

OSCIENT PHARMACEUTICALS CORP
Form S-1
March 15, 2007
Table of Contents

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 15, 2007

(S-4) Registration No. 333- / (S-1) Registration No. 333-

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-4

REGISTRATION STATEMENT

UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

(with respect to the 3.50% Convertible Senior Notes due 2011 being offered in the exchange offers)

FORM S-1

REGISTRATION STATEMENT

UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

(with respect to the 3.50% Convertible Senior Notes due 2011 being offered for cash)

Oscient Pharmaceuticals Corporation

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Massachusetts
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

2834
(Primary Industrial
Classification Code Number)
1000 Winter Street, Suite 2200

04-2297484
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

Waltham, Massachusetts 02451

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(781) 398-2300

(Address, including ZIP code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

Philippe M. Maitre

Oscient Pharmaceuticals Corporation

1000 Winter Street, Suite 2200

Waltham, Massachusetts 02451

(781) 398-2300

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

Copies to:

Patrick O'Brien, Esq.

Danielle Carbone, Esq.

Abigail Arms, Esq.

Ropes & Gray LLP

Shearman & Sterling LLP

Shearman & Sterling LLP

One International Place

599 Lexington Avenue

801 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

Boston, MA 02110

New York, NY 10022

Washington, D.C. 20004

(617) 951-7000

(212) 848-4000

(202) 508-8000

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Registration Statement.

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

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (Securities Act), please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. "

If this Form is a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box. "

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

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. "

Calculation of Registration Fee

**Title of Each Class of
Securities to be Registered**

**Amount to be
Registered**

**Proposed Maximum
Aggregate
Offering Price**

**Amount of
Registration
Fee**

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3.50% Convertible Senior Notes due 2011	\$129,682,298 ⁽¹⁾	\$129,682,298 ⁽¹⁾	\$3,981.25 ⁽²⁾
3.50% Convertible Senior Notes due 2011 ⁽³⁾	\$30,000,000	\$30,000,000	\$921.00 ⁽²⁾
Common Stock, \$0.10 par value per share ⁽⁴⁾	1,705,000	\$23,017,500	\$706.64
Total Registration Fee			\$5,608.89

⁽¹⁾ Pursuant to Rule 457(f) under the Securities Act, this amount is the market value as of March 9, 2007 of the aggregate principal amount outstanding of 3 1/2% Senior Convertible Notes due 2011 and the book value of the aggregate principal amount outstanding of 5% Convertible Promissory Notes due 2009 that may be received by the Registrant from tendering holders in the exchange offers and also includes the amount of new notes that the Registrant may issue to tendering holders of its 5% Convertible Promissory Notes due 2009 in exchange for accrued and unpaid interest on such tendered notes.

⁽²⁾ The registration fee has been calculated pursuant to Rule 457(f) under the Securities Act.

⁽³⁾ We are registering an additional amount of 3.50% Convertible Senior Notes due 2011 to be publicly offered for cash and for the potential payment of fees to the dealer manager.

⁽⁴⁾ The shares of common stock that are being registered include 1,705,000 shares that could be issued if the Registrant elects under the terms of the new notes to make payments of additional interest in common shares instead of cash. Also includes an indeterminate number of shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of the new notes registered hereby, which shares are not subject to an additional fee pursuant to Rule 457(i) of the Securities Act. Pursuant to Rule 416 under the Securities Act, such number of shares of common stock registered hereby shall include an indeterminate number of shares of common stock that may be issued in connection with stock splits, stock dividends, recapitalizations or similar events.

The Registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the SEC acting pursuant to Section 8(a) may determine.

Table of Contents

The information in this prospectus may change. We may not complete the exchange offers and issue these securities until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities, and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities, in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Subject to Completion, dated March 15, 2007

OSCIENT PHARMACEUTICALS

Exchange Offers

3.50% Convertible Senior Notes due 2011 for its

3 1/2% Senior Convertible Notes due 2011 and

5% Convertible Promissory Notes due 2009

and the Sale of up to \$30,000,000

3.50% Convertible Senior Notes due 2011

If you elect to participate in the exchange offers, for each \$1,000 principal amount of our 3 1/2% Senior Convertible Notes due 2011, or existing 2011 notes, you tender, you will receive from us \$1,000 principal amount of our 3.50% Convertible Senior Notes due 2011, or new notes. For each \$1,000 principal amount of our 5% Convertible Promissory Notes due 2009, or existing 2009 notes, you tender, you will receive from us \$1,300 principal amount of our 3.50% Convertible Senior Notes due 2011. We refer to the existing 2009 notes and the existing 2011 notes, together, as the existing notes. The new notes will be issued in denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiples of \$1,000.

You may also give an indication of your interest in participating in the new money offering in which we are offering up to \$30,000,000 principal amount of additional 3.50% Convertible Senior Notes due 2011. The new notes will be issued at _____ % of the principal amount (plus accrued interest from _____, 2007). The new notes will be issued in denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiples of \$1,000.

The exchange offers are open to all holders of our 3 1/2% Senior Convertible Notes due 2011 and our 5% Convertible Promissory Notes due 2009.

The exchange offers will expire at 11:59 p.m., New York City time, on _____, 2007.

Our common shares are traded on the NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol OSCI. On March 13, 2007, the last reported sale price of our common shares on the NASDAQ Global Market was \$4.60 per share. The new notes will not be listed on the NASDAQ Global Market or any national securities exchange.

We are mailing a preliminary prospectus and letters of transmittal on March _____, 2007.

See **Risk Factors** beginning on page 22 for a discussion of factors you should consider before deciding to participate in the exchange offers or purchase additional 3.50% Convertible Senior Notes due 2011 in the new money offering.

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We have retained Georgeson Inc. as our information agent to assist you in connection with the exchange offers. You may call Georgeson Inc. at (888) 549-6633, to receive additional documents and to ask questions.

New Money Offering

	Per Note	Total
Public Offering Price ⁽¹⁾	%	\$
Placement Agent's Commission ⁽²⁾	%	\$
Proceeds to the Company ⁽³⁾	%	\$

⁽¹⁾ Plus interest, if any, accrued from the date of issuance.

⁽²⁾ Assumes all of the new notes offered in the new money offering are sold. See Plan of Distribution.

⁽³⁾ Before deducting offering expenses payable by us in connection with the exchange offers and new money offering and estimated to be \$1.1 million.

The new money offering is being offered to the public on a best efforts basis. There is no minimum purchase requirement and no arrangement to place the proceeds in an escrow, trust or similar account.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The dealer manager for the exchange offers and the placement agent for the new money offering:

Piper Jaffray

The date of this Prospectus is _____, 2007

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<u>Where You Can Find More Information</u>	ii
<u>Prospectus Summary</u>	1
<u>Risk Factors</u>	22
<u>Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements</u>	45
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	46
<u>Price Range of Common Stock</u>	47
<u>Dividend Policy</u>	47
<u>Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges</u>	48
<u>Capitalization</u>	49
<u>The Exchange Offers</u>	51
<u>The New Money Offering</u>	61
<u>Description of New Notes</u>	62
<u>Description of Existing 2011 Notes</u>	77
<u>Description of Existing 2009 Notes</u>	93
<u>Description of Capital Stock</u>	106
<u>Book-Entry System The Depository Trust Company</u>	108
<u>Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations</u>	110
<u>Selected Historical Financial Data</u>	117
<u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	118
<u>Business</u>	140
<u>Management</u>	161
<u>Executive Compensation</u>	165
<u>Related Party Transactions</u>	178
<u>Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management</u>	179
<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	181
<u>Legal Matters</u>	184
<u>Experts</u>	184
<u>Index to Financial Statements</u>	F-1

You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus. We have not, and the dealer manager and placement agent have not, authorized any other person to provide you with different information. This prospectus is not an offer to sell, nor is it seeking an offer to buy, these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted. The information in this prospectus is complete and accurate as of the date on the front cover, but the information may have changed since that date.

Table of Contents

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We have filed registration statements on Forms S-1 and S-4 with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, for the exchange offers and the new money offering. This prospectus does not include all of the information contained in the registration statements. You should refer to the registration statements and their exhibits for additional information. Although we have disclosed the material terms of any contracts, agreements, or other documents that are referenced in this prospectus, you should refer to the exhibits attached to the registration statements for copies of the actual contracts, agreements, or other documents.

We are a public company and file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any document we file at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You can request copies of these documents by writing to the SEC and paying a fee for the copying cost. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for more information about the operation of the public reference room. Our SEC filings are also available to the public at the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. In addition, our common stock is listed for trading on the NASDAQ Global Market. You can read and copy reports and other information concerning us at the offices of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. located at 1735 K Street, Washington, D.C. 20006. You may also access our filings with the SEC and obtain other information about us through the website maintained by Oscient, which is located at <http://www.oscient.com>, as soon as reasonably practicable after these materials have been electronically filed with, or furnished to, the SEC. Please note that all references to www. in this registration statement and prospectus are inactive textual references only and that the information contained on Oscient's website is neither incorporated by reference into this registration statement or prospectus nor intended to be used in connection with either the exchange offers or the new money offering.

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary does not contain all of the information you should consider before exchanging your existing notes for the new notes in connection with the exchange offers or investing in new notes offered in the new money offering. For a more complete understanding of Oscient and the exchange offers and the new money offering, we encourage you to read carefully this entire prospectus. Unless otherwise stated, all references to us, our, Oscient, we, the Company and similar designations refer to Oscient Pharmaceuticals Corporation and its consolidated subsidiaries unless the context otherwise requires.

Our Company

Overview

We are a commercial-stage biopharmaceutical company marketing two FDA-approved products to community-based primary care physicians through our national primary care sales force. ANTARA[®] (fenofibrate) capsules is FDA approved for the adjunct treatment of hypercholesterolemia (high blood cholesterol) and hypertriglyceridemia (high triglycerides) in combination with a healthy diet. FACTIVE[®] (gemifloxacin mesylate) tablets is an FDA-approved antibiotic for the five-day treatment of acute bacterial exacerbations of chronic bronchitis (AECB) and the seven-day treatment of community-acquired pneumonia of mild to moderate severity (CAP).

We market ANTARA and FACTIVE in the U.S. through our 250-person national sales force, which focuses on primary care physicians who predominantly treat older patients and those with co-morbid conditions that may benefit from our products. With FACTIVE, our strategy outside of the U.S. has been to grant commercialization rights to third parties in order to leverage the additional resources that a pharmaceutical marketing partner with expertise in such countries can provide. Pfizer, S.A. de C.V. (Pfizer Mexico) is currently commercializing FACTIVE in Mexico, Abbott Laboratories, Ltd. (Abbott Canada) has launched FACTIVE in Canada, and Menarini International Operation Luxembourg SA (the Menarini Group) has licensed the drug for sale in Europe.

Additionally, we have a novel, late-stage antibiotic candidate, Ramoplanin, under investigation for the treatment of *Clostridium difficile*-associated disease. Having completed Phase II clinical trials and obtained a Special Protocol Assessment from the FDA for the Phase III program, we are currently exploring partnering and other strategic opportunities for the continued development and commercialization of Ramoplanin.

Our business growth strategy is to identify new products to acquire, in-license or co-promote for the U.S. marketplace in order to leverage our existing commercial infrastructure.

ANTARA

ANTARA is approved by the FDA to treat hypercholesterolemia and hypertriglyceridemia in combination with a healthy diet. On August 18, 2006, we acquired rights to ANTARA in the U.S. from Reliant Pharmaceuticals Inc. for \$78.0 million plus a \$4.3 million payment for ANTARA inventory. In connection with this acquisition, we were assigned rights to and assumed obligations under an exclusive license to the U.S. rights to ANTARA from Ethypharm S.A.

In 2006, total U.S. sales of fenofibrate products were approximately \$1.5 billion, a 25% increase over 2005 sales. The fenofibrate market has experienced a 35% average annual growth in sales since 2002. Since we began marketing ANTARA on August 18, 2006 through December 31, 2006, net sales of the drug totaled \$16.8 million.

Table of Contents

It is estimated that nearly 37 million Americans have total cholesterol values above recommended levels and heart disease remains the number one cause of death in the U.S. Abnormal cholesterol and lipid levels, known as dyslipidemia, can lead to the development of atherosclerosis, a dangerous hardening of blood vessels and a major risk factor for the development of coronary heart disease.

ANTARA is a once-daily formulation of fenofibrate approved for use in combination with a diet restricted in saturated fat and cholesterol to reduce elevated low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL or bad cholesterol), triglyceride and apolipoprotein B (free floating fats in the blood) levels and to increase high-density lipoprotein cholesterol (HDL or good cholesterol) in adult patients with high cholesterol or an abnormal concentration of lipids in the blood. ANTARA received FDA approval in November 2004 and is approved and marketed in 43 mg and 130 mg doses. ANTARA is the lowest dose fenofibrate currently approved by the FDA.

ANTARA was studied in the Triglyceride Reduction in Metabolic Syndrome study, known as TRIMS, to measure the impact of ANTARA on cholesterol levels in patients with multiple cardiovascular risk factors and to assess the use of ANTARA without regard to meals. Of the 146 patients studied, 70% had hypertension and 32% had diabetes. The double-blind, placebo-controlled trial measured levels of total cholesterol, triglycerides, HDLs and LDLs, as well as other types of cholesterol, during eight weeks of therapy. In the study, ANTARA demonstrated the ability to reduce triglyceride and increase HDL cholesterol levels after two weeks of therapy. At the end of therapy, patients treated with ANTARA had a statistically significant 37% reduction in their triglyceride levels and a statistically significant 14% increase in their HDL levels.

FACTIVE

In April 2003, FACTIVE, a fluoroquinolone antibiotic, was approved by the FDA for the five-day treatment of AECB (acute bacterial exacerbations of chronic bronchitis) and seven-day treatment of CAP (community acquired pneumonia) of mild to moderate severity. We license the rights to gemifloxacin, the active ingredient in FACTIVE tablets, from LG Life Sciences. We launched FACTIVE in the U.S. in September 2004. In 2006, FACTIVE generated \$21.5 million in net revenues.

Chronic bronchitis is a health problem associated with significant morbidity and mortality. It is estimated that chronic bronchitis affects more than 9 million adults in the U.S. Patients with chronic bronchitis are prone to frequent exacerbations, characterized by increased cough and other symptoms of respiratory distress. Studies have estimated that 1 to 4 exacerbations occur each year in patients with chronic bronchitis; studies estimate that two-thirds are caused by bacteria. These exacerbations are estimated to account for approximately 12 million physician visits per year in the U.S.

Community-acquired pneumonia, or CAP, is a common and serious illness in the U.S. Of the 4 to 5 million reported cases per year, nearly 1 million cases occur in patients over the age of 65. CAP cases result in approximately 10 million physician visits and as many as 1 million hospitalizations annually. Antibiotics are the mainstay of treatment for most patients with pneumonia, and where possible, antibiotic treatment should be specific to the pathogen responsible for the infection and individualized.

Over the last decade, resistance to penicillins and macrolides has increased significantly, and in many cases, fluoroquinolones are now recommended as first-line therapy due to their efficacy against a wide range of respiratory pathogens, including many antibiotic resistant strains. The most recent treatment guidelines from the Infectious Diseases Society of America and the American Thoracic Society recommend fluoroquinolones as a first-line treatment for certain higher-risk patients with CAP and as therapy for treating patients with pneumonia in geographic regions of the U.S. with high levels of macrolide-resistant *Streptococcus pneumoniae*.

Table of Contents

FACTIVE is currently approved for CAP as a seven-day course of the therapy and we have completed a clinical trial designed to demonstrate that a five-day course of FACTIVE for the treatment of mild to moderate CAP is as effective as the seven-day course of treatment. On September 21, 2006, we received an approvable letter from the FDA for our supplemental New Drug Application (sNDA) seeking approval for the five-day treatment of CAP with FACTIVE tablets. In accordance with the letter, we provided clarification and additional interpretation regarding certain data included in the application to assist the FDA in its evaluation and the FDA has accepted our response as complete. We expect to receive an action letter from the FDA by May 1, 2007. The receipt of the approvable letter does not assure ultimate approval of our sNDA for the five-day treatment of CAP with FACTIVE tablets.

Ramoplanin

In October 2001, we in-licensed U.S. and Canadian rights to Ramoplanin from Vicuron Pharmaceuticals Inc., or Vicuron, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Pfizer Inc., and on February 3, 2006, acquired worldwide rights from Vicuron. Ramoplanin is a novel glycolipodepsipeptide antibiotic. In July 2004, we completed a Phase II trial to assess the safety and efficacy of two doses of Ramoplanin versus vancomycin in the treatment of *C. difficile*-associated disease, or CDAD, the most commonly recognized microbial cause of diarrhea, resulting from high rates of colonization in hospitalized patients and the frequent use of antimicrobials. While the study did not meet its primary endpoint, non-inferiority at the test-of-cure visit, the response rates for all three arms were comparable.

Based on the results we observed in our Phase II trial, we had discussions with the FDA on the design of a Phase III program. We subsequently agreed with the FDA to a Special Protocol Assessment regarding the specific components of a Phase III program that, if completed successfully, would support regulatory approval of Ramoplanin for the indication. Given our strategic decision to concentrate our financial resources on building our primary care business in the U.S., we are currently seeking to out-license, co-develop or sell our rights to Ramoplanin to a partner.

Financial

In 2006, our revenues increased to \$46.2 million from \$23.6 million in 2005, reflecting in part the acquisition of ANTARA in August 2006. As of December 31, 2006, we had approximately \$44.8 million in cash, cash equivalents, short-term and long-term marketable securities and restricted cash.

In financial guidance provided to investors, we have stated that we expect total revenue for fiscal year 2007 to increase by at least 80% from fiscal year 2006 revenue levels, with approximately two-thirds of those revenues from ANTARA. We anticipate net cash utilization of approximately \$40 million in 2007, and net cash utilization of between \$20 million and \$24 million in 2008. This guidance does not include any cash impact of the acquisition and marketing of a third product, which remains one of our top business development goals for 2007.

In the fourth quarter of 2007, we expect to reach a sustainable commercial breakeven point. We use the term commercial breakeven to describe the point at which our revenues from product sales exceed our cost of goods sold (excluding amortization of intangibles), selling and marketing expenses and royalty obligations. Once we have achieved the commercial breakeven point, our sales and marketing organization becomes a net generator of cash and begins to cover other expenses as we progress toward total company profitability.

The statements of financial guidance set forth above are forward-looking statements and are based on management's assumptions of our future financial performance. Some of the important risk factors that

Table of Contents

could cause our actual results to differ materially from those expressed in our forward-looking statements are included under the heading "Risk Factors" in this prospectus. We encourage you to read these risks carefully. We caution investors not to place significant reliance on the forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus.

Corporate Information

We are incorporated in The Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Our principal executive offices are located at 1000 Winter Street, Suite 2200, Waltham, MA 02451. Our telephone number at this location is (781) 398-2300. Our website is located at <http://www.oscient.com>. The content on our website and on websites linked from it are for informational purposes and not incorporated into or a part of this prospectus nor intended to be used in connection with either the exchange offers or the new money offering.

Our logo, trademarks and service marks are the property of Oscient. FACTIVE is a trademark of LG Life Sciences, Ltd. ANTARA is a trademark of Oscient. Other trademarks or service marks appearing in this prospectus are the property of their respective holders.

Table of Contents

The Exchange Offers

We have summarized the terms of the exchange offers in this section. Before you decide whether to tender your existing notes in the applicable offer, you should read the detailed description of the offers under [The Exchange Offers](#) and of the new notes under [Description of New Notes](#) for further information.

Terms of the exchange offers *Existing 2011 notes*

We are offering to exchange new notes for up to an aggregate principal amount of \$152,750,000 of existing 2011 notes. We are offering to exchange \$1,000 principal amount of new notes for each \$1,000 principal amount of existing 2011 notes. New notes will be issued in denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiple of \$1,000. You may tender all, some or none of your existing 2011 notes.

Existing 2009 notes

We are offering to exchange new notes for up to an aggregate principal amount of \$22,310,000 of existing 2009 notes and accrued and unpaid interest on the existing 2009 notes. We are offering to exchange \$1,300 principal amount of new notes for each \$1,000 principal amount of existing 2009 notes. New notes will be issued in denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiple of \$1,000. Any fractional new notes will be settled in cash. You may tender all, some or none of your existing 2009 notes. In connection with the exchange offer, we will be seeking consent from holders of existing 2009 notes to amend the agreement governing the existing 2009 notes to remove certain restrictive covenants. Holders who tender existing 2009 notes will be deemed to consent to the amendments, as described in the applicable letter of transmittal and consent.

Deciding whether to participate in the exchange offers

Neither we nor our officers or directors make any recommendation as to whether you should tender or refrain from tendering all or any portion of your existing notes in the exchange offers. Further, we have not authorized anyone to make any such recommendation. You must make your own decision whether to tender your existing notes in the exchange offers and, if so, the aggregate amount of existing notes to tender. You should read this prospectus and the applicable letter of transmittal and consult with your advisors, if any, to make that decision based on your own financial position and requirements. In particular, you should know that there are certain significant adverse tax consequences that could result from the exchange of existing notes or the holding, conversion or other disposition of the new notes. Investors considering the exchange of existing notes for new notes should discuss the tax consequences with their own tax advisors. See [The Exchange Offers](#) [Terms of the Exchange Offers](#) [Tax Consequences](#) in this Summary, and [Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax](#)

Table of Contents

Considerations. The exchange offers are separate and distinct from the new money offering and whether or not you indicate an interest to participate in the new money offering will have no effect on your ability to participate in the exchange offers.

Expiration date; extension; termination

The exchange offers and withdrawal rights will expire at 11:59 p.m., New York City time, on _____, 2007, or any subsequent time or date to which the exchange offers are extended. We may extend the expiration date or amend any of the terms or conditions of the exchange offers for any reason. In the case of an extension, we will issue a press release or other public announcement no later than 9:00 a.m., New York City time, on the next business day after the previously scheduled expiration date. If we extend the expiration date, you must tender your existing notes prior to the date identified in the press release or public announcement if you wish to participate in the exchange offers. In the case of an amendment, we will issue a press release or other public announcement. We have the right to:

extend the expiration date of the exchange offers and retain all tendered existing notes, subject to your right to withdraw your tendered existing notes; and

waive any condition or otherwise amend any of the terms or conditions of the exchange offers in any respect, other than the condition that the registration statement relating to the exchange offers be declared effective.

Conditions to the exchange offers

The exchange offers are subject to the registration statement, and any post-effective amendment to the registration statement covering the new notes, being effective under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act. The exchange offers are also subject to customary conditions, which we may waive. The satisfaction or waiver of the conditions, other than those that relate to governmental or regulatory conditions necessary to the consummation of the exchange offers, will be determined as of _____, 2007, the expiration date of the exchange offers.

Withdrawal rights

You may withdraw a tender of your existing notes at any time before the applicable exchange offer expires by delivering a written notice of withdrawal to U.S. Bank National Association, the exchange agent, before the expiration date. If you change your mind, you may retender your existing notes by again following the exchange offer procedures before the applicable exchange offer expires. In addition, if we have not accepted your tendered existing notes for exchange, you may withdraw your existing notes at any time after _____, 2007.

Table of Contents

Procedures for tendering outstanding existing notes *Existing 2011 Notes* If you hold existing 2011 notes through a broker, dealer, commercial bank, trust company or other nominee, you should contact that person promptly if you wish to tender your existing 2011 notes. Tenders of your existing 2011 notes will be effected by book-entry transfers through The Depository Trust Company.

If you hold existing 2011 notes through a broker, dealer, commercial bank, trust company or other nominee, you may also comply with the procedures for guaranteed delivery.

Please do not send letters of transmittal to us. You should send letters of transmittal to U.S. Bank National Association, the exchange agent, at its office as indicated under *The Exchange Offers* at the end of this prospectus or in the letter of transmittal. The exchange agent can answer your questions regarding how to tender your existing 2011 notes.

Existing 2009 notes

If you wish to tender your existing 2009 notes, you should deliver the certificates representing such existing 2009 notes and a completed and signed letter of transmittal and consent together with certificates representing such existing 2009 notes to the exchange agent.

Please do not send certificates representing existing 2009 notes or letters of transmittal and consents to us. You should send letters of transmittal and consents to the exchange agent at its office as indicated under *The Exchange Offers* at the end of this prospectus or in the letter of transmittal and consent. The exchange agent can answer your questions regarding how to tender your existing 2009 notes.

Accrued interest on existing notes *Existing 2011 notes*

Existing 2011 note holders will receive accrued and unpaid interest on any existing 2011 notes accepted in the exchange offer. The amount of accrued interest will be calculated from the last interest payment date up to, but excluding, the closing date of the exchange offer and will be paid in cash. Accordingly, there will not be a gap in the interest accrual on existing 2011 notes tendered in the exchange offer.

Existing 2009 notes

Existing 2009 note holders will receive additional new notes in exchange for accrued and unpaid interest on any existing 2009 notes accepted in the exchange offer. The amount of accrued interest will be calculated from the original issuance date up to, but excluding, the closing date of the exchange offer. Accordingly, there will not be a gap in the interest accrual on existing 2009 notes tendered in the exchange offer.

Table of Contents

Interest on new notes	Interest on the new notes will be payable at a rate of 3.50% per year, payable semiannually on April 15 and October 15 of each year, commencing October 15, 2007. Interest on the new notes will begin to accrue from the closing date of the applicable exchange offer.
Trading	Our common shares are traded on the NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol OSCI.
Information agent	Georgeson Inc.
Exchange agent	U.S. Bank National Association
Dealer manager	Piper Jaffray & Co.
Risk factors	You should carefully consider the matters described under Risk Factors, as well as other information set forth in this prospectus and in the applicable letter of transmittal.
Consequences of not exchanging existing notes <i>Existing 2011 Notes</i>	The liquidity and trading market for existing 2011 notes not tendered in the exchange offer could be adversely affected to the extent a significant amount of the existing 2011 notes are tendered and accepted in the exchange offer.
<i>Existing 2009 Notes</i>	The liquidity for existing 2009 notes not tendered in the exchange offer could be adversely affected to the extent a significant amount of the existing 2009 notes are tendered and accepted in the exchange offer. In addition, if we receive tenders and consents from holders of a majority of our existing 2009 notes, the agreement governing the existing 2009 notes will be amended to remove certain restrictive covenants. In that case, existing 2009 notes not tendered in the exchange offer would no longer have the benefit of such restrictive covenants.
Tax consequences	See Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations for a description of certain material U.S. federal income tax consequences associated with the exchange offers and the new money offering.
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges	Earnings were insufficient to cover fixed charges by \$78.5 million, \$88.6 million, \$93.3 million, \$29.8 million and \$34.0 million for the years ended December 31, 2006, 2005, 2004, 2003 and 2002, respectively.

Table of Contents

The New Money Offering

We have summarized the terms of the new money offer in this section. The new money offering is separate and distinct from the exchange offers. Before you decide to invest in additional new notes in the new money offering, you should read the detailed description of the offer under [The New Money Offering](#) and of the new notes under [Description of New Notes](#) for further information.

Terms of the new money offering	We are offering to the public up to \$30,000,000 aggregate principal amount of new notes for cash.
Offering price	The new notes will be issued at _____ % of the principal amount (plus accrued interest from _____, 2007).
Use of proceeds	We expect to use the net proceeds from the new money offering for general corporate purposes, which may include expanding our commercial and marketing efforts, increasing working capital, funding capital and clinical developments, acquiring new products or technologies, and making other investments.
Placement agent	Piper Jaffray & Co.
Indications of interest	If you are interested in participating in the new money offering, you should provide your indication of interest directly to Piper Jaffray at (415) 984-5141, attention Simon Manning or Brian Sullivan. All sales of the new notes will be made at the discretion of the placement agent in consultation with us. You need not participate in the exchange offers in order to deliver an indication of interest to participate in the new money offering.
Allocation of new notes in the new money offering	Neither we nor the placement agent may confirm an allocation on any indication of interest or offer to buy new notes until the registration statement relating to the new money offering, of which this prospectus is a part, has become effective. You may withdraw or change your indication of interest or offer to buy new notes, without obligation or commitment of any kind, at any time prior to being contacted by the placement agent, informed of your allocation and asked to confirm your allocation or withdraw your indication of interest after the effective date of the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. You will not be obligated to buy new notes by indicating an interest or offering to buy new notes. Even if you indicate your interest in buying new notes, you may not receive any allocation of new notes or your allocation may be for an amount substantially less than the amount of your indication of interest. Allocations of new notes may not be proportional to the total indications of interest that are made in the new money offering. Allocation decisions will be at the discretion of the placement agent, in consultation with the Company, who will

Table of Contents

consider various factors such as, but not limited to, investment interest in us, investment objectives, and investor diversification. Neither we nor the placement agent will consider whether or not you are a holder of the existing notes or participate in the exchange offers as a relevant factor when determining the allocation of the new notes in the new money offering.

Deciding whether to participate in the new money offering

Neither we nor our officers or directors make any recommendation as to whether you should indicate your interest in participating in the new money offering. Further, we have not authorized anyone to make any such recommendation. You must make your own decision whether to indicate your interest in purchasing new notes, and if so, whether to purchase the total amount of new notes that may be allocated to you. You should read this prospectus and consult with your advisors, if any, to make that decision based on your own financial position and requirements. In particular, you should know that there are certain significant adverse tax consequences that could result from the holding, conversion or other disposition of the new notes. Investors considering the purchase of new notes in the new money offering should discuss the tax consequences with their own tax advisors. See Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations.

Table of Contents

Comparison of New Notes and Existing Notes

The following is a brief summary of the terms of the new notes and the existing notes. For a more detailed description of the new notes and existing notes, see Description of New Notes, Description of Existing 2009 Notes, and Description of Existing 2011 Notes.

	New Notes	Existing 2011 Notes	Existing 2009 Notes
Securities	Up to \$215,448,000 in principal amount of our 3.50% Convertible Senior Notes due 2011, \$185,448,000 of which is being offered in the exchange offers and up to \$30,000,000 of which is being separately offered in the new money offering.	As of the date of this prospectus, there is \$152,750,000 in principal amount of our existing 3 1/2% Senior Convertible Notes due 2011 outstanding.	As of the date of this prospectus, there is \$22,310,000 in principal amount and \$3,696,000 in accrued interest of our existing 5% Convertible Promissory Notes due 2009 outstanding.
Issuer	Oscient Pharmaceuticals Corporation, a Massachusetts corporation.	Oscient Pharmaceuticals Corporation, a Massachusetts corporation.	Oscient Pharmaceuticals Corporation, a Massachusetts corporation.
Maturity	April 15, 2011.	April 15, 2011.	February 6, 2009.
Interest	Interest on the new notes will be payable at a rate of 3.50% per year, payable semiannually on April 15 and October 15 of each year, commencing October 15, 2007. We will pay interest on the new notes only in cash.	Interest on the existing 2011 notes is payable at a rate of 3.50% per year, payable semiannually on April 15 and October 15 of each year. Interest on the existing 2011 notes is payable only in cash.	Interest on the existing 2009 notes is payable at a rate of 5.00% per year, compounded semiannually, to be paid on the maturity date and on any accelerated maturity. Accrued interest is payable in cash on the maturity date, redemption at our option or the option of the holders upon a liquidation event and any accelerated maturity.

Table of Contents

	New Notes	Existing 2011 Notes	Existing 2009 Notes
Conversion rights	<p>The new notes will be convertible, at the option of the holder, at anytime on or prior to maturity, into shares of our common stock at an initial conversion rate of 74.0741 shares per \$1,000 principal amount of new notes (equal to a conversion price of approximately \$13.50 per share). The conversion rate will be subject to adjustment.</p> <p>There will be no limitation as to the principal amount of the new notes you can convert at any time.</p>	<p>The existing 2011 notes are convertible, at the option of the holder, at anytime on or prior to maturity, into shares of our common stock at a conversion rate of 18.8196 shares per \$1,000 principal amount of existing 2011 notes (equal to a conversion price of approximately \$53.14 per share).</p> <p>There is no limitation as to the principal amount of existing 2011 notes you can convert at any time.</p>	<p>The existing 2009 notes are convertible, at the option of the holder, at anytime on or prior to maturity, into shares of our common stock at a conversion rate of 18.8202 shares per \$1,000 principal amount of existing 2009 notes (equal to a conversion price of approximately \$53.13 per share).</p> <p>There is no limitation as to the principal amount of existing 2009 notes you can convert at any time.</p>
Auto-conversion	<p>We will have the right to automatically convert some or all of the new notes (an automatic conversion) on or prior to the maturity date if the closing price of our common shares has exceeded 130% of the conversion price then in effect for at least 20 trading days during any consecutive 30 trading day period (an automatic conversion price).</p>	<p>None.</p>	<p>We have the right to automatically convert some or all of the existing 2009 notes on or prior to the maturity date if the average of the closing sale prices for any 15 consecutive trading days is greater than 150% of the conversion price then in effect.</p>

Table of Contents

	New Notes	Existing 2011 Notes	Existing 2009 Notes
Additional interest upon automatic conversion	<p>If we elect to automatically convert some or all of your new notes on or prior to May 10, 2010, we will pay additional interest to holders of new notes being converted. This additional interest will be equal to the amount of interest that would have been payable on the new notes from the last day interest was paid on the new notes, through and including May 10, 2010. Additional interest, if any, will be paid in cash or, solely at our option, in our common shares. If we pay additional interest upon an automatic conversion with our common shares, such shares will be valued at 90% of the automatic conversion price that is in effect at that time.</p>	None.	None.

Table of Contents

	New Notes	Existing 2011 Notes	Existing 2009 Notes
Additional interest upon voluntary conversion	<p>If we elect to voluntarily convert some or all of your new notes on or prior to May 10, 2010, we will pay additional interest to holders of new notes being converted. This additional interest will be equal to the amount of interest that would have been payable on the new notes from the last day interest was paid on the new notes, through and including May 10, 2010. Additional interest, if any, will be paid in cash or, solely at our option, in our common shares. If we pay additional interest upon a voluntary conversion with our common shares, such shares will be valued at the conversion price then in effect.</p>		
Repurchase or redemption at holder's option upon a fundamental change	<p>You may require us to repurchase your new notes upon a fundamental change, as described in Description of New Notes, in cash at 100% of the principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest, to but excluding the fundamental change repurchase date.</p>	<p>You may require us to repurchase your existing 2011 notes upon a fundamental change, as described in Description of Existing 2011 Notes, in cash at 100% of the principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest, to but excluding the fundamental change repurchase date.</p>	<p>You may require us to redeem your existing 2009 notes upon the occurrence of a liquidation event, as described in Description of Existing 2009 Notes, at a price equal to 100% of the principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest, to but excluding the liquidation event repurchase date.</p>

Table of Contents

	New Notes	Existing 2011 Notes	Existing 2009 Notes
Conversion rate adjustment upon a fundamental change	<p>In the event of a fundamental change, we may be required to increase the conversion rate for the new notes surrendered for conversion in connection with the fundamental change. See Description of New Notes Conversion rate adjustment on a fundamental change.</p> <p>In no event will the conversion rate exceed _____ shares per \$1,000 principal amount of new notes (subject to adjustment).</p>	<p>None, although in connection with a fundamental change, we may be required to pay a make-whole premium to the holders of existing 2011 notes. See Description of Existing 2011 Notes Repurchase of the existing 2011 notes at the option of holders upon a fundamental change.</p>	<p>None.</p>
Optional redemption	<p>Prior to May 10, 2010, the new notes are not redeemable.</p> <p>On or after May 10, 2010, we may redeem some or all of the new notes for cash at 100% of the principal amount of the new notes to be redeemed, plus accrued and unpaid interest, to but excluding the redemption date.</p>	<p>Prior to May 10, 2010, the existing 2011 notes are not redeemable.</p> <p>On or after May 10, 2010, we may redeem some or all of the existing 2011 notes for cash at 100% of the principal amount of the existing 2011 notes to be redeemed, plus accrued and unpaid interest, to but excluding the redemption date.</p>	<p>None.</p>

Table of Contents

	New Notes	Existing 2011 Notes	Existing 2009 Notes
Ranking	The new notes will be unsecured and unsubordinated obligations and will rank equal in priority with all of our existing and future unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness, including any existing notes that remain outstanding after the expiration of the exchange offers and senior in right of payment to all of our future subordinated indebtedness. The new notes will effectively rank junior to any of our secured indebtedness and any of our indebtedness that is guaranteed by our subsidiaries. The new notes will be structurally subordinated to all liabilities of our subsidiaries.	The existing 2011 notes are unsecured and unsubordinated obligations and rank equal in priority with all of our existing and future unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness, and senior in right of payment to all of our future subordinated indebtedness. The existing 2011 notes effectively rank junior to any of our secured indebtedness and any of our indebtedness that is guaranteed by our subsidiaries. The existing 2011 notes are structurally subordinated to all liabilities of our subsidiaries.	The existing 2009 notes are unsecured and unsubordinated obligations and rank equal in priority with all of our existing and future unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness, and senior in right of payment to all of our future subordinated indebtedness. The existing 2009 notes effectively rank junior to any of our secured indebtedness and any of our indebtedness that is guaranteed by our subsidiaries. The existing 2009 notes are structurally subordinated to all liabilities of our subsidiaries.
Limitations on indebtedness and liens	None.	None.	There are certain limitations on our ability to incur indebtedness and liens. See Description of Existing 2009 Notes Certain Covenants. However, in connection with the exchange offer for the existing 2009 notes, we will be seeking consent from holders of existing 2009 notes to amend the agreement governing the existing 2009 notes to remove such limitations.

Table of Contents

	New Notes	Existing 2011 Notes	Existing 2009 Notes
Extension of cure period for event of default for late SEC reports	<p>If we fail to timely file our annual or quarterly reports with the SEC in accordance with the new notes indenture or to comply with the requirements of Section 314(a)(1) of the Trust Indenture Act, which we refer to as a filing failure, we may elect to pay the holders an extension fee which will accrue at a rate of 1.00% per annum of the aggregate principal amount of new notes then outstanding. The extension fee will accrue on the new notes from the date that is 60 days after notice of the filing failure is given by holders to, but excluding, the earlier of the date on which we make the filings that gave rise to the filing failure and the date that is 180 days after the date such notice was given by holders.</p>	None.	None.

Table of Contents

Questions and Answers About the Exchange Offers and New Money Offering

Why is the Company doing the exchange offers and the new money offering?

We believe that the exchange offers and new money offering are important components of our plan to re-calibrate our capital structure in order to better execute our business strategy. If the exchange offers and new money offer are fully subscribed, they will:

position us to be able to convert a substantial portion of our debt into common shares if the closing price of our common shares exceeds 130% of the conversion price; and

provide us with additional capital for general corporate purposes, which may include expanding our commercial and marketing efforts, increasing working capital, funding capital expenditures and clinical development, acquiring new products or technologies, and making other investments.

What will I receive in exchange for my existing notes?

If you tender your existing notes in the exchange offers you will receive new notes with the following characteristics:

For each \$1,000 in principal amount of your existing 2011 notes exchanged, you will receive \$1,000 in principal amount of our new notes;

For each \$1,000 in principal amount of your existing 2009 notes exchanged, you will receive \$1,300 in principal amount of our new notes;

Interest will accrue on the new notes at a rate of 3.50% per year;

Each \$1,000 in principal amount of new notes will be convertible at an initial conversion rate of 74.0741 shares per \$1,000 principal amount of notes (equal to a conversion price of approximately \$13.50 per share), subject to adjustment, at any time prior to the close of business on the maturity date;

After May 10, 2010, we may redeem some or all of the notes at 100% of the principal amount of the notes to be redeemed, plus accrued and unpaid interest.

These are only some of the material terms of the new notes, and you should read the [Questions and Answers About Voluntary Conversion and Auto-Conversion of the New Notes](#) and the detailed description of the new notes under [Description of New Notes](#) for further information.

Are the exchange offers conditioned upon a minimum number of existing notes being tendered or new notes being purchased for cash in the new money offering?

No, the exchange offers are not conditioned upon any minimum number of the existing notes being tendered or new notes being purchased for cash. The exchange offers are subject to customary conditions, which we may waive.

How soon must I act if I decide to participate in the exchange offers?

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Unless we extend the expiration date, the exchange offers will expire on _____, 2007 at 11:59 p.m., New York City time. The exchange agent must receive all required documents and instructions on or before _____, 2007 or you will not be able to participate in the exchange offers.

What happens if I do not participate in the exchange offers?

The decision of a holder of existing notes not to participate in the exchange offers will not affect his or her eligibility to indicate interest for new notes in the new money offering. If a significant number of the

Table of Contents

existing notes are tendered and accepted in the exchange offers, the liquidity and the trading market for the existing notes that remain outstanding will likely be impaired. We and the placement agent will not consider whether or not a holder of the existing notes participates in the exchange offers as a relevant factor when determining the allocation of the new notes in the new money offering.

In addition, if in connection with the exchange offer, we receive tenders and consents from holders of a majority of our existing 2009 notes, the agreement governing the existing 2009 notes will be amended to remove certain restrictive covenants. In that case, existing 2009 notes not tendered in the exchange offer would no longer have the benefit of such restrictive covenants.

How do I indicate my interest for new notes for cash in the new money offering?

If you are interested in purchasing new notes for cash, please contact Piper Jaffray & Co. at (415) 984-5141, attention Simon Manning or Brian Sullivan. Allocations of new notes in the new money offering will be made by the placement agent, after consultation with us. The closing of the new money offering is anticipated to occur on the same day as the closing of the exchange offers.

How will fractional new notes be settled in the exchange offer for the existing 2009 notes?

We will exchange \$1,300 principal amount of new notes for each \$1,000 principal amount of existing 2009 notes tendered in the exchange offer. We will issue new notes only in denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000. We will settle any fractional new notes in cash. For example, if you tender three existing 2009 notes (\$3,000 aggregate principal amount), you will receive three new notes (\$3,000 aggregate principal amount) and \$900 in cash in lieu of fractional new notes ($\$3,000 \text{ aggregate principal amount of existing 2009 notes} \times 1.3 = \$3,900$, which you would receive in the form of two new notes and \$900 in cash).

What should I do if I have additional questions about the exchange offers or the new money offering?

If you have any questions, need additional copies of the offering material, or otherwise need assistance, please contact the information agent for the offering:

Georgeson Inc.

17 State Street, 10th Floor

New York, New York 10004

(888) 549-6633

To receive copies of our recent SEC filings, you can contact us by mail or refer to the other sources described under [Where You Can Find More Information](#).

Table of Contents

Questions and Answers About Voluntary Conversion and Automatic Conversion of the New Notes

When can I voluntarily convert my new notes?

Unless we call some or all of the new notes for redemption, you can voluntarily convert all or a portion of your new notes at any time on or prior to maturity. If we call some or all of the new notes for redemption or an automatic conversion date is set and you want to voluntarily convert your new notes, you must convert your new notes before the close of business on the last business day prior to the redemption date or auto-conversion date, as applicable.

What will I receive when I voluntarily convert my new notes?

For each new note that you voluntarily convert before May 10, 2010, you will receive additional interest equal to the amount of interest that would have been payable on the new notes from the last day interest was paid on the new notes, through and including May 10, 2010. This additional interest will be paid in cash or in common shares, at our option. If we pay this additional interest in common shares, these shares will be valued at the conversion price that is in effect at the time of conversion.

When can the Company automatically convert my new notes?

We may elect, at our option, to automatically convert all or a portion of your new notes at any time prior to the maturity of the new notes, if the closing price of our common shares has exceeded the automatic conversion price for at least 20 trading days during any consecutive 30 trading day period ending within five trading days prior to the notice of automatic conversion.

What will I receive if the Company automatically converts my new notes?

If we elect to automatically convert all or a portion of your notes before May 10, 2010, you will receive, for each new note so converted, additional interest equal to the amount of interest that would have been payable on the new notes from the last day interest was paid on the new notes, through and including May 10, 2010. This additional interest shall be paid in cash or in common shares at our option. If we pay this additional interest in common shares, these shares will be valued at 90% of the automatic conversion price that is in effect at that time.

Table of Contents**SUMMARY HISTORICAL FINANCIAL DATA**

The following table presents our summary historical financial data. You should read carefully the financial statements included in this prospectus, including the notes to the financial statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations. The summary financial data in this section are not intended to replace the financial statements. We derived the statement of operations data for the years ended December 31, 2006, 2005 and 2004 and the balance sheet data as of December 31, 2006 and 2005 from our audited financial statements, which are included elsewhere in this prospectus. We derived the statement of operations data for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002 and the balance sheet data as of December 31, 2004, 2003 and 2002 from our audited financial statements which are not included herein. Historical results are not necessarily indicative of future results. See the notes to the financial statements for an explanation of the method used to determine the number of shares used in computing basic and diluted net loss per common share.

Statement of Operations Data:	2006 ⁽³⁾	For the Year Ended December 31,			2002
		2005	2004 ⁽⁴⁾	2003	
(in thousands, except per share data)					
Revenues:					
Product sales	\$ 38,244	\$ 20,458	\$ 4,067	\$	\$
Co-promotion	6,890	2,954			
Biopharmaceutical/other	1,018	197	2,546	7,009	7,716
Total revenues ⁽¹⁾	46,152	23,609	6,613	7,009	7,716
Costs of product sales and operating expenses	118,071	112,281	97,229	39,943	41,460
Loss from operations	(71,919)	(88,672)	(90,616)	(32,934)	(33,744)
Net other (expense) income	(6,379)	44	(2,863)	3,546	(116)
Loss from continuing operations before income tax	(78,298)	(88,628)	(93,479)	(29,388)	(33,860)
Provision for income tax	(179)				
Net loss from continuing operations	(78,477)	(88,628)	(93,479)	(29,388)	(33,860)
Income (loss) from discontinued operations		35	208	(401)	(157)
Net loss	\$ (78,477)	\$ (88,593)	\$ (93,271)	\$ (29,789)	\$ (34,017)
Net loss per common share basic and diluted ⁽²⁾	\$ (6.58)	\$ (9.26)	\$ (10.61)	\$ (9.06)	\$ (11.87)
Weighted average basic and diluted common shares outstanding ⁽²⁾	11,925	9,569	8,794	3,286	2,865

Balance Sheet Data:	2006	2005	As of December 31,		
			2004	2003	2002
Cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash, and long and short-term marketable securities	\$ 44,808	\$ 80,044	\$ 176,628	\$ 28,665	\$ 50,866
Working capital	39,808	77,750	156,021	18,897	36,511
Total assets	279,407	241,095	340,560	40,516	65,845
Long-term liabilities	250,977	191,289	193,397	292	15,654
Shareholders' (deficit) equity	(1,996)	28,101	114,400	29,940	35,417

⁽¹⁾ Does not include revenue from discontinued operations related to our genomics business.

⁽²⁾ Adjusted to account for the effect of the 1-for-8 reverse stock split effectuated on November 15, 2006.

⁽³⁾ We acquired the ANTARA assets on August 18, 2006.

⁽⁴⁾ We completed a merger with Genesoft on February 6, 2004.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

You should carefully consider the risks described below and all other information contained in this prospectus before you decide to exchange your existing notes for new notes or buy for cash additional new notes. Some of the following risks relate principally to our business and the industry in which we operate. Other risks relate principally to the securities markets and ownership of our securities. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us, or risks that we currently consider immaterial, may also impair our operations or results. If any of the following risks actually occurs, we may not be able to conduct our business as currently planned, and our financial condition and operating results could be seriously harmed. In that case, the market price of our common stock, the existing notes and the new notes could decline, and you could lose all or part of your investment.

Risks Related to Our Business

We have a history of significant operating losses and expect losses to continue for some time.

We have a history of significant operating losses and expect losses to continue for some time. We had a net loss of approximately \$78,477,000 for the year ended December 31, 2006 and at that date had an accumulated deficit of approximately \$415,905,000. The losses have resulted primarily from costs incurred in research and development, including our clinical trials and product acquisitions, from sales and marketing, and from general and administrative costs associated with our operations and product sales. These costs have exceeded our revenues which to date have been generated principally from sales of FACTIVE and ANTARA, co-promotion revenues based on the sale of TESTIM gel (which we no longer promote), and our legacy collaborations, government grants and sequencing services.

We anticipate that we will incur additional losses in the current year and in future years and cannot predict when, if ever, we will achieve profitability. These losses are expected to continue, principally in the sales and marketing area as we seek to grow sales of FACTIVE tablets and ANTARA capsules and as we seek to acquire additional approved products or product candidates. Additionally, our partners' product development efforts that utilize our genomic discoveries are at an early stage and, accordingly, we do not expect our losses to be substantially mitigated by revenues from milestone payments or royalties under those agreements for a number of years, if ever.

Our business is very dependent on the commercial success of FACTIVE and ANTARA.

FACTIVE tablets and ANTARA capsules are currently our only commercial products and we expect that they will likely account for substantially all of our product revenues for at least the next several years or until we successfully acquire, in-license or enter into co-promotion agreements for additional products.

FACTIVE tablets have FDA marketing approval for the treatment of community-acquired pneumonia of mild to moderate severity, or CAP, and acute bacterial exacerbations of chronic bronchitis, or AECB. ANTARA is approved by the FDA to treat hypercholesterolemia (high blood cholesterol) and hypertriglyceridemia (high triglycerides) in combination with a healthy diet. The commercial success of FACTIVE and ANTARA will depend upon their continued acceptance by regulators, physicians, patients and other key decision-makers as a safe, therapeutic and cost-effective alternative to other products used, or currently being developed, to treat CAP and AECB, in the case of FACTIVE tablets, or hypercholesterolemia and hypertriglyceridemia, in the case of ANTARA capsules. If FACTIVE and ANTARA are not commercially successful, we will have to find additional sources of funding or curtail or cease operations.

Table of Contents

If third parties challenge the validity of the patents or proprietary rights of our marketed products or assert that we have infringed their patents or proprietary rights, we may become involved in intellectual property disputes and litigation that would be costly, time consuming, and prevent the commercialization of ANTARA and/or FACTIVE.

The intellectual property rights of biopharmaceutical companies, including us, are generally uncertain and involve complex legal, scientific and factual questions. Our success in developing and commercializing biopharmaceutical products may depend, in part, on our ability to operate without infringing on the intellectual property rights of others and to prevent others from infringing on our intellectual property rights. There has been substantial litigation regarding patents and other intellectual property rights in the biopharmaceutical industry. We may become party to patent litigation or proceedings at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office or a foreign patent office to determine our patent rights with respect to third parties which may include competitors in the biopharmaceutical industry. Interference proceedings in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office or opposition proceedings in a foreign patent office may be necessary to establish which party was the first to discover such intellectual property. We may become involved in patent litigation against third parties to enforce our patent rights, to invalidate patents held by such third parties, or to defend against such claims. The cost to us of any patent litigation or similar proceeding could be substantial, and it may absorb significant management time. We do not expect to maintain separate insurance to cover intellectual property infringement. Our general liability insurance policy does not cover our infringement of the intellectual property rights of others. If infringement litigation against us is resolved unfavorably, we may be enjoined from manufacturing or selling certain of our products or services and be liable for damages. In certain cases, a license may be available, although we may not be able to obtain such a license on commercially acceptable terms, or at all.

We are aware of U.S. patents that are controlled by third parties that may be construed to encompass ANTARA. However, we believe that, if these patents were asserted against us, we would have valid defenses that ANTARA does not infringe any valid claims of these patents or that the patents would be found to be unenforceable. Nonetheless, in order to successfully challenge the validity of any U.S. patent, we would need to overcome the presumption of validity which is accorded to issued patents in the U.S. If any of these patents were found to be valid and enforceable and we were found to infringe any of them, or any other patent rights of third parties, we would be required to pay damages, cease the sale of ANTARA or pay additional royalties on manufacture and sales of ANTARA. If we are unable to market or sell ANTARA, or if we are obligated to pay significant damages or additional royalties, our earnings attributable to ANTARA would be reduced and our business would be materially adversely affected. Even if we prevail, the cost to us of any patent litigation would likely be substantial, and it may absorb significant management time. If the other party in any such litigation has substantially greater resources than us, we may be forced, due to cost constraints, to seek to settle any such litigation on terms less favorable to us than we might be able to obtain if we had greater resources.

We intend to raise additional funds in the future.

We believe our existing funds and anticipated cash generated from operations should be sufficient to support our current plans through at least the end of 2007. We intend to raise additional capital in the future to fund our operations, to support our sales and marketing activities, fund clinical trials and other research and development activities, and other potential commercial or development opportunities. We may seek funding through additional public or private equity offerings, debt or other strategic financings or agreements with customers or vendors. Our ability to raise additional capital, however, will be impacted by, among other factors, the investment market for biopharmaceutical companies and the progress of the FACTIVE and ANTARA commercial programs, our ability to acquire, in-license or enter into co-promotion agreements for additional products, our progress in finding a development and commercialization partner for Ramoplanin and our progress with other business development transactions. Additional financing may not be available to us when needed, or, if available, may not be

Table of Contents

available on favorable terms. If we cannot obtain adequate financing on acceptable terms when such financing is required, our business will be adversely affected.

Future fundraising could dilute the ownership interests of our shareholders.

In order to raise additional funds, we may issue equity or convertible debt securities in the future. Depending upon the market price of our shares at the time of any transaction, we may be required to sell a significant percentage of the outstanding shares of our common stock in order to fund our operating plans, potentially requiring a shareholder vote. In addition, we may have to sell securities at a discount to the prevailing market price, resulting in further dilution to our shareholders.

We need to continue to develop marketing and sales capabilities to successfully commercialize FACTIVE tablets, ANTARA capsules and our other product candidates, including effectively integrating the ANTARA product into our commercial operations.

FACTIVE tablets and ANTARA capsules are the first two FDA-approved products which we own and promote. To date, we still have limited marketing and sales experience. The launch of FACTIVE occurred in September of 2004, and we recently acquired the rights to ANTARA in August 2006. The continued development of these marketing and sales capabilities, including any expansion of our sales force, will require significant expenditures, management resources and time. Failure to continue to successfully integrate ANTARA and establish sufficient sales and marketing capabilities in a timely and regulatory compliant manner may adversely affect our ability to assume and continue to grow the ANTARA brand and related product sales.

Our product and product candidates face significant competition in the marketplace.

ANTARA

ANTARA is a fenofibrate product approved by the FDA to treat hypercholesterolemia and hypertriglyceridemia in combination with a healthy diet. The marketing of current and additional branded versions of fenofibrate could reduce our net sales of ANTARA and adversely impact our revenues. The primary competition for ANTARA in the fenofibrate market is Tricor 145 mg, a product manufactured by Abbott Laboratories, which accounted for approximately 94% of U.S. fenofibrate sales for the twelve month period ended December 31, 2006. ANTARA also competes with Triglide, a fenofibrate marketed by Sciele Pharma, Inc., which accounted for approximately 1.2% of U.S. fenofibrate sales for the twelve month period ended December 31, 2006.

Additionally, several generic versions of fenofibrate in varying doses are also available for the treatment of dyslipidemias. In May 2005, Teva Pharmaceutical Industries, Ltd. obtained final FDA approval to market a generic version of Abbott Laboratories' 160 mg Tricor tablet (which is no longer marketed or sold). In January 2006, Cipher Pharmaceuticals, Inc. obtained final FDA approval to market a 150 mg strength of fenofibrate.

There are also several non-fenofibrate FDA-approved products with similar indications as ANTARA which could compete with ANTARA, including statins, omega-3 fatty acids, niacin and fixed-dose, combination products.

We are also aware that LifeCycle Pharma A/S is developing a 40 mg and a 120 mg fenofibrate product and, on December 27, 2006, we received notice that LifeCycle Pharma had filed a new drug application with the FDA referencing ANTARA in accordance with the provisions of section 505(b)(2) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. Under current FDA policies, a section 505(b)(2) new drug application may be used to seek approval based in part on the FDA's prior findings of safety and efficacy for another entity's application, including for a product whose strength, dosage form, route of administration or labeling differs from the product covered by the application for the other drug being referenced, known

Table of Contents

as the reference listed drug. A 505(b)(2) application can be based in part on a showing that the proposed product is bioequivalent to the reference listed drug. LifeCycle Pharma's 505(b)(2) application included a certification, known as a Paragraph IV certification, alleging that its fenofibrate product does not infringe the patents that have been submitted to the FDA for ANTARA and listed in FDA's publication known as the Orange Book. We decided, based on the current patent estate for ANTARA and Lifecycle Pharma's product description, not to pursue litigation.

The growth of any of these competitive branded products or the marketing of generic fenofibrate products could result in a decrease in ANTARA sales, pressure on the price at which we are able to sell ANTARA, reduce our profit margins, reduce our net sales of ANTARA and adversely impact our revenues.

FACTIVE

FACTIVE tablets are approved for the treatment of community-acquired pneumonia of mild to moderate severity and acute bacterial exacerbations of chronic bronchitis. There are several classes of antibiotics that are primary competitors for the treatment of these indications, including other fluoroquinolones (levofloxacin, ciprofloxacin and moxifloxacin), macrolides (clarithromycin and azithromycin), telithromycin and penicillins (amoxicillin/clavulanate potassium).

Many generic antibiotics are also currently prescribed to treat these infections. Moreover, a number of the antibiotic products that are competitors of FACTIVE tablets have composition of matter patents which have gone or will be going off patent at dates ranging from 2003 to 2016. As these competitors lose patent protection, their manufacturers will likely decrease their promotional efforts. However, makers of generic drugs will likely begin to produce some of these competing products and this could result in pressure on the price at which we are able to sell FACTIVE tablets and reduce our profit margins.

Ramoplanin

Ramoplanin is in clinical development for the treatment of *Clostridium difficile*-associated disease (CDAD). We are aware of two products currently utilized in the marketplace Vancocin[®] pulvules (vancomycin), a product marketed by ViroPharma Inc., and metronidazole, a generic product for treatment of this indication. We are also aware of several companies with products in development for the treatment of CDAD as well as the potential for generic vancomycin.

Many of our competitors have substantially greater capital resources and human resources than us. Furthermore, many of those competitors are more experienced than us in drug discovery, clinical development and commercialization, and in obtaining regulatory approvals. As a result, those competitors may discover, develop and commercialize pharmaceutical products or services before us. In addition, our competitors may discover, develop and commercialize products or services that are more effective than, or otherwise render non-competitive or obsolete, the products or services that we or our collaborators are seeking to develop and commercialize. Moreover, these competitors may obtain patent protection or other intellectual property rights that would limit our rights or the ability of our collaborators to develop or commercialize pharmaceutical products or services.

Our failure to in-license, co-promote or acquire and develop additional product candidates or approved products will impair our ability to grow.

As part of our growth strategy, we intend to acquire, develop and commercialize additional product candidates or approved products. The success of this strategy depends upon our ability to identify, select and acquire biopharmaceutical products that meet our criteria. We may not be able to acquire the rights to additional product candidates and approved products on terms that we find acceptable, or at all. The

Table of Contents

acquisition of rights to additional products would likely require us to make significant up-front cash payments, which could adversely affect our liquidity and/or accelerate our need to raise additional capital and/or secure external sources of financing. We may seek funding for product acquisitions through equity or debt offerings, through royalty-based financings or by a combination of these methods, such as the financing we completed with Paul Royalty Fund Holdings II, LP, an affiliate of Paul Capital Partners, or Paul Capital, to fund the ANTARA acquisition. There is no assurance that we will be able to raise the funds necessary to complete any product acquisitions on acceptable terms or at all. If we raise funds it could dilute shareholders, or if we use existing resources it could adversely affect our liquidity and accelerate our need to raise additional capital.

New product candidates acquired or in-licensed by us may require additional research and development efforts prior to commercial sale, including extensive preclinical and/or clinical testing and approval by the FDA and corresponding foreign regulatory authorities. All product candidates are prone to the risks of failure inherent in pharmaceutical product development, including the possibility that the product candidate will not be safe, effective or approved by regulatory authorities. In addition, it is uncertain whether any approved products that we develop or acquire will be:

manufactured or produced economically;

successfully commercialized; or

widely accepted in the marketplace.

We cannot expand the indications for which we will market FACTIVE unless we receive FDA approval for each additional indication. Failure to expand these indications will limit the size of the commercial market for FACTIVE.

In April 2003, FACTIVE tablets were approved by the FDA for the seven-day treatment of community-acquired pneumonia of mild to moderate severity (CAP) and the five-day treatment of acute bacterial exacerbations of chronic bronchitis (AECB). In our attempt to continue to develop the market for FACTIVE, we completed a clinical trial designed to demonstrate that a five-day course of FACTIVE for the treatment of mild to moderate CAP is as effective as the currently approved seven-day course of treatment. On September 21, 2006, we received an approvable letter from the FDA for the sNDA seeking approval for the five-day treatment CAP with FACTIVE tablets. According to the letter, we were required to provide clarification and additional interpretation regarding certain data included in the application to assist the FDA in its evaluation. We recently delivered this additional information to the FDA and the FDA has accepted our response as complete. We cannot be certain whether additional data will be required or if the five-day CAP sNDA will ultimately be approved. In November 2005, we filed an sNDA seeking approval for acute bacterial sinusitis. In September 2006, the FDA's Anti-Infective Drugs Advisory Committee voted not to recommend approval of this sNDA and, in November 2006, we voluntarily withdrew our sNDA. If we encounter similar issues with the FDA in the future or are otherwise unsuccessful in expanding the approved indications for the use of FACTIVE, the size of the commercial market for FACTIVE will be limited.

Seasonal fluctuations in demand for FACTIVE may cause our operating results to vary significantly from quarter to quarter.

We expect demand for FACTIVE to be highest between December 1 and March 31 as the incidence of respiratory tract infections, including CAP and AECB, tends to increase during the winter months. In addition, fluctuations in the duration and severity of the annual respiratory tract infection season may cause our product sales to vary from year to year. Due to these seasonal fluctuations in demand, our results in one quarter may not be indicative of the results for any other quarter or for the entire year.

Table of Contents

We, as well as our partners, are subject to numerous complex regulatory requirements and failure to comply with these regulations, or the cost of compliance with these regulations, may harm our business.

Virtually all aspects of our and our partners' activities are subject to regulation by numerous governmental authorities in the U.S., Europe, Canada, Mexico and elsewhere. These regulations govern or affect the testing, manufacture, safety, effectiveness, labeling, storage, record-keeping, approval, distribution, advertising and promotion of FACTIVE, ANTARA, Ramoplanin and our other product candidates, as well as safe working conditions and the experimental use of animals. Noncompliance with any applicable regulatory requirements or failure to obtain adequate documentation from any governmental agency can result in refusal of the government to approve products for marketing, criminal prosecution and fines, recall or seizure of products, injunctions, total or partial suspension of production, whistleblower lawsuits, prohibitions or limitations on the commercial sale of products or refusal to allow the entering into of federal and state supply contracts. These enforcement actions would detract from management's ability to focus on our daily business and would have an adverse effect on the way we conduct our daily business, which could severely impact future profitability. Our corporate compliance program cannot fully ensure that we are in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations, and a failure to comply with such regulations or a failure to prevail in litigation related to noncompliance could harm our business.

For instance, we, along with many other pharmaceutical companies, recently received notification from the FDA that it had some concerns over the reliability of studies conducted by MDS Pharma Services between 2000 and 2004. The predecessor owner of the rights to ANTARA, Reliant Pharmaceuticals, had engaged MDS Pharma to perform certain bioequivalence studies for ANTARA, including some studies that were submitted in support of the original approval of bioequivalence. In its letter, the FDA requested that we confirm whether any of the analyses of our products were conducted by MDS Pharma in order for the FDA to determine whether we might have to validate, confirm or repeat certain studies. The FDA has stated that it has not detected any signals or any evidence that the products mentioned in the letters pose a safety risk or that there has been any impact on efficacy. Because the outcome of this issue is uncertain, we cannot predict whether this issue will have a material impact on our results of operations.

New legal and regulatory requirements could make it more difficult for us to obtain extended or new product approvals, and could limit or make more burdensome our ability to commercialize our approved products.

Numerous proposals have been made in recent months and years to impose new requirements on drug approvals, expand post-approval requirements, and restrict sales and promotional activities. For example, federal legislation has been proposed that would require all new drug applicants to submit risk evaluation and minimization plans to monitor and address potential safety issues for products upon approval, grant FDA the authority to impose risk management measures for marketed products and to mandate labeling changes in certain circumstances, and establish new requirements for disclosing the results of clinical trials. Additional measures have also been proposed to address perceived shortcomings in FDA's handling of drug safety issues, and to limit pharmaceutical company sales and promotional practices that some see as excessive or improper. If these or other legal or regulatory changes are enacted, it may become more difficult or burdensome for us to obtain extended or new product approvals, and our current approvals may be restricted or subject to onerous post-approval requirements. Such changes may increase our costs and adversely affect our operations. The ability of us or our partners to commercialize approved products successfully may be hindered, and our business may be harmed as a result.

Table of Contents

Failure to comply with or changes to the regulatory requirements that are applicable to FACTIVE, ANTARA or our other product candidates may result in a variety of consequences, including the following:

restrictions on our products or manufacturing processes;

notice of violation letters regarding promotional and marketing materials and activities;

withdrawal of FACTIVE, ANTARA or a product candidate from the market;

voluntary or mandatory recall of FACTIVE, ANTARA or a product candidate;

finances against us or our partners;

suspension or withdrawal of regulatory approvals for FACTIVE, ANTARA or a product candidate which subsequently receives regulatory approval;

suspension or termination of any of our ongoing clinical trials of a product candidate;

refusal to permit import or export of our products;

refusal to approve pending applications or supplements to approved applications that we or our partners submit;

denial of permission to file an application or supplement in a jurisdiction;

product seizure; and

injunctions or the imposition of civil or criminal penalties against us or our partners.

If we market products in a manner that violates health care fraud and abuse laws, we may be subject to civil or criminal penalties.

In addition to FDA and related regulatory requirements, we are subject to health care fraud and abuse laws, such as the federal False Claims Act, the anti-kickback provisions of the federal Social Security Act, and other state and federal laws and regulations. Federal and state anti-kickback laws prohibit, among other things, knowingly and willfully offering, paying, soliciting or receiving remuneration to induce, or in return for purchasing, leasing, ordering or arranging for the purchase, lease or order of any health care item or service reimbursable under Medicare, Medicaid, or other federally or state financed health care programs. This statute has been interpreted to apply to arrangements between pharmaceutical manufacturers on one hand and prescribers, patients, purchasers and formulary managers on the other. Although there are a number of statutory exemptions and regulatory safe harbors protecting certain common activities from prosecution, the exemptions and safe harbors are drawn narrowly, and practices that involve remuneration intended to induce prescribing, purchasing, or recommending may be subject to scrutiny if they do not qualify for an exemption or safe harbor.

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Federal false claims laws prohibit any person from knowingly presenting, or causing to be presented, a false claim for payment to the federal government, or knowingly making, or causing to be made, a false statement to get a false claim paid. Pharmaceutical companies have been prosecuted under these laws for a variety of alleged promotional and marketing activities, such as allegedly providing free product to customers with the expectation that the customers would bill federal programs for the product; reporting to pricing services inflated average wholesale prices that were then used by federal programs to set reimbursement rates; engaging in promotion for uses that the FDA has not approved, or off-label uses, that caused claims to be submitted to Medicaid for non-covered off-label uses; and submitting inflated best price information to the Medicaid Rebate Program.

The majority of states also have statutes or regulations similar to the federal anti-kickback law and false claims laws, which apply to items and services reimbursed under Medicaid and other state programs, or,

Table of Contents

in several states, apply regardless of the payor. Sanctions under these federal and state laws may include civil monetary penalties, exclusion of a manufacturer's products from reimbursement under government programs, criminal fines, and imprisonment. Even if we are not determined to have violated these laws, government investigations into these issues typically require the expenditure of significant resources and generate negative publicity, which would also harm our financial condition. Because of the breadth of these laws and the narrowness of the safe harbors, it is possible that some of our business activities could be subject to challenge under one or more of such laws.

In recent years, several states and localities, including California, the District of Columbia, Maine, Minnesota, New Mexico, Vermont, and West Virginia, have enacted legislation requiring pharmaceutical companies to establish marketing compliance programs, and file periodic reports with the state or make periodic public disclosures on sales, marketing, pricing, clinical trials, and other activities. Similar legislation is being considered in other states. Many of these requirements are new and uncertain, and the penalties for failure to comply with these requirements are unclear. We are not aware of any companies against which fines or penalties have been assessed under these special state reporting and disclosure laws to date. Nonetheless, if we are found not to be in full compliance with these laws, we could face enforcement action and fines and other penalties, and could receive adverse publicity.

We depend on third parties to manufacture and distribute our products and product candidates.

We do not have the internal capability to manufacture pharmaceutical products. Under our agreement with LG Life Sciences, LG Life Sciences manufactures the API of FACTIVE, and we use Patheon Inc. (Patheon) to produce the finished FACTIVE tablets. Currently, our only source of supply of bulk capsules of ANTARA is Ethypharm which manufactures the bulk capsules in France and receives ANTARA API from two vendors in Spain and Italy. Further, we have an agreement with Cardinal Health PTS, LLC (Cardinal Health) to package finished ANTARA capsules. The only source of supply for FACTIVE API is LG Life Sciences' facility in South Korea, and Patheon is currently our only source of finished FACTIVE tablets.

If LG Life Sciences, Ethypharm, Patheon or Cardinal experiences any significant difficulties in their respective manufacturing processes for our products including the API or finished product, we could experience significant interruptions in the supply of FACTIVE and ANTARA. Our inability to coordinate the efforts of our third party manufacturing partners, or the lack of capacity available at our third party manufacturing partners, could impair our ability to supply FACTIVE and ANTARA at required levels. Such an interruption could cause us to incur substantial costs and our ability to generate revenue from FACTIVE and ANTARA may be adversely affected. We may not be able to enter into alternative supply arrangements at commercially acceptable rates, if at all. Also, if we change the source or location of supply or modify the manufacturing process, regulatory authorities will require us to demonstrate that the product manufactured by the new source or from the modified process is equivalent to the product used in any clinical trials that we had conducted. Due to these significant regulatory requirements that we would need to satisfy in order to qualify a new or second bulk or finished product supplier, we could experience significant interruptions in the supply of FACTIVE and ANTARA if we decided to transfer the manufacture of our products to one or more suppliers in an effort to deal with such difficulties.

As the FACTIVE API and ANTARA bulk capsules are manufactured in South Korea and France, respectfully, we must ship our products to the United States for finishing, packaging and labeling, and manufacturing in the case for FACTIVE. While in transit, our API and finished product, each shipment of which is of significant value, could be lost or damaged. Moreover, at any time after shipment to the United States, our API or finished product could be lost or damaged as our FACTIVE API is stored at Patheon and our FACTIVE and ANTARA finished product is stored at our third party logistics provider, Integrated Commercialization Solutions, Inc. (ICS). Appropriate risk mitigation steps have been taken

Table of Contents

and insurance is in place. However, depending on when in the process the API or finished product is lost or damaged, we may have limited recourse for recovery against our manufacturers or insurers. As a result, our financial performance could be impacted by any such loss or damage to our API or finished product.

We may also experience interruption or significant delay in the supply of FACTIVE and ANTARA due to natural disasters, acts of war or terrorism, shipping embargoes, labor unrest or political instability in South Korea or France. In any such event, the supply of our products stored at LG Life Sciences or Ethypharm could also be impacted.

Pursuant to our acquisition of worldwide rights to Ramoplanin, we are responsible for the manufacture of both the active pharmaceutical ingredient and finished dosage form of Ramoplanin. Although we plan to seek a partner for Ramoplanin, a contract manufacturer would be required to produce both the active pharmaceutical ingredient and the final dosage form to support related manufacturing activities. If there is a significant delay in securing a qualified supplier on commercially favorable terms, we could experience a supply shortage of Ramoplanin bulk drug, possibly affecting our ability to consummate partnering arrangements for the commercialization of Ramoplanin.

Moreover, while we may choose to manufacture products in the future, we have no experience in the manufacture of pharmaceutical products for clinical trials or commercial purposes. If we decide to manufacture products, it would be subject to the regulatory requirements described above. In addition, we would require substantial additional capital and would be subject to delays or difficulties encountered in manufacturing pharmaceutical products.

We depend on third parties to manage our product supply chain for FACTIVE tablets and ANTARA capsules.

We do not have the internal capability to perform product supply chain services including warehousing, inventory management and distribution of commercial and sample quantities of FACTIVE tablets and ANTARA capsules. We have an exclusive arrangement with Integrated Commercialization Solutions, Inc. (ICS) to perform such supply chain services through the second quarter of 2007.

We cannot be certain that our arrangement with ICS will be extended, or extended upon commercially favorable terms, or that ICS will be able to perform uninterrupted supply chain services. If ICS were unable to perform their services for any period, we may incur substantial loss of sales to wholesalers and other purchasers of our products. If we are forced to find an alternative supply chain service provider for FACTIVE and ANTARA, in addition to loss of sales, we may also incur costs in establishing a new arrangement.

Wholesalers, pharmacies and hospitals may not maintain adequate distribution for our products.

We sell FACTIVE and ANTARA to wholesale drug distributors who generally sell products to retail pharmacies and other institutional customers. We do not promote FACTIVE and ANTARA to these wholesalers, and they do not determine such products prescription demand. However, approximately 84% of our product shipments during the twelve months ended December 31, 2006 were to only three wholesalers. Our ability to commercialize FACTIVE and/or ANTARA will depend, in part, on the extent to which we maintain adequate distribution of FACTIVE tablets and ANTARA capsules via wholesalers, pharmacies and hospitals, as well as other customers. Although a majority of the larger wholesalers and retailers distribute and stock FACTIVE and ANTARA, they may be reluctant to do so in the future if demand is not established. Further, it is possible that wholesalers could decide to change their policies or fees, or both, at some time in the future. This could result in their refusal to distribute smaller volume products, or cause higher product distribution costs, lower margins or the need to find alternative methods of distributing products. Such alternative methods may not exist or may not be economically

Table of Contents

viable. If we do not maintain adequate distribution of FACTIVE tablets or ANTARA capsules, the commercialization of FACTIVE and/or ANTARA and our anticipated revenues and results of operations could be adversely affected.

The development and commercialization of our products may be terminated or delayed, and the costs of development and commercialization may increase, if third parties upon whom we rely to support the development and commercialization of our products do not fulfill their obligations.

In addition to using third parties to fulfill our manufacturing, distribution and supply chain services, our development and commercialization strategy entails entering into arrangements with corporate collaborators, contract research organizations, licensors, licensees and others to conduct development work, manage our clinical trials and market and sell our products outside of the United States. We do not have the expertise or the resources to conduct such activities on our own and, as a result, we will be particularly dependent on third parties in these areas. For instance, we have entered into exclusive arrangements granting rights Pfizer, S.A. de C.V. (Pfizer Mexico), Abbott Laboratories, Ltd. (Abbott Canada) and Menarini International Operation Luxembourg SA (Menarini) to develop and sell FACTIVE in Mexico, Canada and the European Union, respectively.

We may not be able to maintain our existing arrangements with respect to the commercialization of our existing products, FACTIVE and ANTARA, or establish and maintain arrangements or partnerships to develop and commercialize Ramoplanin or any additional product candidates or products we may acquire on terms that are acceptable to us. Any current or future arrangements for development and commercialization may not be successful. If we are not able to establish or maintain agreements relating to our current products, Ramoplanin, our other product candidates or any additional products we may acquire on terms which we deem favorable, our results of operations would be materially adversely affected.

Third parties may not perform their obligations as expected. The amount and timing of resources that third parties devote to developing and commercializing our products are not within our control. Furthermore, our interests may differ from those of third parties that commercialize our products. Disagreements that may arise with these third parties could delay or lead to the termination of the development or commercialization of our product candidates, or result in litigation or arbitration, which would be time consuming and expensive.

If any third party that supports the development or commercialization of our products breaches or terminates its agreement with us, or fails to conduct its activities in a timely and regulatory compliant manner, such breach, termination or failure could:

delay or otherwise adversely impact the development or commercialization of FACTIVE tablets, ANTARA capsules, Ramoplanin, our other product candidates or any additional product candidates that we may acquire or develop;

require us to undertake unforeseen additional responsibilities or devote unforeseen additional resources to the development or commercialization of our products; or

result in the termination of the development or commercialization of our products.

Clinical trials are costly, time consuming and unpredictable, and we have limited experience conducting and managing necessary preclinical and clinical trials for product candidates.

To obtain FDA approval to market a new drug product or to expand the approved uses of an existing product, we or our partners must demonstrate proof of safety and efficacy in humans. To meet these requirements, we or our partners will have to conduct extensive testing, including potentially preclinical testing and adequate and well-controlled clinical trials. Conducting clinical trials is a lengthy, time-

Table of Contents

consuming and expensive process. The length of time required to conduct required studies may vary substantially according to the type, complexity, novelty and intended use of the product candidate, and often can be several years or more per trial. Delays associated with products for which clinical trials are required may cause us to incur additional operating expenses.

The Phase II trial for our product candidate, Ramoplanin, to assess the safety and efficacy of treating *Clostridium difficile*-associated disease, or CDAD, was completed in 2004, but did not meet its primary endpoint. Prior clinical and preclinical trials for Ramoplanin were conducted by Vicuron and its licensees, from whom we acquired rights to Ramoplanin. Although we have agreed with the FDA to a Special Protocol Assessment regarding specific components of a Phase III program that, if completed successfully, would support regulatory approval for the indication, we can give no assurance that as clinical trials proceed or as part of an NDA review process, if any, the FDA will not determine that a previously approved Special Protocol Assessment for a particular protocol is no longer valid. Further, any third party with whom we may partner or grant our rights to Ramoplanin may not be able to complete future trials, make the filings within the timeframes we currently expect or demonstrate the safety and efficacy of Ramoplanin to the satisfaction of the FDA or other regulatory authorities. If the trials or the filings are delayed or resisted by the FDA, our business may be adversely affected.

If we choose to pursue additional indications for FACTIVE or ANTARA, we may not be able to demonstrate the safety and efficacy of FACTIVE or ANTARA for those indications to the satisfaction of the FDA, or other regulatory authorities. We may also be required to demonstrate that our proposed products represent an improved form of treatment over existing therapies and we may be unable to do so without conducting further clinical studies. Negative, inconclusive or inconsistent clinical trial results could prevent regulatory approval, increase the cost and timing of regulatory approval or require additional studies or a filing for a narrower indication.

In addition, the cost of human clinical trials varies dramatically based on a number of factors, including the order and timing of clinical indications pursued, the extent of development and financial support from alliance partners, the number of patients required for enrollment, the difficulty of obtaining clinical supplies of the product candidate, and the difficulty in obtaining sufficient patient populations and clinicians.

We have limited experience in conducting and managing the preclinical and clinical trials necessary to obtain regulatory marketing approvals. We may not be able to obtain the approvals necessary to conduct clinical studies. Also, the results of our clinical trials may not be consistent with the results obtained in preclinical studies or the results obtained in later phases of clinical trials may not be consistent with those obtained in earlier phases. A number of companies in the biopharmaceutical industry have suffered significant setbacks in advanced clinical trials, even after experiencing promising results in early animal and human testing.

Even if a product gains regulatory approval, the product and the manufacturer of the product will be subject to continuing regulatory review, including the requirement to conduct post-approval clinical studies. We may be restricted or prohibited from marketing or manufacturing a product, even after obtaining product approval, if previously unknown problems with the product or its manufacture are subsequently discovered.

Table of Contents

We could experience delays in clinical development which could delay anticipated product launches.

The speed with which we are able to complete clinical trials for future product candidates, when and if we, or any third party with whom we partner, elects to commence Phase III development, and our applications for marketing approval will depend on several factors, including the following:

the rate of patient enrollment, which is a function of many factors, including the size of the patient population, the proximity of patients to clinical sites, the eligibility criteria for the study and the nature of the protocol;

fluctuations in the disease incidence for patients available to enroll in our trials;

compliance of patients and investigators with the protocol and applicable regulations;

prior regulatory agency review and approval of our applications and procedures;

analysis of data obtained from preclinical and clinical activities which are susceptible to varying interpretations, which interpretations could delay, limit or prevent regulatory approval;

changes in the policies of regulatory authorities for drug approval during the period of product development; and

the availability of skilled and experienced staff to conduct and monitor clinical studies, to accurately collect data and to prepare the appropriate regulatory applications.

Our intellectual property protection and other protections may be inadequate to protect our products.

Our success will depend, in part, on our ability to obtain commercially valuable patent claims and protect our intellectual property. We currently own or license approximately 75 issued U.S. patents, approximately 87 pending U.S. patent applications, 148 issued foreign patents and approximately 201 pending foreign patent applications. We are not currently involved in any litigation, settlement negotiations, or other legal action regarding patent issues and we are not aware of any patent litigation threatened against us. Our patent position involves complex legal and factual questions, and legal standards relating to the validity and scope of claims in the applicable technology fields are still evolving. Therefore, the degree of future protection for our proprietary rights is uncertain.

Under our license agreement with LG Life Sciences, we obtained an exclusive license to develop and market gemifloxacin in certain territories. This license covers 16 issued U.S. patents and a broad portfolio of corresponding foreign patents and pending patent applications. These patents include claims that relate to the chemical composition of FACTIVE, methods of manufacturing and its use for the prophylaxis and treatment of bacterial infections. We have received a Notice of Final Determination from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on our patent term extension application for U.S. Patent 5,776,944 extending its patent term 659 days to April 4, 2017. The principal U.S. patents are currently set to expire at various dates, ranging from 2015 to 2019.

Under our development, license and supply agreement with Ethypharm, S.A., we assumed all of the rights and obligations related to the development, manufacturing, marketing and sale of ANTARA in the United States. This license includes two issued U.S. patents and several pending patent applications. These patents and applications include claims that relate to pharmaceutical compositions containing fenofibrate using the drug delivery technologies incorporated in ANTARA, methods of their use and treatment, and methods of preparing the same. The latest patent issued to Ethypharm is set to expire in 2020.

The patents relating to Ramoplanin include claims relating to methods of manufacturing Ramoplanin as well as methods of increasing the yield of the active compound. We also have applications pending

Table of Contents

related to various novel uses of Ramoplanin as well as a formulation containing Ramoplanin. The patent covering the chemical composition of Ramoplanin has expired. To provide additional protection for Ramoplanin, we rely on proprietary know-how relating to maximizing yields in the manufacture of Ramoplanin, and intend to rely on the five years of data exclusivity under the Hatch-Waxman Act in the U.S. and the ten years of market exclusivity in Europe available through the European Medicines Agency (EMA), because Ramoplanin would be a new chemical entity not previously marketed commercially.

The risks and uncertainties that we will face with respect to our patents and other proprietary rights include the following:

the pending patent applications that we have filed or to which we have exclusive rights may not result in issued patents, may result in issued patents with narrower claims than anticipated or may take longer than expected to result in issued patents;

the claims of any patents which are issued may be limited from those in the patent applications and may not provide meaningful protection;

we may not be able to develop additional proprietary technologies that are patentable;

the patents licensed or issued to us or our partners may not provide a competitive advantage;

other companies may challenge patents licensed or issued to us or our partners;

patents issued to other companies may harm our ability to do business;

other companies may independently develop similar or alternative technologies or duplicate our technologies; and

the patents may be narrow in scope and accordingly other companies may design around technologies we have licensed or developed.

International patent protection is uncertain.

Patent law outside the United States is uncertain and is currently undergoing review and revision in many countries. Further, the laws of some foreign countries may not protect our intellectual property rights to the same extent as U.S. laws. We may participate in opposition proceedings to determine the validity of our or our competitors' foreign patents, which could result in substantial costs and diversion of our efforts.

Our proprietary position may depend on our ability to protect our proprietary confidential information and trade secrets.

We rely upon certain proprietary confidential information, trademarks, unpatented trade secrets and improvements, unpatented know-how and continuing technological innovation to develop and maintain our competitive position. We generally protect this information with confidentiality agreements that provide that all confidential information developed or made known to others during the course of the employment, consulting or business relationship shall be kept confidential except in specified circumstances. Agreements with employees provide that all inventions conceived by an individual while employed by us are our exclusive property. We cannot guarantee, however, that these agreements will be honored, that we will have adequate remedies for breach if they are not honored or that our proprietary confidential information and trade secrets will not otherwise become known or be independently discovered by competitors.

Table of Contents

We bear substantial responsibilities under our license agreements for FACTIVE and ANTARA and our sublicense agreements to Pfizer, S.A. de C.V., Abbott Laboratories, Ltd. and Menarini International Operation Luxembourg SA, and there can be no assurance that we will successfully fulfill our responsibilities.

FACTIVE

We have an exclusive license from LG Life Sciences to develop and market FACTIVE in North America, France, Germany, the United Kingdom, Luxembourg, Ireland, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Belgium, the Netherlands, Austria, Greece, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Norway, Iceland, Switzerland, Andorra, Monaco, San Marino, Vatican City, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia, Hungary, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Liechtenstein, Malta, Cyprus, Romania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Under this agreement, we are responsible, at our expense and through consultation with LG Life Sciences, for the clinical and commercial development of FACTIVE in the countries covered by the license, including the conduct of clinical trials, the filing of drug approval applications with the FDA and other applicable regulatory authorities and the marketing, distribution and sale of FACTIVE in our territory. The agreement also requires a minimum sales commitment over a period of time, which if not met, would result in the technology being returned to LG Life Sciences. In addition, LG Life Sciences has the right to co-promote FACTIVE in the U.S. on terms to be negotiated, commencing in 2008; such co-promotion option terminates once certain level of sales are reached by us. If LG Life Sciences co-promotes FACTIVE in the U.S., our royalty obligations to LG Life Sciences would cease. We believe that we are currently in compliance with our obligations under the agreement with LG Life Sciences, but there can be no assurance that we will be able to remain in compliance due to the limitations on our resources and the many risks of conducting clinical trials, as described above in Clinical trials are costly, time consuming and unpredictable, and we have limited experience conducting and managing necessary preclinical and clinical trials for our product candidates and the challenges inherent in the commercialization of new products as described above in Our product candidates will face significant competition in the marketplace. In addition, if LG Life Sciences exercises its right to co-promote FACTIVE, our operating results will suffer.

LG Life Sciences has the obligation under the agreement to diligently maintain its patents and the patents of third parties to which it has rights that, in each case relating to gemifloxacin, the active ingredient in FACTIVE tablets. We have the right, at our expense, to control any litigation relating to suits brought by a third party alleging that the manufacture, use or sale of gemifloxacin in its licensed field in the territories covered by the license infringes upon our rights. We also have the primary right to pursue actions for infringement of any patent licensed from LG Life Sciences under the license agreement within the territories covered by the license. If we elect not to pursue any infringement action, LG Life Sciences has the right to pursue it. The costs of any infringement actions are first paid out of any damages recovered. If we are the plaintiff, the remainder of the damages are retained by us, subject to our royalty obligations to LG Life Sciences. If LG Life Sciences is the plaintiff, the remainder of the damages are divided evenly between us and LG Life Sciences, subject to our royalty obligations to LG Life Sciences. The costs of pursuing any such action could substantially diminish our resources.

In February 2006, we entered into a Sublicensing and Distribution Agreement with Pfizer, S.A. de C.V. (Pfizer Mexico) whereby we sublicensed our rights to commercialize FACTIVE tablets in Mexico to Pfizer Mexico. Under this agreement, we are obligated to exclusively supply all active pharmaceutical ingredient for FACTIVE required by Pfizer Mexico in Mexico. In August 2006, we entered into a Supply, Development and Marketing Agreement with Abbott Laboratories Canadian affiliate (Abbott Canada). Under this agreement, we are obligated to exclusively supply all finished packaged FACTIVE product required by Abbott Canada. In December 2006, we entered into a License, Supply and Marketing Agreement with Menarini International Operation Luxembourg SA (Menarini), whereby we sublicensed our rights to sell FACTIVE tablets in the European Union to Menarini. Under the terms of our agreement

Table of Contents

with Menarini, Menarini is also obligated to exclusively purchase from us, and we must exclusively supply, all API for FACTIVE to be sold in Europe for the earlier to occur of the expiration of the life of certain patents covering the product or expiration of data exclusivity. We believe that, together with our manufacturing partners, we will be able to meet such supply and other obligations under these sublicense and supply agreements but can make no assurances that we will be able to remain in compliance with such responsibilities, which would result in our breach of such agreement.

ANTARA

Our exclusive rights to ANTARA are licensed to us by Ethypharm, S.A. (Ethypharm). If we breach the development, license and supply agreement with Ethypharm, it may be entitled to terminate the agreement. Further, in order to maintain our exclusive rights, we must achieve certain minimum annual sales of ANTARA until February 2012 or make payments to Ethypharm to compensate for the difference. Ethypharm also has a right of first refusal on any divestiture of our rights to ANTARA. We believe that we are currently in compliance with our obligations under the Ethypharm agreement, but there can be no assurance that we will be able to remain in compliance or that we will be able to meet the milestones required for extension of the agreement. Moreover, Ethypharm's right of first refusal on a divestiture of our rights to ANTARA may adversely affect our ability to effect a change of control or sale of our assets.

We depend on key personnel, including members of our direct sales force, in a highly competitive market for such skilled personnel.

We are highly dependent on the principal members of our senior management and key scientific, sales and technical personnel. The loss of any of our personnel could have a material adverse effect on our ability to achieve our goals. We currently maintain employment agreements with the following executive officers: Steven M. Rauscher, President and Chief Executive Officer; Philippe M. Maitre, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer; and Dominick Colangelo, Esq., Executive Vice President, Corporate Development and Operations. The term of each employment agreement continues until it is terminated by the officer or Oscient.

Our future success is dependent upon our ability to attract and retain additional qualified sales and marketing, clinical development, scientific and managerial personnel. Like others in our industry, we may face, and in the past we have faced from time to time, difficulties in attracting and retaining certain employees with the requisite expertise and qualifications. We believe that our historical recruiting periods and employee turnover rates are similar to those of others in our industry; however, we cannot be certain that we will not encounter greater difficulties in the future.

Changes in the expensing of stock-based compensation have resulted and will continue to result in unfavorable accounting charges and may require us to change our compensation practices. Any change in our compensation practices may adversely affect our ability to attract and retain qualified scientific, technical and business personnel.

We rely on stock options to compensate existing employees and attract new employees. As a result of new accounting rules implemented by the Financial Accounting Standards Board, as of January 1, 2006, we were required to record expense for the fair value of stock options granted to employees and the fair value of purchase rights under our employee stock purchase plan, thereby increasing our operating expenses and reported losses. Although we intend to continue to include various forms of equity in our compensation plans, if the extent to which we use forms of equity in our plans is reduced due to the negative effect on earnings, it may be difficult for us to attract and retain qualified scientific, technical and business personnel.

Table of Contents

Failure to obtain or maintain regulatory approvals in foreign jurisdictions will prevent us from marketing FACTIVE abroad.

We have entered into commercialization relationships with Pfizer, S.A. de C.V. (Pfizer Mexico), Abbott Laboratories, Ltd. (Abbott Canada) and Menarini International Operation Luxembourg SA (Menarini) whereby we sublicensed our rights to sell FACTIVE tablets in Mexico to Pfizer Mexico, in Canada to Abbott Canada and in the European Union to Menarini. If our partners are unsuccessful in their efforts, it would significantly limit the revenues that we expect to obtain from the sales of FACTIVE.

Further, in order to market FACTIVE in the European Union, we or our distribution partners may need to obtain multiple regulatory approvals. Obtaining foreign approvals may require additional trials and expense. For instance, our predecessor's original regulatory filing in the United Kingdom was rejected. We may not be able to obtain approval or may be delayed in obtaining approval from any or all of the jurisdictions in which we seek approval to market FACTIVE.

Under our financing arrangement with Paul Capital, upon the occurrence of certain events, Paul Capital may require us to repurchase the right to receive revenues that we assigned to it or may foreclose on certain assets that secure our obligations to Paul Capital. Any exercise by Paul Capital of its right to cause us to repurchase the assigned right or any foreclosure by Paul Capital could adversely affect our results of operations and our financial condition.

On August 18, 2006, we and our subsidiary Guardian II Acquisition Corporation, or Guardian II, entered into a revenue interests assignment agreement with Paul Capital pursuant to which we assigned to Paul Capital the right to receive a portion of our net revenues from FACTIVE tablets and Guardian II assigned to Paul Capital the right to receive a portion of its net revenue from ANTARA capsules. To secure its obligations to Paul Capital, Guardian II also granted Paul Capital a security interest in substantially all of its assets, including the U.S. rights to ANTARA.

Under our arrangement with Paul Capital, upon the occurrence of certain events, including if we experience a change of control, undergo certain bankruptcy events of us or our subsidiary, transfer any of substantially all of our rights in ANTARA or FACTIVE, transfer of all or substantially all of our assets, breach certain of the covenants, representations or warranties under the revenue interests assignment agreement, or sales of ANTARA are suspended due to an injunction or if we elect to suspend sales of ANTARA as a result of a lawsuit filed by certain third parties, Paul Capital may (1) require us to repurchase the rights we assigned to it at the put/call price in effect on the date such right is exercised or (2) foreclose on the ANTARA assets that secure our obligations to Paul Capital. Except in the case of certain bankruptcy events, if Paul Capital exercises its right to cause us to repurchase the rights we assigned to it, Paul Capital may not foreclose unless we fail to pay the put/call price as required.

If Paul Capital were to exercise its right to cause us to repurchase the right we assigned to it, we cannot assure you that we or Guardian II would have sufficient funds available to pay the put/call price in effect at that time. Even if we have sufficient funds available, we may have to use funds that we planned to use for other purposes and our results of operations and financial condition could be adversely affected. If Paul Capital were to foreclose on the ANTARA assets that secure our obligations to Paul Capital, our results of operations and financial condition could also be adversely affected. Due to Paul Capital's right to cause us to repurchase the rights we assigned to it is triggered by, among other things, a change in control, transfer of any of our interests in ANTARA or transfer of all or substantially all of our assets, the existence of that right could discourage us or a potential acquirer from entering into a business transaction that would result in the occurrence of any of those events.

Table of Contents

Multiple factors beyond our control may cause fluctuations in our operating results and may cause our business to suffer.

Our revenues and results of operations may fluctuate significantly, depending on a variety of factors, including the following:

the pace of our commercialization of ANTARA capsules and FACTIVE tablets, and in the case of FACTIVE, seasonal fluctuations in the duration and severity of the annual respiratory tract infection season;

the level of acceptance by physicians and third party payors of FACTIVE and ANTARA;

the progress of any of our clinical trials for our products;

the progress of any clinical trials conducted by partners for Ramoplanin or products developed through our legacy alliances;

our success in concluding transactions to acquire additional approved products and product candidates, and the pace of our commercialization of such additional products;

the introduction of new products and services by our competitors;

regulatory actions; and

expenses related to, and the results of, litigation and other proceedings relating to intellectual property rights.

We will not be able to control many of these factors. In addition, if our revenues in a particular period do not meet expectations, we may not be able to adjust our expenditures in that period, which could cause our business to suffer. We believe that period-to-period comparisons of our financial results will not necessarily be meaningful. You should not rely on these comparisons as an indication of our future performance. If our operating results in any future period fall below the expectations of securities analysts and investors, our stock price may fall, possibly by a significant amount.

Risks Related to Our Industry

Health care insurers, the government and other payers may not pay for our products or may impose limits on reimbursement.

Our ability to commercialize FACTIVE tablets, ANTARA capsules, Ramoplanin and our future products will depend, in part, on the extent to which reimbursement for such products will be available from third-party payers, such as Medicare, Medicaid, health maintenance organizations, health insurers and other public and private payers. We cannot assure you that third-party payers will pay for such products or will establish and maintain price levels sufficient for realization of an appropriate return on our investment in product development. If adequate coverage and reimbursement levels are not provided by government and private payers for use of our products, our products may fail to achieve market acceptance and our results of operations may be materially adversely affected. Under the Medicare Part D outpatient prescription drug benefit, Medicare beneficiaries (primarily the elderly over 65 and the disabled) may enroll in private drug plans. There are multiple types of Part D plans and numerous plan sponsors, each with its own formulary and product access requirements. The plans have considerable discretion in establishing formularies and tiered co-pay structures and in placing prior authorization and other restrictions on the utilization of specific products. In addition, Part D plan sponsors are permitted and encouraged to negotiate rebates with manufacturers. The profitability of our products may depend on the extent to which they enjoy preferred status on the formularies of a significant portion of the largest Part D prescription drug plans. Our ability to obtain such preferred status on favorable economic terms cannot be assured. Additionally, the Part D program has been the subject of much controversy since its inception in 2003, and significant amendments, including an amendment to authorize the

Table of Contents

Federal Government to directly negotiate drug prices with manufacturers, are possible. Such amendments could adversely affect our anticipated revenues and results of operations, possibly materially.

Most state Medicaid programs have established preferred drug lists, or PDLs, and the process, criteria and timeframe for obtaining placement on the PDL varies from state to state. Under the Medicaid drug rebate program, a manufacturer must pay a rebate for Medicaid utilization of a product. The rebate is based on the greater of (1) a specified percentage of the product's average manufacturer price (AMP) or (2) the difference between the product's AMP and the best price offered by the manufacturer. In addition, many states have established supplemental rebate programs as a condition for including a drug product on a PDL. The profitability of our products may depend on the extent to which they appear on the PDLs of a significant number of state Medicaid programs and the amount of the rebates that must be paid to such states. In addition, there is significant fiscal pressure on the Medicaid program, and amendments to lower the pharmaceutical costs of the program are possible. Such amendments could adversely affect our anticipated revenues and results of operations, possibly materially.

Many health maintenance organizations and other third-party payers use formularies, or lists of drugs for which coverage is provided under a health care benefit plan, to control the costs of prescription drugs. Each payer that maintains a drug formulary makes its own determination as to whether a new drug will be added to the formulary and whether particular drugs in a therapeutic class will have preferred status over other drugs in the same class. This determination often involves an assessment of the clinical appropriateness of the drug and sometimes the cost of the drug in comparison to alternative products. We cannot assure you that FACTIVE tablets, ANTARA capsules, Ramoplanin or any of our future products will be added to payers' formularies, whether our products will have preferred status to alternative therapies, nor whether the formulary decisions will be conducted in a timely manner. We may also decide to enter into discount or formulary fee arrangements with payers, which could result in our receiving lower or discounted prices for our products.

Wholesalers, pharmacies and hospitals may not provide adequate distribution for our products.

Our ability to commercialize our products will depend, in part, on the extent to which we obtain adequate distribution of our products via wholesalers, pharmacies and hospitals, as well as other customers. Wholesalers and larger retailers may be reluctant to stock and distribute Oscient products since we are not a large, well-established company. If we do not obtain adequate distribution of our products, the commercialization of FACTIVE and ANTARA and our anticipated revenues and results of operations could be adversely affected.

If a successful product liability claim or series of claims is brought against us for uninsured liabilities or in excess of insured liabilities, we could be forced to pay substantial damage awards.

The use of any of our product candidates in clinical trials, and the sale of any approved products, might expose us to product liability claims. We currently maintain, and we expect that we will continue to maintain, product liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$10.0 million per occurrence and \$10.0 million in the aggregate. Such insurance coverage might not protect us against all of the claims to which we might become subject. We might not be able to maintain adequate insurance coverage at a reasonable cost or in sufficient amounts or scope to protect us against potential losses. In the event a claim is brought against us, we might be required to pay legal and other expenses to defend the claim, as well as uncovered damage awards resulting from a claim brought successfully against us. Furthermore, whether or not we are ultimately successful in defending any such claims, we might be required to direct financial and managerial resources to such defense and adverse publicity could result, all of which could harm our business.

In addition, a product recall or excessive warranty claims (in any such case, whether arising from manufacturing deficiencies, labeling errors or other safety or regulatory reasons) could have an adverse effect on our product sales or require a change in the indications for which our products may be used.

Table of Contents

Risks Related to the Exchange Offers and the New Money Offering

Our debt obligations expose us to risks that could adversely affect our business, operating results and financial condition, and prevent us from fulfilling our obligations under the notes.

We have a substantial level of debt. As of December 31, 2006, we had approximately \$241.0 million of indebtedness outstanding (including accrued interest), which includes \$40.0 million in revenue interest that entitles Paul Capital to receive a royalty on the sales of both ANTARA and FACTIVE. Approximately \$26.0 million of outstanding indebtedness will mature in 2009, approximately \$21.0 million of outstanding indebtedness will mature in 2010 and approximately \$154.0 million of indebtedness will mature in 2011. The level and nature of our indebtedness, among other things, could:

make it difficult for us to make payments on our debt outstanding from time to time or to refinance it;

make it difficult for us to obtain any necessary financing in the future for working capital, capital expenditures, debt service, acquisitions or general corporate purposes;

limit our flexibility in planning for or reacting to changes in our business;

reduce funds available for use in our operations;

impair our ability to incur additional debt because of financial and other restrictive covenants;

make us more vulnerable in the event of a downturn in our business;

place us at a possible competitive disadvantage relative to less leveraged competitors and competitors that have better access to capital resources;

restrict the operations of our business as a result of provisions in the Revenue Interests Agreement with Paul Capital that restrict our ability to (1) amend, waive any rights under, or terminate any material license agreements, including the agreements relating to the ANTARA products and FACTIVE, (2) enter into any new agreement or amend or fail to exercise any of our material rights under existing agreements that would adversely affect Paul Capital's royalty interest, and (3) sell any material assets related to ANTARA or FACTIVE; or

impair our ability to merge or otherwise effect the sale of the company due to the right of the holders of certain of our indebtedness to accelerate the maturity date of the indebtedness in the event of a change of control of the company.

If we do not grow our revenues as we expect, we could have difficulty making required payments on our indebtedness. If we are unable to generate sufficient cash flow or otherwise obtain funds necessary to make required payments, or if we fail to comply with the various requirements of our indebtedness, we would be in default, which would permit the holders of our indebtedness to accelerate the maturity of the indebtedness and could cause defaults under any indebtedness we may incur in the future. Any default under our indebtedness would have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results and financial condition.

The new notes are effectively subordinated to any secured debt we may incur in the future and structurally subordinated to any liabilities of our subsidiaries.

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The new notes are not secured by any of our assets or our subsidiaries' assets. As a result, the new notes will be effectively subordinated to any existing secured debt and any secured debt that we may incur in the future. In any liquidation, dissolution, bankruptcy or other similar proceeding, the holders of our secured debt may assert rights against the secured assets in order to receive full payment of their debt before the assets may be used to pay the holders of the new notes. In addition, the new notes will be

Table of Contents

structurally subordinated to any existing and future liabilities of our subsidiaries. Our subsidiary Guardian II incurred debt and other obligations in connection with the acquisition of the U.S. rights to ANTARA, including \$20 million of debt payable to Paul Capital in August 2010 and obligations under the revenue interests assignment agreement described herein. Guardian II granted Paul Capital a security interest in substantially all of its assets to secure its obligations to Paul Capital. Guardian II's assets include the license rights to sell ANTARA capsules in the U.S. and the associated intellectual property rights. Under the terms of the agreements with Paul Capital, we are also obligated to maintain a portion of our consolidated cash in an account in the name of Guardian II. As a result, the new notes will be structurally subordinated to Guardian II's obligation to Paul Capital and the cash and other assets of Guardian II, including the ANTARA assets, may not be available to holders of the new notes in the event of any liquidation, dissolution, bankruptcy or other similar proceedings.

There is no market for the new notes, an active trading market for the new notes may not develop, and you may not be able to sell the new notes at a price acceptable to you.

There is no public market for the new notes and we do not intend to apply for listing of the new notes on any national exchange or quotation system. We cannot assure you of the liquidity of any markets that may develop for the new notes, your ability to sell the new notes or the price at which you may be able to sell the new notes. In addition, we do not know whether an active trading market will ever develop for the new notes. If a market for the new notes were to develop, the new notes could trade at prices that may be higher or lower than the principal amount or public offering price. Additionally, there is a risk that the liquidity of, and the trading market for, the new notes will be limited if few new notes are issued in connection with the exchange offers or the new money offering. If only a limited number of new notes are outstanding after the completion of the exchange offer and the new money offering, it may be more difficult for a market to develop in the new notes and any market that does develop may be less liquid than would be the case if more new notes were outstanding. The liquidity of the trading market for the new notes, if any, and the market price quoted for the new notes may be adversely affected by changes in interest rates for comparable securities, by changes in our financial performance or prospects and by declines in the price of our common shares, as well as by declines in the prices of securities, or the financial performance or prospects of similar companies.

If you do not exchange your existing notes, they may be difficult to resell.

To the extent any existing notes are tendered and accepted in the exchange offers, the trading market, if any, for the existing notes that remain outstanding after the exchange offers would be adversely affected because the market will be less liquid.

If you hold new notes, you will not be entitled to any rights with respect to our common stock, but you will be subject to all changes made with respect to our common stock.

If you hold new notes, you will not be entitled to any rights with respect to our common stock (including voting rights and rights to receive any dividends or other distributions on our common stock), but you will be subject to all changes affecting the common stock. You will have rights with respect to our common stock only if and when your notes are converted. For example, in the event that an amendment is proposed to our articles of organization or by-laws requiring stockholder approval and the record date for determining the stockholders of record entitled to vote on the amendment occurs prior to delivery of the common stock to you, you will not be entitled to vote on the amendment, although you will nevertheless be subject to any changes in the powers, preferences or special rights of our common stock.

We may be unable to repay or repurchase the new notes or our other indebtedness.

At maturity, the entire outstanding principal amount of the new notes will become due and payable. In addition, if a fundamental change, as defined under "Description of New Notes" Repurchase of the new notes at the option of holders upon a fundamental change, occurs, you may require us to repurchase all

Table of Contents

or a portion of your new notes. We may not have sufficient funds or may be unable to arrange for additional financing to pay the repurchase price of the new notes or the principal amount due at maturity. Any future borrowing arrangements or debt agreements to which we become a party may contain restrictions on or prohibitions against our redemption or repurchase of the new notes. If we are prohibited from redeeming or repurchasing the new notes, we could try to obtain the consent of lenders under those arrangements, or we could attempt to refinance the borrowings that contain the restrictions. If we do not obtain the necessary consents or refinance the borrowings, we will be unable to repurchase the new notes. Such a failure would constitute an event of default under the new notes indenture which could, in turn, constitute a default under the terms of our other indebtedness.

The price of our common stock, and therefore the price of the new notes, may fluctuate significantly, which may make it difficult for holders to resell the new notes or the common stock issuable upon conversion of the new notes when desired or at attractive prices.

The market price of the new notes is expected to be affected significantly by the market price of our common stock. The market price of our common stock is subject to significant fluctuations in response to the factors in this section and other factors, including:

our ability to successfully commercialize FACTIVE tablets and ANTARA capsules;

the revenues that we may derive from the sale of FACTIVE tablets and ANTARA, as compared to analyst estimates;

our ability to enter into transactions to acquire, license or co-promote additional products;

the results of any clinical trials that we may conduct and the pace of our progress in those clinical trials;

the results of clinical trials conducted by partners for Ramoplanin or products developed from any of our legacy alliances and the pace of our progress in those clinical trials;

whether we will be able to successfully integrate ANTARA into our sales and marketing efforts;

whether we will be able to successfully integrate any additional products that we acquire, license or co-promote into our sales and marketing efforts;

the timing of the achievement of our development milestones and other payments under our strategic alliance agreements;

termination of, or an adverse development in, our strategic alliances;

conditions and publicity regarding the biopharmaceutical industry generally;

price and volume fluctuations in the stock market at large which do not relate to our operating performance;

variations in our rates of product returns, allowances and rebates and discounts;

sales of shares of our common stock in the public market; and

comments by securities analysts, or our failure to meet market expectations, including our projected financial performance. Over the two-year period ending December 31, 2006, the closing price of our common stock as reported on the NASDAQ Global Market ranged from a high of \$30.40 to a low of \$4.20. The stock market has from time to time experienced extreme price and volume fluctuations that are unrelated to the operating performance of particular companies. In the past, companies that have experienced volatility have sometimes been the subject of securities class action litigation. If litigation were instituted on this basis, it could result in substantial costs and a diversion of management's attention and resources. These broad

Table of Contents

market fluctuations may adversely affect the price of our securities, regardless of our operating performance. Because the new notes are convertible into shares of our common stock, volatility of or depressed prices for our common stock could have a similar effect on the trading price of the new notes. A decline in our common stock price may cause the value of the new notes to decline. Holders who receive common stock upon conversion of the new notes also will be subject to the risk of volatility and depressed prices of our common stock.

We may issue additional equity securities and thereby materially and adversely affect the price of our common stock.

Sales of substantial amounts of shares of our common stock in the public market after this offering, or the perception that those sales may occur, could cause the market price of our common stock to decline. The new notes indenture does not restrict our ability to issue additional shares of common stock or other securities convertible into or exchangeable for our common stock. We have used and may continue to use our common stock or securities convertible into or exchangeable for our common stock to acquire technology, product rights or businesses, or for other purposes. Our authorized capital stock consists of 175,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$.10 per share, including 625,000 shares of common stock designated as series B restricted common stock. As of December 31, 2006, we had approximately 13,558,867 shares of common stock outstanding and no shares of series B restricted stock outstanding. If we issue additional equity securities, the price of our common stock and, in turn, the price of the new notes may be materially and adversely affected.

Conversion of the notes will dilute the ownership interests of existing stockholders.

The conversion of some or all of the new notes will dilute the ownership interest of our existing stockholders. Any sales in the public market of the common stock issuable upon such conversion could adversely affect prevailing market prices of our common stock. In addition, the existence of the new notes may encourage short selling by market participants because the conversion of the new notes could depress the price of our common stock.

The new notes do not restrict our ability to incur additional debt or to take other actions that could negatively impact holders of the notes.

We are not restricted under the terms of the new notes from incurring additional indebtedness, including senior indebtedness or secured debt. In addition, the limited covenants applicable to the new notes do not restrict our ability to pay dividends, issue or repurchase stock or other securities or require us to achieve or maintain any minimum financial results relating to our financial position or results of operations. Our ability to recapitalize, incur additional debt and take a number of other actions that are not limited by the terms of the new notes could have the effect of diminishing our ability to make payments on the notes when due. In addition, the indenture for the new notes does not afford protection to holders of the notes in the event of a fundamental change except to the extent described under **Description of New Notes Conversion rate adjustment on a fundamental change** and **Description of New Notes Repurchase of the new notes at the option of holders upon a fundamental change**.

The conversion rate adjustment that may be made in connection with a transaction constituting a fundamental change may not adequately compensate you for the lost option time value of your new notes as a result of such fundamental change.

In connection with a fundamental change, we may be required to increase the conversion rate for the new notes surrendered for conversion. The conversion rate adjustment is described under **Description of New Notes Conversion rate adjustment on a fundamental change**. The conversion rate adjustment is designed to compensate you for the lost option time value of your notes as a result of certain fundamental changes; such increases are only an approximation of such lost value and may not adequately compensate you for such loss. In addition, even in a fundamental change occurs, in some

Table of Contents

cases there be no such conversion rate adjustment. See Description of New Notes Conversion rate adjustment on a fundamental change.

If we automatically convert the new notes, there is a risk of fluctuation in the price of our common stock from the date we elect to automatically convert the new notes to the automatic conversion date.

We may elect to automatically convert the new notes on or prior to maturity if the daily closing price of our common stock has exceeded 130% of the conversion price of the new notes then in effect for at least 20 trading days during any 30 consecutive trading day period ending within five trading days prior to the notice of automatic conversion. The automatic conversion price on the new notes is approximately \$17.55, subject to adjustment. However, there is a risk of fluctuation in the price of our common stock between the time when we may first elect to automatically convert the new notes and the automatic conversion date. This period must be at least 20 days and not more than 30 days prior to the automatic conversion date. As a result of any such fluctuation in the price of our common stock, the aggregate conversion value you actually receive upon any automatic conversion of the new notes may be less than the principal amount of the new notes.

Our management will have considerable discretion as to the use of net proceeds to be received by us from the new money offering.

Our management will have significant discretion in the allocation of the majority of the net proceeds we will receive from the new money offering. You will not have the opportunity, as part of your investment decision, to assess whether proceeds are being used appropriately. You must rely on the judgments of our management regarding the application of these net proceeds. These net proceeds may be used for corporate purposes that do not improve our profitability or increase the price of our common stock. The net proceeds from the new money offering may be placed in investments that do not produce income or that lose value.

Rating agencies may provide unsolicited ratings on the new notes that could cause the market value or liquidity of the new notes to decline.

We have not requested a rating of the new notes from any rating agency and believe it is unlikely that the new notes will be rated. However, if one or more rating agencies rates the new notes and assigns the notes a rating lower than the rating expected by investors, or reduces their rating in the future, the market price or liquidity of the new notes and our common stock could be harmed.

Adjustments to the conversion rate of the new notes may result in a taxable distribution to you.

Although to date we have never paid cash dividends on our common stock, if in the future we pay a cash dividend on our common stock and there is a resulting adjustment to the conversion price, a note holder could be deemed to have received a taxable dividend subject to U.S. federal income tax without the receipt of any cash. Other adjustments in the conversion ratio (or failures to make such adjustments) that have the effect of increasing your proportionate interest in our assets or earnings may have the same result. Any such deemed dividends would be taxable as described in Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations.

Table of Contents

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements contained herein related to our anticipated revenue increases for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2007, our anticipated cash utilization for 2007 and 2008, our goal to add an additional product to our portfolio, the timing of our reaching commercial breakeven, future operating losses, the sufficiency of our cash resources, our discount and rebate programs for FACTIVE and ANTARA, our ability to obtain and the timing of approval from the FDA for a five-day course of therapy with FACTIVE for CAP, as well as other statements related to the progress and timing of product development, present or future licensing, collaborative or financing arrangements or that otherwise relate to future periods, are forward-looking statements as defined by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements represent, among other things, the expectations, beliefs, plans and objectives of management and assumptions underlying or judgments concerning the future financial performance and other matters discussed in this prospectus. The words may, will, should, plan, believe, estimate, intend, anticipate, project, and expect and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements involve certain risks, estimates, assumptions, and uncertainties with respect to future revenues, cash flows, expenses and the cost of capital, among other things.

Some of the important risk factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those expressed in our forward-looking statements are included under the heading Risk Factors in this prospectus. We encourage you to read these risks carefully. We caution investors not to place significant reliance on the forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus. These statements, like all statements in this prospectus, speak only as of the date of this prospectus (unless another date is indicated) and we undertake no obligation to update or revise forward-looking statements.

Table of Contents

USE OF PROCEEDS

We will not receive any cash proceeds from the exchange of the existing notes for the new notes pursuant to the exchange offers. We are offering up to \$30,000,000 aggregate principal amount of additional new notes for cash. The new notes will be sold with original issue discount so our proceeds (before expenses) will be an amount less than the principal amount of new notes that we sell. We intend to use the net proceeds, if any, from the sale of new notes in the new money offering for general corporate purposes, which may include expanding our commercial and marketing efforts, increasing working capital, funding capital and clinical developments, acquiring new products or technologies, and making other investments. We have not determined the amounts we plan to spend for each of these purposes. Pending such use, we intend to invest the net proceeds in short-term, investment-grade, interest-bearing securities.

Table of Contents**PRICE RANGE OF COMMON STOCK**

Our common stock is traded on the NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol `OSCI`. As of March 6, 2007, there were approximately 1,233 shareholders of record of our common stock. The table below sets forth the range of high and low sale prices for each fiscal quarter during 2005 and 2006 and through March 13, 2007, as reported by the NASDAQ Global Market.

	High	Low
Year ended December 31, 2005 ⁽¹⁾		
First Quarter	\$ 30.56	\$ 16.40
Second Quarter	\$ 23.20	\$ 12.88
Third Quarter	\$ 24.32	\$ 15.68
Fourth Quarter	\$ 19.60	\$ 12.24
Year ended December 31, 2006 ⁽¹⁾		
First Quarter	\$ 22.48	\$ 14.16
Second Quarter	\$ 16.32	\$ 6.16
Third Quarter	\$ 11.60	\$ 4.40
Fourth Quarter	\$ 9.44	\$ 4.15
Year ended December 31, 2007		
First Quarter (through March 13)	\$ 5.50	\$ 4.42

⁽¹⁾High and low sale prices adjusted to reflect the 1-for-8 reverse stock split effected on November 15, 2006.

DIVIDEND POLICY

We have not paid any dividends since our inception and presently anticipate that all earnings, if any, will be retained for development of our business and that no dividends on our common stock will be declared in the foreseeable future. Any future dividends will be subject to the discretion of our Board of Directors and will depend upon, among other things, future earnings, the operating and financial condition of our company, our capital requirements and general business conditions.

Table of Contents**RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES**

The following table sets forth our historical deficiency of earnings available to cover fixed charges for each of our most recent fiscal years.

	2006	2005	Year ended December 31, 2004	2003	2002
	(in thousands)				
Deficiency of earnings available to cover fixed charges ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾	\$ (78,477)	\$ (88,593)	\$ (93,271)	\$ (29,789)	\$ (34,017)

⁽¹⁾Earnings were inadequate to cover fixed charges. We needed additional earnings, as indicated by the deficiency of earnings available to cover fixed charges for each of the periods presented above, to achieve a ratio of earnings to fixed charges of 1.0x.

⁽²⁾The deficiency of earnings available to cover fixed charges is computed by subtracting fixed charges from earnings before income taxes and minority interest plus fixed charges. Fixed charges consist of interest expense plus that portion of net rental expense deemed representative of interest.

Table of Contents

CAPITALIZATION

The following table sets forth capitalization as of December 31, 2006:

on an actual basis;

on an as adjusted basis to give effect to the issuance of new notes in the exchange offers, assuming all of the outstanding existing notes were validly tendered and accepted for exchange;

on an as adjusted basis to give effect to the issuance for cash of an aggregate principal amount of \$30.0 million of new notes; and

as adjusted to reflect a net gain of \$ million on the assumed early extinguishment of all outstanding existing notes. This extinguishment of debt will result in recognition of gain in our statement of operations in the period in which the exchange offer is consummated.

We will apply guidance as set forth in Emerging Issues Task Force (EITF) Issue No. 96-19, Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 133, Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities, as amended (SFAS 133), EITF Issue No. 00-19, and EITF Issue No. 06-06 as follows. The exchange offers are an extinguishment of existing debt, rather than a modification. The additional interest payment upon conversion is an embedded derivative requiring separate accounting. We also considered the provisions of EITF 05-2 and concluded that this is not conventional convertible debt.

The additional interest payment provisions contained in the new notes will be separately accounted for as derivative financial instruments in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 133, Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities. Of the aggregate principal amount of new notes to be issued in the exchange offer and cash offer, \$ million has been allocated to these instruments based on their estimated fair values. This derivative liability will be adjusted quarterly for changes in fair value through either the date the additional interest payment provisions expire, at which time the liability will be zero, or the date at which an additional interest payment provision is triggered, with the corresponding charge or credit to other expense or income. This allocation of value to the additional interest payment provisions has been recorded as a discount on the new notes and the new notes will be accreted to par value through quarterly interest charges over the four-year term of the new notes.

We will also apply the guidance set forth in EITF Issue No. 98-5, which specifies the appropriate basis to account for contingent beneficial conversion premiums. The new notes have features that could lead to a beneficial conversion premium at issuance. A beneficial conversion premium may arise if and when, upon issuance of the new notes, the market price of our common shares exceeds the effective conversion price, after considering the debt discount and separating the additional interest payment feature embedded derivative. The beneficial conversion premium, if any, would be recorded as a discount on the new notes issued in the exchange offers and will be accreted to par value through semi-annual interest charges up to the maturity date of the new notes.

Table of Contents

To the extent that existing notes are not validly tendered or accepted in the exchange offers, the amount attributed to the new notes would decrease and the amount attributed to the existing notes would increase. The information set forth in the following table should be read in conjunction with and is qualified in its entirety by the Company's audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in this prospectus.

	As of December 31, 2006	
	Actual	As Adjusted
	(in thousands)	
Long-term debt:		
Existing 3 1/2% Senior Convertible Notes due 2011 ⁽¹⁾	\$ 153,893	\$
Existing 5% Convertible Notes due 2009 ⁽²⁾	25,750	
3.50% Convertible Senior Notes due 2011 ⁽³⁾		
Other liabilities ⁽⁴⁾		
Total long-term debt	179,643	
Shareholders' Equity:		
Series B restricted common stock, \$0.10 par value Authorized 625,000 shares, Issued and Outstanding None		
Common stock, \$0.10 par value Authorized 175,000,000 shares, Issued and Outstanding 13,558,867 shares at December 31, 2006	1,356	
Additional paid-in capital	412,553	
Accumulated deficit	(415,905)	
Total Shareholders' deficit	(1,996)	
Total capitalization	\$ 177,647	\$

⁽¹⁾Includes accrued interest of \$1,143.

⁽²⁾Includes accrued interest of \$3,440.

⁽³⁾If we elect to automatically convert, or a holder elects to voluntarily convert, some or all of the new notes into our common shares prior to four years after the Commitment Date, we will make an additional payment equal to the aggregate amount of interest payments that would have been payable on the new notes through and including four years after the Commitment Date, less any interest payments already paid on the new notes. This additional payment is payable in cash or, at our option (subject to certain limitations), in our common shares, or a combination of cash and our common shares. If paid in our common shares, the share will have a fixed value equivalent to the stated conversion price. The number of shares we may elect to pay is limited based on the share price at the commitment date. Any amount payable that cannot be satisfied by delivery of shares must be paid in cash. This additional interest payment feature is considered to be an embedded derivative and has been recorded on the balance sheet at fair value as a current liability. We will be required to recognize changes in the derivative's fair value from period to period in other income (expense) in our statements of operations. This additional interest payment that may be settled in shares is considered to be a conversion and will result in recognizing as expense any amounts paid by share settlement upon conversion under the additional interest payment.

⁽⁴⁾Other liabilities consists of the bifurcated embedded derivative on the new notes which we plan to present as a component of our debt balance on the balance sheet in our financial statements, debt issuance costs for the exchange offer and the new money offering, premium on auto-conversion feature, and the premium anticipated on the issuance of the new notes in the new money offering. The accounting for derivatives is complex, and requires significant judgments and estimates in determining the fair value in the absence of quoted market values. These estimates are based on valuation methodologies and assumptions deemed appropriate in the circumstances. The fair value of the additional interest payment feature is based on various assumptions, including the estimated market volatility and discount rates used in determination of fair value. The use of different assumptions may have a material effect on the estimated fair value amount and our results of operations.

Table of Contents

THE EXCHANGE OFFERS

Terms of the Exchange Offers; Period for Tendering Existing Notes

2011 Existing Notes. We are offering to exchange your existing 2011 notes for new notes as follows: \$1,000 principal amount of new notes for each \$1,000 principal amount of existing 2011 notes for up to 100% of the aggregate outstanding principal amount of existing 2011 notes. The new notes will be issued in denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiple of \$1,000. Based on the principal amount of existing 2011 notes outstanding as of the date of this prospectus, we are offering to acquire up to \$152,750,000 aggregate principal amount of existing 2011 notes that are validly tendered on the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in this prospectus and in the accompanying letter of transmittal.

2009 Existing Notes. We are offering to exchange your existing 2009 notes for new notes as follows: \$1,300 principal amount of new notes for each \$1,000 principal amount of existing 2009 notes for up to 100% of the aggregate outstanding principal amount of existing 2009 notes. The new notes will be issued in denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiple of \$1,000. Based on the principal amount of existing 2009 notes outstanding as of the date of this prospectus, we are offering to acquire up to \$22,310,000 aggregate principal amount of existing notes that are validly tendered on the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in this prospectus and in the accompanying letter of transmittal. In connection with the exchange offer for the existing 2009 notes, we are seeking consents from holders of existing 2009 notes to amend the agreement governing the existing 2009 notes to remove certain restrictive covenants. Holders who tender existing 2009 notes pursuant to the exchange offer must also deliver a consent to the proposed amendments. Holders who validly tender their 2009 existing notes will be deemed to consent to the proposed amendments. See Consent to Amendments to 2009 Note Agreement.

You may tender all, some or none of your existing notes, subject to the terms and conditions of the exchange offers. Holders of existing notes must tender their existing notes in a minimum \$1,000 principal amount and multiples thereof.

The exchange offers are not being made to, and we will not accept tenders for exchange from, holders of existing notes in any jurisdiction in which the exchange offers or the acceptance of such offers would not be in compliance with the securities or blue sky laws of that jurisdiction.

Our Board of Directors and officers do not make any recommendation to you as to whether or not to exchange all or any portion of your existing notes or consent to the proposed amendments to the 2009 note agreement. In addition, we have not authorized anyone to make any recommendation. You must make your own decision whether to tender your existing notes in connection with the exchange offers and, if so, the amount of existing notes to tender.

Expiration Date

The expiration date for the exchange offers is 11:59 p.m., New York City time, on _____, 2007, unless we extend the offers. We may extend this expiration date for any reason. The last date on which tenders will be accepted, whether on _____, 2007 or any later date to which the exchange offers may be extended, is referred to as the expiration date.

Extensions; Amendments

We expressly reserve the right, in our discretion, for any reason to:

delay the acceptance of existing notes tendered for exchange, for example, in order to allow for the rectification of any irregularity or defect in the tender of existing notes, provided

Table of Contents

that, in any event we will promptly issue new notes or return tendered existing notes after expiration or withdrawal of the exchange offers;

extend the time period during which the exchange offers are open, by giving oral or written notice of an extension to the holders of existing notes in the manner described below; during any extension, all existing notes previously tendered and not withdrawn will remain subject to the exchange offers;

waive any condition or amend any of the terms or conditions of the exchange offers, other than the condition that the registration statement or, if applicable, a post-effective amendment, becomes effective under the Securities Act; and

terminate the exchange offers, as described under *Conditions for Completion of the Exchange Offers* below.

If we consider an amendment to the exchange offers to be material, or if we waive a material condition of the exchange offers, we will promptly disclose the amendment or waiver in a prospectus supplement, and if required by law, we will extend the exchange offers for a period of five to twenty business days.

We will promptly give oral or written notice of any (1) extension, (2) amendment, (3) non-acceptance or (4) termination of the offers to the holders of the existing notes. In the case of any extension, we will issue a press release or other public announcement no later than 9:00 a.m., New York City time, on the next business day after the previously scheduled expiration date. In the case of an amendment, we will issue a press release or other public announcement.

Procedures for Tendering Existing 2011 Notes

Your tender to us of existing 2011 notes and our acceptance of your tender will constitute a binding agreement between you and us upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in this prospectus and in the accompanying letter of transmittal. For the procedures regarding the new money offering, see *The New Money Offering*.

Tender of Existing 2011 Notes Held Through a Custodian. If you are a beneficial holder of the existing 2011 notes that are held of record by a custodian bank, depository institution, broker, dealer, trust company or other nominee, you must instruct the custodian, or such other record holder, to tender the existing 2011 notes on your behalf. Your custodian will provide you with its instruction letter, which you must use to give these instructions.

Tender of Existing 2011 Notes Held Through DTC. Any beneficial owner of existing 2011 notes held of record by The Depository Trust Company, or DTC, or its nominee, through authority granted by DTC, may direct the DTC participant through which the beneficial owner's existing 2011 notes are held in DTC, to tender on such beneficial owner's behalf. To effectively tender existing 2011 notes that are held through DTC, DTC participants should transmit their acceptance through the Automated Tender Offer Program, or ATOP, for which the transaction will be eligible, and DTC will then edit and verify the acceptance and send an agent's message to the exchange agent for its acceptance. Delivery of tendered existing 2011 notes must be made to the exchange agent pursuant to the book-entry delivery procedures set forth below or the tendering DTC participant must comply with the guaranteed delivery procedures set forth below. No letters of transmittal will be required to tender existing 2011 notes through ATOP.

In addition, the exchange agent must receive:

a completed and signed letter of transmittal or an electronic confirmation pursuant to DTC's ATOP system indicating the principal amount of existing 2011 notes to be tendered and any other documents, if any, required by the letter of transmittal; and

Table of Contents

prior to the expiration date, a confirmation of book-entry transfer of such existing 2011 notes, into the exchange agent's account at DTC, in accordance with the procedure for book-entry transfer described below; or

the holder must comply with the guaranteed delivery procedures described below.

Your existing 2011 notes must be tendered by book-entry transfer. The exchange agent will establish an account with respect to the existing 2011 notes at DTC for purposes of the exchange offers within two business days after the date of this prospectus. Any financial institution that is a participant in DTC must make book-entry delivery of existing 2011 notes by having DTC transfer such existing 2011 notes into the exchange agent's account at DTC in accordance with DTC's procedures for transfer. Although your existing 2011 notes will be tendered through the DTC facility, the letter of transmittal, or facsimile, or an electronic confirmation pursuant to DTC's ATOP system, with any required signature guarantees and any other required documents, if any, must be transmitted to and received or confirmed by the exchange agent at its address set forth below under "Exchange Agent," prior to 11:59 p.m., New York City time, on the expiration date of the exchange offers. You or your broker must ensure that the exchange agent receives an agent's message from DTC confirming the book-entry transfer of your existing 2011 notes. An agent's message is a message transmitted by DTC and received by the exchange agent that forms a part of the book-entry confirmation which states that DTC has received an express acknowledgement from the participant in DTC tendering existing 2011 notes that such participant agrees to be bound by the terms of the letter of transmittal. Delivery of documents to DTC in accordance with its procedures does not constitute delivery to the exchange agent.

If you are an institution which is a participant in DTC's book-entry transfer facility, you should follow the same procedures that are applicable to persons holding existing notes through a financial institution.

Do not send letters of transmittal or other exchange offer documents to us or to Piper Jaffray & Co., the dealer manager.

It is your responsibility to ensure that all necessary materials get to U.S. Bank National Association, the exchange agent, before the expiration date. If the exchange agent does not receive all of the required materials before the expiration date, your existing 2011 notes will not be validly tendered.

Any existing notes not accepted for exchange for any reason will be promptly returned, without expense, to the tendering holder after the expiration or termination of the exchange offers.

We will have accepted the validity of tendered existing 2011 notes if and when we give oral or written notice to the exchange agent. The exchange agent will act as the tendering holders' agent for purposes of receiving the new notes from us. If we do not accept any tendered existing 2011 notes for exchange because of an invalid tender or the occurrence of any other event, the exchange agent will return those existing 2011 notes to you without expense, promptly after the expiration date via book-entry transfer through DTC.

Consent to Amendments to 2009 Note Agreement

In connection with the exchange offer for the existing 2009 notes, we will be seeking consent from holders of existing 2009 notes to amend the note amendment and exchange agreement governing the existing 2009 notes, or the 2009 note agreement. The proposed amendments will take effect immediately prior to the closing of the exchange offer for the existing 2009 notes, provided that holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the existing 2009 notes tender. If the exchange offer for the existing 2009 notes is terminated or withdrawn, the validly tendered existing 2009 notes are not accepted for payment, or if less than a majority in principal amount of the existing 2009 notes are tendered, the

Table of Contents

proposed amendments will not become operative. Each holder, by executing and delivering a letter of transmittal and consent, will consent to the proposed amendments.

A brief description of the proposed amendments is set forth below. The following description is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full and complete terms contained in the 2009 note agreement, a copy of which is available from the information agent upon a holder's request. Capitalized terms not defined in this section have the respective meanings set forth in the note amendment and exchange agreement.

The proposed amendments would delete or amend the following covenants and references thereto from the note amendment and exchange agreement governing the existing 2009 notes as well as the events of default related to such covenants, and the definitions relating to such covenants:

9.1.4. *Limitation on Indebtedness.* Parent shall not incur, create, issue, assume, guarantee or otherwise become liable for any Indebtedness, other than Permitted Indebtedness (as defined below), having a maturity date prior to six (6) months after the Maturity Date without the consent of the Required Holders, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld. Permitted Indebtedness means: (i) Indebtedness set forth on Parent's balance sheet dated September 27, 2003, as filed with Parent's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for its quarter ended September 27, 2003; (ii) Indebtedness set forth on the Company's balance sheet dated September 30, 2003; (iii) Indebtedness secured by liens described in clause (iv) of the definition of Permitted Liens below; and (iv) other Indebtedness of the Company in an aggregate principal amount at any time outstanding not to exceed \$5 million.

9.1.5. *Creation of Liens.* Until the full satisfaction of the Parent Notes, other than Permitted Liens (as defined below), Parent will not create or permit to be created any liens in or on Parent's tangible or intangible assets. Permitted Liens means: (i) liens securing equipment indebtedness; (ii) liens imposed by law, such as carriers', warehousemen's, materialmen's and mechanics' liens, or liens arising out of judgments or awards against Parent with respect to which Parent at the time shall currently be prosecuting an appeal or proceedings for review; (iii) liens for taxes not yet subject to penalties for nonpayment and liens for taxes the payment of which is being contested in good faith and by appropriate proceedings and for which, to the extent required by generally accepted accounting principles then in effect, proper and adequate book reserves relating thereto are established by Parent; (iv) liens (A) upon or in any equipment acquired or held by Parent to secure the purchase price of such equipment or indebtedness incurred solely for the purpose of financing the acquisition of such equipment, or (B) existing on such equipment at the time of its acquisition, provided that the lien is confined solely to the property so acquired and improvements thereon, and the proceeds of such equipment and other equipment financed by the holder of such lien; (v) liens consisting of leases or subleases and licenses and sublicenses granted to others in the ordinary course of Parent's business not interfering in any material respect with the business of Parent and any interest or title of a lessor or licensor under any lease or license, as applicable; (vi) liens to secure any license granted by Parent, provided, that such lien is confined solely to the property that is the subject of the license; (vii) liens incurred or deposits made in the ordinary course of Parent's business in connection with worker's compensation, unemployment insurance, social security and other like laws; (viii) liens in favor of customs and revenue authorities arising as a matter of law to secure payment of customs duties in connection with the importation of goods; and (ix) liens to which the Required Holders expressly consent to in writing.

Procedures for Tendering Existing 2009 Notes

The tender of existing 2009 notes pursuant to the exchange offer and in accordance with the procedures described below will be deemed to constitute a consent with respect to the existing 2009 notes tendered. Holders who validly tender their existing 2009 notes pursuant to the exchange offer will be deemed to have delivered their consents by such tender. A holder may not revoke their consent without withdrawing the previously tendered existing 2009 notes to which the consent relates.

Table of Contents

Your tender to us of existing 2009 notes and our acceptance of your tender will constitute a binding agreement between you and us upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in this prospectus and in the accompanying letter of transmittal and consent.

To effectively tender existing 2009 notes held in physical form pursuant to the exchange offer, a properly completed letter of transmittal and consent (or a facsimile thereof) duly executed by the holder thereof, together with certificates representing such existing 2009 notes, and any other documents required by the letter of transmittal and consent, must be received by the exchange agent at its address set forth on the back cover of this prospectus prior to the expiration date of the exchange offer. The letter of transmittal and consent and existing 2009 notes should be sent only to the exchange agent and should not be sent to Oscient, the information agent, or the dealer manager.

The method of delivery of certificates for existing 2009 notes, the letter of transmittal and consent and all other required documents to the exchange agent is at the election and risk of the holder tendering existing 2009 notes and delivering consents. If such delivery is by mail, it is suggested that the holder use properly insured, registered mail, return receipt requested, and that the mailing be made sufficiently in advance of the expiration date, to permit delivery to the exchange agent prior thereto. Alternative, conditional or contingent tenders or consents will not be considered valid.

Any existing 2009 notes not accepted for exchange for any reason will be promptly returned, without expense, to the tendering holder after the expiration or termination of the exchange offers.

We will have accepted the validity of tendered existing 2009 notes if and when we give oral or written notice to the exchange agent. The exchange agent will act as the tendering holders' agent for purposes of receiving the new notes from us. If we do not accept any tendered existing 2009 notes for exchange because of an invalid tender or the occurrence of any other event, the exchange agent will return those existing 2009 notes to you without expense, promptly after the expiration date.

Mutilated, Lost, Stolen or Destroyed Certificates. If a holder desires to tender existing 2009 notes, but the certificates evidencing such existing 2009 notes have been mutilated, lost, stolen or destroyed, such holder should contact us for further instructions.

Binding Interpretations

We will determine in our sole discretion, all questions as to the validity, form, eligibility and acceptance of existing notes tendered for exchange (including, in the case of existing 2009 notes, the consent). Our determination will be final and binding. We reserve the absolute right to reject any and all tenders of any particular existing notes not properly tendered or to not accept any particular existing notes which acceptance might, in our reasonable judgment or our counsel's judgment, be unlawful. We also reserve the absolute right to waive any defects or irregularities in the tender of existing notes. Unless waived, any defects or irregularities in connection with tenders of existing notes for exchange must be cured within such reasonable period of time as we shall determine. Neither we, the exchange agent nor any other person shall be under any duty to give notification of any defect or irregularity with respect to any tender of existing notes for exchange, nor shall any of them incur any liability for failure to give such notification.

Acceptance of Existing Notes for Exchange; Delivery of New Notes

Once all of the conditions to the exchange offers are satisfied or waived, we will accept, promptly after the expiration date, all existing notes properly tendered, and will issue the new notes promptly after acceptance of the existing notes. The discussion under the heading "Conditions for Completion of the Exchange Offers" provides further information regarding the conditions to the exchange offers. For

Table of Contents

purposes of the exchange offers, we shall be deemed to have accepted properly tendered existing notes for exchange when, as and if we have given oral or written notice to the exchange agent, with written confirmation of any oral notice to be given promptly after giving such notice.

The new notes will be issued in denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiples of \$1,000. Any fractional new notes will be settled in cash. The new notes will bear interest from the date of issuance of the new notes. Existing notes accepted for exchange will accrue interest up to but excluding the closing date of the exchange offers. We will pay such accrued and unpaid interest in cash at closing to holders of existing 2011 notes whose existing notes are tendered in the applicable exchange offer and accepted by us. Existing 2009 note holders will receive additional new notes in exchange for accrued and unpaid interest on any existing 2009 notes accepted in the applicable exchange offer.

In all cases, issuance of new notes for existing notes that are accepted for exchange in the exchange offers will be made only after timely receipt by the exchange agent of:

your existing notes or a timely book-entry confirmation of such existing notes into the exchange agent's account at the DTC book-entry transfer facility;

a properly completed and duly executed letter of transmittal or letter of transmittal and consent or an electronic confirmation of the submitting holder's acceptance through DTC's ATOP system; and

all other required documents, if any.

Return of Existing Notes Accepted for Exchange

If we do not accept any tendered existing notes for any reason set forth in the terms and conditions of the exchange offers, or if existing notes are submitted for a greater principal amount than the holder desires to exchange, the unaccepted or non-exchanged existing notes will be returned to you. Existing notes tendered by book-entry transfer into the exchange agent's account at the book-entry transfer facility will be returned in accordance with the book-entry procedures described above, and the existing notes that are not to be exchanged will be credited to an account maintained with DTC, as promptly as practicable after the expiration or termination of the exchange offers.

Guaranteed Delivery Procedures

If you desire to tender your existing notes and (1) the certificates for the existing notes are not immediately available or (2) you cannot complete the procedures for book-entry transfer set forth above on a timely basis, you may still tender your existing notes if:

your tender is made through an eligible institution;

prior to the expiration date, the exchange agent received from the eligible institution a properly completed and duly executed letter of transmittal, or a facsimile of such letter of transmittal or an electronic confirmation pursuant to DTC's ATOP system and notice of guaranteed delivery, substantially in the form provided by us, by facsimile transmission, mail or hand delivery, that:

(1) sets forth the name and address of the holder of the existing notes tendered;

(2) states that the tender is being made thereby;

(3) guarantees that within three trading days after the expiration date, the certificates or a book-entry confirmation and any other documents required by the letter of transmittal, if any, will be deposited by the eligible institution with the exchange agent; and

Table of Contents

the certificates or book-entry confirmation and all other documents, if any, required by the letter of transmittal are received by the exchange agent within three trading days after the expiration date.

Withdrawal Rights

You may withdraw your tender of existing notes at any time prior to 11:59 p.m., New York City time, on the expiration date. In addition, if we have not accepted your tendered existing notes for exchange, you may withdraw your existing notes after _____, 2007.

A valid withdrawal of tendered existing 2009 notes prior to the expiration date shall not be deemed a revocation of the related consent. If, prior to the expiration date, a holder withdrawing existing 2009 notes also determines to revoke the consent related thereto, the holder must expressly request the revocation of such consent in the communication withdrawing such existing 2009 notes. Consents may be revoked at any time prior to the expiration date, but consents may not be revoked without withdrawing the previously tendered existing 2009 notes from the exchange offer. If consents previously delivered are also to be revoked, the notice of withdrawal described above must contain the description of the 2009 existing notes (including certificate number, if applicable) as to which consents are to be revoked.

For a withdrawal to be effective, the exchange agent must receive a written notice of withdrawal at the address or, in the case of eligible institutions, at the facsimile number, set forth below under the heading Exchange Agent prior to 11:59 p.m., New York City time, on the expiration date. Any notice of withdrawal must:

specify the name of the person who tendered the existing notes to be withdrawn;

contain a statement that you are withdrawing your election to have your existing notes exchanged;

be signed by the holder in the same manner as the original signature on the letter of transmittal or letter of transmittal and consent by which the existing notes were tendered, including any required signature guarantees; and

if you delivered existing notes to the exchange agent, you must submit the certificate numbers of the existing notes to be withdrawn or if you have tendered your existing notes in accordance with the procedure for book-entry transfer described above, specify the name and number of the account at DTC to be credited with the withdrawn existing notes and otherwise comply with the procedures of such facility.

Any existing notes that have been tendered for exchange, but which are not exchanged for any reason, will be returned to you or credited to an account maintained with the book-entry transfer facility for the existing notes, as soon as practicable after withdrawal, rejection of tender or termination of the exchange offers. Properly withdrawn existing notes may be retendered by following the procedures described under the heading Procedures for Tendering Existing 2011 Notes and Procedures for Tendering Existing 2009 Notes above, at any time on or prior to 11:59 p.m., New York City time, on the expiration date.

Conditions for Completion of the Exchange Offers

We will not accept existing notes for new notes and may terminate or not complete the exchange offers if the registration statement or, if applicable, a post-effective amendment, covering the exchange offers is not effective under the Securities Act.

Table of Contents

We may elect not to accept existing notes for exchange and may terminate or not complete the exchange offers if:

any action, proceeding or litigation seeking to enjoin, make illegal or delay completion of the exchange offers or otherwise relating in any manner to the exchange offers is instituted or threatened;

any order, stay, judgment or decree is issued by any court, government, governmental authority or other regulatory or administrative authority and is in effect, or any statute, rule, regulation, governmental order or injunction shall have been proposed, enacted, enforced or deemed applicable to the exchange offers, any of which would restrain, prohibit or delay completion of the exchange offers or prohibit any of the material terms of the new notes;

any of the following occurs and the adverse effect of such occurrence shall, in our reasonable judgment, be continuing:

any general suspension of trading in, or limitation on prices for, securities on any national securities exchange or in the over-the-counter market in the United States;

any extraordinary or material adverse change in United States financial markets generally, including, without limitation, a decline of at least twenty percent in either the Dow Jones Average of Industrial Stocks, Standard & Poor's 500 Index or NASDAQ Composite Index from the date of this prospectus;

a declaration of a banking moratorium or any suspension of payments in respect of banks in the United States;

any material disruption has occurred in commercial banking or securities settlement or clearance services in the United States;

any limitation, whether or not mandatory, by any governmental entity on, or any other event that would reasonably be expected to materially adversely affect, the extension of credit by banks or other lending institutions;

a commencement of a war, an act of terrorism or other national or international calamity directly or indirectly involving the United States, which would reasonably be expected to affect materially and adversely, or to delay materially, the completion of the exchange offers; or

if any of the situations described above existed at the time of commencement of the exchange offers and that situation deteriorates materially after commencement of the exchange offers;

any tender or exchange offer, other than these exchange offers by us, with respect to some or all of our issued and outstanding common shares or any amalgamation, merger, acquisition or other business combination proposal involving us shall have been proposed, announced or made by any person or entity;

any event or events occur that have resulted or may result, in our reasonable judgment, in material adverse change in the business condition, income, operations, share ownership or prospects of us or of us and our subsidiaries, taken as a whole;

the occurrence of any of the following:

any person, entity or group acquires more than 5% of our issued and outstanding common shares after the commencement of the exchange offers;

any person, entity or group which owned more than 5% of our issued and outstanding common shares before the commencement of the exchange offers shall acquire

Table of Contents

additional common shares constituting more than 2% of our issued and outstanding shares after the commencement of the exchange offers; or

any new group shall have been formed that beneficially owns more than 5% of our issued and outstanding common shares, which in our judgment in any such case, and regardless of the circumstances, makes it inadvisable to proceed with the exchange offers or with such acceptance for exchange of shares; or

the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part shall have not become effective under the Securities Act or shall be the subject of any stop order.

If any of the above events occur, we may:

terminate the exchange offers and promptly return all tendered existing notes to tendering existing note holders;

extend the exchange offers and, subject to the withdrawal rights described in **Withdrawal Rights**, above, retain all tendered existing notes until the extended exchange offers expire;

amend the terms of the exchange offers; or

waive the unsatisfied condition and, subject to any requirement to extend the period of time during which the exchange offers are open, complete the exchange offers.

These conditions are for our sole benefit. We may assert these conditions with respect to all or any portion of the exchange offers regardless of the circumstances giving rise to them. We may waive any condition, other than those subject to applicable law, in whole or in part in our discretion. We may not assert or waive any condition in a manner that would violate Rule 13e-4(f)(8)(i). Our failure to exercise our rights under any of the above conditions does not represent a waiver of these rights. Each right is an ongoing right which may be asserted at any time prior to the expiration of the exchange offers. Any determination by us concerning the conditions described above will be final and binding upon all parties. There are no federal or state regulatory requirements that must be met, except for requirements under applicable securities laws. Satisfaction or waiver of these conditions, other than those that relate to applicable securities laws, will be determined as of _____, 2007, the expiration date of the exchange offers.

We confirm to you that if we make a material change in the terms of the exchange offers or the information concerning the exchange offers, or if we waive a material condition of the exchange offers, we will promptly disclose the amendment or waiver in a prospectus supplement and will extend the exchange offers to the extent required under the Exchange Act.

Fees and Expenses

Piper Jaffray & Co. is acting as dealer manager in connection with the exchange offers. Piper Jaffray will receive a fee in connection with its services as dealer manager. This fee will be based on the principal amount of the existing notes tendered and will be paid in cash or in new notes, depending upon the amount of the proceeds raised in the new money offering. If all of the notes are exchanged in the exchange offers and the gross proceeds of the new money offering are less than a specified amount, Piper Jaffray will receive a maximum dealer manager fee of \$3,239,000, payable in new notes. If the gross proceeds are more than a specified amount, Piper Jaffray will receive a maximum dealer manager fee of \$2,976,000, payable in cash. Piper Jaffray's fee in connection with the exchange offers will be payable if and when the exchange offers are completed.

Piper Jaffray will also be reimbursed for its reasonable out-of-pocket expenses, subject to a specified limit, incurred in connection with the exchange offers (including reasonable fees and disbursements of counsel), whether or not the transaction closes.

Table of Contents

We have agreed to indemnify Piper Jaffray against specified liabilities relating to or arising out of the offers, including civil liabilities under the federal securities laws, and to contribute to payments which Piper Jaffray may be required to make in respect thereof. However, in the opinion of the SEC, such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. Piper Jaffray may from time to time hold existing notes, new notes and our common shares in their proprietary accounts, and to the extent they own existing notes in these accounts at the time of the exchange offers, Piper Jaffray may tender these existing notes.

We have retained Georgeson Inc. to act as information agent and U.S. Bank National Association to act as the exchange agent in connection with the exchange offers. The information agent may contact holders of existing notes by mail, telephone, facsimile transmission and personal interviews and may request brokers, dealers and other nominee existing note holders to forward materials relating to the exchange offers to beneficial owners. The information agent and the exchange agent will receive an aggregate of approximately \$10,000 and \$25,000, respectively, in compensation for their respective services, will be reimbursed for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses and will be indemnified against liabilities in connection with their services, including liabilities under the federal securities laws.

Neither the information agent nor the exchange agent has been retained to make solicitations or recommendations. The fees they receive will not be based on the principal amount of existing notes tendered under the exchange offers.

We will not pay any fees or commissions to any broker or dealer, or any other person, other than Piper Jaffray for soliciting tenders of existing notes under the exchange offers. Brokers, dealers, commercial banks and trust companies will, upon request, be reimbursed by us for reasonable and necessary costs and expenses incurred by them in forwarding materials to their customers.

We estimate that the aggregate fees and expenses to be incurred in connection with the exchange offers and the new money offering, assuming maximum existing note holder participation, will be approximately \$1.1 million and will be paid by us.

Exchange Agent

U.S. Bank National Association has been appointed as the exchange agent for the exchange offers. All executed letters of transmittal should be directed to the exchange agent at its address as set forth below. Questions about the tender of existing notes, requests for assistance, and requests for notices of guaranteed delivery should be directed to the exchange agent addressed as follows:

By Mail or Overnight Courier:

U.S. Bank National Association

Attn. Specialized Finance

60 Livingston Avenue

St. Paul, MN 55107

By Facsimile Transmission:

(651) 495-8158

If you deliver the letter of transmittal to an address other than as set forth above or transmit instructions via facsimile other than as set forth above, then such delivery or transmission does not constitute a valid delivery of such letter of transmittal. If you need additional copies of this prospectus or the letter of transmittal, please contact the information agent at the address or telephone number set forth on the back cover of this prospectus.

Table of Contents

THE NEW MONEY OFFERING

We are offering up to \$30.0 million aggregate principal amount of new notes for cash in the new money offering. Neither we nor Piper Jaffray & Co., the placement agent, will consider whether or not you are a holder of the existing notes or participate in the exchange offers as a relevant factor when determining the allocation of the new notes in the new money offering. The new notes that we are offering in the new money offering are identical in all respects to the new notes provided in the exchange offers as described in this document under the heading Description of New Notes.

Indications of interest in purchasing new notes must be in denominations of principal amount of \$1,000 and any integral multiple of \$1,000. The new notes offered in the new money offering will be issued at _____ % of the principal amount (plus accrued interest from _____, 2007).

You may indicate your interest for new notes in the new money offering by giving your indication of interest to Piper Jaffray at (415) 984-5141, attention Simon Manning or Brian Sullivan.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF NEW NOTES

The new notes will be issued under an indenture dated as of the date of issuance, which we refer to as the new notes indenture, between us and U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee, which we refer to as the trustee. The terms of the new notes include those expressly set forth in the new notes indenture and those made part of the new notes indenture by reference to the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, which we refer to as the Trust Indenture Act.

This description of provisions of the new notes is not complete and is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by reference to, the new notes and the new notes indenture. We urge you to read the new notes indenture because it will define your rights as a holder of the new notes. You may request a copy of the new notes indenture from the trustee.

For purposes of this description, references to Oscient Pharmaceuticals, we, our and us refer only to Oscient Pharmaceuticals Corporation and not to any of its subsidiaries.

General

We are offering to issue up to \$215,448,000 aggregate principal amount of new notes, which amount includes:

\$185,448,000 aggregate principal amount to be issued in the exchange offers assuming 100% of the principal amount of the outstanding existing notes are tendered and accepted in the exchange offers; and

up to an additional \$30,000,000 aggregate principal amount of new notes to be issued for cash in the new money offering.

The new notes:

are our general unsecured, senior obligations;

rank equally in right of payment to any of our existing or future unsecured senior indebtedness, including trade payables;

are convertible into our shares of common stock at an initial conversion rate of 74.0741 shares per \$1,000 principal amount of new notes, subject to adjustment (equal to a conversion price of approximately \$13.50 per shares), as described under Conversion Rights and Automatic conversion;

mature on April 15, 2011, unless earlier converted, repurchased or redeemed;

will accrue interest at a rate of 3.50% per year payable in cash on each April 15 and October 15, beginning on October 15, 2007, to record holders at the close of business on the preceding April 1 and October 1, respectively, except as set forth under Interest ;

will be issued in denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000;

are represented by one or more registered notes in global form, but in certain limited circumstances may be represented by notes in definitive form (see Form, denomination and registration Global notes, book-entry form);

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are redeemable by us for cash, at our option, in whole or in part, beginning on May 10, 2010 (see Optional redemption);

are subject to repurchase by us upon a fundamental change (as defined below); and

provide for an increase in the conversion rate for new notes surrendered for conversion in connection with certain fundamental changes, as described under Conversion rate adjustment on a fundamental change.

Table of Contents

The registered holder of a new note will be treated as the owner of it for all purposes, including, without limitation, for purposes of determining to whom we will send any notice required to be sent to holders of the new notes pursuant to the new notes indenture.

The new notes indenture does not limit the amount or kind of debt that may be incurred by us or any of our subsidiaries.

Other than restrictions described under Repurchase of the notes at the option of holders upon a fundamental change and Consolidation, merger and sale of assets below, the new notes indenture does not contain any covenants or other provisions which may afford holders of the new notes protection in the event of a highly leveraged transaction involving us. We may not reissue a new note that has matured or been converted, repurchased by us at the option of a holder, redeemed or otherwise canceled.

Payments on the new notes; paying agent and registrar

We will pay principal and interest on the new notes at the office or agency designated by us in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York. We have initially designated U.S. Bank National Association as our paying agent and registrar and its agency in New York, New York as a place where new notes may be presented for payment or for registration of transfer. We may, however, change the paying agent or registrar without prior notice to the holders of the new notes, and we may act as paying agent or registrar.

We will pay principal and interest on new notes in global form registered in the name of or held by The Depository Trust Company (DTC) or its nominee in immediately available funds to DTC or its nominee, as the case may be, as the registered holder of such global note.

Interest

The new notes accrue interest at a rate of 3.50% per year from the date of issuance. Interest is payable semi-annually in arrears on April 15 and October 15 of each year, beginning on October 15, 2007, to record holders at the close of business on the preceding April 1 and October 1, respectively, except:

interest payable upon redemption will be paid to the person to whom principal is payable, unless the redemption date is an interest payment date, in which case interest shall be paid to the record holder on the relevant record date; and

as set forth in the next sentence.

If you convert your new notes into common stock during the period after any record date but prior to the next interest payment date:

we will not be required to pay interest on the interest payment date if the new notes have been called for redemption on a redemption date that occurs during this period, but accrued and unpaid interest on such new notes will be paid on the redemption date; or

if otherwise, any new note called for redemption that is submitted for conversion during this period must also be accompanied by an amount equal to the interest due on the interest payment date on the converted principal amount, unless at the time of the conversion there is a default in the payment of interest on the new notes. See Conversion rights.

Interest is computed on the basis of a 360-day year comprised of twelve 30-day months. We will not be required to make any payment on the new notes due on any day which is not a business day until the next succeeding business day. The payment made on the next succeeding business day will be treated as though it were paid on the original due date and no interest will accrue on the payment for the additional period of time.

Table of Contents

Transfer and exchange

You may transfer or exchange new notes at the office of the registrar in accordance with the new notes indenture. The registrar and the trustee may require a holder, among other things, to furnish appropriate endorsements and transfer documents. No service charge will be imposed by us, the trustee or the registrar for any registration of transfer or exchange of new notes, but we may require a holder to pay a sum sufficient to cover any transfer tax or other similar governmental charge required by law or permitted by the new notes indenture. We are not required to exchange or register the transfer of:

any new note or portion thereof selected for redemption;

any new note or portion thereof surrendered for conversion; or

any new note or portion thereof surrendered for repurchase but not withdrawn in connection with a repurchase date.

Ranking

The new notes will be our general unsecured obligations and rank senior in right of payment to all existing and future debt that is expressly subordinated in right of payment to the new notes. The new notes rank equally in right of payment with all of our existing and future liabilities that are not so subordinated. The new notes effectively rank junior to any of our secured indebtedness to the extent of the assets securing such indebtedness. In the event of our bankruptcy, liquidation, reorganization or other winding up, our assets that secure debt will be available to pay obligations on the new notes only after all secured debt has been repaid in full from such assets. We advise you that there may not be sufficient assets remaining to pay amounts due on any or all the new notes then outstanding.

In addition, the new notes will be structurally subordinated to any existing and future liabilities of our subsidiaries. Our subsidiary Guardian II incurred debt and other obligations in connection with the acquisition of the U.S. rights to ANTARA, including \$20 million of debt payable to Paul Capital in August 2010 and obligations under the revenue interests assignment agreement described herein. Guardian II granted Paul Capital a security interest in substantially all of its assets to secure its obligations to Paul Capital. Guardian II's assets include the license rights to sell ANTARA capsules in the U.S. and the associated intellectual property rights. Under the terms of the agreements with Paul Capital, we are also obligated to maintain a portion of our consolidated cash in an account in the name of Guardian II. As a result, the new notes will be structurally subordinated to Guardian II's obligation to Paul Capital and the cash and other assets of Guardian II, including the ANTARA assets, may not be available to holders of the new notes in the event of any liquidation, dissolution, bankruptcy or other similar proceedings.

We are obligated to pay reasonable compensation to the trustee and to indemnify the trustee against certain losses, liabilities or expenses incurred by the trustee in connection with its duties relating to the new notes. The trustee's claims for these payments will generally be senior to those of holders of new notes in respect of all funds collected or held by the trustee.

As of December 31, 2006, we had approximately \$241.0 million of indebtedness outstanding (including accrued interest).

Optional redemption

No sinking fund will be provided for the new notes, which means that the new notes indenture will not require us to redeem or retire the new notes periodically. Prior to May 10, 2010, the new notes will not be redeemable. Beginning May 10, 2010, we may redeem at any time for cash all or part of the new notes, upon not less than 30 nor more than 60 days notice before the redemption date by mail to the trustee, the paying agent and each holder of new notes, for a price equal to 100% of the principal

Table of Contents

amount of the new notes to be redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest to but excluding the redemption date.

If we decide to redeem fewer than all of the outstanding new notes, the trustee will select the new notes to be redeemed (in principal amounts of \$1,000 or integral multiples thereof) by lot, on a pro rata basis or by another method the trustee considers fair and appropriate.

If the trustee selects a portion of your new notes for redemption and you convert a portion of the same new notes, the converted portion will be deemed to be from the portion selected for redemption.

In the event of any redemption in part, we will not be required to:

issue, register the transfer of or exchange any new note during a period of 15 days before the redemption date; or

register the transfer of or exchange any new notes so selected for redemption, in whole or in part, except the unredeemed portion of any new notes being redeemed in part.

Conversion rights

Subject to satisfaction of the conditions described under the headings Conversion upon redemption, and Conversion rate adjustments, holders may convert each of their new notes into shares of our common stock at an initial conversion rate of 74.0741 shares of common stock per \$1,000 principal amount of new notes (equivalent to an initial conversion price of approximately \$13.50 per share of common stock) prior to the close of business on April 14, 2011. The conversion rate and the equivalent conversion price in effect at any given time are referred to as the applicable conversion rate and the applicable conversion price, respectively, and will be subject to adjustment as described below. A holder may convert fewer than all of such holder's new notes so long as the new notes converted are an integral multiple of \$1,000 principal amount.

If you elect to voluntarily convert some or all of the new notes on or prior to May 10, 2010, we will pay additional interest in cash or, at our option, in shares of our common stock to holders of new notes being voluntarily converted, in an amount equal to the interest that would have been payable on the new notes from the last day through which interest was paid on the new notes, through and including May 10, 2010. If we elect to pay the additional interest in common shares, the common shares will be valued at the conversion price then in effect.

Subject to the provisions described in the paragraph above and under the heading Automatic conversion, unless you convert your new notes on an interest payment date, you will not receive any cash payment representing accrued and unpaid interest upon conversion of a new note. Instead, upon conversion, we will deliver to you a fixed number of shares of our common stock and a cash payment to account for any fractional shares. Any cash payment for fractional shares will be based on the closing sale price of our common stock on the trading day immediately prior to the conversion date. Delivery of shares of common stock upon conversion of the new notes will be deemed to satisfy our obligation to pay the principal amount of the new notes and accrued and unpaid interest. Accrued and unpaid interest will be deemed paid in full rather than canceled, extinguished or forfeited. We will not adjust the conversion rate to account for accrued and unpaid interest. The trustee will initially act as the conversion agent.

If any new notes not called for redemption are converted after a record date for any interest payment date and prior to the next interest payment date, the new notes must be accompanied by an amount equal to the interest payable on the next interest payment date on the converted principal amount, unless at the time of conversion there is a default in the payment of interest on the new notes.

Table of Contents

If a holder converts new notes, we will pay any documentary, stamp or similar issue or transfer tax due on the issue of shares of our common stock upon conversion, unless the tax is due because the holder requests the shares to be issued in a name other than the holder's name, in which case the holder will pay that tax.

If a holder wishes to exercise its conversion right, the holder must deliver a conversion notice, together, if the new notes are in certificated form, with the certificated security, to the conversion agent along with appropriate endorsements and transfer documents, if required, and pay any transfer or similar tax, if required. Holders may obtain copies of the required form of the conversion notice from the conversion agent.

If a holder has already delivered a repurchase notice as described under "Repurchase of the new notes by us at the option of holders upon a fundamental change" with respect to a new note, however, the holder may not surrender that new note for conversion until the holder has withdrawn the repurchase notice in accordance with the new notes indenture.

Conversion upon redemption

You may surrender for conversion any of your new notes called by us for redemption at any time prior to the close of business one business day prior to the redemption date. If you have already submitted a new note for repurchase on a fundamental change repurchase date, you may not surrender that new note for conversion until you have withdrawn your repurchase election in accordance with the new notes indenture.

Automatic conversion

We may elect to automatically convert some or all of the new notes (an "automatic conversion") at any time on or prior to maturity if the closing price of our common shares has exceeded 130% of the conversion price for at least 20 trading days during any consecutive 30-day trading period ending within five trading days prior to the notice of automatic conversion (an "automatic conversion price"). The notice of automatic conversion must be given not more than 30 and not less than 20 days prior to the date of automatic conversion.

If an automatic conversion occurs on or prior to May 10, 2010, we will pay additional interest in cash or, at our option, in shares of our common stock to holders of new notes being converted. This additional interest shall be equal to the amount of interest that would have been payable on the new notes from the last day through which interest was paid on the new notes, through and including May 10, 2010. We will specify in the automatic conversion notice whether we will pay the additional interest in cash or common shares. If we elect to pay the additional interest in common shares, the common shares will be valued at 90% of the automatic conversion price that is in effect at that time.

If we do not automatically convert all of the new notes, the trustee will select the new notes to be automatically converted in principal amount of \$1,000 or in whole multiples thereof, by lot or on a pro rata basis or by another method that the trustee considers fair and appropriate. If any new notes are to be automatically converted in part only, we will issue a new note or new notes with a principal amount equal to the unredeemed principal portion thereof. If a portion of your new notes is selected for partial automatic conversion and you voluntarily convert a portion of your new notes, the voluntarily converted portion will be deemed to be taken from the portion selected for automatic conversion.

You will not be required to pay any stamp, transfer, documentary or similar taxes or duties upon automatic conversion but will be required to pay any stamp or transfer tax or duty if the common shares issued upon conversion of the new notes is in a name other than your name. Certificates representing common shares will not be issued or delivered unless all stamp or transfer taxes and duties, if any, payable by the holder have been paid.

Table of Contents

Conversion rate adjustment on a fundamental change

If and only to the extent you elect to convert your new notes in connection with a fundamental change (as defined below under "Repurchase of the new notes at the option of holders upon a fundamental change") that occurs on or prior to April 15, 2011, pursuant to which 10% or more of the consideration for our common stock (other than cash payments for fractional shares) in such fundamental change transaction consists of cash or securities (or other property) that are not traded or scheduled to be traded immediately following such transaction on a United States national securities exchange or the NASDAQ Global Market, we will increase the conversion rate for the new notes surrendered for conversion by the amount, if any, determined by reference to the table below, based on the date on which such fundamental change becomes effective (the "effective date") and the price paid per share for our common stock in such fundamental change transaction (the "share price"). If holders of our common stock receive only cash in such fundamental change transaction, the share price shall be the cash amount paid per share. Otherwise, the share price will be the average of the closing prices of our common stock for each of the ten trading days immediately prior, but not including the effective date of such fundamental change transaction.

The share prices set forth in the first row of the table below (i.e., column headers) will be adjusted as of any date on which the conversion rate of the new notes is adjusted, as described below under "Conversion rate adjustments." The adjusted share prices will equal the share prices applicable immediately prior to such adjustment, multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which is the conversion rate immediately prior to the adjustment giving rise to the share price adjustment and the denominator of which is the conversion rate as so adjusted. The conversion rate adjustment amounts set forth in the table below will be adjusted in the same manner as the conversion rate set forth under "Conversion rate adjustments."

The following table sets forth the amount, if any, by which the applicable conversion rate will increase for each share price and effective date set forth below:

Effective Date	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
April 15, 2007										
April 15, 2008										
April 15, 2009										
April 15, 2010										
April 15, 2011										

The exact share prices and effective dates may not be set forth in the table above, in which case:

If the share price is between two share price amounts in the table or the effective date is between two effective dates in the table, the amount of the conversion rate adjustment will be determined by a straight-line interpolation between the adjustment amounts set for the two share prices and the two dates, as applicable, based on a 365-day year.

If the share price on the effective date is in excess of \$ _____ per share (subject to adjustment), no adjustment to the applicable conversion rate will be made.

If the share price on the effective date is less than \$ _____ per share (subject to adjustment), no adjustment to the applicable conversion rate will be made.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, in no event will the conversion rate exceed _____ per \$1,000 principal amount of new notes, subject to adjustments in the same manner as the conversion rate as set forth under "Conversion rate adjustments." In no event will a holder be entitled to the conversion rate adjustment and additional interest on new notes that are converted in connection with a fundamental change.

Table of Contents

Conversion rate adjustments

The conversion rate will be adjusted as described below, except that we will not make any adjustments to the conversion rate if holders of the new notes participate in any of the transactions described below.

(1) If we issue shares of our common stock as a dividend or distribution on our common stock, or if we effect a stock split or stock combination, the conversion rate will be adjusted based on the following formula:

$$CR = CR_0 \times \frac{OS}{OS_0}$$

where,

- CR₀ = the conversion rate in effect immediately prior to such event
- CR = the conversion rate in effect immediately after such event
- OS₀ = the number of shares of our common stock outstanding immediately prior to such event
- OS = the number of shares of our common stock outstanding immediately after such event

(2) If we issue to all or substantially all holders of our common stock any rights or warrants entitling them for a period of not more than 60 days to subscribe for or purchase shares of our common stock, or securities convertible into shares of our common stock, at a price per share or a conversion price per share less than the sale price of our common stock on the business day immediately preceding the time of announcement of such issuance, the conversion rate will be adjusted based on the following formula (provided that the conversion rate will be readjusted to the extent that such rights or warrants are not exercised prior to their expiration):

$$CR = CR_0 \times \frac{OS_0 + X}{OS_0 + Y}$$

where,

- CR₀ = the conversion rate in effect immediately prior to such event
- CR = the conversion rate in effect immediately after such event
- OS₀ = the number of shares of our common stock outstanding immediately prior to such event
- X = the total number of shares of our common stock issuable pursuant to such rights
- Y = the number of shares of our common stock equal to the aggregate price payable to exercise such rights divided by the average sale price of our common stock for the ten consecutive trading days prior to the business day immediately preceding the record date for the issuance of such rights

(3) If we distribute shares of our capital stock, evidences of our indebtedness or other assets or property of ours to all or substantially all holders of our common stock, excluding:

dividends, distributions and rights or warrants referred to in clause (1) or (2) above; and

dividends or distributions in cash referred to in clause (4) below;

then the conversion rate will be adjusted based on the following formula:

$$CR = CR_0 \times \frac{SP_0}{FMV}$$

where,

- CR₀ = the conversion rate in effect immediately prior to such distribution
- CR = the conversion rate in effect immediately after such distribution
- SP₀ = the average sale price per share of our common stock for the ten consecutive trading days prior to the business day immediately preceding the record date for such distribution
- FMV = the fair market value (as determined by our board of directors) of the shares of capital stock, evidences of indebtedness, assets or property distributed with respect to each outstanding share of our common stock on the record date for such distribution

Table of Contents

(4) If we make cash distributions to all or substantially all holders of our common stock, the conversion rate will be adjusted based on the following formula:

$$CR = CR_0 \times \frac{SP_0}{SP_0 + C}$$

where,

- CR₀ = the conversion rate in effect immediately prior to the record date for such distribution
- CR = the conversion rate in effect immediately after the record date for such distribution
- SP₀ = the average sale price of our common stock for the ten consecutive trading days prior to the business day immediately preceding the record date of such distribution
- C = the amount in cash per share we distribute to holders of our common stock

(5) If we or any of our subsidiaries purchase shares of our common stock pursuant to a tender offer, the conversion rate will be increased based on the following formula:

$$CR = CR_0 \times \frac{AC + (SP \times OS)}{OS_0 \times SP}$$

where,

- CR₀ = the conversion rate in effect on the date such tender offer expires
- CR = the conversion rate in effect on the day next succeeding the date such tender offer expires
- AC = the aggregate value of all cash and any other consideration (as determined by our board of directors) paid for shares purchased in such tender offer
- OS₀ = the number of shares of our common stock outstanding immediately prior to the date such tender offer expires
- OS = the number of shares of our common stock outstanding immediately after the date such tender offer expires
- SP = the average sale price of our common stock for the ten days commencing on the trading day next succeeding the date such tender offer expires

If however, the application of the foregoing formula would result in a decrease in the conversion rate, no adjustment to the conversion rate will be made.

To the extent that we adopt any future rights plan, upon conversion of the new notes into our common stock you will receive, in addition to the common stock, the rights under the future stockholder rights plan whether or not the rights have separated from the common stock at the time of conversion and no adjustment to the conversion rate shall be made in accordance with clause (3) above.

Except as stated herein, we will not adjust the conversion rate for the issuance of our common stock or any securities convertible into or exchangeable for our common stock or the right to purchase our common stock or such convertible or exchangeable securities.

In the event of:

any reclassification of our common stock, or

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a consolidation, merger or combination involving us, or

a sale or conveyance to another person of our property and assets as an entirety or substantially as an entirety, in which holders of our outstanding common stock would be entitled to receive stock, other securities, other property, assets or cash for their common stock, holders of new notes will generally be entitled thereafter to convert their new notes into the same type of consideration received by common stock holders immediately prior to one of these types of events.

Table of Contents

We are permitted to increase the conversion rate of the new notes by any amount for a period of at least 20 days if our board of directors determines that such increase would be in our best interest. We are required to give at least 15 days prior notice of any increase in the conversion rate. We may also (but are not required to) increase the conversion rate to avoid or diminish income tax to holders of our common stock or rights to purchase common stock in connection with a dividend or distribution of stock (or rights to acquire stock) or similar event.

Holders of the new notes may, in some circumstances, be deemed to have received a distribution or dividend subject to United States federal income tax as a result of an adjustment or the nonoccurrence of an adjustment to the conversion rate. See Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations U.S. Holders Constructive Distributions in Respect of the New Notes.

We will not be required to make an adjustment in the conversion rate unless the adjustment would require a change of at least 1% in the conversion rate. However, we will carry forward any adjustments that are less than 1% of the conversion rate.

Repurchase of the new notes at the option of holders upon a fundamental change

If a fundamental change (as defined below in this section) occurs at any time, you will have the right, at your option, to require us to repurchase all or any portion of your new notes that is equal to \$1,000 or an integral multiple of \$1,000 on a repurchase date that is no earlier than 25 days and no later than 35 days after the date of our notice of the fundamental change.

The price we are required to pay is equal to 100% of the principal amount of the new notes to be repurchased plus accrued and unpaid interest to but excluding the fundamental change repurchase date. If the repurchase date is an interest payment date, we will pay interest on the interest payment date to the record holder on the relevant record date. Otherwise, we will pay accrued and unpaid interest to the same holder that receives the principal amount to be repurchased.

A fundamental change will be deemed to have occurred upon a change of control event or a termination of trading (as defined below).

A change of control event is any transaction or event (whether by means of an exchange offer, liquidation, tender offer, consolidation, merger, combination, reclassification, recapitalization, sale of all or substantially all of our consolidated assets or otherwise) in connection with which all or substantially all of our common stock is exchanged for, converted into, acquired for or constitutes solely the right to receive, consideration which is not all or substantially all common stock or American Depositary Shares that:

is listed on, or immediately after the transaction or event will be listed on, a United States national securities exchange, or

is approved, or immediately after the transaction or event will be approved, for quotation on a United States system of automated dissemination of quotations of securities prices.

A termination of trading will be deemed to have occurred if our common stock or other common stock into which the new notes are convertible is neither listed for trading on a United States national securities exchange nor approved for listing on NASDAQ or any similar United States system of automated dissemination of quotations of securities prices, and no American Depositary Shares or similar instruments for such common stock are so listed or approved for listing in the United States.

However, notwithstanding the foregoing, a holder will not have the right to require us to repurchase its new notes if the sale price per share of our common stock for any five trading days within the period of 10 consecutive trading days ending immediately after the later of the fundamental change or the public

Table of Contents

announcement of the fundamental change equals or exceeds 110% of the conversion price of the new notes in effect on each of those five trading days.

On or before the 15th day after we know or reasonably should know a fundamental change has occurred, we will provide to all holders of the new notes and the trustee and paying agent a notice of the occurrence of the fundamental change and of the resulting repurchase right. Such notice shall state, among other things:

the fundamental change repurchase date; and

the procedures that holders must follow to require us to repurchase their new notes.

Simultaneously with providing such notice, we will publish a notice containing this information in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of New York or publish the information on our website or through such other public medium as we may use at that time.

If you elect to exercise your right to cause us to repurchase all or any portion of your new notes, you must deliver to us or our designated agent, on or before the business day preceding the fundamental change repurchase date, subject to extension to comply with applicable law, the new notes to be repurchased, duly endorsed for transfer, together with a written repurchase notice and the form entitled "Form of Fundamental Change Repurchase Notice" on the reverse side of the new notes duly completed, to the paying agent. Your repurchase notice must state:

if certificated, the certificate numbers of your new notes to be delivered for repurchase, or if not certificated, your notice must comply with appropriate DTC procedures;

the portion of the principal amount of new notes to be repurchased, which must be \$1,000 or an integral multiple thereof; and

that the new notes are to be purchased by us pursuant to the applicable provisions of the new notes and the new notes indenture. You may withdraw any repurchase notice (in whole or in part) by a written notice of withdrawal delivered to us or our agent prior to the close of business on the business day prior to the fundamental change repurchase date. The notice of withdrawal shall state:

the principal amount of the withdrawn new notes;

if certificated new notes have been issued, the certificate numbers of the withdrawn new notes, or if not certificated, your notice must comply with appropriate DTC procedures; and

the principal amount, if any, which remains subject to the repurchase notice.

If a fundamental change results from a change of control event, as described below, instead of paying the repurchase price in cash we may elect to pay all or a portion of the repurchase price in shares of our common stock, or, in the case of a merger in which we are not the surviving corporation, common stock or American Depositary Shares of the surviving corporation or its direct or indirect parent corporation or a combination of the applicable securities and cash, at our option. The number of shares of the applicable common stock or securities a holder will receive will equal the relevant amount of the repurchase price divided by 97% of the average sale prices of the applicable common stock or securities for the five trading days immediately preceding the second business day immediately preceding the fundamental change repurchase date. However, we may not pay any portion of the repurchase price in the applicable common stock or securities or a combination of the applicable common stock or securities and cash, unless we satisfy certain conditions prior to the repurchase date as provided in the new notes indenture, including:

registration of the shares of the applicable common stock or securities to be issued upon repurchase under the Securities Act and the Exchange Act, if required;

Table of Contents

qualification of the shares of the applicable common stock or securities to be issued upon repurchase under applicable state securities laws, if necessary, or the availability of an exemption therefrom; and

listing of the applicable common stock or securities on a U.S. national securities exchange or quotation thereof on an inter-dealer quotation system of any registered U.S. national securities association.

If the paying agent holds money and/or applicable stock sufficient to pay the fundamental change repurchase price of the new notes on the fundamental change repurchase date, then:

the new notes will cease to be outstanding (whether or not book-entry transfer of the new notes is made or whether or not the new note is delivered to the paying agent); and

all other rights of the holder will terminate (other than the right to receive the fundamental change repurchase price upon delivery or transfer of the new notes).

We will comply with any applicable provisions of Rule 13e-4 and any other tender offer rules under the Exchange Act in the event of a fundamental change.

The repurchase rights of the holders could discourage a potential acquirer of us. The fundamental change repurchase feature, however, is not the result of management's knowledge of any specific effort to obtain control of us by any means or part of a plan by management to adopt a series of anti-takeover provisions.

The term fundamental change is limited to specified events and may not include other events that might adversely affect our financial condition. In addition, the requirement that we offer to purchase the new notes upon a fundamental change may not protect holders in the event of a highly leveraged transaction, reorganization, merger or similar transaction involving us.

No new notes may be repurchased at the option of holders upon a fundamental change if there has occurred and is continuing an event of default other than an event of default that is cured by the payment of the fundamental change repurchase price of the new notes.

The definition of fundamental change includes a phrase relating to the conveyance, transfer, sale or lease of substantially all of our properties and assets. There is no precise, established definition of the phrase substantially all under applicable law. Accordingly, the ability of a holder of the new notes to require us to repurchase its new notes as a result of the conveyance, transfer, sale, lease or other disposition of less than all of our properties and assets may be uncertain.

If a fundamental change were to occur, we may not have enough funds to pay the fundamental change repurchase price in cash. See Risk factors under the caption We may be unable to repay or repurchase the new notes or our other indebtedness. If we fail to repurchase the new notes when required following a fundamental change, we will be in default under the new notes indenture. In addition, we have, and may in the future incur, other indebtedness with similar change in control provisions permitting our holders to accelerate or to require us to repurchase our indebtedness upon the occurrence of similar events or on some specific dates.

Consolidation, merger and sale of assets

The new notes indenture provides that we may not consolidate with or merge with or into, or convey, transfer or lease all or substantially all of our properties and assets to, another person, unless (i) the resulting, surviving or transferee person other than us is a person either (a) organized and existing under the laws of the United States of America, any State thereof or the District of Columbia, or (b) organized

Table of Contents

under the laws of a jurisdiction outside the United States and has common stock traded on a national securities exchange in the United States and a worldwide total market capitalization of its equity securities before giving effect to the consolidation or merger of at least U.S. \$2 billion, and in either case such entity other than us expressly assumes by supplemental indenture all of our obligations under the new notes and the new notes indenture; and (ii) immediately after giving effect to such transaction, no default has occurred and is continuing under the new notes indenture. Upon any such consolidation, merger or transfer, the resulting, surviving or transferee person shall succeed to, and may exercise every right and power of, Oscient Pharmaceuticals under the new notes indenture.

Although these types of transactions are permitted under the new notes indenture, certain of the foregoing transactions could constitute a fundamental change (as defined above) permitting each holder to require us to repurchase the new notes of such holder as described above.

Events of default

Each of the following is an event of default:

default in the payment of interest on any note when due and payable and the default continues for a period of 30 days;

default in the payment of principal of any new note when due and payable at its maturity, upon redemption, upon repurchase (including upon a fundamental change) or otherwise;

failure by us to comply with any of our other agreements contained in the new notes or the new notes indenture for 60 days after written notice of such non-compliance has been received from the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the new notes then outstanding;

default for 10 days in the performance of our conversion obligation upon exercise of a holder's conversion rights;

default by us or our subsidiaries in the payment of the principal or interest on any loan agreement or other instrument under which there may be outstanding, or by which there may be evidenced any, debt for money borrowed in excess of \$7.5 million in the aggregate of ours and such subsidiaries (other than indebtedness for borrowed money secured only by the real property to which the indebtedness relates and which is non-recourse to us or to such material subsidiaries), whether such debt now exists or shall hereafter be created, resulting in such debt becoming or being declared due and payable prior to its stated maturity, and such acceleration shall not have been rescinded or annulled within 30 days after written notice has been received by us or such subsidiary from the trustee or by the trustee, us and such subsidiary by the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the new notes then outstanding;

our failure to give you notice of your right to require us to repurchase your new notes upon a fundamental change;

our failure to file our annual or quarterly reports with the SEC in accordance with the terms of the new notes indenture or to comply with the requirements of Section 314(a)(1) of the Trust Indenture Act, which we refer to as a filing failure, except during an extension period (as defined below); or

certain events involving our bankruptcy, insolvency, or reorganization (the bankruptcy provisions).

If an event of default occurs and is continuing, the trustee by notice to us may, or the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding new notes by notice to us and the trustee may request, and the trustee upon such request shall, declare 100% of the principal of and accrued and unpaid interest on

Table of Contents

all the new notes to be due and payable. Upon such a declaration, such principal and accrued and unpaid interest will be due and payable immediately. Notwithstanding the previous sentence, in the case of an event of default arising under the bankruptcy provisions, all outstanding new notes will become due and payable without further action or notice.

Upon the occurrence of a filing failure, we may elect, within 60 days of the date notice is provided to us by the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding new notes, to pay to the holders an extension fee which will accrue at a rate of 1.00% per annum of the aggregate principal amount of the new notes then outstanding. Such extension fee will extend the cure period for a filing failure for a period of up to 120 days, which period we refer to as the extension period. If we elect to pay such an extension fee, we will provide notice of our election to pay the extension fee to the holders and the trustee on or before the business day immediately prior to the 60th day after the date on which the filing failure first occurred. We will pay any such extension fee on the same dates and in the same manner as we pay interest that accrues on the new notes. The extension fee will accrue on the new notes from the date that is 60 days after notice of the filing failure is given by the holders to, but excluding, the earlier of the date on which we make the filings that gave rise to the filing failure and the date that is 180 days after the date such notice was given by the holders.

The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding new notes may waive all past defaults (except with respect to nonpayment of principal or interest) and rescind any such acceleration with respect to the new notes and its consequences if (1) rescission would not conflict with any judgment or decree of a court of competent jurisdiction and (2) all existing events of default, other than the nonpayment of the principal of and interest on the new notes that have become due solely by such declaration of acceleration, have been cured or waived.

Subject to the provisions of the new notes indenture relating to the duties of the trustee, if an event of default occurs and is continuing, the trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any of the rights or powers under the new notes indenture at the request or direction of any of the holders unless such holders have offered to the trustee reasonable indemnity or security against any loss, liability or expense. Except to enforce the right to receive payment of principal or interest when due, no holder may pursue any remedy with respect to the new notes indenture or the new notes unless:

such holder has previously given the trustee notice that an event of default is continuing;

holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding new notes have requested the trustee to pursue the remedy;

such holders have offered the trustee reasonable security or indemnity against any loss, liability or expense;

the trustee has not complied with such request within 60 days after the receipt of the request and the offer of security or indemnity; and

the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding new notes have not given the trustee a direction that, in the opinion of the trustee, is inconsistent with such request within such 60-day period.

Subject to certain restrictions, the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding new notes are given the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee or of exercising any trust or power conferred on the trustee. The new notes indenture provides that if an event of default has occurred and is continuing, the trustee will be required in the exercise of its powers to use the degree of care that a prudent person would use in the conduct of its own affairs. The trustee, however, may refuse to follow any direction that conflicts with law or the new notes indenture or that the trustee determines is unduly prejudicial to the rights of any other holder or that would involve the trustee in personal liability. Prior to taking any action under the new notes

Table of Contents

indenture, the trustee will be entitled to indemnification satisfactory to it in its sole discretion against all losses and expenses caused by taking or not taking such action.

The new notes indenture provides that if a default occurs and is continuing and is known to the trustee, the trustee must mail to each holder notice of the default within 60 days after it occurs. Except in the case of a default in the payment of principal of or interest on any new note, the trustee may withhold notice if and so long as a committee of trust officers of the trustee in good faith determines that withholding notice is in the interests of the holders. In addition, we are required to deliver to the trustee an annual certificate indicating whether the signers thereof know of any default that occurred during the previous year. We are also required to deliver to the trustee, within 30 days after the occurrence thereof, written notice of any events which would constitute certain defaults, their status and what action we are taking or propose to take in respect thereof.

Modification and amendment

Subject to certain exceptions, the new notes indenture or the new notes may be amended with the consent of the holders of at least a majority in principal amount of the new notes then outstanding (including, without limitation, consents obtained in connection with a purchase of, or tender offer or exchange offer for, new notes) and, subject to certain exceptions, any past default or compliance with any provisions may be waived with the consent of the holders of a majority in principal amount of the new notes then outstanding (including, without limitation, consents obtained in connection with a purchase of, or tender offer or exchange offer for, new notes).

Without the consent of each holder of an outstanding new note affected, no amendment may, among other things:

reduce the rate of or extend the stated time for payment of interest on any new note;

reduce the principal amount of or change the maturity of the principal of any new note;

make any change that impairs or adversely affects the conversion rights of any new note;

reduce the redemption price or fundamental change repurchase price of any new note or amend or modify in any manner adverse to the holders of new notes our obligation to make such payments, whether through an amendment or waiver of provisions in the covenants, definitions or otherwise;

modify the provisions with respect to the repurchase right of holders upon a fundamental change in a manner adverse to holders;

modify the provisions of the new notes indenture in a manner that adversely affects the interests of the holders of the new notes in any material respect;

make any principal or interest on the new note payable in money other than that stated in the new note or other than in accordance with the provisions of the new notes indenture;

impair the right of any holder to receive payment of principal of or interest on such holder's new notes on or after the due dates therefor or impair the right of any holder to institute suit for the enforcement of any payment on or with respect to such holder's new notes;

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reduce the quorum or voting requirements under the new notes indenture;

change the ranking of the new notes in a manner adverse to the holders of the new notes;

make any change in the amendment provisions which require each holder's consent or in the waiver provisions; or

reduce the percentage of new notes required for consent to any modification of the new notes indenture.

Table of Contents

We and the trustee may modify or amend the new notes indenture and the new notes without the consent of any holder in order to, among other things:

provide for our successor pursuant to a consolidation, merger or sale of assets;

add to our covenants for the benefit of the holders of the new notes or to surrender any right or power conferred upon us by the new notes indenture;

provide for a successor trustee with respect to the new notes;

cure any ambiguity or correct or supplement any provision in the new notes indenture which may be defective or inconsistent with any other provision;

add any additional events of default with respect to the new notes;

secure the new notes;

increase the conversion rate, provided that the increase is in accordance with the terms of the new notes indenture or will not adversely affect the interests of the holders of the new notes;

supplement any of the provisions of the new notes indenture to such extent as shall be necessary to permit or facilitate the discharge of the notes, provided that such change or modification does not adversely affect the interests of the holders of the new notes; or

add or modify any other provisions with respect to matters or questions arising under the new notes indenture which we and the trustee may deem necessary and desirable and which will not adversely affect the interests of the holders of new notes.

Further issues

We may from time to time, without notice to or the consent of the registered holders of the new notes, create and issue additional debt securities having the same terms as and ranking equally and ratably with the new notes in all respects, so that such additional debt securities shall be consolidated and form a single series with, and shall have the same terms as to status, redemption or otherwise as, the new notes.

Form, denomination and registration

The new notes will be issued:

in fully registered form; and

in denominations of \$1,000 principal amount and integral multiples of \$1,000.

Trustee

U.S. Bank National Association is the initial trustee, security registrar, paying agent and conversion agent.

Governing law

The new notes indenture provides that it and the new notes will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF EXISTING 2011 NOTES

The existing 2011 notes were issued under indentures dated as of May 10, 2004, which we refer to as the existing 2011 notes indentures, between us and U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee, which we refer to as the existing 2011 notes trustee. The terms of the existing 2011 notes include those expressly set forth in the existing 2011 notes indentures and those made part of the existing 2011 notes by reference to the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, which we refer to as the Trust Indenture Act. The pledge agreement referred to below under the caption "Security" defines the terms of the pledge that secures the payment of the first six interest payments on the existing 2011 notes when due.

This description of existing 2011 notes is intended to be a useful overview of the material provisions of the existing 2011 notes, the existing 2011 notes indentures and the pledge agreement. Since this description is only a summary, you should refer to the existing 2011 notes indentures and the pledge agreement for a complete description of our obligations and your rights.

For purposes of this description, references to "Oscient Pharmaceuticals," "we," "our" and "us" refer only to Oscient Pharmaceuticals Corporation and not to any of its subsidiaries.

General

The existing 2011 notes:

are our general unsecured, senior obligations (except to the extent described under "Security" below);

rank equally in right of payment to any of our existing or future unsecured senior indebtedness, including trade payables;

mature on April 15, 2011, unless earlier converted, repurchased or redeemed;

will accrue interest at a rate of 3 1/2% per year payable in cash on each April 15 and October 15, beginning on October 15, 2004, to record holders at the close of business on the preceding April 1 and October 1, respectively, except as set forth under "Interest";

were issued in denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000;

are represented by one or more registered notes in global form, but in certain limited circumstances may be represented by notes in definitive form (see "Form, denomination and registration" Global notes, book-entry form);

are redeemable by us for cash, at our option, in whole or in part, beginning on May 10, 2010 (see "Optional redemption"); and

are subject to repurchase by us upon a fundamental change (as defined below).

Subject to fulfillment of certain conditions described below, the existing 2011 notes may be converted into shares of our common stock at an initial conversion rate of 150.5571 shares of common stock per \$1,000 principal amount of existing 2011 notes (equivalent to an initial conversion price of approximately \$6.64 per share of common stock). The conversion rate is subject to adjustment if certain events occur. On November 15, 2006, we effectuated a 1-for-8 reverse stock split. Following that stock split, the conversion rate was adjusted such that existing 2011 notes may be converted into shares of our common stock at a conversion rate of 18.8196 shares of common stock per \$1,000 principal amount of existing 2011 notes (equivalent to a conversion price of approximately \$53.14 per share of common stock).

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The registered holder of an existing 2011 note will be treated as the owner of it for all purposes, including, without limitation, for purposes of determining to whom we will send any notice required to be sent to holders of the existing 2011 notes pursuant to the existing 2011 notes indentures.

Table of Contents

The existing 2011 notes indentures do not limit the amount or kind of debt that may be incurred by us or any of our subsidiaries.

Other than restrictions described under Repurchase of the existing 2011 notes at the option of holders upon a fundamental change and Consolidation, merger and sale of assets below, the existing 2011 notes indentures do not contain any covenants or other provisions which may afford holders of the existing 2011 notes protection in the event of a highly leveraged transaction involving us. We may not reissue an existing 2011 note that has matured or been converted, repurchased by us at the option of a holder, redeemed or otherwise canceled.

Security

We have purchased and pledged to the existing 2011 notes trustee as security for the exclusive benefit of the holders of the existing 2011 notes (and not for the benefit of our other creditors), U.S. government securities in such amount as will be sufficient, upon receipt of scheduled interest and principal payments of such U.S. government securities, to provide for payment in full of the first six scheduled interest payments (up to and including the interest payment due on April 15, 2007), but not additional interest which may be payable on the existing 2011 notes when due. A verification agent verified the mathematical accuracy of our computation.

The U.S. government securities were pledged by us to the existing 2011 notes trustee for the exclusive benefit of the holders of the existing 2011 notes and will be held by the existing 2011 notes trustee in a pledge account. Immediately prior to each of the first six interest payment dates, the existing 2011 notes trustee will release from the pledge account proceeds sufficient to pay the interest then due on the existing 2011 notes. A failure to pay interest on the existing 2011 notes when due for any of the first six scheduled interest payment dates will constitute an event of default under the existing 2011 notes indentures, with no grace period.

The pledged U.S. government securities and the pledge account will also secure the repayment of the principal amount and additional interest, if any, on the existing 2011 notes only to the extent provided in the following circumstance. If prior to April 15, 2007:

an event of default under the existing 2011 notes occurs and is continuing; and

the existing 2011 notes trustee or the holders of 25% in aggregate principal amount of the existing 2011 notes accelerate the existing 2011 notes by declaring the principal amount of the existing 2011 notes to be immediately due and payable (by written consent, at a meeting of noteholders or otherwise), except for the occurrence of an event of default relating to our bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization, upon which the existing 2011 notes will be accelerated automatically; then the proceeds from the pledged U.S. government securities will be promptly released for payment to noteholders, subject to the automatic stay provisions of bankruptcy law, if applicable. Distributions from the pledge account will be applied:

first, to any accrued and unpaid interest on the existing 2011 notes; and

second, to repayment of a portion of the principal amount of the existing 2011 notes and additional interest, if any, due on the existing 2011 notes.

However, if any event of default is cured prior to the acceleration of the existing 2011 notes by the existing 2011 notes trustee or holders of the existing 2011 notes referred to above, the existing 2011 notes trustee and the holders of the existing 2011 notes will not be able to accelerate the existing 2011 notes as a result of that event of default.

Table of Contents

For example, if the first two interest payments were made when due but the third interest payment was not made when due and the noteholders promptly exercised their right to declare the principal amount of the existing 2011 notes to be immediately due and payable, then, assuming automatic stay provisions of bankruptcy law are inapplicable and the proceeds of the pledged U.S. government securities are promptly distributed from the pledge account:

an amount equal to the interest payment due on the third interest payment would be distributed from the pledge account as accrued interest; and

the balance of the proceeds of the pledge account would be distributed as a portion of the principal amount of the existing 2011 notes and additional interest, if any, due on the existing 2011 notes.

In addition, noteholders would have an unsecured claim against us for the remainder of the principal amount of their existing 2011 notes.

Once we make the first six scheduled interest payments on the existing 2011 notes, or at such earlier time when all of the existing 2011 notes have been repurchased or converted, all of the remaining pledged U.S. government securities, if any, will be released to us from the pledge account.

Payments on the existing 2011 notes; paying agent and registrar

We will pay principal and interest on the existing 2011 notes at the office or agency designated by us in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York. We have initially designated U.S. Bank National Association as our paying agent and registrar and its agency in New York, New York as a place where existing 2011 notes may be presented for payment or for registration of transfer. We may, however, change the paying agent or registrar without prior notice to the holders of the existing 2011 notes, and we may act as paying agent or registrar.

We will pay principal and interest on existing 2011 notes in global form registered in the name of or held by The Depository Trust Company (DTC) or its nominee in immediately available funds to DTC or its nominee, as the case may be, as the registered holder of such global note.

Interest

The existing 2011 notes accrue interest at a rate of 3 1/2% per year from the date of issuance. Interest is payable semi-annually in arrears on April 15 and October 15 of each year, beginning on October 15, 2004, to record holders at the close of business on the preceding April 1 and October 1, respectively, except:

interest payable upon redemption will be paid to the person to whom principal is payable, unless the redemption date is an interest payment date, in which case interest shall be paid to the record holder on the relevant record date; and

as set forth in the next sentence.

If you convert your existing 2011 notes into common stock during the period after any record date but prior to the next interest payment date:

we will not be required to pay interest on the interest payment date if the existing 2011 notes have been called for redemption on a redemption date that occurs during this period, but accrued and unpaid interest on such existing 2011 notes will be paid on the redemption date; or

if otherwise, any existing 2011 note called for redemption that is submitted for conversion during this period must also be accompanied by an amount equal to the interest due on the

Table of Contents

interest payment date on the converted principal amount, unless at the time of the conversion there is a default in the payment of interest on the notes. See Conversion rights.

Interest is computed on the basis of a 360-day year comprised of twelve 30-day months. We will not be required to make any payment on the existing 2011 notes due on any day which is not a business day until the next succeeding business day. The payment made on the next succeeding business day will be treated as though it were paid on the original due date and no interest will accrue on the payment for the additional period of time.

Transfer and exchange

You may transfer or exchange existing 2011 notes at the office of the registrar in accordance with the existing 2011 notes indentures. The registrar and the existing 2011 notes trustee may require a holder, among other things, to furnish appropriate endorsements and transfer documents. No service charge will be imposed by us, the existing 2011 notes trustee or the registrar for any registration of transfer or exchange of existing 2011 notes, but we may require a holder to pay a sum sufficient to cover any transfer tax or other similar governmental charge required by law or permitted by the existing 2011 notes indentures. We are not required to exchange or register the transfer of:

any existing 2011 note or portion thereof selected for redemption;

any existing 2011 note or portion thereof surrendered for conversion; or

any existing 2011 note or portion thereof surrendered for repurchase but not withdrawn in connection with a repurchase date.

Ranking

The existing 2011 notes are our general unsecured obligations (except to the extent described under Security, above) and rank senior in right of payment to all existing and future debt that is expressly subordinated in right of payment to the notes. The existing 2011 notes rank equally in right of payment with all of our existing and future liabilities that are not so subordinated. Other than as described under Security, above, the existing 2011 notes effectively rank junior to any of our secured indebtedness to the extent of the assets securing such indebtedness. In the event of our bankruptcy, liquidation, reorganization or other winding up, our assets that secure debt will be available to pay obligations on the existing 2011 notes only after all secured debt has been repaid in full from such assets.

We are obligated to pay reasonable compensation to the existing 2011 notes trustee and to indemnify the existing 2011 notes trustee against certain losses, liabilities or expenses incurred by the existing 2011 notes trustee in connection with its duties relating to the existing 2011 notes. The existing 2011 notes trustee's claims for these payments will generally be senior to those of holders of existing 2011 notes in respect of all funds collected or held by the existing 2011 notes trustee.

Optional redemption

No sinking fund is provided for the existing 2011 notes. Prior to May 10, 2010, the existing 2011 notes will not be redeemable. Beginning May 10, 2010, we may redeem at any time for cash all or part of the existing 2011 notes, upon not less than 30 nor more than 60 days notice before the redemption date by mail to the existing 2011 notes trustee, the paying agent and each holder of existing 2011 notes, for a price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the existing 2011 notes to be redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest to but excluding the redemption date.

If we decide to redeem fewer than all of the outstanding existing 2011 notes, the existing 2011 notes trustee will select the existing 2011 notes to be redeemed (in principal amounts of \$1,000 or integral

Table of Contents

multiples thereof) by lot, on a pro rata basis or by another method the existing 2011 notes trustee considers fair and appropriate.

If the existing 2011 notes trustee selects a portion of your existing 2011 note for redemption and you convert a portion of the same existing 2011 note, the converted portion will be deemed to be from the portion selected for redemption.

In the event of any redemption in part, we will not be required to:

issue, register the transfer of or exchange any existing 2011 note during a period of 15 days before the redemption date; or

register the transfer of or exchange any existing 2011 note so selected for redemption, in whole or in part, except the unredeemed portion of any note being redeemed in part.

Conversion rights

General

Subject to satisfaction of the conditions described under the headings *Conversion upon redemption*, and *Conversion rate adjustments*, holders may convert each of their existing 2011 notes into shares of our common stock at an initial conversion rate of 150.5571 shares of common stock per \$1,000 principal amount of existing 2011 notes (equivalent to an initial conversion price of approximately \$6.64 per share of common stock) prior to the close of business on April 14, 2011. On November 15, 2006, we effectuated a 1-for-8 reverse stock split. Following that stock split, the conversion rate was adjusted such that existing 2011 notes may be converted into shares of our common stock at a conversion rate of 18.8196 shares of common stock per \$1,000 principal amount of existing 2011 notes (equivalent to a conversion price of approximately \$53.14 per share of common stock). The conversion rate and the equivalent conversion price in effect at any given time are referred to as the *applicable conversion rate* and the *applicable conversion price*, respectively, and will be subject to adjustment as described below. A holder may convert fewer than all of such holder's existing 2011 notes so long as the notes converted are an integral multiple of \$1,000 principal amount.

Unless you convert your existing 2011 notes on an interest payment date, you will not receive any cash payment representing accrued and unpaid interest upon conversion of an existing 2011 note. Instead, upon conversion, we will deliver to you a fixed number of shares of our common stock and a cash payment to account for any fractional shares. Any cash payment for fractional shares will be based on the closing sale price of our common stock on the trading day immediately prior to the conversion date. Delivery of shares of common stock upon conversion of the existing 2011 notes will be deemed to satisfy our obligation to pay the principal amount of the existing 2011 notes and accrued and unpaid interest. Accrued and unpaid interest will be deemed paid in full rather than canceled, extinguished or forfeited. We will not adjust the conversion rate to account for accrued and unpaid interest. The existing 2011 notes trustee will initially act as the conversion agent.

If any existing 2011 notes not called for redemption are converted after a record date for any interest payment date and prior to the next interest payment date, the existing 2011 notes must be accompanied by an amount equal to the interest payable on the next interest payment date on the converted principal amount, unless at the time of conversion there is a default in the payment of interest on the existing 2011 notes.

If a holder converts existing 2011 notes, we will pay any documentary, stamp or similar issue or transfer tax due on the issue of shares of our common stock upon conversion, unless the tax is due because the holder requests the shares to be issued in a name other than the holder's name, in which case the holder will pay that tax.

Table of Contents

If a holder wishes to exercise its conversion right, the holder must deliver a conversion notice, together, if the existing 2011 notes are in certificated form, with the certificated security, to the conversion agent along with appropriate endorsements and transfer documents, if required, and pay any transfer or similar tax, if required. Holders may obtain copies of the required form of the conversion notice from the conversion agent.

If a holder has already delivered a repurchase notice as described under Repurchase of the existing 2011 notes by us at the option of holders upon a fundamental change with respect to an existing 2011 note, however, the holder may not surrender that existing 2011 note for conversion until the holder has withdrawn the repurchase notice in accordance with the existing 2011 notes indentures.

Conversion upon redemption

You may surrender for conversion any of your existing 2011 notes called by us for redemption at any time prior to the close of business one business day prior to the redemption date. If you have already submitted an existing 2011 note for repurchase on a fundamental change repurchase date, you may not surrender that existing 2011 note for conversion until you have withdrawn your repurchase election in accordance with the existing 2011 notes indentures.

Conversion rate adjustments

The conversion rate will be adjusted as described below, except that we will not make any adjustments to the conversion rate if holders of the existing 2011 notes participate in any of the transactions described below.

(1) If we issue shares of our common stock as a dividend or distribution on our common stock, or if we effect a stock split or stock combination, the conversion rate will be adjusted based on the following formula:

$$CR = CR_0 \times \frac{OS}{OS_0}$$

where,

- CR₀ = the conversion rate in effect immediately prior to such event
- CR = the conversion rate in effect immediately after such event
- OS₀ = the number of shares of our common stock outstanding immediately prior to such event
- OS = the number of shares of our common stock outstanding immediately after such event

(2) If we issue to all or substantially all holders of our common stock any rights or warrants entitling them for a period of not more than 60 days to subscribe for or purchase shares of our common stock, or securities convertible into shares of our common stock, at a price per share or a conversion price per share less than the sale price of our common stock on the business day immediately preceding the time of announcement of such issuance, the conversion rate will be adjusted based on the following formula (provided that the conversion rate will be readjusted to the extent that such rights or warrants are not exercised prior to their expiration):

$$CR = CR_0 \times \frac{OS_0 + X}{OS_0 + Y}$$

Table of Contents

where,

- CR₀ = the conversion rate in effect immediately prior to such event
- CR = the conversion rate in effect immediately after such event
- OS₀ = the number of shares of our common stock outstanding immediately prior to such event
- X = the total number of shares of our common stock issuable pursuant to such rights
- Y = the number of shares of our common stock equal to the aggregate price payable to exercise such rights divided by the average sale price of our common stock for the ten consecutive trading days prior to the business day immediately preceding the record date for the issuance of such rights

(3) If we distribute shares of our capital stock, evidences of our indebtedness or other assets or property of ours to all or substantially all holders of our common stock, excluding:

dividends, distributions and rights or warrants referred to in clause (1) or (2) above; and

dividends or distributions in cash referred to in clause (4) below;

then the conversion rate will be adjusted based on the following formula:

$$CR = CR_0 \times \frac{SP_0}{SP_0 \text{ FMV}}$$

where,

- CR₀ = the conversion rate in effect immediately prior to such distribution
- CR = the conversion rate in effect immediately after such distribution
- SP₀ = the average sale price per share of our common stock for the ten consecutive trading days prior to the business day immediately preceding the record date for such distribution
- FMV = the fair market value (as determined by our board of directors) of the shares of capital stock, evidences of indebtedness, assets or property distributed with respect to each outstanding share of our common stock on the record date for such distribution

(4) If we make cash distributions to all or substantially all holders of our common stock, the conversion rate will be adjusted based on the following formula:

$$CR = CR_0 \times \frac{SP_0}{SP_0 \ C}$$

where,

- CR₀ = the conversion rate in effect immediately prior to the record date for such distribution
- CR = the conversion rate in effect immediately after the record date for such distribution
- SP₀ = the average sale price of our common stock for the ten consecutive trading days prior to the business day immediately preceding the record date of such distribution
- C = the amount in cash per share we distribute to holders of our common stock

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(5) If we or any of our subsidiaries purchase shares of our common stock pursuant to a tender offer, the conversion rate will be increased based on the following formula:

$$CR = CR_0 \times AC + \frac{SP \times OS}{OS_0 \times SP}$$

Table of Contents

where,

- CR₀ = the conversion rate in effect on the date such tender offer expires
- CR = the conversion rate in effect on the day next succeeding the date such tender offer expires
- AC = the aggregate value of all cash and any other consideration (as determined by our board of directors) paid for shares purchased in such tender offer
- OS₀ = the number of shares of our common stock outstanding immediately prior to the date such tender offer expires
- OS = the number of shares of our common stock outstanding immediately after the date such tender offer expires
- SP = the average sale price of our common stock for the ten days commencing on the trading day next succeeding the date such tender offer expires

If however, the application of the foregoing formula would result in a decrease in the conversion rate, no adjustment to the conversion rate will be made.

To the extent that we adopt any future rights plan, upon conversion of the existing 2011 notes into our common stock you will receive, in addition to the common stock, the rights under the future stockholder rights plan whether or not the rights have separated from the common stock at the time of conversion and no adjustment to the conversion rate shall be made in accordance with clause (3) above.

Except as stated herein, we will not adjust the conversion rate for the issuance of our common stock or any securities convertible into or exchangeable for our common stock or the right to purchase our common stock or such convertible or exchangeable securities.

In the event of:

any reclassification of our common stock, or

a consolidation, merger or combination involving us, or

a sale or conveyance to another person of our property and assets as an entirety or substantially as an entirety, in which holders of our outstanding common stock would be entitled to receive stock, other securities, other property, assets or cash for their common stock, holders of existing 2011 notes will generally be entitled thereafter to convert their existing 2011 notes into the same type of consideration received by common stock holders immediately prior to one of these types of events.

We are permitted to increase the conversion rate of the existing 2011 notes by any amount for a period of at least 20 days if our board of directors determines that such increase would be in our best interest. We are required to give at least 15 days prior notice of any increase in the conversion rate. We may also (but are not required to) increase the conversion rate to avoid or diminish income tax to holders of our common stock or rights to purchase common stock in connection with a dividend or distribution of stock (or rights to acquire stock) or similar event.

Holders of the existing 2011 notes may, in some circumstances, be deemed to have received a distribution or dividend subject to United States federal income tax as a result of an adjustment or the nonoccurrence of an adjustment to the conversion rate.

We will not be required to make an adjustment in the conversion rate unless the adjustment would require a change of at least 1% in the conversion rate. However, we will carry forward any adjustments that are less than 1% of the conversion rate.

Table of Contents

Except as described above in this section, we will not adjust the conversion rate for any issuance of our common stock or convertible or exchangeable securities or rights to purchase our common stock or convertible or exchangeable securities.

Repurchase of the existing 2011 notes at the option of holders upon a fundamental change

If a fundamental change (as defined below in this section) occurs at any time, you will have the right, at your option, to require us to repurchase all or any portion of your existing 2011 notes that is equal to \$1,000 or an integral multiple of \$1,000 on a repurchase date that is no earlier than 25 days and no later than 35 days after the date of our notice of the fundamental change.

The price we are required to pay is equal to 100% of the principal amount of the existing 2011 notes to be repurchased plus accrued and unpaid interest to but excluding the fundamental change repurchase date. If the repurchase date is an interest payment date, we will pay interest on the interest payment date to the record holder on the relevant record date. Otherwise, we will pay accrued and unpaid interest to the same holder that receives the principal amount to be repurchased.

A fundamental change will be deemed to have occurred upon a change of control event or a termination of trading (as defined below).

A change of control event is any transaction or event (whether by means of an exchange offer, liquidation, tender offer, consolidation, merger, combination, reclassification, recapitalization, sale of all or substantially all of our consolidated assets or otherwise) in connection with which all or substantially all of our common stock is exchanged for, converted into, acquired for or constitutes solely the right to receive, consideration which is not all or substantially all common stock or American Depositary Shares that:

is listed on, or immediately after the transaction or event will be listed on, a United States national securities exchange, or

is approved, or immediately after the transaction or event will be approved, for quotation on a United States system of automated dissemination of quotations of securities prices.

A termination of trading will be deemed to have occurred if our common stock or other common stock into which the existing 2011 notes are convertible is neither listed for trading on a United States national securities exchange nor approved for listing on NASDAQ or any similar United States system of automated dissemination of quotations of securities prices, and no American Depositary Shares or similar instruments for such common stock are so listed or approved for listing in the United States.

However, notwithstanding the foregoing, a holder will not have the right to require us to repurchase its existing 2011 notes if the sale price per share of our common stock for any five trading days within the period of 10 consecutive trading days ending immediately after the later of the fundamental change or the public announcement of the fundamental change equals or exceeds 110% of the conversion price of the existing 2011 notes in effect on each of those five trading days.

If a fundamental change occurs and all of the consideration for the common stock in the transaction or transactions constituting the fundamental change consists of cash, which we will refer to as a cash buy-out, we will pay a make-whole premium to the holders of the existing 2011 notes in addition to the fundamental change repurchase price of the existing 2011 notes on the date of repurchase.

The make-whole premium per existing 2011 note will equal (a) the average of the closing trading price of an existing 2011 note for the five trading days immediately prior to our public announcement of the cash buy-out, less (b) the greater of (i) \$1,000 or (ii) the product of (x) average closing prices of our common stock for the five trading days immediately prior to our public announcement of the cash buy-out and

Table of Contents

(y) the applicable conversion rate; and will be payable in cash or common stock at our option. The make-whole premium, if any, will not be less than zero.

The closing trading price, for purposes of calculating the make-whole premium, on any date of determination means the average of the secondary market bid quotations per existing 2011 note obtained by the existing 2011 notes trustee for \$2,000,000 principal amount of the existing 2011 notes at approximately 3:30 p.m. New York City time, on such determination date from two independent nationally recognized securities dealers we select, which may include one or more of the initial purchasers, provided that if at least two such bids cannot reasonably be obtained by the existing 2011 notes trustee, but one such bid can reasonably be obtained by the existing 2011 notes trustee, this one bid will be used. If the existing 2011 notes trustee cannot reasonably obtain at least one bid for \$2,000,000 principal amount of existing 2011 notes from a nationally recognized securities dealer or in our reasonable judgment, the bid quotations are not indicative of the secondary market value of the existing 2011 notes, then the closing trading price of the existing 2011 notes will be deemed to be less than 98% of the applicable conversion rate of the existing 2011 notes multiplied by the closing price of our common stock on such determination date.

On or before the 15th day after we know or reasonably should know a fundamental change has occurred, we will provide to all holders of the existing 2011 notes and the existing 2011 notes trustee and paying agent a notice of the occurrence of the fundamental change and of the resulting repurchase right. Such notice shall state, among other things:

the fundamental change repurchase date; and

the procedures that holders must follow to require us to repurchase their existing 2011 notes.

Simultaneously with providing such notice, we will publish a notice containing this information in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of New York or publish the information on our website or through such other public medium as we may use at that time.

If you elect to exercise your right to cause us to repurchase all or any portion of your existing 2011 notes, you must deliver to us or our designated agent, on or before the business day preceding the fundamental change repurchase date, subject to extension to comply with applicable law, the existing 2011 notes to be repurchased, duly endorsed for transfer, together with a written repurchase notice and the form entitled *Form of Fundamental Change Repurchase Notice* on the reverse side of the existing 2011 notes duly completed, to the paying agent. Your repurchase notice must state:

if certificated, the certificate numbers of your existing 2011 notes to be delivered for repurchase, or if not certificated, your notice must comply with appropriate DTC procedures;

the portion of the principal amount of existing 2011 notes to be repurchased, which must be \$1,000 or an integral multiple thereof; and

that the existing 2011 notes are to be purchased by us pursuant to the applicable provisions of the existing 2011 notes and the existing 2011 notes indentures.

You may withdraw any repurchase notice (in whole or in part) by a written notice of withdrawal delivered to us or our agent prior to the close of business on the business day prior to the fundamental change repurchase date. The notice of withdrawal shall state:

the principal amount of the withdrawn existing 2011 notes;

if certificated notes have been issued, the certificate numbers of the withdrawn existing 2011 notes, or if not certificated, your notice must comply with appropriate DTC procedures; and

the principal amount, if any, which remains subject to the repurchase notice.

Table of Contents

If a fundamental change results from a change of control event, as described below, instead of paying the repurchase price in cash we may elect to pay all or a portion of the repurchase price in shares of our common stock, or, in the case of a merger in which we are not the surviving corporation, common stock or American Depositary Shares of the surviving corporation or its direct or indirect parent corporation or a combination of the applicable securities and cash, at our option. The number of shares of the applicable common stock or securities a holder will receive will equal the relevant amount of the repurchase price divided by 97% of the average sale prices of the applicable common stock or securities for the five trading days immediately preceding the second business day immediately preceding the fundamental change repurchase date. However, we may not pay any portion of the repurchase price in the applicable common stock or securities or a combination of the applicable common stock or securities and cash, unless we satisfy certain conditions prior to the repurchase date as provided in the existing 2011 notes indentures, including:

registration of the shares of the applicable common stock or securities to be issued upon repurchase under the Securities Act and the Exchange Act, if required;

qualification of the shares of the applicable common stock or securities to be issued upon repurchase under applicable state securities laws, if necessary, or the availability of an exemption therefrom; and

listing of the applicable common stock or securities on a U.S. national securities exchange or quotation thereof on an inter-dealer quotation system of any registered U.S. national securities association.

If the paying agent holds money and/or applicable stock sufficient to pay the fundamental change repurchase price of the existing 2011 notes on the fundamental change repurchase date, then:

the existing 2011 notes will cease to be outstanding (whether or not book-entry transfer of the existing 2011 notes is made or whether or not the existing 2011 note is delivered to the paying agent); and

all other rights of the holder will terminate (other than the right to receive the fundamental change repurchase price upon delivery or transfer of the existing 2011 notes).

We will comply with any applicable provisions of Rule 13e-4 and any other tender offer rules under the Exchange Act in the event of a fundamental change.

The repurchase rights of the holders could discourage a potential acquirer of us. The fundamental change repurchase feature, however, is not the result of management's knowledge of any specific effort to obtain control of us by any means or part of a plan by management to adopt a series of anti-takeover provisions.

The term fundamental change is limited to specified events and may not include other events that might adversely affect our financial condition. In addition, the requirement that we offer to purchase the existing 2011 notes upon a fundamental change may not protect holders in the event of a highly leveraged transaction, reorganization, merger or similar transaction involving us.

No existing 2011 notes may be repurchased at the option of holders upon a fundamental change if there has occurred and is continuing an event of default other than an event of default that is cured by the payment of the fundamental change repurchase price of the existing 2011 notes.

The definition of fundamental change includes a phrase relating to the conveyance, transfer, sale or lease of substantially all of our properties and assets. There is no precise, established definition of the phrase substantially all under applicable law. Accordingly, the ability of a holder of the existing 2011 notes to require us to repurchase its existing 2011 notes as a result of the conveyance, transfer, sale, lease or other disposition of less than all of our properties and assets may be uncertain.

Table of Contents

If a fundamental change were to occur, we may not have enough funds to pay the fundamental change repurchase price in cash. See Risk factors under the caption We may be unable to repay or repurchase the new notes or our other indebtedness. If we fail to repurchase the existing 2011 notes when required following a fundamental change, we will be in default under the existing 2011 notes indentures. In addition, we have, and may in the future incur, other indebtedness with similar change in control provisions permitting our holders to accelerate or to require us to repurchase our indebtedness upon the occurrence of similar events or on some specific dates.

Consolidation, merger and sale of assets

The existing 2011 notes indentures provide that we may not consolidate with or merge with or into, or convey, transfer or lease all or substantially all of our properties and assets to, another person, unless (i) the resulting, surviving or transferee person other than us is a person either (a) organized and existing under the laws of the United States of America, any State thereof or the District of Columbia, or (b) organized under the laws of a jurisdiction outside the United States and has common stock traded on a national securities exchange in the United States and a worldwide total market capitalization of its equity securities before giving effect to the consolidation or merger of at least U.S. \$2 billion, and in either case such entity other than us expressly assumes by supplemental indenture all of our obligations under the existing 2011 notes and the existing 2011 notes indentures; and (ii) immediately after giving effect to such transaction, no default has occurred and is continuing under the existing 2011 notes indentures. Upon any such consolidation, merger or transfer, the resulting, surviving or transferee person shall succeed to, and may exercise every right and power of, Oscient Pharmaceuticals under the existing 2011 notes indentures.

Although these types of transactions are permitted under the existing 2011 notes indentures, certain of the foregoing transactions could constitute a fundamental change (as defined above) permitting each holder to require us to repurchase the existing 2011 notes of such holder as described above.

Events of default

Each of the following is an event of default:

default in the payment of interest (other than the first six scheduled interest payments up to and including the interest payment due on April 15, 2007) on any existing 2011 note when due and payable and the default continues for a period of 30 days;

default in the payment of principal of any existing 2011 note when due and payable at its maturity, upon redemption, upon repurchase (including upon a fundamental change) or otherwise or default in the payment of the first six scheduled interest payments up to and including the interest payment due on April 15, 2007;

failure by us to comply with any of our other agreements contained in the existing 2011 notes or existing 2011 notes indentures for 60 days after written notice of such non-compliance has been received from the existing 2011 notes trustee or the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the existing 2011 notes then outstanding;

default for 10 days in the performance of our conversion obligation upon exercise of a holder's conversion rights;

default by us or our subsidiaries in the payment of the principal or interest on any loan agreement or other instrument under which there may be outstanding, or by which there may be evidenced any, debt for money borrowed in excess of \$7.5 million in the aggregate of ours and such subsidiaries (other than indebtedness for borrowed money secured only by the real property to which the indebtedness relates and which is non-recourse to us or to such material subsidiaries), whether such debt now exists or shall hereafter be created, resulting in such debt becoming or being declared due and payable prior to its stated

Table of Contents

maturity, and such acceleration shall not have been rescinded or annulled within 30 days after written notice has been received by us or such subsidiary from the existing 2011 notes trustee or by the existing 2011 notes trustee, us and such subsidiary by the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the existing 2011 notes then outstanding;

our failure to give you notice of your right to require us to repurchase your existing 2011 notes upon a fundamental change;

certain events involving our bankruptcy, insolvency, or reorganization (the bankruptcy provisions); or

the pledge agreement ceases to be in full force and effect, or enforceable, prior to its expiration in accordance with its terms. If an event of default occurs and is continuing, the existing 2011 notes trustee by notice to us may, or the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding existing 2011 notes by notice to us and the existing 2011 notes trustee may request, and the existing 2011 notes trustee upon such request shall, declare 100% of the principal of and accrued and unpaid interest on all the existing 2011 notes to be due and payable. Upon such a declaration, such principal and accrued and unpaid interest will be due and payable immediately. Notwithstanding the previous sentence, in the case of an event of default arising under the bankruptcy provisions, all outstanding existing 2011 notes will become due and payable without further action or notice. The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding existing 2011 notes may waive all past defaults (except with respect to nonpayment of principal or interest) and rescind any such acceleration with respect to the existing 2011 notes and its consequences if (1) rescission would not conflict with any judgment or decree of a court of competent jurisdiction and (2) all existing events of default, other than the nonpayment of the principal of and interest on the existing 2011 notes that have become due solely by such declaration of acceleration, have been cured or waived.

Subject to the provisions of the existing 2011 notes indentures relating to the duties of the existing 2011 notes trustee, if an event of default occurs and is continuing, the existing 2011 notes trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any of the rights or powers under the existing 2011 notes indentures at the request or direction of any of the holders unless such holders have offered to the existing 2011 notes trustee reasonable indemnity or security against any loss, liability or expense. Except to enforce the right to receive payment of principal or interest no holder may pursue any remedy with respect to the existing 2011 notes indentures or the existing 2011 notes unless:

such holder has previously given the existing 2011 notes trustee notice that an event of default is continuing;

holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding existing 2011 notes have requested the existing 2011 notes trustee to pursue the remedy;

such holders have offered the existing 2011 notes trustee reasonable security or indemnity against any loss, liability or expense;

the existing 2011 notes trustee has not complied with such request within 60 days after the receipt of the request and the offer of security or indemnity; and

the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding existing 2011 notes have not given the existing 2011 notes trustee a direction that, in the opinion of the existing 2011 notes trustee, is inconsistent with such request within such 60-day period.

Subject to certain restrictions, the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding existing 2011 notes are given the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the existing 2011 notes trustee or of exercising any trust or power conferred on the

Table of Contents

existing 2011 notes trustee. The existing 2011 notes indentures provide that if an event of default has occurred and is continuing, the existing 2011 notes trustee will be required in the exercise of its powers to use the degree of care that a prudent person would use in the conduct of its own affairs. The existing 2011 notes trustee, however, may refuse to follow any direction that conflicts with law or the existing 2011 notes indentures or that the existing 2011 notes trustee determines is unduly prejudicial to the rights of any other holder or that would involve the existing 2011 notes trustee in personal liability. Prior to taking any action under the existing 2011 notes indentures, the existing 2011 notes trustee will be entitled to indemnification satisfactory to it in its sole discretion against all losses and expenses caused by taking or not taking such action.

The existing 2011 notes indentures provide that if a default occurs and is continuing and is known to the existing 2011 notes trustee, the existing 2011 notes trustee must mail to each holder notice of the default within 60 days after it occurs. Except in the case of a default in the payment of principal or of interest on any existing 2011 note, the existing 2011 notes trustee may withhold notice if and so long as a committee of trust officers of the existing 2011 notes trustee in good faith determines that withholding notice is in the interests of the holders. In addition, we are required to deliver to the existing 2011 notes trustee an annual certificate indicating whether the signers thereof know of any default that occurred during the previous year. We are also required to deliver to the existing 2011 notes trustee, within 30 days after the occurrence thereof, written notice of any events which would constitute certain defaults, their status and what action we are taking or propose to take in respect thereof.

Modification and amendment

Subject to certain exceptions, the existing 2011 notes indentures or the existing 2011 notes may be amended with the consent of the holders of at least a majority in principal amount of the existing 2011 notes then outstanding (including, without limitation, consents obtained in connection with a purchase of, or tender offer or exchange offer for, existing 2011 notes) and, subject to certain exceptions, any past default or compliance with any provisions may be waived with the consent of the holders of a majority in principal amount of the existing 2011 notes then outstanding (including, without limitation, consents obtained in connection with a purchase of, or tender offer or exchange offer for, existing 2011 notes).

Without the consent of each holder of an outstanding existing 2011 note affected, no amendment may, among other things:

reduce the rate of or extend the stated time for payment of interest on any existing 2011 note;

reduce the principal amount of or change the maturity of the principal of any existing 2011 notes;

make any change that impairs or adversely affects the conversion rights of any existing 2011 note;

reduce the redemption price or fundamental change repurchase price of any existing 2011 note or amend or modify in any manner adverse to the holders of existing 2011 notes our obligation to make such payments, whether through an amendment or waiver of provisions in the covenants, definitions or otherwise;

modify the provisions with respect to the repurchase right of holders upon a fundamental change in a manner adverse to holders;

modify the provisions of the existing 2011 notes indentures or the pledge agreement relating to the pledge of securities as contemplated under Security above, in a manner that adversely affects the interests of the holders of the existing 2011 notes in any material respect;

Table of Contents

make any principal or interest on the existing 2011 note payable in money other than that stated in the existing 2011 note or other than in accordance with the provisions of the existing 2011 notes indentures;

impair the right of any holder to receive payment of principal of or interest on such holder's existing 2011 notes on or after the due dates therefor or impair the right of any holder to institute suit for the enforcement of any payment on or with respect to such holder's existing 2011 notes;

reduce the quorum or voting requirements under the existing 2011 notes indentures;

change the ranking of the existing 2011 notes in a manner adverse to the holders of the existing 2011 notes;

make any change in the amendment provisions which require each holder's consent or in the waiver provisions; or

reduce the percentage of existing 2011 notes required for consent to any modification of the existing 2011 notes indentures.

We and the existing 2011 notes trustee may modify or amend the existing 2011 notes indentures and the existing 2011 notes without the consent of any holder in order to, among other things:

provide for our successor pursuant to a consolidation, merger or sale of assets;

add to our covenants for the benefit of the holders of the existing 2011 notes or to surrender any right or power conferred upon us by the existing 2011 notes indentures;

provide for a successor trustee with respect to the existing 2011 notes;

cure any ambiguity or correct or supplement any provision in the existing 2011 notes indentures which may be defective or inconsistent with any other provision;

add any additional events of default with respect to the existing 2011 notes;

secure the existing 2011 notes;

increase the conversion rate, provided that the increase is in accordance with the terms of the existing 2011 notes indentures or will not adversely affect the interests of the holders of the existing 2011 notes;

supplement any of the provisions of the existing 2011 notes indentures to such extent as shall be necessary to permit or facilitate the discharge of the existing 2011 notes, provided that such change or modification does not adversely affect the interests of the holders of the existing 2011 notes;

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make any changes or modifications necessary in connection with the registration of the existing 2011 notes under the Securities Act as contemplated in the registration rights agreement, provided that such change or modification does not adversely affect the interests of the holders of the existing 2011 notes; or

add or modify any other provisions with respect to matters or questions arising under the existing 2011 notes indentures which we and the existing 2011 notes trustee may deem necessary and desirable and which will not adversely affect the interests of the holders of existing 2011 notes.

Further issues

We may from time to time, without notice to or the consent of the registered holders of the existing 2011 notes, create and issue additional debt securities having the same terms as and ranking equally and

Table of Contents

ratably with the existing 2011 notes in all respects, so that such additional debt securities shall be consolidated and form a single series with, and shall have the same terms as to status, redemption or otherwise as, the existing 2011 notes.

Form, denomination and registration

The existing 2011 notes were issued:

in fully registered form; and

in denominations of \$1,000 principal amount and integral multiples of \$1,000.

Trustee

U.S. Bank National Association is the initial existing 2011 notes trustee, security registrar, paying agent and conversion agent.

Governing law

The existing 2011 notes indentures provide that they and the existing 2011 notes will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF EXISTING 2009 NOTES

At the time of signing the merger agreement with GeneSoft Pharmaceuticals, Inc. on November 17, 2003, we entered into a note amendment and exchange agreement with Genesoft and the holders of promissory notes issued by Genesoft, referred to as the Genesoft notes, during its financing rounds in December 2002-January 2003 and April-May 2003. Pursuant to the note amendment and exchange agreement, at the closing of the merger on February 6, 2004, we issued convertible notes, the existing 2009 notes, in an aggregate principal amount of \$22,309,647, in exchange for the Genesoft notes.

This description of existing 2009 notes is intended to be a useful overview of the material provisions of the existing 2009 notes and the note amendment and exchange agreement. Since this description is only a summary, you should refer to the note amendment and exchange agreement for a complete description of our obligations and your rights.

For purposes of this description, references to Oscient Pharmaceuticals, we, our and us refer only to Oscient Pharmaceuticals Corporation and not to any of its subsidiaries.

General

The existing 2009 notes:

are our general unsecured, senior obligations;

rank equally in right of payment to any of our existing or future unsecured senior indebtedness, including trade payables;

mature on February 6, 2009, unless earlier converted, repurchased or redeemed;

will accrue interest at a rate of 5% per year payable which will be compounded semiannually, which will be paid on the maturity date and on any accelerated maturity; and

are subject to repurchase by us upon a fundamental change (as defined below).

Subject to fulfillment of certain conditions described below, the existing 2009 notes are convertible into our shares of our common stock at the holder's election at any time at an initial price per share equal to \$6.6418, subject to subsequent adjustment. In addition, following the one year anniversary of the closing of the merger, we will have the right to force conversion if the price of our common stock closes above 150% of the then effective conversion price for 15 consecutive trading days. The conversion rate is subject to adjustment if certain events occur. On November 15, 2006, we effectuated a 1-for-8 reverse stock split. Following that stock split, the conversion rate was adjusted such that existing 2009 notes may be converted into shares of our common stock at a conversion price of approximately \$53.13 per share of common stock.

The registered holder of an existing 2009 note will be treated as the owner of it for all purposes, including, without limitation, for purposes of determining to whom we will send any notice required to be sent to holders of the existing 2009 notes pursuant to the note amendment and exchange agreement.

Payments on the existing 2009 notes; paying agent and registrar

On the earliest to occur of the maturity date and any accelerated maturity of the existing 2009 notes, we will pay an amount equal to the aggregate outstanding principal amount of the existing 2009 notes, together with all accrued and unpaid interest thereon then outstanding against delivery to us of the existing 2009 notes for cancellation. No principal of the existing 2009 notes paid or prepaid may be reborrowed.

Table of Contents

All payments and prepayments of principal and interest will be made in United States dollars in immediately available funds to each holder of existing 2009 notes at the wire address provided by such holder in writing to us. All payments and prepayments of interest on or principal of the existing 2009 notes will be allocated among the holders of the existing 2009 notes in proportion to the relative outstanding amount of accrued interest on and/or principal of the existing 2009 notes (as the case may be) held by each holder. Accrued interest will not be payable in cash, except upon the maturity date, redemption at our option or the option of the holders upon a liquidation event (as defined below) and any accelerated maturity of the existing 2009 notes.

Existing 2009 notes may be presented for registration of transfer or for exchange at the office of the registrar, existing 2009 notes may be presented for payment at the office of the paying agent and existing 2009 notes may be presented for conversion at the office of the conversion agent. The registrar will keep a register of the existing 2009 notes and of their transfer and exchange. We may appoint or change one or more co-registrars, one or more additional paying agents and one or more additional conversion agents without notice and may act in any such capacity on its own behalf. The term registrar includes any co-registrar; the term paying agent includes any additional paying agent; and the term conversion agent includes any additional conversion agent. We will initially act as paying agent, registrar and conversion agent.

Each paying agent will hold in trust for the benefit of the holders all moneys held by the paying agent for the payment of the existing 2009 notes. When we act as paying agent, we will segregate and hold as a separate trust fund all money held by us as paying agent.

Interest

The outstanding principal amount of the existing 2009 notes will accrue and bear interest at a rate per year of 5%, and shall be compounded semiannually. We will pay accrued and unpaid interest with respect to the existing 2009 notes on the maturity date and on any accelerated maturity of the existing 2009 notes. Interest (and any amount expressed as interest) will be calculated on the basis of a 30-day month and a 360-day year and the number of days elapsed.

Transfer and exchange

Where existing 2009 notes are presented to the registrar with a request to register their transfer or to exchange them for an equal principal amount of existing 2009 notes of other authorized denominations, the registrar will register the transfer or make the exchange if its requirements for such transaction are met.

We will not be required to register the transfer of or exchange any existing 2009 notes subject to repurchase or redemption, in whole or in part, pursuant to a duly executed and delivered repurchase notice, except the unrepurchased or unredeemed portion of existing 2009 notes being repurchased or redeemed in part. No service charge will be made for any transfer, exchange or conversion of existing 2009 notes, but we may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge that may be imposed in connection with any transfer, exchange or conversion of existing 2009 notes.

Prior to any proposed sale, assignment, transfer or pledge by any holder of any existing 2009 notes (other than transfers in compliance with Rule 144 of the Securities Act, so long as we are furnished with satisfactory evidence of compliance with such Rule 144), unless there is in effect a registration statement under the Securities Act covering the proposed transfer, the holder thereof shall give written notice to us of such holder's intention to effect such transfer, sale, assignment or pledge. Each such notice shall describe the manner and circumstances of the proposed transfer, sale, assignment or pledge in sufficient detail, and shall be accompanied, at such holder's expense by either (i) an opinion of counsel (who shall

Table of Contents

be, and whose opinion shall be, addressed to us and reasonably satisfactory to us) to the effect that the proposed transfer of the existing 2009 notes may be effected without registration under the Securities Act, whereupon the holder will be entitled to transfer such existing 2009 notes in accordance with the terms of such notice. In the event of any assignment of all or a portion of an existing 2009 note as permitted by the note amendment and exchange agreement, then at the request of the transferor or transferee holder we will issue replacement existing 2009 notes reflecting the new ownership of the existing 2009 notes and will deliver such existing 2009 notes to the appropriate holders against delivery to us for cancellation of the existing 2009 notes being replaced, such issuance and delivery to be at our expense. The transferee shall agree in writing to be bound by the terms of the note amendment and exchange agreement and the existing 2009 note as a holder. The note amendment and exchange agreement will be binding upon and will inure to the benefit of each of the parties thereto and their respective successors and permitted assigns.

Ranking

The existing 2009 notes are our general unsecured obligations and rank senior in right of payment to all existing and future debt that is expressly subordinated in right of payment to the notes. The existing 2009 notes rank equally in right of payment with all of our existing and future liabilities that are not so subordinated. The existing 2009 notes effectively rank junior to any of our secured indebtedness to the extent of the assets securing such indebtedness. In the event of our bankruptcy, liquidation, reorganization or other winding up, our assets that secure debt will be available to pay obligations on the existing 2009 notes only after all secured debt has been repaid in full from such assets.

Conversion rights

General

Subject to satisfaction of the conditions described below and under the heading "Conversion rate adjustments," holders may convert each of their existing 2009 notes into shares of our common stock at an initial conversion rate of 150.5616 shares of common stock per \$1,000 principal amount of existing 2009 notes (equivalent to an initial conversion price of approximately \$6.6418 per share of common stock). On November 15, 2006, we effectuated a 1-for-8 reverse stock split. Following that stock split, the conversion rate was adjusted such that existing 2009 notes may be converted into shares of our common stock at a conversion rate of 18.8202 shares of common stock per \$1,000 principal amount of existing 2009 notes (equivalent to a conversion price of approximately \$53.13 per share of common stock). The conversion rate and the equivalent conversion price in effect at any given time are referred to as the "applicable conversion rate" and the "applicable conversion price," respectively, and will be subject to adjustment as described below.

A holder may convert a portion of the principal of such existing 2009 notes if the portion is \$1,000 principal amount or an integral multiple of \$1,000 principal amount. A holder may convert the entire principal amount of all existing 2009 notes held by such holder, or the entire principal amount, notwithstanding the fact that such amount is not an integral multiple of \$1,000 (such amount in excess of such integral multiple, the "excess amount"). In connection with the conversion of any holder's entire principal amount, such holder will be entitled to convert the excess amount into the number of shares of common stock obtained by dividing the excess amount by the applicable conversion price.

If a holder converts existing 2009 notes, we will pay any documentary, stamp or similar issue or transfer tax due on the issue of shares of our common stock upon conversion, unless the tax is due because the holder requests the shares to be issued in a name other than the holder's name, in which case the holder will pay that tax.

If a holder wishes to exercise its conversion right, the holder must complete and sign the conversion notice, with appropriate signature guarantee, on the back of the existing 2009 note, surrender the

Table of Contents

existing 2009 note to the conversion agent, furnish appropriate endorsements and transfer documents if required by the conversion agent and pay any transfer or similar tax if required.

As soon as practicable, and in any event within ten days following the conversion date, we will deliver to the holder a certificate for the number of full shares of common stock issuable upon the conversion and a check in lieu of any fractional share. The person in whose name the certificate is registered shall be treated as a stockholder of record on and after the conversion date.

Except as described below, no payment or adjustment will be made for accrued interest on a converted existing 2009 note or for dividends on any common stock issued on or prior to conversion. When a holder surrenders an existing 2009 note for conversion, all accrued interest on such existing 2009 note will be added to such holder's principal amount of such existing 2009 notes and will be treated as additional principal amount.

If a holder converts more than one existing 2009 note at the same time, the number of full shares issuable upon the conversion shall be based on the total principal amount of the existing 2009 notes converted. Upon surrender of an existing 2009 note that is converted in part, we will issue to the holder a new existing 2009 note equal in principal amount to the unconverted portion of the existing 2009 note surrendered.

Mandatory conversion

From and after the 366th day following the closing date of the Genesoft merger, if the average of the closing sale price (as defined below) for any fifteen consecutive trading days (as defined below), which we call the pricing period, is greater than 150% of the then-effective conversion price, each such occurrence hereinafter referred to as a pricing event, then we will have the right to compel the holders to convert all of the outstanding principal amount under the existing 2009 notes in accordance with the terms of the note amendment and exchange agreement on or prior to the date, the mandatory conversion date, which is fifteen trading days following the holder's receipt of a mandatory conversion notice (as defined below), provided, that (A) we may exercise this right only by delivering to the holder, within fifteen trading days following the day on which a pricing event occurs, a written notice (the mandatory conversion notice), electing to compel such conversion pursuant to the note amendment and exchange agreement, (B) at all times during the applicable pricing period up to and including the mandatory conversion date, the resale of all registrable securities (as defined in the registration rights agreement entered into at the time of the Genesoft merger) is covered by an effective registration statement in accordance with the terms of the registration rights agreement and such registration statement is not subject to any stop orders and (C) our right to send a mandatory conversion notice must be exercised with respect to all holders. The foregoing shall not affect the holder's right to otherwise convert any portion of an existing 2009 note at any time and from time to time before or after any pricing event. Such mandatory conversion will be subject to and governed by all the provisions relating to voluntary conversion of the existing 2009 notes contained in the note amendment and exchange agreement.

For the purposes of this section, closing sale price means the price of a share of our common stock on the relevant date, determined (a) on the basis of the closing per share sale price (or if no closing sale price is reported, the average of the bid and ask prices or, if more than one in either case, the average of the average bid and the average ask prices) on such date on the principal securities exchange on which our Common Stock is listed, the NASDAQ Global Market or the NASDAQ Smallcap Market; or (b) if not so quoted, as reported by National Quotation Bureau, Incorporated or a similar organization. In the absence of a quotation, the Closing Sale Price shall be such price as our Board of Directors shall reasonably determine on the basis of such quotations as most accurately reflecting the price that a fully informed buyer, acting on his own accord, would pay to a fully informed seller, acting on his own accord in an arms-length transaction, for a share of such common stock.

Table of Contents

For the purposes of this section, *trading day* means a day during which trading in securities generally occurs on the principal national or regional securities exchange on which our common stock is then listed or, if the common stock is not listed on a national or regional securities exchange on the principal other market on which the common stock is then traded.

Conversion rate adjustments

The conversion rate will be adjusted as described below, except that we will not make any adjustments to the conversion rate if holders of the existing 2009 notes participate in any of the transactions described below.

(1) If we issue shares of our common stock as a dividend or distribution on our common stock, or if we effect a stock split or stock combination, the conversion rate will be adjusted based on the following formula:

$$CR = CR_0 \times \frac{OS}{OS_0}$$

where,

- CR₀ = the conversion rate in effect immediately prior to such event
- CR = the conversion rate in effect immediately after such event
- OS₀ = the number of shares of our common stock outstanding immediately prior to such event
- OS = the number of shares of our common stock outstanding immediately after such event

(2) If we issue to all or substantially all holders of our common stock any rights or warrants entitling them for a period of not more than 60 days to subscribe for or purchase shares of our common stock, or securities convertible into shares of our common stock, at a price per share or a conversion price per share less than the sale price of our common stock on the business day immediately preceding the time of announcement of such issuance, the conversion rate will be adjusted based on the following formula (provided that the conversion rate will be readjusted to the extent that such rights or warrants are not exercised prior to their expiration):

$$CR = CR_0 \times \frac{OS_0 + X}{OS_0 + Y}$$

where,

- CR₀ = the conversion rate in effect immediately prior to such event
- CR = the conversion rate in effect immediately after such event
- OS₀ = the number of shares of our common stock outstanding immediately prior to such event
- X = the total number of shares of our common stock issuable pursuant to such rights
- Y = the number of shares of our common stock equal to the aggregate price payable to exercise such rights divided by the average sale price of our common stock for the ten consecutive trading days prior to the business day immediately preceding the record date for the issuance of such rights

(3) If we distribute shares of our capital stock, evidences of our indebtedness or other assets or property of ours or right or warrants to subscribe for securities (other than those referred to in clause (2) above), then the conversion rate will be adjusted based on the following formula:

$$CR = CR_0 \times \frac{SP_0}{SP_0 \times FMV}$$

Table of Contents

where,

- CR_0 = the conversion rate in effect immediately prior to such distribution
 CR = the conversion rate in effect immediately after such distribution
 SP_0 = the average sale price per share of our common stock for the ten consecutive trading days prior to the business day immediately preceding the record date for such distribution
 FMV = the fair market value (as determined by our board of directors) of the shares of capital stock, evidences of indebtedness, assets or property or of such subscription rights or warrants distributed with respect to each outstanding share of our common stock on the record date for such distribution

Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that we distribute rights or warrants (other than those referred to in clause (2) above), or rights, pro rata to holders of common stock, we may, in lieu of making any adjustment pursuant to this clause (3), make proper provision so that each holder of an existing 2009 note who converts such existing 2009 note (or any portion thereof) after the record date for such distribution and prior to the expiration or redemption of the rights shall be entitled to receive upon such conversion, in addition to the shares of common stock issuable upon such conversion, or the conversion shares, a number of rights to be determined as follows: (i) if such conversion occurs on or prior to the date for the distribution to the holders of rights of separate certificates evidencing such rights (the distribution date), the same number of rights to which a holder of a number of shares of common stock equal to the number of shares of conversion shares is entitled at the time of such conversion in accordance with the terms and provisions of and applicable to the rights; and (ii) if such conversion occurs after the distribution date, the same number of rights to which a holder of the number of shares of common stock into which the principal amount of the existing 2009 note so converted was convertible immediately prior to the distribution date would have been entitled on the distribution date in accordance with the terms and provisions of and applicable to the rights.

(4) If we make cash distributions (excluding cash distributed as part of a distribution requiring an adjustment pursuant to clause (3) or (5) hereof) in an aggregate amount, that, together with the sum of (w) the aggregate amount of any cash and the fair market value (as determined in good faith by our board of directors), as of the expiration of the tender or exchange offer referred to below, of any other consideration payable in respect of any tender or exchange offer by us or any of our subsidiaries for all or any portion of the common stock consummated within the twelve months preceding the date of payment of the distribution and in respect of which no conversion rate adjustment has been made, and (x) the aggregate amount of all other cash dividends or distributions to all or substantially all holders of our common stock made within the twelve months preceding the date of payment of the distribution and in respect of which no conversion rate adjustment has been made (such cash distribution, together with the sum of (w) and (x) above, combined amount) exceeds 10% of the product of the average sale price of our common stock for the ten consecutive trading days prior to the business day (the distribution declaration date) immediately preceding the day on which the distribution is declared by us and the number of shares of our common stock outstanding on the distribution declaration date (excluding shares held in our treasury) to all or substantially all holders of our common stock, the conversion rate will be adjusted based on the following formula:

$$CR = CR_0 \times \frac{SP_0}{SP_0 + C}$$

where,

- CR_0 = the conversion rate in effect immediately prior to the record date for such distribution
 CR = the conversion rate in effect immediately after the record date for such distribution
 SP_0 = the average sale price of our common stock for the ten consecutive trading days prior to the business day immediately preceding the record date of such distribution
 C = the number obtained by dividing the combined amount by the number of shares of common stock outstanding.

Table of Contents

(5) If we or any of our subsidiaries purchase shares of our common stock pursuant to a tender offer or exchange offer of an aggregate consideration, that, together with the sum of (w) the aggregate amount of any cash and the fair market value (as determined in good faith by our board of directors), as of the expiration of the tender or exchange offer, of any other consideration payable in respect of any tender or exchange offer by us or any of our subsidiaries for all or any portion of the common stock consummated within the twelve months preceding the date such tender offer or exchange offer expires and in respect of which no conversion rate adjustment has been made, and (x) the aggregate amount of all other cash dividends or distributions to all or substantially all holders of our common stock made within the twelve months preceding the date such tender offer or exchange offer expires and in respect of which no conversion rate adjustment has been made exceeds 10% of the product of the average sale price of our common stock for the ten consecutive trading days prior to date such tender or exchange offer expires, the conversion rate will be increased based on the following formula:

$$CR = CR_0 \times AC + \frac{SP \times OS}{OS_0 \times SP}$$

where,

- CR₀ = the conversion rate in effect on the date such tender offer or exchange offer expires
- CR = the conversion rate in effect on the day next succeeding the date such tender offer or exchange offer expires
- AC = the aggregate value of all cash and any other consideration (as determined by our board of directors) paid for shares purchased in such tender offer
- OS₀ = the number of shares of our common stock outstanding (including any tendered or exchanged shares) immediately after the date such tender offer expires
- OS = the number of shares of our common stock outstanding (less any purchased shares) immediately after the date such tender offer expires
- SP = the average sale price of our common stock for the ten days commencing on the trading day next succeeding the date such tender offer expires

If however, the application of the foregoing formula would result in a decrease in the conversion rate, no adjustment to the conversion rate will be made.

In the event that we are obligated to purchase shares pursuant to any such tender offer or exchange offer, but we are permanently prevented by applicable law from effecting any such purchases or all such purchases are rescinded, the conversion rate will again be adjusted to be the conversion rate which would then be in effect if such tender offer or exchange offer had not been made.

To the extent that we adopt any future rights plan, upon conversion of the existing 2009 notes into our common stock you will receive, in addition to the common stock, the rights under the future stockholder rights plan whether or not the rights have separated from the common stock at the time of conversion and no adjustment to the conversion rate shall be made in accordance with clause (3) above.

In the event of:

any reclassification of our common stock, or

a consolidation, merger or combination involving us, or

a sale or conveyance to another person of our property and assets as an entirety or substantially as an entirety, in which holders of our outstanding common stock would be entitled to receive stock, other securities, other property, assets or cash for their common stock, holders of existing 2009 notes will generally be

Table of Contents

entitled thereafter to convert their existing 2009 notes into the same type of consideration received by common stock holders immediately prior to one of these types of events.

We are permitted to increase the conversion rate of the existing 2009 notes by any amount for a period of at least 20 days if our board of directors determines that such increase would be in our best interest. We are required to give at least 15 days prior notice of any increase in the conversion rate. We may also (but are not required to) increase the conversion rate to avoid or diminish income tax to holders of our common stock or rights to purchase common stock in connection with a dividend or distribution of stock (or rights to acquire stock) or similar event.

Holders of the existing 2009 notes may, in some circumstances, be deemed to have received a distribution or dividend subject to United States federal income tax as a result of an adjustment or the nonoccurrence of an adjustment to the conversion rate.

We will not be required to make an adjustment in the conversion rate unless the adjustment would require a change of at least 1% in the conversion rate. However, we will carry forward any adjustments that are less than 1% of the conversion rate.

Except as described above in this section, we will not adjust the conversion rate for any issuance of our common stock or convertible or exchangeable securities or rights to purchase our common stock or convertible or exchangeable securities.

Certain Covenants

Limitation on Indebtedness

We will not incur, create, issue, assume, guarantee or otherwise become liable for any indebtedness (as defined below), other than permitted indebtedness (as defined below), having a maturity date prior to six months after the maturity date of the existing 2009 notes without the consent of the holders of a majority of the aggregate principal amount of the existing 2009 notes outstanding at such time, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld.

For the purposes of this covenant, *indebtedness* means, with respect to any person, the principal of, and premium, if any, and interest on and all other obligations in respect of (a) all indebtedness of such person for borrowed money (including all indebtedness evidenced by notes, bonds, debentures or other securities), (b) all reimbursement obligations of such person with respect to letters of credit, bankers' acceptances or similar facilities issued for the account of such person, (c) all capital lease obligations of such person, (d) all net obligations of such person under interest rate swap, currency exchange or similar agreements of such person and (e) all obligations and other liabilities, contingent or otherwise, under any lease or related document, including a purchase agreement, conditional sale or other title retention agreement, in connection with the lease of real property or improvements thereon (or any personal property included as part of any such lease) which provides that such person is contractually obligated to purchase or cause a third party to purchase the leased property or pay an agreed-upon residual value of the leased property, including such person's obligations under such lease or related document to purchase or cause a third party to purchase such leased property or pay an agreed-upon residual value of the leased property to the lessor, (f) guarantees by such person of indebtedness described in clauses (a) through (e) of another person, and (g) all renewals, extensions, refundings, deferrals, restructurings, amendments and modifications of any indebtedness, obligation, guarantee or liability of the kind described in clauses (a) through (f).

For the purposes of this covenant, *permitted indebtedness* means: (i) indebtedness set forth on our balance sheet dated September 27, 2003, as filed with our quarterly report on Form 10-Q for its quarter ended September 27, 2003; (ii) indebtedness set forth on the Genesoft's balance sheet dated

Table of Contents

September 30, 2003; (iii) indebtedness secured by liens described in clause (iv) of the definition of permitted liens below; and (iv) other Indebtedness of Genesoft in an aggregate principal amount at any time outstanding not to exceed \$5 million.

Limitation on Liens

Until the full satisfaction of the existing 2009 notes, other than permitted liens (as defined below), we will not create or permit to be created any liens in or on our tangible or intangible assets.

For the purposes of this covenant, *permitted liens* means: (i) liens securing equipment indebtedness; (ii) liens imposed by law, such as carriers', warehousemen's, materialmen's and mechanics' liens, or liens arising out of judgments or awards against us with respect to which we at the time will currently be prosecuting an appeal or proceedings for review; (iii) liens for taxes not yet subject to penalties for nonpayment and liens for taxes the payment of which is being contested in good faith and by appropriate proceedings and for which, to the extent required by generally accepted accounting principles then in effect, proper and adequate book reserves relating thereto are established by us; (iv) liens (A) upon or in any equipment acquired or held by us to secure the purchase price of such equipment or indebtedness incurred solely for the purpose of financing the acquisition of such equipment, or (B) existing on such equipment at the time of its acquisition, provided that the lien is confined solely to the property so acquired and improvements thereon, and the proceeds of such equipment and other equipment financed by the holder of such lien; (v) liens consisting of leases or subleases and licenses and sublicenses granted to others in the ordinary course of our business not interfering in any material respect with our business and any interest or title of a lessor or licensor under any lease or license, as applicable; (vi) liens to secure any license granted by us, provided, that such lien is confined solely to the property that is the subject of the license; (vii) liens incurred or deposits made in the ordinary course of our business in connection with worker's compensation, unemployment insurance, social security and other like laws; (viii) liens in favor of customs and revenue authorities arising as a matter of law to secure payment of customs duties in connection with the importation of goods; and (ix) liens to which the holders of a majority of the aggregate principal amount of the existing 2009 notes outstanding at such time expressly consent to in writing.

Redemption of the existing 2009 notes at the option of holders upon a liquidation event

If a liquidation event (as defined below in this section) occurs at any time, you will have the right, at your option, to require us to redeem all or any portion of your existing 2009 notes that is equal to \$1,000 or an integral multiple of \$1,000 on a repurchase date that is 30 days (or if such 30th day is not a business day, the next succeeding business day) after the date of our notice of the liquidation event. Upon presentation of any existing 2009 note redeemed in part only, we will execute and deliver to the holder thereof, at our expense, a new existing 2009 note, of authorized denominations, in principal amount equal to the unredeemed portion of the existing 2009 note so presented.

The price we are required to pay is equal to 100% of the principal amount of the existing 2009 notes to be redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest to but excluding the liquidation event repurchase date.

A *liquidation event* means (i) any acquisition of us by means of merger or other form of corporate reorganization in which our outstanding shares are exchanged for securities or other consideration issued, or caused to be issued, by the acquiring corporation or its subsidiary (other than a mere reincorporation transaction) and pursuant to which the holders of our outstanding voting securities as constituted immediately prior to such consolidation, merger or other transaction fail to hold equity securities representing a majority of the voting power of us or the surviving entity immediately following such consolidation, merger or other transaction, (ii) any person or group (as such terms are used for purposes of Sections 13(d) and 14(d) of the Exchange Act) becomes the *beneficial owner* (as such term is used in Rule 13d-3 under the Exchange Act), directly or indirectly, of fifty percent (50%) or more of

Table of Contents

the total voting power of all classes of our capital stock entitled to vote generally in the election of directors, (iii) a sale, lease or other disposition of all or substantially all of our assets, (iv) the license or sublicense of any intellectual property rights owned or controlled by us with regard to the right to develop and commercialize gemifloxacin, other than any license or sublicense to develop, make, have made, use, sell or have sold gemifloxacin outside of the United States or within the United States pursuant to an agreement in which we would co-promote gemifloxacin, in a manner in which our sales representatives (or sales representatives contracted by us) would participate in detailing the product to physicians in the United States.

On or before the 10th day after the occurrence of a liquidation event, we will provide to all holders of the existing 2009 notes a notice of the occurrence of the liquidation event and of the resulting redemption right at the option of the holders of existing 2009 notes. Such notice shall state, among other things:

the circumstances constituting the liquidation event;

the liquidation event repurchase date; and

the procedures that holders must follow to require us to redeem their existing 2009 notes and to withdraw any surrendered existing 2009 notes.

Failure to give such notice or any defect therein will not affect the validity of the proceedings for the redemption of the existing 2009 notes.

If you elect to exercise your right to cause us to redeem all or any portion of your existing 2009 notes, you must deliver to us or our designated agent, on or before the liquidation event repurchase date, subject to extension to comply with applicable law, the existing 2009 notes to be repurchased, duly endorsed for transfer, together with the form entitled "Option to Elect Repayment Upon a Liquidation Event" on the reverse side of the existing 2009 notes duly completed.

You may withdraw any redemption notice (in whole or in part) by a written notice of withdrawal delivered to us or our agent prior to the liquidation event repurchase date.

On or prior to the repurchase date, we will set aside, segregate and hold in trust an amount of money sufficient to redeem on the repurchase date all the existing 2009 notes to be redeemed on such date at the appropriate redemption price, together with accrued interest to (but excluding) the repurchase date. Payment for existing 2009 notes surrendered for redemption (and not withdrawn) prior to the liquidation event repurchase date will be made promptly (but in no event more than five (5) business days) following the repurchase date either (i) by mailing checks for the amount payable to the holders of such existing 2009 notes entitled thereto as they shall appear on our registry books or (ii) by wire transfer to an account maintained by such holders located in the United States.

We will comply with any applicable provisions of Rule 13e-4 and any other tender offer rules under the Exchange Act in the event of a liquidation event.

The redemption rights of the holders could discourage a potential acquirer of us. The liquidation event redemption feature, however, is not the result of management's knowledge of any specific effort to obtain control of us by any means or part of a plan by management to adopt a series of anti-takeover provisions.

The term liquidation event is limited to specified events and may not include other events that might adversely affect our financial condition. In addition, the requirement that we offer to redeem the existing 2009 notes upon a liquidation event may not protect holders in the event of a highly leveraged transaction, reorganization, merger or similar transaction involving us.

Table of Contents

The definition of liquidation event includes a phrase relating to the conveyance, transfer, sale or lease of substantially all of our properties and assets. There is no precise, established definition of the phrase "substantially all" under applicable law. Accordingly, the ability of a holder of the existing 2009 notes to require us to redeem its existing 2009 notes as a result of the conveyance, transfer, sale, lease or other disposition of less than all of our properties and assets may be uncertain.

If a liquidation event were to occur, we may not have enough funds to pay the liquidation event repurchase price in cash. See "Risk factors" under the caption "We may be unable to repay or repurchase the new notes or our other indebtedness." If we fail to repurchase the existing 2009 notes when required following a liquidation event, we will be in default under the existing 2009 notes and the note amendment and exchange agreement. In addition, we have, and may in the future incur, other indebtedness with similar change in control provisions permitting our holders to accelerate or to require us to repurchase our indebtedness upon the occurrence of similar events or on some specific dates.

Redemption of the existing 2009 notes at our option upon a liquidation event

If a liquidation event (as defined above) occurs at any time, we will have the right, at our option, to redeem all (but not part) of our existing 2009 notes on a redemption date that is 30 days (or if such 30th day is not a business day, the next succeeding business day) after the date of our notice of the liquidation event.

The price we are required to pay is equal to 100% of the principal amount of the existing 2009 notes to be redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest to but excluding the liquidation event redemption date.

In the event we desire to exercise our right to redeem all of the existing 2009 notes, we will, on or before the 10th day after the occurrence of a liquidation event, provide to all holders of the existing 2009 notes a notice of the occurrence of the liquidation event and of the resulting exercise of our redemption right. Such notice shall state, among other things:

the aggregate principal amount of the existing 2009 notes to be redeemed;

the liquidation event redemption date; and

the procedures that holders must follow to receive payment;

that on and after the redemption date interest thereon will cease to accrue; and

the current conversion rate and the date on which the right to convert such existing 2009 notes into common shares will expire. On or prior to the business day next preceding the date of the redemption notice, we will set aside, segregate and hold in trust an amount of money in immediately available funds sufficient to redeem on the redemption date all the existing 2009 notes (or portions thereof) so called for redemption (other than those theretofore surrendered for conversion into common shares), together with accrued interest to, but excluding, the redemption date. We will be entitled to retain any interest, yield or gain on amounts set aside, segregated and held in trust in excess of amounts required to pay the redemption price together with accrued interest to, but excluding, the redemption date. If any existing 2009 note called for redemption is converted prior to such redemption, any money segregated and held in trust for the redemption of such existing 2009 note will be discharged from such trust.

If a redemption notice has been given as above provided, the existing 2009 notes with respect to which such notice has been given will, unless converted into common stock pursuant to their terms, become due and payable on the redemption date and at the place or places stated in such notice at the applicable redemption price, together with interest accrued to (but excluding) the redemption date, and on and after said date (unless we default in the payment of such existing 2009 notes at the redemption price, together

Table of Contents

with interest accrued to said date) interest on the existing 2009 notes so called for redemption will cease to accrue and, after the close of business on the business day next preceding the redemption date (unless we default in the payment of such existing 2009 notes at the redemption price, together with interest accrued to said date), such existing 2009 notes will cease to be convertible into common stock and to be entitled to any benefit or security under the note amendment and exchange agreement, and the holders thereof will have no right in respect of such existing 2009 notes except the right to receive the redemption price thereof and unpaid interest to (but excluding) the redemption date. On presentation and surrender of such existing 2009 notes at a place of payment specified in the redemption notice, the said existing 2009 notes shall be paid and redeemed by us at the applicable redemption price, together with interest accrued thereon to (but excluding) the redemption date.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, we will not redeem any existing 2009 notes or mail any redemption notice during the continuance of a default in payment of interest or premium, if any, on the existing 2009 notes. If any existing 2009 note called for redemption is not so paid upon surrender thereof for redemption, the principal and premium, if any, will, until paid or duly provided for, bear interest from the date fixed for redemption at the rate borne by the existing 2009 notes and such existing 2009 note will remain convertible into common stock until the principal and premium, if any, and interest has been paid or duly provided for.

In connection with any redemption at our option of existing 2009 notes, we may arrange for the purchase and conversion of any existing 2009 notes by an agreement with one or more investment bankers or other purchasers to purchase such existing 2009 notes by setting aside in trust for the holders, on or before the date of the redemption notice, an amount not less than the applicable redemption price, together with interest accrued to (but excluding) the redemption date, of such existing 2009 notes. Our obligation to pay the redemption price of such existing 2009 notes, together with interest accrued to (but excluding) the redemption date, will be deemed to be satisfied and discharged to the extent such amount is so paid by such purchasers. If such an agreement is entered into, any existing 2009 notes not duly surrendered for conversion by the holders thereof may, at our option, be deemed, to the fullest extent permitted by law, acquired by such purchasers from such holders and surrendered by such purchasers for conversion, all as of immediately prior to the close of business on the redemption date (and the right to convert any such existing 2009 notes will be extended through such time), subject to payment of the above amount on the redemption date.

We will comply with any applicable provisions of Rule 13e-4 and any other tender offer rules under the Exchange Act in the event of a liquidation event.

Sinking Fund

No sinking fund is provided for the existing 2009 notes.

Consolidation, merger and sale of assets

The note amendment and exchange agreement provides that we may not consolidate with or merge with or into, or sell, convey, transfer, lease or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of our properties and assets to, another person, unless (i) such person assumes all our obligations under the existing 2009 notes and the note amendment and exchange agreement; and (ii) immediately after giving effect to such transaction, no default or event of default exists under the note amendment and exchange agreement. Upon any such consolidation, merger or transfer, the resulting, surviving or transferee person shall succeed to, and may exercise every right and power of, Oscient Pharmaceuticals under the note amendment and exchange agreement.

Although these types of transactions are permitted under the note amendment and exchange agreement, certain of the foregoing transactions could constitute a liquidation event (as defined above) permitting each holder to require us to repurchase the existing 2009 notes of such holder as described above.

Table of Contents

Events of default

Each of the following is an event of default:

our failure to make any payment in respect of the principal of, or any interest or fee on or in respect of, any of our present and future liabilities, obligations and indebtedness under or in connection with the note amendment and exchange agreement or the existing 2009 notes, including the obligations in respect of principal, interest and expenses from time to time owing under the existing 2009 notes owed by us as the same shall become due and payable, whether at maturity or by acceleration or otherwise;

our failure to perform or observe any of the other provisions of the note amendment and exchange agreement or the existing 2009 notes required to be performed or complied with by us and such failure continues for a period of thirty days after written notice thereof is given to us by the holders of a majority of the aggregate principal amount of the existing 2009 notes outstanding at such time.

certain events involving our or our subsidiaries bankruptcy, insolvency, or reorganization (the bankruptcy provisions); or

we or any of our subsidiaries have a judgment entered against us in an amount of at least \$1 million, and such judgment remains undismissed for a period of ninety consecutive days.

If any one or more events of default occurs and is continuing, then in each and every such case, the present and future liabilities, obligations and indebtedness under or in connection with the note amendment and exchange agreement or the existing 2009 notes, including the obligations in respect of principal, interest and expenses from time to time owing under the existing 2009 notes then outstanding shall become immediately due and payable. The holders may proceed to protect and enforce their rights by suit in equity, action at law and/or other appropriate proceeding, either for specific performance of any covenant or condition contained in the note amendment and exchange agreement or the existing 2009 notes. To the extent not prohibited by applicable law which cannot be waived, all of the holders' rights under the note amendment and exchange agreement or the existing 2009 notes are cumulative.

Modification and amendment; waiver

The note amendment and exchange agreement and each existing 2009 note may be amended, modified or terminated, and any provision thereof may be waived, solely pursuant to a writing executed by us and the holders of a majority of the aggregate principal amount of the existing 2009 notes outstanding at such time. Waivers may be made in advance or after the right waived has arisen or the breach or default waived has occurred. Any waiver may be conditional. No waiver of any breach of any agreement or provision herein contained will be deemed a waiver of any preceding or succeeding breach thereof nor of any other agreement or provision contained in the note amendment and exchange agreement. No waiver or extension of time for performance of any obligations or acts will be deemed a waiver or extension of the time for performance of any other obligations or acts. A waiver on any one occasion will not be construed as a bar to or waiver of any right or remedy on any future occasion.

Form, denomination and registration

The existing 2009 notes were issued in certificated form.

Governing law

The note amendment and exchange agreement and the existing 2009 notes will be governed by, interpreted under and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

We are incorporated in The Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Our authorized capital stock consists of 175,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$.10 per share, including 625,000 shares of common stock designated as series B restricted common stock. The following descriptions are summaries of the material terms of our articles of organization and bylaws. Reference is made to the more detailed provisions of, and the descriptions are qualified in their entirety by reference to, our articles of organization and bylaws, copies of which are incorporated as exhibits to the registration statements of which this prospectus is a part.

Common Stock

As of March 6, 2007, there were 13,642,361 shares of our common stock outstanding. There are no shares of series B restricted common stock issued and outstanding.

Oscient Pharmaceuticals Common Stock

Voting

The holders of our common stock are entitled to one vote per share on all matters to be voted upon by the shareholders. Holders of our common stock are not authorized by our articles of organization to cumulate votes for the election of directors. Directors are elected by a plurality of the votes entitled to vote and present in person or represented by proxy at the meeting.

Dividends

We have never paid cash dividends on our common stock and do not expect to pay dividends in the foreseeable future. Any decision to pay cash dividends in the future will be at the discretion of our board of directors and will depend upon our financial condition, operating results, capital requirements and such other factors as our board of directors deem relevant. Holders of common stock would share ratably in any dividends that may be declared by our board of directors.

Liquidation, Dissolution and Winding-up

In the event of our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, whether voluntary or involuntary, the holders of common stock are to receive for each share of our common stock held by them, prior to the holders of series B restricted common stock, the greater of (a) \$5.00 and (b) the amount equal to ten times the amount available to holders of series B restricted common stock. If the assets available for distribution are insufficient to permit the full payment, then the entire amount available for distribution to the holders of common stock will be distributed pro rata among them.

Preemptive Rights, Conversion and Redemption

There are no preemptive or other subscription rights, conversion rights, or redemption or sinking fund provisions with respect to shares of our common stock.

Oscient Pharmaceuticals Series B Restricted Common Stock

Our articles of organization, as amended, provide that the holders of our series B restricted common stock are not entitled to vote, except as otherwise required by law or receive dividends. No shares of our series B restricted common stock are outstanding and we have no current intention to issue any shares of series B restricted common stock.

No Limits on Written Consents

Our articles of organization provide that any action required or permitted to be taken by our stockholders may be effected without a meeting on unanimous written consent of the stockholders.

Table of Contents

Limits on Special Meetings

Our bylaws provide that special meetings of stockholders may be called at the request of the board of directors or our president.

Transfer Agent and Registrar

The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is Computershare Trust Company N.A.

NASDAQ Listing

Our common stock is listed on NASDAQ under the symbol OSCI.

Table of Contents

BOOK-ENTRY SYSTEM THE DEPOSITORY TRUST COMPANY

DTC will act as depository for the new notes. The certificates representing the new notes will be in fully registered, global form without interest coupons registered in the name of Cede & Co. (DTC's partnership nominee) or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. Ownership of beneficial interests in a global note will be limited to persons who have accounts with DTC (participants) or persons who hold interests through participants. Ownership of beneficial interests in a global note will be shown on, and the transfer of that ownership will be effected only through, records maintained by DTC or its nominee (with respect to interests of participants) and the records of participants (with respect to interests of persons other than participants).

So long as DTC or its nominee is the registered owner or holder of the global notes, DTC or such nominee, as the case may be, will be considered the sole record owner or holder of the new notes represented by such global notes for all purposes under the new notes indenture. No beneficial owner of an interest in the global notes will be able to transfer that interest except in accordance with DTC's applicable procedures, in addition to those provided for under the new notes indenture.

DTC has advised us as follows: DTC 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 the notes that its participants deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the settlement among participants of notes transactions, such as transfers and pledges, in deposited notes through electronic computerized book-entry changes in participants' accounts, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of notes certificates. Participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations, and certain other organizations. DTC is owned by a number of its participants and by the New York Stock Exchange Inc., the American Stock Exchange LLC, and the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as securities brokers and dealers, banks, and trust companies that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a participant, either directly or indirectly. The rules applicable to DTC and its participants are on file with the SEC.

Purchases of new notes under the DTC system must be made by or through participants, which will receive a credit for the new notes on DTC's records. The beneficial ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each new note is in turn to be recorded on the participants' records. Beneficial owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchase, but they are expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transaction, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the participant through which the beneficial owner entered into the transaction. Transfers of ownership interests in the new notes are to be accomplished by entries made on the books of participants acting on behalf of beneficial owners. Beneficial owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in new notes, except in the event that use of the book-entry system for the new notes is discontinued.

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all new notes deposited by participants with DTC are registered in the name of DTC's partnership nominee, Cede & Co. or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. The deposit of new notes with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. or such other nominee do not effect any change in beneficial ownership. DTC has no knowledge of the actual beneficial owners of the new notes; DTC's records reflect only the identity of the participants to whose accounts such new notes are credited, which may or may not be the beneficial owners. The participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

Table of Contents

Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to participants and by participants to beneficial owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Beneficial owners of new notes may wish to take certain steps to augment transmission to them of notices of significant events with respect to the new notes, such as redemptions, tenders, defaults, and proposed amendments to the new notes documents. Beneficial owners of new notes may wish to ascertain that the nominee holding the new notes for their benefit has agreed to obtain and transmit notices to beneficial owners, or in the alternative, beneficial owners may wish to provide their names and addresses to the registrar and request that copies of the notices be provided directly to them.

Payments of the principal of and interest on the global notes will be made to DTC or its nominee, as the case may be, as the registered owner thereof. We understand that DTC's practice is to credit participants' accounts, upon DTC's receipt of funds and corresponding detail information from us or the new notes trustee on a payable date in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC's records. Payments by participants to beneficial owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in street name, and will be the responsibility of such participant and not of DTC, the new notes trustee, or us, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payment of redemption proceeds, distributions, and dividends to Cede & Co. (or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC) is our responsibility or the responsibility of the new notes trustee, disbursement of such payments to participants shall be the responsibility of DTC, and disbursement of such payments to the beneficial owners shall be the responsibility of participants.

We will send any redemption notices to Cede & Co. We understand that if less than all of the new notes are being redeemed, DTC's practice is to determine by lot the amount of the holdings of each participant to be redeemed. We also understand that neither DTC nor Cede & Co. will consent or vote with respect to the new notes. We have been advised that under its usual procedures, DTC will mail an omnibus proxy to us as soon as possible after the record date. The omnibus proxy assigns Cede & Co.'s consenting or voting rights to those participants to whose accounts the new notes are credited on the record date identified in a listing attached to the omnibus proxy.

A beneficial owner shall give notice to elect to have its new notes purchased or tendered, through its participant, to the new notes trustee, and shall effect delivery of such new notes by causing the participant to transfer the participant's interest in the new notes on DTC's records, to the new notes trustee. The requirement for physical delivery of new notes in connection with an optional tender or a mandatory purchase will be deemed satisfied when the ownership rights in the new notes are transferred by participants on DTC's records and followed by a book-entry credit of tendered new notes to the new notes trustee DTC account.

DTC may discontinue providing its services as new notes depository with respect to the new notes at any time by giving reasonable notice to us or the new notes trustee. If DTC is at any time unwilling or unable to continue as a depository for the global notes and a successor depository is not appointed within 90 days, we will issue definitive, certificated original new notes in exchange for the global notes.

The information in this section concerning DTC and DTC's book-entry system has been obtained from sources that we believe to be reliable, but we take no responsibility for the accuracy thereof.

Table of Contents

CERTAIN U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

The following is a summary of certain material U.S. federal income tax considerations relevant to the purchase of new notes pursuant to the new money offering, the exchange of existing 2009 and 2011 notes for new notes pursuant to the exchange offers, the ownership and disposition (including a conversion into common shares) of the new notes and the ownership and disposition of common shares received upon a conversion of new notes. It is not, however, a complete analysis of all of the potential tax considerations. This summary is based on the provisions of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), the applicable Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder, judicial authority and current administrative rulings and practice, all of which are subject to change, possibly on a retroactive basis. There can be no assurance that the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (the IRS) will not challenge one or more of the tax consequences described herein, and we have not obtained, nor do we intend to obtain, a ruling from the IRS or an opinion of counsel with respect to such consequences.

This summary deals only with holders that purchase new notes pursuant to the new money offering or exchange their existing 2009 and 2011 notes for new notes pursuant to the exchange offers, and that hold existing 2009 and 2011 notes, new notes and common shares (as the case may be) as capital assets (generally, property held for investment). This summary does not deal with all aspects of U.S. federal income taxation that might be relevant to particular holders in light of their personal investment circumstances or special status, nor does it address tax considerations applicable to investors that may be subject to special tax rules, such as certain financial institutions, tax-exempt organizations, S corporations, partnerships or other pass-through entities, insurance companies, broker-dealers, dealers or traders in securities or currencies, certain U.S. expatriates and taxpayers subject to the alternative minimum tax. It also does not discuss existing 2009 or 2011 notes, new notes or common shares held as part of a hedge, straddle, synthetic security or other integrated investment or situations in which the functional currency of a U.S. Holder (as defined below) is not the U.S. dollar. Moreover, it does not discuss the effect of any other U.S. federal tax laws (such as estate and gift tax laws) or applicable state, local or foreign tax laws.

As used herein, a U.S. Holder, means a beneficial holder of existing 2009 or 2011 notes, new notes or common shares received upon conversion of a new note that is, for U.S. federal income tax purposes: (1) an individual citizen or resident of the United States, (2) a corporation created or organized under the laws of the United States, any state thereof or the District of Columbia, (3) an estate the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source, or (4) a trust if (a) a U.S. court is able to exercise primary supervision over the trust's administration and one or more United States persons have the authority to control all of the trust's substantial decisions or (b) it has a valid election in effect to be treated as a United States person. A Non-U.S. Holder means a beneficial holder of existing 2009 or 2011 notes, new notes or common shares that is, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, an individual, corporation, estate or trust that is not a U.S. Holder.

If a partnership is a beneficial holder of existing notes, new notes or common shares, the tax treatment of a partner in the partnership generally will depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. Partnerships and investors in such partnerships should consult their own tax advisors.

The following discussion is for general information only and is not intended to be tax advice. Investors considering purchasing new notes pursuant to the new money offering or participating in the exchange offers should consult their own tax advisors with respect to the application of the U.S. federal income tax laws to their particular situations as well as any tax consequences arising under other U.S. federal tax laws or the laws of any state, local or foreign taxing jurisdiction or under any applicable tax treaty.

Table of Contents

U.S. Holders

Treatment of Exchange Offers

The U.S. federal income tax consequences of exchanging existing 2009 or 2011 notes for new notes pursuant to the exchange offers may depend on whether the differences between the new notes and the relevant existing notes constitute a significant modification. In general, there will be a significant modification if, based on all the facts and circumstances, and taking into account all modifications collectively, the changes to the legal rights and obligations are economically significant. Although not free from doubt, we believe that the changes between the existing 2009 or 2011 notes and new notes should be considered a significant modification, and therefore that the exchange of existing notes for new notes should be considered an exchange for U.S. federal income tax purposes (the Exchange). The remainder of this discussion assumes that our position is correct. If, notwithstanding our position, the changes were not considered a significant modification, the exchange of existing 2009 or 2011 notes for new notes would be a non-event for U.S. federal income tax purposes and an exchanging holder's tax basis and holding period in the new notes would be the same as its adjusted tax basis and holding period in the existing notes exchanged therefor.

The U.S. federal income tax treatment of the Exchange with respect to existing 2009 or 2011 notes also will depend on whether the Exchange qualifies as a recapitalization pursuant to Section 368(a)(1)(E) of the Code with respect to existing 2009 or 2011 notes, as discussed below. If the Exchange of existing 2009 or 2011 notes qualifies as a recapitalization, a U.S. Holder of such notes will not recognize any gain or loss on the Exchange other than to the extent that the aggregate principal amount of the new notes received by such holder exceeds the aggregate principal amount of the existing 2009 or 2011 notes exchanged therefor (which will be the case with respect to the existing 2009 notes). A U.S. Holder will take a tax basis in the new notes equal to its adjusted tax basis in the existing 2009 or 2011 notes exchanged therefor immediately prior to the Exchange (increased by the amount of any gain recognized on the Exchange), and such U.S. Holder's holding period for the new notes will include its holding period in the existing 2009 or 2011 notes exchanged therefor.

In general, the Exchange will qualify as a recapitalization only if both the existing 2009 or 2011 notes and the new notes that are subject to such Exchange constitute securities for purposes of Section 368(c)(1)(E) of the Code. The rules for determining whether a debt instrument constitutes a security under the recapitalization provisions of U.S. federal income tax law are unclear. The term security is not defined for this purpose in the Code or the Treasury Regulations and has not been clearly defined by judicial decisions. The determination of whether a debt instrument is a security involves an overall evaluation of the nature of the debt instrument, the extent of the investor's proprietary interest in the issuer compared with the similarity of the debt instrument to a right to receive a cash payment and certain other considerations. One of the most significant factors considered in determining whether a particular debt instrument is a security is its original term. In general, debt instruments with a term of less than five years are not likely to (but may in certain circumstances) be considered securities, debt instruments with a term of ten years or more are likely to be considered securities, while debt instruments with an initial term at issuance of five to ten years are often considered securities, but their status may be unclear. Convertibility of a debt instrument into stock of the issuer may make security treatment more likely because of the holder's potential equity participation in the issuer. Because the existing 2009 or 2011 notes had terms of more than five years (and the new notes should be considered to have the same term as the existing 2009 or 2011 notes for this purpose), and due to their convertibility, we believe that both the existing 2009 and 2011 notes and the new notes should be considered securities based on the all the relevant facts and circumstances, and the Exchange should qualify as a recapitalization.

Table of Contents

This determination is not free from doubt, however, and it is possible that the IRS could take a contrary view. The IRS might assert that either the existing 2009 or 2011 notes or the new notes were not securities for U.S. federal income tax purposes, or the Exchange is otherwise not a tax-free recapitalization for U.S. federal income tax purposes. If the Exchange were to fail to qualify for treatment as a tax-free recapitalization, a holder of existing 2009 or 2011 notes generally would recognize gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes in an amount equal to the difference between the amount realized by such holder in the Exchange (other than any portion of such amount treated as attributable to accrued interest not previously included in income) and its adjusted tax basis in the existing 2009 or 2011 notes exchanged. Holders are urged to consult their own tax advisors as to the amount and character of any gain or loss that might be recognized for U.S. federal income tax purposes if the Exchange were treated as a taxable exchange.

Regardless of whether the Exchange of existing 2009 or 2011 notes for new notes qualifies as a recapitalization, cash payments or new notes received in respect of accrued and unpaid interest on the existing notes will be taxed as ordinary interest income to the extent not previously includible in income.

If a U.S. Holder receives cash in lieu of a fractional new note, the amount of such cash may be considered, in whole or in part, taxable gain or, alternatively, such U.S. Holder may be treated as having received such fractional new note and having had such note retired for cash. Holders are urged to consult their own tax advisors as to the amount and character of any gain or loss in respect of a fractional new note that might be recognized for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Treatment of New Notes

No existing authority addresses whether debt instruments with terms similar to the new notes will be characterized as contingent payment debt instruments for U.S. federal income tax purposes. It is possible that the IRS could assert that the new notes are contingent payment debt instruments because of the potential payment of the make-whole premium upon the automatic conversion, as well as certain other provisions. Because the Treasury Regulations governing contingent payment debt instruments do not apply to a debt instrument merely because it provides an option to convert the instrument into stock of the issuer or cash in an amount equal to the approximate value of the issuer's stock, we do not intend to treat the new notes as contingent payment debt instruments. Our treatment of the new notes as not constituting contingent payment debt instruments is binding on all holders unless a holder discloses its differing position in a statement attached to its timely filed U.S. federal income tax return for the taxable year during which it acquired the new notes. Our position as to the characterization of the new notes is not binding on the IRS or a court. If the new notes were treated as contingent payment debt instruments under the Treasury Regulations, among other potential adverse consequences: (i) U.S. Holders would be required to include amounts in taxable income each year as original issue discount (OID), which is taxed as ordinary income similar to interest, and such amounts would likely exceed, and be taxed in advance of the actual payments of, stated interest received in connection with the new notes; (ii) the value of the stock received upon conversion of the new notes would be treated as an additional payment taxable as ordinary income (subject to potential adjustments); and (iii) gain recognized upon a sale, exchange, redemption or other taxable disposition of the new notes would generally be treated as ordinary income (subject to potential adjustments and exceptions). The remainder of this summary assumes that the new notes will not be treated as contingent payment debt instruments for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

U.S. Holders will be required to recognize as ordinary income any interest paid or accrued on the new notes, in accordance with their regular method of accounting. A U.S. Holder must include any OID on the new notes (either received in the Exchange or issued pursuant to the cash offering) as ordinary interest income as it accrues (in advance of the receipt of any cash payments attributable to such income) in accordance with a constant yield method based on a compounding of interest, regardless of such U.S.

Table of Contents

Holder's regular method of accounting for U.S. federal income tax purposes. The amount of OID on the new notes will be equal to the difference between the stated redemption price at maturity of the new notes and the new notes' issue price. The stated redemption price at maturity of the new notes will equal the sum of all amounts provided under the debt instrument, regardless of whether denominated as principal or interest, other than qualified stated interest payments. For this purpose, qualified stated interest generally means stated interest that is unconditionally payable in cash or property, other than debt instruments of the issuer, at least annually at a single fixed rate. The stated interest on the new notes will constitute qualified stated interest. The issue price of the new notes will be the first price at which a substantial amount of the new notes are sold to the public (other than underwriters) pursuant to the cash offering.

A U.S. Holder who acquires the new notes at a premium (*i.e.*, the excess of the holder's adjusted tax basis over the note's stated redemption price at maturity) generally may elect to amortize that premium (amortizable bond premium) from the purchase date to the note's maturity date under a constant yield method that reflects semiannual compounding based on the note's payment period. However, amortizable bond premium will not include any premium attributable to the new note's conversion feature. The premium attributable to the conversion feature generally is the excess, if any, of the new note's market price on the date of acquisition over what the note's market price would be if there were no conversion feature. Amortizable bond premium is treated as an offset to interest income on the new notes and not as a separate deduction. The election t