

Solar Capital Ltd.
Form N-2
March 21, 2011
Table of Contents

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 21, 2011

Securities Act File No. 333-

U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM N-2

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933 x

(Check appropriate box or boxes)

Pre-Effective Amendment No. ..
Post-Effective Amendment No. ..

SOLAR CAPITAL LTD.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in charter)

500 Park Avenue

New York, NY 10022

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including Area Code: (212) 993-1670

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Michael S. Gross

Chief Executive Officer

Solar Capital Ltd.

500 Park Avenue

New York, NY 10022

(Name and address of agent for service)

COPIES TO:

Steven B. Boehm

John J. Mahon

Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP

1275 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20004

(202) 383-0100

Approximate date of proposed public offering: From time to time after the effective date of this Registration Statement.

If any securities being registered on this form will be offered on a delayed or continuous basis in reliance on Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered in connection with a dividend reinvestment plan, check the following box.

It is proposed that this filing will become effective (check appropriate box):

when declared effective pursuant to Section 8(c).

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Title of Securities Being Registered	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price(1)	Amount of Registration Fee(1)
Common Stock, \$0.01 par value per share(2)(3)		
Preferred Stock, \$0.01 par value per share(2)		
Warrants(4)		
Debt Securities(5)		
Units(6)		
Purchase Contracts(7)		
Total(8)	\$1,000,000,000(8)	\$116,100.00

- (1) Estimated pursuant to Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act of 1933 solely for the purpose of determining the registration fee. The proposed maximum offering price per security will be determined, from time to time, by the Registrant in connection with the sale by the Registrant of the securities registered under this Registration Statement.
- (2) Subject to Note 8 below, there is being registered hereunder an indeterminate number of shares of common stock or preferred stock as may be sold, from time to time, separately or as units in combination with other securities registered hereunder.
- (3) Includes such indeterminate number of shares of common stock as may, from time to time, be issued upon conversion or exchange of other securities registered hereunder, to the extent any such securities are, by their terms, convertible or exchangeable for common stock.
- (4) Subject to Note 8 below, there is being registered hereunder an indeterminate number of warrants as may be sold, from time to time, separately or as units in combination with other securities registered hereunder, representing rights to purchase common stock, preferred stock or debt securities.
- (5) Subject to Note 8 below, there is being registered hereunder an indeterminate number of debt securities as may be sold, from time to time, separately or as units in combination with other securities registered hereunder. If any debt securities are issued at an original issue discount, then the offering price shall be in such greater principal amount as shall result in an aggregate price to investors not to exceed \$1,000,000,000.
- (6) Subject to Note 8 below, there is being registered hereunder an indeterminate number of units issuable upon conversion or exchange of securities registered hereunder to the extent any such securities, are, by their terms convertible into or exchangeable for units, including upon the exercise of warrants or delivery upon settlement of purchase contracts. Each unit may consist of a combination of any two or more of the securities being registered hereby or debt obligations of third parties, including U.S. Treasury securities.
- (7) Subject to Note 8 below, there is being registered hereunder an indeterminate number of purchase contracts issuable upon conversion or exchange of securities registered hereunder to the extent any such securities are, by their terms convertible into or exchangeable for purchase contracts. Each purchase contract obligates the registrant to sell, and the holder thereof to purchase, an indeterminate number of debt securities, common stock, preferred stock or other securities registered hereunder.
- (8) In no event will the aggregate offering price of all securities issued from time to time pursuant to this Registration Statement exceed \$1,000,000,000.

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

Table of Contents

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

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED _____, 2011

PROSPECTUS

\$1,000,000,000

Solar Capital Ltd.

Common Stock

Preferred Stock

Warrants

Debt Securities Units

Purchase Contracts

We are an externally managed finance company. Our investment objective is to generate both current income and capital appreciation through debt and equity investments. We invest primarily in leveraged companies, including middle-market companies, in the form of senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities.

We were formed in February 2007 as Solar Capital LLC, a Maryland limited liability company, and commenced operations in March 2007. On February 9, 2010, Solar Capital LLC was merged with and into Solar Capital Ltd., an externally managed, non-diversified, closed-end management investment company that has elected to be treated as a business development company under the Investment Company Act of

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

1940, or the 1940 Act. We are managed by Solar Capital Partners, LLC. Solar Capital Management, LLC provides the administrative services necessary for us to operate.

We may offer, from time to time, in one or more offerings or series, up to \$1,000,000,000 of our common stock, preferred stock, debt securities, units, purchase contracts or warrants representing rights to purchase shares of our common stock, preferred stock or debt securities, which we refer to, collectively, as the securities. The preferred stock and warrants offered hereby may be convertible or exchangeable into shares of our common stock. The securities may be offered at prices and on terms to be described in one or more supplements to this prospectus.

In the event we offer common stock, the offering price per share of our common stock less any underwriting commissions or discounts will generally not be less than the net asset value per share of our common stock at the time we make the offering. However, we may issue shares of our common stock pursuant to this prospectus at a price per share that is less than our net asset value per share (a) with the prior approval of the majority of our common stockholders or (b) under such other circumstances as the SEC may permit.

The securities may be offered directly to one or more purchasers, or through agents designated from time to time by us, or to or through underwriters or dealers. The prospectus supplement relating to an offering will identify any agents or underwriters involved in the sale of the securities, and will disclose any applicable purchase price, fee, commission or discount arrangement between us and our agents or underwriters or among our underwriters or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated. See Plan of Distribution. We may not sell any of the securities through agents, underwriters or dealers without delivery of this prospectus and a prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the offering of such securities.

Our common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol SLRC. On March 17, 2011, the last reported sales price on the NASDAQ Global Select Market for our common stock was \$23.36 per share.

This prospectus, and the accompanying prospectus supplement, contains important information about us that a prospective investor should know before investing in our common stock. Please read this prospectus, and the accompanying prospectus supplement, before investing, and keep it for future reference. We are required to file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information about us with the Securities and Exchange Commission. This information is available free of charge by contacting us by mail at 500 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022, by telephone at (212) 993-1670 or on our website at <http://www.solarcapltd.com>. The Securities and Exchange Commission also maintains a website at <http://www.sec.gov> that contains such information. Information contained on our website is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus, and you should not consider that information to be part of this prospectus or the accompanying prospectus supplement.

An investment in our common stock is very risky and highly speculative. Shares of closed-end investment companies, including business development companies, frequently trade at a discount to their net asset value. In addition, the companies in which we invest are subject to special risks. See Risk Factors beginning on page 17 to read about factors you should consider, including the risk of leverage, before investing in our common stock.

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

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

This prospectus may not be used to consummate sales of shares of common stock unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

, 2011

Table of Contents

You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement. We have not authorized any dealer, salesman or other person to give any information or to make any representation other than those contained in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement to this prospectus. You must not rely upon any information or representation not contained in this prospectus or any such supplements as if we had authorized it. This prospectus and any such supplements do not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of any offer to buy any security other than the registered securities to which they relate, nor do they constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities in any jurisdiction to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such an offer or solicitation in such jurisdiction. The information contained in this prospectus and any such supplements is accurate as of the dates on their covers. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since then.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<u>Summary</u>	1
<u>Fees and Expenses</u>	11
<u>Selected Financial and Other Data</u>	14
<u>Risk Factors</u>	17
<u>Forward-Looking Statements and Projections</u>	35
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	36
<u>Price Range of Common Stock and Distributions</u>	37
<u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	39
<u>Senior Securities</u>	51
<u>Business</u>	52
<u>Portfolio Companies</u>	65
<u>Management</u>	69
<u>Portfolio Management</u>	78
<u>Investment Advisory and Management Agreement</u>	79
<u>Administration Agreement</u>	85
<u>License Agreement</u>	85
<u>Certain Relationships and Transactions</u>	86
<u>Control Persons and Principal Stockholders</u>	87
<u>Regulation as a Business Development Company</u>	88
<u>Determination of Net Asset Value</u>	93
<u>Dividend Reinvestment Plan</u>	95
<u>Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations</u>	97
<u>Sale of Common Stock Below Net Asset Value</u>	104
<u>Issuance of Warrants or Securities to Subscribe for or Convertible into Shares of Our Common Stock</u>	109
<u>Description of Our Capital Stock</u>	110
<u>Description of Our Preferred Stock</u>	117
<u>Description of Our Warrants</u>	118
<u>Description of Our Debt Securities</u>	119
<u>Description of Our Units</u>	132
<u>Description of Our Purchase Contracts</u>	133
<u>Shares Eligible for Future Sale</u>	134
<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	135
<u>Custodian, Transfer and Distribution Paying Agent and Registrar</u>	137
<u>Brokerage Allocation and Other Practices</u>	137
<u>Legal Matters</u>	137
<u>Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u>	137

Available Information
Index to Financial Statements

138
F-1

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, using the shelf registration process. Under the shelf registration process, which constitutes a delayed offering in reliance on Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, we may offer, from time to time, in one or more offerings or series, up to \$1,000,000,000 of our common stock, preferred stock, debt securities, units, purchase contracts or warrants representing rights to purchase shares of our common stock, preferred stock or debt securities on the terms to be determined at the time of the offering. The securities may be offered at prices and on terms described in one or more supplements to this prospectus. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities that we may offer. Each time we use this prospectus to offer securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering. A prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. Please carefully read this prospectus and any such supplements together with any exhibits and the additional information described under Available Information and in the Summary and Risk Factors sections before you make an investment decision.

Table of Contents

SUMMARY

This summary highlights some of the information in this prospectus. It is not complete and may not contain all of the information that you may want to consider. You should read carefully the more detailed information set forth under Risk Factors and the other information included in this prospectus and the documents to which we have referred.

We were formed in February 2007 as Solar Capital LLC, a Maryland limited liability company, and commenced operations in March 2007 after conducting a private placement of units of membership interest (units). On February 9, 2010, Solar Capital LLC was merged with and into Solar Capital Ltd., a Maryland corporation, which we refer to as the Solar Capital Merger, concurrent with the pricing of our initial public offering, leaving Solar Capital Ltd. as the surviving entity. Except where the context suggests otherwise, the terms we, us, our and Solar Capital refer to Solar Capital LLC prior to the Solar Capital Merger, and Solar Capital Ltd. after the Solar Capital Merger. In addition, the terms Solar Capital Partners or investment adviser refer to Solar Capital Partners, LLC, and Solar Capital Management or the administrator refers to Solar Capital Management, LLC.

In this prospectus, we use the term leveraged to refer to companies of any size with non-investment grade debt outstanding or, if not explicitly rated, those which we believe would be rated as non-investment grade based on their leverage levels and other terms. In addition, we use the term middle-market to refer to companies with annual revenues between \$50 million and \$1 billion.

Solar Capital

Solar Capital Ltd., a Maryland corporation formed in November 2007, is a closed-end, externally managed, non-diversified management investment company that has elected to be treated as a business development company (BDC) under the 1940 Act. In addition, for tax purposes we intend to elect to be treated as a regulated investment company (RIC) under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code).

On February 9, 2010, we priced our initial public offering, selling 5.68 million shares. Concurrent with our initial public offering, Michael S. Gross, our chairman and chief executive officer, and Bruce Spohler, our chief operating officer, collectively purchased an additional 0.6 million shares through a private placement transaction exempt from registration under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act (the Concurrent Private Placement). Solar Capital Ltd. issued an aggregate of approximately 26.65 million shares of common stock and \$125 million in senior unsecured notes (the Senior Unsecured Notes) to the existing Solar Capital LLC unit holders in connection with the Solar Capital Merger. Solar Capital Ltd. had no assets or operations prior to completion of the Solar Capital Merger and as a result, the books and records of Solar Capital LLC have become the books and records of the surviving entity. As of December 17, 2010, the Senior Unsecured Notes have been repaid from proceeds of a private placement transaction that we completed on November 30, 2010 and from borrowings under our new credit facility.

Our investment objective is to generate both current income and capital appreciation through debt and equity investments. We invest primarily in leveraged middle market companies in the form of senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities. From time to time, we may also invest in public companies that are thinly traded. Our business model is focused primarily on the direct origination of investments through portfolio companies or their financial sponsors. Our investments generally range between \$20 million and \$100 million each, although we expect that this investment size will vary proportionately with the size of our capital base. We are managed by Solar Capital Partners. Solar Capital Management provides the administrative services necessary for us to operate. In addition, we may invest a portion of our portfolio in other types of investments, which we refer to as opportunistic investments, which are not our primary focus but are intended to enhance our

overall

1

Table of Contents

returns. These investments may include, but are not limited to, direct investments in public companies that are not thinly traded and securities of leveraged companies located in select countries outside of the United States.

As of December 31, 2010, our long term investments totaled \$976.2 million and our net asset value was \$827.0 million. Our portfolio was comprised of debt and equity investments in 36 portfolio companies and our income producing assets, which represent 91.2% of our total portfolio, had a weighted average annualized yield on a fair value basis of approximately 14.3%.

About Solar Capital Partners

Solar Capital Partners is controlled by Michael S. Gross, our chairman and chief executive officer, and is led by Mr. Gross and Bruce Spohler, our chief operating officer, and is supported by a team of 12 dedicated investment professionals, including Brian Gerson, Cedric Henley and David Mait. We refer to Messrs. Gross, Spohler, Gerson, Henley and Mait as Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals. Solar Capital Partners' investment team has extensive experience in the private equity and leveraged lending industries, as well as significant contacts with financial sponsors operating in those industries. The investment team led by Messrs. Gross and Spohler has invested in 62 different portfolio companies for Solar Capital, which investments involved an aggregate of more than 50 different financial sponsors, through December 31, 2010. Since Solar Capital's inception, these investment professionals have used their relationships in the middle-market financial sponsor and financial intermediary community to originate direct investment opportunities. As of March 17, 2011, Mr. Gross and Mr. Spohler beneficially owned, either directly or indirectly, approximately 5.74% and 5.65%, respectively, of our outstanding common stock.

Mr. Gross has over 20 years of experience in the private equity, distressed debt and mezzanine lending businesses and has been involved in originating, structuring, negotiating, consummating and managing private equity, distressed debt and mezzanine lending transactions. Prior to his current role as our chairman, chief executive officer and president, Mr. Gross founded Apollo Investment Corporation, a publicly traded BDC. He served as its chairman from February 2004 to July 2006 and its chief executive officer from February 2004 to February 2006. Under his management, Apollo Investment Corporation raised approximately \$930 million in gross proceeds in an initial public offering in April 2004, built a dedicated investment team and infrastructure and invested approximately \$2.3 billion in over 65 companies in conjunction with 50 different private equity sponsors. Mr. Gross is also a founder and a former senior partner of Apollo Management, L.P., a leading private equity firm. During his tenure at Apollo Management, L.P., Mr. Gross was a member of the investment committee that was responsible for overseeing more than \$13 billion of investments in over 150 companies.

Mr. Gross also currently serves on the boards of directors of three public companies, and in the past has served on the boards of directors of more than 20 public and private companies. As a result, Mr. Gross has developed an extensive network of private equity sponsor relationships as well as relationships with management teams of public and private companies, investment bankers, attorneys and accountants that we believe should provide us with significant business opportunities.

We also rely on the more than 20 years of experience of Mr. Spohler, who has served as our chief operating officer and a partner of Solar Capital Partners since inception. Previously, Mr. Spohler was a managing director and a former co-head of U.S. Leveraged Finance for CIBC World Markets. He held numerous senior roles at CIBC World Markets, including serving on the U.S. Management Committee, Global Executive Committee and the Deals Committee, which approves all of CIBC World Markets' U.S. corporate finance debt capital decisions. During Mr. Spohler's tenure, he was responsible for senior loan, high yield and mezzanine origination and execution, as well as CIBC World Markets' below investment grade loan portfolio in the United States. As a co-head of U.S. Leveraged Finance, Mr. Spohler oversaw over 300 capital raising and merger and acquisition transactions, comprising over \$40 billion in market capitalization.

Table of Contents

In addition to Messrs. Gross and Spohler, Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals include Messrs. Gerson, Henley and Mait, each of whom has extensive experience in originating, evaluating and structuring investments in the types of middle-market companies we currently target. Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals have an average of over 20 years of experience in the private equity and leveraged lending industries.

Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals have been active participants in the primary and secondary leveraged credit markets throughout their careers. They have effectively managed portfolios of distressed and mezzanine debt as well as other investment types. The depth of their experience and credit market expertise has led them through various stages of the economic cycle as well as several market disruptions.

Market Opportunity

Solar Capital invests primarily in senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities of middle-market leveraged companies. We believe that the size of this market, coupled with leveraged companies' need for flexible sources of capital at attractive terms and rates, create an attractive investment environment for us. See Business Market Opportunity.

Middle-market companies have faced increasing difficulty in accessing the capital markets. While many middle-market companies were formerly able to raise funds by issuing high-yield bonds, we believe this approach to financing has become more difficult in recent years as institutional investors have sought to invest in larger, more liquid offerings. In addition, many private finance companies that historically financed their lending and investing activities through securitization transactions have lost that source of funding and reduced lending significantly.

There is a large pool of uninvested private equity capital likely to seek additional capital to support their investments. We expect that middle-market private equity firms will continue to invest the approximately \$195 billion raised since 2000 in middle-market companies and that those private equity firms will seek to support their investments with mezzanine loans from sources such as Solar Capital. Additionally, over \$12.1 billion was raised by middle-market sponsors during 2010, which we believe demonstrates the continued appetite for middle-market acquisitions that require debt financing.

The significant amount of debt maturing through 2015 should provide additional demand for capital. A high volume of financings were completed between the years 2004 and 2007, which are expected to mature over the next few years. We believe that this supply of prospective lending opportunities coupled with a lack of available credit in the middle-market lending space may offer attractive risk-adjusted returns to investors.

Investing in private middle-market debt provides an attractive risk reward profile. In general, terms for illiquid, middle-market subordinated debt have been more attractive than those for larger corporations which are typically more liquid. We believe this is because fewer institutions are able to invest in illiquid asset classes. In 2010, on average, the total debt to EBITDA ratio for middle-market LBOs was 4.2x, versus 4.7x for large capitalization LBOs. This reduced leverage provides further cushion for borrowers to meet debt service obligations.

Therefore, we believe that there is an attractive opportunity to invest in senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities of leveraged companies, and that we are well positioned to serve this market.

Competitive Advantages and Strategy

We believe that we have the following competitive advantages over other providers of financing to leveraged companies. See Business Competitive Advantages and Strategy.

Table of Contents

Management Expertise

As managing partner, Mr. Gross has principal management responsibility for Solar Capital Partners, to which he currently dedicates substantially all of his time. Mr. Gross has over 20 years of experience in leveraged finance, private equity and distressed debt investing. Mr. Spohler, our chief operating officer and a partner of Solar Capital Partners, has over 20 years of experience in evaluating and executing leverage finance transactions. We believe that Messrs. Gross and Spohler have developed a strong reputation in the capital markets, and that this experience provides us with a competitive advantage in identifying and investing in leveraged companies with the potential to generate returns.

In addition to Messrs. Gross and Spohler, Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals include Messrs. Gerson, Henley and Mait, each of whom has extensive experience in originating, evaluating and structuring investments in the types of middle-market companies we currently target. Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals have an average of over 20 years of experience in the private equity and leveraged lending industries.

Investment Portfolio

Our portfolio investments consist of portfolio companies that have strong cash flows and have maintained financial and operating performance despite the recent economic climate. As of December 31, 2010, over 99.3% of our total portfolio value was comprised of performing assets. The majority of our assets have been seasoned, which has allowed us to gain a solid understanding of our borrowers and the industries in which they compete.

Investment Capacity

The proceeds from our initial public offering and the Concurrent Private Placement, the borrowing capacity under our credit facilities and our \$35 million senior secured term loan (the "Term Loan"), and the expected repayments of existing investments provide us with a substantial amount of capital available for deployment into new investment opportunities. We believe we are well positioned for the current marketplace.

Solar Capital's Limited Leverage

As of March 17, 2011, we had outstanding borrowings of \$77.7 million. We believe our relatively low level of leverage provides us with a competitive advantage, allowing us to anticipate providing a consistent dividend to our investors as proceeds from our investments are available for reinvestment as opposed to being consumed by debt repayment. We may increase our relative level of debt in the future. However, we do not currently anticipate operating with a substantial amount of debt relative to our total assets.

Proprietary Sourcing and Origination

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

We believe that Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals' longstanding relationships with financial sponsors, commercial and investment banks, management teams and other financial intermediaries provide us with a strong pipeline of proprietary origination opportunities. We believe the broad expertise of Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals and their ability to draw upon their average of 20 years of investment experience enable us to identify, assess and structure investments successfully. We expect to continue leveraging the relationships Mr. Gross established while sourcing and originating investments at Apollo Investment Corporation as well as the financial sponsor relationships Mr. Spohler developed while he was a co-head of CIBC World Markets' U.S. Leveraged Finance Group.

Since our inception, Solar Capital Partners has sourced investments in 62 different portfolio companies for Solar Capital, which investments involved an aggregate of more than 50 different financial sponsors, through December 31, 2010.

Table of Contents

Versatile Transaction Structuring and Flexibility of Capital

We believe our senior investment professionals' broad expertise and ability to draw upon their extensive experience enable us to identify, assess and structure investments successfully across all levels of a company's capital structure and to manage potential risk and return at all stages of the economic cycle. While we are subject to significant regulation as a BDC, we are not subject to many of the regulatory limitations that govern traditional lending institutions such as banks. As a result, we believe that we can be more flexible than such lending institutions in selecting and structuring investments, adjusting investment criteria, transaction structures and, in some cases, the types of securities in which we invest. We believe financial sponsors, management teams and investment banks see this flexibility as a benefit, making us an attractive financing partner.

Emphasis on Achieving Strong Risk-Adjusted Returns

Solar Capital Partners uses a disciplined investment and risk management process that emphasizes a rigorous fundamental research and analysis framework. Solar Capital Partners seeks to build our portfolio on a bottom-up basis, choosing and sizing individual positions based on their relative risk/reward profiles as a function of the associated downside risk, volatility, correlation with the existing portfolio and liquidity. At the same time, Solar Capital Partners takes into consideration a variety of factors in managing our portfolio and imposes portfolio-based risk constraints promoting a more diverse portfolio of investments and limiting issuer and industry concentration. Our value-oriented investment philosophy focuses on preserving capital and ensuring that our investments have an appropriate return profile in relation to risk. When market conditions make it difficult for us to invest according to our criteria, we are highly selective in deploying our capital. We do not pursue short-term origination targets. We believe this approach enables us to build an attractive investment portfolio that meets our return and value criteria over the long term.

We believe it is critical to conduct extensive due diligence on investment targets. In evaluating new investments we, through Solar Capital Partners, conduct a rigorous due diligence process that draws upon investment experience, industry expertise and network of contacts of our senior investment professionals, as well as the other members of our investment team.

Deep Industry Focus with Substantial Information Flow

We concentrate our investing activities in industries characterized by strong cash flow and in which Solar Capital Partners' investment professionals have deep investment experience. During his time with the Apollo entities, Mr. Gross oversaw investments in over 200 companies in 20 industries. As a result of their investment experience, Messrs. Gross and Spohler, together with Solar Capital Partners' other investment professionals, have long-term relationships with management consultants and management teams in the industries we target, as well as substantial information concerning those industries. The investment team led by Messrs. Gross and Spohler has invested in 62 different portfolio companies for Solar Capital, which investments involved an aggregate of more than 50 different financial sponsors, through December 31, 2010.

Longer Investment Horizon

Unlike private equity and venture capital funds, we will not be subject to standard periodic capital return requirements. Such requirements typically stipulate that the capital of these funds, together with any capital gains on such invested funds, can only be invested once and must be returned to investors after a pre-agreed time period. We believe that our flexibility to make investments with a long-term view and without the capital return requirements of traditional private investment vehicles provides us with the opportunity to generate favorable returns on invested

capital and enables us to be a better long-term partner for our portfolio companies.

Table of Contents

Risk Factors

The value of our assets, as well as the market price of our shares, will fluctuate. Our investments may be risky, and you may lose all or part of your investment in us. Investing in Solar Capital involves other risks, including the following:

We are dependent upon Solar Capital Partners' key personnel for our future success;

We operate in a highly competitive market for investment opportunities;

The lack of liquidity in our investments may adversely affect our business;

We may borrow money, which would magnify the potential for gain or loss on amounts invested and may increase the risk of investing in us;

To the extent we use debt to finance our investments, changes in interest rates will affect our cost of capital and net investment income;

There will be uncertainty as to the value of our portfolio investments;

We may experience fluctuations in our quarterly results;

We will become subject to corporate-level income tax on all of our income if we are unable to qualify as a regulated investment company, or RIC, under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, which we refer to as the Code, which would have a material adverse effect on our financial performance;

We cannot assure you that shares of our common stock will not trade at a market price below our net asset value per share;

The net asset value per share of our common stock may be diluted if we sell shares of our common stock in one or more offerings at prices below the then current net asset value per share of our common stock or securities convertible into shares of our common stock;

Our common stock price may be volatile and may decrease substantially;

There is a risk that our stockholders may not receive distributions or that our distributions may not grow over time;

Sales of substantial amounts of our common stock in the public market may have an adverse effect on the market price of our common stock; and

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Regulations governing our operation as a BDC affect our ability to, and the way in which we, raise additional capital. As a BDC, the necessity of raising additional capital may expose us to risks, including the typical risks associated with leverage.

See **Risk Factors** beginning on page 17 and the other information included in this prospectus, for additional discussion of factors you should carefully consider before deciding to invest in shares of our common stock.

Table of Contents

Operating and Regulatory Structure

Immediately prior to the pricing of our initial public offering, Solar Capital LLC was merged with and into Solar Capital Ltd., a Maryland corporation that is an externally managed, non-diversified closed-end management investment company which has elected to be treated as a BDC under the 1940 Act. As a BDC, we are required to meet regulatory tests, including the requirement to invest at least 70% of our total assets in qualifying assets. Qualifying assets generally include, among other things, securities of eligible portfolio companies. Eligible portfolio companies generally include U.S. companies that are not investment companies and that do not have securities listed on a national exchange. See Regulation as a Business Development Company. We may also borrow funds to make investments. In addition, we intend to elect to be treated for federal income tax purposes, and intend to qualify annually thereafter, as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code. See Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations.

Our investment activities are managed by Solar Capital Partners and supervised by our board of directors. Solar Capital Partners is an investment adviser that is registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended, or the Advisers Act. Under our investment advisory and management agreement, which we refer to as the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, we have agreed to pay Solar Capital Partners an annual base management fee based on our gross assets as well as an incentive fee based on our performance. See Investment Advisory and Management Agreement. We have also entered into an administration agreement, which we refer to as the Administration Agreement, under which we have agreed to reimburse Solar Capital Management for the allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by Solar Capital Management in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, including furnishing us with office facilities, equipment and clerical, bookkeeping and record keeping services at such facilities, as well as providing us with other administrative services. See Administration Agreement.

Our Corporate Information

Our offices are located at 500 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10022, and our telephone number is (212) 993-1670.

Table of Contents

OFFERINGS

We may offer, from time to time, in one or more offerings or series, up to \$1,000,000,000 of our common stock, preferred stock, debt securities, units, purchase contracts or warrants representing rights to purchase shares of our common stock, preferred stock or debt securities, on terms to be determined at the time of the offering. We will offer our securities at prices and on terms to be set forth in one or more supplements to this prospectus.

At our 2011 Annual Stockholders Meeting, subject to certain determinations required to be made by our board of directors, we will seek the approval of our stockholders to provide us with the ability to sell or otherwise issue shares of our common stock at a price below the then current net asset value per share during a period beginning in June 2011 and expiring on the earlier of the one-year anniversary of the date of the 2011 Annual Stockholders Meeting and the date of our 2012 Annual Stockholders Meeting, which is expected to be held in June 2012. We cannot assure you that our stockholders will approve this proposal. However, to the extent we receive the necessary stockholder approval to sell shares of our common stock at a price below the then current net asset value per share, any such issuance of shares of our common stock below net asset value may be dilutive to the net asset value of our common stock. See **Risk Factors** **Risks Relating to an Investment in Our Securities** and **Sales of Common Stock Below Net Asset Value**.

The securities may be offered directly to one or more purchasers, or through agents designated from time to time by us, or to or through underwriters or dealers. The prospectus supplement relating to an offering will identify any agents or underwriters involved in the sale of the securities, and will disclose any applicable purchase price, fee, commission or discount arrangement between us and our agents or underwriters or among our underwriters or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated. See **Plan of Distribution**. We may not sell any of the securities through agents, underwriters or dealers without delivery of this prospectus and a prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the offering of such securities.

Set forth below is additional information regarding offerings of our common stock:

Use of Proceeds	Unless otherwise specified in a prospectus supplement, we intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of our securities for general corporate purposes, which includes, among other things, (a) investing in portfolio companies in accordance with our investment objective and strategies and market conditions and (b) repaying indebtedness. Each supplement to this prospectus relating to an offering will more fully identify the use of the proceeds from such offering. See Use of Proceeds .
-----------------	--

NASDAQ Global Select Market symbol	SLRC
------------------------------------	------

Distributions	To the extent that we have income available, we intend to distribute quarterly dividends to our stockholders. The amount of our dividends, if any, will be determined by our board of directors. Any dividends to our stockholders will be declared out of assets legally available for distribution. The specific tax characteristics of our dividends will be reported to shareholders after the end of each calendar year. We may issue preferred stock from time to time, although we have no immediate intention to do so. If we issue shares of preferred stock, holders of such preferred stock will be entitled to receive cash dividends at an annual rate that will be fixed or will vary for the successive dividend periods for each series. In general, the dividend periods for fixed rate preferred stock will be quarterly.
---------------	---

Table of Contents

Taxation	We intend to elect to be treated for federal income tax purposes, and intend to qualify annually thereafter, as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code. As a RIC, we generally will not have to pay corporate-level federal income taxes on any ordinary income or capital gains that we distribute to our stockholders as dividends. To obtain and maintain our RIC tax treatment, we must meet specified source-of-income and asset diversification requirements and distribute annually at least 90% of our ordinary income and realized net short-term capital gains in excess of realized net long-term capital losses, if any. See Plan of Distribution and Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations in this prospectus.
Leverage	We have historically and will in the future borrow funds to make investments. As a result, we will be exposed to the risks of leverage, which may be considered a speculative investment technique. The use of leverage magnifies the potential for gain and loss on amounts invested and therefore increases the risks associated with investing in our securities. In addition, the costs associated with our borrowings, including any increase in the management fee payable to our investment adviser, Solar Capital Partners, will be borne by our common stockholders.
Investment Advisory Fees	We pay Solar Capital Partners a fee for its services under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement consisting of two components a base management fee and an incentive fee. The base management fee is calculated at an annual rate of 2.00% of our gross assets, which includes any borrowings for investment purposes. The incentive fee consists of two parts. The first part is calculated and payable quarterly in arrears and equals 20% of our pre-incentive fee net investment income for the immediately preceding quarter, subject to a preferred return, or hurdle, and a catch up feature. The second part is determined and payable in arrears as of the end of each calendar year (or upon termination of the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement) in an amount equal to 20% of our realized capital gains, if any, on a cumulative basis from inception through the end of each calendar year, computed net of all realized capital losses and unrealized capital depreciation on a cumulative basis, less the aggregate amount of any previously paid capital gain incentive fees. See Investment Advisory and Management Agreement in this prospectus.
Administration Agreement	We reimburse Solar Capital Management for the allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by Solar Capital Management in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, including furnishing us with office facilities, equipment and clerical, bookkeeping and record keeping services at such facilities, as well as providing us with other administrative services. In addition, we reimburse Solar Capital Management for the fees and expenses associated with performing compliance functions, and our allocable

Table of Contents

portion of the compensation of our chief financial officer and any administrative support staff. See Administration Agreement in this prospectus.

Trading

Shares of closed-end investment companies frequently trade at a discount to their net asset value. The risk that our shares may trade at a discount to our net asset value is separate and distinct from the risk that our net asset value per share may decline. We cannot predict whether our shares will trade above, at or below net asset value.

License Agreement

We have entered into a license agreement with Solar Capital Partners, pursuant to which Solar Capital Partners has agreed to grant us a non-exclusive license to use the name Solar Capital. See License Agreement in this prospectus.

Dividend Reinvestment Plan

We have adopted an opt out dividend reinvestment plan. If your shares of common stock are registered in your own name, your distributions will automatically be reinvested under our dividend reinvestment plan in additional whole and fractional shares of common stock, unless you opt out of our dividend reinvestment plan so as to receive cash dividends by delivering a written notice to our plan administrator. If your shares are held in the name of a broker or other nominee, you should contact the broker or nominee for details regarding opting out of our dividend reinvestment plan. Stockholders who receive distributions in the form of stock will be subject to the same federal, state and local tax consequences as stockholders who elect to receive their distributions in cash. See Dividend Reinvestment Plan in this prospectus.

Certain Anti-Takeover Measures

Our charter and bylaws, as well as certain statutory and regulatory requirements, contain certain provisions that may have the effect of discouraging a third party from making an acquisition proposal for us. These anti-takeover provisions may inhibit a change in control in circumstances that could give the holders of our common stock the opportunity to realize a premium over the market price for our common stock. See Description of Our Capital Stock in this prospectus.

Available Information

We are required to file periodic reports, current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. This information is available at the SEC's public reference room at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20549 and on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. The public may obtain information on the operation of the SEC's public reference room by calling the SEC at (202) 551-8090. This information is also available free of charge by contacting us at Solar Capital Ltd., 500 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022, by telephone at (212) 993-1670 or on our website at <http://www.solarcapltd.com>.

Table of Contents**FEES AND EXPENSES**

The following table is intended to assist you in understanding the costs and expenses that you will bear directly or indirectly. We caution you that some of the percentages indicated in the table below are estimates and may vary. Except where the context suggests otherwise, whenever this prospectus contains a reference to fees or expenses paid by us or Solar Capital, or that we will pay fees or expenses, you will indirectly bear such fees or expenses as an investor in Solar Capital Ltd.

Stockholder transaction expenses:

Sales load borne by us (as a percentage of offering price)	%(1)
Offering expenses borne by us (as a percentage of offering price)	%(2)
Dividend reinvestment plan expenses	None(3)

Total stockholder transaction expenses (as a percentage of offering price)	%(2)
--	------

Annual expenses (as a percentage of net assets attributable to common stock):

Base management fee	2.21%(4)
Incentive fees payable under our Investment Advisory and Management Agreement	2.09%(5)
Interest payments on borrowed funds	1.00%(6)
Other expenses (estimated)	0.63%(7)

Total annual expenses (estimated)	5.93%
-----------------------------------	-------

Example

The following example demonstrates the projected dollar amount of total cumulative expenses that would be incurred over various periods with respect to a hypothetical investment in our common stock. In calculating the following expense amounts, we have assumed that our annual operating expenses would remain at the levels set forth in the table above and have excluded performance-based incentive fees. See Note 6 below for additional information regarding certain assumptions regarding our level of leverage. In the event that shares to which this prospectus relates are sold to or through underwriters, a corresponding prospectus supplement will restate this example to reflect the applicable sales load.

	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
You would pay the following expenses on a \$1,000 investment, assuming a 5% annual return	\$ 38	\$ 117	\$ 197	\$ 405

- (1) In the event that the shares of common stock to which this prospectus relates are sold to or through underwriters, a corresponding prospectus supplement will disclose the applicable sales load and the Example will be updated accordingly.
- (2) The prospectus supplement corresponding to each offering will disclose the applicable offering expenses and total stockholder transaction expenses.
- (3) The expenses of the dividend reinvestment plan are included in other expenses.
- (4) Our base management fee under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement is based on our gross assets, which is defined as all the assets of Solar Capital, including those acquired using borrowings for investment purposes, and assumes the base management fee remains consistent with fees incurred for the year ended December 31, 2010. See Investment Advisory and Management Agreement.
- (5) Assumes that annual incentive fees earned by our investment adviser, Solar Capital Partners, remain consistent with the incentive fees earned by Solar Capital Partners for the year ended December 31, 2010. The incentive fee consists of two parts:

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

The first part, which was payable quarterly in arrears, equals 20% of the excess, if any, of our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income that exceeds a 1.75% quarterly (7.00% annualized) hurdle rate, which we refer to as the Hurdle, subject to a catch-up provision measured at the end of each calendar quarter. The first part of the incentive fee is computed and paid on income that may include interest that is accrued but not yet received in cash. The operation of the first part of the incentive fee for each quarter is as follows:

no incentive fee is payable to our investment adviser in any calendar quarter in which our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income does not exceed the Hurdle of 1.75%;

Table of Contents

100% of our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income with respect to that portion of such Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income, if any, that exceeds the Hurdle but is less than 2.1875% in any calendar quarter (8.75% annualized) is payable to our investment adviser. We refer to this portion of our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income (which exceeds the Hurdle but is less than 2.1875%) as the catch-up. The catch-up is meant to provide our investment adviser with 20% of our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income, as if a Hurdle did not apply when our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income exceeds 2.1875% in any calendar quarter; and 20% of the amount of our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income, if any, that exceeds 2.1875% in any calendar quarter (8.75% annualized) is payable to our investment adviser (once the Hurdle is reached and the catch-up is achieved, 20% of all Pre-Incentive Fee Investment Income thereafter is allocated to our investment adviser).

The second part of the incentive fee equals 20% of our Incentive Fee Capital Gains, if any, which equals our realized capital gains on a cumulative basis from inception through the end of each calendar year, computed net of all realized capital losses and unrealized capital depreciation on a cumulative basis, less the aggregate amount of any previously paid capital gain incentive fees. The second part of the incentive fee is payable, in arrears, at the end of each calendar year (or upon termination of the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, as of the termination date). For a more detailed discussion of the calculation of this fee, see Investment Advisory and Management Agreement.

- (6) We may borrow funds from time to time to make investments to the extent we determine that the economic situation is conducive to doing so. The costs associated with our outstanding borrowings are indirectly born by our investors. For purposes of this section, we have computed interest expense using the average balance outstanding for all borrowings during the year ended December 31, 2010. We used the LIBOR rate on December 31, 2010 and the interest rate on our revolving credit facilities and our Term Loan. We have also included the estimated amortization of fees incurred in establishing our revolving credit facilities and our Term Loan. Additionally, we included the estimated cost of commitment fees for unused balances on our revolving credit facilities. As of December 31, 2010, we had \$400 million outstanding and \$55 million remaining available to us under our revolving credit facilities and we had \$35 million outstanding under our Term Loan. We may also issue preferred stock, subject to our compliance with applicable requirements under the 1940 Act.
- (7) Other expenses are based on the amounts incurred for the year ended December 31, 2010 and include our overhead expenses, including payments under our Administration Agreement based on our allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by Solar Capital Management in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement. See Administration Agreement.

The example and the expenses in the tables above should not be considered a representation of our future expenses, and actual expenses may be greater or less than those shown. While the example assumes, as required by the SEC, a 5% annual return, our performance will vary and may result in a return greater or less than 5%. The incentive fee under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, which, assuming a 5% annual return, would either not be payable or would have an insignificant impact on the expense amounts shown above, is not included in the example. This illustration assumes that we will not realize any capital gains (computed net of all realized capital losses and unrealized capital depreciation) in any of the indicated time periods. If we achieve sufficient returns on our investments, including through the realization of capital gains, to trigger an incentive fee of a material amount, our expenses and returns to our investors would be higher. For example, if we assumed that we received our 5% annual return completely in the form of net realized capital gains on our investments, computed net of all cumulative unrealized depreciation on our investments, the projected dollar amount of total cumulative expenses set forth in the above illustration would be as follows:

	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
You would pay the following expenses on a \$1,000 investment, assuming a 5% annual return	\$ 48	\$ 146	\$ 243	\$ 488

Table of Contents

In addition, the example assumes no sales load. Also, while the example assumes reinvestment of all dividends at net asset value, participants in our dividend reinvestment plan will receive a number of shares of our common stock, determined by dividing the total dollar amount of the dividend payable to a participant by the market price per share of our common stock at the close of trading on the dividend payment date, which may be at, above or below net asset value. See [Dividend Reinvestment Plan](#) for additional information regarding our dividend reinvestment plan.

Table of Contents**SELECTED FINANCIAL AND OTHER DATA**

The selected financial and other data below should be read in conjunction with our Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and the financial statements and notes thereto. Financial information is presented for the period from March 13, 2007 (inception) through December 31, 2007, for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2008, 2009 and 2010. Financial information for the periods ending 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 has been derived from our financial statements that were audited by KPMG LLP (KPMG), an independent registered public accounting firm. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and Senior Securities below for more information.

	Year ended December 31, 2010	Year ended December 31, 2009	Year ended December 31, 2008	Period from March 13, 2007 (inception) through December 31, 2007
	(dollars in thousands)	(dollars in thousands)	(dollars in thousands)	(dollars in thousands)
Income statement data:				
Total investment income	\$ 124,641	\$ 109,670	\$ 133,959	\$ 78,455
Total expenses	55,429	42,408	46,560	25,461
Net investment income	69,212	67,262	87,399	52,994
Net realized gain (loss)	(38,968)	(264,898)	(937)	(10,489)
Net change in unrealized gain (loss)	111,641	284,572	(492,290)	6,595
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	141,885	86,936	(405,828)	49,100
Other data (unaudited):				
Weighted average annualized yield on income producing investments:				
On fair value(1)(4)	14.3%	14.8%	17.1%	12.9%
On cost(2)(4)	13.8%	13.7%	11.9%	12.7%
Number of portfolio companies at period end(4)	36	36	44	38
	As of December 31, 2010	As of December 31, 2009	As of December 31, 2008	As of December 31, 2007
	(dollars in thousands)	(dollars in thousands)	(dollars in thousands)	(dollars in thousands)
Balance sheet data:				
Total investment portfolio	\$ 976,221	\$ 863,140	\$ 768,215	\$ 1,178,736
Total cash and cash equivalents	288,732	5,675	65,841	169,692
Total assets	1,291,791	885,421	873,026	1,396,545
Credit facilities payable	400,000	88,114		
Senior secured term loan	35,000			
Senior unsecured notes(5)				
Net assets	826,994	697,903	852,673	1,258,501
Per share data:(3)				
Net asset value per share	22.73	21.24	25.95	38.30
Net investment income	2.08	2.05	2.66	1.62
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	2.19	0.60	(15.01)	(0.12)
Dividends and distributions declared	2.14	7.36		

Table of Contents

- (1) Throughout this document, the weighted average yield on income producing investments is computed as the (a) annual stated interest on accruing loans and debt securities plus the annual amortization of loan origination fees, original issue discount, and market discount on accruing loans and debt securities, plus the effective interest yield on preferred shares divided by (b) total income producing investments at fair value. The weighted average yield is computed as of the balance sheet date and excludes assets on non-accrual status or on a cost recovery basis as of such date.
- (2) For this calculation, the weighted average yield on income producing investments is computed as the (a) annual stated interest on accruing loans and debt securities plus the annual amortization of loan origination fees, original issue discount, and market discount on accruing loans and debt securities, plus the effective interest yield on preferred shares divided by (b) total income producing investments at cost. The weighted average yield is computed as of the balance sheet date and excludes assets on non-accrual status or on a cost recovery basis as of such date.
- (3) The number of shares used to calculate weighted average shares for use in computations on a per share basis have been decreased retroactively by a factor of approximately 0.4022 for all periods prior to February 9, 2010. This factor represents the effective impact of the reduction in shares resulting from the Solar Capital Merger. The per share calculations are based on 32,860,454 weighted average shares outstanding as of December 31, 2009, 2008, and 2007 and 33,258,402 weighted average shares outstanding as of December 31, 2010.
- (4) Unaudited.
- (5) As of December 17, 2010, all of the Senior Unsecured Notes had been repaid.

Selected Quarterly Financial Data (Unaudited)**(dollar amounts in thousands, except per share data)**

	2010			
	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1
Total investment income	\$ 31,644	\$ 29,403	\$ 28,284	\$ 35,310
Net investment income (loss)	\$ 17,384	\$ 15,551	\$ 15,166	\$ 21,111
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	\$ 24,974	\$ 5,458	\$ 1,348	\$ 40,893
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	\$ 42,358	\$ 21,009	\$ 16,514	\$ 62,004
Earnings per share(1)	\$ 1.24	\$ 0.63	\$ 0.50	\$ 1.90
Net asset value per share at the end of the quarter(2)	\$ 22.73	\$ 22.09	\$ 22.07	\$ 22.18
	2009			
	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1
Total investment income	\$ 28,456	\$ 27,785	\$ 25,252	\$ 28,177
Net investment income (loss)	\$ 17,685	\$ 16,383	\$ 16,099	\$ 17,095
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	\$ 22,271	\$ 22,181	\$ 17,899	\$ (42,677)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	\$ 39,956	\$ 38,564	\$ 33,998	\$ (25,582)
Earnings per share(3)	\$ 1.23	\$ 1.17	\$ 1.03	\$ (0.78)
Net asset value per share at the end of the quarter(4)	\$ 21.24	\$ 22.30	\$ 23.61	\$ 22.57
	2008			
	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1
Total investment income	\$ 38,035	\$ 32,464	\$ 32,367	\$ 31,093
Net investment income (loss)	\$ 22,080	\$ 21,990	\$ 21,305	\$ 22,024
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	\$ (339,193)	\$ (108,641)	\$ 17,680	\$ (63,073)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	\$ (317,113)	\$ (86,651)	\$ 38,985	\$ (41,049)
Earnings per share(3)	\$ (9.65)	\$ (2.64)	\$ 1.19	\$ (1.25)
Net asset value per share at the end of the quarter(4)	\$ 25.95	\$ 35.60	\$ 38.24	\$ 37.05

Table of Contents

- (1) Based on 34,267,088, 33,165,867, 33,029,516 and 32,553,322 weighted average shares of Solar Capital Ltd. outstanding during each of the fourth, third, second and first quarters of 2010, respectively.
- (2) Based on 36,383,158, 33,168,872, 33,030,641 and 32,928,257 shares of Solar Capital Ltd. outstanding as of the end of the fourth, third, second and first quarter of 2010, respectively.
- (3) Based on 32,860,454 weighted average shares of Solar Capital Ltd. outstanding during each respective quarter.
- (4) Based on 32,860,454 shares of Solar Capital Ltd. outstanding as of the end of the respective quarter.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

Before you invest in our securities, you should be aware of various risks, including those described below. You should carefully consider these risk factors, together with all of the other information included in this prospectus, before you decide whether to make an investment in our securities. The risks set out below are not the only risks we face. If any of the following events occur, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be materially adversely affected. In such case, our net asset value and the trading price of our common stock could decline or the value of our preferred stock, debt securities, units, purchase contracts or warrants may decline, and you may lose all or part of your investment.

Risks Related to Our Investments

We operate in a highly competitive market for investment opportunities.

A number of entities compete with us to make the types of investments that we target in leveraged companies. We compete with other BDCs, public and private funds, commercial and investment banks, commercial financing companies and, to the extent they provide an alternative form of financing, private equity funds. Many of our competitors are substantially larger and have considerably greater financial, technical and marketing resources than we do. For example, some competitors may have a lower cost of funds and access to funding sources that are not available to us. In addition, some of our competitors may have higher risk tolerances or different risk assessments than we do, which could allow them to consider a wider variety of investments and establish more relationships than us. Furthermore, many of our competitors are not subject to the regulatory restrictions that the 1940 Act imposes on us. We cannot assure you that the competitive pressures we face will not have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. Also, as a result of this competition, we may not be able to take advantage of attractive investment opportunities from time to time, and we can offer no assurance that we will be able to identify and make investments that are consistent with our investment objective.

We do not seek to compete primarily based on the interest rates we will offer, and we believe that some of our competitors may make loans with interest rates that will be comparable to or lower than the rates we offer. We may lose investment opportunities if we do not match our competitors' pricing, terms and structure. However, if we match our competitors' pricing, terms and structure, we may experience decreased net interest income and increased risk of credit loss.

Our investments are very risky and highly speculative.

We invest primarily in senior secured term loans, mezzanine debt and select equity investments issued by leveraged companies.

Senior Secured Loans. When we make a senior secured term loan investment in a portfolio company, we generally take a security interest in the available assets of the portfolio company, including the equity interests of its subsidiaries, which we expect to help mitigate the risk that we will not be repaid. However, there is a risk that the collateral securing our loans may decrease in value over time, may be difficult to sell in a timely manner, may be difficult to appraise and may fluctuate in value based upon the success of the business and market conditions, including as a result of the inability of the portfolio company to raise additional capital, and, in some circumstances, our lien could be subordinated to claims of other creditors. In addition, deterioration in a portfolio company's financial condition and prospects, including its inability to raise additional capital, may be accompanied by deterioration in the value of the collateral for the loan. Consequently, the fact that a loan is secured

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

does not guarantee that we will receive principal and interest payments according to the loan's terms, or at all, or that we will be able to collect on the loan should we be forced to enforce our remedies.

Mezzanine Loans. Our mezzanine debt investments are generally subordinated to senior loans and are generally unsecured. As such, other creditors may rank senior to us in the event of an insolvency. This may result in an above average amount of risk and loss of principal.

Table of Contents

Equity Investments. When we invest in senior secured loans or mezzanine loans, we may acquire equity securities as well. In addition, we may invest directly in the equity securities of portfolio companies. Our goal is ultimately to dispose of such equity interests and realize gains upon our disposition of such interests. However, the equity interests we receive may not appreciate in value and, in fact, may decline in value. Accordingly, we may not be able to realize gains from our equity interests, and any gains that we do realize on the disposition of any equity interests may not be sufficient to offset any other losses we experience.

In addition, investing in middle-market companies involves a number of significant risks, including:

these companies may have limited financial resources and may be unable to meet their obligations under their debt securities that we hold, which may be accompanied by a deterioration in the value of any collateral and a reduction in the likelihood of us realizing any guarantees we may have obtained in connection with our investment;

they typically have shorter operating histories, narrower product lines and smaller market shares than larger businesses, which tend to render them more vulnerable to competitors' actions and market conditions, as well as general economic downturns;

they are more likely to depend on the management talents and efforts of a small group of persons; therefore, the death, disability, resignation or termination of one or more of these persons could have a material adverse impact on our portfolio company and, in turn, on us;

they generally have less predictable operating results, may from time to time be parties to litigation, may be engaged in rapidly changing businesses with products subject to a substantial risk of obsolescence, and may require substantial additional capital to support their operations, finance expansion or maintain their competitive position. In addition, our executive officers, directors and our investment adviser may, in the ordinary course of business, be named as defendants in litigation arising from our investments in the portfolio companies; and

they may have difficulty accessing the capital markets to meet future capital needs, which may limit their ability to grow or to repay their outstanding indebtedness upon maturity.

The lack of liquidity in our investments may adversely affect our business.

We generally make investments in private companies. Substantially all of these securities are subject to legal and other restrictions on resale or will otherwise be less liquid than publicly traded securities. The illiquidity of our investments may make it difficult for us to sell such investments if the need arises. In addition, if we are required to liquidate all or a portion of our portfolio quickly, we may realize significantly less than the value at which we have previously recorded our investments. In addition, we may face other restrictions on our ability to liquidate an investment in a portfolio company to the extent that we have material non-public information regarding such portfolio company.

Our portfolio may be concentrated in a limited number of portfolio companies and industries, which will subject us to a risk of significant loss if any of these companies defaults on its obligations under any of its debt instruments or if there is a downturn in a particular industry.

Our portfolio may be concentrated in a limited number of portfolio companies and industries. Beyond the asset diversification requirements associated with our qualification as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code, we do not have fixed guidelines for diversification, and while we are

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

not targeting any specific industries, our investments may be concentrated in relatively few industries. As a result, the aggregate returns we realize may be significantly adversely affected if a small number of investments perform poorly or if we need to write down the value of any one investment. Additionally, a downturn in any particular industry in which we are invested could also significantly impact the aggregate returns we realize.

Table of Contents

Capital markets were recently in a period of disruption and instability. These market conditions materially and adversely affected debt and equity capital markets in the United States and abroad, which had, and may in the future have, a negative impact on our business and operations.

The global capital markets were recently in a period of disruption as evidenced by a lack of liquidity in the debt capital markets, significant write-offs in the financial services sector, the re-pricing of credit risk in the broadly syndicated credit market and the failure of certain major financial institutions. Despite actions of the United States federal government and foreign governments, these events contributed to worsening general economic conditions that materially and adversely impacted the broader financial and credit markets and reduced the availability of debt and equity capital for the market as a whole and financial services firms in particular. These conditions may return in the future. If these conditions return, we and other companies in the financial services sector may have to access, if available, alternative markets for debt and equity capital. In such situations, equity capital may be difficult to raise because, subject to some limited exceptions which as of the date of this prospectus apply to us, as a BDC we are generally not able to issue additional shares of our common stock at a price less than net asset value without first obtaining approval for such issuance from our stockholders and our independent directors. At our 2011 Annual Stockholders Meeting, subject to certain determinations required to be made by our board of directors, we will seek the approval of our stockholders to provide us with the ability to sell or otherwise issue shares of our common stock at a price below the then current net asset value per share during a period beginning in June 2011 and expiring on the earlier of the one-year anniversary of the date of the 2011 Annual Stockholders Meeting and the date of our 2012 Annual Stockholders Meeting, which is expected to be held in June 2012. We cannot assure you that our stockholders will approve this proposal. In addition, our ability to incur indebtedness (including by issued preferred stock) is limited by applicable regulations such that our asset coverage, as defined in the 1940 Act, must equal at least 200% immediately after each time we incur indebtedness. The debt capital that will be available, if at all, may be at a higher cost and on less favorable terms and conditions in the future. Any inability to raise capital could have a negative effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

The illiquidity of our investments may make it difficult for us to sell such investments if required. As a result, we may realize significantly less than the value at which we have recorded our investments. In addition, significant changes in the capital markets, including the recent extreme volatility and disruption, have had, and may in the future have, a negative effect on the valuations of our investments and on the potential for liquidity events involving our investments. An inability to raise capital, and any required sale of our investments for liquidity purposes, could have a material adverse impact on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Economic recessions or downturns could impair our portfolio companies and harm our operating results.

During portions of fiscal 2010, the economy was in the midst of a recession and in a difficult part of a credit cycle. Many of our portfolio companies may be susceptible to economic slowdowns or recessions and may be unable to repay our loans during these periods. Therefore, our non-performing assets may increase and the value of our portfolio may decrease during these periods as we are required to record the values of our investments. Adverse economic conditions also may decrease the value of collateral securing some of our loans and the value of our equity investments at fair value. Economic slowdowns or recessions could lead to financial losses in our portfolio and a decrease in revenues, net income and assets. Unfavorable economic conditions also could increase our funding costs, limit our access to the capital markets or result in a decision by lenders not to extend credit to us. These events could prevent us from increasing investments and harm our operating results.

A portfolio company's failure to satisfy financial or operating covenants imposed by us or other lenders could lead to defaults and, potentially, acceleration of the time when the loans are due and foreclosure on its secured assets, which could trigger cross-defaults under other agreements and jeopardize the portfolio company's ability to meet its obligations under the debt that we hold. We may incur additional expenses to the extent necessary to seek recovery upon default or to negotiate new terms with a defaulting portfolio company. In

Table of Contents

addition, if one of our portfolio companies were to go bankrupt, depending on the facts and circumstances, including the extent to which we actually provided significant managerial assistance to that portfolio company, a bankruptcy court might recharacterize our debt holding and subordinate all or a portion of our claim to that of other creditors.

The effect of global climate change may impact the operations of our portfolio companies.

There may be evidence of global climate change. Climate change creates physical and financial risk and some of our portfolio companies may be adversely affected by climate change. For example, the needs of customers of energy companies vary with weather conditions, primarily temperature and humidity. To the extent weather conditions are affected by climate change, energy use could increase or decrease depending on the duration and magnitude of any changes. Increases in the cost of energy could adversely affect the cost of operations of our portfolio companies if the use of energy products or services is material to their business. A decrease in energy use due to weather changes may affect some of our portfolio companies' financial condition, through decreased revenues. Extreme weather conditions in general require more system backup, adding to costs, and can contribute to increased system stresses, including service interruptions.

Price declines and illiquidity in the corporate debt markets have adversely affected, and may continue to adversely affect, the fair value of our portfolio investments, reducing our net asset value through increased net unrealized depreciation.

As a BDC, we are required to carry our investments at market value or, if no market value is ascertainable, at fair value as determined in good faith by or under the direction of our board of directors. Decreases in the market values or fair values of our investments are recorded as unrealized depreciation. The unprecedented declines in prices and liquidity in the corporate debt markets from 2008 through mid-2010 have resulted in significant net unrealized depreciation in our portfolio, reducing our net asset value. Depending on market conditions, we could continue to incur substantial losses in future periods, which could further reduce our net asset value and have a material adverse impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our failure to make follow-on investments in our portfolio companies could impair the value of our portfolio.

Following an initial investment in a portfolio company, we may make additional investments in that portfolio company as follow-on investments, in order to: (i) increase or maintain in whole or in part our equity ownership percentage; (ii) exercise warrants, options or convertible securities that were acquired in the original or subsequent financing; or (iii) attempt to preserve or enhance the value of our investment. We may elect not to make follow-on investments or otherwise lack sufficient funds to make those investments. We will have the discretion to make any follow-on investments, subject to the availability of capital resources. The failure to make follow-on investments may, in some circumstances, jeopardize the continued viability of a portfolio company and our initial investment, or may result in a missed opportunity for us to increase our participation in a successful operation. Even if we have sufficient capital to make a desired follow-on investment, we may elect not to make a follow-on investment because we may not want to increase our concentration of risk, either because we prefer other opportunities or because we are subject to BDC requirements that would prevent such follow-on investments or the desire to maintain our RIC tax status.

Because we generally do not hold controlling equity interests in our portfolio companies, we may not be in a position to exercise control over our portfolio companies or to prevent decisions by management of our portfolio companies that could decrease the value of our investments.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Although we may do so in the future, we do not currently hold controlling equity positions in our portfolio companies. As a result, we are subject to the risk that a portfolio company may make business decisions with which we disagree, and that the management and/or stockholders of a portfolio company may take risks or

Table of Contents

otherwise act in ways that are adverse to our interests. Due to the lack of liquidity of the debt and equity investments that we typically hold in our portfolio companies, we may not be able to dispose of our investments in the event we disagree with the actions of a portfolio company and may therefore suffer a decrease in the value of our investments.

An investment strategy focused primarily on privately held companies presents certain challenges, including the lack of available information about these companies, a dependence on the talents and efforts of only a few key portfolio company personnel and a greater vulnerability to economic downturns.

We invest primarily in privately held companies. Generally, little public information exists about these companies, and we are required to rely on the ability of Solar Capital Partners' investment professionals to obtain adequate information to evaluate the potential returns from investing in these companies. If we are unable to uncover all material information about these companies, we may not make a fully informed investment decision, and we may lose money on our investments. Also, privately held companies frequently have less diverse product lines and smaller market presence than larger competitors. These factors could adversely affect our investment returns as compared to companies investing primarily in the securities of public companies.

Our portfolio companies may incur debt that ranks equally with, or senior to, our investments in such companies.

We invest primarily in senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities issued by our portfolio companies. Our portfolio companies typically have, or may be permitted to incur, other debt that ranks equally with, or senior to, the debt securities in which we invest. By their terms, such debt instruments may provide that the holders are entitled to receive payment of interest or principal on or before the dates on which we are entitled to receive payments in respect of the debt securities in which we invest. Also, in the event of insolvency, liquidation, dissolution, reorganization or bankruptcy of a portfolio company, holders of debt instruments ranking senior to our investment in that portfolio company would typically be entitled to receive payment in full before we receive any distribution in respect of our investment. After repaying such senior creditors, such portfolio company may not have any remaining assets to use for repaying its obligation to us. In the case of debt ranking equally with debt securities in which we invest, we would have to share on an equal basis any distributions with other creditors holding such debt in the event of an insolvency, liquidation, dissolution, reorganization or bankruptcy of the relevant portfolio company.

Our investments in foreign securities may involve significant risks in addition to the risks inherent in U.S. investments.

Our investment strategy contemplates potential investments in debt securities of foreign companies. Investing in foreign companies may expose us to additional risks not typically associated with investing in U.S. companies. These risks include changes in exchange control regulations, political and social instability, expropriation, imposition of foreign taxes, less liquid markets and less available information than is generally the case in the United States, higher transaction costs, less government supervision of exchanges, brokers and issuers, less developed bankruptcy laws, difficulty in enforcing contractual obligations, lack of uniform accounting and auditing standards and greater price volatility.

Although most of our investments will be U.S. dollar-denominated, any investments denominated in a foreign currency will be subject to the risk that the value of a particular currency will change in relation to one or more other currencies. Among the factors that may affect currency values are trade balances, the level of short-term interest rates, differences in relative values of similar assets in different currencies, long-term opportunities for investment and capital appreciation, and political developments. We may employ hedging techniques to minimize these risks, but we can offer no assurance that we will, in fact, hedge currency risk, or that if we do, such strategies will be effective.

Table of Contents

We may expose ourselves to risks if we engage in hedging transactions.

If we engage in hedging transactions, we may expose ourselves to risks associated with such transactions. We may utilize instruments such as forward contracts, currency options and interest rate swaps, caps, collars and floors to seek to hedge against fluctuations in the relative values of our portfolio positions from changes in currency exchange rates and market interest rates. Hedging against a decline in the values of our portfolio positions does not eliminate the possibility of fluctuations in the values of such positions or prevent losses if the values of such positions decline. However, such hedging can establish other positions designed to gain from those same developments, thereby offsetting the decline in the value of such portfolio positions. Such hedging transactions may also limit the opportunity for gain if the values of the underlying portfolio positions should increase. It may not be possible to hedge against an exchange rate or interest rate fluctuation that is so generally anticipated that we are not able to enter into a hedging transaction at an acceptable price. Moreover, for a variety of reasons, we may not seek to establish a perfect correlation between such hedging instruments and the portfolio holdings being hedged. Any such imperfect correlation may prevent us from achieving the intended hedge and expose us to risk of loss. In addition, it may not be possible to hedge fully or perfectly against currency fluctuations affecting the value of securities denominated in non-U.S. currencies because the value of those securities is likely to fluctuate as a result of factors not related to currency fluctuations.

Our investment adviser may not be able to achieve the same or similar returns as those achieved by our senior investment professionals while they were employed at prior positions.

Although in the past Mr. Gross held senior positions at a number of investment firms, including Apollo Investment Corporation and Apollo Management, L.P., Mr. Gross' track record and achievements are not necessarily indicative of future results that will be achieved by our investment adviser. In his role at such other firms, Mr. Gross was part of an investment team, and he was not solely responsible for generating investment ideas. In addition, such investment teams arrived at investment decisions by consensus.

Risks Relating to an Investment in Our Securities

Our shares may trade at a substantial discount from net asset value and may continue to do so over the long term.

Shares of closed-end investment companies have frequently traded at a market price that is less than the net asset value that is attributable to those shares. The possibility that our shares of common stock will trade at a substantial discount from net asset value over the long term is separate and distinct from the risk that our net asset value will decrease. We cannot predict whether shares of our common stock will trade above, at or below our net asset value. If our common stock trades below its net asset value, we will generally not be able to issue additional shares or sell our common stock at its market price without first obtaining the approval for such issuance from our stockholders and our independent directors. If additional funds are not available to us, we could be forced to curtail or cease our new lending and investment activities, and our net asset value could decrease and our level of distributions could be impacted.

Our common stock price may be volatile and may decrease substantially.

The trading price of our common stock may fluctuate substantially. The price of our common stock that will prevail in the market may be higher or lower than the price you pay, depending on many factors, some of which are beyond our control and may not be directly related to our operating performance. These factors include, but are not limited to, the following:

price and volume fluctuations in the overall stock market from time to time;

investor demand for our shares;

significant volatility in the market price and trading volume of securities of business development companies or other companies in our sector, which are not necessarily related to the operating performance of these companies;

Table of Contents

- changes in regulatory policies or tax guidelines with respect to RICs or business development companies;
- failure to qualify as a RIC, or the loss of RIC status;
- any shortfall in revenue or net income or any increase in losses from levels expected by investors or securities analysts;
- changes, or perceived changes, in the value of our portfolio investments;
- departures of Solar Capital Partners' key personnel;
- operating performance of companies comparable to us; or
- general economic conditions and trends and other external factors.

In the past, following periods of volatility in the market price of a company's securities, securities class action litigation has often been brought against that company. Due to the potential volatility of our stock price, we may become the target of securities litigation in the future. Securities litigation could result in substantial costs and divert management's attention and resources from our business.

There is a risk that our stockholders may not receive distributions or that our distributions may not grow over time.

We intend to make distributions on a quarterly basis to our stockholders out of assets legally available for distribution. We cannot assure you that we will achieve investment results that will allow us to make a specified level of cash distributions or year-to-year increases in cash distributions. In addition, due to the asset coverage test applicable to us as a BDC, we may be limited in our ability to make distributions.

We may choose to pay dividends in our own common stock, in which case our stockholders may be required to pay federal income taxes in excess of the cash dividends they receive.

We may distribute taxable dividends that are payable in cash or shares of our common stock at the election of each stockholder. IRS Revenue Procedure 2010-12 temporarily allows a RIC whose stock is publicly traded on an established securities market in the United States to distribute its own stock as a dividend for the purpose of fulfilling its distribution requirements. Pursuant to this revenue procedure, a RIC may treat a distribution of its own stock as fulfilling its distribution requirements if (i) the distribution is declared on or before December 31, 2012, with respect to a taxable year ending on or before December 31, 2011, and (ii) each shareholder may elect to receive his or her entire distribution in either cash or stock of the RIC subject to a limitation on the aggregate amount of cash to be distributed to all shareholders, which limitation must be at least 10% of the aggregate declared distribution. Under Revenue Procedure 2010-12, if too many shareholders elect to receive cash, each shareholder electing to receive cash will receive a pro rata amount of cash (with the balance of the distribution paid in stock). In no event will any shareholder, electing to receive cash, receive less than 10% of his or her entire distribution in cash. If the requirements of Revenue Procedure 2010-12 are met, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the amount of the dividend paid in stock will be equal to the amount of cash that could have been received instead of stock.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Where Revenue Procedure 2010-12 is not currently applicable, the Internal Revenue Service has also issued private letter rulings on cash/stock dividends paid by RICs and real estate investment trusts using a 20% cash standard (and, more recently, the 10% cash standard of Revenue Procedure 2010-12) if certain requirements are satisfied. Stockholders receiving such dividends will be required to include the full amount of the dividend (including the portion payable in stock) as ordinary income (or, in certain circumstances, long-term capital gain) to the extent of our current and accumulated earnings and profits for federal income tax purposes. As a result, stockholders may be required to pay income taxes with respect to such dividends in excess of the cash dividends received. If a U.S. stockholder sells the common stock that it receives as a dividend in order to pay this tax, the sales proceeds may be less than the amount included in income with respect to the dividend, depending on the

Table of Contents

market price of our common stock at the time of the sale. Furthermore, with respect to non-U.S. stockholders, we may be required to withhold U.S. tax with respect to such dividends, including in respect of all or a portion of such dividend that is payable in common stock. In addition, if a significant number of our stockholders determine to sell shares of our common stock in order to pay taxes owed on dividends, it may put downward pressure on the trading price of our common stock. It is unclear whether and to what extent we will be able to pay taxable dividends of the type described in this paragraph (whether pursuant to Revenue Procedure 2010-12, a private letter ruling or otherwise). For a more detailed discussion, see Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations.

Sales of substantial amounts of our common stock in the public market may have an adverse effect on the market price of our common stock.

On November 30, 2010, Messrs. Gross and Spohler jointly acquired 115,000 shares of our common stock in a private placement transaction conducted in accordance with Regulation D under the Securities Act. Such shares are being registered pursuant to a separate registration statement and will generally be available for resale upon the effectiveness of such registration statement. Each of Messrs. Gross and Spohler has agreed not to dispose of or hedge the 115,000 shares of our common stock acquired in this private placement without our prior written consent until November 30, 2011. Sales of substantial amounts of our common stock, or the availability of such common stock for sale, could adversely affect the prevailing market prices for our common stock. If this occurs and continues, it could impair our ability to raise additional capital through the sale of securities should we desire to do so.

We will have broad discretion over the use of proceeds of any offering made pursuant to this prospectus, to the extent it is successful.

We will have significant flexibility in applying the proceeds of any offering made pursuant to this prospectus. We will also pay operating expenses, and may pay other expenses such as due diligence expenses of potential new investments, from net proceeds. Our ability to achieve our investment objective may be limited to the extent that the net proceeds of the offering, pending full investment, are used to pay operating expenses. In addition, we can provide you no assurance that the current offering will be successful, or that by increasing the size of our available equity capital our aggregate expenses, and correspondingly, our expense ratio, will be lowered.

The net asset value per share of our common stock may be diluted if we sell shares of our common stock in one or more offerings at prices below the then current net asset value per share of our common stock or securities to subscribe for or convertible into shares of our common stock.

At our 2011 Annual Stockholders Meeting, subject to certain determinations required to be made by our board of directors, we will seek the approval of our stockholders to provide us with the ability to sell or otherwise issue shares of our common stock at a price below the then current net asset value per share during a period beginning in June 2011 and expiring on the earlier of the one-year anniversary of the date of the 2011 Annual Stockholders Meeting and the date of our 2012 Annual Stockholders Meeting, which is expected to be held in June 2012. We cannot assure you that our stockholders will approve this proposal.

In addition, at our 2011 Annual Stockholders Meeting, we will seek the approval of our stockholders to authorize us to sell or otherwise issue warrants or securities to subscribe for or convertible into shares of our common stock subject to certain limitations (including, without limitation, that the number of shares issuable does not exceed 25% of our then outstanding common stock and that the exercise or conversion price thereof is not, at the date of issuance, less than the greater of the market value per share and the net asset value per share of our common stock). To the extent we receive the necessary stockholder approval to sell or issue warrants or securities to subscribe for or convertible into shares of our common stock, such authorization would have no expiration.

Table of Contents

To the extent we receive the necessary stockholder approval, any decision to sell shares of our common stock below its then current net asset value per share or securities to subscribe for or convertible into shares of our common stock would be subject to the determination by our board of directors that such issuance is in our and our stockholders' best interests.

To the extent we receive the necessary stockholder approval, if we were to sell shares of our common stock below its then current net asset value per share, such sales would result in an immediate dilution to the net asset value per share of our common stock. This dilution would occur as a result of the sale of shares at a price below the then current net asset value per share of our common stock and a proportionately greater decrease in the stockholders' interest in our earnings and assets and their voting interest in us than the increase in our assets resulting from such issuance. Because the number of shares of common stock that could be so issued and the timing of any issuance is not currently known, the actual dilutive effect cannot be predicted.

In addition, to the extent we receive the necessary stockholder approval, if we issue warrants or securities to subscribe for or convertible into shares of our common stock, subject to certain limitations, the exercise or conversion price per share could be less than net asset value per share at the time of exercise or conversion (including through the operation of anti-dilution protections). Because we would incur expenses in connection with any issuance of such securities, such issuance could result in a dilution of the net asset value per share at the time of exercise or conversion. This dilution would include reduction in net asset value per share as a result of the proportionately greater decrease in the stockholders' interest in our earnings and assets and their voting interest than the increase in our assets resulting from such issuance.

Further, if our current stockholders do not purchase any shares to maintain their percentage interest, regardless of whether such offering is above or below the then current net asset value per share, their voting power will be diluted. For example, if we sell an additional 10% of our common shares at a 5% discount from net asset value, a stockholder who does not participate in that offering for its proportionate interest will suffer net asset value dilution of up to 0.5% or \$5 per \$1000 of net asset value. For additional information and hypothetical examples of these risks, see *Sale of Common Stock Below Net Asset Value* and the prospectus supplement pursuant to which such sale is made.

If we issue preferred stock, the net asset value and market value of our common stock may become more volatile.

We cannot assure you that the issuance of preferred stock would result in a higher yield or return to the holders of the common stock. The issuance of preferred stock would likely cause the net asset value and market value of the common stock to become more volatile. If the dividend rate on the preferred stock were to approach the net rate of return on our investment portfolio, the benefit of leverage to the holders of the common stock would be reduced. If the dividend rate on the preferred stock were to exceed the net rate of return on our portfolio, the leverage would result in a lower rate of return to the holders of common stock than if we had not issued preferred stock. Any decline in the net asset value of our investments would be borne entirely by the holders of common stock. Therefore, if the market value of our portfolio were to decline, the leverage would result in a greater decrease in net asset value to the holders of common stock than if we were not leveraged through the issuance of preferred stock. This greater net asset value decrease would also tend to cause a greater decline in the market price for the common stock. We might be in danger of failing to maintain the required asset coverage of the preferred stock or of losing our ratings on the preferred stock or, in an extreme case, our current investment income might not be sufficient to meet the dividend requirements on the preferred stock. In order to counteract such an event, we might need to liquidate investments in order to fund a redemption of some or all of the preferred stock. In addition, we would pay (and the holders of common stock would bear) all costs and expenses relating to the issuance and ongoing maintenance of the preferred stock, including higher advisory fees if our total return exceeds the dividend rate on the preferred stock. Holders of preferred stock may have different interests than holders of common stock and may at times have disproportionate influence over our affairs.

Table of Contents

Holders of any preferred stock we might issue would have the right to elect members of the board of directors and class voting rights on certain matters.

Holders of any preferred stock we might issue, voting separately as a single class, would have the right to elect two members of the board of directors at all times and in the event dividends become two full years in arrears would have the right to elect a majority of the directors until such arrearage is completely eliminated. In addition, preferred stockholders have class voting rights on certain matters, including changes in fundamental investment restrictions and conversion to open-end status, and accordingly can veto any such changes. Restrictions imposed on the declarations and payment of dividends or other distributions to the holders of our common stock and preferred stock, both by the 1940 Act and by requirements imposed by rating agencies or the terms of our credit facilities, might impair our ability to maintain our qualification as a RIC for federal income tax purposes. While we would intend to redeem our preferred stock to the extent necessary to enable us to distribute our income as required to maintain our qualification as a RIC, there can be no assurance that such actions could be effected in time to meet the tax requirements.

Risks Relating to Our Business and Structure

We are dependent upon Solar Capital Partners' key personnel for our future success.

We depend on the diligence, skill and network of business contacts of Messrs. Gross and Spohler, who serve as the managing member and a partner of Solar Capital Partners, respectively, and who lead Solar Capital Partners' investment team. Messrs. Gross and Spohler, together with the other dedicated investment professionals available to Solar Capital Partners, evaluate, negotiate, structure, close and monitor our investments. Our future success will depend on the continued service of Messrs. Gross and Spohler and the other investment professionals available to Solar Capital Partners. We cannot assure you that unforeseen business, medical, personal or other circumstances would not lead any such individual to terminate his relationship with us. The loss of Mr. Gross or Mr. Spohler, or any of the other senior investment professionals who serve on Solar Capital Partners' investment team, could have a material adverse effect on our ability to achieve our investment objective as well as on our financial condition and results of operations. In addition, we can offer no assurance that Solar Capital Partners will remain our investment adviser.

The senior investment professionals of Solar Capital Partners are and may in the future become affiliated with entities engaged in business activities similar to those intended to be conducted by us, and may have conflicts of interest in allocating their time. We expect that Messrs. Gross and Spohler will dedicate a significant portion of their time to the activities of Solar Capital; however, they may be engaged in other business activities which could divert their time and attention in the future.

A disruption in the capital markets and the credit markets could negatively affect our business.

As a BDC, we must maintain our ability to raise additional capital for investment purposes. Without sufficient access to the capital markets or credit markets, we may be forced to curtail our business operations or we may not be able to pursue new business opportunities. Disruptive conditions in the financial industry and the impact of new legislation in response to those conditions could restrict our business operations and could adversely impact our results of operations and financial condition.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

If the fair value of our assets declines substantially, we may fail to maintain the asset coverage ratios imposed upon us by the 1940 Act. Any such failure would affect our ability to issue senior securities, including borrowings, and pay dividends, which could materially impair our business operations. Our liquidity could be impaired further by an inability to access the capital markets or to draw on our credit facilities. For example, we cannot be certain that we will be able to renew our credit facilities as they mature or to consummate new borrowing facilities to provide capital for normal operations, including new originations. Reflecting concern about the stability of the financial markets, many lenders and institutional investors have reduced or ceased providing funding to borrowers. This market turmoil and tightening of credit have led to increased market volatility and widespread reduction of business activity generally.

Table of Contents

If we are unable to renew or replace such facilities and consummate new facilities on commercially reasonable terms, our liquidity will be reduced significantly. If we are unable to repay amounts outstanding under such facilities and are declared in default or are unable to renew or refinance these facilities, we would not be able to initiate significant originations or to operate our business in the normal course. These situations may arise due to circumstances that we may be unable to control, such as inaccessibility to the credit markets, a severe decline in the value of the U.S. dollar, a further economic downturn or an operational problem that affects third parties or us, and could materially damage our business. Moreover, we are unable to predict when economic and market conditions may become more favorable. Even if such conditions improve broadly and significantly over the long term, adverse conditions in particular sectors of the financial markets could adversely impact our business.

Our financial condition and results of operations will depend on our ability to manage future growth effectively.

Our ability to achieve our investment objective and to grow depends on Solar Capital Partners' ability to identify, invest in and monitor companies that meet our investment criteria.

Accomplishing this result on a cost-effective basis is largely a function of Solar Capital Partners' structuring of the investment process, its ability to provide competent, attentive and efficient services to us and its ability to access financing for us on acceptable terms. The investment team of Solar Capital Partners has substantial responsibilities under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, and they may also be called upon to provide managerial assistance to our portfolio companies as the principals of our administrator. Such demands on their time may distract them or slow our rate of investment. In order to grow, we and Solar Capital Partners will need to retain, train, supervise and manage new investment professionals. However, we can offer no assurance that any such investment professionals will contribute effectively to the work of the investment adviser. Any failure to manage our future growth effectively could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Any failure on our part to maintain our status as a BDC would reduce our operating flexibility.

The 1940 Act imposes numerous constraints on the operations of BDCs. For example, BDCs are required to invest at least 70% of their total assets in specified types of securities, primarily in private companies or thinly-traded U.S. public companies, cash, cash equivalents, U.S. government securities and other high quality debt investments that mature in one year or less. Furthermore, any failure to comply with the requirements imposed on BDCs by the 1940 Act could cause the SEC to bring an enforcement action against us and/or expose us to claims of private litigants. In addition, upon approval of a majority of our stockholders, we may elect to withdraw our status as a BDC. If we decide to withdraw our election, or if we otherwise fail to qualify, or maintain our qualification, as a BDC, we may be subject to the substantially greater regulation under the 1940 Act as a closed-end investment company. Compliance with such regulations would significantly decrease our operating flexibility, and could significantly increase our costs of doing business.

Regulations governing our operation as a BDC affect our ability to, and the way in which we, raise additional capital. As a BDC, the necessity of raising additional capital may expose us to risks, including the typical risks associated with leverage.

We may issue debt securities or preferred stock and/or borrow money from banks or other financial institutions, which we refer to collectively as senior securities, up to the maximum amount permitted by the 1940 Act. Under the provisions of the 1940 Act, we will be permitted, as a BDC, to issue senior securities in amounts such that our asset coverage ratio, as defined in the 1940 Act, equals at least 200% of gross assets less all liabilities and indebtedness not represented by senior securities, after each issuance of senior securities. If the value of our assets declines, we may be unable to satisfy this test. If that happens, we may be required to sell a portion of our investments and, depending on the nature of our

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

leverage, repay a portion of our indebtedness at a time when such sales may be disadvantageous. Also, any amounts that we use to service our indebtedness would

Table of Contents

not be available for distributions to our common stockholders. Furthermore, as a result of issuing senior securities, we would also be exposed to typical risks associated with leverage, including an increased risk of loss.

As of March 17, 2011, we had \$42.7 million outstanding under our revolving credit facilities and \$35 million outstanding under our Term Loan. If we issue preferred stock, the preferred stock would rank senior to common stock in our capital structure, preferred stockholders would have separate voting rights on certain matters and might have other rights, preferences, or privileges more favorable than those of our common stockholders, and the issuance of preferred stock could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a transaction or a change of control that might involve a premium price for holders of our common stock or otherwise be in your best interest.

We are not generally able to issue and sell our common stock at a price below net asset value per share. We may, however, sell our common stock, or warrants, options or rights to acquire our common stock, at a price below the then-current net asset value per share of our common stock if our board of directors determines that such sale is in the best interests of Solar Capital and its stockholders, and our stockholders approve such sale. In any such case, the price at which our securities are to be issued and sold may not be less than a price that, in the determination of our board of directors, closely approximates the market value of such securities (less any distributing commission or discount). If our common stock trades at a discount to net asset value, this restriction could adversely affect our ability to raise capital. If we raise additional funds by issuing more common stock or senior securities convertible into, or exchangeable for, our common stock, then the percentage ownership of our stockholders at that time will decrease, and you might experience dilution.

At our 2011 Annual Stockholders Meeting, subject to certain determinations required to be made by our board of directors, we will seek the approval of our stockholders to provide us with the ability to sell or otherwise issue shares of our common stock at a price below the then current net asset value per share during a period beginning in June 2011 and expiring on the earlier of the one-year anniversary of the date of the 2011 Annual Stockholders Meeting and the date of our 2012 Annual Stockholders Meeting, which is expected to be held in June 2012. We cannot assure you that our stockholders will approve this proposal.

We may borrow money, which would magnify the potential for gain or loss on amounts invested and may increase the risk of investing in us.

The use of leverage magnifies the potential for gain or loss on amounts invested and, therefore, increases the risks associated with investing in our securities. As of March 17, 2011, we had \$42.7 million outstanding under our revolving credit facilities and \$35 million outstanding under our Term Loan. We may borrow from and issue senior debt securities to banks, insurance companies and other lenders in the future. Lenders of these senior securities, including our revolving credit facility, our Term Loan and the outstanding Senior Unsecured Notes, will have fixed dollar claims on our assets that are superior to the claims of our common stockholders, and we would expect such lenders to seek recovery against our assets in the event of a default. If the value of our assets decreases, leveraging would cause net asset value to decline more sharply than it otherwise would have had we not leveraged. Similarly, any decrease in our income would cause net income to decline more sharply than it would have had we not borrowed. Such a decline could also negatively affect our ability to make dividend payments on our common stock. Leverage is generally considered a speculative investment technique. Our ability to service any debt that we incur will depend largely on our financial performance and will be subject to prevailing economic conditions and competitive pressures. Moreover, as the management fee payable to our investment adviser, Solar Capital Partners, will be payable based on our gross assets, including those assets acquired through the use of leverage, Solar Capital Partners will have a financial incentive to incur leverage which may not be consistent with our stockholders interests. In addition, our common stockholders will bear the burden of any increase in our expenses as a result of leverage, including any increase in the management fee payable to Solar Capital Partners.

As a BDC, we generally are required to meet a coverage ratio of total assets to total borrowings and other senior securities, which include all of our borrowings and any preferred stock that we may issue in the future, of

Table of Contents

at least 200%. If this ratio declines below 200%, we may not be able to incur additional debt and could be required by law to sell a portion of our investments to repay some debt when it is disadvantageous to do so, which could have a material adverse effect on our operations, and we may not be able to make distributions. The amount of leverage that we employ will depend on our investment advisers and our board of directors assessment of market and other factors at the time of any proposed borrowing. We cannot assure you that we will be able to obtain credit at all or on terms acceptable to us.

In addition, our revolving credit facilities and our Term Loan impose, and any other debt facility into which we may enter would likely impose financial and operating covenants that restrict our business activities, including limitations that could hinder our ability to finance additional loans and investments or to make the distributions required to maintain our status as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code.

The debt securities that we may issue will be governed by an indenture or other instrument containing covenants restricting our operating flexibility. We, and indirectly our stockholders, bear the cost of issuing and servicing such debt securities. Any convertible or exchangeable securities that we issue in the future may have rights, preferences and privileges more favorable than those of our common stock.

As of March 17, 2011, we had \$42.7 million outstanding under our revolving credit facilities and \$35 million outstanding under our Term Loan.

Illustration. The following table illustrates the effect of leverage on returns from an investment in our common stock assuming various annual returns on the portfolio, net of expenses. The calculations in the table below are hypothetical and actual returns may be higher or lower than those appearing in the table below.

	Assumed total return on our portfolio (net of expenses)				
	(10)%	(5)%	0%	5%	10%
Corresponding return to stockholder(1)	(18.72)%	(10.91)%	(3.10)%	4.71%	12.52%

(1) Assumes \$1,292 million in total assets and \$435 million in total debt outstanding, which reflects our total assets and total debt outstanding as of December 31, 2010, and a cost of funds of 5.90%. Excludes non-leverage related liabilities.

To the extent we use debt or preferred stock to finance our investments, changes in interest rates will affect our cost of capital and net investment income.

To the extent we borrow money, or issue preferred stock, to make investments, our net investment income will depend, in part, upon the difference between the rate at which we borrow funds or pay dividends on preferred stock and the rate at which we invest those funds. As a result, we can offer no assurance that a significant change in market interest rates will not have a material adverse effect on our net investment income in the event we use debt to finance our investments. In periods of rising interest rates, our cost of funds would increase, except to the extent we issue fixed rate debt or preferred stock, which could reduce our net investment income. We expect that our long-term fixed-rate investments will be financed primarily with equity and long-term debt. We may use interest rate risk management techniques in an effort to limit our exposure to interest rate fluctuations. Such techniques may include various interest rate hedging activities to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

You should also be aware that a rise in the general level of interest rates can be expected to lead to higher interest rates applicable to our debt investments. Accordingly, an increase in interest rates would make it easier for us to meet or exceed the incentive fee hurdle rate and may result in a substantial increase of the amount of incentive fees payable to our investment adviser with respect to our pre-incentive fee net investment income.

As of March 17, 2011, we had \$42.7 million outstanding under our revolving credit facilities and \$35 million outstanding under our Term Loan.

Table of Contents

We may in the future determine to fund a portion of our investments with preferred stock, which would magnify the potential for gain or loss and the risks of investing in us in the same way as our borrowings.

Preferred stock, which is another form of leverage, has the same risks to our common stockholders as borrowings because the dividends on any preferred stock we issue must be cumulative. Payment of such dividends and repayment of the liquidation preference of such preferred stock must take preference over any dividends or other payments to our common stockholders, and preferred stockholders are not subject to any of our expenses or losses and are not entitled to participate in any income or appreciation in excess of their stated preference.

There will be uncertainty as to the value of our portfolio investments.

A large percentage of our portfolio investments are in the form of securities that are not publicly traded. The fair value of securities and other investments that are not publicly traded may not be readily determinable. We value these securities on a quarterly basis in accordance with our valuation policy, which is at all times consistent with U.S. generally accepted accounting policies (GAAP). Our board of directors utilizes the services of third-party valuation firms to aid it in determining the fair value of these securities. The board of directors discusses valuations and determines the fair value in good faith based on the input of our investment adviser and the respective third-party valuation firms. The factors that may be considered in fair value pricing our investments include the nature and realizable value of any collateral, the portfolio company's ability to make payments and its earnings, the markets in which the portfolio company does business, comparisons to publicly traded companies, discounted cash flow and other relevant factors. Because such valuations, and particularly valuations of private securities and private companies, are inherently uncertain, may fluctuate over short periods of time and may be based on estimates, our determinations of fair value may differ materially from the values that would have been used if a ready market for these securities existed. Our net asset value could be adversely affected if our determinations regarding the fair value of our investments were materially higher than the values that we ultimately realize upon the disposal of such securities.

We may experience fluctuations in our quarterly results.

We could experience fluctuations in our quarterly operating results due to a number of factors, including the interest rate payable on the debt securities we acquire, the default rate on such securities, the level of our expenses, variations in and the timing of the recognition of realized and unrealized gains or losses, the degree to which we encounter competition in our markets and general economic conditions. As a result of these factors, results for any period should not be relied upon as being indicative of performance in future periods.

There are significant potential conflicts of interest which could impact our investment returns.

Our executive officers and directors, as well as the current and future partners of our investment adviser, Solar Capital Partners, may serve as officers, directors or principals of entities that operate in the same or a related line of business as we do. For example, Solar Capital Partners presently serves as investment adviser to Solar Senior Capital Ltd., a newly-formed BDC which focuses on investing primarily in senior secured loans, including first lien, unitranche and second lien debt instruments. In addition, Michael S. Gross, our chairman and chief executive officer, Bruce Spohler, our chief operating officer, and Nicholas Radesca, our chief financial officer, serve in similar capacities for Solar Senior Capital Ltd. Accordingly, they may have obligations to investors in those entities, the fulfillment of which obligations might not be in the best interests of us or our stockholders. In addition, we note that any affiliated investment vehicle formed in the future and managed by our investment adviser or its affiliates may, notwithstanding different stated investment objectives, have overlapping investment objectives with our own and, accordingly, may invest in asset classes similar to those targeted by us. As a result, Solar Capital Partners may face conflicts in allocating investment opportunities between us and such other entities. Although Solar Capital Partners will endeavor to allocate investment opportunities

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

in a fair and equitable manner, it is possible that, in the future, we may not be given the opportunity to participate in investments made by investment funds managed by our investment adviser or an investment manager affiliated with our investment adviser. In any such case, when Solar Capital Partners identifies an investment, it will be forced to choose which investment fund should make the investment.

Table of Contents

If our investment adviser forms other affiliates in the future, we may co-invest on a concurrent basis with such other affiliates, subject to compliance with applicable regulations and regulatory guidance and our allocation procedures.

In the course of our investing activities, we pay management and incentive fees to Solar Capital Partners and reimburse Solar Capital Partners for certain expenses it incurs. As a result, investors in our common stock will invest on a gross basis and receive distributions on a net basis after expenses, resulting in a lower rate of return than an investor might achieve through direct investments. Accordingly, there may be times when the management team of Solar Capital Partners has interests that differ from those of our stockholders, giving rise to a conflict.

We have entered into a royalty-free license agreement with our investment adviser, pursuant to which our investment adviser has granted us a non-exclusive license to use the name Solar Capital. Under the license agreement, we have the right to use the Solar Capital name for so long as Solar Capital Partners or one of its affiliates remains our investment adviser. In addition, we pay Solar Capital Management, an affiliate of Solar Capital Partners, our allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by Solar Capital Management in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, including rent, the fees and expenses associated with performing compliance functions, and our allocable portion of the compensation of our chief financial officer and any administrative support staff. These arrangements create conflicts of interest that our board of directors must monitor.

Our incentive fee may induce Solar Capital Partners to pursue speculative investments.

The incentive fee payable by us to Solar Capital Partners may create an incentive for Solar Capital Partners to pursue investments on our behalf that are riskier or more speculative than would be the case in the absence of such compensation arrangement. The incentive fee payable to our investment adviser is calculated based on a percentage of our return on invested capital. This may encourage our investment adviser to use leverage to increase the return on our investments. Under certain circumstances, the use of leverage may increase the likelihood of default, which would impair the value of our common stock. In addition, the investment adviser receives the incentive fee based, in part, upon net capital gains realized on our investments. Unlike that portion of the incentive fee based on income, there is no hurdle rate applicable to the portion of the incentive fee based on net capital gains. As a result, the investment adviser may have a tendency to invest more capital in investments that are likely to result in capital gains as compared to income producing securities. Such a practice could result in our investing in more speculative securities than would otherwise be the case, which could result in higher investment losses, particularly during economic downturns.

The incentive fee payable by us to our investment adviser also may induce Solar Capital Partners to invest on our behalf in instruments that have a deferred interest feature, even if such deferred payments would not provide cash necessary to enable us to pay current distributions to our shareholders. Under these investments, we would accrue interest over the life of the investment but would not receive the cash income from the investment until the end of the term. Our net investment income used to calculate the income portion of our investment fee, however, includes accrued interest. Thus, a portion of this incentive fee would be based on income that we have not yet received in cash. In addition, the catch-up portion of the incentive fee may encourage Solar Capital Partners to accelerate or defer interest payable by portfolio companies from one calendar quarter to another, potentially resulting in fluctuations in timing and dividend amounts.

We may invest, to the extent permitted by law, in the securities and instruments of other investment companies, including private funds, and, to the extent we so invest, will bear our ratable share of any such investment company's expenses, including management and performance fees. We will also remain obligated to pay management and incentive fees to Solar Capital Partners with respect to the assets invested in the securities and instruments of other investment companies. With respect to each of these investments, each of our stockholders will bear his or her share of the management and incentive fee of Solar Capital Partners as well as indirectly bearing the management and performance fees and other expenses of any investment companies in which we invest.

Table of Contents

We will become subject to corporate-level income tax if we are unable to qualify and maintain our qualification as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Code.

Although we intend to elect to be treated as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code for 2010 and succeeding tax years, no assurance can be given that we will be able to qualify for and maintain RIC status. To obtain and maintain RIC tax treatment under the Code, we must meet the following annual distribution, income source and asset diversification requirements.

The annual distribution requirement for a RIC will be satisfied if we distribute to our stockholders on an annual basis at least 90% of our net ordinary income and realized net short-term capital gains in excess of realized net long-term capital losses, if any. Because we may use debt financing, we are subject to certain asset coverage ratio requirements under the 1940 Act and financial covenants under loan and credit agreements that could, under certain circumstances, restrict us from making distributions necessary to satisfy the distribution requirement. If we are unable to obtain cash from other sources, we could fail to qualify for RIC tax treatment and thus become subject to corporate-level income tax.

The income source requirement will be satisfied if we obtain at least 90% of our income for each year from dividends, interest, gains from the sale of stock or securities or similar sources.

The asset diversification requirement will be satisfied if we meet certain asset diversification requirements at the end of each quarter of our taxable year. Failure to meet those requirements may result in our having to dispose of certain investments quickly in order to prevent the loss of RIC status. Because most of our investments will be in private companies, and therefore will be relatively illiquid, any such dispositions could be made at disadvantageous prices and could result in substantial losses.

If we fail to qualify for RIC tax treatment for any reason and remain or become subject to corporate income tax, the resulting corporate taxes could substantially reduce our net assets, the amount of income available for distribution and the amount of our distributions.

We may have difficulty satisfying the annual distribution requirement in order to qualify and maintain RIC status if we recognize income before or without receiving cash representing such income.

For federal income tax purposes, we will include in income certain amounts that we have not yet received in cash, such as original issue discount, which may arise if we receive warrants in connection with the making of a loan or possibly in other circumstances, or contracted payment in kind, or PIK, interest, which represents contractual interest added to the loan balance and due at the end of the loan term. We also may be required to include in income certain other amounts that we will not receive in cash.

Because in certain cases we may recognize income before or without receiving cash representing such income, we may have difficulty satisfying the annual distribution requirement applicable to RICs. Accordingly, we may have to sell some of our investments at times we would not consider advantageous, raise additional debt or equity capital or reduce new investments to meet these distribution requirements. If we are not able to obtain cash from other sources, we may fail to qualify for RIC tax treatment and thus be subject to corporate-level income tax.

Our board of directors is authorized to reclassify any unissued shares of common stock into one or more classes of preferred stock, which could convey special rights and privileges to its owners.

Under Maryland General Corporation Law and our charter, our board of directors is authorized to classify and reclassify any authorized but unissued shares of stock into one or more classes of stock, including preferred stock. Prior to issuance of shares of each class or series, the board of directors is required by Maryland law and our charter to set the terms, preferences, conversion or other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends or other distributions, qualifications and terms or conditions of redemption for each class or series. Thus, the board of directors could authorize the issuance of shares of preferred stock with terms and conditions

Table of Contents

which could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a transaction or a change in control that might involve a premium price for holders of our common stock or otherwise be in their best interest. The cost of any such reclassification would be borne by our existing common stockholders. Certain matters under the 1940 Act require the separate vote of the holders of any issued and outstanding preferred stock. For example, holders of preferred stock would vote separately from the holders of common stock on a proposal to cease operations as a BDC. In addition, the 1940 Act provides that holders of preferred stock are entitled to vote separately from holders of common stock to elect two preferred stock directors. We have no immediate plans to issue preferred stock. The issuance of preferred shares convertible into shares of common stock might also reduce the net income and net asset value per share of our common stock upon conversion, provided, that we will only be permitted to issue such convertible preferred stock to the extent we comply with the requirements of Section 61 of the 1940 Act, including obtaining common stockholder approval. These effects, among others, could have an adverse effect on your investment in our common stock.

Provisions of the Maryland General Corporation Law and of our charter and bylaws could deter takeover attempts and have an adverse impact on the price of our common stock.

The Maryland General Corporation Law and our charter and bylaws contain provisions that may discourage, delay or make more difficult a change in control of Solar Capital or the removal of our directors. We are subject to the Maryland Business Combination Act, subject to any applicable requirements of the 1940 Act. Our board of directors has adopted a resolution exempting from the Business Combination Act any business combination between us and any other person, subject to prior approval of such business combination by our board, including approval by a majority of our disinterested directors. If the resolution exempting business combinations is repealed or our board does not approve a business combination, the Business Combination Act may discourage third parties from trying to acquire control of us and increase the difficulty of consummating such an offer. Our bylaws exempt from the Maryland Control Share Acquisition Act acquisitions of our stock by any person. If we amend our bylaws to repeal the exemption from the Control Share Acquisition Act, the Control Share Acquisition Act also may make it more difficult for a third party to obtain control of us and increase the difficulty of consummating such a transaction.

We have also adopted measures that may make it difficult for a third party to obtain control of us, including provisions of our charter classifying our board of directors in three classes serving staggered three-year terms, and authorizing our board of directors to classify or reclassify shares of our stock in one or more classes or series, to cause the issuance of additional shares of our stock, to amend our charter without stockholder approval and to increase or decrease the number of shares of stock that we have authority to issue. These provisions, as well as other provisions of our charter and bylaws, may delay, defer or prevent a transaction or a change in control that might otherwise be in the best interests of our stockholders.

Our board of directors may change our investment objective, operating policies and strategies without prior notice or stockholder approval.

Our board of directors has the authority to modify or waive certain of our operating policies and strategies without prior notice (except as required by the 1940 Act) and without stockholder approval. However, absent stockholder approval, we may not change the nature of our business so as to cease to be, or withdraw our election as, a BDC. We cannot predict the effect any changes to our current operating policies and strategies would have on our business, operating results and value of our stock. Nevertheless, the effects may adversely affect our business and impact our ability to make distributions.

Changes in laws or regulations governing our operations may adversely affect our business.

We and our portfolio companies are subject to regulation by laws at the local, state and federal levels. These laws and regulations, as well as their interpretation, may be changed from time to time. Accordingly, any change in these laws or regulations could have a material adverse

affect on our business.

Table of Contents

Our investment adviser can resign on 60 days' notice, and we may not be able to find a suitable replacement within that time, resulting in a disruption in our operations that could adversely affect our financial condition, business and results of operations.

Our investment adviser has the right, under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, to resign at any time upon 60 days' written notice, whether we have found a replacement or not. If our investment adviser resigns, we may not be able to find a new investment adviser or hire internal management with similar expertise and ability to provide the same or equivalent services on acceptable terms within 60 days, or at all. If we are unable to do so quickly, our operations are likely to experience a disruption, our financial condition, business and results of operations as well as our ability to pay distributions are likely to be adversely affected and the market price of our shares may decline. In addition, the coordination of our internal management and investment activities is likely to suffer if we are unable to identify and reach an agreement with a single institution or group of executives having the expertise possessed by our investment adviser and its affiliates. Even if we are able to retain comparable management, whether internal or external, the integration of such management and their lack of familiarity with our investment objective may result in additional costs and time delays that may adversely affect our financial condition, business and results of operations.

Table of Contents

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS AND PROJECTIONS

This prospectus contains forward-looking statements that involve substantial risks and uncertainties. These forward-looking statements are not historical facts, but rather are based on current expectations, estimates and projections about Solar Capital, our current and prospective portfolio investments, our industry, our beliefs, and our assumptions. Words such as anticipates, expects, intends, plans, believes, seeks, estimates, should, targets, projects, and variations of these words and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to risks, uncertainties, and other factors, some of which are beyond our control and difficult to predict and could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or forecasted in the forward-looking statements, including without limitation:

an economic downturn could impair our portfolio companies' ability to continue to operate, which could lead to the loss of some or all of our investments in such portfolio companies;

a contraction of available credit and/or an inability to access the equity markets could impair our lending and investment activities;

interest rate volatility could adversely affect our results, particularly if we elect to use leverage as part of our investment strategy;

currency fluctuations could adversely affect the results of our investments in foreign companies, particularly to the extent that we receive payments denominated in foreign currency rather than U.S. dollars; and

the risks, uncertainties and other factors we identify in **Risk Factors** and elsewhere in this prospectus and in our filings with the SEC.

Although we believe that the assumptions on which these forward-looking statements are based are reasonable, any of those assumptions could prove to be inaccurate, and as a result, the forward-looking statements based on those assumptions also could be inaccurate. In light of these and other uncertainties, the inclusion of a projection or forward-looking statement in this prospectus should not be regarded as a representation by us that our plans and objectives will be achieved. These risks and uncertainties include those described or identified in **Risk Factors** and elsewhere in this prospectus. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which apply only as of the date of this prospectus. The forward-looking statements and projections contained in this prospectus are excluded from the safe harbor protection provided by Section 27A of the Securities Act.

Table of Contents

USE OF PROCEEDS

We intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of our common stock pursuant to this prospectus for general corporate purposes, which may include investing in debt or equity securities consistent with our investment objective, repayment of outstanding indebtedness, acquisitions and other general corporate purposes. We are continuously identifying, reviewing and, to the extent consistent with our investment objective, funding new investments. As a result, we typically raise capital as we deem appropriate to fund such new investments. The supplement to this prospectus relating to an offering will more fully identify the use of the proceeds from such offering.

We estimate that it will take three to six months for us to substantially invest the net proceeds of any offering made pursuant to this prospectus, depending on the availability of attractive opportunities and market conditions. However, we can offer no assurance that we will be able to achieve this goal.

Pending these uses, we will invest such net proceeds primarily in cash, cash equivalents, and U.S. government securities and other high-quality debt investments that mature in one year or less. The management fee payable by us to our investment adviser will not be reduced while our assets are invested in such securities.

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

Our common stock is traded on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol SLRC. The following table sets forth, for each fiscal quarter since our initial public offering on February 9, 2010, the net asset value (NAV) per share of our common stock, the high and low sales prices for our common stock, such sales prices as a percentage of NAV per share and quarterly distributions per share.

	Price Range			High Sales	Low Sales	Cash Distributions Per Share(3)
	NAV(1)	High	Low	Price as a Percentage of NAV(2)	Price as a Percentage of NAV(2)	
Fiscal 2011						
First Quarter (through March 17, 2011)	*	\$ 25.45	\$ 21.87	*	*	\$ 0.60
Fiscal 2010						
Fourth Quarter	\$ 22.73	25.39	21.32	111.7%	93.8%	0.60
Third Quarter	22.09	21.80	18.75	98.7%	84.9%	0.60
Second Quarter	22.07	24.20	18.77	109.7%	85.0%	0.60
First Quarter (from February 9, 2010 through March 31, 2010)	22.18	22.22	17.29	100.2%	78.0%	0.34

- (1) Net asset value per share is determined as of the last day in the relevant quarter and therefore may not reflect the net asset value per share on the date of the high and low sales prices. The net asset values shown are based on outstanding shares at the end of each period.
- (2) Calculated as the respective high or low sales price divided by NAV.
- (3) Represents the cash distribution declared in the specified quarter.
- * Not determinable at the time of filing.

On March 17, 2011, the last reported sales price of our common stock was \$23.36 per share. As of March 17, 2011, we had 21 shareholders of record.

Shares of business development companies may trade at a market price that is less than the value of the net assets attributable to those shares. The possibility that our shares of common stock will trade at a discount from net asset value or at premiums that are unsustainable over the long term are separate and distinct from the risk that our net asset value will decrease. Since our initial public offering on February 9, 2010, our shares of common stock have traded at both a discount and a premium to the net assets attributable to those shares. As of March 17, 2011, our shares of common stock traded at a premium equal to approximately 2.8% of the net assets attributable to those shares based upon our net asset value as of December 31, 2010. It is not possible to predict whether the shares offered hereby will trade at, above, or below net asset value.

We intend to distribute quarterly dividends to our stockholders. Our quarterly dividends, if any, will be determined by our board of directors.

Table of Contents

The following table reflects the cash distributions, including dividends and returns of capital, if any, per share that we have declared on our common stock since our initial public offering.:

Date Declared	Record Date	Payment Date	Amount
Fiscal 2011			
March 1, 2011	March 17, 2011	April 4, 2011	\$ 0.60
Fiscal 2010			
November 2, 2010	December 17, 2010	December 30, 2010	\$ 0.60
August 3, 2010	September 17, 2010	October 4, 2010	0.60
May 4, 2010	June 17, 2010	July 2, 2010	0.60
January 26, 2010	March 18, 2010	April 1, 2010	0.34
<i>Total (2010)</i>			\$ 2.14

The \$0.34 dividend declared during the first quarter of 2010 was a \$0.60 dividend prorated for the number of days that remained in the quarter after our initial public offering. Tax characteristics of all dividends will be reported to shareholders on Form 1099 after the end of the calendar year. Our quarterly dividends, if any, will be determined by our board of directors.

We intend to elect to be taxed as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code. To obtain and maintain our RIC status, we must distribute at least 90% of our ordinary income and realized net short-term capital gains in excess of realized net long-term capital losses, if any, out of the assets legally available for distribution. In addition, although we currently intend to distribute realized net capital gains (*i.e.* , net long-term capital gains in excess of short-term capital losses), if any, at least annually, out of the assets legally available for such distributions, we may in the future decide to retain such capital gains for investment.

We maintain an opt out dividend reinvestment plan for our common stockholders. As a result, if we declare a dividend, then stockholders cash dividends will be automatically reinvested in additional shares of our common stock, unless they specifically opt out of the dividend reinvestment plan so as to receive cash dividends.

We may not be able to achieve operating results that will allow us to make dividends and distributions at a specific level or to increase the amount of these dividends and distributions from time to time. In addition, we may be limited in our ability to make dividends and distributions due to the asset coverage test for borrowings when applicable to us as a BDC under the 1940 Act and due to provisions in current and future credit facilities. If we do not distribute a certain percentage of our income annually, we will suffer adverse tax consequences, including possible loss of our RIC status. We cannot assure stockholders that they will receive any dividends and distributions or dividends and distributions at a particular level.

All dividends declared in cash payable to stockholders that are participants in our dividend reinvestment plan are generally automatically reinvested in shares of our common stock. As a result, stockholders that do not participate in the dividend reinvestment plan may experience dilution over time. Stockholders who do not elect to receive dividends in shares of common stock may experience accretion to the net asset value of their shares if our shares are trading at a premium and dilution if our shares are trading at a discount. The level of accretion or discount would depend on various factors, including the proportion of our stockholders who participate in the plan, the level of premium or discount at which our shares are trading and the amount of the dividend payable to a stockholder.

Table of Contents

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

The information contained in this section should be read in conjunction with the Selected Financial and Other Data and our Financial Statements and notes thereto appearing elsewhere in this prospectus.

Overview

Solar Capital, a Maryland corporation formed in November 2007, is a closed-end, externally managed, non-diversified management investment company that has elected to be treated as a BDC under the 1940 Act. In addition, for tax purposes the Company intends to elect to be treated as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code.

On February 9, 2010, we priced our initial public offering, selling 5.68 million shares. Concurrent with our initial public offering, Michael S. Gross, our chairman and chief executive officer, and Bruce Spohler, our chief operating officer, collectively purchased an additional 0.6 million shares through a private placement transaction exempt from registration under the Securities Act. Solar Capital Ltd. issued an aggregate of approximately 26.65 million shares of common stock and \$125 million in Senior Unsecured Notes to the existing Solar Capital LLC unit holders in connection with the Solar Capital Merger. Solar Capital Ltd. had no assets or operations prior to completion of the Solar Capital Merger and as a result, the books and records of Solar Capital LLC have become the books and records of the surviving entity.

Our investment objective is to generate both current income and capital appreciation through debt and equity investments. We invest primarily in leveraged middle market companies in the form of senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities. From time to time, we may also invest in public companies that are thinly traded. Our business model is focused primarily on the direct origination of investments through portfolio companies or their financial sponsors. Our investments generally range between \$20 million and \$100 million each, although we expect that this investment size will vary proportionately with the size of our capital base. We are managed by Solar Capital Partners LLC. Solar Capital Management LLC provides the administrative services necessary for us to operate.

In addition, we may invest a portion of our portfolio in other types of investments, which we refer to as opportunistic investments, which are not our primary focus but are intended to enhance our overall returns. These investments may include, but are not limited to, direct investments in public companies that are not thinly traded and securities of leveraged companies located in select countries outside of the United States.

As of December 31, 2010, our long term investments totaled \$976.2 million and our net asset value was \$827.0 million. Our portfolio was comprised of debt and equity investments in 36 portfolio companies and our income producing assets, which represented 91.2% of our total portfolio, had a weighted average annualized yield on a fair value basis of approximately 14.3%.

Critical Accounting Policies

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

The preparation of financial statements and related disclosures in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and revenues and expenses during the periods reported. Actual results could materially differ from those estimates. We have identified the following items as critical accounting policies.

Valuation of Portfolio Investments

We conduct the valuation of our assets, pursuant to which our net asset value is determined, at all times consistent with GAAP, and the 1940 Act. Our valuation procedures are set forth in more detail below:

Securities for which market quotations are readily available on an exchange are valued at the closing price on the day of valuation. We may also obtain quotes with respect to certain of our investments from pricing

Table of Contents

services or brokers or dealers in order to value assets. When doing so, we determine whether the quote obtained is sufficient according to GAAP to determine the fair value of the security. If determined adequate, we use the quote obtained.

Securities for which reliable market quotations are not readily available or for which the pricing source does not provide a valuation or methodology or provides a valuation or methodology that, in the judgment of our investment adviser or board of directors, does not represent fair value, shall be valued as follows: (i) each portfolio company or investment is initially valued by the investment professionals responsible for the portfolio investment; (ii) preliminary valuation conclusions are documented and discussed with our senior management; (iii) independent third-party valuation firms engaged by, or on behalf of, the board of directors will conduct independent appraisals and review management's preliminary valuations and make their own assessment for all material assets; (iv) the board of directors will discuss valuations and determine the fair value of each investment in our portfolio in good faith based on the input of the investment adviser and, where appropriate, the respective third-party valuation firms.

The recommendation of fair value will generally be based on the following factors, as relevant:

the nature and realizable value of any collateral including credit risk;

the portfolio company's ability to make payments;

the portfolio company's earnings and discounted cash flow;

the markets in which the issuer does business and; and

comparisons to publicly traded securities.

Securities for which market quotations are not readily available or for which a pricing source is not sufficient may include, but are not limited to, the following:

private placements and restricted securities that do not have an active trading market;

securities whose trading has been suspended or for which market quotes are no longer available;

debt securities that have recently gone into default and for which there is no current market;

securities whose prices are stale;

securities affected by significant events; and

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

securities that the investment adviser believes were priced incorrectly.

Determination of fair value involves subjective judgments and estimates. Accordingly, the notes to our financial statements express the uncertainty with respect to the possible effect of such valuations, and any change in such valuations, on our financial statements.

GAAP fair value measurement guidance classifies the inputs used to measure these fair values into the following hierarchy:

Level 1. Financial assets and liabilities whose values are based on unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in an active market that the Company has the ability to access (examples include active exchange-traded equity securities, exchange-traded derivatives, and most U.S. Government and agency securities).

Level 2. Financial assets and liabilities whose values are based on quoted prices in markets that are not active or model inputs that are observable either directly or indirectly for substantially the full term of the asset or liability. Level 2 inputs include the following:

a) Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;

Table of Contents

b) Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in non-active markets (examples include corporate and municipal bonds, which trade infrequently);

c) Pricing models whose inputs are observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability (examples include most over-the-counter derivatives, including foreign exchange forward contracts); and

d) Pricing models whose inputs are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data through correlation or other means for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

Level 3. Financial assets and liabilities whose values are based on prices or valuation techniques that require inputs that are both unobservable and significant to the overall fair value measurement. These inputs reflect management's own assumptions about the assumptions a market participant would use in pricing the asset or liability (examples include certain of our private debt and equity investments) and long-dated or complex derivatives (including certain equity and currency derivatives).

Fair Value Measurements

As of December 31, 2010

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Assets:				
Bank Debt/Senior Secured Loans	\$	\$ 46,609	\$ 200,532	\$ 247,141
Subordinated Debt / Corporate Notes		83,476	566,308	649,784
Preferred Equity			3,934	3,934
Common Equity / Partnership Interests	373	21,897	53,092	75,362
Derivative assets - forward contracts		604		604
Liabilities:				
Derivative liabilities - forward contracts		1,539		1,539

At December 31, 2010 the fair value of investments classified as Level 3 was \$823.9 million or 84% of total investments. Two assets with a combined fair value of \$94.7 million were transferred out of Level 3 to Level 2 during 2010 because of the increase in availability and reliability of third party market quotes for these investments.

Additionally, during 2010, one asset with a fair value of \$0.4 million was transferred from Level 2 to Level 1 when trading restrictions expired on a publicly traded equity investment.

At December 31, 2009 the fair value of investments classified as Level 3 was \$794.7 million or 90% of total investments. One investment with a fair value of \$33.8 million was transferred into Level 3 from Level 2 during 2009 because there were no longer third party market quotes available for that investment.

Revenue Recognition

Our revenue recognition policies are as follows:

Sales: Gains or losses on the sale of investments are calculated by using the specific identification method.

Interest Income: Interest income, adjusted for amortization of premium and accretion of discount, is recorded on an accrual basis. Origination, closing and/or commitment fees associated with investments in portfolio companies are accreted into interest income over the respective terms of the applicable loans. Upon the prepayment of a loan or debt security, any prepayment penalties and unamortized loan origination, closing and commitment fees are recorded as part of interest income. We have loans in our portfolio that contain a PIK provision. PIK interest is accrued at the contractual rates and added to the loan principal on the reset dates.

Table of Contents

Non-accrual: Loans are placed on non-accrual status when principal or interest payments are past due 30 days or more or when there is reasonable doubt that principal or interest will be collected. Accrued interest is generally reversed when a loan is placed on non-accrual status. Interest payments received on non-accrual loans may be recognized as income or applied to principal depending upon management's judgment about ultimate collectability of principal. Non-accrual loans are restored to accrual status when past due principal and interest is paid and, in management's judgment, are likely to remain current.

Payment-in-Kind Interest

We have investments in our portfolio which contain a PIK interest provision. PIK interest is added to the principal balance of the investment and is recorded as income. For us to maintain our status as a RIC, substantially all of this income must be paid out to stockholders in the form of dividends, even though we have not collected any cash with respect to PIK securities.

New Accounting Pronouncements and Accounting Standards Updates

Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures

We adopted the accounting updates to ASC 820, Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures Topic, which clarify how to estimate fair value when the volume and level of activity for the asset or liability have significantly decreased, circumstances that indicate a transaction is not orderly, and how to determine the fair value of a liability. It emphasizes that even if there has been a significant decrease in the volume and level of activity for the asset or liability and regardless of the valuation technique used, the objective of a fair value measurement remains the same that the fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction (that is, not a forced liquidation or distressed sale) between market participants at the measurement date under current market conditions. The adoption of these updates did not have a material impact on our financial statements.

In January 2010, the FASB issued an update to ASC 820, which requires additional disclosures about inputs into valuation techniques, disclosures about significant transfers into or out of Levels 1 and 2, and disaggregation of purchases, sales, issuances, and settlements in the Level 3 rollforward disclosure. The guidance is effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2009 except for the disclosures about purchases, sales, issuances, and settlements in the roll forward of activity in Level 3 fair value measurements. Those disclosures are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2010, and for interim periods within those fiscal years.

Derivatives and Hedging

We adopted the accounting update to ASC 815, Derivative and Hedging Topic, which requires qualitative disclosures about objectives and strategies for using derivatives, quantitative disclosures about fair values and amounts of gains and losses on derivative contracts and disclosures about credit-risk-related contingent features in derivative agreements. The adoption did not have a material impact on our financial statements.

Subsequent Events

We adopted ASC 855, Subsequent Events Topic, which requires that management evaluate events and transactions that may occur for potential recognition or disclosure in the financial statements after the balance sheet date through the date the financial statements are issued and clarifies the circumstances under which such events or transactions must be recognized in the financial statements. The adoption did not have a material impact on our financial statements.

Portfolio Investments

The total value of our investments was approximately \$976.2 million and \$863.1 million at December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively. During the year ended December 31, 2010, we originated approximately

Table of Contents

\$272.3 million of new investments in 9 portfolio companies and approximately \$68.2 million was invested in 3 existing portfolio companies. During the year ended December 31, 2009, we originated approximately \$134.2 million of new investments in 3 portfolio companies and approximately \$29.6 million was invested in 4 existing portfolio companies.

In certain instances, we receive payments on our debt investments based on scheduled amortization of the outstanding balances. In addition, we may receive repayments of certain debt investments prior to their scheduled maturity date. The frequency or volume of these repayments may fluctuate significantly from period to period. Our portfolio activity also reflects sales of securities. For the year ended December 31, 2010, we had approximately \$298.5 million in debt repayments and approximately \$33.1 million in sales of securities in 7 portfolio companies. For the year ended December 31, 2009, we had approximately \$38.6 million in debt repayments and approximately \$78.3 million in sales of securities in 12 portfolio companies.

In addition, for the year ended December 31, 2010 we had net unrealized and realized gains on 41 investments totaling approximately \$88.5 million and net unrealized and realized losses on 20 investments totaling approximately \$14.4 million. During the year ended December 31, 2009 we had net unrealized and realized gains on 31 investments totaling approximately \$140.8 million, which was offset by net unrealized and realized losses on 16 investments totaling approximately \$106.6 million. During the year ended December 31, 2008, we had unrealized appreciation on 1 investment totaling approximately \$7.1 million, which was more than offset by unrealized depreciation on 43 investments totaling approximately \$503.4 million. During the year ended December 31, 2008 we also had a realized loss of \$16.9 million, a majority of which was from 1 portfolio company.

At December 31, 2010, we had investments in debt and preferred securities of 30 portfolio companies, totaling approximately \$900.9 million, and equity investments in 9 portfolio companies, totaling approximately \$75.4 million. At December 31, 2009, we had investments in debt and preferred securities of 31 portfolio companies, totaling approximately \$805.5 million, and equity investments in 10 portfolio companies, totaling approximately \$57.6 million.

The following table shows the fair value of our portfolio of investments by asset class as of December 31, 2010 and 2009:

	December 31, 2010		December 31, 2009	
	Cost	Fair Value	Cost	Fair Value
Bank Debt/Senior Secured Loans	\$ 250,253	\$ 247,141	\$ 170,896	\$ 163,499
Subordinated Debt/Corporate Notes	690,817	649,784	778,163	641,992
Preferred Equity	3,929	3,934	39	40
Common Equity/Partnership Interests/Warrants	118,562	75,362	114,890	57,609
Total	\$ 1,063,561	\$ 976,221	\$ 1,063,988	\$ 863,140

As of December 31, 2010, and December 31, 2009, the weighted average yield on income producing investments in our portfolio was approximately 14.3% and 14.8%, respectively. The weighted average yield on income producing investments was lower as of December 31, 2010 primarily due to the increase in fair value of these assets since December 2009.

As of December 31, 2010 we had one investment on non-accrual status that all had a fair value of \$6.6 million. As of December 31, 2009 we had three investments on non-accrual status that all had a fair value of zero. In addition, we had three cost recovery assets that were performing but

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

interest payments were reducing the cost of the investment, rather than being included in interest income. As of December 31, 2010, there were no cost recovery assets.

Table of Contents**Results of Operations for the Year Ended December 31, 2010 compared to the Year Ended December 31, 2009***Revenue*

	For the Year Ended December 31,		% Change
	2010	2009	
	(in thousands)		
Investment income	\$ 124,641	\$ 109,670	14%

The increase in investment income for the year ended December 31, 2010 compared to the year ended December 31, 2009 was primarily due to increased fee income resulting from the early repayment of assets and higher amortization income during 2010. Call premiums, accelerated fee amortization on prepaid loans, and other fee income was \$12.4 million in 2010 compared to \$1.6 million in 2009. Additionally, amortization of upfront fees was \$2.6 million higher during 2010.

Expenses

	For the Year Ended December 31,		% Change
	2010	2009	
	(in thousands)		
Investment advisory and management fees	\$ 18,296	\$ 16,738	9%
Performance-based incentive fee	17,305	16,815	3%
Interest and other credit facility expenses	14,276	2,636	442%
Administrative service fee	1,294	2,020	(36%)
Other general and administrative expenses	3,930	3,971	(1%)
Total operating expenses	\$ 55,101	\$ 42,180	31%

Investment advisory and management fees, which are calculated based on average gross assets, were higher in 2010 primarily due to the increased average fair value of our investment portfolio. Total expenses increased by approximately \$13.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 compared to the same period in 2009.

Interest and other credit facility expenses were higher in 2010 compared to 2009 primarily due to higher average debt balances outstanding during 2010, including the Senior Unsecured Notes (outstanding from February 2010 through December 2010), Term Loan, and the new Senior Secured Credit Facility, higher loan fee amortization expense and higher unused facility fees.

Administrative service fees and other general and administrative expenses were lower during the 2010 because 2009 included costs related to pre-IPO private fund administration and reporting.

Net Realized and Unrealized Gains and Losses

	For the Year Ended December 31,	
	2010	2009
	(in thousands)	
Net realized loss on investments	\$ (39,365)	\$ (253,394)
Net realized loss on forward contracts	(3,124)	(12,608)
Net realized gain on foreign currency exchange	3,521	1,104
Net unrealized gain on investments	113,508	287,671
Net unrealized loss on forward contracts	(1,204)	(2,583)
Net unrealized loss on foreign currency exchange	(663)	(516)
Total realized and unrealized gain	\$ 72,673	\$ 19,674

Table of Contents

The combination of the net realized and unrealized gains or losses resulted in a net gain of \$72.7 million for 2010 compared to \$19.7 million for 2009. The net gain for 2010 was primarily due to increases in the fair value of our portfolio assets during the year as well as realizations in excess of prior valuations. The net increase in the fair value of our portfolio assets was primarily due to continued credit improvement in the portfolio, the tightening of credit spreads in the high yield market and portfolio realizations. We analyze this section on a combined basis because offsets may exist in the individual line items due to foreign exchange fluctuations and movements from unrealized to realized.

Our investments denominated in Euro, British Pounds and Australian dollars are converted into U.S. dollars at the balance sheet date, and as such, we are exposed to movements in exchange rates. To limit our exposure to movements in foreign currency exchange rates we enter into foreign exchange forward contracts or borrow in foreign currencies under our multi-currency revolving credit facility. For the year ended December 31, 2010 the total net realized and unrealized gain on forward contracts was a loss of \$4.3 million compared to a loss of \$15.2 million for the same line items for the year ended December 31, 2009. This is due to a higher relative weakening of the U.S. dollar during 2009 compared to the same period in 2010.

Results of Operations for the Year Ended December 31, 2009 compared to the Year Ended December 31, 2008*Revenue*

	For the Year Ended December 31, (unaudited)		% Change
	2009	2008	
	(in thousands)		
Investment income	\$ 109,670	\$ 133,959	(18%)

The decrease in investment income for the year ended December 31, 2009 compared to the year ended December 31, 2008 was primarily due to the placement of certain assets on nonaccrual status and lower average LIBOR rates. In addition, call premiums paid as a result of debt assets repaying before maturity were \$0.8 million in 2009 compared to \$5.6 million in 2008. This was partially offset by an increase in income from the amortization of market and original issues discounts to \$6.5 million in 2009 compared to \$1.7 million in 2008.

Expenses

	For the Year Ended December 31,		% Change
	2009	2008	
	(in thousands)		
Investment advisory and management fees	\$ 16,738	\$ 24,297	(31%)
Performance-based incentive fee	16,815	9,008	87%
Interest and other credit facility expenses	2,636	3,343	(21%)
Administrative service fee	2,020	3,430	(41%)
Other general and administrative expenses	3,971	4,853	(18%)
Total operating expenses	\$ 42,180	\$ 44,931	(6%)

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

The performance-based incentive fee was higher in 2009 compared to 2008 because it surpassed the specified thresholds during 2008 making it 20% of net investment income for all of 2009. (See Investment Advisory and Management Agreement) Investment advisory and management fees, which are calculated based on average gross assets, were lower in 2009 primarily due to the reduced average fair value of our investment portfolio. Total expenses decreased by approximately \$2.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 compared to the same period in 2008.

Table of Contents

Interest and other credit facility expenses were lower in 2009 compared to 2008 due to lower average LIBOR rates and because a large portion of the amortization of set-up costs associated with the facilities ended in the first quarter of 2009 as the Company's other credit facility (the Warehouse Facility) expired. This was partially offset by an increase in the average debt outstanding on the Credit Facility to \$29.0 million in 2009 compared to \$10.3 million in 2008 and an increase in the margin on the Credit Facility to BR plus 2.50% and ABR plus 1.50% from BR plus 1.375% and ABR plus 0.00% in an amendment to the Credit Facility on September 25, 2009.

The decrease in administrative service fees and other general and administrative expenses in 2009 compared to 2008 is primarily due to a reduction in corporate overhead and a decrease in unincorporated business tax.

Net Realized and Unrealized Gains and Losses

	For the Year Ended December 31,	
	2009	2008
	(in thousands)	
Net realized loss on investments	\$ (253,394)	\$ (16,878)
Net realized gain (loss) on forward contracts	(12,608)	13,026
Net realized gain on foreign currency exchange	1,104	2,915
Net unrealized gain (loss) on investments	287,671	(496,340)
Net unrealized (loss) gain on forward contracts	(2,583)	4,087
Net unrealized loss on foreign currency exchange	(516)	(37)
Total realized and unrealized gain (loss)	\$ 19,674	\$ (493,227)

The net realized loss on investments during 2009 was primarily due to the realization of losses reflected in the mark-to-market of the portfolio during 2008. Four common and preferred equity positions that had a combined fair value of \$8.2 million at December 31, 2008 resulted in a realized loss of \$121.6 million in 2009. Six debt investments that had a combined fair value of \$55.3 million at December 31, 2008 also resulted in a realized loss of \$123.7 million during 2009.

The increase in unrealized gains on investments for 2009 was primarily due to the reversal of unrealized losses on the investments that had a realization event and an increase in the fair value of our assets during 2009 compared to an overall weakening in the economy during the same period in 2008.

The combination of the net realized loss and net unrealized gain on investments in 2009 resulted in a net gain of \$34.3 million due to the increase in the fair value of our portfolio. The combination of the same line items in 2008 resulted in a net loss of \$513.2 million in 2008 due to the decrease in the fair value of our portfolio.

Additionally, we have exposure to foreign currencies (Euro, British Pounds and Australian dollars) through various investments. Those investments are converted into U.S. dollars at the balance sheet date, and as such, we are exposed to movements in exchange rates. To limit our exposure to movements in exchange rates we enter into foreign exchange forward contracts or borrow under our multi-currency revolving credit facility in those currencies. For 2009 the relative weakening of the U.S. dollar resulted in net realized/unrealized losses on forward contracts compared to a relative strengthening of the U.S. dollar in the same period in 2008 which resulted in net realized/unrealized gains on forward

contracts.

Income Taxes

Solar Capital LLC was subject to New York City unincorporated business tax (UBT), which is imposed on the business income of every unincorporated business that is carried on in New York City. The UBT is imposed for each taxable year at a rate of 4 percent of taxable income that is allocable to New York City. There was no UBT for 2009 and the 2008 UBT liability was approximately \$1.7 million.

Table of Contents

We are also subject to taxes in Luxembourg, through Solar Capital Luxembourg I S.a.r.l., a wholly-owned subsidiary. Under the laws of Luxembourg, we pay a corporate income tax and a municipal business tax on our subsidiary's taxable income.

Solar Capital Ltd., a U.S. corporation, intends to elect to be treated as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. Thus, it will no longer be subject to unincorporated business tax. (See Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences)

Liquidity and Capital Resources

The Company's liquidity and capital resources are generated and generally available through its multi-currency \$355 million Credit Facility maturing in February 2013, \$100 million Credit Facility II maturing in December 2015, \$35 million Term Loan maturing in September 2013, from cash flows from operations, investment sales of liquid assets, repayments of senior and subordinated loans, income earned on investments and cash equivalents, and we expect through periodic follow-on equity and/or debt offerings. We may from time to time issue such securities in either public or private offerings. The issuance of debt or equity securities will depend on future market conditions, funding needs and other factors and there can be no assurance that any such issuance will occur or be successful.

On February 9, 2010, we priced our initial public offering, selling 5.68 million shares at \$18.50 per share. Immediately thereafter, our shares began to trade on the NASDAQ stock exchange under the ticker "SLRC". In addition, we sold 600,000 shares at \$18.50 in a concurrent private placement to Messrs. Gross and Spohler. A total of approximately \$106.7 million was raised through the IPO (net of underwriting fees), and the private placement.

On November 30, 2010, we completed a private placement transaction conducted in accordance with Regulation D under the Securities Act in which we sold an aggregate of 2,850,000 shares of our common stock to certain institutional accredited investors and 115,000 shares of our common stock jointly to Michael S. Gross, our chairman and chief executive officer, and Bruce Spohler, our chief operating officer at a purchase price per share of \$22.94, resulting in approximately \$68 million in gross proceeds. We used the net proceeds resulting from this private placement transaction to repay \$67 million of the Company's then outstanding \$125 million of certain senior unsecured notes.

On December 17, 2010, the Company repaid the outstanding \$58 million of Senior Unsecured Notes with borrowings under the Credit Facility II.

The primary use of existing funds and any funds raised in the future is expected to be for repayment of indebtedness, investments in portfolio companies, cash distributions to our shareholders or for other general corporate purposes.

At December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, we had cash and cash equivalents of approximately \$288.7 million, \$5.7 million and \$65.8 million, respectively. Cash provided by and (used in) operating activities for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 was approximately \$20.6 million, \$17.2 million and (\$106.8) million, respectively. We expect that all current liquidity needs will be met with cash flows from operations and other activities.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Credit Facilities. On February 12, 2010, Solar Capital Ltd. amended and restated Solar Capital LLC's \$250 million Credit Facility, extending the maturity to February 2013 and increasing the total commitments under the facility to \$270 million. Per the amended agreement, borrowings bear interest at a rate per annum equal to the base rate plus 3.25% or the alternate base rate plus 2.25%. The commitment fee on unused balances is 0.375%. The amendment also reduced the advance rates permitted on certain asset types and placed limitations on the secured borrowing amount. On May 26, 2010, the Credit Facility was amended to remove the limitations on the

Table of Contents

secured borrowing and increase the advance rates permitted on certain asset types. Total commitments under the Credit Facility have been increased to \$355 million as a result of the addition of two new lenders on May 12, 2010 and June 23, 2010. The facility size may be increased up to \$600 million with additional new lenders or the increase in commitments of current lenders. The Credit Facility contains certain customary affirmative and negative covenants and events of default, including the occurrence of a change of control. In addition, the Credit Facility contains certain financial covenants that among other things, require the Company to maintain a minimum shareholder equity and a minimum debt to total assets ratio.

On December 17, 2010, we established the \$100 million Credit Facility II with Wells Fargo Securities, LLC acting as administrative agent. In connection with the Credit Facility II, our wholly owned financing subsidiary, SC Funding II, as borrower, entered into a Loan and Servicing Agreement whereby we will transfer certain loans we have originated or acquired or will originate or acquire from time to time to SC Funding II via a Purchase and Sale Agreement. The Credit Facility II, among other things, matures on December 17, 2015 and generally bears interest based on LIBOR plus 3.00%. The Credit Facility II is secured by all of the assets held by SC Funding II. Under the Credit Facility II, Solar and SC Funding II, as applicable, have made certain customary representations and warranties, and are required to comply with various covenants, reporting requirements and other customary requirements for similar credit facilities. The Credit Facility II includes usual and customary events of default for credit facilities of this nature.

Term Loan. On September 2, 2010, Solar Capital Ltd. entered into the fully funded \$35 million Term Loan, which matures in September 2013, bears interest at a rate per annum equal to the base rate plus 3.25%, and has terms substantially similar to our revolving credit facilities.

Certain covenants may restrict our business activities, including limitations that could hinder our ability to finance additional loans and investments or to make the distributions required to maintain our status as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code.

Contractual Obligations.

A summary of our significant contractual payment obligations is as follows:

Payments Due by Period

(in millions)	Total	Less than 1 Year	1-3 Years	3-5 Years	More Than 5 Years
Senior secured revolving credit facilities(1)	\$ 400.0	\$	\$ 300.0	\$ 100.0	\$
Term Loan	\$ 35.0	\$	\$ 35.0	\$	\$

(1) As of December 31, 2010, we had \$55.0 million of unused borrowing capacity under our credit facility.

We have certain commitments pursuant to our Investment Advisory and Management Agreement entered into with Solar Capital Partners. We have agreed to pay a fee for investment advisory and management services consisting of two components a base management fee and an incentive fee. Payments under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement are equal to (1) a percentage of the value of our average gross assets and (2) a two-part incentive fee. See Item 1. Business Investment Advisory and Management Agreement. We have also entered into a contract with Solar Capital Management to serve as our administrator. Payments under the Administration Agreement are equal to an amount

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

based upon our allocable portion of Solar Capital Management's overhead in performing its obligation under the agreement, including rent, fees, and other expenses inclusive of our allocable portion of the compensation of our chief financial officer and any administrative staff. See Item 1. Business Solar Capital Management.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

In the normal course of its business, we trade various financial instruments and may enter into various investment activities with off-balance sheet risk, which include forward foreign currency contracts. Generally,

Table of Contents

these financial instruments represent future commitments to purchase or sell other financial instruments at specific terms at future dates. These financial instruments contain varying degrees of off-balance sheet risk whereby changes in the market value or our satisfaction of the obligations may exceed the amount recognized in our Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Borrowings

We had borrowings of \$400.0 million and \$88.1 outstanding as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively, under the Credit Facilities. See Credit Facilities above for a description of the Credit Facility and the Credit Facility II. We also had \$35 million outstanding on the Term Loan as of December 31, 2010.

Distributions and Dividends

In December 2009, Solar Capital LLC declared a \$75 million cash distribution, which was paid to the existing LLC Holders on a pro-rata basis on January 29, 2010.

On January 26, 2010, the board of directors of Solar Capital Ltd. declared a quarterly dividend of \$0.60 per share, prorated for the number of days remaining in the first quarter after our initial public offering. The first quarterly dividend was \$0.34 per share, on a pro-rated basis, and was paid on April 1, 2010 to holders of record as of March 18, 2010.

On May 4, 2010, the board of directors of Solar Capital Ltd. declared a quarterly dividend of \$0.60 per share and was paid on July 2, 2010 to holders of record as of June 17, 2010.

On August 3, 2010, the board of directors of Solar Capital Ltd. declared a quarterly dividend of \$0.60 per share and was paid on October 4, 2010 to holders of record as of September 17, 2010.

On November 2, 2010, the board of directors of Solar Capital Ltd. declared a quarterly dividend of \$0.60 per share and was paid on December 30, 2010 to holders of record as of December 17, 2010.

On March 1, 2011, the board of directors of Solar Capital Ltd. declared a quarterly dividend of \$0.60 per share which is payable on April 4, 2011 to holders of record as of March 17, 2011.

Related Parties

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

We have entered into a number of business relationships with affiliated or related parties, including the following:

We have entered into an Investment Advisory and Management Agreement with Solar Capital Partners. Mr. Gross, our chairman and chief executive officer, is the managing member and a senior investment professional of, and has financial and controlling interests in, Solar Capital Partners. In addition, Mr. Spohler, our chief operating officer is a partner and a senior investment professional of, and has financial interests in, Solar Capital Partners.

Solar Capital Management provides us with the office facilities and administrative services necessary to conduct day-to-day operations pursuant to our Administration Agreement. We reimburse Solar Capital Management for the allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by it in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, including rent, the fees and expenses associated with performing compliance functions, and the compensation of our chief compliance officer, our chief financial officer and any administrative support staff. Solar Capital Partners, our investment adviser, is the sole member of and controls Solar Capital Management.

We have entered into a license agreement with Solar Capital Partners, pursuant to which Solar Capital Partners has granted us a non-exclusive, royalty-free license to use the name Solar Capital.

From July 2006 through approximately the first quarter of 2009, Mr. Gross, the Company's chairman and chief executive officer, was a partner in Magnetar Capital Partners LP. Mr. Spohler, our chief operating

Table of Contents

officer together with Solar Capital Partners LLC's other investment professionals, advised Magnetar Financial LLC (Magnetar) on certain investments which coincide with those of Solar Capital. Certain entities affiliated with Magnetar owned as of December 31, 2010 and December 31, 2009, either directly or indirectly, approximately 12.5% and 42.84%, respectively, of our outstanding equity.

Solar Capital Partners and its affiliates may also manage other funds in the future that may have investment mandates that are similar, in whole and in part, with ours. For example, Solar Capital Partners presently serves as investment adviser to Solar Senior Capital Ltd., a newly-formed BDC which focuses on investing primarily in senior secured loans, including first lien, unitranche and second lien debt instruments. In addition, Michael S. Gross, our chairman and chief executive officer, Bruce Spohler, our chief operating officer, and Nicholas Radesca, our chief financial officer, serve in similar capacities for Solar Senior Capital Ltd. Solar Capital Partners and its affiliates may determine that an investment is appropriate for us and for one or more of those other funds. In such event, depending on the availability of such investment and other appropriate factors, Solar Capital Partners or its affiliates may determine that we should invest side-by-side with one or more other funds. Any such investments will be made only to the extent permitted by applicable law and interpretive positions of the SEC and its staff, and consistent with Solar Capital Partners' allocation procedures.

In addition, we have adopted a formal code of ethics that governs the conduct of our officers and directors. Our officers and directors also remain subject to the duties imposed by both the 1940 Act and the Maryland General Corporation Law.

Table of Contents**SENIOR SECURITIES**

Information about our senior securities is shown in the following tables as of December 31, 2010, 2009, 2008 and 2007. The report of our independent registered public accounting firm on the senior securities table as of December 31, 2010 is attached as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

Class and Year	Total Amount Outstanding Exclusive of Treasury Securities(1)	Asset Coverage Ratio Per Unit(2)	Involuntary Liquidation Preference Per Unit(3)	Average Market Value Per Unit(4)
Senior Secured Revolving Credit Facility				
2010	\$ 400,000	\$ 2,901		N/A
2009	\$ 88,114	\$ 8,920		N/A
2008				N/A
2007				N/A
Senior Secured Term Loan				
2010	\$ 35,000	\$ 2,901		N/A

- (1) Total amount of each class of senior securities outstanding at the end of the period presented.
- (2) Asset coverage per unit is the ratio of the carrying value of our total consolidated assets, less all liabilities and indebtedness not represented by senior securities, to the aggregate amount of senior securities representing indebtedness. Asset coverage per unit is expressed in terms of dollar amounts per \$1,000 of indebtedness.
- (3) The amount to which such class of senior security would be entitled upon the voluntary liquidation of the issuer in preference to any security junior to it. The in this column indicates that the Securities and Exchange Commission expressly does not require this information to be disclosed for certain types of senior securities.
- (4) Not applicable because senior securities are not registered for public trading.

Table of Contents

BUSINESS

Solar Capital

Solar Capital Ltd., a Maryland corporation formed in November 2007, is a closed-end, externally managed, non-diversified management investment company that has elected to be treated as a BDC under the 1940 Act. In addition, for tax purposes we intend to elect to be treated as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code.

On February 9, 2010 we priced our initial public offering, selling 5.68 million shares. Concurrent with our initial public offering, management purchased an additional 0.6 million shares through the Concurrent Private Placement. Solar Capital Ltd. issued an aggregate of approximately 26.65 million shares of common stock and \$125 million in Senior Unsecured Notes to the existing Solar Capital LLC unit holders in connection with the Solar Capital Merger. Solar Capital Ltd. had no assets or operations prior to completion of the Solar Capital Merger and as a result, the books and records of Solar Capital LLC have become the books and records of the surviving entity. As of December 17, 2010, the Senior Unsecured Notes have been repaid from proceeds of a private placement transaction that we completed on November 30, 2010 and from borrowings under our new credit facility.

Our investment objective is to generate both current income and capital appreciation through debt and equity investments. We invest primarily in leveraged middle market companies in the form of senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities. From time to time, we may also invest in public companies that are thinly traded. Our business model is focused primarily on the direct origination of investments through portfolio companies or their financial sponsors. Our investments generally range between \$20 million and \$100 million each, although we expect that this investment size will vary proportionately with the size of our capital base. We are managed by Solar Capital Partners. Solar Capital Management provides the administrative services necessary for us to operate. In addition, we may invest a portion of our portfolio in other types of investments, which we refer to as opportunistic investments, which are not our primary focus but are intended to enhance our overall returns. These investments may include, but are not limited to, direct investments in public companies that are not thinly traded and securities of leveraged companies located in select countries outside of the United States.

As of September 30, 2010, our long term investments totaled \$976.2 million and our net asset value was \$827.0 million. Our portfolio was comprised of debt and equity investments in 36 portfolio companies and our income producing assets, which represent 91.2% of our total portfolio, had a weighted average annualized yield on a fair value basis of approximately 14.3%.

About Solar Capital Partners

Solar Capital Partners is controlled by Michael S. Gross, our chairman and chief executive officer, and is led by Mr. Gross and Bruce Spohler, our chief operating officer, and is supported by a team of 12 dedicated investment professionals, including Brian Gerson, Cedric Henley and David Mait. We refer to Messrs. Gross, Spohler, Gerson, Henley and Mait as Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals. Solar Capital Partners' investment team has extensive experience in the private equity and leveraged lending industries, as well as significant contacts with financial sponsors operating in those industries. The investment team led by Messrs. Gross and Spohler has invested in 62 different portfolio companies for Solar Capital, which investments involved an aggregate of more than 50 different financial sponsors, through December 31, 2010. Since Solar Capital's inception, these investment professionals have used their relationships in the middle-market financial sponsor and financial intermediary community to originate direct investment opportunities. As of March 17, 2011, Mr. Gross and Mr. Spohler beneficially owned, either directly or indirectly, approximately 5.74% and 5.65%, respectively, of our outstanding common stock.

Mr. Gross has over 20 years of experience in the private equity, distressed debt and mezzanine lending businesses and has been involved in originating, structuring, negotiating, consummating and managing private equity, distressed debt and mezzanine lending transactions. Prior to his current role as our chairman, chief executive officer and president, Mr. Gross founded Apollo Investment Corporation, a publicly traded BDC.

Table of Contents

He served as its chairman from February 2004 to July 2006 and its chief executive officer from February 2004 to February 2006. Under his management, Apollo Investment Corporation raised approximately \$930 million in gross proceeds in an initial public offering in April 2004, built a dedicated investment team and infrastructure and invested approximately \$2.3 billion in over 65 companies in conjunction with 50 different private equity sponsors. Mr. Gross is also a founder and a former senior partner of Apollo Management, L.P., a leading private equity firm. During his tenure at Apollo Management, L.P., Mr. Gross was a member of the investment committee that was responsible for overseeing more than \$13 billion of investments in over 150 companies.

Mr. Gross also currently serves on the boards of directors of three public companies, and in the past has served on the boards of directors of more than 20 public and private companies. As a result, Mr. Gross has developed an extensive network of private equity sponsor relationships as well as relationships with management teams of public and private companies, investment bankers, attorneys and accountants that we believe should provide us with significant business opportunities.

We also rely on the more than 20 years of experience of Mr. Spohler, who has served as our chief operating officer and a partner of Solar Capital Partners since inception. Previously, Mr. Spohler was a managing director and a former co-head of U.S. Leveraged Finance for CIBC World Markets. He held numerous senior roles at CIBC World Markets, including serving on the U.S. Management Committee, Global Executive Committee and the Deals Committee, which approves all of CIBC World Markets' U.S. corporate finance debt capital decisions. During Mr. Spohler's tenure, he was responsible for senior loan, high yield and mezzanine origination and execution, as well as CIBC World Markets' below investment grade loan portfolio in the United States. As a co-head of U.S. Leveraged Finance, Mr. Spohler oversaw over 300 capital raising and merger and acquisition transactions, comprising over \$40 billion in market capitalization.

In addition to Messrs. Gross and Spohler, Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals include Messrs. Gerson, Henley and Mait, each of whom has extensive experience in originating, evaluating and structuring investments in the types of middle-market companies we currently target. Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals have an average of over 20 years of experience in the private equity and leveraged lending industries.

Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals have been active participants in the primary and secondary leveraged credit markets throughout their careers. They have effectively managed portfolios of distressed and mezzanine debt as well as other investment types. The depth of their experience and credit market expertise has led them through various stages of the economic cycle as well as several market disruptions.

Market Opportunity

Solar Capital invests primarily in senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities of middle-market leveraged companies. We believe that the size of this market, coupled with leveraged companies' need for flexible sources of capital at attractive terms and rates, create an attractive investment environment for us.

Middle-market companies have faced increasing difficulty in accessing the capital markets. While many middle-market companies were formerly able to raise funds by issuing high-yield bonds, we believe this approach to financing has become more difficult in recent years as institutional investors have sought to invest in larger, more liquid offerings. In addition, many private finance companies that historically financed their lending and investing activities through securitization transactions have lost that source of funding and reduced lending significantly.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

There is a large pool of uninvested private equity capital likely to seek additional capital to support their investments. We expect that middle-market private equity firms will continue to invest the approximately \$195 billion raised since 2000 in middle-market companies and that those private equity firms will seek to support their investments with mezzanine loans from sources such as Solar Capital. Additionally, over

Table of Contents

\$12.1 billion was raised by middle-market sponsors during 2010, which we believe demonstrates the continued appetite for middle-market acquisitions that require debt financing.

The significant amount of debt maturing through 2015 should provide additional demand for capital. A high volume of financings were completed between the years 2004 and 2007, which are expected to mature over the next few years. We believe that this supply of prospective lending opportunities coupled with a lack of available credit in the middle-market lending space may offer attractive risk-adjusted returns to investors.

Investing in private middle-market debt provides an attractive risk reward profile. In general, terms for illiquid, middle-market subordinated debt have been more attractive than those for larger corporations which are typically more liquid. We believe this is because fewer institutions are able to invest in illiquid asset classes. In 2010, on average, the total debt to EBITDA ratio for middle-market LBOs was 4.2x, versus 4.7x for large capitalization LBOs. This reduced leverage provides further cushion for borrowers to meet debt service obligations.

Therefore, we believe that there is an attractive opportunity to invest in senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities of leveraged companies, and that we are well positioned to serve this market.

Competitive Advantages and Strategy

We believe that we have the following competitive advantages over other providers of financing to leveraged companies:

Management Expertise

As managing partner, Mr. Gross has principal management responsibility for Solar Capital Partners, to which he currently dedicates substantially all of his time. Mr. Gross has over 20 years of experience in leveraged finance, private equity and distressed debt investing. Mr. Spohler, our chief operating officer and a partner of Solar Capital Partners, has over 20 years of experience in evaluating and executing leverage finance transactions. We believe that Messrs. Gross and Spohler have developed a strong reputation in the capital markets, and that this experience provides us with a competitive advantage in identifying and investing in leveraged companies with the potential to generate returns. We believe that our investment team has extensive experience in the private equity and leveraged lending industries, as well as significant contacts with financial sponsors operating in those industries. We believe that our investment team has a proven track record of valuing companies and assets and negotiating transactions.

In addition to Messrs. Gross and Spohler, Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals include Messrs. Gerson, Henley and Mait, each of whom has extensive experience in originating, evaluating and structuring investments in the types of middle-market companies we currently target. Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals have an average of over 20 years of experience in the private equity and leveraged lending industries.

Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals have been active participants in the primary and secondary leveraged credit markets throughout their careers. They have effectively managed portfolios of distressed and mezzanine debt as well as other investment types. The depth of their experience and credit market expertise has led them through various stages of the economic cycle as well as several market disruptions.

Investment Portfolio

Our portfolio investments consist of portfolio companies that have strong cash flows and have maintained financial and operating performance despite the recent economic climate. As of December 31, 2010, over 99.3% of our total portfolio value was comprised of performing assets. The majority of our assets have been seasoned, which has allowed us to gain a solid understanding of our borrowers and the industries in which they compete. Additionally, over time, we have established productive relationships with our portfolio companies.

Table of Contents

Investment Capacity

The proceeds from our initial public offering and the Concurrent Private Placement, the borrowing capacity under our credit facilities and our \$35 million Term Loan, and the expected repayments of existing investments provide us with a substantial amount of capital available for deployment into new investment opportunities. We believe we are well positioned for the current marketplace. We believe that in the current economic environment financing needs of many companies will increase while funding options are limited, allowing us to capitalize on favorable investment opportunities.

Solar Capital's Limited Leverage

As of March 17, 2011, we had outstanding borrowings of \$77.7 million. We believe our relatively low level of leverage provides us with a competitive advantage, allowing us to anticipate providing a consistent dividend to our investors as proceeds from our investments are available for reinvestment as opposed to being consumed by debt repayment. To the extent borrowing conditions improve and leverage becomes available on more attractive terms, we may increase our relative level of debt in the future. However, we do not currently anticipate operating with a substantial amount of debt relative to our total assets. Furthermore, by maintaining prudent leverage levels, we believe we will be better positioned to weather future market downturns.

Proprietary Sourcing and Origination

We believe that Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals' longstanding relationships with financial sponsors, commercial and investment banks, management teams and other financial intermediaries provide us with a strong pipeline of proprietary origination opportunities. We believe the broad expertise of Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals and their ability to draw upon their average of 20 years of investment experience enable us to identify, assess and structure investments successfully. We expect to continue leveraging the relationships Mr. Gross established while sourcing and originating investments at Apollo Investment Corporation as well as the financial sponsor relationships Mr. Spohler developed while he was a co-head of CIBC World Markets' U.S. Leveraged Finance Group.

Our investment team's strong relationship network is enhanced by the collaborative role Solar Capital plays in the private equity industry. We offer tailored solutions to our portfolio companies, and we believe that this role provides us with greater deal flow as opposed to being viewed as a competitor bidding for control stakes. Because Solar Capital is not associated with a private equity firm, we are not precluded from partnering with most of the top tier financial sponsors.

These direct investments enable us to perform more in-depth due diligence and play an active role in structuring financings. We believe that effectuating the transaction terms and having greater insight into a portfolio company's operations and financial picture assist Solar Capital in minimizing downside potential, while reinforcing Solar Capital as a trusted partner who delivers comprehensive financing solutions. Since our inception, Solar Capital Partners has sourced investments in 62 different portfolio companies for Solar Capital, which investments involved an aggregate of more than 50 different financial sponsors, through December 31, 2010.

Versatile Transaction Structuring and Flexibility of Capital

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

We believe our senior investment professionals' broad expertise and ability to draw upon their extensive experience enable us to identify, assess and structure investments successfully across all levels of a company's capital structure and to manage potential risk and return at all stages of the economic cycle. While we are subject to significant regulation as a BDC, we are not subject to many of the regulatory limitations that govern traditional lending institutions such as banks. As a result, we believe that we can be more flexible than such lending institutions in selecting and structuring investments, adjusting investment criteria, transaction structures and, in some cases, the types of securities in which we invest. We believe financial sponsors, management teams and

Table of Contents

investment banks see this flexibility as a benefit, making us an attractive financing partner. We believe that this approach enables us to procure attractive investment opportunities throughout the economic cycle so that we can make investments consistent with our stated investment objective even during turbulent periods in the capital markets.

Emphasis on Achieving Strong Risk-Adjusted Returns

Solar Capital Partners uses a disciplined investment and risk management process that emphasizes a rigorous fundamental research and analysis framework. Solar Capital Partners seeks to build our portfolio on a bottom-up basis, choosing and sizing individual positions based on their relative risk/reward profiles as a function of the associated downside risk, volatility, correlation with the existing portfolio and liquidity. At the same time, Solar Capital Partners takes into consideration a variety of factors in managing our portfolio and imposes portfolio-based risk constraints promoting a more diverse portfolio of investments and limiting issuer and industry concentration. Our value-oriented investment philosophy focuses on preserving capital and ensuring that our investments have an appropriate return profile in relation to risk. When market conditions make it difficult for us to invest according to our criteria, we are highly selective in deploying our capital. We do not pursue short-term origination targets. We believe this approach enables us to build an attractive investment portfolio that meets our return and value criteria over the long term.

We believe it is critical to conduct extensive due diligence on investment targets. In evaluating new investments we, through Solar Capital Partners, conduct a rigorous due diligence process that draws upon investment experience, industry expertise and network of contacts of our senior investment professionals, as well as the other members of our investment team. Among other things, our due diligence is designed to ensure that a prospective portfolio company will be able to meet its debt service obligations.

We have the ability to invest across an issuer's capital structure, which we believe enables us to provide comprehensive financing solutions for our portfolio companies, as well as access the best risk-adjusted opportunities. The overall transaction size and product mix is based upon the needs of the customer, as well as our risk-return hurdles. We also focus on downside protection and preservation of capital throughout the structuring process.

Deep Industry Focus with Substantial Information Flow

We concentrate our investing activities in industries characterized by strong cash flow and in which Solar Capital Partners' investment professionals have deep investment experience. During his time with the Apollo entities, Mr. Gross oversaw investments in over 200 companies in 20 industries. As a result of their investment experience, Messrs. Gross and Spohler, together with Solar Capital Partners' other investment professionals, have long-term relationships with management consultants and management teams in the industries we target, as well as substantial information concerning those industries. The investment team led by Messrs. Gross and Spohler has invested in 62 different portfolio companies for Solar Capital, which investments involved an aggregate of more than 50 different financial sponsors, through December 31, 2010. Solar Capital Partners' investment team also has significant experience in evaluating and making investments in the industries we target. We believe that the in-depth experience of Solar Capital Partners' investment team in investing throughout various stages of the economic cycle provides our investment adviser with access to ongoing market insights in addition to a powerful asset for investment sourcing. See Business Investments.

Longer Investment Horizon

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Unlike private equity and venture capital funds, we will not be subject to standard periodic capital return requirements. Such requirements typically stipulate that the capital of these funds, together with any capital gains on such invested funds, can only be invested once and must be returned to investors after a pre-agreed time period. We believe that our flexibility to make investments with a long-term view and without the capital return

Table of Contents

requirements of traditional private investment vehicles provides us with the opportunity to generate favorable returns on invested capital and enables us to be a better long-term partner for our portfolio companies.

Investments

Solar Capital seeks to create a diverse portfolio that includes senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities by investing approximately \$20 to \$100 million of capital, on average, in the securities of leveraged companies, including middle-market companies. Our portfolio includes both senior secured loans and mezzanine loans. Structurally, mezzanine loans usually rank subordinate in priority of payment to senior debt, such as senior bank debt, and are often unsecured. As such, other creditors may rank senior to us in the event of an insolvency. However, mezzanine loans rank senior to common and preferred equity in a borrower's capital structure. Typically, mezzanine loans have elements of both debt and equity instruments, offering the fixed returns in the form of interest payments associated with senior debt, while providing lenders an opportunity to participate in the capital appreciation of a borrower, if any, through an equity interest. This equity interest typically takes the form of warrants. Due to its higher risk profile and often less restrictive covenants as compared to senior loans, mezzanine loans generally earn a higher return than senior secured loans. The warrants associated with mezzanine loans are typically detachable, which allows lenders to receive repayment of their principal on an agreed amortization schedule while retaining their equity interest in the borrower. Mezzanine loans also may include a put feature, which permits the holder to sell its equity interest back to the borrower at a price determined through an agreed formula. We believe that mezzanine loans offer an attractive investment opportunity based upon their historic returns and resilience during economic downturns.

In addition to senior secured loans and mezzanine loans, we may invest a portion of our portfolio in opportunistic investments, which are not our primary focus, but are intended to enhance our returns to our investors. These investments may include similar direct investments in public companies that are not thinly traded and securities of leveraged companies located in select countries outside of the United States.

Additionally, we may in the future seek to securitize our loans to generate cash for funding new investments. To securitize loans, we may create a wholly owned subsidiary and contribute a pool of loans to the subsidiary. This could include the sale of interests in the subsidiary on a non-recourse basis to purchasers who we would expect to be willing to accept a lower interest rate to invest in investment grade loan pools, and we would retain a portion of the equity in the securitized pool of loans.

Moreover, we may acquire investments in the secondary market and, in analyzing such investments, we will employ the same analytical process as we use for our primary investments.

Our principal focus is to provide senior secured loans and mezzanine loans to leveraged companies in a variety of industries. We generally seek to target companies that generate positive cash flows. We generally seek to invest in companies from the broad variety of industries in which our investment adviser has direct expertise. The following is a representative list of the industries in which we may invest.

Aerospace and defense

Healthcare, education and childcare

Automotive

Home and office furnishing, consumer products

Banking

Hotels, motels, inns and gaming

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Beverage, food and tobacco

Industrial

Broadcasting and entertainment

Infrastructure

Business services

Insurance

Cable television

Leisure, motion pictures and entertainment

Cargo transport

Logistics

Chemicals, plastics and rubber

Machinery

Consumer finance

Consumer services

Table of Contents

Containers, packaging and glass	Media
Direct marketing	Mining, steel and nonprecious metals
Distribution	Oil and gas
Diversified/conglomerate manufacturing	Personal, food and misc. services
Diversified/conglomerate services	Printing, publishing and broadcasting
Education	Real estate
Electronics	Retail stores
Energy/utilities	Specialty finance
Equipment rental	Technology
Farming and agriculture	Telecommunications
Finance	Utilities

We may invest in other industries if we are presented with attractive opportunities.

Set forth below is a list of our ten largest portfolio company investments as of December 31, 2010, as well as the top ten industries in which we were invested as of December 31, 2010, in each case calculated as a percentage of our total assets as of such date.

Portfolio Company	% of Total Assets
DS Waters	7.8%
Midcap Financial Intermediate Holdings, LLC	5.7%
Earthbound Farm	4.5%
Rug Doctor L.P	3.7%
Asurion Corporation	3.6%
Fleetpride Corporation	3.2%
Adams Outdoor Advertising	3.2%
Vision Holding Corp	3.0%
Direct Buy Inc	2.9%
Fulton Holding Corp	2.7%

Industry	% of Total Assets
Beverage, food and tobacco	13.5%
Personal, food, and misc services	6.1%
Banking	5.7%
Farming & agriculture	4.5%
Healthcare, education, and childcare	4.2%
Aerospace and defense	3.8%
Broadcasting and entertainment	3.8%
Leisure, motion pictures, entertainment	3.7%
Insurance	3.6%

Diversified / conglomerate services

3.2%

Investment Selection Process

Solar Capital Partners utilizes a value-oriented investment philosophy with a focus on the preservation of capital and a commitment to managing downside exposure.

Portfolio Company Characteristics

We have identified several criteria that we believe are important in identifying and investing in prospective portfolio companies. These criteria provide general guidelines for our investment decisions; however, not all of these criteria will be met by each prospective portfolio company in which we choose to invest.

Value Orientation/Positive Cash Flow. Our investment philosophy places a premium on fundamental analysis from an investor's perspective and has a distinct value orientation. We focus on companies in which we can invest at relatively low multiples of operating cash flow and that are profitable at the time of investment on an operating cash flow basis. Additionally, we look for companies with a demonstrated ability to de-lever. Typically, we would not invest in start-up companies or companies having speculative business plans.

Growth. We invest primarily in companies with strong prospects for growth. These companies are usually in high-growth industries or have a competitive advantage that creates the potential to increase market share.

Table of Contents

Strong Competitive Position in Industry. We seek to invest in target companies that have developed leading market positions within their respective markets and are well positioned to capitalize on growth opportunities. We seek companies that demonstrate significant competitive advantages versus their competitors, which we believe should help to protect their market position and profitability.

Diversified Customer and Supplier Base. We seek to acquire businesses that have a diversified customer and supplier base. We believe that companies with a diversified customer and supplier base are generally better able to endure economic downturns, industry consolidation, changing business preferences and other factors that may negatively impact their customers, suppliers and competitors.

Exit Strategy. We predominantly invest in companies which provide multiple alternatives for an eventual exit. We look for opportunities that provide an exit typically within three years of the initial capital commitment.

We seek companies that we believe will provide a steady stream of cash flow to repay our loans and reinvest in their respective businesses. We believe that such internally generated cash flow, leading to the payment of interest on, and the repayment of the principal of, our investments in portfolio companies represents a key means by which we will be able to exit from our investments over time.

In addition, we also seek to invest in companies whose business models and expected future cash flows offer attractive exit possibilities. These companies include candidates for strategic acquisition by other industry participants and companies that may repay our investments through an initial public offering of common stock or another capital market transaction.

Liquidation Value of Assets. The prospective liquidation value of the assets, if any, that collateralizes the loans in which we invest, is an important factor in our credit analysis. Our analysis emphasizes both tangible assets, such as accounts receivable, inventory, equipment and real estate, and intangible assets, such as intellectual property, customer lists, networks and databases.

Experienced and Committed Management. We generally require that portfolio companies have an experienced management team. We also require portfolio companies have in place proper incentives to induce management to succeed and to act in concert with our interests as investors, including having significant equity interests.

Strong Sponsorship. We aim to invest alongside other sophisticated investors. We seek to partner with successful financial sponsors who have historically generated high returns. We believe that investing in these sponsors' portfolio companies enables us to benefit from their direct involvement and due diligence.

Due Diligence

In conducting due diligence, we use publicly available information as well as information from relationships with former and current management teams, consultants, competitors and investment bankers. Our due diligence methodology allows us to screen a high volume of potential investment opportunities on a consistent and thorough basis.

Our due diligence typically includes:

review of historical and prospective financial information;

research relating to the company's management, industry, markets, products and services and competitors;

on-site visits;

discussions with management, employees, customers or vendors of the potential portfolio company;

Table of Contents

review of senior loan documents; and

background investigations.

We also evaluate the private equity sponsor making the investment. A private equity sponsor is typically the controlling shareholder upon completion of an investment and as such is considered critical to the success of the investment. The equity sponsor is evaluated along several key criteria, including:

Investment track record;

Industry experience;

Capacity and willingness to provide additional financial support to the company through additional capital contributions, if necessary; and

Reference checks.

Upon the completion of due diligence and a decision to proceed with an investment in a company, the investment professionals leading the investment present the investment opportunity to Solar Capital Partners' investment committee, which then determines whether to pursue the potential investment. Additional due diligence with respect to any investment may be conducted on our behalf by attorneys and independent accountants prior to the closing of the investment, as well as other outside advisers, as appropriate.

The Investment Committee

All new investments are required to be approved by a consensus of the investment committee of Solar Capital Partners, which is led by Messrs. Gross and Spohler. The members of Solar Capital Partners' investment committee receive no compensation from us. Such members may be employees or partners of Solar Capital Partners and may receive compensation or profit distributions from Solar Capital Partners.

Investment Structure

Once we determine that a prospective portfolio company is suitable for investment, we work with the management of that company and its other capital providers, including senior, junior and equity capital providers, to structure an investment. We negotiate among these parties to agree on how our investment is expected to perform relative to the other capital in the portfolio company's capital structure.

We structure our mezzanine investments primarily as unsecured, subordinated loans that provide for relatively high, fixed interest rates that provide us with significant current interest income. These loans typically have interest-only payments in the early years, with amortization of principal deferred to the later years of the mezzanine loans. In some cases, we may enter into loans that, by their terms, convert into equity or

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

additional debt securities or defer payments of interest for the first few years after our investment. Also, in some cases our mezzanine loans may be collateralized by a subordinated lien on some or all of the assets of the borrower. Typically, our mezzanine loans have maturities of five to ten years.

We also invest in portfolio companies in the form of senior secured loans. These senior secured loans typically provide for deferred interest payments in the first few years of the term of the loan. We generally obtain security interests in the assets of our portfolio companies that serve as collateral in support of the repayment of these loans. This collateral may take the form of first or second priority liens on the assets of a portfolio company.

Typically, our mezzanine and senior secured loans have final maturities of five to ten years. However, we expect that our portfolio companies often may repay these loans early, generally within three years from the date of initial investment. To preserve an acceptable return on investment, we seek to structure these loans with prepayment premiums.

Table of Contents

In the case of our mezzanine loan and senior secured loan investments, we tailor the terms of the investment to the facts and circumstances of the transaction and the prospective portfolio company, negotiating a structure that protects our rights and manages our risk while creating incentives for the portfolio company to achieve its business plan and improve its profitability. For example, in addition to seeking a senior position in the capital structure of our portfolio companies, we will seek to limit the downside potential of our investments by:

requiring a total return on our investments (including both interest and potential capital appreciation) that compensates us for credit risk;

incorporating put rights and call protection into the investment structure; and

negotiating covenants in connection with our investments that afford our portfolio companies as much flexibility in managing their businesses as possible, consistent with preservation of our capital. Such restrictions may include affirmative and negative covenants, default penalties, lien protection, change of control provisions and board rights, including either observation or participation rights.

Our investments may include equity features, such as warrants or options to buy a minority interest in the portfolio company. Any warrants we receive with our debt securities generally require only a nominal cost to exercise, and thus, as a portfolio company appreciates in value, we may achieve additional investment return from this equity interest. We may structure the warrants to provide provisions protecting our rights as a minority interest holder, as well as puts, or rights to sell such securities back to the company, upon the occurrence of specified events. In many cases, we also obtain registration rights in connection with these equity securities, which may include demand and piggyback registration rights. In addition, we may from time to time make direct equity investments in portfolio companies.

We seek to hold most of our investments to maturity or repayment, but will sell our investments earlier if a liquidity event takes place, such as the sale or recapitalization of a portfolio company.

Ongoing Relationships with Portfolio Companies

Monitoring. Solar Capital Partners monitors our portfolio companies on an ongoing basis. Solar Capital Partners monitors the financial trends of each portfolio company to determine if it is meeting its business plan and to assess the appropriate course of action for each company.

Solar Capital Partners has several methods of evaluating and monitoring the performance and fair value of our investments, which include the following:

Assessment of success in adhering to each portfolio company's business plan and compliance with covenants;

Periodic and regular contact with portfolio company management and, if appropriate, the financial or strategic sponsor, to discuss financial position, requirements and accomplishments;

Comparisons to other Solar Capital portfolio companies in the industry, if any;

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Attendance at and participation in board meetings; and

Review of monthly and quarterly financial statements and financial projections for portfolio companies.

In addition to various risk management and monitoring tools, Solar Capital Partners also uses an investment rating system to characterize and monitor our expected level of returns on each investment in our portfolio.

Table of Contents

We use an investment rating scale of 1 to 4. The following is a description of the conditions associated with each investment rating:

Investment

Rating	Summary Description
1	Involves the least amount of risk in our portfolio, the portfolio company is performing above expectations, and the trends and risk factors are generally favorable (including a potential exit)
2	Risk that is similar to the risk at the time of origination, the portfolio company is performing as expected, and the risk factors are neutral to favorable; all new investments are initially assessed a grade of 2
3	The portfolio company is performing below expectations, may be out of compliance with debt covenants, and requires procedures for closer monitoring
4	The investment is performing well below expectations and is not anticipated to be repaid in full

Solar Capital Partners monitors and, when appropriate, changes the investment ratings assigned to each investment in our portfolio. As of September 30, 2010, the weighted average investment rating on the fair market value of our portfolio was 1.9. In connection with our valuation process, Solar Capital Partners reviews these investment ratings on a quarterly basis, and our board of directors affirms such ratings.

Valuation Procedures

We will conduct the valuation of our assets, pursuant to which our net asset value shall be determined, at all times consistent with GAAP and the 1940 Act. Our valuation procedures are set forth in more detail below:

Securities for which market quotations are readily available on an exchange shall be valued at the closing price on the day of valuation. We may also obtain quotes with respect to certain of our investments from pricing services or brokers or dealers in order to value assets. When doing so, we determine whether the quote obtained is sufficient according to GAAP to determine the fair value of the security. If determined adequate, we use the quote obtained.

Securities for which reliable market quotations are not readily available or for which the pricing source does not provide a valuation or methodology or provides a valuation or methodology that, in the judgment of our investment adviser or board of directors, does not represent fair value, shall each be valued as follows: (i) each portfolio company or investment is initially valued by the investment professionals responsible for the portfolio investment; (ii) preliminary valuation conclusions are documented and discussed with our senior management; (iii) independent third-party valuation firms engaged by, or on behalf of, the board of directors will conduct independent appraisals and review management's preliminary valuations and make their own assessment for all material assets; (iv) the board of directors will discuss valuations and determine the fair value of each investment in our portfolio in good faith based on the input of the investment adviser and, where appropriate, the respective third-party valuation firms.

The recommendation of fair value will generally be based on the following factors, as relevant:

the nature and realizable value of any collateral;

the portfolio company's ability to make payments;

the portfolio company's earnings and discounted cash flow;

the markets in which the issuer does business; and

comparisons to publicly traded securities.

Table of Contents

Securities for which market quotations are not readily available or for which a pricing source is not sufficient may include, but are not limited to, the following:

private placements and restricted securities that do not have an active trading market;

securities whose trading has been suspended or for which market quotes are no longer available;

debt securities that have recently gone into default and for which there is no current market;

securities whose prices are stale;

securities affected by significant events; and

securities that the investment adviser believes were priced incorrectly.

Determination of fair value involves subjective judgments and estimates. Accordingly, the notes to our financial statements express the uncertainty with respect to the possible effect of such valuations, and any change in such valuations, on our financial statements.

Competition

Our primary competitors provide financing to middle-market companies and include other BDCs, commercial and investment banks, commercial financing companies and, to the extent they provide an alternative form of financing, private equity funds. Additionally, alternative investment vehicles, such as hedge funds, frequently invest in middle-market companies. As a result, competition for investment opportunities at middle-market companies can be intense. However, we believe that there has been a reduction in the amount of debt capital available since the downturn in the credit markets, which began in mid-2007, and that this has resulted in a less competitive environment for making new investments. Many of our competitors are substantially larger and have considerably greater financial, technical and marketing resources than we do. For example, some competitors may have a lower cost of funds and access to funding sources that are not available to us. In addition, some of our competitors may have higher risk tolerances or different risk assessments, which could allow them to consider a wider variety of investments and establish more relationships than us. Furthermore, many of our competitors are not subject to the regulatory restrictions that the 1940 Act imposes on us as a BDC. We use the industry information available to Mr. Gross and the other investment professionals of Solar Capital Partners to assess investment risks and determine appropriate pricing for our investments in portfolio companies. In addition, we believe that the relationships of Mr. Gross and the other investment professionals of our investment adviser enable us to learn about, and compete effectively for, financing opportunities with attractive leveraged companies in the industries in which we seek to invest.

Staffing

We do not currently have any employees. Mr. Gross, our chairman and chief executive officer, and Mr. Spohler, our chief operating officer, currently serve as the managing member and a partner, respectively, of our investment adviser, Solar Capital Partners. Nicholas Radesca, our chief financial officer and secretary, is an employee of Solar Capital Management, and performs his functions as chief financial officer under the

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

terms of our Administration Agreement. Guy Talarico, our chief compliance officer, is the chief executive officer of Alaric Compliance Services, LLC, and performs his functions as our chief compliance officer under the terms of an agreement between Solar Capital Management and Alaric Compliance Services, LLC. Solar Capital Management has retained Mr. Talarico and Alaric Compliance Services, LLC pursuant to its obligations under our Administration Agreement.

Our day-to-day investment operations are managed by Solar Capital Partners. Solar Capital Partners' investment personnel currently consists of its senior investment professionals, Messrs. Gross, Spohler, Gerson, Henley and Mait, and a team of additional experienced investment professionals. Based upon its needs, Solar Capital Partners may hire additional investment professionals. In addition, we will reimburse Solar Capital

Table of Contents

Management for the allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by it in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, including rent, the fees and expenses associated with performing compliance functions, and the compensation of our chief financial officer and any administrative support staff.

Properties

Our executive offices are located at 500 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10022, and are provided by Solar Capital Management in accordance with the terms of the Administration Agreement. We believe that our office facilities are suitable and adequate for our business as it is contemplated to be conducted.

Legal Proceedings

None of us, our investment adviser or administrator, is currently subject to any material legal proceedings, nor, to our knowledge, is any material legal proceeding threatened against us, or against our investment adviser or administrator. From time to time, we, our investment adviser or administrator, may be a party to certain legal proceedings in the ordinary course of business, including proceedings relating to the enforcement of our rights under contracts with our portfolio companies. While the outcome of these legal proceedings cannot be predicted with certainty, we do not expect that these proceedings will have a material effect upon our financial condition or results of operations.

Table of Contents**PORTFOLIO COMPANIES**

The following table sets forth certain information as of December 31, 2010 for each portfolio company in which we had a debt or equity investment. The general terms of our debt and equity investments are described in Business Investments. Other than these investments, our only formal relationships with our portfolio companies are the managerial assistance we may provide upon request and the board observer or participation rights we may receive in connection with our investment. Other than Ark Real Estate Partners, National Specialty Alloys, LLC, SOCA Y Corp., SODAY Corp., and USAW 767, we do not control and are not an affiliate of any of our portfolio companies, each as defined in the 1940 Act. In general, under the 1940 Act, we would control a portfolio company if we owned more than 25% of its voting securities and would be an affiliate of a portfolio company if we owned more than 5% of its voting securities.

Name and Address of					% of Class Held	Fair Value (in thousands)
Portfolio Company:	Industry	Type of Investment	Interest(1)	Maturity		
AOA Top Tier Holding Co., L.P. (Adams Outdoor Advertising) 2808 Ferry Road Atlanta, GA 30339	Diversified/ conglomerate services	Subordinated notes	18.00%	12/8/2015		\$ 41,775
AMC Entertainment Holdings, Inc. 920 Main Street Kansas City, MO 64105	Leisure, motion pictures, entertainment	Subordinated notes	5.30% (L+500/Q)	6/13/2012		23,414(2)
Ares Capital Corporation 280 Park Ave. 22nd Floor, Building East New York, NY 10017	Finance	Subordinated notes	6.00% 6.63%	4/1/2012 7/15/2011		15,947 14,784
Ark Real Estate Partners LP LP 505 Park Ave., 21st Floor New York, NY 10022	Real estate	Partnership Interest			24.90%	29,235
Asurion Corporation 648 Grassmere Park, Suite 300 Nashville, TN 37211	Insurance	Senior secured loan	6.76% (L+650/Q or M)	7/3/2015		46,609(2)
Booz Allen		Subordinated notes	13.00%	7/31/2016		17,927(2)

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

8283 Greensboro Drive McLean, VA 22102	Aerospace and defense					
Classic Cruises Holdings S.DER.L. 1000 Corporate Drive, Suite 500 Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33334	Leisure, motion pictures, entertainment	Senior secured loan	10.11% (L+975/Q)	1/31/2015		23,920
Direct Buy Inc. 8450 Broadway Merrillville, IN 46410	Home and Office furnishing, Consumer products	Subordinated notes Common stock	16.00%	5/30/2013	3.00%	34,614(2) 2,500
DSW Group, Inc. (DS Waters) 4170 Tanners Creek Drive Flowery Branch, GA 30542	Beverage, food and tobacco	Subordinated notes	15.00%	4/24/2012		100,216(2)
Earthbound Farm 1721 San Juan Highway San Juan Bautista, CA 95045	Farming and agriculture	Subordinated notes	14.25%	6/21/2017		58,358
Emdeon Business Services LLC 26 Century Blvd. Nashville, TN 37214	Healthcare, education and childcare	Senior secured loan	5.26% (L+500/Q)	5/16/2014		14,850

Table of Contents

Name and Address of					% of Class Held	Fair Value (in thousands)
Portfolio Company:	Industry	Type of Investment	Interest(1)	Maturity		
Fleetpride Corporation 8709 Technology Forest Place Suite 125 The Woodlands, TX 77381	Cargo transport	Subordinated notes	11.50%	10/1/2014		41,065
Fulton Holding Corp 299 Park Avenue, 20th Floor New York, NY 10171	Retail stores	Senior secured loan	13.82%	5/28/2016		35,000
Global Garden Products Via del lavoro, 6 I-31033 Castelfranco Veneto (Treviso) Italy	Farming and agriculture	Common Stock			<1%	
Grakon, LLC 1911 S. 218th St. P.O. Box 98984 Seattle, WA 98198	Machinery	Subordinated notes LLC interests	14.00%	6/19/2013	2.48%	6,625(2)
Great American Group Inc. 21860 Burbank Blvd. Suite 300 South Woodland Hills, CA 91367	Personal, food and misc. services	Common stock			2.54%	373
Iglo Birds Eye Group Limited No. 5, New Square Bedfont Lakes Business Park Feltham, Middlesex TW 14 8HA United Kingdom	Beverage, food and tobacco	Subordinated notes Subordinated notes	11.79% (E+1,075/Q) 11.33% (L(UK)+1,075/M)	11/3/2016 11/3/2016		5,144(2) 12,427(2)
Magnolia River, LLC 1046 Warrenton Road Vicksburg, MS 39180	Hotels, motels inns and gaming	Subordinated notes	14.00%	4/28/2014		18,111
Midcap Financial Intermediate	Banking	Subordinated notes	14.25%	7/9/2015		73,125(3)

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Holdings, LLC.

7735 Old Georgetown Road Suite 400

Bethesda, Maryland 20814

National Specialty Alloys, LLC	Mining, steel and nonprecious metals	LLC interests		40.02%	10,000
18250 Kieth Harrow Blvd.					
Houston, TX 77084					

Nuveen Investments, Inc.	Finance	Common stock		1.08%	7,500
--------------------------	---------	--------------	--	-------	-------

333 W. Wacker Dr.

Chicago, IL 60606

NXP Semiconductors N.V.	Electronics	Common stock		<1%	21,897
Netherlands B.V.					
High Tech Campus 60					
AG Eindhoven 5656					
The Netherlands					

ProSieben Sat.1 Media AG .	Broadcasting and entertainment	Subordinated notes	8.14% (E+700/S)	3/6/2017	17,247(2)
----------------------------	--------------------------------	--------------------	-----------------	----------	-----------

Medienallee 7

85774 Unterfoöhring

Germany

Ram Energy Resources, Inc.	Oil & gas	Senior secured loan	12.75% (L+1,125/M or Q)	11/29/2012	8,899(2)(4)
5100 E Skelly Drive					
Suite 650					
Tulsa, OK 74135					

Richelieu Foods, Inc.	Beverage, Food, and Tobacco	Subordinated notes	13.75%	5/18/2016	21,881(2)
-----------------------	-----------------------------	--------------------	--------	-----------	-----------

15 Pacella Park Drive

Suite 210

Randolph, MA 02368

Roundy's Supermarkets, Inc.	Grocery	Senior secured loan	10.00%	4/16/2016	22,371(4)
875 East Wisconsin Avenue					
Milwaukee, WI 53202					

Table of Contents

Name and Address of					% of	Fair Value
Portfolio Company:	Industry	Type of Investment	Interest(1)	Maturity	Class Held	(in thousands)
Rug Doctor L.P. 4701 Old Shepard Place Plano, TX 75093	Personal, food and misc. services	Subordinated notes	14.96%	10/31/2014		47,229(2)
Seven Media Group Pty Limited 38-42 Pirrama Road Pymont, New South Wales 2009 Australia	Broadcasting and entertainment	Subordinated notes Subordinated notes Common stock	11.18%	12/29/2013 12/29/2013	<1%	20,297 8,003(2) 3,857
Shoes for Crews, LLC 1400 Centrepark Boulevard West Palm Beach, FL 33401	Textiles and leather	Subordinated notes	13.75%	7/23/2016		15,650
SOCAY Corp. 500 Park Avenue New York, NY 10022	Aerospace and defense	Preferred/Common stock	10.00%		100%	3,500(2)
SODAY Corp. 500 Park Avenue New York, NY 10022	Aerospace and defense	Preferred/Common stock	10.00%		100%	390(2)
Tri-Star Electronics International, Inc. International, Inc. 2201 Rosencrans Ave. El Segundo, CA 90245	Aerospace and defense	Subordinated notes	15.25%	8/2/2013		21,236(2)
USAW 767 18851 Northeast 29th Avenue, Suite 518 Aventure, FL 33180	Aerospace and defense	Senior secured loan	14.50%	12/31/2012		6,618
ViaWest, Inc. 1200 Seventeenth St. Suite 1150 Denver, CO 80202	Personal, food and misc. services	Senior secured loan	13.50%	5/20/2016		31,774(2)

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Vision Holding Corp. 296 Grayson Highway Lawrenceville, GA 30046	Healthcare, education and childcare	Senior secured loan	12.00% (L+1,000/M)	11/23/2016	39,225(4)
VPSI, Inc. 1220 Rankin Drive Troy MI, 48083	Personal Transportation	Senior secured loan	12.00% (L+1,000/M)	12/23/2015	17,875(4)
Weetabix Group Burton Latimer Kettering Northants NN 15 5JR United Kingdom	Beverage, food and tobacco	Subordinated notes Subordinated notes	10.53% (L+950/S) 10.03% (L(UK)+900/S)	9/14/2016 5/7/2017	11,304(2) 23,405(2)
Wyle Laboratories 1960 East Grand Ave. El Segundo, CA 90245-5023	Aerospace and defense	Preferred stock	8.00%	7/17/2015	44
Total					\$ 976,221

- (1) All interest is payable in cash unless otherwise indicated. A majority of the variable rate debt investments bear interest at a rate that may be determined by reference to LIBOR or EURIBOR, and which reset daily quarterly (Q), monthly (M), or semi-annually (S). For each debt investment we have provided the current interest rate in effect as of December 31, 2010.
- (2) All or a portion of interest may be deferred through a payment-in-kind interest option.
- (3) Includes an unfunded par commitment of \$15 million.
- (4) Pays on a variable rate, subject to a base rate floor.

Table of Contents

Set forth below is a brief description of each portfolio company in which we have made an investment that represents greater than 5% of our total assets as of December 31, 2010.

DS Waters

DS Waters produces and distributes bottled water products in the U.S. DS Waters commands a leading market presence in the HOD (home and office delivery) space, particularly in the 3 gallon, 5 gallon and ½ liter bottled water segments. Water is bottled at DS Waters manufacturing facilities and then delivered by its fleet of delivery trucks to homes and offices across the country. DS Waters operates in most major markets in the U.S. based on population, and the company maintains a significant market share position in most of the markets in which it operates.

Midcap Financial Intermediate Holdings, LLC

Midcap Financial is a commercial finance firm that focuses exclusively on providing debt solutions to middle market health care companies. Midcap Financial provides a broad array of products intended to finance the growth and manage the working capital of companies spanning the breadth of the healthcare industry.

Table of Contents**MANAGEMENT**

Our board of directors oversees our management. The board of directors currently consists of five members, three of whom are not interested persons of Solar Capital Ltd. as defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act. We refer to these individuals as our independent directors. Our board of directors elects our officers, who serve at the discretion of the board of directors. The responsibilities of each director will include, among other things, the oversight of our investment activity, the quarterly valuation of our assets, and oversight of our financing arrangements. The board of directors has also established an audit committee and a nominating and corporate governance committee and may establish additional committees in the future.

Board of Directors and Executive Officers*Directors*

Information regarding the board of directors is as follows:

Name	Age	Position	Director Since	Expiration of Term
Interested Director				
Michael S. Gross	49	Chief Executive Officer, President and Chairman of the Board of Directors	2007	2012
Bruce Spohler	50	Chief Operating Officer and Director	2009	2011
Independent Directors				
Steven Hochberg	49	Director	2007	2011
David S. Wachter	47	Director	2007	2013
Leonard A. Potter	49	Director	2009	2012

The address for each of our directors is 500 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10022.

Executive Officers Who Are Not Directors

Name	Age	Position
Nicholas Radesca	45	Chief Financial Officer and Secretary
Guy Talarico	55	Chief Compliance Officer

The address for each of our executive officers is 500 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10022.

Biographical Information

Directors

Our directors have been divided into two groups interested directors and independent directors. An interested director is an interested person as defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act. As described below under Committees of the Board of Directors Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, the board of directors has identified certain desired attributes for director nominees. Each of our directors has demonstrated high character and integrity, superior credentials and recognition in his respective field and the relevant expertise and experience upon which to be able to offer advice and guidance to our management. Each of our directors also has sufficient time available to devote to the affairs of Solar Capital, is able to work with the other members of the board of directors and contribute to the success of Solar Capital and can represent the long-term interests of Solar Capital's stockholders as a whole. Our directors have been selected such that the board of directors represents a range of backgrounds and experience. Set forth below is biographical information of each director, including a discussion of such director's particular experience, qualifications, attributes or skills that lead us to

Table of Contents

conclude, as of the date of this prospectus, that such individual should serve as a director of Solar Capital, in light of Solar Capital's business and structure.

Interested Directors

Michael S. Gross was the managing member, the chairman of the board of directors and the chief executive officer of Solar Capital LLC since its inception in February 2007, and has been the chairman of the board of directors since December 2007, and chief executive officer and president since November 2007, of Solar Capital Ltd. Mr. Gross also currently serves as the managing member of our investment adviser, Solar Capital Partners. In addition, Mr. Gross has served as chairman of the board of directors, chief executive officer and president of Solar Senior Capital Ltd., a BDC managed by Solar Capital Partners, since its inception in December 2010. From July 2006 through approximately the first quarter of 2009, Mr. Gross was a partner in Magnetar Capital Partners, LP. Between February 2004 and February 2006, Mr. Gross was the president and chief executive officer of Apollo Investment Corporation, a publicly traded BDC that he founded and on whose board of directors and investment committee he served as chairman from February 2004 to July 2006, and was the managing partner of Apollo Investment Management, L.P., the investment adviser to Apollo Investment Corporation. Apollo Investment Corporation invests primarily in middle-market companies in the form of senior secured and mezzanine loans as well as by making direct equity investments in such companies. Under his management, Apollo Investment Corporation raised approximately \$930 million in gross proceeds in an initial public offering in April 2004 and invested approximately \$2.3 billion in over 65 companies in conjunction with 50 different private equity sponsors. From 1990 to February 2006, Mr. Gross was a senior partner at Apollo Management, L.P., a leading private equity firm which he founded in 1990 with five other persons. Since its inception, Apollo Management, L.P. has invested more than \$13 billion in over 150 companies in the United States and Western Europe. During his tenure at Apollo Management, L.P., Mr. Gross was a member of an investment committee that was responsible for overseeing such investments. In addition, from 2003 to February 2006, Mr. Gross was the managing partner of Apollo Distressed Investment Fund, an investment fund he founded to invest principally in non-control oriented distressed debt and other investment securities of leveraged companies. Prior to his time at Apollo Management, L.P., Mr. Gross was employed by Drexel Burnham Lambert Incorporated. From June 2006 to August 2008, Mr. Gross served as the chief executive officer, chairman of the board of directors and secretary of Marathon Acquisition Corp., a publicly traded special purpose acquisition company. Mr. Gross currently serves on the boards of directors of Saks, Inc., Global Ship Lease Inc. and Jarden Corporation, and in the past has served on the boards of directors, including in certain cases, in the capacity as a lead director, of more than 20 public and private companies. He is a founding member, and serves on the executive committee, of the Youth Renewal Fund, is the chairman of the board of Mt. Sinai Children's Center Foundation, and serves on the Board of Trustees of The Trinity School and the Board of Directors of New York Road Runners. Mr. Gross holds a B.B.A. in accounting from the University of Michigan and an M.M. from the J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University. Mr. Gross' intimate knowledge of the business and operations of Solar Capital Partners, extensive familiarity with the financial industry and the investment management process in particular, and experience as a director of other public and private companies not only gives the board of directors valuable insight but also positions him well to continue to serve as the chairman of our board of directors.

Bruce Spohler was a senior vice president of Solar Capital LLC from its inception in February 2007, and has been a director since September 2009, and the chief operating officer since December 2007, of Solar Capital Ltd. Mr. Spohler also currently serves as a partner of our investment adviser, Solar Capital Partners. In addition, Mr. Spohler has served as chief operating officer and a member of the board of directors of Solar Senior Capital Ltd., a BDC managed by Solar Capital Partners, since its inception in December 2010. Previously, Mr. Spohler was a managing director and a former co-head of U.S. Leveraged Finance for CIBC World Markets. He held numerous senior roles at CIBC World Markets, including serving on the U.S. Management Committee, Global Executive Committee and the Deals Committee, which approves all of CIBC World Markets' U.S. corporate finance debt capital decisions. During his tenure, he was responsible for senior loan, high yield and mezzanine origination and execution, as well as CIBC World Markets' below investment grade loan portfolio in the U.S. As

Table of Contents

a co-head of U.S. Leveraged Finance, he oversaw over 300 capital raising and merger and acquisition transactions, comprising over \$40 billion in market capitalization. He joined CIBC World Markets in 1995 when it acquired The Argosy Group, of which Mr. Spohler was a founding member and managing director. Founded in 1990, The Argosy Group was a middle-market financing business, in which Mr. Spohler and other principals of The Argosy Group raised third party capital as well as invested alongside their financial sponsor clients. Prior to The Argosy Group, Mr. Spohler was employed by Drexel Burnham Lambert Incorporated. Mr. Spohler earned a B.S. from Syracuse University and an M.M. from the J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University. Mr. Spohler's depth of experience in managerial positions in investment management, leveraged finance and financial services, as well as his intimate knowledge of Solar Capital's business and operations, gives the board of directors valuable industry-specific knowledge and expertise on these and other matters.

Independent Directors

Steven Hochberg was a director of Solar Capital LLC from its inception in February 2007, and has been a director of Solar Capital Ltd. since November 2007. Mr. Hochberg is the founder of Ascent Biomedical Ventures, a New York based venture investor in biomedical technology companies including medical devices and drugs. Since 1992, Mr. Hochberg has also been an active founder of early-stage medical technology companies, including Biomerix Corporation, Eminent Research Systems Inc., Clinsights, Inc., Med-E-Systems/AHT Corporation, and Physicians Online. Mr. Hochberg is the chairman of the board of directors of Biomerix Corporation, Crosstrees Medical, Inc. and Ouroboros, Inc., and serves on the board of directors of Synecor, LLC. Previously, Mr. Hochberg was an investment banker with Alex. Brown & Sons and a strategy consultant with Bain & Company in the technology and healthcare areas. Currently, Mr. Hochberg is a member of the Board of Trustees and Vice Chairman of Continuum Health Partners, one of the largest non-profit hospital systems in New York City. Mr. Hochberg is also a member of the Board of Governors of the New York Academy of Sciences. In addition, Mr. Hochberg presently serves as a member of the board of directors of Solar Senior Capital Ltd., a BDC managed by Solar Capital Partners. Mr. Hochberg holds a B.B.A. from the University of Michigan and an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School. Mr. Hochberg's varied experience in investing in medical technology companies provides the board of directors with particular knowledge of this field, and his role as chairman of other companies' board of directors brings the perspective of a knowledgeable corporate leader.

Leonard A. Potter has been a director of Solar Capital Ltd. since September 2009. Mr. Potter is currently the Chief Investment Officer of Salt Creek Hospitality, a private acquirer and owner of hospitality related assets. From December 2002 through July 2009, Mr. Potter was a Managing Director - Soros Private Equity at Soros Fund Management LLC (SFM) where, from May 2005 through July 2009, Mr. Potter served as co-head of the Private Equity group and a member of the Private Equity Investment Committee. From September 1998 until joining SFM in 2002, Mr. Potter was a Managing Director of Alpine Consolidated LLC, a private merchant bank, and from April 1996 through September 1998, Mr. Potter founded and served as a Managing Director of Capstone Partners LLC, a private merchant bank. Prior to founding Capstone Partners, Mr. Potter was an attorney specializing in mergers, acquisitions and corporate finance at Morgan, Lewis & Bockius and Willkie Farr & Gallagher. Mr. Potter is currently a member of the board of directors of Next BDC Capital Corp., a newly-formed closed-end management investment company that has filed a notice of its intention to elect to be regulated as a BDC, 57th Street General Acquisition Corp. (SQTCW), a special purpose acquisition company, and Solar Senior Capital Ltd., a BDC managed by Solar Capital Partners, and has previously served as a board member of several public companies and currently serves on the boards of several private companies. Mr. Potter has a B.A. from Brandeis University and a J.D. from the Fordham University School of Law. Mr. Potter's experience practicing as a corporate lawyer provides valuable insight to the board of directors on regulatory and risk management issues. In addition, his tenure in private equity investments and service as a director of both public and private companies provide industry-specific knowledge and expertise to the board of directors.

David S. Wachter was a director of Solar Capital LLC from its inception in February 2007, and has been a director of Solar Capital Ltd. since November 2007. Mr. Wachter is a founding partner, managing director and

Table of Contents

president of W Capital Partners. W Capital Partners is a private equity fund manager that acquires direct private equity portfolios in the secondary market. W Capital Partners manages over \$1 billion of capital and is a leading participant in providing private equity firms, financial institutions and corporations with a liquidity alternative for their private equity investments. Prior to founding W Capital Partners, Mr. Wachter was a managing director at Jefferies & Co. from 1999 to 2001, a founding partner and managing director at C.E. Unterberg, Towbin from 1990 to 1999 and an investment banker at Lehman Brothers from 1986 to 1990. In addition, Mr. Wachter presently serves as a member of the board of directors of Solar Senior Capital Ltd., a BDC managed by Solar Capital Partners. Mr. Wachter has a B.S. in Engineering, with a major in Computer Science and Applied Mathematics, from Tufts University and an M.B.A. from New York University Graduate School of Business. Mr. Wachter's extensive knowledge of private equity and investment banking provide the board of directors with the valuable insight of an experienced financial manager.

Executive Officers Who Are Not Directors

Nicholas Radesca CPA has been the chief financial officer and secretary of Solar Capital Ltd. since March 2008 and October 2009, respectively, and was the chief financial officer of Solar Capital LLC from March 2008 until the Solar Capital Merger in February 2010. In addition, Mr. Radesca has served as chief financial officer and secretary of Solar Senior Capital Ltd., a BDC managed by Solar Capital Partners, since its inception in December 2010. Mr. Radesca joined Solar Capital from iStar Financial Inc. where he served from 2006 to 2008 as the Chief Accounting Officer. His responsibilities at iStar Financial Inc., a publicly traded, diversified commercial real estate company, encompassed all aspects of accounting, tax and SEC reporting. Prior to iStar Financial Inc., Mr. Radesca was the Vice President of Financial Reporting at Fannie Mae from 2005 to 2006 where he oversaw SEC, regulatory and internal reporting. From 2002 to 2005, he served as Director of External Reporting at Del Monte Foods Company, where he managed both the corporate accounting policy and the SEC reporting functions. Mr. Radesca also previously served as the Vice President of Financial Reporting at Provident Financial from 1999 to 2002, where he was responsible for SEC reporting and accounting for securitizations and derivatives. He began his financial services career at Bank of America working in the mortgage and capital markets accounting groups. Mr. Radesca has more than 15 years of experience in accounting, tax and SEC reporting and is a licensed Certified Public Accountant. Mr. Radesca has a B.S. in Accounting from New York Institute of Technology and an M.B.A. from The California State University, East Bay.

Guy Talarico has been the chief compliance officer of Solar Capital Ltd. since July 2008. In addition, Mr. Talarico has served as chief financial officer and secretary of Solar Senior Capital Ltd., a BDC managed by Solar Capital Partners, since its inception in December 2010. Mr. Talarico founded and has served as chief executive officer of Alaric Compliance Services, LLC, (successor to EOS Compliance Services LLC) since June 2004. Mr. Talarico currently serves as chief compliance officer for a number of funds and investment advisers, including Keeley Funds Inc., The FBR Funds and PennantPark Investment Corporation. Prior to founding EOS Compliance Services LLC, Mr. Talarico served as the Senior Director of the Institutional Custody Division at Investors Bank & Trust Company from 2001 to 2004. Immediately prior to that, Mr. Talarico worked at JPMorgan Chase Bank where he was a Division Executive for Commercial Investment and Retirement Services in its Investment Services Group from 1995 to 2001. Mr. Talarico holds a B.S. ChE from Lehigh University, an M.B.A. from Fairleigh Dickinson University and a J.D. from New York Law School.

Director Independence

In accordance with rules of the NASDAQ Stock Market, our board of directors annually determines each director's independence. We do not consider a director independent unless the board of directors has determined that he has no material relationship with us. We monitor the relationships of our directors and officers through a questionnaire each director completes no less frequently than annually and updates periodically as information provided in the most recent questionnaire changes.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Our governance guidelines require any director who has previously been determined to be independent to inform the Chairman of the board of directors, the Chairman of the Nominating and Corporate Governance

Table of Contents

committee and our secretary of any change in circumstance that may cause his or her status as an independent director to change. The board of directors limits membership on the audit committee and the nominating and corporate governance committee to independent directors.

In order to evaluate the materiality of any such relationship, the board of directors uses the definition of director independence set forth in the rules promulgated by the NASDAQ Stock Market. Rule 5605(a)(2) provides that a director of a BDC shall be considered to be independent if he or she is not an interested person of such BDC, as defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act.

The board of directors has determined that each of the directors is independent and has no relationship with us, except as a director and stockholder, with the exception of Michael S. Gross, as a result of his positions as the chief executive officer and president of Solar Capital and the managing member of Solar Capital Partners, Solar Capital's investment adviser, and Bruce Spohler, as a result of his position as chief operating officer of Solar Capital and a partner of Solar Capital Partners.

Board Leadership Structure

Our board of directors monitors and performs an oversight role with respect to the business and affairs of Solar Capital, including with respect to investment practices and performance, compliance with regulatory requirements and the services, expenses and performance of service providers to Solar Capital. Among other things, our board of directors approves the appointment of our investment adviser and officers, reviews and monitors the services and activities performed by our investment adviser and executive officers and approves the engagement, and reviews the performance of, our independent public accounting firm.

Under Solar Capital's bylaws, our board of directors may designate a chairman to preside over the meetings of the board of directors and meetings of the stockholders and to perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the board. We do not have a fixed policy as to whether the chairman of the board should be an independent director and believe that we should maintain the flexibility to select the chairman and reorganize the leadership structure, from time to time, based on the criteria that is in the best interests of Solar Capital and its stockholders at such times.

Presently, Mr. Gross serves as the chairman of our board of directors. Mr. Gross is an interested person of Solar Capital as defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act because he is the president and chief executive officer of Solar Capital, serves on the investment committee of our investment adviser and is the managing member of our investment adviser. We believe that Mr. Gross' history with Solar Capital, familiarity with its investment platform, and extensive knowledge of the financial services industry and the investment valuation process in particular qualify him to serve as the chairman of our board of directors. We believe that Solar Capital is best served through this existing leadership structure, as Mr. Gross' relationship with Solar Capital's investment adviser provides an effective bridge and encourages an open dialogue between management and the board of directors, ensuring that both groups act with a common purpose.

Our board of directors does not currently have a designated lead independent director. We are aware of the potential conflicts that may arise when a non-independent director is chairman of the board, but believe these potential conflicts are offset by our strong corporate governance policies. Our corporate governance policies include regular meetings of the independent directors in executive session without the presence of interested directors and management, the establishment of audit and nominating and corporate governance committees comprised solely of independent directors and the appointment of a chief compliance officer, with whom the independent directors meet regularly without the presence of interested directors and other members of management, for administering our compliance policies and procedures.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

We recognize that different board leadership structures are appropriate for companies in different situations. We re-examine our corporate governance policies on an ongoing basis to ensure that they continue to meet Solar Capital's needs.

Table of Contents

Board's Role In Risk Oversight

Our board of directors performs its risk oversight function primarily through (a) its two standing committees, which report to the entire board of directors and are comprised solely of independent directors, and (b) active monitoring of our chief compliance officer and our compliance policies and procedures.

As described below in more detail under *Committees of the Board of Directors*, the audit committee and the nominating and corporate governance committee assist the board of directors in fulfilling its risk oversight responsibilities. The audit committee's risk oversight responsibilities include overseeing Solar Capital's accounting and financial reporting processes, Solar Capital's systems of internal controls regarding finance and accounting, and audits of Solar Capital's financial statements. The nominating and corporate governance committee's risk oversight responsibilities include selecting, researching and nominating directors for election by our stockholders, developing and recommending to the board a set of corporate governance principles and overseeing the evaluation of the board and our management.

Our board of directors also performs its risk oversight responsibilities with the assistance of the chief compliance officer. The board of directors annually reviews a written report from the chief compliance officer discussing the adequacy and effectiveness of the compliance policies and procedures of Solar Capital and its service providers. The chief compliance officer's annual report addresses at a minimum (a) the operation of the compliance policies and procedures of Solar Capital and its service providers since the last report; (b) any material changes to such policies and procedures since the last report; (c) any recommendations for material changes to such policies and procedures as a result of the chief compliance officer's annual review; and (d) any compliance matter that has occurred since the date of the last report about which the board of directors would reasonably need to know to oversee our compliance activities and risks. In addition, the chief compliance officer meets separately in executive session with the independent directors at least once each year.

We believe that our board's role in risk oversight is effective, and appropriate given the extensive regulation to which we are already subject as a BDC. As a BDC, we are required to comply with certain regulatory requirements that control the levels of risk in our business and operations. For example, our ability to incur indebtedness is limited such that our asset coverage must equal at least 200% immediately after each time we incur indebtedness, we generally have to invest at least 70% of our total assets in qualifying assets and we are not generally permitted to invest in any portfolio company in which one of our affiliates currently has an investment.

We recognize that different board roles in risk oversight are appropriate for companies in different situations. We re-examine the manners in which the board administers its oversight function on an ongoing basis to ensure that they continue to meet Solar Capital's needs.

Committees of the Board of Directors

An audit committee and a nominating and corporate governance committee have been established by our board of directors. During 2010, our board of directors held eight board meetings, five audit committee meetings, and one nominating and corporate governance committee meeting. All directors attended at least 75% of the aggregate number of meetings of the board of directors and of the respective committees on which they serve. We require each director to make a diligent effort to attend all board and committee meetings as well as each annual meeting of our stockholders.

Audit Committee

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

The audit committee operates pursuant to a charter approved by our board of directors, a copy of which is available on our website at <http://www.solarcapltid.com>. The charter sets forth the responsibilities of the audit committee. The audit committee's responsibilities include selecting the independent registered public accounting firm for Solar Capital, reviewing with such independent registered public accounting firm the planning, scope

Table of Contents

and results of their audit of Solar Capital's financial statements, pre-approving the fees for services performed, reviewing with the independent registered public accounting firm the adequacy of internal control systems, reviewing Solar Capital's annual financial statements and periodic filings and receiving Solar Capital's audit reports and financial statements. The audit committee also establishes guidelines and makes recommendations to our board of directors regarding the valuation of our investments. The audit committee is responsible for aiding our board of directors in determining the fair value of debt and equity securities that are not publicly traded or for which current market values are not readily available. The board of directors and audit committee utilize the services of nationally recognized third-party valuation firms to help determine the fair value of these securities. The audit committee is currently composed of Messrs. Hochberg, Wachter and Potter, all of whom are considered independent under the rules of the NASDAQ Stock Market and are not interested persons of Solar Capital as that term is defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act. Mr. Hochberg serves as chairman of the audit committee. Our board of directors has determined that Mr. Hochberg is an audit committee financial expert as that term is defined under Item 407 of Regulation S-K, as promulgated under the Exchange Act. Mr. Hochberg meets the current independence and experience requirements of Rule 10A-3 of the Exchange Act.

Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee

The nominating and corporate governance committee operates pursuant to a charter approved by our board of directors, a copy of which is available on our website at <http://www.solarcapltd.com>. The members of the nominating and corporate governance committee are Messrs. Hochberg, Wachter and Potter, all of whom are considered independent under the rules of the NASDAQ Stock Market and are not interested persons of Solar Capital as that term is defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act. Mr. Wachter serves as chairman of the nominating and corporate governance committee. The nominating and corporate governance committee is responsible for selecting, researching and nominating directors for election by our stockholders, selecting nominees to fill vacancies on the board of directors or a committee thereof, developing and recommending to the board of directors a set of corporate governance principles and overseeing the evaluation of the board of directors and our management. The nominating and corporate governance committee currently does not consider nominees recommended by our stockholders.

The nominating and corporate governance committee seeks candidates who possess the background, skills and expertise to make a significant contribution to the board of directors, Solar Capital and its stockholders. In considering possible candidates for election as a director, the nominating and corporate governance committee takes into account, in addition to such other factors as it deems relevant, the desirability of selecting directors who:

are of high character and integrity;

are accomplished in their respective fields, with superior credentials and recognition;

have relevant expertise and experience upon which to be able to offer advice and guidance to management;

have sufficient time available to devote to the affairs of Solar Capital;

are able to work with the other members of the board of directors and contribute to the success of Solar Capital;

can represent the long-term interests of Solar Capital's stockholders as a whole; and

are selected such that the board of directors represents a range of backgrounds and experience.

The nominating and corporate governance committee has not adopted a formal policy with regard to the consideration of diversity in identifying director nominees. In determining whether to recommend a director nominee, the nominating and corporate governance committee considers and discusses diversity, among other factors, with a view toward the needs of the board of directors as a whole. The nominating and corporate governance committee generally conceptualizes diversity expansively to include, without limitation, concepts

Table of Contents

such as race, gender, national origin, differences of viewpoint, professional experience, education, skill and other qualities that contribute to the board of directors, when identifying and recommending director nominees. The nominating and corporate governance committee believes that the inclusion of diversity as one of many factors considered in selecting director nominees is consistent with the nominating and corporate governance committee's goal of creating a board of directors that best serves the needs of Solar Capital and the interest of its shareholders.

Compensation Committee

Solar Capital does not have a compensation committee because our executive officers do not receive any direct compensation from Solar Capital.

Compensation of Directors

The following table sets forth compensation of Solar Capital's directors, for the year ended December 31, 2010.

Name	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash(1)	Stock Awards(2)	All Other Compensation	Total
Interested Directors				
Michel S. Gross				
Bruce Spohler				
Independent Directors				
Steven Hochberg	\$ 124,072			\$ 124,072
David S. Wachter	\$ 119,375			\$ 119,375
Leonard A. Potter	\$ 119,375			\$ 119,375

(1) For a discussion of the independent directors' compensation, see below.

(2) We do not maintain a stock or option plan, non-equity incentive plan or pension plan for our directors. However, our independent directors have the option to receive all or a portion of the directors' fees to which they would otherwise be entitled in the form of shares of our common stock issued at a price per share equal to the greater of our then-current net asset value per share or the market price at the time of payment. No shares were issued to any of our independent directors in lieu of cash during 2010.

Our independent directors' annual fee is \$100,000. The independent directors also receive \$2,500 (\$1,500 if participate telephonically) plus reimbursement of reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with attending each board meeting and \$1,000 plus reimbursement of reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with each committee meeting attended. In addition, the chairman of the audit committee receives an annual fee of \$7,500 and the chairman of the nominating and corporate governance committee receives an annual fee of \$2,500. Further, we purchase directors' and officers' liability insurance on behalf of our directors and officers. Our independent directors also have the option to receive all or a portion of the directors' fees to which they would otherwise be entitled in the form of shares of our common stock issued at a price per share equal to the greater of our then-current net asset value per share or the market price at the time of payment. No shares were issued to any of our independent directors in lieu of cash during 2010. In addition, no compensation was paid to directors who are interested persons of Solar Capital as defined in the 1940 Act.

Compensation of Executive Officers

None of our officers receives direct compensation from Solar Capital. Mr. Gross, our chief executive officer and president, and Mr. Spohler, our chief operating officer, through their ownership interest in Solar Capital Partners, our investment adviser, are entitled to a portion of any profits earned by Solar Capital Partners, which includes any fees payable to Solar Capital Partners under the terms of our Investment Advisory and Management

Table of Contents

Agreement, less expenses incurred by Solar Capital Partners in performing its services under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement. Messrs. Gross and Spohler do not receive any additional compensation from Solar Capital Partners in connection with the management of our portfolio.

Mr. Radesca, our chief financial officer and secretary and, through Alaric Compliance Services, LLC, Guy Talarico, our chief compliance officer, are paid by Solar Capital Management, our administrator, subject to reimbursement by us of an allocable portion of such compensation for services rendered by such persons to Solar Capital. To the extent that Solar Capital Management outsources any of its functions we will pay the fees associated with such functions on a direct basis without profit to Solar Capital Management.

Indemnification Agreements

We have entered into indemnification agreements with our directors. The indemnification agreements are intended to provide our directors the maximum indemnification permitted under Maryland law and the 1940 Act. Each indemnification agreement provides that Solar Capital shall indemnify the director who is a party to the agreement (an Indemnitee), including the advancement of legal expenses, if, by reason of his or her corporate status, the Indemnitee is, or is threatened to be, made a party to or a witness in any threatened, pending, or completed proceeding, to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law and the 1940 Act.

Table of Contents**PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT**

The management of our investment portfolio is the responsibility of our investment adviser, Solar Capital Partners, and its investment committee, which is led by Messrs. Gross and Spohler. For more information regarding the business experience of Messrs. Gross and Spohler, see Management Board of Directors and Executive Officers Interested Directors. Solar Capital Partners investment committee must approve each new investment that we make. The members of Solar Capital Partners investment committee are not employed by us, and receive no compensation from us in connection with their portfolio management activities. However, Messrs. Gross and Spohler, through their financial interests in Solar Capital Partners, will be entitled to a portion of any investment advisory fees paid by Solar Capital to Solar Capital Partners.

Investment Personnel

Solar Capital Partners investment team currently consists of its senior investment professionals, Messrs. Gross, Spohler, Gerson, Henley and Mait, and team of additional experienced investment professionals. We consider Messrs. Gross and Spohler, who lead Solar Capital Partners investment committee, to be our portfolio managers.

In addition to managing our investments, our portfolio managers also currently manage the following entity:

Name	Entity	Investment Focus	Gross Assets
Solar Senior Capital Ltd.	BDC	Senior secured loans and other senior debt instruments	\$ 148.8 million ⁽¹⁾

(1) Reflects the approximate net proceeds of Solar Senior Capital Ltd.'s initial public offering, which closed on March 2, 2010.

The table below shows the dollar range of shares of our common stock to be beneficially owned by each of our portfolio managers.

Name of Portfolio Manager	Dollar Range of Equity Securities in Solar Capital ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾
Michael S. Gross	Over \$1 million
Bruce Spohler	Over \$1 million

(1) Dollar ranges are as follows: None, \$1 - \$10,000, \$10,001 - \$50,000, \$50,001 - \$100,000, \$100,001 - \$500,000; \$500,001 - \$1,000,000 or Over \$1,000,000.

(2) The dollar range of equity securities beneficially owned in us is based on the closing price for our common stock of \$23.36 on March 17, 2011 on the NASDAQ Global Select Market.

Compensation

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

None of Solar Capital Partners' investment professionals receive any direct compensation from us in connection with the management of our portfolio. Messrs. Gross and Spohler, through their financial interests in Solar Capital Partners, are entitled to a portion of any profits earned by Solar Capital Partners, which includes any fees payable to Solar Capital Partners under the terms of our Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, less expenses incurred by Solar Capital Partners in performing its services under our Investment Advisory and Management Agreement.

Table of Contents

INVESTMENT ADVISORY AND MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

Management Services

Solar Capital Partners serves as our investment adviser. Solar Capital Partners is an investment adviser that is registered as an investment adviser under the Advisers Act. Subject to the overall supervision of our board of directors, our investment adviser manages the day-to-day operations of, and provides investment advisory and management services to, Solar Capital. Under the terms of our Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, Solar Capital Partners:

determines the composition of our portfolio, the nature and timing of the changes to our portfolio and the manner of implementing such changes;

identifies, evaluates and negotiates the structure of the investments we make (including performing due diligence on our prospective portfolio companies);

closes and monitors the investments we make; and

provides us with other investment advisory, research and related services as we may from time to time require.

Solar Capital Partners' services under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement are not exclusive, and it is free to furnish similar services to other entities so long as its services to us are not impaired. For example, Solar Capital Partners presently serves as investment adviser to Solar Senior Capital Ltd., a newly-formed BDC which focuses on investing primarily in senior secured loans, including first lien, unitranche and second lien debt instruments.

Management Fee

Pursuant to the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, we have agreed to pay Solar Capital Partners a fee for investment advisory and management services consisting of two components – a base management fee and an incentive fee.

The base management fee is calculated at an annual rate of 2.00% of our gross assets. For services rendered under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, the base management fee is payable quarterly in arrears. The base management fee is calculated based on the average value of our gross assets at the end of the two most recently completed calendar quarters, and appropriately adjusted for any share issuances or repurchases during the current calendar quarter. Base management fees for any partial month or quarter will be appropriately pro-rated.

The incentive fee has two parts, as follows: one is calculated and payable quarterly in arrears based on our pre-incentive fee net investment income for the immediately preceding calendar quarter. For this purpose, pre-incentive fee net investment income means interest income, dividend income and any other income (including any other fees (other than fees for providing managerial assistance), such as commitment,

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

origination, structuring, diligence and consulting fees or other fees that we receive from portfolio companies) accrued during the calendar quarter, minus our operating expenses for the quarter (including the base management fee, expenses payable under the Administration Agreement to Solar Capital Management, and any interest expense and dividends paid on any issued and outstanding preferred stock, but excluding the incentive fee). Pre-incentive fee net investment income includes, in the case of investments with a deferred interest feature (such as original issue discount, debt instruments with pay in kind interest and zero coupon securities), accrued income that we have not yet received in cash. Pre-incentive fee net investment income does not include any realized capital gains, computed net of all realized capital losses or unrealized capital appreciation or depreciation. Pre-incentive fee net

Table of Contents

investment income, expressed as a rate of return on the value of our net assets at the end of the immediately preceding calendar quarter, is compared to a hurdle of 1.75% per quarter (7.00% annualized). Our net investment income used to calculate this part of the incentive fee is also included in the amount of our gross assets used to calculate the 2.00% base management fee. We pay Solar Capital Partners an incentive fee with respect to our pre-incentive fee net investment income in each calendar quarter as follows:

no incentive fee in any calendar quarter in which our pre-incentive fee net investment income does not exceed the hurdle of 1.75%;

100% of our pre-incentive fee net investment income with respect to that portion of such pre-incentive fee net investment income, if any, that exceeds the hurdle but is less than 2.1875% in any calendar quarter (8.75% annualized). We refer to this portion of our pre-incentive fee net investment income (which exceeds the hurdle but is less than 2.1875%) as the catch-up. The catch-up is meant to provide our investment adviser with 20% of our pre-incentive fee net investment income as if a hurdle did not apply if this net investment income exceeds 2.1875% in any calendar quarter; and

20% of the amount of our pre-incentive fee net investment income, if any, that exceeds 2.1875% in any calendar quarter (8.75% annualized) is payable to Solar Capital Partners (once the hurdle is reached and the catch-up is achieved, 20% of all pre-incentive fee investment income thereafter is allocated to Solar Capital Partners).

The following is a graphical representation of the calculation of the income-related portion of the incentive fee:

Quarterly Incentive Fee Based on Net Investment Income

Pre-incentive fee net investment income

(expressed as a percentage of the value of net assets)

Percentage of pre-incentive fee net investment income

allocated to Solar Capital Partners

These calculations are appropriately pro-rated for any period of less than three months and adjusted for any share issuances or repurchases during the relevant quarter. You should be aware that a rise in the general level of interest rates can be expected to lead to higher interest rates applicable to our debt investments. Accordingly, an increase in interest rates would make it easier for us to meet or exceed the incentive fee hurdle rate and may result in a substantial increase of the amount of incentive fees payable to our investment adviser with respect to pre-incentive fee net investment income.

The second part of the incentive fee is determined and payable in arrears as of the end of each calendar year (or upon termination of the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, as of the termination date), and equals 20% of our realized capital gains, if any, on a

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

cumulative basis from inception through the end of each calendar year, computed net of all realized capital losses and unrealized capital depreciation on a cumulative basis, less the aggregate amount of any previously paid capital gain incentive fees with respect to each of the investments in our portfolio.

Table of Contents

Examples of Quarterly Incentive Fee Calculation

Example 1: Income Related Portion of Incentive Fee (*):

Alternative 1:

Assumptions

Investment income (including interest, dividends, fees, etc.) = 1.25%

Hurdle rate (1) = 1.75%

Management fee (2) = 0.50%

Other expenses (legal, accounting, custodian, transfer agent, etc.) (3) = 0.20%

Pre-incentive fee net investment income

(investment income - (management fee + other expenses)) = 0.55%

Pre-incentive net investment income does not exceed hurdle rate, therefore there is no incentive fee.

Alternative 2:

Assumptions

Investment income (including interest, dividends, fees, etc.) = 2.70%

Hurdle rate (1) = 1.75%

Management fee (2) = 0.50%

Other expenses (legal, accounting, custodian, transfer agent, etc.) (3) = 0.20%

Pre-incentive fee net investment income

(investment income - (management fee + other expenses)) = 2.00%

Incentive fee = 100% × pre-incentive fee net investment income, subject to the catch-up (4)

$$= 100\% \times (2.00\% - 1.75\%)$$

$$= 0.25\%$$

Alternative 3:

Assumptions

Investment income (including interest, dividends, fees, etc.) = 3.00%

Hurdle rate (1) = 1.75%

Management fee (2) = 0.50%

Other expenses (legal, accounting, custodian, transfer agent, etc.) (3) = 0.20%

Pre-incentive fee net investment income

(investment income - (management fee + other expenses)) = 2.30%

Incentive fee = 20% × pre-incentive fee net investment income, subject to catch-up (4)

Incentive fee = 100% × catch-up + (20% × (pre-incentive fee net investment income - 2.1875%))

Catch-up = 2.1875% - 1.75%

= 0.4375%

Incentive fee = (100% × 0.4375%) + (20% × (2.3% - 2.1875%))

= 0.4375% + (20% × 0.1125%)

= 0.4375% + 0.0225%

= 0.46%

(*) The hypothetical amount of pre-incentive fee net investment income shown is based on a percentage of total net assets.

(1) Represents 7% annualized hurdle rate.

(2) Represents 2% annualized management fee.

(3) Excludes organizational and offering expenses.

(4) The catch-up provision is intended to provide our investment adviser with an incentive fee of 20% on all of our pre-incentive fee net investment income as if a hurdle rate did not apply when our net investment income exceeds 2.1875% in any calendar quarter.

Table of Contents

Example 2: Capital Gains Portion of Incentive Fee:

Alternative 1:

Assumptions

Year 1: \$20 million investment made in Company A (Investment A), and \$30 million investment made in Company B (Investment B)

Year 2: Investment A sold for \$50 million and fair market value (FMV) of Investment B determined to be \$32 million

Year 3: FMV of Investment B determined to be \$25 million

Year 4: Investment B sold for \$31 million

The capital gains portion of the incentive fee would be:

Year 1: None

Year 2: Capital gains incentive fee of \$6 million (\$30 million realized capital gains on sale of Investment A multiplied by 20%)

Year 3: None

\$5 million (20% multiplied by (\$30 million cumulative capital gains less \$5 million cumulative capital depreciation)) less \$6 million (previous capital gains fee paid in Year 2)

Year 4: Capital gains incentive fee of \$200,000

\$6.2 million (\$31 million cumulative realized capital gains multiplied by 20%) less \$6 million (capital gains fee taken in Year 2)

Alternative 2:

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Assumptions

Year 1: \$20 million investment made in Company A (Investment A), \$30 million investment made in Company B (Investment B) and \$25 million investment made in Company C (Investment C)

Year 2: Investment A sold for \$50 million, FMV of Investment B determined to be \$25 million and FMV of Investment C determined to be \$25 million

Year 3: FMV of Investment B determined to be \$27 million and Investment C sold for \$30 million

Year 4: FMV of Investment B determined to be \$35 million

Year 5: Investment B sold for \$20 million

The capital gains incentive fee, if any, would be:

Year 1: None

Year 2: \$5 million capital gains incentive fee

20% multiplied by \$25 million (\$30 million realized capital gains on Investment A less unrealized capital depreciation on Investment B)

Year 3: \$1.4 million capital gains incentive fee⁽¹⁾

\$6.4 million (20% multiplied by \$32 million (\$35 million cumulative realized capital gains less \$3 million unrealized capital depreciation)) less \$5 million capital gains fee received in Year 2

Table of Contents

- (1) As illustrated in Year 3 of Alternative 1 above, if Solar Capital were to be wound up on a date other than December 31 of any year, Solar Capital may have paid aggregate capital gain incentive fees that are more than the amount of such fees that would be payable if Solar Capital had been wound up on December 31 of such year.

Year 4: None

Year 5: None

\$5 million (20% multiplied by \$25 million (cumulative realized capital gains of \$35 million less realized capital losses of \$10 million)) less \$6.4 million cumulative capital gains fee paid in Year 2 and Year 3

Payment of Our Expenses

All investment professionals of the investment adviser and their respective staffs, when and to the extent engaged in providing investment advisory and management services, and the compensation and routine overhead expenses of such personnel allocable to such services, are provided and paid for by Solar Capital Partners. We bear all other costs and expenses of our operations and transactions, including (without limitation):

the cost of our organization and this offering;

the cost of calculating our net asset value, including the cost of any third-party valuation services;

the cost of effecting sales and repurchases of our shares and other securities;

interest payable on debt, if any, to finance our investments;

fees payable to third parties relating to, or associated with, making investments, including fees and expenses associated with performing due diligence reviews of prospective investments and advisory fees;

transfer agent and custodial fees;

fees and expenses associated with marketing efforts;

federal and state registration fees, any stock exchange listing fees;

federal, state and local taxes;

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

independent directors' fees and expenses;

brokerage commissions;

fidelity bond, directors and officers errors and omissions liability insurance and other insurance premiums;

direct costs and expenses of administration, including printing, mailing, long distance telephone and staff;

fees and expenses associated with independent audits and outside legal costs;

costs associated with our reporting and compliance obligations under the 1940 Act and applicable federal and state securities laws; and

all other expenses incurred by either Solar Capital Management or us in connection with administering our business, including payments under the Administration Agreement that will be based upon our allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by Solar Capital Management in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, including rent, the fees and expenses associated with performing compliance functions, and our allocable portion of the costs of compensation and related expenses of our chief compliance officer and our chief financial officer and any administrative support staff.

Table of Contents

Duration and Termination

The Investment Advisory and Management Agreement was initially approved by the board of directors of Solar Capital LLC on March 6, 2007 and subsequently approved in its current form by our board of directors and sole initial stockholder on September 29, 2009. Unless earlier terminated as described below, the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement will remain in effect for a period of two years from the date it was approved by our board of directors and will remain in effect from year to year thereafter if approved annually by our board of directors or by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of our outstanding voting securities, including, in either case, approval by a majority of our directors who are not parties to such agreement or who are not interested persons of Solar Capital, as such term is defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act. The Investment Advisory and Management Agreement will automatically terminate in the event of its assignment. The Investment Advisory and Management Agreement may also be terminated by either party without penalty upon 60 days written notice to the other. See Risk Factors Risks Relating to Our Business and Structure Our investment adviser can resign on 60 days notice.

Indemnification

The Investment Advisory and Management Agreement provides that, absent willful misfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence in the performance of its duties or by reason of the reckless disregard of its duties and obligations, Solar Capital Partners and its officers, managers, partners, agents, employees, controlling persons, members and any other person or entity affiliated with it are entitled to indemnification from Solar Capital for any damages, liabilities, costs and expenses (including reasonable attorneys fees and amounts reasonably paid in settlement) arising from the rendering of Solar Capital Partners services under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement or otherwise as an investment adviser of Solar Capital.

Organization of the Investment Adviser

Solar Capital Partners is a Delaware limited liability company. The principal executive offices of Solar Capital Partners are located at 500 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10022.

Board Approval of the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement

A discussion regarding the basis for our board of director s approval of our Investment Advisory and Management Agreement will be included in our first annual report on Form 10-K filed subsequent to any such board approval, or incorporated by reference therein.

Table of Contents

ADMINISTRATION AGREEMENT

Solar Capital Management, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, serves as our administrator. The principal executive offices of Solar Capital Management are located at 500 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10022. Pursuant to an Administration Agreement, Solar Capital Management furnishes us with office facilities, equipment and clerical, bookkeeping and record keeping services at such facilities. Under the Administration Agreement, Solar Capital Management also performs, or oversees the performance of, our required administrative services, which include, among other things, being responsible for the financial records which we are required to maintain and preparing reports to our stockholders. In addition, Solar Capital Management assists us in determining and publishing our net asset value, oversees the preparation and filing of our tax returns and the printing and dissemination of reports to our stockholder, and generally oversees the payment of our expenses and the performance of administrative and professional services rendered to us by others. Payments under the Administration Agreement are equal to an amount based upon our allocable portion of Solar Capital Management's overhead in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, including rent, the fees and expenses associated with performing compliance functions and our allocable portion of the compensation of our chief financial officer and any administrative support staff. Under the Administration Agreement, Solar Capital Management will also provide on our behalf managerial assistance to those portfolio companies that request such assistance. The Administration Agreement may be terminated by either party without penalty upon 60 days' written notice to the other party.

The Administration Agreement provides that, absent willful misfeasance, bad faith or negligence in the performance of its duties or by reason of the reckless disregard of its duties and obligations, Solar Capital Management and its officers, managers, partners, agents, employees, controlling persons, members and any other person or entity affiliated with it are entitled to indemnification from Solar Capital for any damages, liabilities, costs and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees and amounts reasonably paid in settlement) arising from the rendering of Solar Capital Management's services under the Administration Agreement or otherwise as administrator for Solar Capital.

LICENSE AGREEMENT

We have entered into a license agreement with Solar Capital Partners pursuant to which Solar Capital Partners has agreed to grant us a non-exclusive, royalty-free license to use the name Solar Capital. Under this agreement, we have a right to use the Solar Capital name for so long as the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement with our investment adviser is in effect. Other than with respect to this limited license, we will have no legal right to the Solar Capital name.

Table of Contents

CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND TRANSACTIONS

We have entered into the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement with Solar Capital Partners. Mr. Gross, our chairman and chief executive officer, is the managing member and a senior investment professional of, and has financial and controlling interests in, Solar Capital Partners. In addition, Mr. Spohler, our chief operating officer and board member and Mr. Radesca, our chief financial officer and secretary, serve as a partner and chief financial officer, respectively, for Solar Capital Partners. Mr. Spohler also has financial interests in Solar Capital Partners.

Solar Capital Partners and its affiliates may also manage other funds in the future that may have investment mandates that are similar, in whole and in part, with ours. For example, Solar Capital Partners presently serves as investment adviser to Solar Senior Capital Ltd., a newly-formed BDC which focuses on investing primarily in senior secured loans, including first lien, unitranche and second lien debt instruments. In addition, Michael S. Gross, our chairman and chief executive officer, Bruce Spohler, our chief operating officer, and Nicholas Radesca, our chief financial officer, serve in similar capacities for Solar Senior Capital Ltd. Solar Capital Partners and its affiliates may determine that an investment is appropriate for us and for one or more of those other funds. In such event, depending on the availability of such investment and other appropriate factors, Solar Capital Partners or its affiliates may determine that we should invest side-by-side with one or more other funds. Any such investments will be made only to the extent permitted by applicable law and interpretive positions of the SEC and its staff, and consistent with Solar Capital Partners' allocation procedures.

We have entered into a license agreement with Solar Capital Partners, pursuant to which Solar Capital Partners has agreed to grant us a non-exclusive, royalty-free license to use the name Solar Capital. In addition, pursuant to the terms of the Administration Agreement, Solar Capital Management provides us with the office facilities and administrative services necessary to conduct our day-to-day operations. Solar Capital Partners is the sole member of and controls Solar Capital Management.

Table of Contents**CONTROL PERSONS AND PRINCIPAL STOCKHOLDERS**

The following table sets forth certain ownership information as of March 17, 2011 with respect to Solar Capital Ltd.'s common stock for those persons who, directly or indirectly, own, control or hold with the power to vote, 5% or more of Solar Capital Ltd.'s common stock, and all officers and directors as a group.

Name	Type of Ownership	Shares Owned(1)	Percentage(2)
Magnetar Financial LLC(3)	Indirect	4,533,476	12.5%
Thornburg Investment Management Inc.(4)	Indirect	2,996,800	8.2%
Legg Mason Capital Management(5)	Indirect	1,851,410	5.1%
SAB Capital Advisors, L.L.C.(6)	Indirect	1,843,183	5.1%
Wellington Capital Management, LLP(7)	Indirect	1,833,482	5.0%
All officers and directors as a group (7 persons)(8)	Direct and Indirect	2,119,949	5.9%

- (1) Beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with Rule 13d-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Assumes no other purchases or sales of our common stock since the most recently available SEC filings. This assumption has been made under the rules and regulations of the SEC and does not reflect any knowledge that we have with respect to the present intent of the beneficial owners of our common stock listed in this table.
- (2) Percentages are based on 36,383,158 shares of common stock outstanding as of March 17, 2011.
- (3) Such securities are held by certain funds and other entities controlled and/or managed by Magnetar Financial LLC or its affiliates. The address for Magnetar Financial LLC is 1603 Orrington Avenue, Evanston, IL 60201.
- (4) Such securities are held by certain investment vehicles controlled and/or managed by Thornburg Investment Management Inc. or its affiliates. The address for Thornburg Investment Management Inc. is 2300 North Ridgetop Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87506.
- (5) Such securities are held by certain investment vehicles controlled and/or managed by Legg Mason Capital Management or its affiliates. The address for Legg Mason Capital Management is 100 International Drive, Baltimore, MD 21202.
- (6) Such securities are held by certain investment vehicles controlled by SAB Capital Advisors, L.L.C. The address for SAB Capital Advisors, L.L.C. is 767 Fifth Avenue, 21st Floor, New York, New York 10153.
- (7) Such securities are held by certain clients for whom Wellington Capital Management, LLP serves as investment adviser. The address for Wellington Capital Management is 280 Congress Street, Boston, MA 02210.
- (8) The address for all officers and directors is 500 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022.

The following table sets forth the dollar range of our equity securities beneficially owned by each of our directors as of March 17, 2011.

Name of Director	Dollar Range of Equity Securities in Solar Capital(1)(2)
Interested Directors	
Michael S. Gross	Over \$100,000
Bruce Spohler	Over \$100,000
Independent Directors	
Steven Hochberg	Over \$100,000
David S. Wachter	Over \$100,000
Leonard A. Potter	Over \$100,000

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

- (1) The dollar ranges are: None, \$1-\$10,000, \$10,001-\$50,000, \$50,001-\$100,000, or Over \$100,000.
- (2) The dollar range of equity securities beneficially owned in us is based on the closing price for our common stock of \$23.36 on March 17, 2011 on the NASDAQ Global Select Market. Beneficial ownership has been determined in accordance with Rule 16a-1(a)(2) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Table of Contents

REGULATION AS A BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

General

A BDC is regulated by the 1940 Act. A BDC must be organized in the United States for the purpose of investing in or lending to primarily private companies and making significant managerial assistance available to them. A BDC may use capital provided by public stockholders and from other sources to make long-term, private investments in businesses. A business development company provides stockholders the ability to retain the liquidity of a publicly-traded stock while sharing in the possible benefits, if any, of investing in primarily privately owned companies.

We may not change the nature of our business so as to cease to be, or withdraw our election as, a BDC unless authorized by vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities, as required by the 1940 Act. A majority of the outstanding voting securities of a company is defined under the 1940 Act as the lesser of: (a) 67% or more of such company's voting securities present at a meeting if more than 50% of the outstanding voting securities of such company are present or represented by proxy, or (b) more than 50% of the outstanding voting securities of such company. We do not anticipate any substantial change in the nature of our business.

As with other companies regulated by the 1940 Act, a BDC must adhere to certain substantive regulatory requirements. A majority of our directors must be persons who are not interested persons, as that term is defined in the 1940 Act. Additionally, we are required to provide and maintain a bond issued by a reputable fidelity insurance company to protect the BDC. Furthermore, as a BDC, we are prohibited from protecting any director or officer against any liability to us or our stockholders arising from willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of such person's office.

As a BDC, we are required to meet a coverage ratio of the value of total assets to total senior securities, which include all of our borrowings and any preferred stock we may issue in the future, of at least 200%. We may also be prohibited under the 1940 Act from knowingly participating in certain transactions with our affiliates without the prior approval of our directors who are not interested persons and, in some cases, prior approval by the SEC.

We are generally not be able to issue and sell our common stock at a price below net asset value per share. See **Risk Factors** **Risks Relating to Our Business and Structure** **Regulations governing our operation as a BDC affect our ability to, and the way in which we, raise additional capital.** We may, however, sell our common stock, or warrants, options or rights to acquire our common stock, at a price below the then-current net asset value of our common stock if our board of directors determines that such sale is in our best interests and the best interests of our stockholders, and our stockholders approve such sale. In addition, we may generally issue new shares of our common stock at a price below net asset value in rights offerings to existing stockholders, in payment of dividends and in certain other limited circumstances.

As a BDC, we are generally limited in our ability to invest in any portfolio company in which our investment adviser or any of its affiliates currently have an investment or to make any co-investments with our investment adviser or its affiliates without an exemptive order from the SEC, subject to certain exceptions. We may seek an order from the SEC to permit us to co-invest with certain of our affiliates under certain circumstances. There can be no assurance when, or if, such an order may be obtained.

We are periodically examined by the SEC for compliance with the 1940 Act.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

As a BDC, we are subject to certain risks and uncertainties. See [Risk Factors](#) [Risks Relating to Our Business and Structure](#).

Table of Contents

Qualifying Assets

Under the 1940 Act, a BDC may not acquire any asset other than assets of the type listed in Section 55(a) of the 1940 Act, which are referred to as qualifying assets, unless, at the time the acquisition is made, qualifying assets represent at least 70% of the BDC's total assets. The principal categories of qualifying assets relevant to our proposed business are the following:

(1) Securities purchased in transactions not involving any public offering from the issuer of such securities, which issuer (subject to certain limited exceptions) is an eligible portfolio company, or from any person who is, or has been during the preceding 13 months, an affiliated person of an eligible portfolio company, or from any other person, subject to such rules as may be prescribed by the SEC. An eligible portfolio company is defined in the 1940 Act as any issuer which:

(a) is organized under the laws of, and has its principal place of business in, the United States;

(b) is not an investment company (other than a small business investment company wholly owned by the BDC); and

(c) satisfies any of the following:

i. does not have any class of securities that is traded on a national securities exchange;

ii. has a class of securities listed on a national securities exchange, but has an aggregate market value of outstanding voting and non-voting common equity of less than \$250 million;

iii. is controlled by a BDC or a group of companies including a BDC and the BDC has an affiliated person who is a director of the eligible portfolio company; or

iv. is a small and solvent company having total assets of not more than \$4.0 million and capital and surplus of not less than \$2.0 million.

(2) Securities of any eligible portfolio company which we control.

(3) Securities purchased in a private transaction from a U.S. issuer that is not an investment company or from an affiliated person of the issuer, or in transactions incident thereto, if the issuer is in bankruptcy and subject to reorganization or if the issuer, immediately prior to the purchase of its securities, was unable to meet its obligations as they came due without material assistance other than conventional lending or financing arrangements.

(4) Securities of an eligible portfolio company purchased from any person in a private transaction if there is no ready market for such securities and we already own 60% of the outstanding equity of the eligible portfolio company.

(5) Securities received in exchange for or distributed on or with respect to securities described in (1) through (4) above, or pursuant to the exercise of warrants or rights relating to such securities.

(6) Cash, cash equivalents, U.S. government securities or high-quality debt securities maturing in one year or less from the time of investment.

Managerial Assistance to Portfolio Companies

In addition, a BDC must have been organized and have its principal place of business in the United States and must be operated for the purpose of making investments in the types of securities described in (1), (2) or (3) above. However, in order to count portfolio securities as qualifying assets for the purpose of the 70% test, the BDC must either control the issuer of the securities or must offer to make available to the issuer of the securities (other than small and solvent companies described above) significant managerial assistance; except that, where the BDC purchases such securities in conjunction with one or more other persons acting together, one of the

Table of Contents

other persons in the group may make available such managerial assistance. Making available managerial assistance means, among other things, any arrangement whereby the BDC, through its directors, officers or employees, offers to provide, and, if accepted, does so provide, significant guidance and counsel concerning the management, operations or business objectives and policies of a portfolio company.

Temporary Investments

Pending investment in other types of qualifying assets, as described above, our investments may consist of cash, cash equivalents, U.S. government securities or high-quality debt securities maturing in one year or less from the time of investment, which we refer to, collectively, as temporary investments, so that 70% of our assets are qualifying assets. Typically, we will invest in U.S. Treasury bills or in repurchase agreements, provided that such agreements are fully collateralized by cash or securities issued by the U.S. government or its agencies. A repurchase agreement involves the purchase by an investor, such as us, of a specified security and the simultaneous agreement by the seller to repurchase it at an agreed-upon future date and at a price which is greater than the purchase price by an amount that reflects an agreed-upon interest rate. There is no percentage restriction on the proportion of our assets that may be invested in such repurchase agreements. However, if more than 25% of our total assets constitute repurchase agreements from a single counterparty, we would not meet the diversification tests in order to qualify as a RIC for federal income tax purposes. Thus, we do not intend to enter into repurchase agreements with a single counterparty in excess of this limit. Our investment adviser will monitor the creditworthiness of the counterparties with which we enter into repurchase agreement transactions.

Senior Securities

We are permitted, under specified conditions, to issue multiple classes of indebtedness and one class of stock senior to our common stock if our asset coverage, as defined in the 1940 Act, is at least equal to 200% immediately after each such issuance. In addition, while any senior securities remain outstanding, we must make provisions to prohibit any distribution to our stockholders or the repurchase of such securities or shares unless we meet the applicable asset coverage ratios at the time of the distribution or repurchase. We may also borrow amounts up to 5% of the value of our total assets for temporary or emergency purposes without regard to asset coverage. For a discussion of the risks associated with leverage, see Risk Factors Risks Relating to Our Business and Structure We may borrow money, which would magnify the potential for gain or loss on amounts invested and may increase the risk of investing in us.

Code of Ethics

We and Solar Capital Partners have each adopted a code of ethics pursuant to Rule 17j-1 under the 1940 Act and Rule 204A-1 under the Advisers Act, respectively, that establishes procedures for personal investments and restricts certain transactions by our personnel. Our codes of ethics generally do not permit investments by our employees in securities that may be purchased or held by us. You may read and copy these codes of ethics at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. You may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at (202) 551-8090. In addition, each code of ethics is attached as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, and is available on the EDGAR Database on the SEC's Internet site at <http://www.sec.gov>. You may also obtain copies of the codes of ethics, after paying a duplicating fee, by electronic request at the following Email address: publicinfo@sec.gov, or by writing the SEC's Public Reference Section, 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549.

Compliance Policies and Procedures

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

We and our investment adviser have adopted and implemented written policies and procedures reasonably designed to detect and prevent violation of the federal securities laws and are required to review these

Table of Contents

compliance policies and procedures annually for their adequacy and the effectiveness of their implementation and designate a chief compliance officer to be responsible for administering the policies and procedures. Guy Talarico currently serves as our chief compliance officer.

Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

The Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 imposes a wide variety of new regulatory requirements on publicly-held companies and their insiders. Many of these requirements affect us. For example:

pursuant to Rule 13a-14 of the Exchange Act, our chief executive officer and chief financial officer must certify the accuracy of the financial statements contained in our periodic reports;

pursuant to Item 307 of Regulation S-K, our periodic reports must disclose our conclusions about the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures;

pursuant to Rule 13a-15 of the Exchange Act, our management is required to prepare an annual report regarding its assessment of our internal control over financial reporting and, beginning with our 2011 fiscal year, will be required to obtain an audit of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting performed by our independent registered public accounting firm; and

pursuant to Item 308 of Regulation S-K and Rule 13a-15 of the 1934 Act, our periodic reports must disclose whether there were significant changes in our internal controls over financial reporting or in other factors that could significantly affect these controls subsequent to the date of their evaluation, including any corrective actions with regard to significant deficiencies and material weaknesses.

The Sarbanes-Oxley Act requires us to review our current policies and procedures to determine whether we comply with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and the regulations promulgated thereunder. We will continue to monitor our compliance with all regulations that are adopted under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and will take actions necessary to ensure that we are in compliance therewith.

Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures

We have delegated our proxy voting responsibility to our investment adviser. The Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures of our investment adviser are set forth below. The guidelines will be reviewed periodically by our investment adviser and our non-interested directors, and, accordingly, are subject to change. For purposes of these Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures described below, we, our and us refers to our investment adviser.

Introduction

An investment adviser registered under the Advisers Act has a fiduciary duty to act solely in the best interests of its clients. As part of this duty, we recognize that we must vote client securities in a timely manner free of conflicts of interest and in the best interests of our clients.

These policies and procedures for voting proxies for our investment advisory clients are intended to comply with Section 206 of, and Rule 206(4)-6 under, the Advisers Act.

Proxy Policies

We will vote proxies relating to our portfolio securities in what we perceive to be the best interest of our clients' stockholders. We will review on a case-by-case basis each proposal submitted to a stockholder vote to determine its impact on the portfolio securities held by our clients. Although we will generally vote against proposals that may have a negative impact on our clients' portfolio securities, we may vote for such a proposal if there exist compelling long-term reasons to do so.

Table of Contents

Our proxy voting decisions will be made by the senior officers who are responsible for monitoring each of the clients' investments. To ensure that our vote is not the product of a conflict of interest, we will require that: (1) anyone involved in the decision making process disclose to our managing member any potential conflict that he or she is aware of and any contact that he or she has had with any interested party regarding a proxy vote; and (2) employees involved in the decision making process or vote administration are prohibited from revealing how we intend to vote on a proposal in order to reduce any attempted influence from interested parties.

Proxy Voting Records

You may obtain information about how we voted proxies by making a written request for proxy voting information to: Solar Capital Partners at 500 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10022.

Privacy Principles

We are committed to maintaining the privacy of our stockholders and to safeguarding their non-public personal information. The following information is provided to help you understand what personal information we collect, how we protect that information and why, in certain cases, we may share information with select other parties.

Generally, we do not receive any non-public personal information relating to our stockholders, although certain non-public personal information of our stockholders may become available to us. We do not disclose any non-public personal information about our stockholders or former stockholders to anyone, except as permitted by law or as is necessary in order to service stockholder accounts (for example, to a transfer agent or third party administrator).

We restrict access to non-public personal information about our stockholders to employees of our investment adviser and its affiliates with a legitimate business need for the information. We will maintain physical, electronic and procedural safeguards designed to protect the non-public personal information of our stockholders.

Table of Contents

DETERMINATION OF NET ASSET VALUE

We determine the net asset value of our investment portfolio each quarter by subtracting our total liabilities from the fair value of our total assets.

We conduct the valuation of our assets, pursuant to which our net asset value shall be determined, at all times consistent with GAAP and the 1940 Act. Our valuation procedures are set forth in more detail below:

Securities for which market quotations are readily available on an exchange shall be valued at such price as of the closing price on the day of valuation. We may also obtain quotes with respect to certain of our investments from pricing services or brokers or dealers in order to value assets. When doing so, we determine whether the quote obtained is sufficient according to GAAP to determine the fair value of the security. If determined adequate, we use the quote obtained.

Securities for which reliable market quotations are not readily available or for which the pricing source does not provide a valuation or methodology or provides a valuation or methodology that, in the judgment of our investment adviser or board of directors, does not represent fair value, shall each be valued as follows: (i) each portfolio company or investment is initially valued by the investment professionals responsible for the portfolio investment; (ii) preliminary valuation conclusions are documented and discussed with our senior management; (iii) independent third-party valuation firms engaged by, or on behalf of, the board of directors will conduct independent appraisals and review management's preliminary valuations and make their own assessment for all material assets; (iv) the board of directors will discuss valuations and determine the fair value of each investment in our portfolio in good faith based on the input of the investment adviser and, where appropriate, the respective third-party valuation firms.

The recommendation of fair value will generally be based on the following factors, as relevant:

the nature and realizable value of any collateral;

the portfolio company's ability to make payments;

the portfolio company's earnings and discounted cash flow;

the markets in which the issuer does business; and

comparisons to publicly traded securities.

Securities for which market quotations are not readily available or for which a pricing source is not sufficient may include, but are not limited to, the following:

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

private placements and restricted securities that do not have an active trading market;

securities whose trading has been suspended or for which market quotes are no longer available;

debt securities that have recently gone into default and for which there is no current market;

securities whose prices are stale;

securities affected by significant events; and

securities that the investment adviser believes were priced incorrectly.

Determination of fair value involves subjective judgments and estimates. Accordingly, the notes to our financial statements express the uncertainty with respect to the possible effect of such valuations, and any change in such valuations, on our financial statements.

Table of Contents

Determinations in Connection with Offerings

In connection with future offering of shares of our common stock, to the extent we do not have stockholder approval to sell below NAV, our board of directors or a committee thereof will be required to make the determination that we are not selling shares of our common stock at a price below the then current net asset value of our common stock at the time at which the sale is made. Our board of directors will consider the following factors, among others, in making such determination:

the net asset value of our common stock disclosed in the most recent periodic report that we filed with the SEC;

our management's assessment of whether any material change in the net asset value of our common stock has occurred (including through the realization of gains on the sale of our portfolio securities) during the period beginning on the date of the most recently disclosed net asset value of our common stock and ending two days prior to the date of the sale of our common stock; and

the magnitude of the difference between (i) the net asset value of our common stock disclosed in the most recent periodic report that we filed with the SEC and our management's assessment of any material change in the net asset value of our common stock since the date of the most recently disclosed net asset value of our common stock, and (ii) the offering price of the shares of our common stock in the proposed offering.

Importantly, this determination will not require that we calculate the net asset value of our common stock in connection with each offering of shares of our common stock, but instead it will involve the determination by our board of directors or a committee thereof that we are not selling shares of our common stock at a price below the then current net asset value of our common stock at the time at which the sale is made.

Moreover, to the extent that there is even a remote possibility that we may (i) issue shares of our common stock at a price below the then current net asset value of our common stock at the time at which the sale is made or (ii) trigger the undertaking (which we provide in certain registration statements we file with the SEC) to suspend the offering of shares of our common stock pursuant to this prospectus if the net asset value of our common stock fluctuates by certain amounts in certain circumstances until the prospectus is amended, our board of directors will elect, in the case of clause (i) above, either to postpone the offering until such time that there is no longer the possibility of the occurrence of such event or to undertake to determine the net asset value of our common stock within two days prior to any such sale to ensure that such sale will not be below our then current net asset value, and, in the case of clause (ii) above, to comply with such undertaking or to undertake to determine the net asset value of our common stock to ensure that such undertaking has not been triggered.

These processes and procedures are part of our compliance policies and procedures. Records will be made contemporaneously with all determinations described in this section and these records will be maintained with other records that we are required to maintain under the 1940 Act.

Table of Contents

DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT PLAN

We have adopted a dividend reinvestment plan that provides for reinvestment of our dividends and other distributions on behalf of our stockholders, unless a stockholder elects to receive cash as provided below. As a result, if our board of directors authorizes, and we declare, a cash distribution, then our stockholders who have not opted out of our dividend reinvestment plan will have their cash distributions automatically reinvested in additional shares of our common stock, rather than receiving the cash distributions.

No action will be required on the part of a registered stockholder to have his cash distribution reinvested in shares of our common stock. A registered stockholder may elect to receive an entire distribution in cash by notifying American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, the plan administrator and our transfer agent and registrar, in writing so that such notice is received by the plan administrator no later than the record date for distributions to stockholders. The plan administrator will set up an account for shares acquired through the plan for each stockholder who has not elected to receive distributions in cash and hold such shares in non-certificated form. Upon request by a stockholder participating in the plan, received in writing not less than 10 days prior to the record date, the plan administrator will, instead of crediting shares to the participant's account, issue a certificate registered in the participant's name for the number of whole shares of our common stock and a check for any fractional share.

Those stockholders whose shares are held by a broker or other financial intermediary may receive distributions in cash by notifying their broker or other financial intermediary of their election.

We intend to use primarily newly issued shares to implement the plan, whether our shares are trading at a premium or at a discount to net asset value. However, we reserve the right to purchase shares in the open market in connection with our implementation of the plan. If we declare a distribution to stockholders, the plan administrator may be instructed not to credit accounts with newly-issued shares and instead to buy shares in the market if (i) the price at which newly-issued shares are to be credited does not exceed 110% of the last determined net asset value of the shares; or (ii) we have advised the plan administrator that since such net asset value was last determined, we have become aware of events that indicate the possibility of a material change in per share net asset value as a result of which the net asset value of the shares on the payment date might be higher than the price at which the plan administrator would credit newly-issued shares to stockholders. The number of shares to be issued to a stockholder is determined by dividing the total dollar amount of the distribution payable to such stockholder by the market price per share of our common stock at the close of regular trading on the valuation date for such distribution. Market price per share on that date will be the closing price for such shares on the national securities exchange on which our shares are then listed or, if no sale is reported for such day, at the average of their reported bid and asked prices. The number of shares of our common stock to be outstanding after giving effect to payment of the distribution cannot be established until the value per share at which additional shares will be issued has been determined and elections of our stockholders have been tabulated.

There will be no brokerage charges or other charges to stockholders who participate in the plan. The plan administrator's fees under the plan will be paid by us. If a participant elects by written notice to the plan administrator to have the plan administrator sell part or all of the shares held by the plan administrator in the participant's account and remit the proceeds to the participant, the plan administrator is authorized to deduct a transaction fee of \$15 plus a per share brokerage commissions from the proceeds.

Stockholders who receive distributions in the form of stock are subject to the same federal, state and local tax consequences as are stockholders who elect to receive their distributions in cash. A stockholder's basis for determining gain or loss upon the sale of stock received in a distribution from us will be equal to the amount of cash they would have received if they had elected to receive the distribution in cash, or the fair market value of the distributed shares if such shares have a fair market value equal to or greater than net asset value. Any stock

Table of Contents

received in a distribution will have a new holding period for tax purposes commencing on the day following the day on which the shares are credited to the U.S. stockholder's account.

The plan may be terminated by us upon notice in writing mailed to each participant at least 30 days prior to any record date for the payment of any distribution by us. All correspondence concerning the plan should be directed to the plan administrator by mail at 59 Maiden Lane, New York, New York 10038 or by phone at (800) 937-5449.

Table of Contents

MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

The following discussion is a general summary of the material U.S. federal income tax considerations applicable to us and to an investment in our common stock. This summary does not purport to be a complete description of the income tax considerations applicable to such an investment. For example, we have not described tax consequences that we assume to be generally known by investors or certain considerations that may be relevant to certain types of holders subject to special treatment under U.S. federal income tax laws, including stockholders subject to the alternative minimum tax, tax-exempt organizations, insurance companies, dealers in securities, pension plans and trusts, and financial institutions. This summary assumes that investors hold our common stock as capital assets (within the meaning of the Code). The discussion is based upon the Code, Treasury regulations, and administrative and judicial interpretations, each as in effect as of the date of this registration statement and all of which are subject to change, possibly retroactively, which could affect the continuing validity of this discussion. We have not sought and will not seek any ruling from the Internal Revenue Service regarding this offering. This summary does not discuss any aspects of U.S. estate or gift tax or foreign, state or local tax. It does not discuss the special treatment under U.S. federal income tax laws that could result if we invested in tax-exempt securities or certain other investment assets in which we do not currently intend to invest.

This summary does not discuss the consequences of an investment in shares of our preferred stock, debt securities or warrants representing rights to purchase shares of our common stock, preferred stock or debt securities. The U.S. federal income tax consequences of such an investment will be discussed in a relevant prospectus supplement.

A U.S. stockholder generally is a beneficial owner of shares of our common stock who is for U.S. federal income tax purposes:

a citizen or individual resident of the United States including an alien individual who is a lawful permanent resident of the United States or meets the substantial presence test under Section 7701(b) of the Code;

a corporation or other entity taxable as a corporation, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, created or organized in or under the laws of the United States or any political subdivision thereof;

a trust, if a court in the United States has primary supervision over its administration and one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all decisions of the trust, or the trust has a valid election in effect under applicable U.S. Treasury regulations to be treated as a U.S. person; or

an estate, the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source.

A non-U.S. stockholder is a beneficial owner of shares of our common stock that is an individual, corporation, trust or estate and is not a U.S. stockholder.

If a partnership (including an entity treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes) holds shares of our common stock, the tax treatment of a partner in the partnership will generally depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. A prospective stockholder who is a partner of a partnership holding shares of our common stock should consult its tax advisors with respect to the purchase, ownership and disposition of shares of our common stock.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Tax matters are very complicated and the tax consequences to an investor of an investment in our shares will depend on the facts of its particular situation. We encourage investors to consult their own tax advisors regarding the specific consequences of such an investment, including tax reporting requirements, the applicability of federal, state, local and foreign tax laws, eligibility for the benefits of any applicable tax treaty and the effect of any possible changes in the tax laws.

Table of Contents

As a BDC, we intend to elect to be treated, and intend to qualify annually thereafter, as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code, beginning with our 2010 taxable year. As a RIC, we generally will not have to pay corporate-level federal income taxes on any ordinary income or capital gains that we distribute to our stockholders as dividends. To continue to qualify as a RIC, we must, among other things, meet certain source-of-income and asset diversification requirements (as described below). In addition, to qualify for RIC tax treatment we must distribute to our stockholders, for each taxable year, at least 90% of our investment company taxable income, which is generally our ordinary income plus the excess of our realized net short-term capital gains over our realized net long-term capital losses (the Annual Distribution Requirement).

Taxation as a Regulated Investment Company

If we:

qualify as a RIC; and

satisfy the Annual Distribution Requirement;

then we will not be subject to federal income tax on the portion of our investment company taxable income and net capital gain (i.e., realized net long-term capital gains in excess of realized net short-term capital losses) we distribute to stockholders. We will be subject to U.S. federal income tax at the regular corporate rates on any income or capital gain not distributed (or deemed distributed) to our stockholders.

We will be subject to a 4% nondeductible federal excise tax on certain undistributed income unless we distribute in a timely manner an amount at least equal to the sum of (1) 98% of our ordinary income for each calendar year, (2) 98.2% of our capital gain net income for the one-year period ending October 31 in that calendar year and (3) any income realized, but not distributed, and on which we paid no federal income tax, in preceding years (the Excise Tax Avoidance Requirement). We currently intend to make sufficient distributions each taxable year to satisfy the Excise Tax Avoidance Requirement.

In order to qualify as a RIC for federal income tax purposes, we must, among other things:

at all times during each taxable year, have in effect an election to be treated as a BDC under the 1940 Act;

derive in each taxable year at least 90% of our gross income from (a) dividends, interest, payments with respect to certain securities loans, gains from the sale of stock or other securities or currencies, or other income derived with respect to our business of investing in such stock, securities or currencies and (b) net income derived from an interest in a qualified publicly traded partnership; and

diversify our holdings so that at the end of each quarter of the taxable year:

at least 50% of the value of our assets consists of cash, cash equivalents, U.S. government securities, securities of other RICs, and other securities if such other securities of any one issuer do not represent more than 5% of the value of our assets or more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of the issuer; and

no more than 25% of the value of our assets is invested in (i) the securities, other than U.S. government securities or securities of other RICs, of one issuer, (ii) the securities of two or more issuers that are controlled, as determined under applicable tax rules, by us and that are engaged in the same or similar or related trades or businesses or (iii) the securities of one or more qualified publicly traded partnerships.

We may be required to recognize taxable income in circumstances in which we do not receive cash. For example, if we hold debt obligations that are treated under applicable tax rules as having original issue discount (such as debt instruments with PIK interest or, in certain cases, increasing interest rates or debt instruments issued with warrants), we must include in income each year a portion of the original issue discount that accrues over the life of the obligation, regardless of whether cash representing such income is received by us in the same

Table of Contents

taxable year. Because any original issue discount accrued will be included in our investment company taxable income for the year of accrual, we may be required to make a distribution to our stockholders in order to satisfy the Annual Distribution Requirement, even though we will not have received any corresponding cash amount.

Because we may use debt financing, we will be subject to certain asset coverage ratio requirements under the 1940 Act and financial covenants under loan and credit agreements that could, under certain circumstances, restrict us from making distributions necessary to satisfy the Annual Distribution Requirement. If we are unable to obtain cash from other sources or are otherwise limited in our ability to make distributions, we could fail to qualify for RIC tax treatment and thus become subject to corporate-level income tax.

Certain of our investment practices may be subject to special and complex U.S. federal income tax provisions that may, among other things: (i) disallow, suspend or otherwise limit the allowance of certain losses or deductions; (ii) convert lower taxed long-term capital gain into higher taxed short-term capital gain or ordinary income; (iii) convert an ordinary loss or a deduction into a capital loss (the deductibility of which is more limited); (iv) cause us to recognize income or gain without a corresponding receipt of cash; (v) adversely affect the time as to when a purchase or sale of securities is deemed to occur; (vi) adversely alter the characterization of certain complex financial transactions; and (vii) produce income that will not be qualifying income for purposes of the 90% gross income test described above. We will monitor our transactions and may make certain tax elections in order to mitigate the potential adverse effect of these provisions.

Gain or loss realized by us from the sale or exchange of warrants acquired by us as well as any loss attributable to the lapse of such warrants generally will be treated as capital gain or loss. The treatment of such gain or loss as long-term or short-term will depend on how long we held a particular warrant. Upon the exercise of a warrant acquired by us, our tax basis in the stock purchased under the warrant will equal the sum of the amount paid for the warrant plus the strike price paid on the exercise of the warrant. Except as set forth below in *Failure to Qualify as a Regulated Investment Company*, the remainder of this discussion assumes we will qualify as a RIC for each taxable year.

Taxation of U.S. Stockholders

Distributions by us generally will be taxable to U.S. stockholders as ordinary income or capital gains. Distributions of our investment company taxable income will be taxable as ordinary income to U.S. stockholders to the extent of our current or accumulated earnings and profits, whether paid in cash or reinvested in additional common stock. Distributions of our net capital gains (that is, the excess of our realized net long-term capital gains in excess of realized net short-term capital losses) properly reported by us as capital gain dividends will be taxable to a U.S. stockholder as long-term capital gains, regardless of the U.S. stockholder's holding period for its common stock and regardless of whether paid in cash or reinvested in additional common stock. For taxable years beginning on or before December 31, 2012, distributions of investment company taxable income that are designated by us as being derived from qualified dividend income will be taxed in the hands of non-corporate stockholders at the rates applicable to long-term capital gain, provided that holding period and other requirements are met by both the stockholders and us. Dividends distributed by us will generally not be attributable to qualified dividend income. Distributions in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits first will reduce a U.S. stockholder's adjusted tax basis in such U.S. stockholder's common stock and, after the adjusted basis is reduced to zero, will constitute capital gains to such U.S. stockholder. For a summary of the tax rates applicable to capital gains, including capital gain dividends, see the discussion below.

Under the dividend reinvestment plan, if a U.S. stockholder owns shares of common stock registered in its own name, the U.S. stockholder will have all cash distributions automatically reinvested in additional shares of common stock unless the U.S. stockholder opts out of our dividend reinvestment plan by delivering a written notice to our dividend paying agent prior to the record date of the next dividend or distribution. See

Dividend Reinvestment Plan. Any distributions reinvested under the plan will nevertheless remain taxable to the U.S. stockholder. The U.S. stockholder will have an adjusted basis in the additional common shares purchased

Table of Contents

through the plan equal to the amount of cash they would have received if they had elected to receive the distribution in cash, or the fair market value of the distributed shares if such shares have a fair market value equal to or greater than net asset value. The additional shares will have a new holding period commencing on the day following the day on which the shares are credited to the U.S. stockholder's account.

Although we currently intend to distribute realized net capital gains (i.e., net realized long-term capital gains in excess of net realized short-term capital losses), if any, at least annually, we may in the future decide to retain some or all of our net capital gains, but to designate the retained amount as a deemed distribution. In that case, among other consequences, we will pay corporate-level tax on the retained amount, each U.S. stockholder will be required to include its share of the deemed distribution in income as if it had been actually distributed to the U.S. stockholder, and the U.S. stockholder will be entitled to claim a credit or refund equal to its allocable share of the corporate-level tax we pay on the retained capital gain. The amount of the deemed distribution net of such tax will be added to the U.S. stockholder's cost basis for its common stock. Since we expect to pay tax on any retained capital gains at our regular corporate capital gain tax rate, and since that rate is in excess of the maximum rate currently payable by non-corporate U.S. stockholders on long-term capital gains, the amount of tax that non-corporate U.S. stockholders will be treated as having paid will exceed the tax they owe on the capital gain dividend. Such excess generally may be claimed as a credit or refund against the U.S. stockholder's other U.S. federal income tax obligations. A U.S. stockholder that is not subject to U.S. federal income tax or otherwise required to file a U.S. federal income tax return would be required to file a U.S. federal income tax return on the appropriate form in order to claim a refund for the taxes we paid. In order to utilize the deemed distribution approach, we must provide written notice to our stockholders prior to the expiration of 60 days after the close of the relevant tax year.

As a RIC, we will be subject to the alternative minimum tax (AMT), but any items that are treated differently for AMT purposes must be apportioned between us and our stockholders and this may affect the stockholders' AMT liabilities. Although regulations explaining the precise method of apportionment have not yet been issued by the Internal Revenue Service, we intend in general to apportion these items in the same proportion that dividends paid to each stockholder bear to our taxable income (determined without regard to the dividends paid deduction), unless we determine that a different method for a particular item is warranted under the circumstances.

For purposes of determining (i) whether the Annual Distribution Requirement is satisfied for any year and (ii) the amount of dividends paid for that year, we may, under certain circumstances, elect to treat a dividend that is paid during the following taxable year as if it had been paid during the taxable year in question. If we make such an election, the U.S. stockholder generally will still be treated as receiving the dividend in the taxable year in which the distribution is made. However, any dividend declared by us in October, November, or December of any calendar year, payable to stockholders of record on a specified date in such a month and actually paid during January of the following year, will be treated as if it had been received by our U.S. stockholders on December 31 of the year in which the dividend was declared.

You should consider the tax implications of buying common stock just prior to a distribution. Even if the price of the common stock includes the amount of the forthcoming distribution, and the distribution economically represents a return of your investment, you will be taxed upon receipt of the distribution and will not be entitled to offset the distribution against the tax basis in your common stock.

You may recognize taxable gain or loss if you sell or exchange your common stock. The amount of the gain or loss will be measured by the difference between your adjusted tax basis in your common stock and the amount of the proceeds you receive in exchange for such stock. Any gain or loss arising from the sale or exchange of our common stock (or, in the case of distributions in excess of the sum of our current and accumulated earnings and profits and your tax basis in the stock, treated as arising from the sale or exchange of our common stock) generally will be a capital gain or loss if the common stock is held as a capital asset. This capital gain or loss normally will be treated as a long-term capital gain or loss if you have held your common stock for more than

Table of Contents

one year. Otherwise, it will be classified as short-term capital gain or loss. However, any capital loss arising from the sale or exchange of common stock held for six months or less generally will be treated as a long-term capital loss to the extent of the amount of capital gain dividends received, or treated as deemed distributed, with respect to such stock. For this purpose, certain special rules, including rules relating to periods when your risk of loss with respect to your common stock has been diminished, generally apply in determining the holding period of such stock. The ability to deduct capital losses may be subject to other limitations under the Code.

In addition, all or a portion of any loss recognized upon a disposition of shares of our common stock may be disallowed if other shares of our common stock are purchased (whether through reinvestment of distributions or otherwise) within 30 days before or after the disposition. In such a case, the basis of the newly purchased shares will be adjusted to reflect the disallowed loss. In general, individual U.S. stockholders currently are subject to a maximum U.S. federal income tax rate of 15% (with lower rates applying to taxpayers in the 10% and 15% tax rate brackets) for years beginning on or before December 31, 2012 on their net capital gain, i.e., the excess of net long-term capital gain over net short-term capital loss for a taxable year, including a long-term capital gain derived from an investment in our common stock. In addition, for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2012, individuals with income in excess of \$200,000 (\$250,000 in the case of married individuals filing jointly or \$125,000 in the case of married individuals filing separately) and certain estates and trusts are subject to an additional 3.8% tax on their net investment income, which generally includes net income from interest, dividends, annuities, royalties, and rents, and net capital gains (other than certain amounts earned from trades or businesses). Corporate U.S. stockholders currently are subject to U.S. federal income tax on net capital gain at the maximum 35% rate also applied to ordinary income. Dividends distributed by us to corporate stockholders generally will not be eligible for the dividends-received deduction. Tax rates imposed by states and local jurisdictions on capital gain and ordinary income may differ.

We will send to each of our U.S. stockholders, as promptly as possible after the end of each calendar year, a notice detailing, on a per share and per distribution basis, the amounts includible in such U.S. stockholder's taxable income for such year as ordinary income, long-term capital gain and qualified dividend income, if any. In addition, the U.S. federal tax status of each year's distributions generally will be reported to the Internal Revenue Service. Distributions may also be subject to additional state, local, and foreign taxes depending on a U.S. stockholder's particular situation.

Backup withholding may apply to distributions on the common stock with respect to certain non-exempt U.S. stockholders. Such U.S. stockholders generally will be subject to backup withholding unless the U.S. stockholder provides its correct taxpayer identification number and certain other information, certified under penalties of perjury, to the dividend paying agent, or otherwise establishes an exemption from backup withholding. Any amount withheld under backup withholding is allowed as a credit against the U.S. stockholder's U.S. federal income tax liability, provided the proper information is provided to the Internal Revenue Service.

Taxation of Non-U.S. Stockholders

Whether an investment in our common stock is appropriate for a non-U.S. stockholder will depend upon that stockholder's particular circumstances. Non-U.S. stockholders should consult their tax advisors before investing in our common stock.

Distributions of our investment company taxable income to stockholders that are non-U.S. stockholders will currently be subject to withholding of U.S. federal income tax at a 30% rate (or lower rate provided by an applicable treaty) to the extent of our current and accumulated earnings and profits unless the distributions are effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business of the non-U.S. stockholders, and, if an income tax treaty applies, attributable to a permanent establishment in the United States. In that case, the distributions will be subject to U.S. federal income tax at the ordinary income rates applicable to U.S. stockholders and we will not have to withhold U.S. federal withholding tax if the non-U.S. stockholder complies with applicable certification

Table of Contents

and disclosure requirements. Special certification requirements apply to a non-U.S. stockholder that is a foreign partnership or a foreign trust and such entities are urged to consult their own tax advisors. In addition, for taxable years beginning prior to January 1, 2012, U.S. source withholding taxes are not imposed on dividends paid by us to the extent the dividends are reported as interest-related dividends or short-term capital gain dividends. Under this exemption, interest-related dividends and short-term capital gain dividends generally represent distributions of interest or short-term capital gains that would not have been subject to U.S. withholding tax at the source if they had been received directly by a foreign person, and that satisfy certain other requirements. No assurance can be given, however, as to whether this exemption will be extended for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2012 or whether any of our distributions will be reported as eligible for this exemption from withholding tax.

Actual or deemed distributions of our net capital gains to a stockholder that is a non-U.S. stockholder, and gains realized by a non-U.S. stockholder upon the sale or redemption of our common stock, will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax unless the distributions or gains, as the case may be, are effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business of the non-U.S. stockholder and, if an income tax treaty applies, are attributable to a permanent establishment maintained by the non-U.S. stockholder in the United States, or, in the case of an individual, the non-U.S. stockholder was present in the United States for 183 days or more during the taxable year and certain other conditions are met.

If we distribute our net capital gains in the form of deemed rather than actual distributions, a non-U.S. stockholder will be entitled to a U.S. federal income tax credit or tax refund equal to the stockholder's allocable share of the corporate-level tax we pay on the capital gains deemed to have been distributed; however, in order to obtain the refund, the non-U.S. stockholder must obtain a U.S. taxpayer identification number and file a U.S. federal income tax return even if the non-U.S. stockholder would not otherwise be required to obtain a U.S. taxpayer identification number or file a U.S. federal income tax return. For a corporate non-U.S. stockholder, distributions (both actual and deemed), and gains realized upon the sale or redemption of our common stock that are effectively connected to a U.S. trade or business may, under certain circumstances, be subject to an additional branch profits tax at a 30% rate (or at a lower rate if provided for by an applicable treaty). Accordingly, investment in our stock may not be appropriate for a non-U.S. stockholder.

Under our dividend reinvestment plan, if a non-U.S. stockholder owns shares of common stock registered in its own name, the non-U.S. stockholder will have all cash distributions automatically reinvested in additional shares of common stock unless it opts out of our dividend reinvestment plan by delivering a written notice to our dividend paying agent prior to the record date of the next dividend or distribution. See Dividend Reinvestment Plan. If the distribution is a distribution of our investment company taxable income, is not reported by us as a short-term capital gains dividend or interest-related dividend and it is not effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business of the non-U.S. stockholder (or, if a treaty applies, is not attributable to a permanent establishment), the amount distributed (to the extent of our current and accumulated earnings and profits) will be subject to withholding of U.S. federal income tax at a 30% rate (or lower rate provided by an applicable treaty) and only the net after-tax amount will be reinvested in common shares. If the distribution is effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business of the non-U.S. stockholder, generally the full amount of the distribution will be reinvested in the plan and will nevertheless be subject to U.S. federal income tax at the ordinary income rates applicable to U.S. persons. The non-U.S. stockholder will have an adjusted basis in the additional common shares purchased through the plan equal to the amount of cash that they would have received if they had elected to receive the distribution in cash, or the fair market value of the distributed shares if such shares have a fair market value equal to or greater than net asset value. The additional shares will have a new holding period commencing on the day following the day on which the shares are credited to the non-U.S. stockholder's account.

Recently enacted legislation that becomes effective after December 31, 2012, generally imposes a 30% withholding tax on payments of certain types of income to foreign financial institutions that fail to enter into an agreement with the United States Treasury to report certain required information with respect to accounts held by United States persons (or held by foreign entities that have U.S. persons as substantial owners). The types of

Table of Contents

income subject to the tax include U.S. source interest and dividends and the gross proceeds from the sale of any property that could produce U.S. source interest or dividends. The information required to be reported includes the identity and taxpayer identification number of each account holder that is a U.S. person and transaction activity within the holder's account. In addition, subject to certain exceptions, this legislation also imposes a 30% withholding on payments to foreign entities that are not financial institutions unless the foreign entity certifies that it does not have a 10% or greater U.S. owner or provides the withholding agent with identifying information on each 10% or greater U.S. owner. When these provisions become effective, depending on the status of a Non-U.S. Holder and the status of the intermediaries through which they hold their units, Non-U.S. Holders could be subject to this 30% withholding tax with respect to distributions on their units and proceeds from the sale of their units. Under certain circumstances, a Non-U.S. Holder might be eligible for refunds or credits of such taxes.

A non-U.S. stockholder who is a nonresident alien individual, and who is otherwise subject to withholding of U.S. federal income tax, may be subject to information reporting and backup withholding of U.S. federal income tax on dividends unless the non-U.S. stockholder provides us or the dividend paying agent with an Internal Revenue Service Form W-8BEN (or an acceptable substitute form) or otherwise meets documentary evidence requirements for establishing that it is a non-U.S. stockholder or the non-U.S. stockholder otherwise establishes an exemption from backup withholding.

You are urged to consult your own tax advisor regarding the specific tax consequences of the purchase, ownership and sale of our common stock.

Failure to Qualify as a Regulated Investment Company

If we were unable to qualify for treatment as a RIC, we would be subject to tax on all of our taxable income at regular corporate rates. We would not be able to deduct distributions to stockholders, nor would they be required to be made. Such distributions would be taxable to our stockholders as dividends and, if made in a taxable year beginning on or before December 31, 2012 and provided certain holding period and other requirements were met, could qualify for treatment as qualified dividend income in the hands of non-corporate stockholders (and thus eligible for the 15% maximum rate) to the extent of our current and accumulated earnings and profits. Subject to certain limitations under the Code, corporate distributees would be eligible for the dividends received deduction. Distributions in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits would be treated first as a return of capital to the extent of the stockholder's tax basis, and any remaining distributions would be treated as a capital gain. To requalify as a RIC in a subsequent taxable year, we would be required to satisfy the RIC qualification requirements for that year and dispose of any earnings and profits from any year in which we failed to qualify as a RIC. Subject to a limited exception applicable to RICs that qualified as such under Subchapter M of the Code for at least one year prior to disqualification and that requalify as a RIC no later than the second year following the non-qualifying year, we could be subject to tax on any unrealized net built-in gains in the assets held by us during the period in which we failed to qualify as a RIC that are recognized within the subsequent 10 years, unless we made a special election to pay corporate-level tax on such built-in gain at the time of our requalification as a RIC.

Table of Contents

SALES OF COMMON STOCK BELOW NET ASSET VALUE

At our 2011 Annual Stockholders Meeting, subject to certain determinations required to be made by our board of directors, we will seek the approval of our stockholders to provide us with the ability to sell or otherwise issue shares of our common stock, not exceeding 25% of our then outstanding common stock, at a price below the then current net asset value per share during a period beginning in June 2011 and expiring on the earlier of the one-year anniversary of the date of the 2011 Annual Stockholders Meeting and the date of our 2012 Annual Stockholders Meeting, which is expected to be held in June 2012 (the Stockholder Approval). We cannot assure you that our stockholders will approve this proposal.

To the extent we receive the Stockholder Approval, in order to sell shares of common stock pursuant to this authorization, no further authorization from our stockholders will need to be solicited, but a majority of our directors who have no financial interest in the sale and a majority of our independent directors will have to (a) find that the sale is in our best interests and in the best interests of our stockholders and (b) in consultation with any underwriter or underwriters of the offering, make a good faith determination as of a time either immediately prior to the first solicitation by us or on our behalf of firm commitments to purchase such shares of common stock, or immediately prior to the issuance of such common stock, that the price at which such shares of common stock are to be sold is not less than a price which closely approximates the market value of those shares of common stock, less any distributing commission or discount.

To the extent we receive the Stockholder Approval, any offering of common stock below its net asset value per share will be designed to raise capital for investment in accordance with our investment objective.

In making a determination that an offering of common stock below its net asset value per share is in our and our stockholders' best interests, our board of directors will consider a variety of factors including:

the effect that an offering below net asset value per share would have on our stockholders, including the potential dilution to the net asset value per share of our common stock our stockholders would experience as a result of the offering;

the amount per share by which the offering price per share and the net proceeds per share are less than our most recently determined net asset value per share;

the relationship of recent market prices of par common stock to net asset value per share and the potential impact of the offering on the market price per share of our common stock;

whether the estimated offering price would closely approximate the market value of shares of our common stock;

the potential market impact of being able to raise capital during the current financial market difficulties;

the nature of any new investors anticipated to acquire shares of our common stock in the offering;

the anticipated rate of return on and quality, type and availability of investments; and

the leverage available to us.

Our board of directors will also consider the fact that sales of shares of common stock at a discount will benefit our investment adviser as the investment adviser will earn additional investment management fees on the proceeds of such offerings, as it would from the offering of any other of our securities or from the offering of common stock at a premium to net asset value per share.

To the extent we receive the Stockholder Approval, we will not sell shares of our common stock under this prospectus or an accompanying prospectus supplement pursuant to the Stockholder Approval without first filing a new post-effective amendment to the registration statement if the cumulative dilution to our net asset value per share from offerings under the registration statement, as amended by this post-effective amendment, exceeds 15%. This would be measured separately for each offering pursuant to the registration statement, as amended by

Table of Contents

this post-effective amendment, by calculating the percentage dilution or accretion to aggregate net asset value from that offering and then summing the percentage from each offering. For example, if our most recently determined NAV per share at the time of the first offering is \$23.00 and we have 37 million shares outstanding, the sale of 9.25 million shares at net proceeds to us of \$11.50 per share (a 50% discount) would produce dilution of 10.0%. If we subsequently determined that our NAV per share increased to \$24.00 on the then 46.25 million shares outstanding and then made an additional offering, we could, for example, sell approximately an additional 5.15 million shares at net proceeds to us of \$12.00 per share, which would produce dilution of 5.0%, before we would reach the aggregate 15% limit. If we file a new post-effective amendment, the threshold would reset.

Sales by us of our common stock at a discount from net asset value per share pose potential risks for our existing stockholders whether or not they participate in the offering, as well as for new investors who participate in the offering. Any sale of common stock at a price below net asset value per share would result in an immediate dilution to existing common stockholders who do not participate in such sale on at least a pro-rata basis. See Risk Factors Risks Relating to an Investment in Our Securities The net asset value per share of our common stock may be diluted if we sell shares of our common stock in one or more offerings at prices below the then current net asset value per share of our common stock or securities to subscribe for or convertible into shares of our common stock.

The following three headings and accompanying tables explain and provide hypothetical examples on the impact of an offering of our common stock at a price less than net asset value per share on three different types of investors:

existing stockholders who do not purchase any shares in the offering;

existing stockholders who purchase a relatively small amount of shares in the offering or a relatively large amount of shares in the offering; and

new investors who become stockholders by purchasing shares in the offering.

Impact On Existing Stockholders Who Do Not Participate in the Offering

Our current stockholders who do not participate in an offering below net asset value per share or who do not buy additional shares in the secondary market at the same or lower price as we obtain in the offering (after expenses and commissions) face the greatest potential risks. These stockholders will experience an immediate dilution in the net asset value of the shares of common stock they hold and their net asset value per share. These stockholders will also experience a disproportionately greater decrease in their participation in our earnings and assets and their voting power than the increase we will experience in our assets, potential earning power and voting interests due to such offering. These stockholders may also experience a decline in the market price of their shares, which often reflects to some degree announced or potential increases and decreases in net asset value per share. This decrease could be more pronounced as the size of the offering and level of discounts increases. Further, if current stockholders do not purchase any shares to maintain their percentage interest, regardless of whether such offering is above or below the then current net asset value, their voting power will be diluted.

The following chart illustrates the level of net asset value dilution that would be experienced by a nonparticipating stockholder in three different hypothetical offerings of different sizes and levels of discount from net asset value per share. It is not possible to predict the level of market price decline that may occur.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

The examples assume that the issuer has 30 million shares outstanding, \$600 million in total assets and \$150 million in total liabilities. The current net asset value and net asset value per share are thus \$450 million and \$15.00. The chart illustrates the dilutive effect on Stockholder A of (a) an offering of 1.5 million shares of common stock (5% of the outstanding shares) at \$14.25 per share after offering expenses and commissions (a 5%

Table of Contents

discount from net asset value), (b) an offering of 3 million shares of common stock (10% of the outstanding shares) at \$13.50 per share after offering expenses and commissions (a 10% discount from net asset value) and (c) an offering of 6 million shares of common stock (20% of the outstanding shares) at \$12.00 per share after offering expenses and commissions (a 20% discount from net asset value). To the extent we receive the Stockholder Approval, the prospectus supplement pursuant to which any discounted offering is made will include a chart based on the actual number of shares of common stock in such offering and the actual discount to the most recently determined net asset value. It is not possible to predict the level of market price decline that may occur.

		Example 1 5% Offering at 5% Discount		Example 2 10% Offering at 10% Discount		Example 3 20% Offering at 20% Discount	
	Prior to Sale	Following Sale	% Change	Following Sale	% Change	Following Sale	% Change
Offering Price							
Price per Share to Public		\$ 15.00		\$ 14.21		\$ 12.63	
Net Proceeds per Share to Issuer		\$ 14.25		\$ 13.50		\$ 12.00	
Decrease to Net Asset Value							
Total Shares Outstanding	30,000,000	31,500,000	5.00%	33,000,000	10.00%	36,000,000	20.00%
Net Asset Value per Share	\$ 15.00	\$ 14.96	(0.24)%	\$ 14.86	(0.91)%	\$ 14.50	(3.33)%
Dilution to Nonparticipating Stockholder							
Shares Held by Stockholder A	30,000	30,000	0.00%	30,000	0.00%	30,000	0.00%
Percentage Held by Stockholder A	0.10%	0.10%	(4.76)%	0.09%	(9.09)%	0.08%	(16.67)%
Total Net Asset Value Held by Stockholder A	\$ 450,000	\$ 448,929	(0.24)%	\$ 445,909	(0.91)%	\$ 435,000	(3.33)%
Total Investment by Stockholder A (Assumed to Be \$15.00 per Share)	\$ 450,000	\$ 450,000		\$ 450,000		\$ 450,000	
Total Dilution to Stockholder A (Total Net Asset Value Less Total Investment)		\$ (1,071)		\$ (4,091)		\$ (15,000)	
Investment per Share Held by Stockholder A (Assumed to be \$15.00 per Share on Shares Held Prior to Sale)	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00	0.00%	\$ 15.00	0.00%	\$ 15.00	0.00%
Net Asset Value per Share Held by Stockholder A		\$ 14.96		\$ 14.86		\$ 14.50	
Dilution per Share Held by Stockholder A (Net Asset Value per Share Less Investment per Share)		\$ (0.04)		\$ (0.14)		\$ (0.50)	
Percentage Dilution to Stockholder A (Dilution per Share Divided by Investment per Share)			(0.24)%		(0.91)%		(3.33)%

Impact On Existing Stockholders Who Do Participate in the Offering

Our existing stockholders who participate in an offering below net asset value per share or who buy additional shares in the secondary market at the same or lower price as we obtain in the offering (after expenses and commissions) will experience the same types of net asset value dilution as the nonparticipating stockholders, although at a lower level, to the extent they purchase less than the same percentage of the discounted offering as their interest in shares of our common stock immediately prior to the offering. The level of net asset value dilution will decrease as the number of shares such stockholders purchase increases. Existing stockholders who buy more than such percentage will experience net asset value dilution but will, in contrast to existing stockholders who purchase less than their proportionate share of the offering, experience accretion in net asset value per share over their investment per share and will also experience a disproportionately greater increase in their participation in our earnings and assets and their voting power than our increase in assets, potential earning power and voting interests due to such offering. The level of accretion will increase as the excess number of shares such stockholder purchases increases. Even a stockholder who over-participates will, however, be subject to the risk that we may make additional discounted offerings in which such stockholder does not participate, in

Table of Contents

which case such a stockholder will experience net asset value dilution as described above in such subsequent offerings. These stockholders may also experience a decline in the market price of their shares, which often reflects to some degree announced or potential increases and decreases in net asset value per share. This decrease could be more pronounced as the size of the offering and level of discounts increases.

The following chart illustrates the level of dilution and accretion in the hypothetical 20% discount offering from the prior chart (Example 3) for a stockholder that acquires shares equal to (a) 50% of its proportionate share of the offering (*i.e.*, 3,000 shares, which is 0.05% of an offering of 6 million shares) rather than its 0.10% proportionate share and (b) 150% of such percentage (*i.e.* 9,000 shares, which is 0.15% of an offering of 6 million shares rather than its 0.10% proportionate share). To the extent we receive the Stockholder Approval, the prospectus supplement pursuant to which any discounted offering is made will include a chart for these examples based on the actual number of shares in such offering and the actual discount from the most recently determined net asset value per share. It is not possible to predict the level of market price decline that may occur.

	Prior to Sale	50% Participation		150% Participation	
		Following Sale	% Change	Following Sale	% Change
Offering Price					
Price per Share to Public		\$ 12.63		\$ 12.63	
Net Proceeds per Share to Issuer		\$ 12.00		\$ 12.00	
Decrease/Increase to Net Asset Value					
Total Shares Outstanding	30,000,000	36,000,000	20%	36,000,000	20%
Net Asset Value per Share	\$ 15.00	\$ 14.50	(3.33)%	\$ 14.50	(3.33)%
Dilution/Accretion to Participating Stockholder Shares Held by Stockholder A					
Percentage Held by Stockholder A	0.10%	0.09%	(8.33)%	0.11%	8.33%
Total Net Asset Value Held by Stockholder A	\$ 450,000	\$ 478,500	6.33%	\$ 565,500	25.67%
Total Investment by Stockholder A (Assumed to be \$15.00 per Share on Shares Held Prior to Sale)		\$ 487,895		\$ 563,684	
Total Dilution/Accretion to Stockholder A (Total Net Asset Value Less Total Investment)		\$ (9,395)		\$ 1,816	
Investment per Share Held by Stockholder A (Assumed to Be \$15.00 on Shares Held Prior to Sale)	\$ 15.00	\$ 14.78	(1.44)%	\$ 14.45	(3.64)%
Net Asset Value per Share Held by Stockholder A		\$ 14.50		\$ 14.50	
Dilution/Accretion per Share Held by Stockholder A (Net Asset Value per Share Less Investment per Share)		\$ (0.28)		\$ 0.05	0.40%
Percentage Dilution/Accretion to Stockholder A (Dilution per Share Divided by Investment per Share)			(1.96)%		0.32%

Impact On New Investors

Investors who are not currently stockholders and who participate in an offering of shares of our common stock below net asset value, but whose investment per share is greater than the resulting net asset value per share due to selling compensation and expenses paid by the Company, will experience an immediate decrease, although small, in the net asset value of their shares and their net asset value per share compared to the price they

Table of Contents

pay for their shares. Investors who are not currently stockholders and who participate in an offering of shares of our common stock below net asset value per share and whose investment per share is also less than the resulting net asset value per share due to selling compensation and expenses paid by the Company being significantly less than the discount per share, will experience an immediate increase in the net asset value of their shares and their net asset value per share compared to the price they pay for their shares. These investors will experience a disproportionately greater participation in our earnings and assets and their voting power than our increase in assets, potential earning power and voting interests due to such offering. These investors will, however, be subject to the risk that we may make additional discounted offerings in which such new stockholder does not participate, in which case such new stockholder will experience dilution as described above in such subsequent offerings. These investors may also experience a decline in the market price of their shares, which often reflects to some degree announced or potential increases and decreases in net asset value per share. This decrease could be more pronounced as the size of the offering and level of discounts increases.

The following chart illustrates the level of dilution or accretion for new investors that would be experienced by a new investor in the same hypothetical 5%, 10% and 20% discounted offerings as described in the first chart above. The illustration is for a new investor who purchases the same percentage (0.10%) of the shares in the offering as Stockholder A in the prior examples held immediately prior to the offering. To the extent we receive the Stockholder Approval, the prospectus supplement pursuant to which any discounted offering is made will include a chart for these examples based on the actual number of shares in such offering and the actual discount from the most recently determined net asset value per share. It is not possible to predict the level of market price decline that may occur.

		Example 1 5% Offering at 5% Discount		Example 2 10% Offering at 10% Discount		Example 3 20% Offering at 20% Discount	
	Prior to Sale	Following Sale	% Change	Following Sale	% Change	Following Sale	% Change
Offering Price							
Price per Share to Public		\$ 15.00		\$ 14.21		\$ 12.63	
Net Proceeds per Share to Issuer		\$ 14.25		\$ 13.50		\$ 12.00	
Decrease/Increase to Net Asset Value							
Total Shares Outstanding	30,000,000	31,500,000	5%	33,000,000	10%	36,000,000	20%
Net Asset Value per Share	\$ 15.00	\$ 14.96	(0.24)%	\$ 14.86	(0.91)%	\$ 14.50	(3.33)%
Dilution/Accretion to New Investor A							
Shares Held by Investor A	0	1,500		3,000		6,000	
Percentage Held by Investor A	0.00%	0.00%		0.01%		0.02%	
Total Net Asset Value Held by Investor A	\$ 0	\$ 22,446		\$ 44,591		\$ 87,000	
Total Investment by Investor A (At Price to Public)		\$ 22,500		\$ 42,632		\$ 75,789	
Total Dilution/Accretion to Investor A (Total Net Asset Value Less Total Investment)		\$ (54)		\$ 1,959		\$ 11,211	
Investment per Share Held by Investor A	\$ 0	\$ 15.00		\$ 14.21		\$ 12.63	
Net Asset Value per Share Held by Investor A		\$ 14.96		\$ 14.86		\$ 14.50	
Dilution/Accretion per Share Held by Investor A (Net Asset Value per Share Less Investment per Share)		\$ (0.04)		\$ 0.65		\$ 1.87	
Percentage Dilution/Accretion to Investor A (Dilution per			(0.24)%		4.60%		14.79%

Share Divided by Investment
per Share)

Table of Contents

ISSUANCE OF WARRANTS OR SECURITIES TO SUBSCRIBE FOR OR CONVERTIBLE INTO SHARES OF OUR COMMON STOCK

At our 2011 Annual Stockholders Meeting, we will seek the approval of our stockholders to authorize us to sell or otherwise issue warrants or securities to subscribe for or convertible into shares of our common stock, not exceeding 25% of our then outstanding common stock, at an exercise or conversion price that, at the date of issuance, will not be less than the greater of the market value per share of our common stock and the net asset value per share of our common stock. To the extent we receive the necessary stockholder approval to sell or issue warrants or securities to subscribe for or convertible into shares of our common stock, such authorization would have no expiration. Any exercise of warrants or securities to subscribe for or convertible into shares of our common stock at an exercise or conversion price that is below net asset value at the time of such exercise or conversion would result in an immediate dilution to existing common stockholders. This dilution would include reduction in net asset value as a result of the proportionately greater decrease in the stockholders' interest in our earnings and assets and their voting interest than the increase in our assets resulting from such offering.

To the extent we receive the necessary stockholder approval to sell or issue warrants or securities to subscribe for or convertible into shares of our common stock, in order to sell or otherwise issue such securities, (a) the exercise, conversion or subscription rights in such securities must expire by their terms within 10 years, (b) with respect to any warrants, options or rights to subscribe or convert to our common stock that are issued along with other securities, such warrants, options or rights must not be separately transferable, (c) the exercise or conversion price of such securities must not be less than the greater of the market value per share of our common stock and the net asset value per share of our common stock at the date of issuance of such securities, (d) the issuance of such securities must be approved by a majority of the board of directors who have no financial interest in the transaction and a majority of the non-interested directors on the basis that such issuance is in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders and (e) the number of shares of our common stock that would result from the exercise or conversion of such securities and all other securities convertible, exercisable or exchangeable into shares of our common stock outstanding at the time of issuance of such securities must not exceed 25% of our outstanding common stock at such time.

Table of Contents**DESCRIPTION OF OUR CAPITAL STOCK**

The following description is based on relevant portions of the Maryland General Corporation Law and on our charter and bylaws. This summary is not necessarily complete, and we refer you to the Maryland General Corporation Law and charter and bylaws for a more detailed description of the provisions summarized below.

Stock

The authorized stock of Solar Capital Ltd. consists of 200,000,000 shares of stock, par value \$0.01 per share, all of which are initially designated as common stock. Our common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the ticker symbol SLRC. There are no outstanding options or warrants to purchase our stock. No stock has been authorized for issuance under any equity compensation plans. Under Maryland law, our stockholders generally are not personally liable for our debts or obligations.

The following are our outstanding classes of securities as of March 17, 2011:

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Title of Class	Amount Authorized	Amount Held by Us or for Our Account	Amount Outstanding Exclusive of Amounts Shown Under(3)
Common stock	200,000,000		36,383,158

Under our charter our board of directors is authorized to classify and reclassify any unissued shares of stock into other classes or series of stock without obtaining stockholder approval. As permitted by the Maryland General Corporation Law, our charter provides that the board of directors, without any action by our stockholders, may amend the charter from time to time to increase or decrease the aggregate number of shares of stock or the number of shares of stock of any class or series that we have authority to issue.

Common Stock

All shares of our common stock have equal rights as to earnings, assets, voting, and dividends and, when they are issued, will be duly authorized, validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable. Distributions may be paid to the holders of our common stock if, as and when authorized by our board of directors and declared by us out of assets legally available therefor. Shares of our common stock have no preemptive, conversion or redemption rights and are freely transferable, except where their transfer is restricted by federal and state securities laws or by contract. In the event of our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, each share of our common stock would be entitled to share ratably in all of our assets that are legally available for distribution after we pay all debts and other liabilities and subject to any preferential rights of holders of our preferred stock, if any preferred stock is outstanding at such time. Each share of our common stock is entitled to one vote on all matters submitted to a vote of stockholders, including the election of directors. Except as provided with respect to any other class or series of stock, the holders of our common stock will possess exclusive voting power. There is no cumulative voting in the election of directors, which means that holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of common stock can elect all of our directors, and holders of less than a majority of such shares

will be unable to elect any director.

Preferred Stock

Our charter authorizes our board of directors to classify and reclassify any unissued shares of stock into other classes or series of stock, including preferred stock. The cost of any such reclassification would be borne by our existing common stockholders. Prior to issuance of shares of each class or series, the board of directors is required by Maryland law and by our charter to set the terms, preferences, conversion or other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends or other distributions, qualifications and terms or conditions of

Table of Contents

redemption for each class or series. Thus, the board of directors could authorize the issuance of shares of preferred stock with terms and conditions which could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a transaction or a change in control that might involve a premium price for holders of our common stock or otherwise be in their best interest. You should note, however, that any issuance of preferred stock must comply with the requirements of the 1940 Act. The 1940 Act requires, among other things, that (1) immediately after issuance and before any dividend or other distribution is made with respect to our common stock and before any purchase of common stock is made, such preferred stock together with all other senior securities must not exceed an amount equal to 50% of our total assets after deducting the amount of such dividend, distribution or purchase price, as the case may be, and (2) the holders of shares of preferred stock, if any are issued, must be entitled as a class to elect two directors at all times and to elect a majority of the directors if dividends on such preferred stock are in arrears by two full years or more. Certain matters under the 1940 Act require the separate vote of the holders of any issued and outstanding preferred stock. For example, holders of preferred stock would vote separately from the holders of common stock on a proposal to cease operations as a BDC. We believe that the availability for issuance of preferred stock will provide us with increased flexibility in structuring future financings and acquisitions. However, we do not currently have any plans to issue preferred stock.

Limitation on Liability of Directors and Officers; Indemnification and Advance of Expenses

Maryland law permits a Maryland corporation to include in its charter a provision limiting the liability of its directors and officers to the corporation and its stockholders for money damages except for liability resulting from (a) actual receipt of an improper benefit or profit in money, property or services or (b) active and deliberate dishonesty established by a final judgment as being material to the cause of action. Our charter contains such a provision which eliminates directors' and officers' liability to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law, subject to the requirements of the 1940 Act.

Our charter authorizes us, to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law and subject to the requirements of the 1940 Act, to indemnify any present or former director or officer or any individual who, while serving as our director or officer and at our request, serves or has served another corporation, real estate investment trust, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other enterprise as a director, officer, partner or trustee, from and against any claim or liability to which that person may become subject or which that person may incur by reason of his or her service in any such capacity and to pay or reimburse their reasonable expenses in advance of final disposition of a proceeding. Our bylaws obligate us, to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law and subject to the requirements of the 1940 Act, to indemnify any present or former director or officer or any individual who, while serving as our director or officer and at our request, serves or has served another corporation, real estate investment trust, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other enterprise as a director, officer, partner or trustee and who is made, or threatened to be made, a party to the proceeding by reason of his or her service in that capacity from and against any claim or liability to which that person may become subject or which that person may incur by reason of his or her service in any such capacity and to pay or reimburse his or her reasonable expenses in advance of final disposition of a proceeding. The charter and bylaws also permit us to indemnify and advance expenses to any person who served a predecessor of us in any of the capacities described above and any of our employees or agents or any employees or agents of our predecessor. In accordance with the 1940 Act, we will not indemnify any person for any liability to which such person would be subject by reason of such person's willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of his or her office.

Maryland law requires a corporation (unless its charter provides otherwise, which our charter does not) to indemnify a director or officer who has been successful in the defense of any proceeding to which he or she is made, or threatened to be made, a party by reason of his or her service in that capacity. Maryland law permits a corporation to indemnify its present and former directors and officers, among others, against judgments, penalties, fines, settlements and reasonable expenses actually incurred by them in connection with any proceeding to which they may be made, or threatened to be made, a party by reason of their service in those or

Table of Contents

other capacities unless it is established that (a) the act or omission of the director or officer was material to the matter giving rise to the proceeding and (1) was committed in bad faith or (2) was the result of active and deliberate dishonesty, (b) the director or officer actually received an improper personal benefit in money, property or services or (c) in the case of any criminal proceeding, the director or officer had reasonable cause to believe that the act or omission was unlawful. However, under Maryland law, a Maryland corporation may not indemnify for an adverse judgment in a suit by or in the right of the corporation or for a judgment of liability on the basis that a personal benefit was improperly received unless, in either, case a court orders indemnification, and then only for expenses. In addition, Maryland law permits a corporation to advance reasonable expenses to a director or officer in advance of final disposition of a proceeding upon the corporation's receipt of (a) a written affirmation by the director or officer of his or her good faith belief that he or she has met the standard of conduct necessary for indemnification by the corporation and (b) a written undertaking by him or her or on his or her behalf to repay the amount paid or reimbursed by the corporation if it is ultimately determined that the standard of conduct was not met.

We have entered into indemnification agreements with our directors. The indemnification agreements provide our directors the maximum indemnification permitted under Maryland law and the 1940 Act.

Our insurance policy does not currently provide coverage for claims, liabilities and expenses that may arise out of activities that our present or former directors or officers have performed for another entity at our request. There is no assurance that such entities will in fact carry such insurance. However, we note that we do not expect to request our present or former directors or officers to serve another entity as a director, officer, partner or trustee unless we can obtain insurance providing coverage for such persons for any claims, liabilities or expenses that may arise out of their activities while serving in such capacities.

Certain Provisions of the Maryland General Corporation Law and Our Charter and Bylaws

The Maryland General Corporation Law and our charter and bylaws contain provisions that could make it more difficult for a potential acquiror to acquire us by means of a tender offer, proxy contest or otherwise. These provisions are expected to discourage certain coercive takeover practices and inadequate takeover bids and to encourage persons seeking to acquire control of us to negotiate first with our board of directors. We believe that the benefits of these provisions outweigh the potential disadvantages of discouraging any such acquisition proposals because, among other things, the negotiation of such proposals may improve their terms.

Classified Board of Directors

Our board of directors is divided into three classes of directors serving staggered three-year terms. The initial terms of the first, second and third classes expire in 2010, 2011 and 2012, respectively, and in each case, those directors will serve until their successors are elected and qualify. Upon expiration of their current terms, directors of each class will be elected to serve for three-year terms and until their successors are duly elected and qualify and each year one class of directors will be elected by the stockholders. A classified board may render a change in control of us or removal of our incumbent management more difficult. We believe, however, that the longer time required to elect a majority of a classified board of directors will help to ensure the continuity and stability of our management and policies.

Election of Directors

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Our charter and bylaws provide that the affirmative vote of the holders of a plurality of the outstanding shares of stock entitled to vote in the election of directors cast at a meeting of stockholders duly called and at which a quorum is present will be required to elect a director. Pursuant to our charter our board of directors may amend the bylaws to alter the vote required to elect directors.

Table of Contents

Number of Directors; Vacancies; Removal

Our charter provides that the number of directors will be set only by the board of directors in accordance with our bylaws. Our bylaws provide that a majority of our entire board of directors may at any time increase or decrease the number of directors. However, unless our bylaws are amended, the number of directors may never be less than one nor more than twelve. Our charter provides that, at such time as we have at least three independent directors and our common stock is registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, we elect to be subject to the provision of Subtitle 8 of Title 3 of the Maryland General Corporation Law regarding the filling of vacancies on the board of directors. Accordingly, at such time, except as may be provided by the board of directors in setting the terms of any class or series of preferred stock, any and all vacancies on the board of directors may be filled only by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining directors in office, even if the remaining directors do not constitute a quorum, and any director elected to fill a vacancy will serve for the remainder of the full term of the directorship in which the vacancy occurred and until a successor is elected and qualifies, subject to any applicable requirements of the 1940 Act.

Our charter provides that a director may be removed only for cause, as defined in our charter, and then only by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast in the election of directors.

Action by Stockholders

Under the Maryland General Corporation Law, stockholder action can be taken only at an annual or special meeting of stockholders or (unless the charter provides for stockholder action by less than unanimous written consent, which our charter does not) by unanimous written consent in lieu of a meeting. These provisions, combined with the requirements of our bylaws regarding the calling of a stockholder-requested special meeting of stockholders discussed below, may have the effect of delaying consideration of a stockholder proposal until the next annual meeting.

Advance Notice Provisions for Stockholder Nominations and Stockholder Proposals

Our bylaws provide that with respect to an annual meeting of stockholders, nominations of persons for election to the board of directors and the proposal of business to be considered by stockholders may be made only (1) pursuant to our notice of the meeting, (2) by the board of directors or (3) by a stockholder who is entitled to vote at the meeting and who has complied with the advance notice procedures of our bylaws. With respect to special meetings of stockholders, only the business specified in our notice of the meeting may be brought before the meeting. Nominations of persons for election to the board of directors at a special meeting may be made only (1) pursuant to our notice of the meeting, (2) by the board of directors or (3) provided that the board of directors has determined that directors will be elected at the meeting, by a stockholder who is entitled to vote at the meeting and who has complied with the advance notice provisions of the bylaws.

The purpose of requiring stockholders to give us advance notice of nominations and other business is to afford our board of directors a meaningful opportunity to consider the qualifications of the proposed nominees and the advisability of any other proposed business and, to the extent deemed necessary or desirable by our board of directors, to inform stockholders and make recommendations about such qualifications or business, as well as to provide a more orderly procedure for conducting meetings of stockholders. Although our bylaws do not give our board of directors any power to disapprove stockholder nominations for the election of directors or proposals recommending certain action, they may have the effect of precluding a contest for the election of directors or the consideration of stockholder proposals if proper procedures are not followed and of discouraging or deterring a third party from conducting a solicitation of proxies to elect its own slate of directors or to approve its own proposal without regard to whether consideration of such nominees or proposals might be harmful or beneficial to us and our stockholders.

Table of Contents

Calling of Special Meetings of Stockholders

Our bylaws provide that special meetings of stockholders may be called by our board of directors and certain of our officers. Additionally, our bylaws provide that, subject to the satisfaction of certain procedural and informational requirements by the stockholders requesting the meeting, a special meeting of stockholders will be called by the secretary of the corporation upon the written request of stockholders entitled to cast not less than a majority of all the votes entitled to be cast at such meeting.

Approval of Extraordinary Corporate Action; Amendment of Charter and Bylaws

Under Maryland law, a Maryland corporation generally cannot dissolve, amend its charter, merge, sell all or substantially all of its assets, engage in a share exchange or engage in similar transactions outside the ordinary course of business, unless approved by the affirmative vote of stockholders entitled to cast at least two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter. However, a Maryland corporation may provide in its charter for approval of these matters by a lesser percentage, but not less than a majority of all of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter. Our charter generally provides for approval of charter amendments and extraordinary transactions by the stockholders entitled to cast at least a majority of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter. Our charter also provides that certain charter amendments, any proposal for our conversion, whether by charter amendment, merger or otherwise, from a closed-end company to an open-end company and any proposal for our liquidation or dissolution requires the approval of the stockholders entitled to cast at least 80% of the votes entitled to be cast on such matter. However, if such amendment or proposal is approved by a majority of our continuing directors (in addition to approval by our board of directors), such amendment or proposal may be approved by a majority of the votes entitled to be cast on such a matter. The continuing directors are defined in our charter as (1) our current directors, (2) those directors whose nomination for election by the stockholders or whose election by the directors to fill vacancies is approved by a majority of our current directors then on the board of directors or (3) any successor directors whose nomination for election by the stockholders or whose election by the directors to fill vacancies is approved by a majority of continuing directors or the successor continuing directors then in office.

Our charter and bylaws provide that the board of directors will have the exclusive power to make, alter, amend or repeal any provision of our bylaws.

No Appraisal Rights

Except with respect to appraisal rights arising in connection with the Control Share Act discussed below, as permitted by the Maryland General Corporation Law, our charter provides that stockholders will not be entitled to exercise appraisal rights unless a majority of the board of directors shall determine such rights apply.

Control Share Acquisitions

The Maryland General Corporation Law provides that control shares of a Maryland corporation acquired in a control share acquisition have no voting rights except to the extent approved by a vote of two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter (the Control Share Act). Shares owned by the acquiror, by officers or by directors who are employees of the corporation are excluded from shares entitled to vote on the matter. Control shares are voting shares of stock which, if aggregated with all other shares of stock owned by the acquiror or in respect of which the acquiror is able to exercise or direct the exercise of voting power (except solely by virtue of a revocable proxy), would entitle the acquiror to

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

exercise voting power in electing directors within one of the following ranges of voting power:

one-tenth or more but less than one-third;

one-third or more but less than a majority; or

a majority or more of all voting power.

Table of Contents

The requisite stockholder approval must be obtained each time an acquiror crosses one of the thresholds of voting power set forth above. Control shares do not include shares the acquiring person is then entitled to vote as a result of having previously obtained stockholder approval. A control share acquisition means the acquisition of control shares, subject to certain exceptions.

A person who has made or proposes to make a control share acquisition may compel the board of directors of the corporation to call a special meeting of stockholders to be held within 50 days of demand to consider the voting rights of the shares. The right to compel the calling of a special meeting is subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions, including an undertaking to pay the expenses of the meeting. If no request for a meeting is made, the corporation may itself present the question at any stockholders meeting.

If voting rights are not approved at the meeting or if the acquiring person does not deliver an acquiring person statement as required by the statute, then the corporation may redeem for fair value any or all of the control shares, except those for which voting rights have previously been approved. The right of the corporation to redeem control shares is subject to certain conditions and limitations, including, as provided in our bylaws compliance with the 1940 Act. Fair value is determined, without regard to the absence of voting rights for the control shares, as of the date of the last control share acquisition by the acquiror or of any meeting of stockholders at which the voting rights of the shares are considered and not approved. If voting rights for control shares are approved at a stockholders meeting and the acquiror becomes entitled to vote a majority of the shares entitled to vote, all other stockholders may exercise appraisal rights. The fair value of the shares as determined for purposes of appraisal rights may not be less than the highest price per share paid by the acquiror in the control share acquisition.

The Control Share Act does not apply (a) to shares acquired in a merger, consolidation or share exchange if the corporation is a party to the transaction or (b) to acquisitions approved or exempted by the charter or bylaws of the corporation. Our bylaws contain a provision exempting from the Control Share Act any and all acquisitions by any person of our shares of stock. There can be no assurance that such provision will not be amended or eliminated at any time in the future. However, we will amend our bylaws to be subject to the Control Share Act only if the board of directors determines that it would be in our best interests and if the SEC staff does not object to our determination that our being subject to the Control Share Act does not conflict with the 1940 Act.

Business Combinations

Under Maryland law, business combinations between a Maryland corporation and an interested stockholder or an affiliate of an interested stockholder are prohibited for five years after the most recent date on which the interested stockholder becomes an interested stockholder (the Business Combination Act). These business combinations include a merger, consolidation, share exchange or, in circumstances specified in the statute, an asset transfer or issuance or reclassification of equity securities. An interested stockholder is defined as:

any person who beneficially owns 10% or more of the voting power of the corporation's outstanding voting stock; or

an affiliate or associate of the corporation who, at any time within the two-year period prior to the date in question, was the beneficial owner of 10% or more of the voting power of the then outstanding voting stock of the corporation.

A person is not an interested stockholder under this statute if the board of directors approved in advance the transaction by which the stockholder otherwise would have become an interested stockholder. However, in approving a transaction, the board of directors may provide that its approval is subject to compliance, at or after the time of approval, with any terms and conditions determined by the board.

Table of Contents

After the five-year prohibition, any business combination between the Maryland corporation and an interested stockholder generally must be recommended by the board of directors of the corporation and approved by the affirmative vote of at least:

80% of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of outstanding shares of voting stock of the corporation; and

two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of voting stock of the corporation other than shares held by the interested stockholder with whom or with whose affiliate the business combination is to be effected or held by an affiliate or associate of the interested stockholder.

These super-majority vote requirements do not apply if the corporation's common stockholders receive a minimum price, as defined under Maryland law, for their shares in the form of cash or other consideration in the same form as previously paid by the interested stockholder for its shares.

The statute permits various exemptions from its provisions, including business combinations that are exempted by the board of directors before the time that the interested stockholder becomes an interested stockholder. Our board of directors has adopted a resolution that any business combination between us and any other person is exempted from the provisions of the Business Combination Act, provided that the business combination is first approved by the board of directors, including a majority of the directors who are not interested persons as defined in the 1940 Act. This resolution may be altered or repealed in whole or in part at any time; however, our board of directors will adopt resolutions so as to make us subject to the provisions of the Business Combination Act only if the board of directors determines that it would be in our best interests and if the SEC staff does not object to our determination that our being subject to the Business Combination Act does not conflict with the 1940 Act. If this resolution is repealed, or the board of directors does not otherwise approve a business combination, the statute may discourage others from trying to acquire control of us and increase the difficulty of consummating any offer.

Conflict with 1940 Act

Our bylaws provide that, if and to the extent that any provision of the Maryland General Corporation Law, including the Control Share Act (if we amend our bylaws to be subject to such Act) and the Business Combination Act, or any provision of our charter or bylaws conflicts with any provision of the 1940 Act, the applicable provision of the 1940 Act will control.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF OUR PREFERRED STOCK

In addition to shares of common stock, our charter authorizes the issuance of preferred stock. We may issue preferred stock from time to time, although we have no immediate intention to do so. If we offer preferred stock under this prospectus, we will issue an appropriate prospectus supplement. We may issue preferred stock from time to time in one or more classes or series, without stockholder approval. Prior to issuance of shares of each class or series, our board of directors is required by Maryland law and by our charter to set the terms, preferences, conversion or other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends or other distributions, qualifications and terms or conditions of redemption for each class or series. Any such an issuance must adhere to the requirements of the 1940 Act, Maryland law and any other limitations imposed by law.

The following is a general description of the terms of the preferred stock we may issue from time to time. Particular terms of any preferred stock we offer will be described in the prospectus supplement relating to such preferred stock.

If we issue preferred stock, it will pay dividends to the holders of the preferred stock at either a fixed rate or a rate that will be reset frequently based on short-term interest rates, as described in a prospectus supplement accompanying each preferred share offering.

The 1940 Act requires, among other things, that (1) immediately after issuance and before any distribution is made with respect to common stock, the liquidation preference of the preferred stock, together with all other senior securities, must not exceed an amount equal to 50% of our total assets (taking into account such distribution), (2) the holders of shares of preferred stock, if any are issued, must be entitled as a class to elect two directors at all times and to elect a majority of the directors if dividends on the preferred stock are in arrears by two years or more and (3) such shares be cumulative as to dividends and have a complete preference over our common stock to payment of their liquidation preference in the event of a dissolution.

For any series of preferred stock that we may issue, our board of directors or a committee thereof will determine and the articles supplementary and prospectus supplement relating to such series will describe:

the designation and number of shares of such series;

the rate, whether fixed or variable, and time at which any dividends will be paid on shares of such series, as well as whether such dividends are participating or non-participating;

any provisions relating to convertibility or exchangeability of the shares of such series;

the rights and preferences, if any, of holders of shares of such series upon our liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our affairs;

the voting powers, if any, of the holders of shares of such series;

any provisions relating to the redemption of the shares of such series;

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

any limitations on our ability to pay dividends or make distributions on, or acquire or redeem, other securities while shares of such series are outstanding;

any conditions or restrictions on our ability to issue additional shares of such series or other securities;

if applicable, a discussion of certain U.S. federal income tax considerations; and

any other relative powers, preferences and participating, optional or special rights of shares of such series, and the qualifications, limitations or restrictions thereof.

All shares of preferred stock that we may issue will be identical and of equal rank except as to the particular terms thereof that may be fixed by our board of directors, and all shares of each series of preferred stock will be identical and of equal rank except as to the dates from which dividends, if any, thereon will be cumulative.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF OUR WARRANTS

The following is a general description of the terms of the warrants we may issue from time to time. Particular terms of any warrants we offer will be described in the prospectus supplement relating to such warrants.

We may issue warrants to purchase shares of our common stock. Such warrants may be issued independently or together with shares of common stock and may be attached or separate from such shares of common stock. We will issue each series of warrants under a separate warrant agreement to be entered into between us and a warrant agent. The warrant agent will act solely as our agent and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency for or with holders or beneficial owners of warrants.

A prospectus supplement will describe the particular terms of any series of warrants we may issue, including the following:

the title of such warrants;

the aggregate number of such warrants;

the price or prices at which such warrants will be issued;

the currency or currencies, including composite currencies, in which the price of such warrants may be payable;

the number of shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of such warrants;

the price at which and the currency or currencies, including composite currencies, in which the shares of common stock purchasable upon exercise of such warrants may be purchased;

the date on which the right to exercise such warrants shall commence and the date on which such right will expire;

whether such warrants will be issued in registered form or bearer form;

if applicable, the minimum or maximum amount of such warrants which may be exercised at any one time;

if applicable, the number of such warrants issued with each share of common stock;

if applicable, the date on and after which such warrants and the related shares of common stock will be separately transferable;

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

information with respect to book-entry procedures, if any;

if applicable, a discussion of certain U.S. federal income tax considerations; and

any other terms of such warrants, including terms, procedures and limitations relating to the exchange and exercise of such warrants.

We and the warrant agent may amend or supplement the warrant agreement for a series of warrants without the consent of the holders of the warrants issued thereunder to effect changes that are not inconsistent with the provisions of the warrants and that do not materially and adversely affect the interests of the holders of the warrants.

Under the 1940 Act, we may generally only offer warrants provided that (1) the warrants expire by their terms within ten years; (2) the exercise or conversion price is not less than the current market value at the date of issuance; (3) our stockholders authorize the proposal to issue such warrants, and our board of directors approves such issuance on the basis that the issuance is in the best interests of Solar Capital and its stockholders; and (4) if the warrants are accompanied by other securities, the warrants are not separately transferable unless no class of such warrants and the securities accompanying them has been publicly distributed. The 1940 Act also provides that the amount of our voting securities that would result from the exercise of all outstanding warrants at the time of issuance may not exceed 25% of our outstanding voting securities.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF OUR DEBT SECURITIES

We may issue debt securities in one or more series. The specific terms of each series of debt securities will be described in the particular prospectus supplement relating to that series. The prospectus supplement may or may not modify the general terms found in this prospectus and will be filed with the SEC. For a complete description of the terms of a particular series of debt securities, you should read both this prospectus and the prospectus supplement relating to that particular series.

As required by federal law for all bonds and notes of companies that are publicly offered, the debt securities are governed by a document called an indenture. An indenture is a contract between us and a financial institution acting as trustee on your behalf, and is subject to and governed by the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended. The trustee has two main roles. First, the trustee can enforce your rights against us if we default. There are some limitations on the extent to which the trustee acts on your behalf, described in the second paragraph under [Events of Default Remedies if an Event of Default Occurs](#). Second, the trustee performs certain administrative duties for us.

Because this section is a summary, it does not describe every aspect of the debt securities and the indenture. We urge you to read the indenture because it, and not this description, defines your rights as a holder of debt securities. We will file the form of the indenture with the SEC prior to the commencement of any debt offering, at which time the form of indenture would be publicly available. See [Available Information](#) for information on how to obtain a copy of the indenture.

The prospectus supplement, which will accompany this prospectus, will describe the particular series of debt securities being offered by including:

the designation or title of the series of debt securities;

the total principal amount of the series of debt securities;

the percentage of the principal amount at which the series of debt securities will be offered;

the date or dates on which principal will be payable;

the rate or rates (which may be either fixed or variable) and/or the method of determining such rate or rates of interest, if any;

the date or dates from which any interest will accrue, or the method of determining such date or dates, and the date or dates on which any interest will be payable;

the terms for redemption, extension or early repayment, if any;

the currencies in which the series of debt securities are issued and payable;

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

whether the amount of payments of principal, premium or interest, if any, on a series of debt securities will be determined with reference to an index, formula or other method (which could be based on one or more currencies, commodities, equity indices or other indices) and how these amounts will be determined;

the place or places, if any, other than or in addition to the City of New York, of payment, transfer, conversion and/or exchange of the debt securities;

the denominations in which the offered debt securities will be issued;

the provision for any sinking fund;

any restrictive covenants;

Table of Contents

any Events of Default;

whether the series of debt securities are issuable in certificated form;

any provisions for defeasance or covenant defeasance;

any special federal income tax implications, including, if applicable, federal income tax considerations relating to original issue discount;

whether and under what circumstances we will pay additional amounts in respect of any tax, assessment or governmental charge and, if so, whether we will have the option to redeem the debt securities rather than pay the additional amounts (and the terms of this option);

any provisions for convertibility or exchangeability of the debt securities into or for any other securities;

whether the debt securities are subject to subordination and the terms of such subordination;

the listing, if any, on a securities exchange; and

any other terms.

The debt securities may be secured or unsecured obligations. Under the provisions of the 1940 Act, we are permitted, as a BDC, to issue debt only in amounts such that our asset coverage, as defined in the 1940 Act, equals at least 200% after each issuance of debt. Unless the prospectus supplement states otherwise, principal (and premium, if any) and interest, if any, will be paid by us in immediately available funds.

General

The indenture provides that any debt securities proposed to be sold under this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement (offered debt securities) and any debt securities issuable upon the exercise of warrants or upon conversion or exchange of other offered securities (underlying debt securities), may be issued under the indenture in one or more series.

For purposes of this prospectus, any reference to the payment of principal of or premium or interest, if any, on debt securities will include additional amounts if required by the terms of the debt securities.

The indenture limits the amount of debt securities that may be issued thereunder from time to time. Debt securities issued under the indenture, when a single trustee is acting for all debt securities issued under the indenture, are called the indenture securities . The indenture also provides that there may be more than one trustee thereunder, each with respect to one or more different series of indenture securities. See Resignation of Trustee below. At a time when two or more trustees are acting under the indenture, each with respect to only certain series, the term indenture securities means the one or more series of debt securities with respect to which each respective trustee is acting. In the event that there is more

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

than one trustee under the indenture, the powers and trust obligations of each trustee described in this prospectus will extend only to the one or more series of indenture securities for which it is trustee. If two or more trustees are acting under the indenture, then the indenture securities for which each trustee is acting would be treated as if issued under separate indentures.

The indenture does not contain any provisions that give you protection in the event we issue a large amount of debt or we are acquired by another entity.

We refer you to the prospectus supplement for information with respect to any deletions from, modifications of or additions to the Events of Default or our covenants that are described below, including any addition of a covenant or other provision providing event risk or similar protection.

We have the ability to issue indenture securities with terms different from those of indenture securities previously issued and, without the consent of the holders thereof, to reopen a previous issue of a series of indenture securities and issue additional indenture securities of that series unless the reopening was restricted when that series was created.

Table of Contents

Conversion and Exchange

If any debt securities are convertible into or exchangeable for other securities, the prospectus supplement will explain the terms and conditions of the conversion or exchange, including the conversion price or exchange ratio (or the calculation method), the conversion or exchange period (or how the period will be determined), if conversion or exchange will be mandatory or at the option of the holder or us, provisions for adjusting the conversion price or the exchange ratio and provisions affecting conversion or exchange in the event of the redemption of the underlying debt securities. These terms may also include provisions under which the number or amount of other securities to be received by the holders of the debt securities upon conversion or exchange would be calculated according to the market price of the other securities as of a time stated in the prospectus supplement.

Issuance of Securities in Registered Form

We may issue the debt securities in registered form, in which case we may issue them either in book-entry form only or in certificated form. Debt securities issued in book-entry form will be represented by global securities. We expect that we will usually issue debt securities in book-entry only form represented by global securities.

We also will have the option of issuing debt securities in non-registered form as bearer securities if we issue the securities outside the United States to non-U.S. persons. In that case, the prospectus supplement will set forth the mechanics for holding the bearer securities, including the procedures for receiving payments, for exchanging the bearer securities, including the procedures for receiving payments, for exchanging the bearer securities for registered securities of the same series, and for receiving notices. The prospectus supplement will also describe the requirements with respect to our maintenance of offices or agencies outside the United States and the applicable U.S. federal tax law requirements.

Book-Entry Holders

We will issue registered debt securities in book-entry form only, unless we specify otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement. This means debt securities will be represented by one or more global securities registered in the name of a depository that will hold them on behalf of financial institutions that participate in the depository's book-entry system. These participating institutions, in turn, hold beneficial interests in the debt securities held by the depository or its nominee. These institutions may hold these interests on behalf of themselves or customers.

Under the indenture, only the person in whose name a debt security is registered is recognized as the holder of that debt security. Consequently, for debt securities issued in book-entry form, we will recognize only the depository as the holder of the debt securities and we will make all payments on the debt securities to the depository. The depository will then pass along the payments it receives to its participants, which in turn will pass the payments along to their customers who are the beneficial owners. The depository and its participants do so under agreements they have made with one another or with their customers; they are not obligated to do so under the terms of the debt securities.

As a result, investors will not own debt securities directly. Instead, they will own beneficial interests in a global security, through a bank, broker or other financial institution that participates in the depository's book-entry system or holds an interest through a participant. As long as the debt securities are represented by one or more global securities, investors will be indirect holders, and not holders, of the debt securities.

Street Name Holders

In the future, we may issue debt securities in certificated form or terminate a global security. In these cases, investors may choose to hold their debt securities in their own names or in street name. Debt securities held in

Table of Contents

street name are registered in the name of a bank, broker or other financial institution chosen by the investor, and the investor would hold a beneficial interest in those debt securities through the account he or she maintains at that institution.

For debt securities held in street name, we will recognize only the intermediary banks, brokers and other financial institutions in whose names the debt securities are registered as the holders of those debt securities and we will make all payments on those debt securities to them. These institutions will pass along the payments they receive to their customers who are the beneficial owners, but only because they agree to do so in their customer agreements or because they are legally required to do so. Investors who hold debt securities in street name will be indirect holders, and not holders, of the debt securities.

Legal Holders

Our obligations, as well as the obligations of the applicable trustee and those of any third parties employed by us or the applicable trustee, run only to the legal holders of the debt securities. We do not have obligations to investors who hold beneficial interests in global securities, in street name or by any other indirect means. This will be the case whether an investor chooses to be an indirect holder of a debt security or has no choice because we are issuing the debt securities only in book-entry form.

For example, once we make a payment or give a notice to the holder, we have no further responsibility for the payment or notice even if that holder is required, under agreements with depositary participants or customers or by law, to pass it along to the indirect holders but does not do so. Similarly, if we want to obtain the approval of the holders for any purpose (for example, to amend an indenture or to relieve us of the consequences of a default or of our obligation to comply with a particular provision of an indenture), we would seek the approval only from the holders, and not the indirect holders, of the debt securities. Whether and how the holders contact the indirect holders is up to the holders.

When we refer to you, we mean those who invest in the debt securities being offered by this prospectus, whether they are the holders or only indirect holders of those debt securities. When we refer to your debt securities, we mean the debt securities in which you hold a direct or indirect interest.

Special Considerations for Indirect Holders

If you hold debt securities through a bank, broker or other financial institution, either in book-entry form or in street name, we urge you to check with that institution to find out:

how it handles securities payments and notices,

whether it imposes fees or charges,

how it would handle a request for the holders' consent, if ever required,

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

whether and how you can instruct it to send you debt securities registered in your own name so you can be a holder, if that is permitted in the future for a particular series of debt securities,

how it would exercise rights under the debt securities if there were a default or other event triggering the need for holders to act to protect their interests, and

if the debt securities are in book-entry form, how the depositary's rules and procedures will affect these matters.

Global Securities

As noted above, we usually will issue debt securities as registered securities in book-entry form only. A global security represents one or any other number of individual debt securities. Generally, all debt securities represented by the same global securities will have the same terms.

Table of Contents

Each debt security issued in book-entry form will be represented by a global security that we deposit with and register in the name of a financial institution or its nominee that we select. The financial institution that we select for this purpose is called the depository. Unless we specify otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, known as DTC, will be the depository for all debt securities issued in book-entry form.

A global security may not be transferred to or registered in the name of anyone other than the depository or its nominee, unless special termination situations arise. We describe those situations below under *Special Situations when a Global Security Will Be Terminated*. As a result of these arrangements, the depository, or its nominee, will be the sole registered owner and holder of all debt securities represented by a global security, and investors will be permitted to own only beneficial interests in a global security. Beneficial interests must be held by means of an account with a broker, bank or other financial institution that in turn has an account with the depository or with another institution that has an account with the depository. Thus, an investor whose security is represented by a global security will not be a holder of the debt security, but only an indirect holder of a beneficial interest in the global security.

Special Considerations for Global Securities

As an indirect holder, an investor's rights relating to a global security will be governed by the account rules of the investor's financial institution and of the depository, as well as general laws relating to securities transfers. The depository that holds the global security will be considered the holder of the debt securities represented by the global security.

If debt securities are issued only in the form of a global security, an investor should be aware of the following:

An investor cannot cause the debt securities to be registered in his or her name, and cannot obtain certificates for his or her interest in the debt securities, except in the special situations we describe below.

An investor will be an indirect holder and must look to his or her own bank or broker for payments on the debt securities and protection of his or her legal rights relating to the debt securities, as we describe under *Issuance of Securities in Registered Form* above.

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

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

The depository's policies, which may change from time to time, will govern payments, transfers, exchanges and other matters relating to an investor's interest in a global security. We and the trustee have no responsibility for any aspect of the depository's actions or for its records of ownership interests in a global security. We and the trustee also do not supervise the depository in any way.

If we redeem less than all the debt securities of a particular series being redeemed, DTC's practice is to determine by lot the amount to be redeemed from each of its participants holding that series.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

An investor is required to give notice of exercise of any option to elect repayment of its debt securities, through its participant, to the applicable trustee and to deliver the related debt securities by causing its participant to transfer its interest in those debt securities, on DTC's records, to the applicable trustee.

DTC requires that those who purchase and sell interests in a global security deposited in its book-entry system use immediately available funds. Your broker or bank may also require you to use immediately available funds when purchasing or selling interests in a global security.

Table of Contents

Financial institutions that participate in the depositary's book-entry system, and through which an investor holds its interest in a global security, may also have their own policies affecting payments, notices and other matters relating to the debt securities. There may be more than one financial intermediary in the chain of ownership for an investor. We do not monitor and are not responsible for the actions of any of those intermediaries.

Special Situations when a Global Security will be Terminated

In a few special situations described below, a global security will be terminated and interests in it will be exchanged for certificates in non-book-entry form (certificated securities). After that exchange, the choice of whether to hold the certificated debt securities directly or in street name will be up to the investor. Investors must consult their own banks or brokers to find out how to have their interests in a global security transferred on termination to their own names, so that they will be holders. We have described the rights of legal holders and street name investors under "Issuance of Securities in Registered Form" above.

The special situations for termination of a global security are as follows:

if the depositary notifies us that it is unwilling, unable or no longer qualified to continue as depositary for that global security, and we do not appoint another institution to act as depositary within [] days,

if we notify the trustee that we wish to terminate that global security, or

if an event of default has occurred with regard to the debt securities represented by that global security and has not been cured or waived; we discuss defaults later under "Events of Default."

The prospectus supplement may list situations for terminating a global security that would apply only to the particular series of debt securities covered by the prospectus supplement. If a global security is terminated, only the depositary, and not we or the applicable trustee, is responsible for deciding the names of the institutions in whose names the debt securities represented by the global security will be registered and, therefore, who will be the holders of those debt securities.

Payment and Paying Agents

We will pay interest to the person listed in the applicable trustee's records as the owner of the debt security at the close of business on a particular day in advance of each due date for interest, even if that person no longer owns the debt security on the interest due date. That day, usually about two weeks in advance of the interest due date, is called the record date. Because we will pay all the interest for an interest period to the holders on the record date, holders buying and selling debt securities must work out between themselves the appropriate purchase price. The most common manner is to adjust the sales price of the debt securities to prorate interest fairly between buyer and seller based on their respective ownership periods within the particular interest period. This prorated interest amount is called accrued interest.

Payments on Global Securities

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

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

Payments on Certificated Securities

We will make payments on a certificated debt security as follows. We will pay interest that is due on an interest payment date by check mailed on the interest payment date to the holder at his or her address shown on

Table of Contents

the trustee's records as of the close of business on the regular record date. We will make all payments of principal and premium, if any, by check at the office of the applicable trustee in New York, NY and/or at other offices that may be specified in the prospectus supplement or in a notice to holders against surrender of the debt security.

Alternatively, if the holder asks us to do so, we will pay any amount that becomes due on the debt security by wire transfer of immediately available funds to an account at a bank in New York City, on the due date. To request payment by wire, the holder must give the applicable trustee or other paying agent appropriate transfer instructions at least [] business days before the requested wire payment is due. In the case of any interest payment due on an interest payment date, the instructions must be given by the person who is the holder on the relevant regular record date. Any wire instructions, once properly given, will remain in effect unless and until new instructions are given in the manner described above.

Payment When Offices Are Closed

If any payment is due on a debt security on a day that is not a business day, we will make the payment on the next day that is a business day. Payments made on the next business day in this situation will be treated under the indenture as if they were made on the original due date, except as otherwise indicated in the attached prospectus supplement. Such payment will not result in a default under any debt security or the indenture, and no interest will accrue on the payment amount from the original due date to the next day that is a business day.

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

Events of Default

You will have rights if an Event of Default occurs in respect of the debt securities of your series and is not cured, as described later in this subsection.

The term "Event of Default" in respect of the debt securities of your series means any of the following:

We do not pay the principal of, or any premium on, a debt security of the series on its due date.

We do not pay interest on a debt security of the series within [] days of its due date.

We do not deposit any sinking fund payment in respect of debt securities of the series on its due date.

We remain in breach of a covenant in respect of debt securities of the series for [] days after we receive a written notice of default stating we are in breach. The notice must be sent by either the trustee or holders of at least []% of the principal amount of debt

securities of the series.

We file for bankruptcy or certain other events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization occur.

Any other Event of Default in respect of debt securities of the series described in the prospectus supplement occurs.

An Event of Default for a particular series of debt securities does not necessarily constitute an Event of Default for any other series of debt securities issued under the same or any other indenture. The trustee may withhold notice to the holders of debt securities of any default, except in the payment of principal, premium or interest, if it considers the withholding of notice to be in the best interests of the holders.

Remedies if an Event of Default Occurs

If an Event of Default has occurred and has not been cured, the trustee or the holders of at least []% in principal amount of the debt securities of the affected series may declare the entire principal amount of all the

Table of Contents

debt securities of that series to be due and immediately payable. This is called a declaration of acceleration of maturity. A declaration of acceleration of maturity may be canceled by the holders of a majority in principal amount of the debt securities of the affected series.

Except in cases of default, where the trustee has some special duties, the trustee is not required to take any action under the indenture at the request of any holders unless the holders offer the trustee reasonable protection from expenses and liability (called an indemnity). If reasonable indemnity is provided, the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of the relevant series may direct the time, method and place of conducting any lawsuit or other formal legal action seeking any remedy available to the trustee. The trustee may refuse to follow those directions in certain circumstances. No delay or omission in exercising any right or remedy will be treated as a waiver of that right, remedy or Event of Default.

Before you are allowed to bypass your trustee and bring your own lawsuit or other formal legal action or take other steps to enforce your rights or protect your interests relating to the debt securities, the following must occur:

You must give your trustee written notice that an Event of Default has occurred and remains uncured.

The holders of at least []% in principal amount of all outstanding debt securities of the relevant series must make a written request that the trustee take action because of the default and must offer reasonable indemnity to the trustee against the cost and other liabilities of taking that action.

The trustee must not have taken action for [] days after receipt of the above notice and offer of indemnity.

The holders of a majority in principal amount of the debt securities must not have given the trustee a direction inconsistent with the above notice during that []-day period.

However, you are entitled at any time to bring a lawsuit for the payment of money due on your debt securities on or after the due date.

Holders of a majority in principal amount of the debt securities of the affected series may waive any past defaults other than

the payment of principal, any premium or interest or

in respect of a covenant that cannot be modified or amended without the consent of each holder.

Book-entry and other indirect holders should consult their banks or brokers for information on how to give notice or direction to or make a request of the trustee and how to declare or cancel an acceleration of maturity.

Each year, we will furnish to each trustee a written statement of certain of our officers certifying that to their knowledge we are in compliance with the indenture and the debt securities or else specifying any default.

Merger or Consolidation

Under the terms of the indenture, we are generally permitted to consolidate or merge with another entity. We are also permitted to sell all or substantially all of our assets to another entity. However, we may not take any of these actions unless all the following conditions are met:

Where we merge out of existence or sell our assets, the resulting entity must agree to be legally responsible for our obligations under the debt securities.

The merger or sale of assets must not cause a default on the debt securities and we must not already be in default (unless the merger or sale would cure the default). For purposes of this no-default test, a default would include an Event of Default that has occurred and has not been cured, as described under Events of

Table of Contents

Default above. A default for this purpose would also include any event that would be an Event of Default if the requirements for giving us a notice of default or our default having to exist for a specific period of time were disregarded.

Under the indenture, no merger or sale of assets may be made if as a result any of our property or assets or any property or assets of one of our subsidiaries, if any, would become subject to any mortgage, lien or other encumbrance unless either (i) the mortgage, lien or other encumbrance could be created pursuant to the limitation on liens covenant in the indenture (see Indenture Provisions Limitation on Liens below) without equally and ratably securing the indenture securities or (ii) the indenture securities are secured equally and ratably with or prior to the debt secured by the mortgage, lien or other encumbrance.

We must deliver certain certificates and documents to the trustee.

We must satisfy any other requirements specified in the prospectus supplement relating to a particular series of debt securities.

Modification or Waiver

There are three types of changes we can make to the indenture and the debt securities issued thereunder.

Changes Requiring Your Approval

First, there are changes that we cannot make to your debt securities without your specific approval. The following is a list of those types of changes:

change the stated maturity of the principal of, or interest on, a debt security;

reduce any amounts due on a debt security;

reduce the amount of principal payable upon acceleration of the maturity of a security following a default;

adversely affect any right of repayment at the holder's option;

change the place (except as otherwise described in the prospectus or prospectus supplement) or currency of payment on a debt security;

impair your right to sue for payment;

adversely affect any right to convert or exchange a debt security in accordance with its terms;

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

modify the subordination provisions in the indenture in a manner that is adverse to holders of the debt securities;

reduce the percentage of holders of debt securities whose consent is needed to modify or amend the indenture;

reduce the percentage of holders of debt securities whose consent is needed to waive compliance with certain provisions of the indenture or to waive certain defaults;

modify any other aspect of the provisions of the indenture dealing with supplemental indentures, modification and waiver of past defaults, changes to the quorum or voting requirements or the waiver of certain covenants; and

change any obligation we have to pay additional amounts.

Changes Not Requiring Approval

The second type of change does not require any vote by the holders of the debt securities. This type is limited to clarifications and certain other changes that would not adversely affect holders of the outstanding debt securities in any material respect. We also do not need any approval to make any change that affects only debt securities to be issued under the indenture after the change takes effect.

Table of Contents

Changes Requiring Majority Approval

Any other change to the indenture and the debt securities would require the following approval:

If the change affects only one series of debt securities, it must be approved by the holders of a majority in principal amount of that series.

If the change affects more than one series of debt securities issued under the same indenture, it must be approved by the holders of a majority in principal amount of all of the series affected by the change, with all affected series voting together as one class for this purpose.

In each case, the required approval must be given by written consent.

The holders of a majority in principal amount of all of the series of debt securities issued under an indenture, voting together as one class for this purpose, may waive our compliance with some of our covenants in that indenture. However, we cannot obtain a waiver of a payment default or of any of the matters covered by the bullet points included above under **Changes Requiring Your Approval**.

Further Details Concerning Voting

When taking a vote, we will use the following rules to decide how much principal to attribute to a debt security:

For original issue discount securities, we will use the principal amount that would be due and payable on the voting date if the maturity of these debt securities were accelerated to that date because of a default.

For debt securities whose principal amount is not known (for example, because it is based on an index), we will use a special rule for that debt security described in the prospectus supplement.

For debt securities denominated in one or more foreign currencies, we will use the U.S. dollar equivalent.

Debt securities will not be considered outstanding, and therefore not eligible to vote, if we have deposited or set aside in trust money for their payment or redemption. Debt securities will also not be eligible to vote if they have been fully defeased as described later under **Defeasance Full Defeasance**.

We will generally be entitled to set any day as a record date for the purpose of determining the holders of outstanding indenture securities that are entitled to vote or take other action under the indenture. If we set a record date for a vote or other action to be taken by holders of one or more series, that vote or action may be taken only by persons who are holders of outstanding indenture securities of those series on the record

date and must be taken within eleven months following the record date.

Book-entry and other indirect holders should consult their banks or brokers for information on how approval may be granted or denied if we seek to change the indenture or the debt securities or request a waiver.

Defeasance

The following provisions will be applicable to each series of debt securities unless we state in the applicable prospectus supplement that the provisions of covenant defeasance and full defeasance will not be applicable to that series.

Covenant Defeasance

Under current United States federal tax law, we can make the deposit described below and be released from some of the restrictive covenants in the indenture under which the particular series was issued. This is called covenant defeasance. In that event, you would lose the protection of those restrictive covenants but would gain

Table of Contents

the protection of having money and government securities set aside in trust to repay your debt securities. If applicable, you also would be released from the subordination provisions described under **Indenture Provisions Subordination** below. In order to achieve covenant defeasance, we must do the following:

If the debt securities of the particular series are denominated in U.S. dollars, we must deposit in trust for the benefit of all holders of such debt securities a combination of money and United States government or United States government agency notes or bonds that will generate enough cash to make interest, principal and any other payments on the debt securities on their various due dates.

We must deliver to the trustee a legal opinion of our counsel confirming that, under current United States federal income tax law, we may make the above deposit without causing you to be taxed on the debt securities any differently than if we did not make the deposit and just repaid the debt securities ourselves at maturity.

We must deliver to the trustee a legal opinion of our counsel stating that the above deposit does not require registration by us under the 1940 Act, as amended, and a legal opinion and officers' certificate stating that all conditions precedent to covenant defeasance have been complied with.

If we accomplish covenant defeasance, you can still look to us for repayment of the debt securities if there were a shortfall in the trust deposit or the trustee is prevented from making payment. In fact, if one of the remaining Events of Default occurred (such as our bankruptcy) and the debt securities became immediately due and payable, there might be a shortfall. Depending on the event causing the default, you may not be able to obtain payment of the shortfall.

Full Defeasance

If there is a change in United States federal tax law, as described below, we can legally release ourselves from all payment and other obligations on the debt securities of a particular series (called **full defeasance**) if we put in place the following other arrangements for you to be repaid:

If the debt securities of the particular series are denominated in U.S. dollars, we must deposit in trust for the benefit of all holders of such debt securities a combination of money and United States government or United States government agency notes or bonds that will generate enough cash to make interest, principal and any other payments on the debt securities on their various due dates.

We must deliver to the trustee a legal opinion confirming that there has been a change in current United States federal tax law or an IRS ruling that allows us to make the above deposit without causing you to be taxed on the debt securities any differently than if we did not make the deposit and just repaid the debt securities ourselves at maturity. Under current United States federal tax law, the deposit and our legal release from the debt securities would be treated as though we paid you your share of the cash and notes or bonds at the time the cash and notes or bonds were deposited in trust in exchange for your debt securities and you would recognize gain or loss on the debt securities at the time of the deposit.

We must deliver to the trustee a legal opinion of our counsel stating that the above deposit does not require registration by us under the 1940 Act, as amended, and a legal opinion and officers' certificate stating that all conditions precedent to defeasance have been complied with.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

If we ever did accomplish full defeasance, as described above, you would have to rely solely on the trust deposit for repayment of the debt securities. You could not look to us for repayment in the unlikely event of any shortfall. Conversely, the trust deposit would most likely be protected from claims of our lenders and other creditors if we ever became bankrupt or insolvent. If applicable, you would also be released from the subordination provisions described later under **Indenture Provisions** **Subordination** .

Form, Exchange and Transfer of Certificated Registered Securities

If registered debt securities cease to be issued in book-entry form, they will be issued:

only in fully registered certificated form,

Table of Contents

without interest coupons, and

unless we indicate otherwise in the prospectus supplement, in denominations of \$1,000 and amounts that are multiples of \$1,000.

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

Holders may exchange or transfer their certificated securities at the office of their trustee. We have appointed the trustee to act as our agent for registering debt securities in the names of holders transferring debt securities. We may appoint another entity to perform these functions or perform them ourselves.

Holders will not be required to pay a service charge to transfer or exchange their certificated securities, but they may be required to pay any tax or other governmental charge associated with the transfer or exchange. The transfer or exchange will be made only if our transfer agent is satisfied with the holder's proof of legal ownership.

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

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

If a registered debt security is issued in book-entry form, only the depository will be entitled to transfer and exchange the debt security as described in this subsection, since it will be the sole holder of the debt security.

Resignation of Trustee

Each trustee may resign or be removed with respect to one or more series of indenture securities provided that a successor trustee is appointed to act with respect to these series. In the event that two or more persons are acting as trustee with respect to different series of indenture securities under the indenture, each of the trustees will be a trustee of a trust separate and apart from the trust administered by any other trustee.

Indenture Provisions Limitation on Liens

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

If we issue indenture securities that are denominated as senior debt securities, we covenant in the indenture that neither we nor any of our subsidiaries, if any, will pledge or subject to any lien any of our or their property or assets unless those senior debt securities issued under the indenture are secured by this pledge or lien equally and ratably with other indebtedness thereby secured. There are excluded from this covenant liens created to secure obligations for the purchase price of physical property, liens of a subsidiary securing indebtedness owed to us, liens existing on property acquired upon exercise of rights arising out of defaults on receivables acquired in the ordinary course of business, sales of receivables accounted for as secured indebtedness in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, certain liens not related to the borrowing of money and other liens not securing borrowed money aggregating less than \$[].

Indenture Provisions Subordination

Upon any distribution of our assets upon our dissolution, winding up, liquidation or reorganization, the payment of the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest, if any, on any indenture securities denominated as

Table of Contents

subordinated debt securities is to be subordinated to the extent provided in the indenture in right of payment to the prior payment in full of all Senior Indebtedness (as defined below), but our obligation to you to make payment of the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest, if any, on such subordinated debt securities will not otherwise be affected. In addition, no payment on account of principal (or premium, if any), sinking fund or interest, if any, may be made on such subordinated debt securities at any time unless full payment of all amounts due in respect of the principal (and premium, if any), sinking fund and interest on Senior Indebtedness has been made or duly provided for in money or money's worth.

In the event that, notwithstanding the foregoing, any payment by us is received by the trustee in respect of subordinated debt securities or by the holders of any of such subordinated debt securities before all Senior Indebtedness is paid in full, the payment or distribution must be paid over to the holders of the Senior Indebtedness or on their behalf for application to the payment of all the Senior Indebtedness remaining unpaid until all the Senior Indebtedness has been paid in full, after giving effect to any concurrent payment or distribution to the holders of the Senior Indebtedness. Subject to the payment in full of all Senior Indebtedness upon this distribution by us, the holders of such subordinated debt securities will be subrogated to the rights of the holders of the Senior Indebtedness to the extent of payments made to the holders of the Senior Indebtedness out of the distributive share of such subordinated debt securities.

By reason of this subordination, in the event of a distribution of our assets upon our insolvency, certain of our senior creditors may recover more, ratably, than holders of any subordinated debt securities. The indenture provides that these subordination provisions will not apply to money and securities held in trust under the defeasance provisions of the indenture.

Senior Indebtedness is defined in the indenture as the principal of (and premium, if any) and unpaid interest on:

our indebtedness (including indebtedness of others guaranteed by us), whenever created, incurred, assumed or guaranteed, for money borrowed (other than indenture securities issued under the indenture and denominated as subordinated debt securities), unless in the instrument creating or evidencing the same or under which the same is outstanding it is provided that this indebtedness is not senior or prior in right of payment to the subordinated debt securities, and

renewals, extensions, modifications and refinancings of any of this indebtedness.

If this prospectus is being delivered in connection with the offering of a series of indenture securities denominated as subordinated debt securities, the accompanying prospectus supplement will set forth the approximate amount of our Senior Indebtedness outstanding as of a recent date.

The Trustee under the Indenture

_____ will serve as the trustee under the indenture.

Certain Considerations Relating to Foreign Currencies

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Debt securities denominated or payable in foreign currencies may entail significant risks. These risks include the possibility of significant fluctuations in the foreign currency markets, the imposition or modification of foreign exchange controls and potential illiquidity in the secondary market. These risks will vary depending upon the currency or currencies involved and will be more fully described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF OUR UNITS

As may be specified in a prospectus supplement, we may issue units comprised of one or more of the other securities described in this prospectus in any combination. Each unit may also include debt obligations of third parties, such as U.S. Treasury securities. Each unit will be issued so that the holder of the unit is also the holder of each security included in the unit. Thus, the holder of a unit will have the rights and obligations of a holder of each included security. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe:

the designation and terms of the units and of the securities comprising the units, including whether and under what circumstances the securities comprising the units may be held or transferred separately;

a description of the terms of any unit agreement governing the units;

a description of the provisions for the payment, settlement, transfer or exchange of the units; and

whether the units will be issued in fully registered or global form.

The descriptions of the units and any applicable underlying security or pledge or depositary arrangements in this prospectus and in any prospectus supplement are summaries of the material provisions of the applicable agreements and are subject to, and qualified in their entirety by reference to, the terms and provisions of the applicable agreements, forms of which have been or will be filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF OUR PURCHASE CONTRACTS

As may be specified in a prospectus supplement, we may issue purchase contracts obligating holders to purchase from us, and us to sell to the holders, a number of debt securities, shares of common stock or preferred stock, or other securities described in this prospectus or the applicable prospectus supplement at a future date or dates. The purchase contracts may require us to make periodic payments to the holders of the purchase contracts. These payments may be unsecured or prefunded on some basis to be specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

The prospectus supplement relating to any purchase contracts will specify the material terms of the purchase contracts and any applicable pledge or depository arrangements, including one or more of the following:

The stated amount that a holder will be obligated to pay under the purchase contract in order to purchase debt securities, common stock, preferred stock, or other securities described in this prospectus or the formula by which such amount shall be determined.

The settlement date or dates on which the holder will be obligated to purchase such securities. The prospectus supplement will specify whether the occurrence of any events may cause the settlement date to occur on an earlier date and the terms on which an early settlement would occur.

The events, if any, that will cause our obligations and the obligations of the holder under the purchase contract to terminate.

The settlement rate, which is a number that, when multiplied by the stated amount of a purchase contract, determines the number of securities that we or a trust will be obligated to sell and a holder will be obligated to purchase under that purchase contract upon payment of the stated amount of that purchase contract. The settlement rate may be determined by the application of a formula specified in the prospectus supplement. If a formula is specified, it may, subject to compliance with the 1940 Act, be based on the market price of such securities over a specified period or it may be based on some other reference statistic.

Whether the purchase contracts will be issued separately or as part of units consisting of a purchase contract and an underlying security with an aggregate principal amount equal to the stated amount. Any underlying securities will be pledged by the holder to secure its obligations under a purchase contract.

The type of underlying security, if any, that is pledged by the holder to secure its obligations under a purchase contract. Underlying securities may be debt securities, common stock, preferred stock, or other securities described in this prospectus or the applicable prospectus supplement.

The terms of the pledge arrangement relating to any underlying securities, including the terms on which distributions or payments of interest and principal on any underlying securities will be retained by a collateral agent, delivered to us or be distributed to the holder.

The amount of the contract fee, if any, that may be payable by us to the holder or by the holder to us, the date or dates on which the contract fee will be payable and the extent to which we or the holder, as applicable, may defer payment of the contract fee on those payment dates. The contract fee may be calculated as a percentage of the stated amount of the purchase contract or otherwise.

The descriptions of the purchase contracts and any applicable underlying security or pledge or depository arrangements in this prospectus and in any prospectus supplement are summaries of the material provisions of the applicable agreements and are subject to and qualified in their

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

entirety by reference to the terms and provisions of the purchase contract agreement, pledge agreement and deposit agreement, forms of which have been or will be filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part.

Table of Contents

SHARES ELIGIBLE FOR FUTURE SALE

On November 30, 2010, Messrs. Gross and Spohler jointly acquired 115,000 shares of our common stock in a private placement transaction conducted in accordance with Regulation D under the Securities Act. Such shares are being registered pursuant to a separate registration statement and will generally be available for resale upon the effectiveness of such registration statement. Each of Messrs. Gross and Spohler has agreed not to dispose of or hedge the 115,000 shares of our common stock acquired in this private placement without our prior written consent until November 30, 2011.

Table of Contents

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may offer, from time to time, in one or more offerings or series, up to \$1,000,000,000 of our common stock, preferred stock, debt securities, units, purchase contracts or warrants representing rights to purchase shares of our common stock, preferred stock or debt securities, in one or more underwritten public offerings, at-the-market offerings, negotiated transactions, block trades, best efforts or a combination of these methods. We may sell the securities through underwriters or dealers, directly to one or more purchasers through agents or through a combination of any such methods of sale. Any underwriter or agent involved in the offer and sale of the securities will be named in the applicable prospectus supplement. A prospectus supplement or supplements will also describe the terms of the offering of the securities, including: the purchase price of the securities and the proceeds we will receive from the sale; any over-allotment options under which underwriters may purchase additional securities from us; any agency fees or underwriting discounts and other items constituting agents' or underwriters' compensation; the public offering price; any discounts or concessions allowed or re-allowed or paid to dealers; and any securities exchange or market on which the securities may be listed. Only underwriters named in the prospectus supplement will be underwriters of the securities offered by the prospectus supplement.

The distribution of the securities may be effected from time to time in one or more transactions at a fixed price or prices, which may be changed, at prevailing market prices at the time of sale, at prices related to such prevailing market prices, or at negotiated prices. The price at which securities may be distributed may represent a discount from prevailing market prices.

In connection with the sale of the securities, underwriters or agents may receive compensation from us or from purchasers of the securities, for whom they may act as agents, in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions. Underwriters may sell the securities to or through dealers and such dealers may receive compensation in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions from the underwriters and/or commissions from the purchasers for whom they may act as agents. Underwriters, dealers and agents that participate in the distribution of the securities may be deemed to be underwriters under the Securities Act, and any discounts and commissions they receive from us and any profit realized by them on the resale of the securities may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act. Any such underwriter or agent will be identified and any such compensation received from us will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. The maximum aggregate commission or discount to be received by any member of FINRA or independent broker-dealer will not be greater than 8% of the gross proceeds of the sale of securities offered pursuant to this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement. We may also reimburse the underwriter or agent for certain fees and legal expenses incurred by it.

Any underwriter may engage in over-allotment, stabilizing transactions, short-covering transactions and penalty bids in accordance with Regulation M under the Exchange Act. Over-allotment involves sales in excess of the offering size, which create a short position. Stabilizing transactions permit bids to purchase the underlying security so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum price. Syndicate-covering or other short-covering transactions involve purchases of the securities, either through exercise of the over-allotment option or in the open market after the distribution is completed, to cover short positions. Penalty bids permit the underwriters to reclaim a selling concession from a dealer when the securities originally sold by the dealer are purchased in a stabilizing or covering transaction to cover short positions. Those activities may cause the price of the securities to be higher than it would otherwise be. If commenced, the underwriters may discontinue any of the activities at any time.

Any underwriters that are qualified market makers on the NASDAQ Global Select Market may engage in passive market making transactions in our common stock on the NASDAQ Global Select Market in accordance with Regulation M under the Exchange Act, during the business day prior to the pricing of the offering, before the commencement of offers or sales of our common stock. Passive market makers must comply with applicable volume and price limitations and must be identified as passive market makers. In general, a passive market maker must display its bid at a price not in excess of the highest independent bid for such security; if all

Table of Contents

independent bids are lowered below the passive market maker's bid, however, the passive market maker's bid must then be lowered when certain purchase limits are exceeded. Passive market making may stabilize the market price of the securities at a level above that which might otherwise prevail in the open market and, if commenced, may be discontinued at any time.

We may sell securities directly or through agents we designate from time to time. We will name any agent involved in the offering and sale of securities and we will describe any commissions we will pay the agent in the prospectus supplement. Unless the prospectus supplement states otherwise, our agent will act on a best-efforts basis for the period of its appointment.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, each class or series of securities will be a new issue with no trading market, other than our common stock, which is traded on the NASDAQ Global Select Market. We may elect to list any other class or series of securities on any exchanges, but we are not obligated to do so. We cannot guarantee the liquidity of the trading markets for any securities.

Under agreements that we may enter, underwriters, dealers and agents who participate in the distribution of shares of our securities may be entitled to indemnification by us against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or contribution with respect to payments that the agents or underwriters may make with respect to these liabilities. Underwriters, dealers and agents may engage in transactions with, or perform services for, us in the ordinary course of business.

If so indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will authorize underwriters or other persons acting as our agents to solicit offers by certain institutions to purchase our securities from us pursuant to contracts providing for payment and delivery on a future date. Institutions with which such contracts may be made include commercial and savings banks, insurance companies, pension funds, investment companies, educational and charitable institutions and others, but in all cases such institutions must be approved by us. The obligations of any purchaser under any such contract will be subject to the condition that the purchase of our securities shall not at the time of delivery be prohibited under the laws of the jurisdiction to which such purchaser is subject. The underwriters and such other agents will not have any responsibility in respect of the validity or performance of such contracts. Such contracts will be subject only to those conditions set forth in the prospectus supplement, and the prospectus supplement will set forth the commission payable for solicitation of such contracts.

We may enter into derivative transactions with third parties, or sell securities not covered by this prospectus to third parties in privately negotiated transactions. If the applicable prospectus supplement indicates, in connection with those derivatives, the third parties may sell securities covered by this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement, including in short sale transactions. If so, the third party may use securities pledged by us or borrowed from us or others to settle those sales or to close out any related open borrowings of stock, and may use securities received from us in settlement of those derivatives to close out any related open borrowings of stock. The third parties in such sale transactions will be underwriters and, if not identified in this prospectus, will be identified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

In order to comply with the securities laws of certain states, if applicable, our securities offered hereby will be sold in such jurisdictions only through registered or licensed brokers or dealers.

Table of Contents

CUSTODIAN, TRANSFER AND DISTRIBUTION PAYING AGENT AND REGISTRAR

Our securities are held under a custody agreement by The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation. The address of the custodian is One Wall Street, New York, New York 10286. American Stock Transfer & Trust Company will act as our transfer agent, distribution paying agent and registrar. The principal business address of our transfer agent is 59 Maiden Lane, New York, New York 10038, telephone number: (800) 937-5449.

BROKERAGE ALLOCATION AND OTHER PRACTICES

Since we will generally acquire and dispose of our investments in privately negotiated transactions, we will infrequently use brokers in the normal course of our business. Subject to policies established by our board of directors, our investment adviser will be primarily responsible for the execution of the publicly traded securities portion of our portfolio transactions and the allocation of brokerage commissions. Our investment adviser does not expect to execute transactions through any particular broker or dealer, but will seek to obtain the best net results for Solar Capital, taking into account such factors as price (including the applicable brokerage commission or dealer spread), size of order, difficulty of execution, and operational facilities of the firm and the firm's risk and skill in positioning blocks of securities. While our investment adviser generally will seek reasonably competitive trade execution costs, Solar Capital will not necessarily pay the lowest spread or commission available. Subject to applicable legal requirements, our investment adviser may select a broker based partly upon brokerage or research services provided to the investment adviser and Solar Capital and any other clients. In return for such services, we may pay a higher commission than other brokers would charge if the investment adviser determines in good faith that such commission is reasonable in relation to the services provided.

LEGAL MATTERS

Certain legal matters in connection with the securities offered hereby will be passed upon for us by Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP, Washington, DC, and Venable LLP, Baltimore Maryland. Certain legal matters in connection with the offering will be passed upon for the underwriters, if any, by the counsel named in the applicable prospectus supplement.

INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

KPMG LLP, our independent registered public accounting firm located at 345 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10154, has audited our financial statements as of December 31, 2010 and 2009 and for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, as set forth in their reports. We have included our financial statements in this prospectus and elsewhere in the registration statement in reliance on such reports, given on their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

Table of Contents

AVAILABLE INFORMATION

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form N-2, together with all amendments and related exhibits, under the Securities Act, with respect to the securities offered by this prospectus. The registration statement contains additional information about us and the securities being offered by this prospectus.

We are required to file with or submit to the SEC annual, quarterly and current periodic reports, proxy statements and other information meeting the informational requirements of the Exchange Act. You may inspect and copy these reports, proxy statements and other information, as well as the registration statement and related exhibits and schedules, at the Public Reference Room of the SEC at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20549. You may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC maintains an Internet site that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information filed electronically by us with the SEC which are available on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. Copies of these reports, proxy and information statements and other information may be obtained, after paying a duplicating fee, by electronic request at the following e-mail address: publicinfo@sec.gov, or by writing to the SEC's Public Reference Section, Washington, D.C. 20549. This information will also be available free of charge by contacting us at Solar Capital Ltd., 500 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022, by telephone at (212) 993-1670, or on our website at <http://www.solarcapltd.com>.

Table of Contents

INDEX TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	Page
<u>Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u>	F-2
<u>Consolidated Statements of Assets and Liabilities as of December 31, 2010 and 2009</u>	F-3
<u>Consolidated Statements of Operations for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008</u>	F-4
<u>Consolidated Statements of Changes in Net Assets for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009, and 2008</u>	F-5
<u>Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008</u>	F-6
<u>Consolidated Schedules of Investments as of December 31, 2010 and 2009</u>	F-7
<u>Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	F-14
<u>Schedules of Investments in and Advances to Affiliates (unaudited)</u>	F-30

F-1

Table of Contents

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Shareholders

Solar Capital Ltd.:

We have audited the accompanying consolidated statements of assets and liabilities, including the consolidated schedules of investments, of Solar Capital Ltd. as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, and the related consolidated statements of operations, changes in net assets, and cash flows for each of the years in the three year period ended December 31, 2010. These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our procedures included confirmation of securities owned as of December 31, 2010, by correspondence with the custodian or by other appropriate auditing procedures. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Solar Capital Ltd. as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, and the results of its operations, the changes in its net assets, and cash flows for each of the years in the three year period ended December 31, 2010, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

/s/ KPMG LLP

New York, New York

March 1, 2011

Table of Contents**SOLAR CAPITAL LTD.****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

(in thousands, except per share amounts)

	December 31, 2010	December 31, 2009
Assets		
Investments at value:		
Companies more than 25% owned (cost: \$20,511 and \$10,000, respectively)	\$ 20,508	\$ 9,000
Companies 5% to 25% owned (cost: \$34,806 and \$85,102, respectively)	29,235	93,423
Companies less than 5% owned (cost: \$1,008,244 and \$968,886, respectively)	926,478	760,717
Total investments (cost: \$1,063,561 and \$1,063,988, respectively)	976,221	863,140
Cash and cash equivalents	288,732	5,675
Interest and dividends receivable	5,592	7,547
Receivable for investments sold	10,560	
Fee revenue receivable	3,935	5,824
Deferred offering costs		1,478
Deferred credit facility costs	5,904	914
Derivative assets	604	294
Prepaid expenses and other receivables	243	549
Total Assets	1,291,791	885,421
Liabilities		
Credit facilities payable	400,000	88,114
Term loan	35,000	
Payable for investments purchased	14,625	
Distributions payable		75,136
Due to Solar Capital Partners LLC:		
Investment advisory and management fee payable	4,892	8,663
Performance-based incentive fee payable	4,347	8,517
Derivative liabilities	1,539	25
Deferred fee revenue	1,242	3,532
Due to Solar Capital Management LLC	773	912
Interest payable	597	153
Income taxes payable	329	535
Other accrued expenses and payables	1,453	1,931
Total Liabilities	464,797	187,518
Net Assets		
Partners' capital		697,903
Common stock, par value \$0.01 per share 36,383,158 shares issued and outstanding, 200,000,000 authorized	364	
Paid in capital in excess of par	926,991	
Distributions in excess of net investment income	(1,545)	
Accumulated net realized losses	(10,541)	
Net unrealized depreciation	(88,275)	

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Total Net Assets	\$ 826,994	\$ 697,903
Number of shares outstanding (Note 10)	36,383,158	32,860,454
Net Asset Value Per Share	\$ 22.73	\$ 21.24

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

F-3

Table of Contents**SOLAR CAPITAL LTD.****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**

(in thousands, except shares)

	Year ended December 31, 2010	Year ended December 31, 2009	Year ended December 31, 2008
INVESTMENT INCOME:			
Interest and dividends:			
Companies more than 25% owned	\$ 670	\$	\$ 2,652
Companies 5% to 25% owned	7,673	9,190	7,175
Other interest and dividend income	116,298	100,480	124,132
Total interest and dividends	124,641	109,670	133,959
Total investment income	124,641	109,670	133,959
EXPENSES:			
Investment advisory and management fees	18,296	16,738	24,297
Performance-based incentive fee	17,305	16,815	9,008
Interest and other credit facility expenses	14,276	2,636	3,343
Administrative service fee	1,294	2,020	3,430
Other general and administrative expenses	3,930	3,971	4,853
Total operating expenses	55,101	42,180	44,931
Net investment income before income tax expense	69,540	67,490	89,028
Income tax expense	328	228	1,629
Net investment income	69,212	67,262	87,399
REALIZED AND UNREALIZED GAIN (LOSS) ON INVESTMENTS, FORWARD CONTRACTS AND FOREIGN CURRENCIES:			
Net realized gain (loss):			
Investments:			
Companies more than 25% owned		(30)	
Companies 5% to 25% owned	16,397		
Companies less than 5% owned	(55,762)	(253,364)	(16,878)
Net realized loss on investments	(39,365)	(253,394)	(16,878)
Forward contracts	(3,124)	(12,608)	13,086
Foreign currency exchange	3,521	1,104	2,915
Net realized loss before income taxes	(38,968)	(264,898)	(877)
Income tax expense on realized gain (loss)			60
Net realized loss	(38,968)	(264,898)	(937)

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Net change in unrealized gain (loss):			
Investments:			
Companies more than 25% owned	997	(3,900)	(300)
Companies 5% to 25% owned	(13,892)	3,823	2,117
Companies less than 5% owned	126,403	287,748	(498,157)
Net unrealized gain (loss) on investments	113,508	287,671	(496,340)
Forward contracts	(1,204)	(2,583)	4,087
Foreign currency exchange	(663)	(516)	(37)
Net change in unrealized gain (loss)	111,641	284,572	(492,290)
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments, forward contracts and foreign currencies	72,673	19,674	(493,227)
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM OPERATIONS	\$ 141,885	\$ 86,936	\$ (405,828)
Earnings (loss) per share	\$ 4.27	\$ 2.65	\$ (12.35)

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**SOLAR CAPITAL LTD.****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS**

(in thousands except shares)

	Year ended December 31, 2010	Year ended December 31, 2009	Year ended December 31, 2008
Increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations:			
Net investment income	\$ 69,212	\$ 67,262	\$ 87,399
Net realized loss	(38,968)	(264,898)	(937)
Net change in unrealized gain (loss)	111,641	284,572	(492,290)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	141,885	86,936	(405,828)
Dividends (distributions) to shareholders declared	(72,657)	(241,706)	
Capital share transactions:			
Proceeds from shares sold	184,215		
Common stock offering costs	(10,198)		
Senior notes issued in Solar Capital Merger	(125,000)		
Reinvestment of dividends	10,846		
Net increase in net assets resulting from capital share transactions	59,863		
Net increase (decrease) in net assets	129,091	(154,770)	(405,828)
Net assets at beginning of year	697,903	852,673	1,258,501
Net assets at end of year	\$ 826,994	\$ 697,903	\$ 852,673
Distributions in excess of net investment income	\$ 1,545	\$	\$

See notes to consolidated financial statements

Table of Contents**SOLAR CAPITAL LTD.****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

(in thousands except shares)

	Year ended December 31, 2010	Year ended December 31, 2009	Year ended December 31, 2008
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:			
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from operations	\$ 141,885	\$ 86,936	\$ (405,828)
Adjustments to reconcile net increase (decrease) in net assets from operations to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:			
Net realized loss from investments	39,365	253,394	16,878
Net realized gain from foreign currency exchange	(3,521)	(1,104)	(2,915)
Net change in unrealized (gain) loss on investments	(113,508)	(287,671)	496,340
Net change in unrealized (gain) loss on forward contracts	1,204	2,583	(4,087)
(Increase) decrease in operating assets:			
Purchase of investment securities	(381,521)	(214,109)	(231,137)
Proceeds from disposition of investment securities	342,582	153,461	128,440
Receivable for investments sold	(10,560)		31,985
Interest and dividends receivable	1,955	3,194	1,579
Fee revenue receivable	1,889	(829)	(2,128)
Deferred offering costs	1,478	(772)	(706)
Deferred credit facility costs	(4,990)	549	(1,463)
Foreign tax receivable		101	4
Withholding tax receivable		16,505	(16,505)
Prepaid expenses and other receivables	306	(308)	(239)
Increase (decrease) in operating liabilities:			
Payable for investments purchased	14,625		(125,000)
Investment advisory and management fee payable	(3,771)	3,369	(953)
Performance-based incentive fee payable	(4,170)	3,012	5,505
Deferred fee revenue	(2,290)	(460)	1,306
Due to Solar Capital Management LLC	(139)	(173)	518
Income taxes payable	(206)	(1,200)	1,227
Interest payable	444	153	
Other accrued expenses and payables	(478)	555	413
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities	20,579	17,186	(106,766)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities:			
Proceeds from shares sold	184,215		
Common stock offering costs	(10,198)		
Cash dividends paid	(61,811)		
Distributions to share holders paid in cash	(75,136)	(166,570)	
Proceeds from borrowings on term loan	35,000		
Repayments of borrowings on senior notes	(125,000)		
Proceeds from borrowings on credit facilities	845,000	383,034	61,320
Repayments of borrowings on credit facilities	(529,592)	(293,816)	(58,405)
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Financing Activities	262,478	(77,352)	2,915

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	283,057	(60,166)	(103,851)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	5,675	65,841	169,692
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF YEAR	\$ 288,732	\$ 5,675	\$ 65,841

Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:

Cash paid for interest	\$ 11,454	\$ 1,410	\$ 530
Cash paid for income taxes	\$ 534	\$ 1,428	\$ 1,015

Non-cash financing activity:

Distributions payable		\$ 75,136	\$
Reinvestment of dividends	\$ 10,846	\$	\$
Issuance of senior notes	\$ 125,000	\$	\$

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**SOLAR CAPITAL LTD.****CONSOLIDATED SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS****December 31, 2010****(in thousands, except shares)**

Description(1)	Industry	Interest(2)	Maturity	Par Amount/ Shares	Cost	Fair Value
Bank Debt/Senior Secured						
Loans 25.3%						
Asurion Corporation(18)	Insurance	6.76%	7/3/2015	\$ 49,310	\$ 49,266	\$ 46,609
Classic Cruises Holdings(5)	Leisure, Motion Pictures, Entertainment	10.11%	1/31/2015	26,000	25,478	23,920
Emdeon Business Services LLC	Healthcare, Education, and Childcare	5.26%	5/16/2014	15,000	15,087	14,850
Fulton Holding Corp.(18)	Retail Stores	13.82%	5/28/2016	35,000	33,964	35,000
Ram Energy Resources, Inc.	Oil & Gas	12.75%	11/29/2012	9,270	9,247	8,899
Roundy's Supermarkets, Inc. 2nd Lien(18)	Grocery	10.00%	4/16/2016	22,000	21,612	22,371
USAW 767(10)	Aerospace & Defense	14.50%	12/31/2012	6,753	6,621	6,618
ViaWest Inc(18)	Personal, Food and Misc. Services	13.50%	5/20/2016	32,757	31,863	31,774
Vision Holding Corp.	Healthcare, Education, and Childcare	12.00%	11/23/2016	40,000	39,238	39,225
VPSI, Inc.	Personal Transportation	12.00%	12/23/2015	18,333	17,877	17,875
Total Bank Debt/Senior Secured Loans				\$ 254,423	\$ 250,253	\$ 247,141
Subordinated Debt/Corporate						
Notes 66.6%						
Ares Capital Corporation(17)	Finance	6.00%	4/1/2012	\$ 15,393	\$ 12,046	\$ 15,947
Ares Capital Corporation(18)	Finance	6.63%	7/15/2011	14,500	12,552	14,784
Adams Outdoor Advertising	Diversified / Conglomerate Service	18.00%	12/8/2015	42,500	41,784	41,775
AMC Entertainment Holdings, Inc.	Leisure, Motion Pictures, Entertainment	5.30%	6/13/2012	25,729	25,564	23,414
Booz Allen	Aerospace & Defense	13.00%	7/31/2016	17,362	17,103	17,927
Direct Buy Inc.(18)	Home and Office Furnishing, Consumer Products	16.00%	5/30/2013	38,100	37,724	34,614
DS Waters	Beverage, Food, and Tobacco	15.00%	4/24/2012	107,759	107,158	100,216
Earthbound(18)	Farming & Agriculture	14.25%	6/21/2017	58,947	57,475	58,358
Fleetpride Corporation(18)	Cargo Transport	11.50%	10/1/2014	43,000	43,119	41,065
Grakon, LLC(12)	Machinery	14.00%	6/19/2013	22,084	18,620	6,625
Iglo Birds Eye Group Limited(3)(4)	Beverage, Food, and Tobacco	11.79%	11/3/2016	5,100	5,131	5,144
Iglo Birds Eye Group Limited(3)(4)	Beverage, Food, and Tobacco	11.33%	11/3/2016	12,378	15,257	12,427
Magnolia River, LLC	Hotels, Motels, Inns & Gaming	14.00%	4/28/2014	19,064	18,492	18,111
Midcap Financial Intermediate Holdings, LLC(16)(18)	Banking	14.25%	7/9/2015	75,000	73,205	73,125
ProSieben Sat.1 Media AG(3)(8)	Broadcasting & Entertainment	8.14%	3/6/2017	21,059	19,813	17,247
Richelieu Foods, Inc.(17)	Beverage, Food, and Tobacco	13.75%	5/18/2016	22,500	21,901	21,881
Rug Doctor L.P.(18)	Personal, Food and Misc. Services	14.96%	10/31/2014	49,715	47,828	47,229
Seven Media Group Pty Limited(3)	Broadcasting & Entertainment	11.18%	12/29/2013	20,712	16,328	20,297
Seven Media Group Pty Limited(3)	Broadcasting & Entertainment	12.00%	12/29/2013	8,794	6,212	8,003
Shoes For Crews, LLC(17)	Textiles and Leather	13.75%	7/23/2016	15,650	15,249	15,650
Tri-Star Electronics International, Inc.	Aerospace & Defense	15.25%	8/2/2013	22,834	22,743	21,236
Weetabix Group(3)(7)	Beverage, Food, and Tobacco	10.53%	9/14/2016	14,586	17,092	11,304
Weetabix Group(3)(7)	Beverage, Food, and Tobacco	10.03%	5/7/2017	31,206	38,421	23,405
Total Subordinated Debt/Corporate Notes				\$ 703,972	\$ 690,817	\$ 649,784

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

F-7

Table of Contents**SOLAR CAPITAL LTD.****CONSOLIDATED SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS (continued)****December 31, 2010****(in thousands, except shares)**

Description(1)	Industry	Interest(2)	Maturity	Par Amount/ Shares	Cost	Fair Value
Preferred Equity 0.4%						
SODO Corp.(10)(20)	Aerospace & Defense	10.00%		388	\$ 390	\$ 390
SOCAY Corp.(10)(20)	Aerospace & Defense	10.00%		3,484	3,500	3,500
Wyle Laboratories	Aerospace & Defense	8.00%	7/17/2015	387	39	44
Total Preferred Equity					\$ 3,929	\$ 3,934
Common Equity / Partnership Interests 7.7%						
Ark Real Estate Partners LP(9)(11)(19)	Real Estate			34,806,121	\$ 34,806	\$ 29,235
Direct Buy Inc.	Home and Office Furnishing, Consumer Products			5,000,000	5,000	2,500
Global Garden Products(3)(6)	Farming & Agriculture			88,483		
Grakon, LLC	Machinery			1,714,286	1,714	
Great American Group Inc.(13)	Personal, Food and Misc. Services			572,800	2,681	281
Great American Group Inc.(14)	Personal, Food and Misc. Services			187,500	3	92
National Specialty Alloys, LLC(10)	Mining, Steel, Iron, and Nonprecious Metals			1,000,000	10,000	10,000
Nuveen Investments, Inc.	Finance			3,000,000	30,000	7,500
NXP Semiconductors Netherlands B.V.(3)(15)	Electronics			1,139,081	31,057	21,897
Seven Media Group Pty Limited(3)	Broadcasting & Entertainment			4,285,714	3,301	3,857
Total Common Equity/Partnerships Interests					\$ 118,562	\$ 75,362
Total Investments					\$ 1,063,561	\$ 976,221

- (1) We generally acquire our investments in private transactions exempt from registration under the Securities Act. Our investments are therefore generally subject to certain limitations on resale, and may be deemed to be restricted securities under the Securities Act.
- (2) A majority of the variable rate debt investments bear interest at a rate that may be determined by reference to LIBOR or EURIBOR, and which reset daily, quarterly or semi-annually. For each debt investment we have provided the current interest rate in effect as of December 31, 2010.
- (3) The following entities are domiciled outside the United States and the investments are denominated in either Euro, British Pounds or Australian Dollars: Iglo Birds Eye Group Limited, Global Garden Products and Weetabix Group in the United Kingdom; ProSieben Sat.1 Media AG in Germany; and Seven Media Group Pty Limited in Australia. NXP Semiconductors Netherlands B.V. is domiciled in the Netherlands and is denominated in U.S. dollars. All other investments are domiciled in the United States.
- (4) Solar Capital Ltd. s investments in Iglo Birds Eye Group Limited are held through its wholly-owned subsidiary Solar Capital Luxembourg I S.a.r.l.
- (5) Solar Capital Ltd. s investments in Classic Cruises Holdings are held through its wholly-owned subsidiary Solar Capital Luxembourg I S.a.r.l.
- (6) Solar Capital Ltd. s investments in Global Garden Products are held through its wholly-owned subsidiary Solar Capital Luxembourg I S.a.r.l.
- (7) Solar Capital Ltd. s investments in Weetabix Group are held through its wholly-owned subsidiary Solar Capital Luxembourg I S.a.r.l.
- (8) Solar Capital Ltd. s investments in ProSieben Sat. 1 Media AG are held through its wholly-owned subsidiary Solar Capital Luxembourg I S.a.r.l.
- (9) Solar Capital Ltd. has an unfunded commitment of \$9,946.
- (10)

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Denotes a Control Investment. Control Investments are defined in the 1940 Act as investments in those companies that the Company is deemed to Control. Generally, under the 1940 Act, the Company is deemed to Control a company in which it has invested if it owns 25% or more of the voting securities of such company or has greater than 50% representation on its board.

- (11) Denotes an Affiliate Investment. Affiliate Investments are investments in those companies that are Affiliated Companies of the Company, as defined in the 1940 Act, which are not Control Investments. The Company is deemed to be an Affiliate of a company in which it has invested if it owns 5% or more but less than 25% of the voting securities of such company.
- (12) Investment is on non-accrual status

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

F-8

Table of Contents

SOLAR CAPITAL LTD.

CONSOLIDATED SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS (continued)

December 31, 2010

(in thousands, except shares)

- (13) Founders Shares
- (14) Contingent Founders Shares
- (15) Administrative agent to NXP management equity plan
- (16) Includes an unfunded par commitment of \$15,000.
- (17) Indicates an investment held by Solar Capital Ltd. through its wholly-owned subsidiary Solar Capital Funding II LLC. Such investments are pledged as collateral under the Senior Secured Loan Facility (see Note 6 to the consolidated financial statements) and are not generally available to the creditors of Solar Capital Ltd. Unless otherwise noted, as of December 31, 2010, all other investments were pledged as collateral for the Senior Secured Revolving Credit Facility and the Term Loan (see Note 6 to the consolidated financial statements).
- (18) Indicates an investment partially held by Solar Capital Ltd. through its wholly-owned subsidiary Solar Capital Funding II LLC. (See note 18 above for further explanation.) Par amounts held through Solar Capital Funding II LLC include: Asurion \$14,224; Fulton Holding Corp. \$18,000; Roundy's Supermarkets Inc. \$10,000; ViaWest Inc. \$15,054; Ares Capital Corporation \$12,000; Direct Buy Inc. \$15,000; Earthbound \$23,500; Fleetpride Corporation \$23,500; Midcap Financial Intermediate Holdings, LLC \$23,500; and Rug Doctor L.P. \$9,371. Remaining par balances are held directly by Solar Capital Ltd.
- (19) Solar Capital Ltd.'s investments in Ark Real Estate Partners LP are held through its wholly-owned subsidiary SLRC ADI Corp.
- (20) Solar Capital Ltd.'s investments in SODO Corp. and SOCA Y Corp. each include a one dollar investment in common shares.

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**SOLAR CAPITAL LTD.****CONSOLIDATED SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS (continued)****December 31, 2010**

Industry Classification	Percentage of Total Investments (at fair value) as of December 31, 2010
Beverage, Food, and Tobacco	18%
Personal, Food and Misc. Services	8%
Banking	7%
Farming & Agriculture	6%
Healthcare, Education, and Childcare	5%
Aerospace & Defense	5%
Broadcasting & Entertainment	5%
Leisure, Motion Pictures, Entertainment	5%
Insurance	5%
Diversified / Conglomerate Service	4%
Cargo Transport	4%
Finance	4%
Home and Office Furnishing, Consumer Products	4%
Retail Stores	4%
Real Estate	3%
Grocery	2%
Electronics	2%
Hotels, Motels, Inns & Gaming	2%
Personal Transportation	2%
Textiles and Leather	2%
Mining, Steel, Iron, and Nonprecious Metals	1%
Oil & Gas	1%
Machinery	1%
	100%

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**SOLAR CAPITAL LTD.****CONSOLIDATED SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS****December 31, 2009****(in thousands, except shares)**

Description(1)	Industry	Interest(2)	Maturity	Par Amount/ Shares	Cost	Fair Value
Bank Debt/Senior Secured Loans 18.8%						
Affinity 1st Lien	Printing, Publishing, Broadcasting	12.75%	3/31/2010	\$ 18,771	\$ 18,372	\$ 18,489
Asurion Corporation	Insurance	6.73%	7/3/2015	55,000	54,939	51,700
Classic Cruises Holdings (5)	Leisure, Motion Pictures, Entertainment	10.02%	1/31/2015	26,000	25,350	20,800
Emdeon Business Services LLC	Healthcare, Education, and Childcare	5.29%	5/16/2014	15,000	15,112	14,400
National Interest Security Corporation (11)	Aerospace & Defense	15.00%	6/11/2013	25,182	24,740	26,152
Ram Energy Resources, Inc.	Oil & Gas	12.75%	11/29/2012	12,827	12,769	12,058
Wyle Laboratories	Aerospace & Defense	15.00%	1/17/2015	20,000	19,614	19,900
Total Bank Debt/Senior Secured Loans				\$ 172,780	\$ 170,896	\$ 163,499
Subordinated Debt/Corporate Notes 74.4%						
Allied Capital	Finance	6.00%	4/1/2012	15,393	\$ 9,362	\$ 14,392
Allied Capital	Finance	6.63%	7/15/2011	14,500	8,880	13,920
Adams Outdoor Advertising	Diversified / Conglomerate Service	13.50%	6/20/2011	40,000	39,445	35,360
Adams Outdoor Advertising	Diversified / Conglomerate Service	10.88%	6/20/2011	18,237	18,345	15,538
AMC Entertainment Holdings, Inc.	Leisure, Motion Pictures, Entertainment	5.25%	6/13/2012	24,383	24,106	20,433
Booz Allen	Aerospace & Defense	13.00%	7/31/2016	43,000	42,220	43,000
Casema B.V. (3)	Telecommunications	9.73%	9/13/2016	7,860	7,542	7,565
Casema B.V. (3)	Telecommunications	9.69%	9/13/2016	8,478	8,135	8,109
Direct Buy Inc.	Home and Office Furnishing, Consumer Products	16.00%	5/30/2013	36,593	36,092	31,104
DS Waters	Beverage, Food, and Tobacco	14.00%	4/24/2012	99,565	98,664	95,085
Earthbound	Beverage, Food, and Tobacco	15.25%	7/20/2016	40,000	38,875	39,800
Fleetpride Corporation	Cargo Transport	11.50%	10/1/2014	43,000	43,145	38,754
FreedomRoads	Automotive	16.00%	6/20/2011	27,500	27,076	25,603
Global Garden Products (3)(6)(12)	Farming & Agriculture	12.72%	10/31/2016	19,674	20,136	
Grakon, LLC (13)	Machinery	12.00%	6/19/2013	20,403	19,306	5,101
Iglo Birds Eye Group Limited (3)(4)	Beverage, Food, and Tobacco	8.99%	11/3/2016	5,230	4,908	4,942
Iglo Birds Eye Group Limited (3)(4)	Beverage, Food, and Tobacco	8.52%	11/3/2016	12,200	14,701	11,527
Jonathan Engineering Solutions Corp. (12)	Diversified/Conglomerate Manufacturing	16.50%	6/29/2014	4,219	4,045	
Jonathan Engineering Solutions Corp. (12)	Diversified/Conglomerate Manufacturing	13.00%	6/29/2014	10,641	10,614	
Learning Care Group No.2, Inc	Healthcare, Education, and Childcare	13.50%	12/28/2015	31,173	30,797	27,276
Magnolia River, LLC	Hotels, Motels, Inns & Gaming	14.00%	4/28/2014	19,064	18,327	13,345
National Interest Security Corporation(11)	Aerospace & Defense	15.00%	6/11/2013	30,539	30,229	31,303
Pacific Crane Maintenance Company, L.P. (12)	Machinery	13.00%	2/15/2014	9,045	8,920	
ProSieben Sat.1 Media AG (3)(8)(13)	Broadcasting & Entertainment	8.15%	3/6/2017	21,437	19,804	5,505
Rug Doctor L.P.	Personal, Food and Misc. Services	14.94%	10/31/2014	48,253	45,920	45,841
Seven Media Group Pty Limited (3)	Broadcasting & Entertainment	11.18%	12/29/2013	18,086	16,328	16,278
Seven Media Group Pty Limited (3)	Broadcasting & Entertainment	12.00%	12/29/2013	6,857	5,283	6,068

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Tri-Star Electronics International, Inc.	Aerospace & Defense	15.25%	8/2/2013	22,546	22,420	16,008
Wastequip, Inc. (13)	Containers, Packaging and Glass	12.00%	2/5/2015	15,745	14,953	3,149
Weetabix Group (3)(7)	Beverage, Food, and Tobacco	10.62%	9/14/2016	13,627	16,335	9,879
Weetabix Group (3)(7)	Beverage, Food, and Tobacco	9.83%	5/7/2017	29,211	34,948	20,447
Wire Rope Corporation (nka WireCo World Group)	Diversified/Conglomerate Manufacturing	11.00%	2/8/2015	39,000	38,302	36,660
Total Subordinated Debt/Corporate Notes				\$ 795,459	\$ 778,163	\$ 641,992

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

F-11

Table of Contents**SOLAR CAPITAL LTD.****CONSOLIDATED SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS (continued)****December 31, 2009****(in thousands, except shares)**

Description(1)	Industry	Interest(2)	Maturity	Par Amount/ Shares	Cost	Fair Value
Preferred Equity 0.1%						
Wyle Laboratories	Aerospace & Defense	8.00%	7/17/2015	\$ 39	\$ 39	\$ 40
Total Preferred Equity				\$ 39	\$ 39	\$ 40
Common Equity / Partnership Interests / Warrants 6.7%						
Ark Real Estate Partners LP (9)(11)	Real Estate			28,006,121	\$ 28,006	\$ 19,675
Direct Buy Inc.	Home and Office Furnishing, Consumer Products			5,000,000	5,000	1,040
Grakon, LLC	Machinery			1,714,286	1,714	
Great American Group Inc. (14)	Business Services			572,800	2,681	1,874
Great American Group Inc. (15)	Business Services			187,500	3	614
Great American Group Inc. (16)	Business Services			125,000		
National Interest Security Corporation(11)	Aerospace & Defense			2,265,023	2,125	16,293
National Specialty Alloys, LLC(10)	Mining, Steel and Nonprecious Metals			1,000,000	10,000	9,000
Nuveen Investments, Inc.	Finance			3,000,000	30,000	6,000
NXP Semiconductors Netherlands B.V.(3)	Electronics			944,628	31,060	1,697
Pacific Crane Maintenance Company, L.P.	Machinery			10,000	1,000	
Seven Media Group Pty Limited (3)	Broadcasting & Entertainment			4,285,714	3,301	1,416
Total Common Equity/Partnerships Interests / Warrants					\$ 114,890	\$ 57,609
Total Investments					\$ 1,063,988	\$ 863,140

- (1) We generally acquire our investments in private transactions exempt from registration under the Securities Act. Our investments are therefore generally subject to certain limitations on resale, and may be deemed to be restricted securities under the Securities Act.
- (2) A majority of the variable rate debt investments bear interest at a rate that may be determined by reference to LIBOR or EURIBOR, and which reset daily, quarterly or semi-annually. For each debt investment we have provided the current interest rate in effect as of December 31, 2009.
- (3) The following entities are domiciled outside the United States: Casema B.V. and NXP Semiconductors Netherlands B.V. in The Netherlands; Iglo Birds Eye Group Limited, Global Garden Products and Weetabix Group in the United Kingdom; ProSieben Sat.1 Media AG in Germany; and Seven Media Group Pty Limited in Australia. All other investments are domiciled in the United States.
- (4) Solar Capital LLC's investments in Iglo Birds Eye Group Limited are held through its wholly-owned subsidiary Solar Capital Luxembourg I S.a.r.l.
- (5) Solar Capital LLC's investments in Classic Cruises Holdings are held through its wholly-owned subsidiary Solar Capital Luxembourg I S.a.r.l.
- (6) Solar Capital LLC's investments in Global Garden Products are held through its wholly-owned subsidiary Solar Capital Luxembourg I S.a.r.l.
- (7) Solar Capital LLC's investments in Weetabix Group are held through its wholly-owned subsidiary Solar Capital Luxembourg I S.a.r.l.
- (8) Solar Capital LLC's investments in ProSieben Sat. 1 Media AG are held through its wholly-owned subsidiary Solar Capital Luxembourg I S.a.r.l.
- (9) Solar Capital LLC has an unfunded commitment of \$16,745.
- (10)

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Denotes a Control Investment. Control Investments are defined in the 1940 Act as investments in those companies that the Company is deemed to Control. Generally, under the 1940 Act, the Company is deemed to Control a company in which it has invested if it owns 25% or more of the voting securities of such company or has greater than 50% representation on its board.

- (11) Denotes an Affiliate Investment. Affiliate Investments are investments in those companies that are Affiliated Companies of the Company, as defined in the 1940 Act, which are not Control Investments. The Company is deemed to be an Affiliate of a company in which it has invested if it owns 5% or more but less than 25% of the voting securities of such company.
- (12) Investment is on non-accrual status.
- (13) Investments are current on all obligations with interest payments being applied to principal.
- (14) Common Shares
- (15) Founders Shares
- (16) Contingent Founders Shares

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

F-12

Table of Contents**SOLAR CAPITAL LTD.****CONSOLIDATED SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS (continued)****December 31, 2009**

Industry Classification	Percentage of Total Investments (at fair value) as of December 31, 2009
Beverage, Food, and Tobacco	21%
Aerospace & Defense	17%
Diversified / Conglomerate Service	6%
Insurance	6%
Personal, Food and Misc. Services	5%
Healthcare, Education, and Childcare	5%
Leisure, Motion Pictures, Entertainment	4%
Cargo Transport	4%
Diversified / Conglomerate Manufacturing	4%
Finance	4%
Home and Office Furnishing, Consumer Products	4%
Broadcasting & Entertainment	3%
Automotive	3%
Real Estate	2%
Telecommunications	2%
Hotels, Motels, Inns & Gaming	2%
Printing, Publishing, Broadcasting	2%
Oil & Gas	1%
Mining, Steel, Iron, and Nonprecious Metals	1%
Machinery	1%
Containers, packaging and glass	1%
Business Services	1%
Electronics	1%

100%

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2010

(in thousands, except shares)

Note 1. Organization

Solar Capital Ltd. (Solar Capital , the Company or we), a Maryland corporation formed in November 2007, is a closed-end, externally managed, non-diversified management investment company that has elected to be treated as a business development company (BDC) under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act). In addition, for tax purposes the Company intends to be treated as a regulated investment company (RIC) under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code).

On February 9, 2010, Solar Capital Ltd. priced its initial public offering, selling 5.68 million shares, including the underwriters over-allotment, at a price of \$18.50 per share. Concurrent with this offering, management purchased an additional 600,000 shares through a private placement, also at \$18.50 per share.

Immediately prior to the initial public offering, through a series of transactions Solar Capital Ltd. merged with Solar Capital LLC, leaving Solar Capital Ltd. as the surviving entity (the Merger). Solar Capital Ltd. issued an aggregate of approximately 26.65 million shares of common stock and \$125 million in Senior Unsecured Notes to the existing Solar Capital LLC unit holders in connection with the Merger. Solar Capital Ltd. had no assets or operations prior to completion of the Merger and as a result, the historical books and records of Solar Capital LLC have become the books and records of the surviving entity.

Solar Capital LLC, a Maryland limited liability company, was formed in February 2007 and commenced operations on March 13, 2007 with initial capital of \$1.2 billion of which 47.04% was funded by affiliated parties.

The Company s investment objective is to generate both current income and capital appreciation through debt and equity investments. The Company invests primarily in middle-market companies in the form of mezzanine and senior secured loans, each of which may include an equity component, and, to a lesser extent, by making direct equity investments in such companies.

Note 2. Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation The accompanying consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP), and include the accounts of the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiaries, Solar Capital Luxembourg I S.a.r.l., which was incorporated under the laws of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg on April 26, 2007, and Solar Capital Funding II LLC (SC Funding II), a Delaware limited liability company formed on December 8, 2010. The consolidated financial statements reflect all adjustments and reclassifications which, in the opinion of management, are necessary for the fair presentation of the results of the operations and financial condition for the periods presented. All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated.

Certain prior period amounts have been reclassified to conform to current period presentation. As required by ASC 260-10, *Earnings Per Share*, the number of shares used to calculate weighted average shares for use in computations on a per share basis have been decreased retroactively by a factor of approximately 0.4022 for all periods prior to February 9, 2010. This factor represents the effective impact of the reduction in shares resulting from the Merger.

Investments The Company applies fair value accounting in accordance with GAAP. Securities transactions are accounted for on trade date. Securities for which market quotations are readily available on an exchange are valued at such price as of the closing price on the valuation date. The Company may also obtain

Table of Contents

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

December 31, 2010

(in thousands, except shares)

quotes with respect to certain of its investments from pricing services or brokers or dealers in order to value assets. When doing so, the Company determines whether the quote obtained is sufficient according to GAAP to determine the fair value of the security. If determined adequate, the Company uses the quote obtained.

Securities for which reliable market quotations are not readily available or for which the pricing source does not provide a valuation or methodology or provides a valuation or methodology that, in the judgment of the Company's investment adviser (the Adviser) or Board of Directors (the Board), does not represent fair value, shall each be valued as follows:

- 1) The quarterly valuation process begins with each portfolio company or investment being initially valued by the investment professionals responsible for the portfolio investment;
- 2) Preliminary valuation conclusions are then documented and discussed with senior management;
- 3) Third-party valuation firms are engaged by, or on behalf of, the Board to conduct independent appraisals and review management's preliminary valuations and make their own independent assessment, for all material assets; and
- 4) The Board discusses valuations and determines the fair value of each investment in the portfolio in good faith based on the input of our investment adviser (note 4) and, where appropriate, the respective independent valuation firms.

Valuation methods, among other measures and as applicable, may include comparisons of financial ratios of the portfolio companies that issued such private equity securities to peer companies that are public, the nature and realizable value of any collateral, the portfolio company's ability to make payments and its earnings and discounted cash flows, the markets in which the portfolio company does business, and other relevant factors.

When an external event such as a purchase transaction, public offering or subsequent equity sale occurs, the Company will consider the pricing indicated by the external event to corroborate the private equity valuation. Due to the inherent uncertainty of determining the fair value of investments that do not have a readily available market value, the fair value of the investments may differ significantly from the values that would have been used had a readily available market value existed for such investments, and the differences could be material.

Investments of sufficient credit quality purchased within 60 days of maturity are valued at cost plus accreted discount, or minus amortized premium, which approximates fair value.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Cash and Cash Equivalents Cash and cash equivalents include investments in money market accounts or investments with original maturities of three months or less.

Revenue Recognition The Company's revenue recognition policies are as follows:

Sales: Gains or losses on the sale of investments are calculated by using the specific identification method.

Interest Income: Interest income, adjusted for amortization of premium and accretion of discount, is recorded on an accrual basis. Origination, closing and/or commitment fees associated with investments in portfolio companies are accreted into interest income over the respective terms of the applicable loans. Upon the prepayment of a loan or debt security, any prepayment penalties and unamortized loan origination, closing and commitment fees are recorded as part of interest income. The Company has loans in its portfolio that contain a payment-in-kind (PIK) provision. PIK interest is accrued at the contractual rates and added to the loan principal on the reset dates.

Table of Contents

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

December 31, 2010

(in thousands, except shares)

Non-accrual: Loans are placed on non-accrual status when principal or interest payments are past due 30 days or more or when there is reasonable doubt that principal or interest will be collected. Accrued interest is generally reversed when a loan is placed on non-accrual status. Interest payments received on non-accrual loans may be recognized as income or applied to principal depending upon management's judgment. Non-accrual loans are restored to accrual status when past due principal and interest is paid and, in management's judgment, are likely to remain current.

Fee Revenue Receivable Fee revenue receivable consists of premium payments owed to the Company at the maturity of certain loans. The premium payments are recorded as a receivable at the inception of the loan and are accreted into interest income over the respective terms of the applicable loans.

Deferred Fee Revenue Deferred fee revenue represents the unearned portion of premium payments owed to the Company at the maturity of certain loans.

U.S. Federal Income Taxes The Company intends to elect to be treated as a RIC under subchapter M of the Code and operates in a manner so as to qualify for the tax treatment applicable to RICs. In order to qualify as a RIC, among other things, the Company is required to timely distribute to its stockholders at least 90% of investment company taxable income, as defined by the Code, for each year. The Company, among other things, has made and intends to continue to make the requisite distributions to its stockholders, which will generally relieve the Company from U.S. federal income taxes.

Depending on the level of taxable income earned in a tax year, we may choose to carry forward taxable income in excess of current year dividend distributions into the next tax year and pay a 4% excise tax on such income, as required. To the extent that the Company determines that its estimated current year annual taxable income will be in excess of estimated current year dividend distributions, the Company accrues excise tax, if any, on estimated excess taxable income as taxable income is earned. For year ended December 31, 2010, \$120 was recorded for U.S. Federal excise tax.

The Company is also subject to taxes in Luxembourg, through Solar Capital Luxembourg I S.a.r.l., a wholly-owned subsidiary. Under the laws of Luxembourg, the Company pays a corporate income tax and a municipal business tax on its subsidiary's taxable income.

The Company evaluates tax positions taken or expected to be taken in the course of preparing its financial statements to determine whether the tax positions are more-likely-than-not of being sustained by the applicable tax authority. Tax positions not deemed to meet the more-likely-than-not threshold are reversed and recorded as a tax benefit or expense in the current year. All penalties and interest associated with income taxes are included in income tax expense. Conclusions regarding tax positions are subject to review and may be adjusted at a later date based on factors including, but not limited to, on-going analyses of tax laws, regulations and interpretations thereof.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Capital Accounts Certain capital accounts including undistributed net investment income, accumulated net realized gain or loss, net unrealized appreciation or depreciation, and paid in capital in excess of par, are adjusted, at least annually, for permanent differences between book and tax. In addition, the character of income and gains to be distributed is determined in accordance with income tax regulations that may differ from GAAP.

Dividends Dividends and distributions to common stockholders are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Quarterly dividend payments are determined by the Board and are generally based upon taxable earnings estimated by management. Net realized capital gains, if any, are distributed at least annually, although we may

Table of Contents

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

December 31, 2010

(in thousands, except shares)

decide to retain such capital gains for investment. We have adopted a dividend reinvestment plan that provides for reinvestment of any distributions we declare in cash on behalf of our stockholders, unless a stockholder elects to receive cash. As a result, if our Board authorizes, and we declare, a cash dividend, then our stockholders who have not opted out of our dividend reinvestment plan will have their cash dividends automatically reinvested in additional shares of our common stock, rather than receiving the cash dividend. While we generally use newly issued shares to implement the plan (especially if our shares are trading at a premium to net asset value), we may purchase shares in the open market in connection with our obligations under the plan. In particular, if our shares are trading at a significant enough discount to net asset value and we are otherwise permitted under applicable law to purchase such shares, we intend to purchase shares in the open market in connection with our obligations under our dividend reinvestment plan.

Foreign Currency Translation The accounting records of the Company are maintained in U.S. dollars. All assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into U.S. dollars based on the rate of exchange of such currencies against U.S. dollars on the date of valuation. The Company's investments in foreign securities may involve certain risks such as foreign exchange restrictions, expropriation, taxation or other political, social or economic risks, all of which could affect the market and/or credit risk of the investment. In addition, changes in the relationship of foreign currencies to the U.S. dollar can significantly affect the value of these investments and therefore the earnings of the Company.

Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activity In accordance with GAAP, the Company recognizes derivatives as either assets or liabilities at their fair value on its Consolidated Statements of Assets and Liabilities. At this time, the Company does not document formal hedge relationships because the hedged items are recorded at fair value with realized and unrealized gains and losses recognized in current earnings. Realized and unrealized gains and losses from derivatives are also recorded in current earnings. Realized gains or losses from derivatives are recognized when contracts are settled. The Company primarily uses foreign exchange forward contracts to economically hedge its foreign currency risk. The fair value of foreign exchange forward contracts is determined by recognizing the difference between the contract exchange rate and the current market exchange rate. These fair values are recognized as either derivative assets or derivative liabilities in the Company's Consolidated Statements of Assets and Liabilities. The Company may also borrow in foreign currencies on its multicurrency credit lines to reduce foreign currency exposure. Fluctuations in market values of assets and liabilities denominated in the same foreign currency offset in earnings providing a natural foreign currency hedge.

Deferred Offering Costs Offering costs consist of fees paid in relation to legal, accounting, regulatory and printing work completed in connection with offerings of our common stock.

Use of Estimates in the Preparation of Financial Statements The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of income and expenses during the reported period. Changes in the economic environment, financial markets and any other parameters used in determining these estimates could cause actual results to differ materially.

Receivable for Investments Sold Receivable for investments sold represents funds that have not been received for investments that were sold.

Payable for Investments Purchased Payable for investments purchased represents funds that have not been disbursed for investment purchases.

F-17

Table of Contents**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****December 31, 2010****(in thousands, except shares)**

Deferred Credit Facility Costs Deferred credit facility costs are being amortized over the life of the related credit facility.

Note 3. Investments

Investments consisted of the following as of December 31, 2010 and 2009:

	December 31, 2010		December 31, 2009	
	Cost	Fair Value	Cost	Fair Value
Bank Debt/Senior Secured Loans	\$ 250,253	\$ 247,141	\$ 170,896	\$ 163,499
Subordinated Debt/Corporate Notes	690,817	649,784	778,163	641,992
Preferred Equity	3,929	3,934	39	40
Common Equity/Partnership Interests/Warrants	118,562	75,362	114,890	57,609
Total	\$ 1,063,561	\$ 976,221	\$ 1,063,988	\$ 863,140

As of December 31, 2010, the Company had one investment on non-accrual status with a total market value of \$6.6 million, and three investments on non-accrual status with no market value on December 31, 2009. Additionally, there were three assets that were performing as of December 31, 2009, but interest payments were being applied to principal rather than interest income (cost recovery), because at the time management believed it was unlikely there would be full principal repayment. As of December 31, 2010, there were no assets on cost recovery.

Note 4. Agreements

Solar Capital has an Investment Advisory and Management Agreement with Solar Capital Partners LLC (the Investment Adviser), under which the Investment Adviser will manage the day-to-day operations of, and provide investment advisory services to, Solar Capital. For providing these services, the Investment Adviser receives a fee from Solar Capital, consisting of two components a base management fee and an incentive fee. The base management fee is determined by taking the average value of Solar Capital s gross assets at the end of the two most recently completed calendar quarters calculated at an annual rate of 2.00%. The incentive fee has two parts, as follows: one part is calculated and payable quarterly in arrears based on Solar Capital s pre-incentive fee net investment income for the immediately preceding calendar quarter. For this purpose, pre-incentive fee net investment income means interest income, dividend income and any other income (including any other fees (other than fees for providing managerial assistance), such as commitment, origination, structuring, diligence and consulting fees or other fees that we receive from portfolio companies) accrued during the calendar quarter, minus Solar Capital s operating expenses for the quarter (including the base management fee, any expenses payable under the Administration Agreement, and any interest expense and dividends paid on any issued and outstanding preferred stock, but excluding the incentive fee). Pre-incentive fee net investment income does not include any realized capital gains computed net of all realized capital losses and unrealized capital depreciation. Pre-incentive fee net investment income, expressed as a rate of return on the value of Solar Capital s net assets at the end of the immediately preceding calendar quarter, is compared to the hurdle rate of

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

1.75% per quarter (7% annualized). Our net investment income used to calculate this part of the incentive fee is also included in the amount of our gross assets used to calculate the 2% base management fee. Solar Capital pays the Investment Adviser an incentive fee with respect to Solar Capital's pre-incentive fee net investment income in each calendar quarter as follows: (1) no incentive fee in any calendar quarter in which Solar Capital's pre-incentive fee net investment income does not exceed the hurdle rate; (2) 100% of Solar Capital's pre-incentive fee net investment income with respect to that portion of such pre-incentive fee net investment

F-18

Table of Contents

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

December 31, 2010

(in thousands, except shares)

income, if any, that exceeds the hurdle rate but is less than 2.1875% in any calendar quarter; and (3) 20% of the amount of Solar Capital's pre-incentive fee net investment income, if any, that exceeds 2.1875% in any calendar quarter. These calculations are appropriately pro-rated for any period of less than three months and adjusted for any share issuances or repurchases during the relevant quarter. The second part of the incentive fee is determined and payable in arrears as of the end of each calendar year (or upon termination of the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, as of the termination date), commencing on February 12, 2007, and will equal 20% of Solar Capital's cumulative realized capital gains less cumulative realized capital losses, unrealized capital depreciation (unrealized depreciation on a gross investment-by-investment basis at the end of each calendar year) and all capital gains upon which prior performance-based capital gains incentive fee payments were previously made to the advisor.

Solar Capital has also entered into an Administration Agreement with Solar Capital Management, LLC (the Administrator) under which the Administrator provides administrative services for Solar Capital. For providing these services, facilities and personnel, Solar Capital reimburses the Administrator for Solar Capital's allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by the Administrator in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, including rent. The Administrator will also provide, on Solar Capital's behalf, managerial assistance to those portfolio companies to which Solar Capital is required to provide such assistance.

Note 5. Derivatives

The Company is exposed to foreign exchange risk through its investments denominated in foreign currencies. The Company mitigates this risk through the use of foreign currency forward contracts. As an investment company, all changes in the fair value of assets, including changes caused by foreign currency fluctuation, flow through current earnings. The forward contracts serve as an economic hedge with their realized and unrealized gains and losses also recorded in current earnings. The Company has no derivatives designated as hedging instruments. During the year ended December 31, 2010, we entered into 77 foreign currency forward contracts with durations of 1 month and the average U.S. dollar value of foreign currency forward contracts was \$28,181. During the year ended December 31, 2009, we entered into 81 foreign currency forward contracts with durations of 1 to 3 months and the average U.S. dollar value of foreign currency forward contracts was \$29,757.

Table of Contents**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****December 31, 2010****(in thousands, except shares)**

As of December 31, 2010, there were three open forward foreign currency contracts denominated in Euro, Australian Dollar and British Pounds, all of which terminate on January 7, 2011. As of December 31, 2009, there were nine open forward foreign currency contracts denominated in Euro, Australian Dollar and British Pounds, six of which terminated on January 15, 2010 and three of which terminated on February 16, 2010. At December 31, 2010 and 2009, there were no fixed collateral held by counterparties for the open contracts and no credit-related contingent features associated with any of the open forward contracts. The contract details are as follows:

Purchase:	Counterparty	December 31, 2010			December 31, 2009		
		Local Currency	USD Value	Unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	Local Currency	USD Value	Unrealized appreciation (depreciation)
USD / AUD	SunTrust Bank	30,639	\$ 31,337	\$ (1,348)	(734)	\$ 658	\$ 1
USD / AUD	SunTrust Bank				734	669	10
USD / AUD	SunTrust Bank				734	655	(1)
USD / EURO	SunTrust Bank	18,307	24,464	(191)	(317)	461	(7)
USD / EURO	SunTrust Bank				317	463	10
USD / EURO	SunTrust Bank				6,317	9,185	135
USD / GBP	SunTrust Bank	37,942	59,155	604	(825)	1,351	(17)
USD / GBP	SunTrust Bank				825	1,342	8
USD / GBP	SunTrust Bank				6,825	11,165	130
Total			\$ 114,956	\$ (935)		\$ 25,949	\$ 269

The following tables show the fair value and effect of the derivative instruments on the Consolidated Statements of Assets and Liabilities and the Consolidated Statements of Operations:

Fair Values of Derivative Instruments

	December 31, 2010		December 31, 2009	
	Balance Sheet Location	Fair Value	Balance Sheet Location	Fair Value
Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments(a)				
Foreign exchange contracts	Derivative assets	\$ 604	Derivative assets	\$ 294
Total derivative assets		\$ 604		\$ 294

	December 31, 2010		December 31, 2009	
	Balance Sheet Location	Fair Value	Balance Sheet Location	Fair Value
Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments(a)				
Foreign exchange contracts	Derivative liabilities	\$ 1,539	Derivative liabilities	\$ 25
Total derivative liabilities		\$ 1,539		\$ 25

- (a) See Note 2 for additional information on the Company's purpose for entering into derivatives not designated as hedging instruments and its overall risk management strategy.

F-20

Table of Contents**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****December 31, 2010****(in thousands, except shares)****Note 6. Borrowing Facilities, Senior Unsecured Notes, and Term Loan**

Senior Secured Revolving Credit Facility On January 11, 2008, Solar Capital LLC entered into a \$200 million Senior Secured Revolving Credit Facility (the Credit Facility) with Citigroup Global Markets, Inc. (CGMI), various lenders, and Citibank, N.A., as administrative agent for the lenders. CGMI acted as the sole lead bookrunner and the sole lead arranger for the Credit Facility.

On February 12, 2010, Solar Capital Ltd. amended and restated the Credit Facility, extending the maturity to February 2013 and increasing the total commitments under the facility to \$270 million. Per the amended agreement, borrowings bear interest at a rate per annum equal to the base rate plus 3.25% or the alternate base rate plus 2.25%. The commitment fee on unused balances is 0.375%. The amendment also reduced the advance rates permitted on certain asset types and placed limitations on the secured borrowing amount. On May 26, 2010, the Credit Facility was amended to remove the limitations on the secured borrowing amount and increase the advance rates permitted on certain asset types. Total commitments under the Credit Facility have been increased to \$355 million as a result of the addition of two new lenders on May 12, 2010 and June 23, 2010. The facility size may be increased up to \$600 million with additional new lenders or the increase in commitments of current lenders. The Credit Facility contains certain customary affirmative and negative covenants and events of default, including the occurrence of a change of control. In addition, the Credit Facility contains certain financial covenants that among other things, requires the Company to maintain a minimum shareholder s equity and a minimum debt to total assets ratio.

Term Loan On September 2, 2010, Solar Capital Ltd. entered into a fully funded \$35 million senior secured term loan (the Term Loan), which matures in September 2013, bears interest at a rate per annum equal to the base rate plus 3.25%, and has terms substantially similar to our existing revolving credit facility. The Term Loan contains certain customary affirmative and negative covenants and events of default, including the occurrence of a change of control. In addition, the Term Loan contains certain financial covenants that among other things, requires the Company to maintain a minimum shareholders equity and a minimum debt to total assets ratio.

Senior Secured Loan Facility On December 17, 2010, Solar Capital Ltd. entered into a new \$100 million Senior Secured Credit Facility (the Credit Facility II) with Wells Fargo Securities LLC, as administrative agent. Solar Capital entered into (i) a Purchase and Sale Agreement (the Purchase and Sale Agreement) with SC Funding II, pursuant to which Solar Capital will sell to SC Funding II certain loans that it has originated or acquired, or will originate or acquire (the Loans) from time to time; (ii) a Loan and Servicing Agreement (the Loan and Servicing Agreement and, together with the Purchase and Sale Agreement, the Agreements) with SC Funding II as borrower; and (iii) various supporting documentation. The Credit Facility II is secured by all of the assets held by SC Funding II. The Credit Facility II, among other things, matures on December 17, 2015 and bears interest based on LIBOR plus 3.00%. Under the Agreements, Solar Capital and SC Funding II, as applicable, are required to comply with various covenants, reporting requirements and other customary requirements for similar credit facilities. The Purchase and Sale Agreement includes usual and customary events of default for credit facilities of this nature.

Senior Unsecured Notes On February 9, 2010, in connection with the Merger, senior unsecured notes (the Senior Unsecured Notes) of Solar Capital Ltd. were issued to certain equity holders. The Senior Unsecured Notes were scheduled to mature in February 2014 and had a coupon of 8.75%, payable quarterly in cash beginning May 1, 2010. The Senior Unsecured Notes were redeemable at any time, in whole or in part, at a price of 100% of their principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest to the date of redemption. Further, net cash proceeds from the issuance of any other senior notes had to be used either to redeem or make an offer to purchase

Table of Contents

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

December 31, 2010

(in thousands, except shares)

the outstanding Senior Unsecured Notes at a price of 100% of their principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest to the date of redemption. The Senior Unsecured Notes subjected Solar Capital Ltd. to customary covenants, including, among other things, (i) a requirement to maintain an asset coverage ratio of at least 2.00 to 1.00; (ii) a requirement that in the event of a change of control (as defined in the agreement governing the Senior Unsecured Notes) Solar Capital Ltd. will be required to offer to repurchase the Senior Unsecured Notes at a price of 101% of their principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest to the date of repurchase; and (iii) a restriction on incurring any debt on a junior lien basis, or any debt that is contractually subordinated in right of payment to any other debt unless it is also subordinated to the Senior Unsecured Notes on substantially identical terms. The agreement under which the Senior Unsecured Notes have been issued contained customary events of default. The Senior Unsecured Notes were repaid in full in December 2010 at par plus accrued interest.

The weighted average annualized interest cost for all borrowings for the year ended December 31, 2010 and 2009 was 7.71% and 3.85%, respectively. These costs are exclusive of commitment fees and for other prepaid expenses related to establishing the Credit Facility, the Credit Facility II, the Senior Unsecured Notes, and the Term Loan (collectively the Credit Facilities). This weighted average annualized interest cost reflects the average interest cost for all outstanding borrowings. The average debt outstanding for the year ended December 31, 2010 and 2009 was \$140,301 and \$29,035, respectively. The maximum amounts borrowed on the Credit Facilities during the year ended December 31, 2010 and 2009 were \$435,000 and \$122,065, respectively. There was \$435,000 drawn on the Credit Facilities as of December 31, 2010 and \$88,114 outstanding as of December 31, 2009. At December 31, 2010 and 2009, the Company was in compliance with all financial and operational covenants required by the Credit Facilities.

Note 7. Fair Value

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. GAAP establishes a framework for measuring fair value that includes a hierarchy used to classify the inputs used in measuring fair value. The hierarchy prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value into three levels. The level in the fair value hierarchy within which the fair value measurement falls is determined based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

GAAP fair value measurement guidance classifies the inputs used to measure these fair values into the following hierarchy:

Level 1. Financial assets and liabilities whose values are based on unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in an active market that the Company has the ability to access (examples include active exchange-traded equity securities, exchange-traded derivatives, and most U.S. Government and agency securities).

Level 2. Financial assets and liabilities whose values are based on quoted prices in markets that are not active or model inputs that are observable either directly or indirectly for substantially the full term of the asset or liability. Level 2 inputs include the following:

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

- a) Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
- b) Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in non-active markets (examples include corporate and municipal bonds, which trade infrequently);
- c) Pricing models whose inputs are observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability (examples include most over-the-counter derivatives, including foreign exchange forward contracts); and

F-22

Table of Contents**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****December 31, 2010****(in thousands, except shares)**

- d) Pricing models whose inputs are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data through correlation or other means for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

Level 3. Financial assets and liabilities whose values are based on prices or valuation techniques that require inputs that are both unobservable and significant to the overall fair value measurement. These inputs reflect management's own assumptions about the assumptions a market participant would use in pricing the asset or liability (examples include certain of our private debt and equity investments) and long-dated or complex derivatives (including certain equity and currency derivatives).

When the inputs used to measure fair value fall within different levels of the hierarchy, the level within which the fair value measurement is categorized is based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety. For example, a Level 3 fair value measurement may include inputs that are observable (Levels 1 and 2) and unobservable (Level 3). Therefore gains and losses for such assets and liabilities categorized within the Level 3 table below may include changes in fair value that are attributable to both observable inputs (Levels 1 and 2) and unobservable inputs (Level 3). Further, it should be noted that the following tables do not take into consideration the effect of offsetting Levels 1 and 2 financial instruments entered into by the Company that economically hedge certain exposures to the Level 3 positions.

A review of fair value hierarchy classifications is conducted on a quarterly basis. Changes in the observability of valuation inputs may result in a reclassification for certain financial assets or liabilities. Reclassifications impacting Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy are reported as transfers in/out of the Level 3 category as of the beginning of the quarter in which the reclassifications occur.

The following table presents the balances of assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis, as of December 31, 2010 and 2009:

Fair Value Measurements**As of December 31, 2010**

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Assets:				
Bank Debt/Senior Secured Loans	\$	\$ 46,609	\$ 200,532	\$ 247,141
Subordinated Debt / Corporate Notes		83,476	566,308	649,784
Preferred Equity			3,934	3,934
Common Equity / Partnership Interests	373	21,897	53,092	75,362
Derivative assets - forward contracts		604		604
Liabilities:				
Derivative liabilities - forward contracts		1,539		1,539

Fair Value Measurements

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

As of December 31, 2009

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Assets:				
Bank Debt/Senior Secured Loans	\$	\$	\$ 163,499	\$ 163,499
Subordinated Debt / Corporate Notes		65,961	576,031	641,992
Preferred Equity			40	40
Common Equity / Partnership Interests / Warrants		2,488	55,121	57,609
Derivative assets forward contracts		294		294
Liabilities:				
Derivative liabilities forward contracts		25		25

F-23

Table of Contents**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****December 31, 2010****(in thousands, except shares)**

The following table provides a summary of the changes in fair value of Level 3 assets and liabilities for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, as well as the portion of gains or losses included in income attributable to unrealized gains or losses related to those assets and liabilities still held at December 31, 2010 and 2009:

The Company had no assets or liabilities measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis during the year.

Fair Value Measurements Using Level 3 Inputs**As of December 31, 2010**

	Bank Debt/Senior Secured Loans	Subordinated Debt/ Corporate Notes	Preferred Equity	Common Equity/ Partnership Interests/Warrants
Fair value, January 1, 2010	\$ 163,499	\$ 576,031	\$ 40	\$ 55,121
Total gains or losses included in earnings:				
Net realized gain (loss)	463	(54,012)		15,316
Net change in unrealized gain (loss)	3,704	86,974	4	(4,006)
Purchases, sales, issuances, and settlements (net)	84,566	315	3,890	(11,642)
Transfers out of Level 3	(51,700)	(43,000)		(1,697)
Fair value, December 31, 2010	\$ 200,532	\$ 566,308	\$ 3,934	\$ 53,092
Unrealized gains (losses) for the period relating to those Level 3 assets that were still held by the Company at the end of the period:				
Net change in unrealized gain:	\$ 5,522	\$ 18,999	\$ 4	\$ 9,161

During 2010, one asset with a fair value of \$0.4 million was transferred from Level 2 to Level 1 when trading restrictions expired on a publicly traded equity investment.

Fair Value Measurements Using Level 3 Inputs**As of December 31, 2009**

	Bank Debt/Senior Secured Loans	Subordinated Debt/ Corporate Notes	Preferred Equity	Common Equity/ Partnership Interests/Warrants
--	---	---	-------------------------	--

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Fair value, January 1, 2009	\$ 97,665	\$ 509,416	\$ 6,145	\$ 67,752
Total gains or losses included in earnings:				
Net realized loss	(50,032)	(75,837)	(61,101)	(61,081)
Net change in unrealized gain (loss)	82,880	58,509	54,957	48,941
Purchases, sales, issuances, and settlements (net)	(770)	83,943	39	(491)
Transfers into Level 3	33,756			

Fair value, December 31, 2009	\$ 163,499	\$ 576,031	\$ 40	\$ 55,121
--------------------------------------	------------	------------	-------	-----------

Unrealized gains (losses) for the period relating to those Level 3 assets that were still held by the Company at the end of the period:

Net change in unrealized gain (loss):	\$ 34,333	\$ 23,128	\$ 2	\$ (9,480)
---------------------------------------	-----------	-----------	------	------------

F-24

Table of Contents**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****December 31, 2010****(in thousands, except shares)****Note 9. Stockholders Equity**

The table below illustrates the effect of certain transactions on our capital accounts for the year ended December 31, 2010:

	Common Stock		Partners Capital	Paid in Capital in Excess of Par	Distributions in Excess of Net Investment Income	Accumulated Net Realized Gain/(Loss)	Net Unrealized Depreciation	Total Stockholders Equity
	Shares	Par Amount						
Balance at December 31, 2009		\$	\$ 697,903	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 697,903
Solar Capital Merger(1)	26,647,312	266	(697,903)	772,553			(199,916)	(125,000)
Issuances of common stock in IPO(2)	6,280,945	63		106,088				106,151
Issuances of common stock in private placement(2)	2,965,000	30		67,836				67,866
Reinvestment of dividends	489,901	5		10,841				10,846
Net increase in stockholders equity resulting from operations					69,212	(38,968)	111,641	141,885
Dividends declared (\$2.14 per share)					(65,457)	(7,200)		(72,657)
Permanent tax differences				(30,327)	(5,300)	35,627		
Balance at December 31, 2010	36,383,158	\$ 364	\$	\$ 926,991	\$ (1,545)	\$ (10,541)	\$ (88,275)	\$ 826,994

- (1) Immediately prior to the initial public offering, through a series of transactions Solar Capital Ltd. merged with Solar Capital LLC, leaving Solar Capital Ltd. as the surviving entity. Solar Capital Ltd. issued an aggregate of approximately 26.65 million shares of common stock and \$125 million in Senior Unsecured Notes to the existing Solar Capital LLC unit holders in connection with the Merger.
- (2) On February 9, 2010 Solar Capital Ltd. priced its initial public offering, selling 5.68 million shares, including the underwriters over-allotment, at a price of \$18.50 per share. Concurrent with this offering, management purchased an additional 600,000 shares through a private placement, also at \$18.50 per share.
- (3) On November 30, 2010 Solar Capital Ltd. priced a private offering, selling 2.85 million shares, at a price of \$22.94 per share. Concurrent with this offering, management purchased an additional 115,000 shares, also at \$22.94 per share.

Note 10. Earnings Per Share

The following information sets forth the computation of basic and diluted net increase (decrease) in shareholders equity per share resulting from operations for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008:

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

	Year ended December 31, 2010	Year ended December 31, 2009	Year ended December 31, 2008
Numerator for basic and diluted earnings per share:	\$ 141,885	\$ 86,936	\$ (405,828)
Denominator for basic and diluted weighted average share:	33,258,402	32,860,454	32,860,454
Basic and diluted net increase (decrease) in shareholders equity resulting from operations per share:	\$ 4.27	\$ 2.65	\$ (12.35)

F-25

Table of Contents**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****December 31, 2010****(in thousands, except shares)**

As required by ASC 260-10, *Earnings Per Share*, the number of shares used to calculate weighted average shares for use in computations on a per share basis have been decreased retroactively by a factor of approximately 0.4022 for all periods prior to February 9, 2010. This factor represents the effective impact of the reduction in shares resulting from the Merger.

Note 11. Income Tax Information and Distributions to Stockholders

The tax character of dividends for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2010 was as follows:

Ordinary income	\$ 65,457	90.1%
Capital gains	7,200	9.9%
Total dividends	\$ 72,657	100.0%

As of December 31, 2010, the reconciliation of net increase in net assets resulting from operations to taxable income is as follows:

Net increase in net assets resulting from operations	\$ 141,885
Net unrealized gain/loss on investments	(113,508)
Pre IPO earnings adjustment	15,164
Consolidated subsidiaries adjustment	9,994
Post-October 2010 capital losses	3,006
Other book-to-tax differences	20,821
Taxable income before deductions for dividends	\$ 77,362

During 2010, as a result of permanent book-to-tax differences primarily due to adjustments relating to: merger related tax basis adjustments and net earnings derived during the period prior to the IPO, the Company increased distributions in excess of net investment income by \$5,300, decreased accumulated net realized loss by \$35,627, and decreased paid-in capital in excess of par value by \$30,327. Aggregate stockholders equity was not affected by this reclassification.

As of December 31, 2010, the components of accumulated gain and losses on a tax basis were as follows:

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Undistributed ordinary income	\$ 1,917
Undistributed long-term net capital gains	2,788
Total undistributed net earnings	4,705
Post-October 2010 capital losses	(3,006)
Net unrealized appreciation on investments	32,795
Total undistributed taxable income	\$ 34,494

Tax information for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2010 is an estimate and will not be finally determined until the Company files its 2010 tax return in September 2011.

We did not have any uncertain tax positions that met the recognition or measurement criteria of ASC 740-10-25, *Income Taxes*, nor did we have any unrecognized tax benefits as of the periods presented herein. Although we file federal and state tax returns, our major tax jurisdiction is federal. Our inception-to-date federal tax years remain subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service.

F-26

Table of Contents

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

December 31, 2010

(in thousands, except shares)

Under the recently enacted Regulated Investment Company Modernization Act of 2010, the Company will be permitted to carry forward capital losses incurred in taxable years beginning after December 22, 2010 for an unlimited period. However, any losses incurred during those future taxable years will be required to be utilized prior to the losses incurred in pre-enactment taxable years. As a result of this ordering rule, pre-enactment capital loss carryforwards may be more likely to expire unused. Additionally, post-enactment capital losses that are carried forward will retain their character as either short-term or long-term capital losses rather than being considered all short-term as under previous law.

Pre-Merger Taxation

Prior to the February 9, 2010, the Company was classified as a partnership for U.S. tax purposes, and therefore was generally not subject to federal and state income taxes. Each partner took into account separately on their tax return their share of the taxable income, gains, losses, deductions or credits for the partnership's taxable year. Accordingly, no provisions were made in the accompanying financial statements for federal and state income tax.

The Company was subject to New York City unincorporated business tax (UBT), which is imposed on the business income of every unincorporated business that is carried on in New York City. The UBT is imposed for each taxable year at a rate of approximately 4 percent of taxable income that is allocable to New York City.

As of December 31, 2009 the Company determined that a deferred tax asset of \$2,354 may be realized in future periods due to realized and unrealized losses on originated assets associated with the Company's unincorporated business activities in New York City as of such date. The realization of this deferred tax asset was deemed not likely to occur and accordingly, the Company set up a valuation allowance for the full amount. As a result of the Merger, the 2009 deferred tax asset will not be recognized. There were no deferred tax assets or liabilities as of December 31, 2010.

Table of Contents**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****December 31, 2010****(in thousands, except shares)****Note 12. Financial Highlights**

The following is a schedule of financial highlights for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008:

Per Share Data: (a)	Year ended December 31, 2010	Year ended December 31, 2009	Year ended December 31, 2008
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$ 21.24	\$ 25.95	\$ 38.30
Net investment income	2.08	2.05	2.66
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	2.19	0.60	(15.01)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	4.27	2.65	(12.35)
Effect of dilution	(0.33)		
Offering costs	(0.31)		
Dividends to shareholders declared	(2.14)		
Distributions to unit holders declared		(7.36)	
Net asset value, end of year	\$ 22.73	\$ 21.24	\$ 25.95
Total return(b)	45.51%	10.16%	(32.25)%
Net assets, end of year	\$ 826,994	\$ 697,903	\$ 852,673
Per share market value at end of year	24.78	N/A	N/A
Shares outstanding end of year	36,383,158	32,860,454	32,860,454
Ratio to average net assets:			
Expenses without incentive fees	5.13%	3.35%	3.27%
Incentive fees	2.33%	2.20%	0.78%
Total expenses	7.46%	5.55%	4.05%
Net investment income without incentive fees	11.64%	11.06%	7.59%

(a) Calculated using the average shares outstanding method. The number of shares used to calculate weighted average shares for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008 have been decreased retroactively by a factor of approximately 0.4022 for all periods prior to February 9, 2010. This factor represents the effective impact of the reduction in shares resulting from the Merger.

(b) Total 2010 return = [(ending market price per share - IPO price per share + dividends declared per share) / IPO price per share].
Total 2009 and 2008 return = Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations / Net asset value, beginning of year.

Note 13. New Accounting Pronouncements and Accounting Standards Updates*Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

In January 2010, the FASB issued an update to ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures Topic*, which will require additional disclosures about inputs into valuation techniques and disaggregation of purchases, sales, issuances, and settlements in the Level 3 rollforward disclosure. Guidance regarding the disclosures about purchases, sales issuances, and settlements in the roll forward of activity in Level 3 fair value measurements is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2010, and for interim periods within those fiscal years.

F-28

Table of Contents**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****December 31, 2010****(in thousands, except shares)****Note 14. Related Parties**

From July 2006 through approximately the first quarter of 2009, Mr. Gross, the Company's chairman and chief executive officer, was a partner in Magnetar Capital Partners LP. Mr. Spohler, our chief operating officer together with Solar Capital Partners LLC's other investment professionals, advised Magnetar Financial LLC (Magnetar) on certain investments which coincide with those of Solar Capital. Certain entities affiliated with Magnetar own as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, either directly or indirectly, approximately 19.53% and 42.84%, respectively, of our outstanding equity.

Note 15. Selected Quarterly Financial Data (unaudited)

For the Quarter Ended	Investment Income		Net Investment Income		Net Realized And Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Assets		Increase (Decrease) In Net Assets From Operations	
	Total	Per Share	Total	Per Share	Total	Per Share	Total	Per Share
	December 31, 2010	\$ 31,644	\$ 0.92	\$ 17,384	\$ 0.51	\$ 24,974	\$ 0.73	\$ 42,358
September 30, 2010	29,403	0.89	15,551	0.47	5,458	0.16	21,009	0.63
June 30, 2010	28,284	0.86	15,166	0.46	1,348	0.04	16,514	0.50
March 31, 2010	35,310	1.08	21,111	0.65	40,893	1.26	62,004	1.90
December 31, 2009	28,456	0.87	17,685	0.54	22,271	0.68	39,956	1.23
September 30, 2009	27,785	0.85	16,383	0.50	22,181	0.68	38,564	1.17
June 30, 2009	25,252	0.77	16,099	0.49	17,899	0.54	33,998	1.03
March 31, 2009	28,177	0.86	17,095	0.52	(42,677)	(1.30)	(25,582)	(0.78)
December 31, 2008	38,035	1.16	22,080	0.67	(339,193)	(10.32)	(317,113)	(9.65)
September 30, 2008	32,464	0.99	21,990	0.67	(108,641)	(3.31)	(86,651)	(2.64)
June 30, 2008	32,367	0.98	21,305	0.65	17,680	0.54	38,985	1.19
March 31, 2008	31,093	0.95	22,024	0.67	(63,073)	(1.92)	(41,049)	(1.25)

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

F-29

Table of Contents**SOLAR CAPITAL LTD.****SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS IN AND ADVANCES TO AFFILIATES**

(unaudited)

(in thousands, except shares)

Schedule 12-14

Portfolio Company	Investment	As of December 31, 2010 Number of Shares/Principal Amount	Year ended December 31, 2010		As of December 31, 2010 Fair Value
			Amount of dividends and interest included in income	Amount of equity in net profit and loss	
Investments Owned Greater than 25%					
USAW 767	Senior Debt	6,753,177	\$ 52	\$	\$ 6,618
SODO Corp.	Preferred Equity/Common	388	2		390
SOCAY Corp.	Preferred Equity/Common	3,484	16		3,500
National Specialty Alloys, LLC	Equity	1,000,000	600		10,000
Total Investments Owned Greater than 25%			\$ 670	\$	\$ 20,508
Investments Owned Greater than 5% and Less than 25%					
National Interest Security Corp.	Senior Debt		\$ 3,544	\$	\$
National Interest Security Corp.	Subordinated		4,075		
Ark Real Estate Partners LP	Equity	34,806,121			29,235
Total Investments Owned Greater than 5% and Less than 25%			\$ 7,619	\$	\$ 29,235

The table below represents the balance at the beginning of the year, December 31, 2009 and any gross additions and reductions and net unrealized gain (loss) made to such investments as well as the ending fair value as of December 31, 2010.

Gross additions represent increases in the investment from additional investments, payments in kind of interest or dividends.

Gross reductions represent decreases in the investment from sales of investments or repayments.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

	Beginning Fair Value December 31, 2009	Gross additions	Gross reductions	Change in Unrealized Gain (Loss)	Fair Value as of December 31, 2010
USAW 767	\$	\$ 7,297	\$ 676	\$ (3)	\$ 6,618
SODO Corp.		390			390
SOCAY Corp.		3,500			3,500
National Specialty Alloys, LLC	9,000			1,000	10,000
National Interest Security Corp.	26,152		24,740	(1,412)	
National Interest Security Corp.	31,303		30,230	(1,073)	
National Interest Security Corp.	16,293		2,126	(14,167)	
Ark Real Estate Partners LP	19,675	6,800		2,760	29,235

F-30

Table of Contents**SOLAR CAPITAL LTD.****SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS IN AND ADVANCES TO AFFILIATES**

(unaudited)

(in thousands, except units)

Schedule 12-14

Portfolio Company	Investment	As of December 31, 2009 Number of Shares/Principal Amount	Year ended December 31, 2009		As of December 31, 2009 Fair Value
			Amount of dividends and interest included in income	Amount of equity in net profit and loss	
Investments Owned Greater than 25%					
National Specialty Alloys, LLC	Equity	1,000,000	\$	\$	\$ 9,000
Total Investments Owned Greater than 25%			\$	\$	\$ 9,000
Investments Owned Greater than 5% and Less than 25%					
National Interest Security Corp.	Senior Debt	25,182	\$ 4,163	\$	\$ 26,152
National Interest Security Corp.	Subordinated	30,539	5,027		31,303
National Interest Security Corp.	Equity	2,265,023			16,293
Ark Real Estate Partners LP	Equity	28,006,121			19,675
Total Investments Owned Greater than 5% and Less than 25%			\$ 9,190	\$	\$ 93,423

The table below represents the balance at the beginning of the period, December 31, 2008 and any gross additions and reductions and net unrealized gain (loss) made to such investments as well as the ending fair value as of December 31, 2009.

Gross additions represent increases in the investment from additional investments, payments in kind of interest or dividends.

Gross reductions represent decreases in the investment from sales of investments or repayments.

Beginning Fair Value	Gross additions	Gross reductions	Change in Unrealized	Fair Value as of
-------------------------	--------------------	---------------------	-------------------------	---------------------

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

	December 31, 2008			Gain (Loss)	December 31, 2009
National Specialty Alloys, LLC	\$ 12,900	\$	\$	\$ (3,900)	\$ 9,000
505 Capital Partners GP	30		30		
National Interest Security Corp.	24,679	171	19	1,321	26,152
National Interest Security Corp.	27,180	186	29	3,966	31,303
National Interest Security Corp.	12,951			3,342	16,293
Ark Real Estate Partners LP	24,619			(4,944)	19,675

Federal Income Tax Information (unaudited)

The Company designates the maximum amount available but not less than \$600 of the Company's ordinary income dividends paid from 2010 earnings as qualified dividend income in accordance with section 854 of the Internal Revenue Code. The Company designates the maximum amount available but not less than \$7,200 of the Company's dividends paid from 2010 net realized securities gains as capital gain dividends in accordance with section 852(b)(3)(C) of the Internal Revenue Code.

F-31

Table of Contents

\$1,000,000,000

Solar Capital Ltd.

Common Stock

Preferred Stock

Warrants

Debt Securities

Units

Purchase Contracts

PROSPECTUS

, 2011

Table of Contents

The information in this preliminary prospectus supplement is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission has been declared effective. This preliminary prospectus supplement is not an offer to sell nor does it seek an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

**[FORM OF PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT TO BE USED IN
CONJUNCTION WITH FUTURE SECURITIES OFFERINGS]**

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

(to Prospectus dated , 2011)

Shares

Solar Capital Ltd.

Common Stock

We are an externally managed finance company. Our investment objective is to generate both current income and capital appreciation through debt and equity investments. We invest primarily in leveraged companies, including middle-market companies, in the form of senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities.

We were formed in February 2007 as Solar Capital LLC, a Maryland limited liability company, and commenced operations in March 2007. On February 9, 2010, Solar Capital LLC was merged with and into Solar Capital Ltd., an externally managed, non-diversified, closed-end management investment company that has elected to be treated as a business development company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, or the 1940 Act. We are managed by Solar Capital Partners, LLC. Solar Capital Management, LLC provides the administrative services necessary for us to operate.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

We are offering for sale _____ shares of our common stock. We have granted the underwriters a 30-day option to purchase up to additional shares of our common stock at the public offering price, less the underwriting discounts and commissions, to cover over-allotments.

Our common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol SLRC. On _____, 20____, the last reported sales price on the NASDAQ Global Select Market for our common stock was \$ _____ per share.

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus contains important information about us that a prospective investor should know before investing in our common stock. Please read this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus before investing and keep it for future reference. We are required to file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information about us with the Securities and Exchange Commission. This information is available free of charge by contacting us by mail at 500 Park Avenue, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10022, by telephone at (212) 993-1670 or on our website at <http://www.solarcapltd.com>. The Securities and Exchange Commission also maintains a website at <http://www.sec.gov> that contains such information. Information contained on our website is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, and you should not consider that information to be part of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

An investment in our common stock is very risky and highly speculative. Shares of closed-end investment companies, including business development companies, frequently trade at a discount to their net asset value. In addition, the companies in which we invest are subject to special risks. See Risk Factors beginning on page 17 of the accompanying prospectus to read about factors you should consider, including the risk of leverage, before investing in our common stock.

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

	Per Share	Total
Public Offering Price	\$	\$
Sales Load (Underwriting Discounts and Commissions)	\$	\$
Proceeds to Solar Capital Ltd. (before expenses)	\$	\$

The underwriters expect to deliver the shares on or about _____, 20____.

_____, 2011

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

	Page
<u>Prospectus Supplement Summary</u>	S-2
<u>Offering</u>	S-9
<u>Fees and Expenses</u>	S-10
<u>Forward-Looking Statements and Projections</u>	S-13
<u>Capitalization</u>	S-14
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	S-15
<u>Underwriting</u>	S-16
<u>Legal Matters</u>	S-19
<u>Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u>	S-19
<u>Available Information</u>	S-19

PROSPECTUS

	Page
<u>Summary</u>	1
<u>Fees and Expenses</u>	11
<u>Selected Financial and Other Data</u>	14
<u>Risk Factors</u>	17
<u>Forward-Looking Statements and Projections</u>	35
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	36
<u>Price Range of Common Stock and Distributions</u>	37
<u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	39
<u>Senior Securities</u>	51
<u>Business</u>	52
<u>Portfolio Companies</u>	65
<u>Management</u>	69
<u>Portfolio Management</u>	78
<u>Investment Advisory and Management Agreement</u>	79
<u>Administration Agreement</u>	85
<u>License Agreement</u>	85
<u>Certain Relationships and Transactions</u>	86
<u>Control Persons and Principal Stockholders</u>	87
<u>Regulation as a Business Development Company</u>	88
<u>Determination of Net Asset Value</u>	93
<u>Dividend Reinvestment Plan</u>	95
<u>Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations</u>	97
<u>Sale of Our Common Stock Below Net Asset Value</u>	104
<u>Issuance of Warrants or Securities to Subscribe For or Convertible Into Shares of Our Common Stock</u>	109
<u>Description of Our Capital Stock</u>	110
<u>Description of Our Preferred Stock</u>	117
<u>Description of Our Warrants</u>	118
<u>Description of Our Debt Securities</u>	119
<u>Description of Our Units</u>	132
<u>Description of Our Purchase Contracts</u>	133
<u>Shares Eligible for Future Sale</u>	134

Plan of Distribution

135

Custodian, Transfer and Distribution Paying Agent and Registrar

137

Table of Contents

	Page
<u>Brokerage Allocation and Other Practices</u>	137
<u>Legal Matters</u>	137
<u>Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u>	137
<u>Available Information</u>	138
<u>Index to Financial Statements</u>	F-1

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. Neither we nor the underwriters have authorized any other person to provide you with different information from that contained in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus do not constitute an offer to sell, or a solicitation of an offer to buy, any shares of our common stock by any person in any jurisdiction where it is unlawful for that person to make such an offer or solicitation or to any person in any jurisdiction to whom it is unlawful to make such an offer or solicitation. The information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is complete and accurate only as of their respective dates, regardless of the time of their delivery or sale of our common stock. This prospectus supplement supersedes the accompanying prospectus to the extent it contains information different from or additional to the information in that prospectus.

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

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

This summary highlights some of the information in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. It is not complete and may not contain all of the information that you may want to consider. You should read carefully the more detailed information set forth under "Risk Factors" and the other information included in the accompanying prospectus and the documents to which we have referred.

We were formed in February 2007 as Solar Capital LLC, a Maryland limited liability company, and commenced operations in March 2007 after conducting a private placement of units of membership interest ("units"). On February 9, 2010, Solar Capital LLC was merged with and into Solar Capital Ltd., a Maryland corporation, which we refer to as the "Solar Capital Merger," concurrent with the pricing of our initial public offering, leaving Solar Capital Ltd. as the surviving entity. Except where the context suggests otherwise, the terms "we," "us," "our" and "Solar Capital" refer to Solar Capital LLC prior to the Solar Capital Merger, and Solar Capital Ltd. after the Solar Capital Merger. In addition, the terms "Solar Capital Partners" or "investment adviser" refer to Solar Capital Partners, LLC, and "Solar Capital Management" or the "administrator" refers to Solar Capital Management, LLC.

In this prospectus supplement, we use the term "leveraged" to refer to companies of any size with non-investment grade debt outstanding or, if not explicitly rated, those which we believe would be rated as non-investment grade based on their leverage levels and other terms. In addition, we use the term "middle-market" to refer to companies with annual revenues between \$50 million and \$1 billion.

Solar Capital

Solar Capital Ltd., a Maryland corporation formed in November 2007, is a closed-end, externally managed, non-diversified management investment company that has elected to be treated as a business development company ("BDC") under the 1940 Act. In addition, for tax purposes we intend to elect to be treated as a regulated investment company ("RIC") under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code").

On February 9, 2010, we priced our initial public offering, selling 5.68 million shares. Concurrent with our initial public offering, Michael S. Gross, our chairman and chief executive officer, and Bruce Spohler, our chief operating officer, collectively purchased an additional 0.6 million shares through a private placement transaction exempt from registration under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act (the "Concurrent Private Placement"). Solar Capital Ltd. issued an aggregate of approximately 26.65 million shares of common stock and \$125 million in senior unsecured notes (the "Senior Unsecured Notes") to the existing Solar Capital LLC unit holders in connection with the Solar Capital Merger. Solar Capital Ltd. had no assets or operations prior to completion of the Solar Capital Merger and as a result, the books and records of Solar Capital LLC have become the books and records of the surviving entity.

Our investment objective is to generate both current income and capital appreciation through debt and equity investments. We invest primarily in leveraged middle market companies in the form of senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities. From time to time, we may also invest in public companies that are thinly traded. Our business model is focused primarily on the direct origination of investments through portfolio companies or their financial sponsors. Our investments generally range between \$20 million and \$100 million each, although we expect that this investment size will vary proportionately with the size of our capital base. We are managed by Solar Capital Partners. Solar Capital Management provides the administrative services necessary for us to operate. In addition, we may invest a portion of our portfolio in other types of investments, which we refer to as opportunistic investments, which are not our primary focus but are intended to enhance our overall returns. These investments may include, but are not limited to, direct investments in public companies that are not thinly traded and securities of leveraged companies located in select countries outside of the United States.

Table of Contents

As of September 30, 2010, our long term investments totaled \$906.0 million and our net asset value was \$732.6 million. Our portfolio was comprised of debt and equity investments in 34 portfolio companies and our income producing assets, which represent 92.9% of our total portfolio, had a weighted average annualized yield on a fair value basis of approximately 14.1%.

About Solar Capital Partners

Solar Capital Partners is controlled by Michael S. Gross, our chairman and chief executive officer, and is led by Mr. Gross and Bruce Spohler, our chief operating officer, and is supported by a team of 12 dedicated investment professionals, including Brian Gerson, Cedric Henley and David Mait. We refer to Messrs. Gross, Spohler, Gerson, Henley and Mait as Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals. Solar Capital Partners' investment team has extensive experience in the private equity and leveraged lending industries, as well as significant contacts with financial sponsors operating in those industries. The investment team led by Messrs. Gross and Spohler has invested in 58 different portfolio companies for Solar Capital, which investments involved an aggregate of more than 50 different financial sponsors, through September 30, 2010. Since Solar Capital's inception, these investment professionals have used their relationships in the middle-market financial sponsor and financial intermediary community to originate direct investment opportunities. As of November 30, 2010, Mr. Gross and Mr. Spohler beneficially owned, either directly or indirectly, approximately 5.76% and 5.67%, respectively, of our outstanding common stock.

Mr. Gross has over 20 years of experience in the private equity, distressed debt and mezzanine lending businesses and has been involved in originating, structuring, negotiating, consummating and managing private equity, distressed debt and mezzanine lending transactions. Prior to his current role as our chairman, chief executive officer and president, Mr. Gross founded Apollo Investment Corporation, a publicly traded business development company. He served as its chairman from February 2004 to July 2006 and its chief executive officer from February 2004 to February 2006. Under his management, Apollo Investment Corporation raised approximately \$930 million in gross proceeds in an initial public offering in April 2004, built a dedicated investment team and infrastructure and invested approximately \$2.3 billion in over 65 companies in conjunction with 50 different private equity sponsors. Mr. Gross is also a founder and a former senior partner of Apollo Management, L.P., a leading private equity firm. During his tenure at Apollo Management, L.P., Mr. Gross was a member of the investment committee that was responsible for overseeing more than \$13 billion of investments in over 150 companies.

Mr. Gross also currently serves on the boards of directors of three public companies, and in the past has served on the boards of directors of more than 20 public and private companies. As a result, Mr. Gross has developed an extensive network of private equity sponsor relationships as well as relationships with management teams of public and private companies, investment bankers, attorneys and accountants that we believe should provide us with significant business opportunities.

We also rely on the more than 20 years of experience of Mr. Spohler, who has served as our chief operating officer and a partner of Solar Capital Partners since inception. Previously, Mr. Spohler was a managing director and a former co-head of U.S. Leveraged Finance for CIBC World Markets. He held numerous senior roles at CIBC World Markets, including serving on the U.S. Management Committee, Global Executive Committee and the Deals Committee, which approves all of CIBC World Markets' U.S. corporate finance debt capital decisions. During Mr. Spohler's tenure, he was responsible for senior loan, high yield and mezzanine origination and execution, as well as CIBC World Markets' below investment grade loan portfolio in the United States. As a co-head of U.S. Leveraged Finance, Mr. Spohler oversaw over 300 capital raising and merger and acquisition transactions, comprising over \$40 billion in market capitalization.

Table of Contents

In addition to Messrs. Gross and Spohler, Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals include Messrs. Gerson, Henley and Mait, each of whom has extensive experience in originating, evaluating and structuring investments in the types of middle-market companies we currently target. Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals have an average of over 20 years of experience in the private equity and leveraged lending industries.

Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals have been active participants in the primary and secondary leveraged credit markets throughout their careers. They have effectively managed portfolios of distressed and mezzanine debt as well as other investment types. The depth of their experience and credit market expertise has led them through various stages of the economic cycle as well as several market disruptions.

Market Opportunity

Solar Capital invests primarily in senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities of middle-market leveraged companies. We believe that the size of this market, coupled with leveraged companies' need for flexible sources of capital at attractive terms and rates, create an attractive investment environment for us. See Business Market Opportunity.

Middle-market companies have faced increasing difficulty in accessing the capital markets. While many middle-market companies were formerly able to raise funds by issuing high-yield bonds, we believe this approach to financing has become more difficult in recent years as institutional investors have sought to invest in larger, more liquid offerings. In addition, many private finance companies that historically financed their lending and investing activities through securitization transactions have lost that source of funding and reduced lending significantly.

There is a large pool of uninvested private equity capital likely to seek additional capital to support their investments. We expect that middle-market private equity firms will continue to invest the approximately \$195 billion raised since 2000 in middle-market companies and that those private equity firms will seek to support their investments with mezzanine loans from sources such as Solar Capital. Additionally, over \$12.1 billion was raised by middle-market sponsors during 2010, which we believe demonstrates the continued appetite for middle-market acquisitions that require debt financing.

The significant amount of debt maturing through 2015 should provide additional demand for capital. A high volume of financings were completed between the years 2004 and 2007, which are expected to mature over the next few years. We believe that this supply of prospective lending opportunities coupled with a lack of available credit in the middle-market lending space may offer attractive risk-adjusted returns to investors.

Investing in private middle-market debt provides an attractive risk reward profile. In general, terms for illiquid, middle-market subordinated debt have been more attractive than those for larger corporations which are typically more liquid. We believe this is because fewer institutions are able to invest in illiquid asset classes. In 2010, on average, the total debt to EBITDA ratio for middle-market LBOs was 4.2x, versus 4.7x for large capitalization LBOs. This reduced leverage provides further cushion for borrowers to meet debt service obligations.

Therefore, we believe that there is an attractive opportunity to invest in senior secured loans, mezzanine loans and equity securities of leveraged companies, and that we are well positioned to serve this market.

Competitive Advantages and Strategy

We believe that we have the following competitive advantages over other providers of financing to leveraged companies. See Business Competitive Advantages and Strategies.

S-4

Table of Contents

Management Expertise

As managing partner, Mr. Gross has principal management responsibility for Solar Capital Partners, to which he currently dedicates substantially all of his time. Mr. Gross has over 20 years of experience in leveraged finance, private equity and distressed debt investing. Mr. Spohler, our chief operating officer and a partner of Solar Capital Partners, has over 20 years of experience in evaluating and executing leverage finance transactions. We believe that Messrs. Gross and Spohler have developed a strong reputation in the capital markets, and that this experience provides us with a competitive advantage in identifying and investing in leveraged companies with the potential to generate returns.

In addition to Messrs. Gross and Spohler, Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals include Messrs. Gerson, Henley and Mait, each of whom has extensive experience in originating, evaluating and structuring investments in the types of middle-market companies we currently target. Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals have an average of over 20 years of experience in the private equity and leveraged lending industries.

Investment Portfolio

Our portfolio investments consist of portfolio companies that have strong cash flows and have maintained financial and operating performance despite the recent economic climate. As of September 30, 2010, over 99% of our total portfolio value was comprised of performing assets. The majority of our assets have been seasoned, which has allowed us to gain a solid understanding of our borrowers and the industries in which they compete.

Investment Capacity

The proceeds from our initial public offering and the Concurrent Private Placement, the borrowing capacity under our credit facilities and our \$35 million senior secured term loan (the "Term Loan"), and the expected repayments of existing investments provide us with a substantial amount of capital available for deployment into new investment opportunities. We believe we are well positioned for the current marketplace.

Solar Capital's Limited Leverage

As of [] [], 2011, we had borrowings of \$[] million. We believe our relatively low level of leverage provides us with a competitive advantage, allowing us to anticipate providing a consistent dividend to our investors as proceeds from our investments are available for reinvestment as opposed to being consumed by debt repayment. We may increase our relative level of debt in the future. However, we do not currently anticipate operating with a substantial amount of debt relative to our total assets.

Proprietary Sourcing and Origination

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

We believe that Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals' longstanding relationships with financial sponsors, commercial and investment banks, management teams and other financial intermediaries provide us with a strong pipeline of proprietary origination opportunities. We believe the broad expertise of Solar Capital Partners' senior investment professionals and their ability to draw upon their average of 20 years of investment experience enable us to identify, assess and structure investments successfully. We expect to continue leveraging the relationships Mr. Gross established while sourcing and originating investments at Apollo Investment Corporation as well as the financial sponsor relationships Mr. Spohler developed while he was a co-head of CIBC World Markets' U.S. Leveraged Finance Group.

Since our inception, Solar Capital Partners has sourced investments in 62 different portfolio companies for Solar Capital, which investments involved an aggregate of more than 50 different financial sponsors, through December 31, 2010.

S-5

Table of Contents

Versatile Transaction Structuring and Flexibility of Capital

We believe our senior investment professionals' broad expertise and ability to draw upon their extensive experience enable us to identify, assess and structure investments successfully across all levels of a company's capital structure and to manage potential risk and return at all stages of the economic cycle. While we are subject to significant regulation as a business development company, we are not subject to many of the regulatory limitations that govern traditional lending institutions such as banks. As a result, we believe that we can be more flexible than such lending institutions in selecting and structuring investments, adjusting investment criteria, transaction structures and, in some cases, the types of securities in which we invest. We believe financial sponsors, management teams and investment banks see this flexibility as a benefit, making us an attractive financing partner.

Emphasis on Achieving Strong Risk-Adjusted Returns

Solar Capital Partners uses a disciplined investment and risk management process that emphasizes a rigorous fundamental research and analysis framework. Solar Capital Partners seeks to build our portfolio on a bottom-up basis, choosing and sizing individual positions based on their relative risk/reward profiles as a function of the associated downside risk, volatility, correlation with the existing portfolio and liquidity. At the same time, Solar Capital Partners takes into consideration a variety of factors in managing our portfolio and imposes portfolio-based risk constraints promoting a more diverse portfolio of investments and limiting issuer and industry concentration. Our value-oriented investment philosophy focuses on preserving capital and ensuring that our investments have an appropriate return profile in relation to risk. When market conditions make it difficult for us to invest according to our criteria, we are highly selective in deploying our capital. We do not pursue short-term origination targets. We believe this approach enables us to build an attractive investment portfolio that meets our return and value criteria over the long term.

We believe it is critical to conduct extensive due diligence on investment targets. In evaluating new investments we, through Solar Capital Partners, conduct a rigorous due diligence process that draws upon investment experience, industry expertise and network of contacts of our senior investment professionals, as well as the other members of our investment team.

Deep Industry Focus with Substantial Information Flow

We concentrate our investing activities in industries characterized by strong cash flow and in which Solar Capital Partners' investment professionals have deep investment experience. During his time with the Apollo entities, Mr. Gross oversaw investments in over 200 companies in 20 industries. As a result of their investment experience, Messrs. Gross and Spohler, together with Solar Capital Partners' other investment professionals, have long-term relationships with management consultants and management teams in the industries we target, as well as substantial information concerning those industries. The investment team led by Messrs. Gross and Spohler has invested in 62 different portfolio companies for Solar Capital, which investments involved an aggregate of more than 50 different financial sponsors, through December 31, 2010.

Longer Investment Horizon

Unlike private equity and venture capital funds, we will not be subject to standard periodic capital return requirements. Such requirements typically stipulate that the capital of these funds, together with any capital gains on such invested funds, can only be invested once and must be returned to investors after a pre-agreed time period. We believe that our flexibility to make investments with a long-term view and without the

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

capital return requirements of traditional private investment vehicles provides us with the opportunity to generate favorable returns on invested capital and enables us to be a better long-term partner for our portfolio companies.

S-6

Table of Contents

Risk Factors

The value of our assets, as well as the market price of our shares, will fluctuate. Our investments may be risky, and you may lose all or part of your investment in us. Investing in Solar Capital involves other risks, including the following:

We are dependent upon Solar Capital Partners' key personnel for our future success;

We operate in a highly competitive market for investment opportunities;

The lack of liquidity in our investments may adversely affect our business;

We may borrow money, which would magnify the potential for gain or loss on amounts invested and may increase the risk of investing in us;

To the extent we use debt to finance our investments, changes in interest rates will affect our cost of capital and net investment income;

There will be uncertainty as to the value of our portfolio investments;

We may experience fluctuations in our quarterly results;

We will become subject to corporate-level income tax on all of our income if we are unable to qualify as a regulated investment company, or RIC, under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, which we refer to as the Code, which would have a material adverse effect on our financial performance;

We cannot assure you that shares of our common stock will not trade at a market price below our net asset value per share;

The net asset value per share of our common stock may be diluted if we sell shares of our common stock in one or more offerings at prices below the then current net asset value per share of our common stock or securities convertible into shares of our common stock;

Our common stock price may be volatile and may decrease substantially;

There is a risk that our stockholders may not receive distributions or that our distributions may not grow over time;

Sales of substantial amounts of our common stock in the public market may have an adverse effect on the market price of our common stock; and

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Regulations governing our operation as a business development company affect our ability to, and the way in which we, raise additional capital. As a business development company, the necessity of raising additional capital may expose us to risks, including the typical risks associated with leverage.

See **Risk Factors** beginning on page 17 of the accompanying prospectus and the other information included in the accompanying prospectus, for additional discussion of factors you should carefully consider before deciding to invest in shares of our common stock.

S-7

Table of Contents

Operating and Regulatory Structure

Immediately prior to the pricing of our initial public offering, Solar Capital LLC was merged with and into Solar Capital Ltd., a Maryland corporation that is an externally managed, non-diversified closed-end management investment company which has elected to be treated as a business development company under the 1940 Act. As a business development company, we are required to meet regulatory tests, including the requirement to invest at least 70% of our total assets in qualifying assets. Qualifying assets generally include, among other things, securities of eligible portfolio companies. Eligible portfolio companies generally include U.S. companies that are not investment companies and that do not have securities listed on a national exchange. See Regulation as a Business Development Company in the accompanying prospectus. We may also borrow funds to make investments. In addition, we intend to elect to be treated for federal income tax purposes, and intend to qualify annually thereafter, as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code. See Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations in the accompanying prospectus.

Our investment activities are managed by Solar Capital Partners and supervised by our board of directors. Solar Capital Partners is an investment adviser that is registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended, or the Advisers Act. Under our investment advisory and management agreement, which we refer to as the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, we have agreed to pay Solar Capital Partners an annual base management fee based on our gross assets as well as an incentive fee based on our performance. See Investment Advisory and Management Agreement in the accompanying prospectus. We have also entered into an administration agreement, which we refer to as the Administration Agreement, under which we have agreed to reimburse Solar Capital Management for the allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by Solar Capital Management in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, including furnishing us with office facilities, equipment and clerical, bookkeeping and record keeping services at such facilities, as well as providing us with other administrative services. See Administration Agreement in the accompanying prospectus.

Our Corporate Information

Our offices are located at 500 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10022, and our telephone number is (212) 993-1670.

Table of Contents

THE OFFERING

Common Stock Offered by us, Excluding the Underwriters Over-Allotment Option shares.

Common Stock Outstanding Prior to This Offering shares.

Common Stock Outstanding After This Offering, Excluding the Underwriters Over-Allotment Option shares.

Use of Proceeds We intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of our securities for general corporate purposes, which includes, among other things, (a) investing in portfolio companies in accordance with our investment objective and strategies and market conditions and (b) repaying indebtedness. See Use of Proceeds.

NASDAQ Global Select Market symbol SLRC

Distributions To the extent that we have income available, we intend to distribute quarterly dividends to our stockholders. The amount of our dividends, if any, will be determined by our board of directors. Any dividends to our stockholders will be declared out of assets legally available for distribution. The specific tax characteristics of our dividends will be reported to shareholders after the end of each calendar year. We may issue preferred stock from time to time, although we have no immediate intention to do so. If we issue shares of preferred stock, holders of such preferred stock will be entitled to receive cash dividends at an annual rate that will be fixed or will vary for the successive dividend periods for each series. In general, the dividend periods for fixed rate preferred stock will be quarterly.

Table of Contents

FEES AND EXPENSES

The following table is intended to assist you in understanding the costs and expenses that you will bear directly or indirectly. We caution you that some of the percentages indicated in the table below are estimates and may vary. Except where the context suggests otherwise, whenever this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus contains a reference to fees or expenses paid by us or Solar Capital, or that we will pay fees or expenses, you will indirectly bear such fees or expenses as an investor in Solar Capital Ltd.

Stockholder transaction expenses:	
Sales load borne by us (as a percentage of offering price)	%(1)
Offering expenses borne by us (as a percentage of offering price)	%(2)
Dividend reinvestment plan expenses	(3)
Total stockholder transaction expenses (as a percentage of offering price)	%(2)
Annual expenses (as a percentage of net assets attributable to common stock):	
Base management fee	%(4)
Incentive fees payable under our Investment Advisory and Management Agreement	%(5)
Interest payments on borrowed funds	%(6)
Other expenses (estimated)	%(7)
Total annual expenses (estimated)	%

Example

The following example demonstrates the projected dollar amount of total cumulative expenses that would be incurred over various periods with respect to a hypothetical investment in our common stock. In calculating the following expense amounts, we have assumed that our annual operating expenses would remain at the levels set forth in the table above and have excluded performance-based incentive fees. See Note 6 below for additional information regarding certain assumptions regarding our level of leverage.

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

- (1) Represents the commission with respect to the shares of our common stock being sold in this offering, which we will pay to _____ in connection with sales of shares of our common stock effected by _____ in this offering. There is no guaranty that there will be any sales of our common stock pursuant to this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.
- (2) The offering expenses of this offering are estimated to be approximately \$ _____.
- (3) The expenses of the dividend reinvestment plan are included in _____ other expenses.
- (4) Our base management fee under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement is based on our gross assets, which is defined as all the assets of Solar Capital, including those acquired using borrowings for investment purposes, and assumes the base management fee remains consistent for the complete fiscal year based on the fee incurred for the _____ months ended _____, 20____. See Investment Advisory and Management Agreement _____ in the accompanying prospectus.
- (5) Assumes that annual incentive fees earned by our investment adviser, Solar Capital Partners, remain consistent for the complete fiscal year based on the incentive fees earned by Solar Capital Partners for the _____ months ended _____, 20____. The incentive fee consists of two parts:

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

The first part, which was payable quarterly in arrears, equals 20% of the excess, if any, of our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income that exceeds a 1.75% quarterly (7.00% annualized) hurdle rate, which we refer to as the Hurdle, subject to a catch-up provision measured at the end of each calendar

S-10

Table of Contents

quarter. The first part of the incentive fee is computed and paid on income that may include interest that is accrued but not yet received in cash. The operation of the first part of the incentive fee for each quarter is as follows:

no incentive fee is payable to our investment adviser in any calendar quarter in which our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income does not exceed the Hurdle of 1.75%;

100% of our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income with respect to that portion of such Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income, if any, that exceeds the Hurdle but is less than 2.1875% in any calendar quarter (8.75% annualized) is payable to our investment adviser. We refer to this portion of our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income (which exceeds the Hurdle but is less than 2.1875%) as the catch-up. The catch-up is meant to provide our investment adviser with 20% of our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income, as if a Hurdle did not apply when our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income exceeds 2.1875% in any calendar quarter; and

20% of the amount of our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income, if any, that exceeds 2.1875% in any calendar quarter (8.75% annualized) is payable to our investment adviser (once the Hurdle is reached and the catch-up is achieved, 20% of all Pre-Incentive Fee Investment Income thereafter is allocated to our investment adviser).

The second part of the incentive fee equals 20% of our Incentive Fee Capital Gains, if any, which equals our realized capital gains on a cumulative basis from inception through the end of each calendar year, computed net of all realized capital losses and unrealized capital depreciation on a cumulative basis, less the aggregate amount of any previously paid capital gain incentive fees. The second part of the incentive fee is payable, in arrears, at the end of each calendar year (or upon termination of the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, as of the termination date). For a more detailed discussion of the calculation of this fee, see Investment Advisory and Management Agreement in the accompanying prospectus.

- (6) We may borrow funds from time to time to make investments to the extent we determine that the economic situation is conducive to doing so. The costs associated with our outstanding borrowings are indirectly born by our investors. For purposes of this section, we have computed interest expense using the average balance outstanding on our revolving credit facilities balance during the months ended , 20 , plus our \$35 million dollar Term Loan. We used the LIBOR rate on , 20 and the interest rate on our revolving credit facilities and our Term Loan of LIBOR plus 3.25%. We have also included the estimated amortization of fees incurred in establishing our revolving credit facilities, and our Term Loan. As of , 20 , we had \$ outstanding and \$ remaining available to us under our revolving credit facilities and we had \$35 million outstanding under our Term Loan. We may also issue preferred stock, subject to our compliance with applicable requirements under the 1940 Act.
- (7) Other expenses are based on the annualized amounts for the months ended , 20 and include our overhead expenses, including payments under our Administration Agreement based on our allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by Solar Capital Management in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement. See Administration Agreement in the accompanying prospectus.

The example and the expenses in the tables above should not be considered a representation of our future expenses, and actual expenses may be greater or less than those shown. While the example assumes, as required by the SEC, a 5% annual return, our performance will vary and may result in a return greater or less than 5%. The incentive fee under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, which, assuming a 5% annual return, would either not be payable or would have an insignificant impact on the expense amounts shown above, is not included in the example. This illustration assumes that we will not realize any capital gains (computed net of all realized capital losses and unrealized capital depreciation) in any of the indicated time periods. If we achieve sufficient returns on our investments, including through the realization of capital gains, to trigger an incentive fee of a material amount, our expenses and returns to our investors would be higher. For example, if we assumed that we received our 5% annual return completely in the form of net realized capital

Table of Contents

gains on our investments, computed net of all cumulative unrealized depreciation on our investments, the projected dollar amount of total cumulative expenses set forth in the above illustration would be as follows:

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

In addition, the example assumes no sales load. Also, while the example assumes reinvestment of all dividends at net asset value, participants in our dividend reinvestment plan will receive a number of shares of our common stock, determined by dividing the total dollar amount of the dividend payable to a participant by the market price per share of our common stock at the close of trading on the dividend payment date, which may be at, above or below net asset value. See [Dividend Reinvestment Plan](#) in the accompanying prospectus for additional information regarding our dividend reinvestment plan.

Table of Contents

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS AND PROJECTIONS

This prospectus supplement contains forward-looking statements that involve substantial risks and uncertainties. These forward-looking statements are not historical facts, but rather are based on current expectations, estimates and projections about Solar Capital, our current and prospective portfolio investments, our industry, our beliefs, and our assumptions. Words such as anticipates, expects, intends, plans, believes, seeks, estimates, would, should, targets, projects, and variations of these words and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to risks, uncertainties, and other factors, some of which are beyond our control and difficult to predict and could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or forecasted in the forward-looking statements, including without limitation:

an economic downturn could impair our portfolio companies' ability to continue to operate, which could lead to the loss of some or all of our investments in such portfolio companies;

a contraction of available credit and/or an inability to access the equity markets could impair our lending and investment activities;

interest rate volatility could adversely affect our results, particularly if we elect to use leverage as part of our investment strategy;

currency fluctuations could adversely affect the results of our investments in foreign companies, particularly to the extent that we receive payments denominated in foreign currency rather than U.S. dollars; and

the risks, uncertainties and other factors we identify in **Risk Factors** and elsewhere in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and in our filings with the SEC.

Although we believe that the assumptions on which these forward-looking statements are based are reasonable, any of those assumptions could prove to be inaccurate, and as a result, the forward-looking statements based on those assumptions also could be inaccurate. In light of these and other uncertainties, the inclusion of a projection or forward-looking statement in this prospectus supplement should not be regarded as a representation by us that our plans and objectives will be achieved. These risks and uncertainties include those described or identified in **Risk Factors** and elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which apply only as of the date of this prospectus supplement. The forward-looking statements and projections contained in this prospectus supplement are excluded from the safe harbor protection provided by Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act.

Table of Contents

CAPITALIZATION

The following table sets forth:

the actual capitalization of Solar Capital Ltd. at _____, 20____; and

the pro forma capitalization of Solar Capital Ltd. reflects the sale of _____ shares of our common stock in this offering at an assumed public offering price of \$ _____ per share (the last reported closing price of our common stock on _____, 20____) after deducting the underwriting discounts and commissions of approximately \$ _____ and estimated offering expenses of approximately \$ _____ payable by us.

	As of Solar Capital Ltd. Actual (in thousands)	, 20____ Solar Capital Ltd. Pro Forma (in thousands)
Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	\$
Investments at fair value	\$	\$
Other assets	\$	\$
Total assets	\$	\$
Liabilities:		
Credit facilities payable	\$	\$
Other Liabilities	\$	\$
Total Liabilities	\$	\$
Stockholders' equity:		
Common stock, par value \$0.01 per share; 200,000,000 shares authorized, _____ shares issued and outstanding, _____ shares issued and outstanding, as adjusted, respectively		\$
Capital in excess of par value		\$
Total stockholders' equity		\$

Table of Contents

USE OF PROCEEDS

The net proceeds from the sale of _____ shares of our common stock in this offering will be \$ _____ (or \$ _____ if the over-allotment is exercised in full) after deducting estimated offering expenses of approximately \$ _____ payable by us.

We intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of our common stock pursuant to this prospectus for general corporate purposes, which may include investing in debt or equity securities consistent with our investment objective, repayment of outstanding indebtedness, acquisitions and other general corporate purposes. We are continuously identifying, reviewing and, to the extent consistent with our investment objective, funding new investments.

We estimate that it will take _____ to _____ months for us to substantially invest the net proceeds of this offering, depending on the availability of attractive opportunities and market conditions. However, we can offer no assurance that we will be able to achieve this goal.

Pending these uses, we will invest such net proceeds primarily in cash, cash equivalents, and U.S. government securities and other high-quality debt investments that mature in one year or less. The management fee payable by us to our investment adviser will not be reduced while our assets are invested in such securities.

Table of Contents

UNDERWRITING

are acting as joint bookrunning managers of the offering and as representatives of the underwriters named below. Subject to the terms and conditions stated in the underwriting agreement dated the date of this prospectus supplement, each underwriter named below has agreed to purchase, and the selling stockholders have agreed to sell to that underwriter, the number of shares set forth opposite the underwriter's name.

Underwriter	Number of Shares
Total	

The underwriting agreement provides that the obligations of the underwriters to purchase the shares included in this offering are subject to approval of legal matters by counsel and to other conditions. The underwriters are obligated to purchase all the shares (other than those covered by the over-allotment option described below) if they purchase any of the shares.

The underwriters propose to offer some of the shares directly to the public at the public offering price set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement and some of the shares to dealers at the public offering price less a concession not to exceed \$ _____ per share. If all of the shares are not sold at the initial offering price, the representatives may change the public offering price and the other selling terms. The representatives have advised us that the underwriters do not intend to confirm sales to discretionary accounts.

We have granted to the underwriters an option, exercisable for 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement, to purchase from us up to _____ additional shares of common stock at the public offering price less the underwriting discount. The underwriters may exercise the option solely for the purpose of covering over-allotments, if any, in connection with this offering. To the extent the option is exercised, each underwriter must purchase a number of additional shares approximately proportionate to that underwriter's initial purchase commitment.

We, Solar Capital Partners, Solar Capital Management and our officers and directors have agreed with the underwriters, subject to certain exceptions, not to issue, sell, dispose of or hedge any of our common stock or securities convertible into or exchangeable for shares of common stock during the period from the date of this prospectus supplement continuing through the date _____ days after the date of this prospectus supplement, except with the prior written consent of _____.

The _____-day restricted period described in the preceding paragraph will be automatically extended if: (1) during the last 17 days of the _____-day restricted period we issue an earnings release or announce material news or a material event; or (2) prior to the expiration of the _____-day restricted period, we announce that we will release earnings results during the 15-day period following the last day of the _____-day period, in which case the restrictions described in the preceding paragraph will continue to apply until the expiration of the 18-day period beginning on the issuance of the earnings release of the announcement of the material news or material event.

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

Our common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol SLRC .

S-16

Table of Contents

The following table shows the underwriting discounts and commissions that we are to pay to the underwriters in connection with this offering. These amounts are shown assuming both no exercise and full exercise of the underwriters' option to purchase from us additional shares of common stock. This offering will conform with the requirements set forth in Financial Industry Regulatory Authority Rule 2310. In compliance with such requirements, the underwriting discounts and commissions in connection with the sale of securities will not exceed 8% of gross proceeds of this offering.

	Paid by Solar Capital Ltd.	
	No Exercise	Full Exercise
Per share	\$	\$
Total	\$	\$

In connection with the offering, one or more of the underwriters may purchase and sell shares of common stock in the open market. These transactions may include short sales, syndicate covering transactions and stabilizing transactions. Short sales involve syndicate sales of common stock in excess of the number of shares to be purchased by the underwriters in the offering, which creates a syndicate short position. Covered short sales are sales of shares made in an amount up to the number of shares represented by the underwriters' over-allotment option. In determining the source of shares to close out the covered syndicate short position, the underwriters will consider, among other things, the price of shares available for purchase in the open market as compared to the price at which they may purchase shares through the over-allotment option. Transactions to close out the covered syndicate short involve either purchases of the common stock in the open market after the distribution has been completed or the exercise of the over-allotment option. The underwriters may also make naked short sales of shares in excess of the over-allotment option. The underwriters must close out any naked short position by purchasing shares of common stock in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of the shares in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering. Stabilizing transactions consist of bids for or purchases of shares in the open market while the offering is in progress.

The underwriters may also impose a penalty bid. Penalty bids permit the underwriters to reclaim a selling concession from a syndicate member when the representatives repurchase shares originally sold by that syndicate member in order to cover syndicate short positions or make stabilizing purchases.

Any of these activities may have the effect of preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the common stock. They may also cause the price of the common stock to be higher than the price that would otherwise exist in the open market in the absence of these transactions. The underwriters may conduct these transactions on the NASDAQ Global Select Market or in the over-the-counter market, or otherwise. If the underwriters commence any of these transactions, they may discontinue them at any time.

We estimate that our portion of the total expenses of this offering will be \$.

The underwriters have performed investment banking and advisory services for us and our affiliates from time to time for which they have received customary fees and expenses. The underwriters may, from time to time, engage in transactions with and perform services for us and our affiliates in the ordinary course of their business. Each of the underwriters acted as underwriters in our initial public offering.

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus in electronic format may be made available on the websites maintained by one or more of the underwriters. Other than the prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus in electronic format, the information on any such underwriter's website is not part of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. The representatives may agree to allocate a number of shares to underwriters for sale to their online brokerage account holders. The representatives will allocate shares to underwriters that may make Internet distributions on the same basis as other allocations. In addition, shares may be sold by the underwriters to securities dealers

who resell shares to online brokerage account holders.

S-17

Table of Contents

We have agreed to indemnify the underwriters against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribute to payments the underwriters may be required to make because of any of those liabilities.

In the ordinary course of their various business activities, the underwriters and their respective affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers and may at any time hold long and short positions in such securities and instruments. Such investment and securities activities may involve securities and instruments of ours.

The principal business address of _____ is _____, _____, _____.

Table of Contents

LEGAL MATTERS

Certain legal matters in connection with the securities offered hereby will be passed upon for us by Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP, Washington, DC, and Venable LLP, Baltimore, Maryland. Certain legal matters in connection with the securities offered hereby will be passed upon for the underwriters by _____, _____, _____.

INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

KPMG LLP, our independent registered public accounting firm located at 345 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10154, has audited our financial statements as of December 31, 2009 and 2008 and for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008 and the period March 13, 2007 (inception) through December 31, 2007, as set forth in their reports. We have included our financial statements in this prospectus and elsewhere in the registration statement in reliance on such reports, given on their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

With respect to the unaudited interim financial information for the periods ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, included herein, the independent registered public accounting firm has reported that they applied limited procedures in accordance with professional standards for a review of such information. However, their separate report included in the Company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2010, and included herein, states that they did not audit and they do not express an opinion on that interim financial information. Accordingly, the degree of reliance on their report on such information should be restricted in light of the limited nature of the review procedures applied. The accountants are not subject to the liability provisions of Section 11 of the Securities Act for their report on the unaudited interim financial information because that report is not a report or a part of the registration statement prepared or certified by the accountants within the meaning of Sections 7 and 11 of the Securities Act.

AVAILABLE INFORMATION

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form N-2, together with all amendments and related exhibits, under the Securities Act, with respect to our shares of common stock offered by this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. The registration statement contains additional information about us and our shares of common stock being offered by this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

We are required to file with or submit to the SEC annual, quarterly and current periodic reports, proxy statements and other information meeting the informational requirements of the Exchange Act. You may inspect and copy these reports, proxy statements and other information, as well as the registration statement and related exhibits and schedules, at the Public Reference Room of the SEC at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20549. You may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC maintains an Internet site that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information filed electronically by us with the SEC which are available on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. Copies of these reports, proxy and information statements and other information may be obtained, after paying a duplicating fee, by electronic request at the following e-mail address: publicinfo@sec.gov, or by writing to the SEC's Public Reference Section, Washington, D.C. 20549. This information will also be available free of charge by contacting us at Solar Capital Ltd., 500 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022, by telephone at (212) 993-1670, or on our website at <http://www.solarcapltd.com>.

Table of Contents

PART C OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 25. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS

1. Financial Statements

The following financial statements of Solar Capital Ltd. (together with its predecessor, Solar Capital LLC., the Registrant or the Company) are included in Part A Information Required to be in the Prospectus of the Registration Statement.

INDEX TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	Page
<u>Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u>	F-2
<u>Consolidated Statements of Assets and Liabilities as of December 31, 2010 and 2009</u>	F-3
<u>Consolidated Statements of Operations for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008</u>	F-4
<u>Consolidated Statements of Changes in Net Assets for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009, and 2008</u>	F-5
<u>Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008</u>	F-6
<u>Consolidated Schedules of Investments as of December 31, 2010 and 2009</u>	F-7
<u>Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	F-14
<u>Schedules of Investments in and Advances to Affiliates (unaudited)</u>	F-30

Table of Contents

2. Exhibits

Exhibit Number	Description
a.	Articles of Amendment and Restatement**
b.	Amended and Restated Bylaws**
d.1	Form of Common Stock Certificate****
d.2	Form of Indenture*****
e.	Dividend Reinvestment Plan**
f.1	Form of Amended and Restated Senior Secured Revolving Credit Agreement by and between the Registrant, the Lenders and Citibank, N.A., as administrative agent****
f.2	Form of Senior Secured Term Loan Agreement by and between the Registrant and ING Capital LLC, as lender and administrative agent, dated as of September 2, 2010*****
f.3	Form of Loan and Servicing Agreement by and among the Registrant, Solar Capital Funding II LLC, Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, as administrative agent, Wells Fargo Delaware Trust Company, as collateral agent and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as account bank and collateral custodian*****
g.	Investment Advisory and Management Agreement by and between Registrant and Solar Capital Partners, LLC*
h.	Form of Underwriting Agreement*****
j.	Form of Custodian Agreement****
k.1	Administration Agreement by and between Registrant and Solar Capital Management, LLC*
k.2	Form of Indemnification Agreement by and between Registrant and each of its directors**
k.3	Registration Rights Agreement by and between Registrant, Solar Cayman Limited, Solar Offshore Limited, Citigroup Global Markets Inc., J.P. Morgan Securities Inc. and purchasers in the initial private placement*
k.4	First Amendment to the Registration Rights Agreement by and between Registrant, Solar Cayman Limited, Solar Offshore Limited, Citigroup Global Markets Inc., J.P. Morgan Securities Inc. and purchasers in the initial private placement**
k.5	Registration Rights Agreement by and between Registrant, Magnetar Capital Fund, LP and Solar Offshore Limited*
k.6	Trademark License Agreement by and between Registrant and Solar Capital Partners, LLC**
k.7	Form of Share Purchase Agreement by and between Registrant and Solar Capital Investors II, LLC****
k.8	Form of Registration Rights Agreement*****
k.9	Form of Subscription Agreement*****
k.10	Form of Purchase and Sale Agreement by and between the Registrant and Solar Capital Funding II LLC*****
l.	Opinion of Venable LLP*****
n.1	Consent of Venable LLP (Incorporated by reference to exhibit l hereto)*****
n.2	Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
n.3	Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
r.	Code of Ethics**
99.1	Code of Business Conduct**

* Previously filed in connection with Solar Capital Ltd. s registration statement on Form N-2 (File No. 333-148734) filed on January 18, 2008.

** Previously filed in connection with Solar Capital Ltd. s registration statement on Form N-2 Pre-Effective Amendment No. 7 (File No. 333-148734) filed on January 7, 2010.

*** Previously filed in connection with Solar Capital Ltd. s registration statement on Form N-2 Pre-Effective Amendment No. 8 (File No. 333-148734) filed on January 27, 2010.

Table of Contents

- **** Previously filed in connection with Solar Capital Ltd. s registration statement on Form N-2 Pre-Effective Amendment No. 9 (File No. 333-148734) filed on February 9, 2010.
- ***** Previously filed in connection with Solar Capital Ltd. s report on Form 8-K filed on September 7, 2010.
- ***** Previously filed in connection with Solar Capital Ltd. s report on Form 8-K filed on November 29, 2010.
- ***** Previously filed in connection with Solar Capital Ltd. s report on Form 8-K filed on December 22, 2010.
- ***** To be filed by amendment.

ITEM 26. MARKETING ARRANGEMENTS

The information contained under the heading Underwriting on this Registration Statement is incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 27. OTHER EXPENSES OF ISSUANCE AND DISTRIBUTION

SEC registration fee	\$ 116,100
FINRA filing fee	75,500
NASDAQ Global Select Market	*
Printing and postage	*
Legal fees and expenses	*
Accounting fees and expenses	*
Miscellaneous	*
 Total	 \$ *

Note: All listed amounts are estimates.
 * To be provided by amendment.

ITEM 28. PERSONS CONTROLLED BY OR UNDER COMMON CONTROL

We may be deemed to control certain portfolio companies. See Portfolio Companies in the prospectus.

ITEM 29. NUMBER OF HOLDERS OF SECURITIES

The following table sets forth the number of record holders of the Registrant s common stock at March 17, 2011:

Title of Class	Number of Record Holders
Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share	21

ITEM 30. INDEMNIFICATION

Directors and Officers

Reference is made to Section 2-418 of the Maryland General Corporation Law, Article VII of the Registrant's charter and Article XI of the Registrant's Amended and Restated Bylaws.

Maryland law permits a Maryland corporation to include in its charter a provision limiting the liability of its directors and officers to the corporation and its stockholders for money damages except for liability resulting from (a) actual receipt of an improper benefit or profit in money, property or services or (b) active and deliberate dishonesty established by a final judgment as being material to the cause of action. The Registrant's charter

C-3

Table of Contents

contains such a provision which eliminates directors' and officers' liability to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law, subject to the requirements of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act").

The Registrant's charter authorizes the Registrant, to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law and subject to the requirements of the 1940 Act, to indemnify any present or former director or officer or any individual who, while serving as the Registrant's director or officer and at the Registrant's request, serves or has served another corporation, real estate investment trust, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other enterprise as a director, officer, partner or trustee, from and against any claim or liability to which that person may become subject or which that person may incur by reason of his or her service in any such capacity and to pay or reimburse their reasonable expenses in advance of final disposition of a proceeding. The Registrant's bylaws obligate the Registrant, to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law and subject to the requirements of the 1940 Act, to indemnify any present or former director or officer or any individual who, while serving as the Registrant's director or officer and at the Registrant's request, serves or has served another corporation, real estate investment trust, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other enterprise as a director, officer, partner or trustee and who is made, or threatened to be made, a party to the proceeding by reason of his or her service in that capacity from and against any claim or liability to which that person may become subject or which that person may incur by reason of his or her service in any such capacity and to pay or reimburse his or her reasonable expenses in advance of final disposition of a proceeding. The charter and bylaws also permit the Registrant to indemnify and advance expenses to any person who served a predecessor of the Registrant in any of the capacities described above and any of the Registrant's employees or agents or any employees or agents of the Registrant's predecessor. In accordance with the 1940 Act, the Registrant will not indemnify any person for any liability to which such person would be subject by reason of such person's willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of his or her office.

Maryland law requires a corporation (unless its charter provides otherwise, which the Registrant's charter does not) to indemnify a director or officer who has been successful in the defense of any proceeding to which he or she is made, or threatened to be made, a party by reason of his or her service in that capacity. Maryland law permits a corporation to indemnify its present and former directors and officers, among others, against judgments, penalties, fines, settlements and reasonable expenses actually incurred by them in connection with any proceeding to which they may be made, or threatened to be made, a party by reason of their service in those or other capacities unless it is established that (a) the act or omission of the director or officer was material to the matter giving rise to the proceeding and (1) was committed in bad faith or (2) was the result of active and deliberate dishonesty, (b) the director or officer actually received an improper personal benefit in money, property or services or (c) in the case of any criminal proceeding, the director or officer had reasonable cause to believe that the act or omission was unlawful. However, under Maryland law, a Maryland corporation may not indemnify for an adverse judgment in a suit by or in the right of the corporation or for a judgment of liability on the basis that a personal benefit was improperly received unless, in either case, a court orders indemnification, and then only for expenses. In addition, Maryland law permits a corporation to advance reasonable expenses to a director or officer in advance of final disposition of a proceeding upon the corporation's receipt of (a) a written affirmation by the director or officer of his or her good faith belief that he or she has met the standard of conduct necessary for indemnification by the corporation and (b) a written undertaking by him or her or on his or her behalf to repay the amount paid or reimbursed by the corporation if it is ultimately determined that the standard of conduct was not met.

Adviser and Administrator

The Investment Advisory and Management Agreement provides that, absent willful misfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence in the performance of its duties or by reason of the reckless disregard of its duties and obligations, Solar Capital Partners, LLC (the "Adviser") and its officers, managers, agents, employees, controlling persons, members and any other person or entity affiliated with it are entitled to indemnification from the Registrant for any damages, liabilities, costs and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees and amounts reasonably paid in settlement) arising from the rendering of the Adviser's services under the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement or otherwise as an investment adviser of the Registrant.

Table of Contents

The Administration Agreement provides that, absent willful misfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence in the performance of its duties or by reason of the reckless disregard of its duties and obligations, Solar Capital Management, LLC and its officers, managers, agents, employees, controlling persons, members and any other person or entity affiliated with it are entitled to indemnification from the Registrant for any damages, liabilities, costs and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees and amounts reasonably paid in settlement) arising from the rendering of Solar Capital Management, LLC's services under the Administration Agreement or otherwise as administrator for the Registrant.

The law also provides for comparable indemnification for corporate officers and agents. Insofar as indemnification for liability arising under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act") may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the Registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

The Registrant has entered into indemnification agreements with its directors. The indemnification agreements are intended to provide the Registrant's directors the maximum indemnification permitted under Maryland law and the 1940 Act. Each indemnification agreement provides that the Registrant shall indemnify the director who is a party to the agreement (an "Indemnitee"), including the advancement of legal expenses, if, by reason of his or her corporate status, the Indemnitee is, or is threatened to be, made a party to or a witness in any threatened, pending, or completed proceeding, other than a proceeding by or in the right of the Registrant.

ITEM 31. BUSINESS AND OTHER CONNECTIONS OF INVESTMENT ADVISER

A description of any other business, profession, vocation, or employment of a substantial nature in which the Adviser, and each managing director, director or executive officer of the Adviser, is or has been during the past two fiscal years, engaged in for his or her own account or in the capacity of director, officer, employee, partner or trustee, is set forth in Part A of this Registration Statement in the sections entitled "Management Board of Directors," "Investment Advisory and Management Agreement" and "Portfolio Management Investment Personnel." Additional information regarding the Adviser and its officers and directors will be set forth in its Form ADV, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC File No. 801-68710), under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended, and is incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 32. LOCATION OF ACCOUNTS AND RECORDS

All accounts, books, and other documents required to be maintained by Section 31(a) of the 1940 Act, and the rules thereunder are maintained at the offices of:

- (1) the Registrant, Solar Capital Ltd., 500 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022;
- (2) the Transfer Agent, American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, 59 Maiden Lane, Plaza Level, New York, NY 10038;

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

- (3) the Custodian, The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation, One Wall Street, New York, NY 10286; and
- (4) the Adviser, Solar Capital Partners, LLC, 500 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022.

C-5

Table of Contents

ITEM 33. MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Not applicable.

ITEM 34. UNDERTAKINGS

(1) Registrant undertakes to suspend the offering of the shares of common stock covered hereby until it amends its prospectus contained herein if (a) subsequent to the effective date of this Registration Statement, its net asset value per share of common stock declines more than 10% from its net asset value per share of common stock as of the effective date of this Registration Statement, or (b) its net asset value per share of common stock increases to an amount greater than its net proceeds as stated in the prospectus contained herein.

(2) Not applicable.

(3) Not applicable.

(4) The Registrant hereby undertakes:

(a) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to the registration statement:

(i) to include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the 1933 Act;

(ii) to reflect in the prospectus any facts or events after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement; and

(iii) to include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement.

(b) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the 1933 Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered herein, and the offering of those securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof; and

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

(c) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering; and

(d) That, for the purpose of determining liability under the 1933 Act to any purchaser, if the Registrant is subject to Rule 430C: Each prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 497(b), (c), (d) or (e) under the 1933 Act as part of a registration statement relating to an offering, other than prospectuses filed in reliance on Rule 430A under the 1933 Act, shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the date it is first used after effectiveness; *Provided, however*, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such first use, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such date of first use.

(e) That, for the purpose of determining liability of the Registrant under the 1933 Act to any purchaser in the initial distribution of securities, the undersigned Registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the undersigned Registrant pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned Registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to the purchaser:

(i) any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned Registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 497 under the 1933 Act;

Table of Contents

(ii) the portion of any advertisement pursuant to Rule 482 under the 1933 Act relating to the offering containing material information about the undersigned Registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned Registrant; and

(iii) any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned Registrant to the purchaser.

(f) To file a post-effective amendment to the registration statement, and to suspend any offers or sales pursuant the registration statement until such post-effective amendment has been declared effective under the 1933 Act, in the event the shares of Registrant are trading below its net asset value and either (i) Registrant receives, or has been advised by its independent registered accounting firm that it will receive, an audit report reflecting substantial doubt regarding the Registrant's ability to continue as a going concern or (ii) Registrant has concluded that a material adverse change has occurred in its financial position or results of operations that has caused the financial statements and other disclosures on the basis of which the offering would be made to be materially misleading.

(5) (a) For the purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, the information omitted from the form of prospectus filed as part of a registration statement in reliance upon Rule 430A and contained in the form of prospectus filed by the Registrant under Rule 497 (h) under the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be part of the Registration Statement as of the time it was declared effective.

(b) For the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each post-effective amendment that contains a form of prospectus shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of the securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(6) The Registrant undertakes to send by first class mail or other means designed to ensure equally prompt delivery within two business days of receipt of a written or oral request, any Statement of Additional Information.

Table of Contents

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the Registrant has duly caused this Registration Statement on Form N-2 to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of New York, in the State of New York, on the 21st day of March, 2011.

SOLAR CAPITAL LTD.

By: /s/ MICHAEL S. GROSS
Michael S. Gross
Chief Executive Officer, President, Chairman of the Board and Director

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Michael S. Gross as true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities to sign any and all amendments to this Registration Statement (including post-effective amendments, or any abbreviated registration statement and any amendments thereto filed pursuant to Rule 462(b) and otherwise), and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission granting unto said attorney-in-fact and agent the full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the foregoing, as to all intents and purposes as either of them might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorney-in-fact and agent, or his substitute, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this Registration Statement on Form N-2 has been signed by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant, and in the capacities indicated, on the 21st day of March, 2011.

Signature	Title
/s/ MICHAEL S. GROSS Michael S. Gross	Chief Executive Officer, President, Chairman of the Board and Director (Principal Executive Officer)
/s/ STEVEN HOCHBERG Steven Hochberg	Director
/s/ DAVID S. WACHTER David S. Wachter	Director
/s/ LEONARD A. POTTER Leonard A. Potter	Director

Edgar Filing: Solar Capital Ltd. - Form N-2

/s/ BRUCE SPOHLER

Chief Operating Officer and Director

Bruce Spohler

/s/ NICHOLAS RADESCA

Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer) and
Secretary

Nicholas Radesca

C-8