for an amount equal to your note's adjusted issue price on that date.

Election to Treat All Interest as Original Issue Discount. You may elect to include in gross income all interest that accrues on your note using the constant-yield method described above under **General**, with the modifications described below. For purposes of this election, interest will include stated interest, OID, de minimis original issue discount, market discount, de minimis market discount and unstated interest, as adjusted by any amortizable bond premium, described below under **Notes Purchased at a Premium**, or acquisition premium.

If you make this election for your note, then, when you apply the constant-yield method:

the issue price of your note will equal your cost,

the issue date of your note will be the date you acquired it, and

no payments on your note will be treated as payments of qualified stated interest.

Generally, this election will apply only to the note for which you make it; however, if the note has amortizable bond premium, you will be deemed to have made an election to apply amortizable bond premium against interest for all debt instruments with amortizable bond premium, other than debt instruments the interest on which is excludible from gross income, that you hold as of the beginning of the taxable year to which the election applies or any taxable year thereafter. Additionally, if you make this election for a market discount note, you will be treated as having made the election discussed below under **Notes Purchased with Market Discount** to include market discount in income currently over the life of all debt instruments that you currently own or later acquire. You may not revoke any election to apply the constant-yield method to all interest on a note or the deemed elections with respect to amortizable bond premium or market discount notes without the consent of the Internal Revenue Service.

Variable Rate Notes. Your note will be a variable rate note if:

your note's issue price does not exceed the total noncontingent principal payments by more than the lesser of:

1. .015 multiplied by the product of the total noncontingent principal payments and the number of complete years to maturity from the issue date, or
2. 15 percent of the total noncontingent principal payments; and

your note provides for stated interest, compounded or paid at least annually, only at:

1. one or more qualified floating rates,

2. a single fixed rate and one or more qualified floating rates,
3. a single objective rate, or
4. a single fixed rate and a single objective rate that is a qualified inverse floating rate.

Your note will have a variable rate that is a qualified floating rate if:

variations in the value of the rate can reasonably be expected to measure contemporaneous variations in the cost of newly borrowed funds in the currency in which your note is denominated; or

the rate is equal to such a rate multiplied by either:

Table of Contents

1. a fixed multiple that is greater than 0.65 but not more than 1.35, or
2. a fixed multiple greater than 0.65 but not more than 1.35, increased or decreased by a fixed rate; and

the value of the rate on any date during the term of your note is set no earlier than three months prior to the first day on which that value is in effect and no later than one year following that first day.

If your note provides for two or more qualified floating rates that are within 0.25 percentage points of each other on the issue date or can reasonably be expected to have approximately the same values throughout the term of the note, the qualified floating rates together constitute a single qualified floating rate.

Your note will not have a qualified floating rate, however, if the rate is subject to certain restrictions (including caps, floors, governors, or other similar restrictions) unless such restrictions are fixed throughout the term of the note or are not reasonably expected to significantly affect the yield on the note.

Your note will have a variable rate that is a single objective rate if:

the rate is not a qualified floating rate,

the rate is determined using a single, fixed formula that is based on objective financial or economic information that is not within the control of or unique to the circumstances of the issuer or a related party, and

the value of the rate on any date during the term of your note is set no earlier than three months prior to the first day on which that value is in effect and no later than one year following that first day.

Your note will not have a variable rate that is an objective rate, however, if it is reasonably expected that the average value of the rate during the first half of your note's term will be either significantly less than or significantly greater than the average value of the rate during the final half of your note's term.

An objective rate as described above is a qualified inverse floating rate if:

the rate is equal to a fixed rate minus a qualified floating rate, and

the variations in the rate can reasonably be expected to inversely reflect contemporaneous variations in the cost of newly borrowed funds.

Your note will also have a single qualified floating rate or an objective rate if interest on your note is stated at a fixed rate for an initial period of one year or less followed by either a qualified floating rate or an objective rate for a subsequent period, and either:

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

the fixed rate and the qualified floating rate or objective rate have values on the issue date of the note that do not differ by more than 0.25 percentage points, or

the value of the qualified floating rate or objective rate is intended to approximate the fixed rate.

Commercial paper rate notes, prime rate notes, LIBOR notes, EURIBOR rate notes, treasury rate notes, CMT rate notes, CD rate notes, CPI rate notes, and federal funds rate notes generally will be treated as variable rate notes under these rules.

In general, if your variable rate note provides for stated interest at a single qualified floating rate or objective rate, or one of those rates after a single fixed rate for an initial period, all stated interest on your note is qualified stated interest. In this case, the amount of OID, if any, is determined by using, in the case of a qualified floating rate or qualified inverse floating rate, the value as of the issue date of the qualified floating

Table of Contents

rate or qualified inverse floating rate, or, for any other objective rate, a fixed rate that reflects the yield reasonably expected for your note.

If your variable rate note does not provide for stated interest at a single qualified floating rate or a single objective rate, and also does not provide for interest payable at a fixed rate other than a single fixed rate for an initial period, you generally must determine the interest and OID accruals on your note by:

determining a fixed rate substitute for each variable rate provided under your variable rate note,

constructing the equivalent fixed rate debt instrument, using the fixed rate substitute described above,

determining the amount of qualified stated interest and OID with respect to the equivalent fixed rate debt instrument, and

adjusting for actual variable rates during the applicable accrual period.

When you determine the fixed rate substitute for each variable rate provided under the variable rate note, you generally will use the value of each variable rate as of the issue date or, for an objective rate that is not a qualified inverse floating rate, a rate that reflects the reasonably expected yield on your note.

If your variable rate note provides for stated interest either at one or more qualified floating rates or at a qualified inverse floating rate, and also provides for stated interest at a single fixed rate other than at a single fixed rate for an initial period, you generally must determine interest and OID accruals by using the method described in the previous paragraph. However, your variable rate note will be treated, for purposes of the first three steps of the determination, as if your note had provided for a qualified floating rate, or a qualified inverse floating rate, rather than the fixed rate. The qualified floating rate, or qualified inverse floating rate, that replaces the fixed rate must be such that the fair market value of your variable rate note as of the issue date approximates the fair market value of an otherwise identical debt instrument that provides for the qualified floating rate, or qualified inverse floating rate, rather than the fixed rate.

Short-Term Notes. In general, if you are an individual or other cash basis United States holder of a short-term note, you are not required to accrue OID, as specially defined below for the purposes of this paragraph, for United States federal income tax purposes unless you elect to do so (although it is possible that you may be required to include any stated interest in income as you receive it). If you are an accrual basis taxpayer, a taxpayer in a special class, including, but not limited to, a regulated investment company, common trust fund, or a certain type of pass-through entity, or a cash basis taxpayer who so elects, you will be required to accrue OID on short-term notes on either a straight-line basis or under the constant-yield method, based on daily compounding. If you are not required and do not elect to include OID in income currently, any gain you realize on the sale or retirement of your short-term note will be ordinary income to the extent of the accrued OID, which will be determined on a straight-line basis unless you make an election to accrue the OID under the constant-yield method, through the date of sale or retirement. However, if you are not required and do not elect to accrue OID on your short-term notes, you will be required to defer deductions for interest on borrowings allocable to your short-term notes in an amount not exceeding the deferred income until the deferred income is realized.

When you determine the amount of OID subject to these rules, you must include all interest payments on your short-term note, including stated interest, in your short-term note's stated redemption price at maturity.

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

Foreign Currency Discount Notes. If your discount note is denominated in, or determined by reference to, a foreign currency, you must determine OID for any accrual period on your discount note in the foreign currency and then translate the amount of OID into U.S. dollars in the same manner as stated interest accrued by an accrual basis United States holder, as described under United States Holders Payments of

Table of Contents

Interest . You may recognize ordinary income or loss when you receive an amount attributable to OID in connection with a payment of interest or the sale or retirement of your note.

Notes Purchased at a Premium

If you purchase your note for an amount in excess of its principal amount, you may elect to treat the excess as amortizable bond premium. If you make this election, you will reduce the amount required to be included in your income each year with respect to interest on your note by the amount of amortizable bond premium allocable to that year, based on your note's yield to maturity. If your note is denominated in, or determined by reference to, a foreign currency, you will compute your amortizable bond premium in units of the foreign currency and your amortizable bond premium will reduce your interest income in units of the foreign currency. Gain or loss recognized that is attributable to changes in exchange rates between the time your amortized bond premium offsets interest income and the time of the acquisition of your note is generally taxable as ordinary income or loss. If you make an election to amortize bond premium, it will apply to all debt instruments, other than debt instruments the interest on which is excludible from gross income, that you hold at the beginning of the first taxable year to which the election applies or that you thereafter acquire, and you may not revoke it without the consent of the Internal Revenue Service. See also Original Issue Discount Election to Treat All Interest as Original Issue Discount .

Notes Purchased with Market Discount

You will be treated as if you purchased your note, other than a short-term note, at a market discount, and your note will be a market discount note if:

in the case of an initial purchaser, you purchase your note for less than its issue price as determined above under Original Issue Discount General , and

the difference between the note's stated redemption price at maturity or, in the case of a discount note, the note's revised issue price, and the price you paid for your note is equal to or greater than $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1 percent of your note's stated redemption price at maturity or revised issue price, respectively, multiplied by the number of complete years to the note's maturity.

To determine the revised issue price of your note for these purposes, you generally add any OID that has accrued on your note to its issue price.

If your note's stated redemption price at maturity or, in the case of a discount note, its revised issue price, exceeds the price you paid for the note by less than $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1 percent multiplied by the number of complete years to the note's maturity, the excess constitutes de minimis market discount, and the rules discussed below are not applicable to you.

You must treat any gain you recognize on the maturity or disposition of your market discount note as ordinary income to the extent of the accrued market discount on your note. Alternatively, you may elect to include market discount in income currently over the life of your note. If you make this election, it will apply to all debt instruments with market discount that you acquire on or after the first day of the first taxable year to which the election applies. You may not revoke this election without the consent of the Internal Revenue Service. If you own a market discount note and do not make this election, you will generally be required to defer deductions for interest on borrowings allocable to your note in an amount not exceeding the accrued market discount on your note until the maturity or disposition of your note.

You will accrue market discount on your market discount note on a straight-line basis unless you elect to accrue market discount using a constant-yield method. If you make this election, it will apply only to the note with respect to which it is made and you may not revoke it.

Table of Contents

Purchase, Sale and Retirement of the Notes

Your tax basis in your note will generally be the U.S. dollar cost, as defined below, of your note, adjusted by:

adding any OID or market discount, de minimis original issue discount and de minimis market discount previously included in income with respect to your note, and then

subtracting any payments on your note that are not qualified stated interest payments and any amortizable bond premium applied to reduce interest on your note.

If you purchase your note with foreign currency, the U.S. dollar cost of your note will generally be the U.S. dollar value of the purchase price on the date of purchase. However, if you are a cash basis taxpayer, or an accrual basis taxpayer if you so elect, and your note is traded on an established securities market, as defined in the applicable Treasury regulations, the U.S. dollar cost of your note will be the U.S. dollar value of the purchase price on the settlement date of your purchase.

You will generally recognize gain or loss on the sale or retirement of your note equal to the difference between the amount you realize on the sale or retirement and your tax basis in your note. If your note is sold or retired for an amount in foreign currency, the amount you realize will be the U.S. dollar value of such amount on the date the note is disposed of or retired, except that in the case of a note that is traded on an established securities market, as defined in the applicable Treasury regulations, a cash basis taxpayer, or an accrual basis taxpayer that so elects, will determine the amount realized based on the U.S. dollar value of the foreign currency on the settlement date of the sale.

You will recognize capital gain or loss when you sell or retire your note, except to the extent:

described above under Original Issue Discount Short-Term Notes or Notes Purchased with Market Discount ,

attributable to accrued but unpaid interest,

the rules governing contingent payment obligations apply, or

attributable to changes in exchange rates as described below.

Capital gain of a noncorporate United States holder that is recognized before January 1, 2009 is generally taxed at a maximum rate of 15% where the holder has a holding period greater than one year.

You must treat any portion of the gain or loss that you recognize on the sale or retirement of a note as ordinary income or loss to the extent attributable to changes in exchange rates. However, you take exchange gain or loss into account only to the extent of the total gain or loss you realize on the transaction.

Exchange of Amounts in Other Than U.S. Dollars

If you receive foreign currency as interest on your note or on the sale or retirement of your note, your tax basis in the foreign currency will equal its U.S. dollar value when the interest is received or at the time of the sale or retirement. If you purchase foreign currency, you generally will have a tax basis equal to the U.S. dollar value of the foreign currency on the date of your purchase. If you sell or dispose of a foreign currency, including if you use it to purchase notes or exchange it for U.S. dollars, any gain or loss recognized generally will be ordinary income or loss.

Table of Contents

Indexed Notes, Exchangeable Notes, and Contingent Payment Notes

The applicable pricing supplement will discuss any special United States federal income tax rules with respect to notes the payments on which are determined by reference to any index, notes that are exchangeable at our option or the option of the holder into securities of an issuer other than Wachovia or into other property, and other notes that are subject to the rules governing contingent payment obligations which are not subject to the rules governing variable rate notes.

United States Alien Holders

This subsection describes the tax consequences to a United States alien holder. You are a United States alien holder if you are the beneficial owner of a note and are, for United States federal income tax purposes:

a nonresident alien individual,

a foreign corporation, or

an estate or trust that in either case is not subject to United States federal income tax on a net income basis on income or gain from a note.

If you are a United States holder, this subsection does not apply to you.

This discussion assumes that the note is not subject to the rules of Section 871(h)(4)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code, relating to interest payments that are determined by reference to the income, profits, changes in the value of property or other attributes of the debtor or a related party.

Under United States federal income and estate tax law, and subject to the discussion of backup withholding below, if you are a United States alien holder of a note:

we and other U.S. payors generally will not be required to deduct United States withholding tax from payments of principal, premium, if any, and interest, including OID, to you if, in the case of payments of interest:

1. you do not actually or constructively own 10% or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock of the Company entitled to vote,
2. you are not a controlled foreign corporation that is related to the Company through stock ownership, and

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

3. the U.S. payor does not have actual knowledge or reason to know that you are a United States person and:
 - a. you have furnished to the U.S. payor an Internal Revenue Service Form W-8BEN or an acceptable substitute form upon which you certify, under penalties of perjury, that you are (or, in the case of a United States alien holder that is a partnership or an estate or trust, such forms certifying that each partner in the partnership or beneficiary of the estate or trust is) a non-United States person,
 - b. in the case of payments made outside the United States to you at an offshore account (generally, an account maintained by you at a bank or other financial institution at any location outside the United States), you have furnished to the U.S. payor documentation that establishes your identity and your status as a non-United States person,
 - c. the U.S. payor has received a withholding certificate (furnished on an appropriate Internal Revenue Service Form W-8 or an acceptable substitute form) from a person claiming to be:

Table of Contents

- i. a withholding foreign partnership (generally a foreign partnership that has entered into an agreement with the Internal Revenue Service to assume primary withholding responsibility with respect to distributions and guaranteed payments it makes to its partners),
- ii. a qualified intermediary (generally a non-United States financial institution or clearing organization or a non-United States branch or office of a United States financial institution or clearing organization that is a party to a withholding agreement with the Internal Revenue Service), or
- iii. a U.S. branch of a non-United States bank or of a non-United States insurance company,

and the withholding foreign partnership, qualified intermediary or U.S. branch has received documentation upon which it may rely to treat the payment as made to a non-United States person that is, for United States federal income tax purposes, the beneficial owner of the payment on the notes in accordance with U.S. Treasury regulations (or, in the case of a qualified intermediary, in accordance with its agreement with the Internal Revenue Service),

- d. the U.S. payor receives a statement from a securities clearing organization, bank or other financial institution that holds customers' securities in the ordinary course of its trade or business,
 - i. certifying to the U.S. payor under penalties of perjury that an Internal Revenue Service Form W-8BEN or an acceptable substitute form has been received from you by it or by a similar financial institution between it and you, and
 - ii. to which is attached a copy of the Internal Revenue Service Form W-8BEN or acceptable substitute form, or
- e. the U.S. payor otherwise possesses documentation upon which it may rely to treat the payment as made to a non-United States person that is, for United States federal income tax purposes, the beneficial owner of the payment on the notes in accordance with U.S. Treasury regulations; and

no deduction for any United States federal withholding tax will be made from any gain that you realize on the sale or exchange of your note.

Further, a note held by an individual who at death is not a citizen or resident of the United States will not be includible in the individual's gross estate for United States federal estate tax purposes if:

the decedent did not actually or constructively own 10% or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock of the Company entitled to vote at the time of death and

the income on the note would not have been effectively connected with a United States trade or business of the decedent at the same time.

Treasury Regulations Requiring Disclosure of Reportable Transactions

Recently-promulgated Treasury regulations require United States taxpayers to report certain transactions that give rise to a loss in excess of certain thresholds (a Reportable Transaction). Under these regulations, if the notes are denominated in a foreign currency, a United States holder (or a United States alien holder that holds the notes in connection with a U.S. trade or business) that recognizes a loss with respect to the notes that is characterized as an ordinary loss due to changes in currency exchange rates (under any of the rules discussed above) would be required to report the loss on Internal Revenue Service Form 8886

Table of Contents

(Reportable Transaction Statement) if the loss exceeds the thresholds set forth in the regulations. For individuals and trusts, this loss threshold is \$50,000 in any single taxable year. For other types of taxpayers and other types of losses, the thresholds are higher. You should consult with your tax advisor regarding any tax filing and reporting obligations that may apply in connection with acquiring, owning and disposing of notes.

Backup Withholding And Information Reporting

In general, if you are a noncorporate United States holder, we and other payors are required to report to the Internal Revenue Service all payments of principal, any premium and interest on your note, and the accrual of OID on a discount note. In addition, we and other payors are required to report to the Internal Revenue Service any payment of proceeds of the sale of your note before maturity within the United States. Additionally, backup withholding will apply to any payments, including payments of OID, if you fail to provide an accurate taxpayer identification number, or you are notified by the Internal Revenue Service that you have failed to report all interest and dividends required to be shown on your federal income tax returns.

In general, if you are a United States alien holder, payments of principal, premium or interest, including OID, made by us and other payors to you will not be subject to backup withholding and information reporting, provided that the certification requirements described above under **United States Alien Holders** are satisfied or you otherwise establish an exemption. However, we and other payors are required to report payments of interest on your notes on Internal Revenue Service Form 1042-S even if the payments are not otherwise subject to information reporting requirements. In addition, payment of the proceeds from the sale of notes effected at a United States office of a broker will not be subject to backup withholding and information reporting provided that:

the broker does not have actual knowledge or reason to know that you are a United States person and you have furnished to the broker:

an appropriate Internal Revenue Service Form W-8 or an acceptable substitute form upon which you certify, under penalties of perjury, that you are not a United States person, or

other documentation upon which it may rely to treat the payment as made to a non-United States person in accordance with U.S. Treasury regulations, or

you otherwise establish an exemption.

If you fail to establish an exemption and the broker does not possess adequate documentation of your status as a non-United States person, the payments may be subject to information reporting and backup withholding. However, backup withholding will not apply with respect to payments made to an offshore account maintained by you unless the broker has actual knowledge that you are a United States person.

In general, payment of the proceeds from the sale of notes effected at a foreign office of a broker will not be subject to information reporting or backup withholding. However, a sale effected at a foreign office of a broker will be subject to information reporting and backup withholding if:

the proceeds are transferred to an account maintained by you in the United States,

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

the payment of proceeds or the confirmation of the sale is mailed to you at a United States address, or

the sale has some other specified connection with the United States as provided in U.S. Treasury regulations,

unless the broker does not have actual knowledge or reason to know that you are a United States person and the documentation requirements described above (relating to a sale of notes effected at a United States office of a broker) are met or you otherwise establish an exemption.

Table of Contents

In addition, payment of the proceeds from the sale of notes effected at a foreign office of a broker will be subject to information reporting if the broker is:

a United States person,

a controlled foreign corporation for United States tax purposes,

a foreign person 50% or more of whose gross income is effectively connected with the conduct of a United States trade or business for a specified three-year period, or

a foreign partnership, if at any time during its tax year:

one or more of its partners are U.S. persons, as defined in U.S. Treasury regulations, who in the aggregate hold more than 50% of the income or capital interest in the partnership, or

such foreign partnership is engaged in the conduct of a United States trade or business,

unless the broker does not have actual knowledge or reason to know that you are a United States person and the documentation requirements described above (relating to a sale of notes effected at a United States office of a broker) are met or you otherwise establish an exemption. Backup withholding will apply if the sale is subject to information reporting and the broker has actual knowledge that you are a United States person.

Table of Contents

EUROPEAN UNION DIRECTIVE ON TAXATION OF SAVINGS INCOME

On June 3, 2003, the Council of the European Union (Ecofin) approved a directive regarding the taxation of, and information exchange among member states of the European Union (EU Member States) with respect to, interest income. Accordingly, each EU Member State is required to implement provisions that will require paying agents (within the meaning of the directive) established within its territory to provide to the competent authority of this state information about the payment of interest made to any individual resident in another EU Member State as the beneficial owner of the interest. The competent authority of the EU Member State of the paying agent (within the meaning of the directive) is then required to communicate this information to the competent authority of the EU Member State of which the beneficial owner of the interest is a resident.

For a transitional period, however, and until a number of conditions are met, Austria, Belgium and Luxembourg may opt instead to withhold tax from interest payments within the meaning of the directive at a rate of 15% for the first three years from application of the provisions of the directive, of 20% for the subsequent three years, and of 35% from the seventh year after application of the provisions of the directive. Austria, Belgium and Luxembourg shall, however, provide for one or both of the procedures set forth in article 13 of the directive order to ensure that the beneficial owners may request that no tax be withheld.

The Council of the European Union agreed that the provisions to be enacted by the EU Member States for implementation of the directive shall be applied by the EU Member States as from July 1, 2005 provided that (i) Switzerland, Liechtenstein, San Marino, Monaco and Andorra apply from that same date measures equivalent to those contained in the directive, in accordance with agreements entered into by them with the European Community and (ii) also all the relevant dependent or associated territories (the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man and the dependent or associated territories in the Caribbean) apply from that same date an automatic exchange of information or, during the transitional period described above, apply a withholding tax in the described manner.

EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT

A fiduciary of a pension, profit-sharing or other employee benefit plan subject to the Employment Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (ERISA), should consider the fiduciary standards of ERISA in the context of the plan's particular circumstances before authorizing an investment in the notes. Among other factors, the fiduciary should consider whether the investment would satisfy the prudence and diversification requirements of ERISA and would be consistent with the documents and instruments governing the plan.

Section 406 of ERISA and Section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code prohibit an employee benefit plan, as well as individual retirement accounts and Keogh plans subject to Section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code, from engaging in certain transactions involving plan assets with persons who are parties in interest under ERISA or disqualified persons under the Internal Revenue Code with respect to the plan. A violation of these prohibited transaction rules may result in excise tax or other liabilities under ERISA and Section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code for such persons, unless exemptive relief is available under an applicable statutory or administrative exemption. Therefore, a fiduciary of an employee benefit plan should also consider whether an investment in the notes might constitute or give rise to a prohibited transaction under ERISA and the Internal Revenue Code. Employee benefit plans which are governmental plans (as defined in Section 3(32) of ERISA), certain church plans (as defined in Section 3(33) of ERISA), and foreign plans (as described in Section 4(b)(4) of ERISA) generally are not subject to the requirements of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Wachovia and certain of its affiliates may each be considered a party in interest or disqualified person with respect to many employee benefit plans. This could be the case, for example, if one of these companies is a service provider to a plan. Special caution should be exercised,

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

therefore, before notes are purchased by an employee benefit plan. In particular, the fiduciary of the plan should consider whether exemptive relief is available under an applicable administrative exemption. The Department of Labor has issued five prohibited

Table of Contents

transaction class exemptions that could apply to exempt the purchase, sale and holding of notes from the prohibited transaction provisions of ERISA and the Internal Revenue Code. Those class exemptions are Prohibited Transaction Exemption 96-23 (for transactions determined by in-house asset managers), Prohibited Transaction Exemption 95-60 (for certain transactions involving insurance company general accounts), Prohibited Transaction Exemption 91-38 (for certain transactions involving bank investment funds), Prohibited Transaction Exemption 90-1 (for certain transactions involving insurance company separate accounts), and Prohibited Transaction Exemption 84-14 (for certain transactions determined by independent qualified asset managers).

Due to the complexity of these rules and the penalties that may be imposed upon persons involved in non-exempt prohibited transactions, it is particularly important that fiduciaries or other persons considering the purchase of notes on behalf of or with plan assets of any employee benefit plan consult with their counsel regarding the consequences under ERISA and the Internal Revenue Code of the acquisition of the notes and the availability of exemptive relief under Prohibited Transaction Exemption 96-23, 95-60, 91-38, 90-1 or 84-14.

Table of Contents

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

Unless otherwise indicated in any pricing supplement, the U.S. distribution agents shall be Wachovia Capital Markets, LLC, an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of Wachovia; ABN AMRO Incorporated; Barclays Capital Inc.; Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc.; Blaylock & Partners, L.P.; Citigroup Global Markets Inc.; Credit Suisse First Boston LLC; Goldman, Sachs & Co.; Greenwich Capital Markets, Inc.; Guzman & Company; J.P. Morgan Securities Inc.; Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, Inc.; Lehman Brothers Inc.; Loop Capital Markets, LLC; Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Inc.; Samuel A. Ramirez & Co. Inc.; Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P.; UBS Securities LLC; Utendahl Capital Partners, L.P.; The Williams Capital Group, L.P.; and the European distribution agents shall be Wachovia Securities International Limited, an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of Wachovia; Barclays Bank PLC; Bear, Stearns International Limited; Citigroup Global Markets Limited; Credit Suisse First Boston (Europe) Limited; Goldman Sachs International; Guzman & Company; J.P. Morgan Securities Ltd.; Lehman Brothers International (Europe); Merrill Lynch International; UBS AG, acting through its business group UBS Securities and Utendahl Capital Partners, L.P. Under the terms of a Distribution Agreement among Wachovia and these agents, Wachovia may sell notes to an agent, acting as principal, for resale to one or more investors or other purchasers at varying prices related to prevailing market prices at the time of resale, as determined by any of these agents or, if so agreed, at a fixed offering price. A form of Distribution Agreement has been filed as an exhibit to the registration statement for this prospectus. Unless otherwise indicated in the relevant pricing supplement, any note sold to an agent as principal will be purchased by that agent at a price equal to 100% of the principal amount of that note, less a percentage not exceeding the maximum commission applicable to any agency sale of a note of identical maturity, and, subject to the restriction noted in the following sentence, may be resold by that Agent to investors and other purchasers. An agent may offer the notes it has purchased as principal to other brokers or dealers at a discount and, unless otherwise indicated in any pricing supplement, the discount allowed to any broker or dealer will not exceed the discount to be received by that agent from Wachovia. After the initial public offering of notes, the public offering price (in the case of notes to be resold on a fixed public offering price basis), the concession and the discount may be changed.

Wachovia may also offer the notes on a continuing basis through the agents, which have agreed to use their reasonable efforts to solicit offers to purchase the notes, on an agency basis. When Wachovia has sold notes through an agent on an agency basis, it will pay that agent a commission (or grant a discount) as agreed by Wachovia and that agent of from 0.125% to 8% of the principal amount of each note sold through that agent. Any agent will have the right, in its discretion reasonably exercised, without notice to Wachovia, to reject any offer to purchase notes received by it in whole or in part.

Unless otherwise mentioned in the relevant pricing supplement, the obligations of any agents to purchase the notes will be subject to certain conditions precedent, and each of the agents with respect to a sale of notes will be obligated to purchase all of its notes if any are purchased.

Wachovia has reserved the right to sell notes directly to investors on its own behalf in those jurisdictions where it is authorized to do so. No selling commission will be payable nor will a selling discount be allowed on any sales made directly by Wachovia.

Wachovia has reserved the right to withdraw, cancel or modify the offer made by this prospectus without notice and may reject orders in whole or in part whether placed directly with Wachovia or with an agent. No termination date has been established for the offering of the notes.

The notes are a new issue of securities with no established trading market. Wachovia has been advised by the agents that they intend to make a market in the notes but are not obligated to do so and may discontinue market-making at any time without notice. The agents may from time to time purchase and sell notes in the secondary market, but no agent is obligated to do so. We can give no assurance that the notes offered by this prospectus will be sold or that there will be a secondary market for the notes (or liquidity in such secondary market, if one develops).

Table of Contents

We have applied to list on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange any notes issued under this prospectus during the twelve-month period after the date of this prospectus. We may also list any notes on any additional securities exchanges on which we and the agents agree in relation to each issuance. We may also issue unlisted notes.

Unless otherwise indicated in any pricing supplement, payment of the purchase price of notes, other than notes denominated in a non-U.S. dollar currency, will be required to be made in funds immediately available in The City of New York. The notes will be in the Same Day Funds Settlement System at DTC and, to the extent the secondary market trading in the notes is effected through the facilities of such depository, such trades will be settled in immediately available funds. See "Global Notes" above.

In facilitating the sale of notes, agents may receive compensation from Wachovia or from purchasers of notes for whom they may act as agents in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions. Agents may sell notes to or through brokers or dealers, and these brokers and dealers may receive compensation in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions from the agents and/or commissions from the purchasers for whom they may act as agents. Agents, brokers and dealers that participate in the distribution of notes may be considered "underwriters", and any discounts or commissions received by them from Wachovia and any profit on the resale of notes by them may be considered underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act. Any such agent will be identified, and any such compensation received from Wachovia will be described, in the pricing supplement relating to those notes. Wachovia has agreed to indemnify the agents against and contribute toward certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act. Wachovia has also agreed to reimburse the agents for certain expenses.

If Wachovia offers and sells notes directly to a purchaser or purchasers in respect of which this prospectus is delivered, purchasers involved in the reoffer or resale of such notes, if these purchasers may be considered underwriters as that term is defined in the Securities Act, will be named and the terms of their reoffers or resales will be mentioned in the relevant pricing supplement. These purchasers may then reoffer and resell such notes to the public or otherwise at varying prices to be determined by such purchasers at the time of resale or as otherwise described in the relevant pricing supplement. Purchasers of notes directly from Wachovia may be entitled under agreements that they may enter into with Wachovia to indemnification by Wachovia against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, and may engage in transactions with or perform services for Wachovia in the ordinary course of their business or otherwise.

The agents may engage in over-allotment, stabilizing transactions, syndicate covering transactions and penalty bids in accordance with Regulation M under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Over-allotment involves syndicate sales in excess of the offering size, which creates a syndicate short position. Stabilizing transactions permit bids to purchase the underlying security so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum. Syndicate covering transactions involve purchases of the notes in the open market after the distribution has been completed in order to cover syndicate short positions. Penalty bids permit reclaiming a selling concession from a syndicate member when the notes originally sold by such syndicate member are purchased in a syndicate covering transaction to cover syndicate short positions. Such stabilizing transactions, syndicate covering transactions and penalty bids may stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the market price of the notes, which may be higher than it would otherwise be in the absence of such transactions. The agents are not required to engage in these activities, and may end any of these activities at any time.

The participation of Wachovia Capital Markets, LLC or any other broker-dealer affiliate of Wachovia in the offer and sale of the notes must comply with the requirements of Rule 2720 of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. regarding underwriting securities of an affiliate. Neither Wachovia Capital Markets, LLC nor any other broker-dealer affiliate of Wachovia will execute a transaction in the notes in a discretionary account without the prior specific written approval of such member's customer.

This prospectus and the related pricing supplements may be used by Wachovia Capital Markets, LLC or other broker-dealer affiliates of Wachovia for offers and sales related to market-making transactions in the

Table of Contents

securities. Wachovia Capital Markets, LLC and other broker-dealer affiliates of Wachovia may act as principal or agent in these transactions. These sales will be made at prices related to prevailing market prices at the time of sale or otherwise.

From time to time the agents engage in transactions with Wachovia in the ordinary course of business. The agents or their affiliates may have performed investment banking services for Wachovia in the last two years and may have received fees for these services and may do so in the future. The agents and/or their affiliates may be customers of (including borrowers from), engage in transactions with, and/or perform services for the senior trustee and the subordinated trustee, in the ordinary course of business.

In addition to offering notes through the agents as discussed above, other medium-term notes that have terms substantially similar to the terms of the notes offered by this prospectus (but constituting one or more separate series of notes for purposes of the indentures) may in the future be offered, concurrently with the offering of the notes, on a continuing basis by Wachovia pursuant to the Distribution Agreement and directly to investors. Any of these notes sold pursuant to the Distribution Agreement or sold by Wachovia directly to investors will reduce the aggregate amount of notes which may be offered by this prospectus.

Selling Restrictions Outside the United States

Wachovia has taken no action that would permit a public offering of the notes or possession or distribution of this prospectus or any other offering material in any jurisdiction outside the United States where action for that purpose is required other than as described below. Accordingly, each agent has represented, warranted and agreed, and each other agent will be required to represent, warrant and agree, that it will comply with all applicable laws and regulations in force in any jurisdiction in which it purchases, offers or sells notes or possesses or distributes this prospectus or any other offering material and will obtain any consent, approval or permission required by it for the purchase, offer or sale by it of notes under the laws and regulations in force in any jurisdiction to which it is subject or in which it makes such purchases, offers or sales and Wachovia shall have no responsibility in relation to this.

With regard to each note, the relevant purchaser will be required to comply with those restrictions that Wachovia and the relevant purchaser shall agree and as shall be set out in the relevant pricing supplement.

European Economic Area

In relation to each Member State of the European Economic Area which has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a Relevant Member State), each agent has represented and agreed, and each other agent will be required to represent and agree, that with effect from and including the date on which the EU Prospectus Directive is implemented in that Member State (the Relevant Implementation Date) it has not made and will not make an offer of the notes to the public in that Relevant Member State, except that it may, with effect from and including the Relevant Implementation Date, make an offer of the notes to the public in that Relevant Member State:

in the period beginning on the date of publication of this prospectus which has been approved by the competent authority in that Relevant Member State in accordance with the EU Prospectus Directive or, where appropriate, published in another Member State and notified to the competent authority in that Relevant Member State in accordance with Article 18 of the EU Prospectus Directive and ending on the date which is twelve months after the date of such publication;

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

at any time to legal entities which are authorized or regulated to operate in the financial markets or, if not so authorized or regulated, whose corporate purpose is solely to invest in securities;

at any time to any legal entity which has two or more of (1) an average of at least 250 employees during the last financial year; (2) a total balance sheet of more than €43,000,000 and (3) an annual turnover of more than €50,000,000, as shown in its last annual or consolidated accounts; or

at any time in any other circumstances which do not require the publication by Wachovia of a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the EU Prospectus Directive.

Table of Contents

For the purposes of the above, the expression of an offer of the notes to the public in relation to the notes in any Relevant Member State means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the notes to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe the notes, as the same may be varied in that Member State by any measure implementing the EU Prospectus Directive in that Member State and the expression of the EU Prospectus Directive means Directive 2003/71/EC and includes any relevant implementing measure in each Relevant Member State.

United Kingdom

Each agent has represented and agreed, and each other agent will be required to represent and agree, that:

with respect to notes which have a maturity of one year or more, during the period up to but excluding the date on which the EU Prospectus Directive is implemented in the United Kingdom (the Implementation Date), it has not offered or sold and will not offer or sell any such notes to persons in the United Kingdom prior to the expiring of a period of six months from the issue date of such notes except to persons whose ordinary activities involve them in acquiring, holding, managing or disposing of investments (as principal or agent) for the purposes of their businesses or otherwise in circumstances which have not resulted and will not result in an offer to the public in the United Kingdom within the meaning of the Public Offers of Securities Regulations 1995 (as amended);

with respect to notes which have a maturity of less than one year, (a) it is a person whose ordinary activities involve it in acquiring, holding, managing or disposing of investments (as principal or as agent) for the purposes of its business and (b) it has not offered or sold and will not offer or sell any notes other than to persons whose ordinary activities involve them in acquiring, holding, managing or disposing of investments (as principal or agent) for the purposes of their businesses or who it is reasonable to expect will acquire, hold, manage or dispose of investments (as principal or agent) for the purposes of their businesses where the issue of the notes would otherwise constitute a contravention of Section 19 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (the FSMA) by Wachovia;

it has only communicated or caused to be communicated and will only communicate or cause to be communicated any invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of Section 21 of the FSMA) received by it in connection with the issue or sale of any notes in circumstances in which Section 21(1) of the FSMA does not apply to Wachovia; and

it has complied and will comply with all applicable provisions of the FSMA with respect to anything done by it in relation to such notes in, from or otherwise involving the United Kingdom.

Japan

The notes have not been, and will not be, registered under the Securities and Exchange Law of Japan. Accordingly, each distribution agent has represented and agreed, and each other distribution agent or dealer will be required to represent and agree, that, in connection with the notes, it has not, directly or indirectly, offered, sold or delivered and will not, directly or indirectly, offer, sell or deliver any notes in Japan or to residents of Japan or for the benefit of any Japanese person (which term as used herein means any person resident in Japan including any corporation or other entity organized under the laws of Japan) or to others for re-offering, resale or delivery, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to, or for the benefit of, any resident of Japan or to any Japanese person except in compliance with any applicable laws and regulations of Japan taken as a whole. Each distribution agent agrees to provide any necessary information on notes denominated or payable in Yen to Wachovia (which shall not include the names of clients) so that Wachovia may make any required reports to the Ministry of Finance through its designated agent.

Table of Contents

In connection with an issuance of notes denominated or payable in Yen, Wachovia will be required to comply with all applicable laws, regulations and guidelines, as amended from time to time, of the Japanese government and regulatory authorities.

Germany

No selling prospectus (*Verkausprospekt*) within the meaning of the German Securities Prospectus Act (*Wertpapier-Verkaufprospektgesetz*) of December 13, 1990 (as amended) has been and will be registered or published within the Federal Republic of Germany. The notes have not been offered or sold and will not be offered or sold in the Federal Republic of Germany otherwise than in accordance with the provisions of the Securities Prospectus Act.

France

This prospectus has not been submitted to the French *Commission des opérations de bourse* for approval and the notes have not and will not be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, to the public in France. Accordingly, each distribution agent has agreed that it will only offer notes in France to qualified investors, as defined under Article 6 of French Ordinance No. 67-833 dated September 28, 1967 (as amended); provided, in this case, that it shall have obtained a certificate from the investor providing an acknowledgement that: (i) the offering is a private placement in France and no prospectus has been submitted to the *Commission des opérations de bourse*, (ii) the investor is an *investisseur qualifié* within the meaning of Article 6 of French Ordinance No. 67-833 dated September 28, 1967 (as amended), (iii) the investor is investing for his own account, and (iv) the investor will not resell the notes in violation of French securities laws and regulations.

Switzerland

Each agent has represented and agreed, and each other agent will be required to represent and agree, that the issue of any notes denominated in Swiss francs or carrying a Swiss franc-related element will be effected in compliance with the relevant regulations of the Swiss National Bank, which currently require that such issues have a maturity of more than one year, to be effected through a bank domiciled in Switzerland that is regulated under the Swiss Federal Law on Banks and Savings Banks of 1934 (as amended) (which includes a branch or subsidiary located in Switzerland of a foreign bank) or through a securities dealer which has been licensed as a securities dealer under the Swiss Federal Law on Stock Exchanges and Securities Trading of 1995 (except for issues of notes denominated in Swiss francs on a syndicated basis, where only the lead manager need be a bank domiciled in Switzerland). The relevant agent must report certain details of the relevant transaction to the Swiss National Bank no later than the time of delivery of the notes.

The Netherlands

Each agent represented and agreed, and each other agent will be required to represent and agree, that it has not, directly or indirectly, offered or sold and will not, directly or indirectly, offer or sell in The Netherlands any notes with a denomination of less than 50,000 (or its foreign currency equivalent) other than to persons who trade or invest in securities in the conduct of a profession or business (which includes banks, stockbrokers, insurance companies, pension funds, other institutional investors and finance companies and treasury departments of large enterprises) unless one of the other exemptions or exceptions to the prohibition contained in Article 3 of the Dutch Securities Transactions Supervision Act 1995 (*Wet toezicht effectenverkeer* 1995) is applicable and the conditions attached to such exemption or exception are complied with.

Table of Contents

VALIDITY OF THE NOTES

The validity of the notes will be passed upon for Wachovia by Ross E. Jeffries, Jr., Esq., Senior Vice President and Assistant General Counsel of Wachovia, and for the agents by Sullivan & Cromwell LLP, 125 Broad Street, New York, New York. Sullivan & Cromwell LLP will rely upon the opinion of Mr. Jeffries as to matters of North Carolina law, and Mr. Jeffries will rely upon the opinion of Sullivan & Cromwell LLP as to matters of New York law. The opinions of Mr. Jeffries and Sullivan & Cromwell LLP will be conditioned upon, and subject to certain assumptions regarding, future action to be taken by Wachovia and the trustees in connection with the issuance and sale of any particular note, the specific terms of notes and other matters which may affect the validity of notes but which cannot be ascertained on the date of such opinions. Mr. Jeffries owns shares of Wachovia's common stock and holds options to purchase additional shares of Wachovia's common stock. Sullivan & Cromwell LLP regularly performs legal services for Wachovia. Certain members of Sullivan & Cromwell LLP performing these legal services own shares of Wachovia's common stock.

Table of Contents

EXPERTS

The consolidated balance sheets of Wachovia Corporation as of December 31, 2004 and 2003, and the related consolidated statements of income, changes in stockholders' equity and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2004, and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2004, included in Wachovia's 2004 Annual Report to Stockholders which is incorporated by reference in Wachovia's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2004, and incorporated by reference in this prospectus, have been incorporated by reference in this prospectus in reliance upon the reports of KPMG LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

LISTING AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Listing and Documents Available

Application has been made to list the notes offered by this prospectus on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange. The Luxembourg Stock Exchange has allocated to the program the number 12695 for listing purposes. The Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation and the By-Laws of Wachovia and a legal notice relating to the issuance of the notes will be deposited prior to listing with the Registrar of the District Court in Luxembourg (*Greffier en Chef du Tribunal d'Arrondissement de et à Luxembourg*), where such documents may be examined and copies obtained upon request. Copies of the above documents together with this prospectus, any pricing supplements, the Distribution Agreement, the indentures and Wachovia's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2004 as well as all other documents incorporated by reference herein (other than exhibits to such documents, unless such exhibits are incorporated by reference therein) including future Annual Reports on Form 10-K and Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, so long as the notes are listed on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, will be made available for inspection, and may be obtained free of charge, at the main office of the Luxembourg listing agent. The Luxembourg listing agent will act as a contact between the Luxembourg Stock Exchange and Wachovia or the holders of the notes. We have appointed Dexia Banque Internationale à Luxembourg as the Luxembourg listing agent for the notes.

However, notes may be issued under the program which will not be listed on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange or which will be listed on any other securities exchange as Wachovia and the relevant agent(s) may agree.

Authorization

The program has been established and the notes will be issued pursuant to authority granted by the Board of Directors of Wachovia on December 14, 2004 as such authority may be supplemented from time to time.

Material Change

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

As of the date of this prospectus, other than as disclosed or contemplated herein or in the documents incorporated by reference, to the best of Wachovia's knowledge and belief, there has been no material adverse change in the financial position of Wachovia on a consolidated basis since December 31, 2004. See "Where You Can Find More Information" above.

Table of Contents

Litigation

As of the date of this prospectus, other than as disclosed or contemplated herein or in the documents incorporated by reference, to the best of Wachovia's knowledge and belief, Wachovia is not a party to any legal or arbitration proceedings (including any that are pending or threatened) which may have, or have had, since December 31, 2004, a significant effect on Wachovia's consolidated financial position or that are material in the context of the program or the issue of the notes which could jeopardize Wachovia's ability to discharge its obligation under the program or of the notes issued under the program.

Clearance Systems

The notes have been accepted for clearance through the DTC, Euroclear and Clearstream systems. The appropriate CUSIP, Common Code and ISIN for each tranche of notes to be held through any of these systems will be contained in the relevant pricing supplement.

Agents

The United States Registrar and Domestic Paying Agent for the notes will be initially Wachovia Bank, National Association, located at its corporate trust office at 12 East 49th Street, 37th Floor, New York, New York 10017, Attn: Corporate Trust, or at its headquarters at One Wachovia Center, Charlotte, North Carolina, 28288-0600, United States of America.

The London Paying Agent and London Issuing Agent for the notes will be initially Citibank, N.A., located at P.O. Box 18055, 5 Carmelite Street, London, EC4Y 0PA.

The Luxembourg Paying Agent and Transfer Agent for the notes will be initially Dexia Banque Internationale à Luxembourg located at 69, route d'Esch, L-2953 Luxembourg.

The Listing Agent for the notes will be initially Dexia Banque Internationale à Luxembourg located at 69, route d'Esch, L-2953 Luxembourg.

Table of Contents

ISSUER

Wachovia Corporation

One Wachovia Center

Charlotte, North Carolina 28288-0013

United States of America

UNITED STATES

DISTRIBUTION AGENTS

Wachovia Securities

ABN AMRO

Barclays Capital

Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc.

Blaylock & Company

Citigroup

Credit Suisse First Boston

Goldman, Sachs & Co.

Greenwich Capital Markets

Guzman & Company

JPMorgan

Keefe, Bruyette & Woods

Lehman Brothers

Loop Capital Markets

Merrill Lynch & Co.

Samuel A. Ramirez & Co.

Sandler O'Neill & Partners

UBS Investment Bank

**EUROPEAN
DISTRIBUTION AGENTS**

Wachovia Securities International Limited

Barclays Capital

Bear, Stearns International Limited

Citigroup

Credit Suisse First Boston

Goldman Sachs International

Guzman & Company

J.P. Morgan Securities Ltd.

Lehman Brothers

Merrill Lynch International

UBS Investment Bank

Utendahl Capital Partners, L.P.

Edgar Filing: ARC Group Worldwide, Inc. - Form 10-K

Utendahl Capital Partners, L.P.

The Williams Capital Group

UNITED STATES REGISTRAR AND

DOMESTIC PAYING AGENT

**Wachovia Bank,
National Association**

One Wachovia Center

Charlotte, North Carolina 28288-0600

United States of America

LONDON PAYING AGENT

AND LONDON ISSUING AGENT

Citibank, N.A.

P.O. Box 18055

5 Carmelite Street,

London EC4Y 0PA

LUXEMBOURG PAYING AGENT,

LISTING AGENT

AND TRANSFER AGENT

Dexia Banque Internationale à Luxembourg

69, route d Esch

L-2953 Luxembourg

LEGAL ADVISORS

To the Issuer

As to United States Law:

Ross E. Jeffries, Jr., Esq.

Senior Vice President and

Assistant General Counsel

Wachovia Corporation

One Wachovia Center

Charlotte, North Carolina 28288-0630

United States of America

To the Distribution Agents

As to United States Law:

Sullivan & Cromwell LLP

125 Broad Street

New York, New York 10004

United States of America

Table of Contents

\$•

Wachovia Corporation

Enhanced Growth Securities

Linked to the S&P MidCap 400® Index

due April 4, 2008

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

•, 2006

Wachovia Securities