ROWAN COMPANIES PLC
Form S-3ASR
May 16, 2012

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 16, 2012

Registration No. 333-

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-3

REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Under

THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

Rowan Companies plc

Rowan Companies, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

England and Wales	**98-1023315**
Delaware	**75-0759420**
(State or other jurisdiction of	**(I.R.S. Employer**

incorporation or organization) **Identification Number)**

Rowan Companies plc

2800 Post Oak Boulevard

Suite 5450

Houston, Texas

77056-6189

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

Melanie M. Trent

Senior Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer and Secretary

2800 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 5450

Houston, Texas 77056

(713) 621-7800

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

With a copy to:

Robert V. Jewell

Henry Havre

Andrews Kurth LLP

600 Travis, Suite 4200

Houston, Texas 77002

(713) 220-4200

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

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box. ¨

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box. x

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

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

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box. x

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box. ¨

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

Large accelerated filer	x	Accelerated filer	¨
Non-accelerated filer	¨ (Do not check if smaller reporting company)	Smaller reporting company	¨

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of each Class of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered/ Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Unit/ Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price(1)	Amount of Registration Fee(2)
Class A Ordinary Shares		
Ordinary Shares		
Preference Shares		
Senior Debt Securities(3)		
Subordinated Debt Securities(3)		
Guarantees(3)		
Share Purchase Contracts		
Warrants		
Units comprising one or more classes of the above securities(4)		

(1) An indeterminate aggregate amount and initial offering price of securities of each class is being registered hereunder, as may from time to time be offered, at indeterminate prices. Securities registered hereunder may be sold separately, together or as units with other securities registered hereunder. The indeterminate aggregate amount also includes such securities as may, from time to time, be issued upon conversion or exchange of securities registered hereunder, to the extent any such securities are, by their terms, convertible into or exchangeable for other securities.

(2) In accordance with Rules 456(b) and 457(r) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the registrant is deferring payment of all of the registration fee.

(3) Either or both of Rowan Companies plc and Rowan Companies, Inc. may issue one or more series of each of senior debt securities, subordinated debt securities and guarantees.

(4) Each unit will be issued under a unit agreement or indenture and will represent an interest in one or more Class A Ordinary Shares, ordinary shares, preference shares, debt securities, guarantees or warrants or any combination of such securities, which if more than one may or may not be separable from one another.

PROSPECTUS

Rowan Companies plc

Rowan Companies, Inc.

CLASS A ORDINARY SHARES

ORDINARY SHARES

PREFERENCE SHARES

SENIOR DEBT SECURITIES

SUBORDINATED DEBT SECURITIES

GUARANTEES

SHARE PURCHASE CONTRACTS

WARRANTS

UNITS

Rowan Companies plc, a public limited company incorporated under the laws of England and Wales, which we refer to as Rowan UK, may offer and sell from time to time in one or more offerings an indeterminate amount of Class A Ordinary Shares, ordinary shares, preference shares, senior debt securities, subordinated debt securities, guarantees, share purchase contracts, warrants; and/or units that include any of these securities or securities of other entities. Rowan Companies, Inc., a Delaware corporation, which we refer to as Rowan Delaware, may offer and sell from time to time in one or more offerings an indeterminate amount of debt securities, subordinated debt securities and/or guarantees.

This prospectus provides a general description of the securities we may offer. Supplements to this prospectus will provide the specific terms of the securities that we actually offer, including the offering prices. You should carefully read this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement and any information under the headings Where You Can Find More Information and Incorporation by Reference before you invest in any of these securities. This prospectus may not be used to sell securities unless it is accompanied by a prospectus supplement that describes those securities.

We may offer and sell these securities to or through underwriters, dealers, to other purchasers and/or through agents on a continuous or delayed basis. Supplements to this prospectus will specify the names of and arrangements with any underwriters or agents.

Our Class A Ordinary Shares trade on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol RDC.

Investing in our securities involves risks. Please read Risk Factors beginning on page 1 of this prospectus.

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.

The date of this prospectus is May 16, 2012.

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ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, utilizing a shelf registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we may sell any combination of the securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings from time to time. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we offer to sell securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering and the securities offered by us in that offering. A prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. If there is any inconsistency between the information in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information provided in the prospectus supplement. This prospectus does not contain all of the information included in the registration statement. The registration statement filed with the SEC includes exhibits that provide more details about the matters discussed in this prospectus. You should carefully read this prospectus, the related exhibits filed with the SEC and any prospectus supplement, together with the additional information described below under the headings Where You Can Find More Information and Incorporation by Reference.

For the avoidance of doubt, this prospectus is not intended to be and is not a prospectus for purposes of the E.U. Prospectus Directive and/or the U.K. Financial Services Authority s Prospectus Rules.

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

Under no circumstances should the delivery to you of this prospectus or any exchange or redemption made pursuant to this prospectus create any implication that the information contained in this prospectus is correct as of any time after the date of this prospectus.

Unless otherwise indicated or unless the context otherwise requires, all references in this prospectus to Rowan, we, us, and our mean Rowan Companies plc, a public limited company incorporated under the laws of England and Wales, and its wholly owned subsidiaries. Rowan UK refers to Rowan Companies plc, and not to any of its subsidiaries or affiliates. Rowan Delaware refers to Rowan Companies, Inc., and not to any of its subsidiaries or affiliates. In this prospectus, we sometimes refer to the senior debt securities and subordinated debt securities as debt securities and the Class A Ordinary Shares, ordinary shares, preference shares, debt securities, guarantees, share purchase contracts, warrants and units, collectively, as the securities.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We have filed a registration statement with the SEC under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act , that registers the issuance and sale of the securities offered by this prospectus. The registration statement, including the attached exhibits, contains additional relevant information about us. The rules and regulations of the SEC allow us to omit some information included in the registration statement from this prospectus.

We file annual, quarterly, and other reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act. Our SEC filings are available to the public through the SEC s website at http://www.sec.gov and are also available free of charge through our web site at http://www.rowancompanies.com as soon as reasonably practicable after we file them with, or furnish them to, the SEC. Other than the specific documents incorporated by reference, information on our web site is not incorporated into this prospectus or our other securities filings and does not form a part of this prospectus. You may also read and copy any materials we file with the SEC at the SEC s public reference room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference room.

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference into this prospectus information that we file with them. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below filed by Rowan Delaware, or by Rowan UK as successor issuer, other than any portions of the respective filings that were furnished (pursuant to Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of current reports on Form 8-K or other applicable SEC rules) rather than filed:

- our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, as filed with the SEC on February 28, 2012 and as amended by the Form 10-K/A filed on April 30, 2012, except for Item 8 therein to the extent superseded by the Current Report on Form 8-K filed on May 16, 2012;

- our quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2012, as filed with the SEC on May 2, 2012, except for Item 1 therein to the extent superseded by the Current Report on Form 8-K filed on May 16, 2012;

- the description of the Class A Ordinary Shares contained in our Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed with the SEC on May 4, 2012; and

- our current reports on Form 8-K, as filed with the SEC on February 3, 2012, February 28, 2012, March 15, 2012, March 27, 2012 (as amended by the Form 8-K/A filed on March 27, 2012), April 12, 2012, April 16, 2012, April 27, 2012, April 30, 2012, May 4, 2012 and May 16, 2012.

All documents that we file with the SEC pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date of this prospectus and until our offerings hereunder are completed will be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus and will be a part of this prospectus from the date of the filing of such documents. Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus will be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus or in any other subsequently filed document that also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus modifies or supersedes that statement. Any statement that is modified or superseded will not constitute a part of this prospectus, except as modified or superseded.

You may request a copy of these filings (other than an exhibit to a filing unless that exhibit is specifically incorporated by reference into that filing), at no cost, by writing to us at the following address or calling the following number:

Rowan Companies plc

2800 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 5450

Houston, Texas 77056

(713) 621-7800

Attn: Investor Relations

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus, any accompanying prospectus supplement and other documents incorporated by reference herein and therein may contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act and Section 21(E) of the Exchange Act that are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties and are based on information as of the date hereof. Forward-looking statements include words such as anticipate, believe, expect, plan, intend, estimate, project, could, should, may, might or similar expressions. The forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements about our plans, objectives, expectations and intentions with respect thereto and with respect to future operations. Forward-looking statements also specifically include statements regarding expected financial performance; expected utilization, day rates, revenues, operating expenses, contract term, contract backlog, capital expenditures, insurance, financing and funding; the timing of availability, delivery, mobilization, contract commencement or relocation or other movement of rigs; future rig construction and costs (including construction in progress and completion thereof), enhancement, upgrade or repair and timing thereof; the suitability of rigs for future contracts; general market, business and industry conditions, trends and outlook; future operations; increased regulatory oversight; expected contributions from our rig fleet expansion program and our entry into the deepwater market; expense management; and the likely outcome of legal proceedings or insurance or other claims and the timing thereof.

Forward-looking statements are made pursuant to safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Among the factors that could cause actual results to differ materially are the following:

- drilling permit and operations delays, moratoria or suspensions, new and future regulatory, legislative or permitting requirements (including requirements related to certification and testing of blow-out preventers and other equipment or otherwise impacting operations), future lease sales, changes in laws, rules and regulations that have or may impose increased financial responsibility, additional oil spill abatement contingency plan capability requirements and other governmental actions that may result in claims of force majeure or otherwise adversely affect our existing drilling contracts;

- governmental regulatory, legislative and permitting requirements affecting drilling operations in the areas in which our rigs operate;

- changes in worldwide rig supply and demand, competition or technology, including as a result of delivery of newbuild drilling rigs;

- future levels of drilling activity and expenditures, whether as a result of global capital markets and liquidity, prices of oil and natural gas or otherwise, which may cause us to idle or stack additional rigs;

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- downtime and other risks associated with rig operations, operating hazards, or rig relocations, including rig or equipment failure, damage and other unplanned repairs, the limited availability of transport vessels, hazards, self-imposed drilling limitations and other delays due to weather conditions and the limited availability or high cost of insurance coverage for certain offshore perils or associated removal of wreckage or debris;

- possible cancellation or suspension of drilling contracts as a result of mechanical difficulties, performance or other reasons;

- risks inherent to shipyard rig construction, repair or enhancement, unexpected delays in equipment delivery and engineering or design issues following shipyard delivery, or changes in the dates our rigs will enter a shipyard, be delivered, return to service or enter service;

- actual contract commencement dates;

- operating hazards, including environmental or other liabilities, risks, expenses or losses, whether related to storm or hurricane damage, losses or liabilities (including wreckage or debris removal) or otherwise;

- our ability to attract and retain skilled personnel on commercially reasonable terms, whether due to competition from other contract drillers, labor regulations or otherwise;

- governmental action and political and economic uncertainties, including uncertainty or instability resulting from civil unrest, political demonstrations, mass strikes, or an escalation or additional outbreak of armed hostilities or other crises in oil or natural gas producing areas of the Middle East or other geographic areas, which may result in expropriation, nationalization, confiscation or deprivation of our assets or result in claims by our customers of a force majeure situation;

- terrorism, piracy or military action impacting our operations, assets or financial performance;

- the outcome of legal proceedings, or other claims or contract disputes, including any inability to collect receivables or resolve significant contractual or day rate disputes, any purported renegotiation, nullification, cancellation or breach of contracts with customers or other parties and any failure to negotiate or complete definitive contracts following announcements of receipt of letters of intent; and

- potential long-lived asset impairments.

The factors identified above are believed to be important factors (but not necessarily all of the important factors) that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in any forward-looking statement made by us. Other factors not discussed herein could also have material adverse effects on us. All forward-looking statements included in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement are expressly qualified in their entirety by the foregoing cautionary statements. All forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus speak only as of the date of this document. We undertake no obligation to update or revise publicly any revisions to any such forward-looking statements that may be made to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this prospectus, or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

INDUSTRY AND MARKET DATA

We have obtained some industry and market share data from third-party sources that we believe are reliable. In many cases, however, we have made statements in this prospectus (or in documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus) regarding our industry and our position in the industry based on estimates made based on our experience in the industry and our own investigation of market conditions. We believe these estimates to be accurate as of the date of this prospectus. However, this information may prove to be inaccurate because of the method by which we obtained some of the data for our estimates or because this information cannot always be verified with complete certainty due to the limits on the availability and reliability of raw data, the voluntary nature of the data gathering process and other limitations and uncertainties. As a result, you should be aware that the industry and market data included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, and estimates and beliefs based on that data, may not be reliable. We cannot, and the underwriters cannot, guarantee the accuracy or completeness of any such information.

OUR COMPANY

We are a leading international provider of contract drilling services with a focus on high-specification and premium jack-up rigs, which we use for both exploratory and development drilling. Depending on the particular rig and location, we are capable of drilling to depths of up to 35,000 feet in water up to 550 feet deep. As of April 25, 2012 our offshore fleet includes 31 self-elevating mobile jack-up rigs, with eleven rigs located in the Middle East, nine in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico, or GOM, six in the North Sea, two in Trinidad, one each in Malaysia and Vietnam and another en route to Malaysia. In addition, we have three ultra-deepwater drillships under construction with deliveries expected in late 2013, mid 2014 and late 2014, respectively. The drillships will be capable of drilling wells to depths of 40,000 feet in waters of up to 12,000 feet.

We are a successor to a contract drilling business conducted since 1923. On May 4, 2012, we completed a change in our legal domicile from Delaware to the United Kingdom, where we already have substantial and growing operations. Our former Delaware parent company, Rowan Companies, Inc., which we refer to as Rowan Delaware, entered into a merger transaction, which we refer to as the merger, with Rowan Mergeco, LLC, a newly formed Delaware limited liability company and its wholly owned subsidiary, which was approved by Rowan Delaware s stockholders and whereby Rowan Delaware became an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of Rowan UK. As a result of the merger, Rowan UK became the parent company of the Rowan group of companies.

Our principal executive offices are currently located at Rowan Companies plc, 2800 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 5450, Houston, Texas 77056, and our telephone number at that address is (713) 621-7800. Our Internet website is www.rowancompanies.com. The information contained on our web site or that can be accessed through our web site is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus, and you should not consider the information contained on our web site to be part of this prospectus.

RISK FACTORS

The securities to be offered by this prospectus may involve a high degree of risk. When considering an investment in any of the securities, you should consider carefully all of the risk factors described under the caption Risk Factors in Rowan Delaware s annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, as amended, and Rowan Delaware s quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the three months ended March 31, 2012, or any other document filed by us with the SEC after the date of this prospectus (including, but not limited to, our subsequent Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K, or amendments to such reports). If applicable, we will include in any prospectus supplement a description of those significant factors that could make the offering described in the prospectus supplement speculative or risky.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless otherwise specified in an accompanying prospectus supplement, we expect to use the net proceeds from the sale of the securities offered pursuant to this prospectus and any prospectus supplement for general corporate purposes. These purposes may include, but are not limited to:

- reduction or refinancing of debt or other corporate obligations;
- acquisitions;
- capital expenditures; and
- working capital.

The actual application of proceeds from the sale of any particular tranche of securities issued hereunder will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to such tranche of securities. We may invest funds

not required immediately for these purposes in marketable securities and short-term investments. The precise amount and timing of the application of these proceeds will depend upon our funding requirements and the availability and cost of other funds.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

The following table sets forth our ratio of earnings to fixed charges and the ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends on a consolidated basis for the periods shown. You should read these ratios of earnings to fixed charges in connection with our consolidated financial statements, including the notes to those statements, incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2011	**2010**	**2009**	**2008**	**2007**
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges (1)	2.0x	5.8x	14.4x	28.3x	20.2x

(1) The ratio of earnings to fixed charges and preferred stock dividends is the same as the ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the periods presented because no shares of preferred stock were outstanding during these periods.

For these ratios, earnings means the sum of (a) pre-tax income from continuing operations, (b) fixed charges and (c) amortization of capitalized interest, minus interest capitalized. Fixed charges means the sum of (a) interest expensed and capitalized, (b) amortized premiums, discounts and capitalized expenses relating to indebtedness, and (c) an estimate of the portion of rental expense that represents an interest factor. Earnings for the years 2007 through 2010 have been adjusted to exclude income from our former manufacturing and land drilling businesses, which were sold in 2011.

DESCRIPTION OF CLASS A ORDINARY SHARES

The description of the Class A Ordinary Shares is incorporated into this prospectus by reference to the Current Report on Form 8-K12B filed with the SEC on May 4, 2012.

DESCRIPTION OF ORDINARY SHARES

As used in this description, the words we, us and our refer to Rowan UK, and not to any of its subsidiaries or affiliates. Also, in this section, references to holders mean those who own ordinary shares of Rowan registered in their own names on the books that the registrar or we maintain for this purpose and not those who own beneficial interests in ordinary shares registered in street name or in shares issued in book-entry form through one or more depositaries.

The description set forth below is only a summary and is not complete. For more information regarding the ordinary shares which may be offered by this prospectus, please refer to the applicable prospectus supplement, our articles of association (Articles), which are incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part, and any certificate of designations or other instrument establishing a series of ordinary shares, which will be filed with the SEC as an exhibit to or incorporated by reference in the registration statement at or prior to the time of the issuance of that series of ordinary shares.

Our Articles authorize us to allot and issue shares in one or more series, and to grant rights to subscribe for or to convert or exchange any security into or for shares of the company or its successors, in one or more series, which we may determine to issue as or with the same rights, preferences and limitations as ordinary shares or otherwise, as determined by our board of directors. Our board has been authorized to issue up to a nominal

amount of US$18,750,000 of shares, all of which remains authorized for allotment and issuance, which may include ordinary or other shares which may rank *pari passu* or junior to Class A Ordinary Shares and the Class B Ordinary Shares in terms of dividends or liquidation rights. We will include the specific terms of each series of the ordinary shares being offered in a supplement to this prospectus.

DESCRIPTION OF PREFERENCE SHARES

As used in this description, the words we, us and our refer to Rowan UK, and not to any of its subsidiaries or affiliates. Also, in this section, references to holders mean those who own preference shares registered in their own names, on the books that the registrar or we maintain for this purpose, and not those who own beneficial interests in preference shares registered in street name or in shares issued in book-entry form through one or more depositaries.

The description set forth below is only a summary and is not complete. For more information regarding the preference shares which may be offered by this prospectus, please refer to the applicable prospectus supplement, our Articles, which is incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part, and any certificate of designations establishing a series of preference shares, which will be filed with the SEC as an exhibit to or incorporated by reference in the registration statement at or prior to the time of the issuance of that series of preference shares.

Our Articles authorize us to issue shares, including preference shares in one or more series, with the number of shares of each series and the rights, preferences and limitations of each series to be determined by our board of directors. Our board has been authorized to allot and issue up to a nominal amount of US$18,750,000 of shares, all of which remains authorized for allotment and issuance, which may include preference shares, which would generally be afforded preferences regarding dividends and liquidation rights over Class A Ordinary Shares. Such authority to issue preference shares will continue until April 30, 2017 and thereafter it must be renewed, but we may seek renewal more frequently for additional terms not to exceed five years from the date of any such further authorization. We will include the specific terms of each series of the preference shares being offered in a supplement to this prospectus.

DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

As used in this description, the words we, us and our refer to the issuer of debt securities, which may be Rowan UK or Rowan Delaware, and not to any of their respective subsidiaries or affiliates . Any debt securities that we offer under a prospectus supplement will be direct, unsecured general obligations. The debt securities will be either senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities. The debt securities will be issued under one or more separate indentures between us and U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee. Senior debt securities will be issued under a senior indenture and subordinated debt securities will be issued under a subordinated indenture. Together, the senior indentures and the subordinated indentures are called indentures. The indentures will be supplemented by supplemental indentures, the material provisions of which will be described in a prospectus supplement.

We have summarized some of the material provisions of the indentures below. This summary does not restate those agreements in their entirety. Rowan UK s forms of senior indenture and subordinated indenture, and Rowan Delaware s senior indenture and form of subordinated indenture, have been filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. We urge you to read each of the indentures because each one, and not this description, defines the rights of holders of debt securities.

Capitalized terms defined in the indentures have the same meanings when used in this prospectus.

General

The debt securities issued under the indentures will be our direct, unsecured general obligations. The senior debt securities will rank equally with all of our other senior and unsubordinated debt. The subordinated debt securities will have a junior position to all of our senior debt.

The following description sets forth the general terms and provisions that could apply to debt securities that we may offer to sell. A prospectus supplement relating to any series of debt securities being offered will include specific terms relating to the offering. These terms will include some or all of the following, among others:

- the title and type of the debt securities;
- the total principal amount of the debt securities;
- the percentage of the principal amount at which the debt securities will be issued and any payments due if the maturity of the debt securities is accelerated;
- the dates on which the principal of the debt securities will be payable;
- the interest rate which the debt securities will bear and the interest payment dates for the debt securities;
- any conversion or exchange features;
- any optional redemption periods;
- any sinking fund or other provisions that would obligate us to repurchase or otherwise redeem some or all of the debt securities;
- any provisions granting special rights to holders when a specified event occurs;
- any changes to or additional events of default or covenants;
- any special tax implications of the debt securities, including provisions for original issue discount securities, if offered; and
- any other terms of the debt securities.

Neither of the indentures will limit the amount of debt securities that may be issued. Each indenture will allow debt securities to be issued up to the principal amount that may be authorized by us and may be in any currency or currency unit designated by us.

Debt securities of a series may be issued in registered or global form.

Covenants

Under the indentures, we:

will pay the principal of, and interest and any premium on, the debt securities when due;

will maintain a place of payment;

will deliver a certificate to the trustee each fiscal year reviewing our compliance with our obligations under the indentures;

will preserve our corporate existence; and

will segregate or deposit with any paying agent sufficient funds for the payment of any principal, interest or premium on or before the due date of such payment.

Mergers and Sale of Assets

Each of the indentures will provide that we may not consolidate with or merge into any other Person or sell, convey, transfer or lease all or substantially all of our properties and assets (on a consolidated basis) to another Person, unless:

- the Person formed by or surviving any such conversion, consolidation, amalgamation or merger (if other than us) or the Person to which such sale, assignment, transfer, conveyance or other disposition has been made assumes all of our obligations under such indenture and the debt securities governed thereby pursuant to agreements reasonably satisfactory to the trustee, which may include a supplemental indenture;

- we or the successor will not immediately be in default under such indenture; and

- we deliver an officer s certificate and opinion of counsel to the trustee stating that such consolidation, amalgamation, merger, conveyance, sale, transfer or lease and any supplemental indenture comply with such indenture and that all conditions precedent set forth in such indenture have been complied with.

Upon the assumption of our obligations under each indenture by a successor, we will be discharged from all obligations under such indenture.

As used in the indenture and in this description, the word Person means any individual, corporation, company, limited liability company, partnership, limited partnership, joint venture, association, joint-stock company, trust, other entity, unincorporated organization or government or any agency or political subdivision thereof.

Events of Default

Event of default, when used in the indentures with respect to debt securities of any series, will mean any of the following:

(1) default in the payment of any interest upon any debt security of that series when it becomes due and payable, and continuance of such default for a period of 30 days;

(2) default in the payment of the principal of (or premium, if any, on) any debt security of that series at its maturity;

(3) default in the performance, or breach, of any covenant set forth in Article Ten of the applicable indenture (other than a covenant a default in the performance of which or the breach of which is elsewhere specifically dealt with as an event of default or which has expressly been included in such indenture solely for the benefit of one or more series of debt securities other than that series), and continuance of such default or breach for a period of 60 days after there has been given, by registered or certified mail, to us by the trustee or to us and the trustee by the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the then-outstanding debt securities of that series a written notice specifying such default or breach and requiring it to be remedied and stating that such notice is a Notice of Default thereunder;

(4) default in the performance, or breach, of any covenant in the applicable indenture (other than a covenant set forth in Article Ten of such indenture or any other covenant a default in the performance of which or the breach of which is elsewhere specifically dealt with as an event of default or which has expressly been included in such indenture solely for the benefit of one or more series of debt securities other than that series), and continuance of such default or breach for a period of 120 days after there has been given, by registered or certified mail, to us by the trustee or to us and the trustee by the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the then-outstanding debt securities of that series a written notice specifying such default or breach and requiring it to be remedied and stating that such notice is a Notice of Default thereunder;

(5) we, pursuant to or within the meaning of any bankruptcy law, (i) commence a voluntary case, (ii) consent to the entry of any order for relief against us in an involuntary case, (iii) consent to the appointment

of a custodian of us or for all or substantially all of our property, or (iv) make a general assignment for the benefit of our creditors;

(6) a court of competent jurisdiction enters an order or decree under any bankruptcy law that (i) is for relief against us in an involuntary case, (ii) appoints a custodian of us or for all or substantially all of our property, or (iii) orders the liquidation of us, and the order or decree remains unstayed and in effect for 60 consecutive days;

(7) default in the deposit of any sinking fund payment when due; or

(8) any other event of default provided with respect to debt securities of that series in accordance with provisions of the indenture related to the issuance of such debt securities.

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 an indenture. The trustee may withhold notice to the holders of debt securities of any default (except in the payment of principal, interest or any premium) if it considers the withholding of notice to be in the interests of the holders.

If an event of default for any series of debt securities occurs and continues, the trustee or the holders of 25% in aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of the series may declare the entire principal of all of the debt securities of that series to be due and payable immediately. If this happens, subject to certain conditions, the holders of a majority of the aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of that series can void the declaration.

Other than its duties in case of a default, a trustee is not obligated to exercise any of its rights or powers under any indenture at the request, order or direction of any holders, unless the holders offer the trustee reasonable indemnity. If they provide this reasonable indemnification, the holders of a majority in principal amount outstanding of any series of debt securities may direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding or any remedy available to the trustee, or exercising any power conferred upon the trustee, for any series of debt securities.

Amendments and Waivers

Subject to certain exceptions, the indentures, the debt securities issued thereunder or any subsidiary guarantees may be amended or supplemented with the consent of the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the then-outstanding debt securities of each series affected by such amendment or supplemental indenture, with each such series voting as a separate class (including, without limitation, consents obtained in connection with a purchase of, or tender offer or exchange offer for, debt securities) and, subject to certain exceptions, any past default or compliance with any provisions may be waived with respect to each series of debt securities with the consent of the holders of a majority in principal amount of the then-outstanding debt securities of such series voting as a separate class (including consents obtained in connection with a purchase of, or tender offer or exchange offer for, debt securities).

Without the consent of each holder of the outstanding debt securities affected, an amendment, supplement or waiver may not, among other things:

(1) change the stated maturity of the principal of, or any installment of principal of or interest on, any debt security, reduce the principal amount thereof or the rate of interest thereon or any premium payable upon the redemption thereof, reduce the amount of the principal of an original issue discount security that would be due and payable upon a declaration of acceleration of the maturity thereof pursuant to the applicable indenture, change the coin or currency in which any debt security or any premium or the interest thereon is payable, or impair the right to institute suit for the enforcement of any such payment on or after the stated maturity thereof (or, in the case of redemption, on or after the redemption date therefor);

(2) reduce the percentage in principal amount of the then-outstanding debt securities of any series, the consent of the holders of which is required for any such amendment or supplemental indenture, or the consent of

the holders of which is required for any waiver of compliance with certain provisions of the applicable indenture or certain defaults thereunder and their consequences provided for in the applicable indenture;

(3) modify any of the provisions set forth in (i) the provisions of the applicable indenture related to the holder s unconditional right to receive principal, premium, if any, and interest on the debt securities or (ii) the provisions of the applicable indenture related to the waiver of past defaults under such indenture;

(4) waive a redemption payment with respect to any debt security; provided, however, that any purchase or repurchase of debt securities shall not be deemed a redemption of the debt securities;

(5) release any guarantor from any of its obligations under its guarantee or the applicable indenture, except in accordance with the terms of such indenture (as amended or supplemented); or

(6) make any change in the foregoing amendment and waiver provisions, except to increase any percentage provided for therein or to provide that certain other provisions of the applicable indenture cannot be modified or waived without the consent of the holder of each then-outstanding debt security affected thereby.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, without the consent of any holder of debt securities, we, any guarantors and the trustee may amend each of the indentures or the debt securities issued thereunder to:

(1) cure any ambiguity or defect or to correct or supplement any provision therein that may be inconsistent with any other provision therein;

(2) evidence the succession of another Person to us and the assumption by any such successor of our covenants therein and, to the extent applicable, of the debt securities;

(3) provide for uncertificated debt securities in addition to or in place of certificated debt securities; provided that the uncertificated debt securities are issued in registered form for purposes of Section 163(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), or in the manner such that the uncertificated debt securities are described in Section 163(f)(2)(B) of the Code;

(4) add a guarantee and cause any Person to become a guarantor, and/or to evidence the succession of another Person to a guarantor and the assumption by any such successor of the guarantee of such guarantor therein and, to the extent applicable, endorsed upon any debt securities of any series;

(5) secure the debt securities of any series;

(6) add to the our covenants such further covenants, restrictions, conditions or provisions as we shall consider to be appropriate for the benefit of the holders of all or any series of debt securities (and if such covenants, restrictions, conditions or provisions are to be for the benefit of less than all series of debt securities, stating that such covenants are expressly being included solely for the benefit of such series), to make the occurrence, or the occurrence and continuance, of a default in any such additional covenants, restrictions, conditions or provisions an event of default permitting the enforcement of all or any of the several remedies provided in the applicable indenture as set forth therein, or to surrender any right or power therein conferred upon us; provided, that in respect of any such additional covenant, restriction, condition or provision, such amendment or supplemental indenture may provide for a particular period of grace after default (which period may be shorter or longer than that allowed in the case of other defaults) or may provide for an immediate enforcement upon such an event of default or may limit the remedies available to the trustee upon such an event of default or may limit the right of the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of such series to waive such an event of default;

(7) make any change to any provision of the applicable indenture that does not adversely affect the rights or interests of any holder of debt securities issued thereunder;

(8) provide for the issuance of additional debt securities in accordance with the provisions set forth in the applicable indenture on the date of such indenture;

(9) add any additional defaults or events of default in respect of all or any series of debt securities;

(10) add to, change or eliminate any of the provisions of the applicable indenture to such extent as shall be necessary to permit or facilitate the issuance of debt securities in bearer form, registrable or not registrable as to principal, and with or without interest coupons;

(11) change or eliminate any of the provisions of the applicable indenture; provided that any such change or elimination shall become effective only when there is no debt security outstanding of any series created prior to the execution of such amendment or supplemental indenture that is entitled to the benefit of such provision;

(12) establish the form or terms of debt securities of any series as permitted thereunder, including to reopen any series of any debt securities as permitted thereunder;

(13) evidence and provide for the acceptance of appointment thereunder by a successor trustee with respect to the debt securities of one or more series and to add to or change any of the provisions of the applicable indenture as shall be necessary to provide for or facilitate the administration of the trusts thereunder by more than one trustee, pursuant to the requirements of such indenture;

(14) conform the text of the applicable indenture (and/or any supplemental indenture) or any debt securities issued thereunder to any provision of a description of such debt securities appearing in a prospectus or prospectus supplement or an offering memorandum or offering circular to the extent that such provision appears on its face to have been intended to be a verbatim recitation of a provision of such indenture (and/or any supplemental indenture) or any debt securities issued thereunder; or

(15) modify, eliminate or add to the provisions of the applicable indenture to such extent as shall be necessary to effect the qualification of such indenture under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended (the Trust Indenture Act), or under any similar federal statute subsequently enacted, and to add to such indenture such other provisions as may be expressly required under the Trust Indenture Act.

The consent of the holders is not necessary under either indenture to approve the particular form of any proposed amendment. It is sufficient if such consent approves the substance of the proposed amendment. After an amendment with the consent of the holders under an indenture becomes effective, we are required to mail to the holders of debt securities thereunder a notice briefly describing such amendment. However, the failure to give such notice to all such holders, or any defect therein, will not impair or affect the validity of the amendment.

Legal Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance

Each indenture provides that we may, at our option and at any time, elect to have all of our obligations discharged with respect to the debt securities outstanding thereunder and all obligations of any guarantors of such debt securities discharged with respect to their guarantees (Legal Defeasance), except for:

(1) the rights of holders of outstanding debt securities to receive payments in respect of the principal of, or interest or premium, if any, on, such debt securities when such payments are due from the trust referred to below;

(2) our obligations with respect to the debt securities concerning temporary debt securities, registration of debt securities, mutilated, destroyed, lost or stolen debt securities, the maintenance of an office or agency for payment and money for security payments held in trust;

(3) the rights, powers, trusts, duties and immunities of the trustee, and our and any guarantor s obligations in connection therewith; and

(4) the Legal Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance (as defined below) provisions of the applicable indenture.

In addition, we may, at our option and at any time, elect to have our obligations released with respect to certain provisions of each indenture, including certain provisions described in any prospectus supplement (such release and termination being referred to as Covenant Defeasance), and thereafter any failure to comply with such obligations or provisions will not constitute a default or event of default. In addition, in the event Covenant

Defeasance occurs in accordance with the applicable indenture, any defeasible event of default will no longer constitute an event of default.

In order to exercise either Legal Defeasance or Covenant Defeasance:

(1) we must irrevocably deposit with the trustee, in trust, for the benefit of the holders of the debt securities, cash in U.S. dollars, non-callable government securities, or a combination of cash in U.S. dollars and non-callable U.S. government securities, in amounts as will be sufficient, in the opinion of a nationally recognized investment bank, appraisal firm or firm of independent public accountants, to pay the principal of, and interest and premium, if any, on, the outstanding debt securities on the stated date for payment thereof or on the applicable redemption date, as the case may be, and we must specify whether the debt securities are being defeased to such stated date for payment or to a particular redemption date;

(2) in the case of Legal Defeasance, we must deliver to the trustee an opinion of counsel reasonably acceptable to the trustee confirming that (a) we have received from, or there has been published by, the Internal Revenue Service a ruling or (b) since the issue date of the debt securities, there has been a change in the applicable federal income tax law, in either case to the effect that, and based thereon such opinion of counsel will confirm that, the holders of the outstanding debt securities will not recognize income, gain or loss for federal income tax purposes as a result of such Legal Defeasance and will be subject to federal income tax on the same amounts, in the same manner and at the same time as would have been the case if such Legal Defeasance had not occurred;

(3) in the case of Covenant Defeasance, we must deliver to the trustee an opinion of counsel reasonably acceptable to the trustee confirming that the holders of the outstanding debt securities will not recognize income, gain or loss for federal income tax purposes as a result of such Covenant Defeasance and will be subject to federal income tax on the same amounts, in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if such Covenant Defeasance had not occurred;

(4) no default or event of default shall have occurred and be continuing on the date of such deposit (other than a default or event of default resulting from the borrowing of funds to be applied to such deposit);

(5) the deposit must not result in a breach or violation of, or constitute a default under, any other instrument to which we are, or any guarantor is, a party or by which we are, or any guarantor is, bound;

(6) such Legal Defeasance or Covenant Defeasance must not result in a breach or violation of, or constitute a default under, any material agreement or instrument (other than the applicable indenture) to which we are, or any of our subsidiaries is, a party or by which we are, or any of our subsidiaries is, bound;

(7) we must deliver to the trustee an officer s certificate stating that the deposit was not made by us with the intent of preferring the holders of debt securities over our other creditors with the intent of defeating, hindering, delaying or defrauding our creditors or the creditors of others;

(8) we must deliver to the trustee an officer s certificate stating that all conditions precedent set forth in clauses (1) through (6) of this paragraph have been complied with; and

(9) we must deliver to the trustee an opinion of counsel (which opinion of counsel may be subject to customary assumptions, qualifications, and exclusions) stating that all conditions precedent set forth in clauses (2), (3) and (6) of this paragraph have been complied with.

Satisfaction and Discharge

Each of the indentures will be discharged and will cease to be of further effect (except as to surviving rights of registration of transfer or exchange of debt securities and certain rights of the trustee, as expressly provided for

in such indenture) as to all outstanding debt securities issued thereunder and the guarantees issued thereunder when:

(1) either (a) all of the debt securities theretofore authenticated and delivered under such indenture (except lost, stolen or destroyed debt securities that have been replaced or paid and debt securities for the payment of which money has theretofore been deposited in trust or segregated and held in trust by us and thereafter repaid to us or discharged from such trust) have been delivered to the trustee for cancellation or (b) all debt securities not theretofore delivered to the trustee for cancellation have become due and payable, will become due and payable at their stated maturity within one year, or are to be called for redemption within one year under arrangements satisfactory to the trustee for the giving of notice of redemption by the trustee in the name, and at the expense, of us, and we have irrevocably deposited or caused to be deposited with the trustee funds, in an amount sufficient to pay and discharge the entire indebtedness on the debt securities not theretofore delivered to the trustee for cancellation, for principal of and premium, if any, and interest on the debt securities to the date of deposit (in the case of debt securities that have become due and payable) or to the stated maturity or redemption date, as the case may be, together with instructions from us irrevocably directing the trustee to apply such funds to the payment thereof at maturity or redemption, as the case may be;

(2) we have paid all other sums then due and payable under such indenture by us; and

(3) we have delivered to the trustee an officer s certificate and an opinion of counsel, which, taken together, state that all conditions precedent under such indenture relating to the satisfaction and discharge of such indenture have been complied with.

No Personal Liability of Directors, Managers, Officers, Employees, Partners, Members and Shareholders

No director, manager, officer, employee, incorporator, partner, member or shareholder of us or any guarantor, as such, shall have any liability for any of our obligations or those of any guarantors under the debt securities, the indentures, the guarantees or for any claim based on, in respect of, or by reason of, such obligations or their creation. Each holder of debt securities, upon our issuance of the debt securities and execution of the indentures, waives and releases all such liability. The waiver and release are part of the consideration for issuance of the debt securities. Such waiver may not be effective to waive liabilities under the federal securities laws and it is the view of the SEC that such a waiver is against public policy.

Denominations

Unless stated otherwise in the prospectus supplement for each issuance of debt securities, the debt securities will be issued in denominations of $1,000 each or integral multiples of $1,000.

Paying Agent and Registrar

The trustee will initially act as paying agent and registrar for the debt securities. We may change the paying agent or registrar without prior notice to the holders of the debt securities, and we may act as paying agent or registrar.

Transfer and Exchange

A holder may transfer or exchange debt securities in accordance with the applicable indenture. The registrar and the trustee may require a holder, among other things, to furnish appropriate endorsements and transfer documents, and we may require a holder to pay any taxes and fees required by law or permitted by the applicable indenture. We are not required to transfer or exchange any debt security selected for redemption. In addition, we are not required to transfer or exchange any debt security for a period of 15 days before a selection of debt securities to be redeemed.

Subordination

The payment of the principal of and premium, if any, and interest on subordinated debt securities and any of our other payment obligations in respect of subordinated debt securities (including any obligation to repurchase subordinated debt securities) is subordinated in certain circumstances in right of payment, as set forth in the subordinated indenture, to the prior payment in full in cash of all senior debt.

We also may not make any payment, whether by redemption, purchase, retirement, defeasance or otherwise, upon or in respect of subordinated debt securities, except from a trust described under Legal Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance, if:

- a default in the payment of all or any portion of the obligations on any designated senior debt (payment default) occurs that has not been cured or waived; or
- any other default occurs and is continuing with respect to designated senior debt pursuant to which the maturity thereof may be accelerated (non-payment default) and, solely with respect to this clause, the trustee for the subordinated debt securities receives a notice of the default (a payment blockage notice) from the trustee or other representative for the holders of such designated senior debt.

Cash payments on subordinated debt securities will be resumed (a) in the case of a payment default, upon the date on which such default is cured or waived, and (b) in case of a nonpayment default, the earliest of the date on which such nonpayment default is cured or waived, the termination of the payment blockage period by written notice to the trustee for the subordinated debt securities from the trustee or other representative for the holders of such designated senior debt, the payment in full of such designated senior debt or 179 days after the date on which the applicable payment blockage notice is received. No new payment blockage period may be commenced unless and until 360 days have elapsed since the date of commencement of the payment blockage period resulting from the immediately prior payment blockage notice. No nonpayment default in respect of designated senior debt that existed or was continuing on the date of delivery of any payment blockage notice to the trustee for the subordinated debt securities will be, or be made, the basis for a subsequent payment blockage notice unless such default shall have been cured or waived for a period of no less than 90 consecutive days.

Upon any payment or distribution of our assets or securities (other than with the money, securities or proceeds held under any defeasance trust established in accordance with the subordinated indenture) in connection with any dissolution or winding up or total or partial liquidation or reorganization of us, whether voluntary or involuntary, or in bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or other proceedings or other marshalling of assets for the benefit of creditors, all amounts due or to become due upon all senior debt shall first be paid in full, in cash or cash equivalents, before the holders of the subordinated debt securities or the trustee on their behalf shall be entitled to receive any payment by or on behalf of us on account of the subordinated debt securities, or any payment to acquire any of the subordinated debt securities for cash, property or securities, or any distribution with respect to the subordinated debt securities of any cash, property or securities. Before any payment may be made by, or on behalf of, us on any subordinated debt security (other than with the money, securities or proceeds held under any defeasance trust established in accordance with the subordinated indenture) in connection with any such dissolution, winding up, liquidation or reorganization, any payment or distribution of our assets or securities, to which the holders of subordinated debt securities or the trustee on their behalf would be entitled, shall be made by us or by any receiver, trustee in bankruptcy, liquidating trustee, agent or other similar Person making such payment or distribution, or by the holders or the trustee if received by them or it, directly to the holders of senior debt or their representatives or to any trustee or trustees under any indenture pursuant to which any such senior debt may have been issued, as their respective interests appear, to the extent necessary to pay all such senior debt in full, in cash or cash equivalents, after giving effect to any concurrent payment, distribution or provision therefor to or for the holders of such senior debt.

As a result of these subordination provisions, in the event of the our liquidation, bankruptcy, reorganization, insolvency, receivership or similar proceeding or an assignment for the benefit of our creditors or a marshalling of our assets or liabilities, holders of subordinated debt securities may receive ratably less than other creditors.

Payment and Transfer

Principal, interest and any premium on fully registered debt securities will be paid at designated places. Payment will be made by check mailed to the persons in whose names the debt securities are registered on days specified in the indentures or any prospectus supplement. Debt securities payments in other forms will be paid at a place designated by us and specified in a prospectus supplement.

Fully registered debt securities may be transferred or exchanged at the office of the trustee or at any other office or agency maintained by us for such purposes, without the payment of any service charge except for any tax or governmental charge.

Global Securities

The debt securities of a series may be issued in whole or in part in the form of one or more global certificates that we will deposit with a depositary identified in the applicable prospectus supplement. Unless and until it is exchanged in whole or in part for the individual debt securities that it represents, a global security may not be transferred except as a whole:

- by the applicable depositary to a nominee of the depositary;
- by any nominee to the depositary itself or another nominee; or
- by the depositary or any nominee to a successor depositary or any nominee of the successor.

We will describe the specific terms of the depositary arrangement with respect to a series of debt securities in the applicable prospectus supplement. We anticipate that the following provisions will generally apply to depositary arrangements.

When we issue a global security in registered form, the depositary for the global security or its nominee will credit, on its book-entry registration and transfer system, the respective principal amounts of the individual debt securities represented by that global security to the accounts of persons that have accounts with the depositary (participants). Those accounts will be designated by the dealers, underwriters or agents with respect to the underlying debt securities or by us if those debt securities are offered and sold directly by us. Ownership of beneficial interests in a global security will be limited to participants or persons that may hold interests through participants. For interests of participants, ownership of beneficial interests in the global security will be shown on records maintained by the applicable depositary or its nominee. For interests of persons other than participants, that ownership information will be shown on the records of participants. Transfer of that ownership will be effected only through those records. The laws of some states require that certain purchasers of securities take physical delivery of securities in definitive form. These limits and laws may impair our ability to transfer beneficial interests in a global security.

As long as the depositary for a global security, or its nominee, is the registered owner of that global security, the depositary or nominee will be considered the sole owner or holder of the debt securities represented by the global security for all purposes under the applicable indenture. Except as provided below, owners of beneficial interests in a global security:

- will not be entitled to have any of the underlying debt securities registered in their names;
- will not receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of any of the underlying debt securities in definitive form; and
- will not be considered the owners or holders under the indenture relating to those debt securities.

Payments of the principal of, any premium on and any interest on individual debt securities represented by a global security registered in the name of a depositary or its nominee will be made to the depositary or its nominee

as the registered owner of the global security representing such debt securities. Neither we, the trustee for the debt securities, any paying agent nor the registrar for the debt securities will be responsible for any aspect of the records relating to or payments made by the depositary or any participants on account of beneficial interests in the global security.

We expect that the depositary or its nominee, upon receipt of any payment of principal, any premium or interest relating to a global security representing any series of debt securities, immediately will credit participants accounts with the payments. Those payments will be credited in amounts proportional to the respective beneficial interests of the participants in the principal amount of the global security as shown on the records of the depositary or its nominee. We also expect that payments by participants to owners of beneficial interests in the global security held through those participants will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices. This is now the case with securities held for the accounts of customers registered in street name. Those payments will be the sole responsibility of those participants.

If the depositary for a series of debt securities is at any time unwilling, unable or ineligible to continue as depositary and we do not appoint a successor depositary within 90 days, we will issue individual debt securities of that series in exchange for the global security or securities representing that series. In addition, we may at any time in our sole discretion determine not to have any debt securities of a series represented by one or more global securities. In that event, we will issue individual debt securities of that series in exchange for the global security or securities. Furthermore, if we specify, an owner of a beneficial interest in a global security may, on terms acceptable to us, the trustee and the applicable depositary, receive individual debt securities of that series in exchange for those beneficial interests. The foregoing is subject to any limitations described in the applicable prospectus supplement. In any such instance, the owner of the beneficial interest will be entitled to physical delivery of individual debt securities equal in principal amount to the beneficial interest and to have the debt securities registered in its name. Those individual debt securities will be issued in any authorized denominations.

Governing Law

Each indenture and the debt securities will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York.

Information Concerning the Trustee

U.S. Bank National Association will be the trustee under the indentures. A successor trustee may be appointed in accordance with the terms of the indentures.

The indentures and the provisions of the Trust Indenture Act incorporated by reference therein will contain certain limitations on the rights of the trustee, should it become a creditor of us, to obtain payment of claims in certain cases, or to realize on certain property received in respect of any such claim as security or otherwise. The trustee will be permitted to engage in other transactions; however, if it acquires any conflicting interest (within the meaning of the Trust Indenture Act), it must eliminate such conflicting interest or resign.

A single banking or financial institution may act as trustee with respect to both the subordinated indenture and the senior indenture. If this occurs, and should a default occur with respect to either the subordinated debt securities or the senior debt securities, such banking or financial institution would be required to resign as trustee under one of the indentures within 90 days of such default, pursuant to the Trust Indenture Act, unless such default were cured, duly waived or otherwise eliminated.

DESCRIPTION OF GUARANTEES

As used in this description, the words we, us and our refer to issuer of guarantees, which may be Rowan UK or Rowan Delaware, and not to any of their subsidiaries or affiliates. Each of Rowan UK and Rowan

Delaware may issue guarantees of debt securities and other securities. Each guarantee will be issued under a supplement to an indenture. The prospectus supplement relating to a particular issue of guarantees will describe the terms of those guarantees, including the following:

- the securities to which the guarantees apply;
- whether the guarantees are senior or subordinate to other guarantees or debt;
- the terms under which the guarantees may be amended, modified, waived, released or otherwise terminated, if different from the provisions applicable to the guaranteed debt securities; and
- any additional terms of the guarantees.

You should read the particular terms of the guarantee documents, which will be described in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement. The obligations of a guarantor under any such guarantee will be limited as necessary to prevent the guarantee from constituting a fraudulent conveyance or fraudulent transfer under applicable law.

DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS

As used in this description, the words we, us and our refer to Rowan UK, and not to any of its subsidiaries or affiliates. We may issue warrants to purchase Class A Ordinary Shares, ordinary shares, preference shares, debt securities or units. Warrants may be issued independently or together with any other securities and may be attached to, or separate from, such securities. Each series of warrants will be issued under a separate warrant agreement to be entered into between us and a warrant agent. The terms of any warrants to be issued and a description of the material provisions of the applicable warrant agreement will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. The applicable prospectus supplement will specify the following terms of any warrants in respect of which this prospectus is being delivered:

- the title of such warrants;
- the aggregate number of such warrants;
- the price or prices at which such warrants will be issued;
- the securities or other rights, including rights to receive payment in cash or securities based on the value, rate or price of one or more specified commodities, currencies, securities or indices, or any combination of the foregoing, purchasable upon exercise of such warrants;
- the price at which, and the currency or currencies in which the securities 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 shall expire;
- if applicable, the minimum or maximum amount of such warrants which may be exercised at any one time;
- if applicable, the designation and terms of the securities with which such warrants are issued and the number of such warrants issued with each such security;

if applicable, the date on and after which such warrants and the related securities will be separately transferable;

information with respect to book-entry procedures, if any;

if applicable, a discussion of any material 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.

DESCRIPTION OF SHARE PURCHASE CONTRACTS

As used in this description, the words we, us and our refer to Rowan UK, and not to any of its subsidiaries or affiliates. We may issue share purchase contracts representing contracts obligating holders, subject to the terms of such share purchase contracts, to purchase from us, and us to sell to the holders, a specified or varying number of our Class A Ordinary Shares, preference shares or ordinary shares at a future date or dates. Alternatively, the share purchase contracts may, subject to the terms of such share purchase contracts, obligate us to purchase from holders, and obligate holders to sell to us, a specified or varying number of Class A Ordinary Shares, preference shares or ordinary shares. The price per share of our Class A Ordinary Shares, preference shares or ordinary shares and number of shares of our Class A Ordinary Shares may be fixed at the time the share purchase contracts are entered into or may be determined by reference to a specific formula set forth in the share purchase contracts.

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms of any share purchase contract. The share purchase contracts will be issued pursuant to documents to be entered into by us. You should read the particular terms of the documents, which will be described in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement.

DESCRIPTION OF UNITS

As used in this description, the words we, us and our refer to Rowan UK, and not to any of its subsidiaries or affiliates. As specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, we may issue units consisting of one or more Class A Ordinary Shares, ordinary shares, preference shares, debt securities, guarantees or warrants or any combination of such securities. The applicable prospectus supplement will specify the following terms of any units in respect of which this prospectus is being delivered:

- the terms of the units and of any of the Class A Ordinary Shares, ordinary shares, preference shares, debt securities, guarantees or warrants comprising the units, including whether and under what circumstances the securities comprising the units may be traded separately;
- a description of the terms of any unit agreement governing the units; and
- a description of the provisions for the payment, settlement, transfer or exchange of the units.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the securities through agents, underwriters or dealers, or directly to one or more purchasers without using underwriters or agents.

We may designate agents to solicit offers to purchase our securities. We will name any agent involved in offering or selling our securities, and any commissions that we will pay to the agent, in the applicable prospectus supplement. Unless we indicate otherwise in our prospectus supplement, our agents will act on a best efforts basis for the period of their appointment.

If underwriters are used in the sale, the securities will be acquired by the underwriters for their own account. The underwriters may resell the securities in one or more transactions (including block transactions), at negotiated prices, at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. We will include the names of the managing underwriter(s), as well as any other underwriters, and the terms of the transaction, including the compensation the underwriters and dealers will receive, in our prospectus supplement. If we use an underwriter, we will execute an underwriting agreement with the underwriter(s) at the time that we reach an agreement for the sale of our securities. The obligations of the underwriters to purchase the securities will be subject to certain conditions contained in the underwriting agreement. The underwriters will be obligated to purchase all the securities of the series offered if any of the securities are purchased. Any public offering price

and any discounts or concessions allowed or re-allowed or paid to dealers may be changed from time to time. The underwriters will use a prospectus supplement to sell our securities.

If we use a dealer, we, as principal, will sell our securities to the dealer. The dealer will then sell our securities to the public at varying prices that the dealer will determine at the time it sells our securities. We will include the name of the dealer and the terms of our transactions with the dealer in the applicable prospectus supplement.

We may directly solicit offers to purchase our securities, and we may directly sell our securities to institutional or other investors. In these situations, no underwriters or agents would be involved. We will describe the terms of our direct sales in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Underwriters, dealers and agents that participate in the distribution of the securities may be underwriters as defined in the Securities Act and any discounts or commissions received by them from us and any profit on their resale of the securities may be treated as underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act. In connection with the sale of the securities offered by this prospectus, underwriters may receive compensation from us or from the purchasers of the securities, for whom they may act as agents, in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions, which will not exceed 7% of the proceeds from the sale of the securities. Any underwriters, dealers or agents will be identified and their compensation described in the applicable prospectus supplement. We may have agreements with the underwriters, dealers and agents to indemnify them against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribute with respect to payments which the underwriters, dealers or agents may be required to make. Underwriters, dealers and agents may engage in transactions with, or perform services for, us or our subsidiaries in the ordinary course of their business.

If we so indicate in the prospectus supplement, we may authorize agents, underwriters or dealers to solicit offers from certain types of institutions to purchase securities from us at the public offering price under delayed delivery contracts. These contracts would provide for payment and delivery on a specified date in the future. The contracts would be subject only to those conditions described in the prospectus supplement. The prospectus supplement will describe the commission payable for solicitation of those contracts.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, all securities offered under this prospectus will be a new issue of securities with no established trading market, other than the Class A Ordinary Shares, which is currently listed and traded on the New York Stock Exchange. We may elect to list any other class or series of securities on a national securities exchange or a foreign securities exchange but are not obligated to do so. Any Class A Ordinary Shares sold by this prospectus will be listed for trading on the New York Stock Exchange subject to official notice of issuance. We cannot give you any assurance as to the liquidity of the trading markets for any of the securities.

Any underwriter to whom securities are sold by us for public offering and sale may engage in over-allotment transactions, stabilizing transactions, syndicate covering transactions and penalty bids in accordance with Regulation M under the Exchange Act. Over-allotment transactions involve sales by the underwriters of the securities in excess of the offering size, which creates a syndicate short position. Stabilizing transactions permit bids to purchase the underlying security so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum. Syndicate covering transactions involve purchases of the securities in the open market after the distribution has been completed in order to cover syndicate short positions. Penalty bids permit the underwriters to reclaim a selling concession from a syndicate member when the securities originally sold by the syndicate member are purchased in a stabilizing or syndicate covering transaction to cover syndicate short positions. These activities may cause the price of the securities to be higher than it would otherwise be. The underwriters will not be obligated to engage in any of the aforementioned transactions and may discontinue such transactions at any time without notice.

LEGAL MATTERS

Baker & McKenzie LLP, London, England will be requested to advise us with respect to the validity under English law, if applicable, of any securities that may be offered pursuant to this prospectus. Andrews Kurth LLP, Houston, Texas may also be requested to advise us with respect to the validity under New York law, if applicable, of any securities that may be offered pursuant to this prospectus.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Rowan Companies, Inc. and its subsidiaries (the Company) incorporated in this prospectus by reference from Rowan Companies plc s Current Report on Form 8-K dated May 16, 2012, and the effectiveness of the Company s internal control over financial reporting have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their reports which (1) express an unqualified opinion on the financial statements and includes an explanatory paragraph referring to the Company s completed sale of its wholly owned manufacturing subsidiary, LeTourneau Technologies, Inc., and land drilling services business on June 22, 2011, and September 1, 2011, respectively, and related to the condensed consolidating financial information of certain subsidiaries and (2) express an unqualified opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, which are incorporated herein by reference. Such consolidated financial statements have been so incorporated in reliance upon the reports of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

PART II

INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS

ITEM 14. ***Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution*.**
The following table sets forth the best estimate of the Registrant as to its anticipated expenses and costs (other than underwriting discounts and commissions) expected to be incurred in connection with a distribution of securities registered hereby:

SEC Registration Fee	$ *
Printing and Engraving Expenses	**
Legal Fees and Expenses	**
Accounting Fees and Expenses	**
Blue Sky Fees and Expenses	**
Trustees Fees and Expenses	**
Miscellaneous	**
Total	$ **

* To be deferred pursuant to Rule 456(b) and calculated in connection with the offering of securities under this registration statement pursuant to Rule 457(r).

** These fees are calculated based upon the number of issuances and amount of securities offered and thus cannot be estimated at this time.

ITEM 15. ***Indemnification of Directors and Officers*.**
Article 146 of our articles of association (the Articles) provides:

146. INDEMNITY

146.1 To the extent permitted by the Acts and without prejudice to any indemnity to which any person may otherwise be entitled, Rowan UK shall:

(a) indemnify to any extent any person who is or was a director or officer of Rowan UK, or a director or officer of any associated company, directly or indirectly (including by funding any expenditure incurred or to be incurred by him) against any loss or liability, whether in connection with any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust by him or otherwise, in relation to Rowan UK or any associated company;

(b) indemnify to any extent any person who is or was a director or officer of an associated company that is a trustee of an occupational pension scheme, directly or indirectly (including by funding any expenditure incurred or to be incurred by him) against any liability incurred by him in connection with the company s activities as trustee of an occupational pension scheme;

(c) create a trust fund, grant a security interest and/or use other means (including, without limitation, letters of credit, surety bonds and/or other similar arrangements), as well as enter into contracts providing indemnification to the full extent authorised or permitted by law and including as part thereof provisions with respect to any or all of the foregoing paragraphs of this Article 145.1 to ensure the payment of such amounts as may become necessary to effect indemnification as provided therein, or elsewhere.

146.2 Where a person is indemnified against any liability in accordance with Article 145.1, such indemnity shall extend to all costs, charges, losses, expenses and liabilities incurred by him in relation thereto.

Article 91 of the Articles provides:

91 INSURANCE

Subject to the provisions of the Acts, the board may exercise all the powers of Rowan UK to purchase and maintain insurance for the benefit of a person who is or was a director, alternate director or officer of Rowan UK or of any associated company against any liability attaching to him or her in connection with any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust or any other liability which may lawfully be insured against by Rowan UK.

Section 232 of the U.K. Companies Act provides as follows:

232 PROVISIONS PROTECTING DIRECTORS FROM LIABILITY

(1) Any provision that purports to exempt a director of a company (to any extent) from any liability that would otherwise attach to him in connection with any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the company is void.

(2) Any provision by which a company directly or indirectly provides an indemnity (to any extent) for a director of the company, or of an associated company, against any liability attaching to him in connection with any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the company of which he is a director is void, except as permitted by

(a) section 233 (provision of insurance),

(b) section 234 (qualifying third party indemnity provision), or

(c) section 235 (qualifying pension scheme indemnity provision).

(3) This section applies to any provision, whether contained in a company s articles or in any contract with the company or otherwise.

(4) Nothing in this section prevents a company s articles from making such provision as has previously been lawful for dealing with conflicts of interest.

Section 233 of the Companies Act provides as follows:

233 PROVISION OF INSURANCE

Section 232(2) (voidness of provisions for indemnifying directors) does not prevent a company from purchasing and maintaining for a director of the company, or of an associated company, insurance against any such liability as is mentioned in that subsection.

Section 234 of the Companies Act provides as follows:

234 QUALIFYING THIRD PARTY INDEMNITY PROVISION

(1) Section 232(2) (voidness of provisions for indemnifying directors) does not apply to qualifying third party indemnity provision.

(2) Third party indemnity provision means provision for indemnity against liability incurred by the director to a person other than the company or an associated company. Such provision is qualifying third party indemnity provision if the following requirements are met.

(3) The provision must not provide any indemnity against

(a) any liability of the director to pay

(i) a fine imposed in criminal proceedings, or

(ii) a sum payable to a regulatory authority by way of a penalty in respect of non-compliance with any requirement of a regulatory nature (however arising); or

(b) any liability incurred by the director

(i) in defending criminal proceedings in which he is convicted, or

(ii) in defending civil proceedings brought by the company, or an associated company, in which judgment is given against him, or

(iii) in connection with an application for relief (see subsection (6)) in which the court refuses to grant him relief.

(4) The references in subsection (3)(b) to a conviction, judgment or refusal of relief are to the final decision in the proceedings.

(5) For this purpose

(a) a conviction, judgment or refusal of relief becomes final

(i) if not appealed against, at the end of the period for bringing an appeal, or

(ii) if appealed against, at the time when the appeal (or any further appeal) is disposed of; and

(b) an appeal is disposed of

(i) if it is determined and the period for bringing any further appeal has ended, or

(ii) if it is abandoned or otherwise ceases to have effect.

(6) The reference in subsection (3)(b)(iii) to an application for relief is to an application for relief under section 661(3) or (4) (power of court to grant relief in case of acquisition of shares by innocent nominee), or section 1157 (general power of court to grant relief in case of honest and reasonable conduct).

Section 235 of the Companies Act provides as follows:

235 QUALIFYING PENSION SCHEME INDEMNITY PROVISION

(1) Section 232(2) (voidness of provisions for indemnifying directors) does not apply to qualifying pension scheme indemnity provision.

(2) Pension scheme indemnity provision means provision indemnifying a director of a company that is a trustee of an occupational pension scheme against liability incurred in connection with the company s activities as trustee of the scheme.

Such provision is qualifying pension scheme indemnity provision if the following requirements are met.

(3) The provision must not provide any indemnity against

(a) any liability of the director to pay

(i) a fine imposed in criminal proceedings, or

(ii) a sum payable to a regulatory authority by way of a penalty in respect of non-compliance with any requirement of a regulatory nature (however arising); or

(b) any liability incurred by the director in defending criminal proceedings in which he is convicted.

(4) The reference in subsection (3)(b) to a conviction is to the final decision in the proceedings.

(5) For this purpose

(a) a conviction becomes final

(i) if not appealed against, at the end of the period for bringing an appeal, or

(ii) if appealed against, at the time when the appeal (or any further appeal) is disposed of; and

(b) an appeal is disposed of

(i) if it is determined and the period for bringing any further appeal has ended, or

(ii) if it is abandoned or otherwise ceases to have effect.

(6) In this section occupational pension scheme means an occupational pension scheme as defined in section 150(5) of the Finance Act 2004 (c. 12) that is established under a trust.

Section 239 of the Companies Act provides as follows:

239 RATIFICATION OF ACTS OF DIRECTORS

(1) This section applies to the ratification by a company of conduct by a director amounting to negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the company.

(2) The decision of the company to ratify such conduct must be made by resolution of the members of the company.

(3) Where the resolution is proposed as a written resolution neither the director (if a member of the company) nor any member connected with him is an eligible member.

(4) Where the resolution is proposed at a meeting, it is passed only if the necessary majority is obtained disregarding votes in favor of the resolution by the director (if a member of the company) and any member connected with him.

This does not prevent the director or any such member from attending, being counted towards the quorum and taking part in the proceedings at any meeting at which the decision is considered.

(5) For the purposes of this section

(a) conduct includes acts and omissions;

(b) director includes a former director;

(c) a shadow director is treated as a director; and

(d) in section 252 (meaning of connected person), subsection (3) does not apply (exclusion of person who is himself a director).

(6) Nothing in this section affects

(a) the validity of a decision taken by unanimous consent of the members of the company, or

(b) any power of the directors to agree not to sue, or to settle or release a claim made by them on behalf of the company.

(7) This section does not affect any other enactment or rule of law imposing additional requirements for valid ratification or any rule of law as to acts that are incapable of being ratified by the company.

Section 1157 of the Companies Act provides as follows:

1157 POWER OF COURT TO GRANT RELIEF IN CERTAIN CASES

(1) If in proceedings for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust against

(a) an officer of a company, or

(b) a person employed by a company as auditor (whether he is or is not an officer of the company), it appears to the court hearing the case that the officer or person is or may be liable but that he acted honestly and reasonably, and that having regard to all the circumstances of the case (including those connected with his appointment) he ought fairly to be excused, the court may relieve him, either wholly or in part, from his liability on such terms as it thinks fit.

(2) If any such officer or person has reason to apprehend that a claim will or might be made against him in respect of negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust

(a) he may apply to the court for relief, and

(b) the court has the same power to relieve him as it would have had if it had been a court before which proceedings against him for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust had been brought.

(3) Where a case to which subsection (1) applies is being tried by a judge with a jury, the judge, after hearing the evidence, may, if he is satisfied that the defendant (in Scotland, the defender) ought in pursuance of that subsection to be relieved either in whole or in part from the liability sought to be enforced against him, withdraw the case from the jury and forthwith direct judgment to be entered for the defendant (in Scotland, grant decree of absolvitor) on such terms as to costs (in Scotland, expenses) or otherwise as the judge may think proper.

Under Section 250 of the Companies Act, a director is defined to include any person occupying the position of director, by whatever name called. In the case of Rowan UK, references in the Companies Act to a director would also include certain officers.

Rowan UK has entered into a deed of indemnity with each of our executive officers and non-management directors (as well as certain other officers of Rowan UK). In addition, the prior indemnification agreements with Rowan Delaware remain in place. These agreements provide for us to, among other things, indemnify the individual against certain liabilities that may arise by reason of his or her status or service as a director or officer, to advance expenses incurred as a result of certain proceedings and to cover him or her under our directors and officers liability insurance policy. These agreements are intended to provide indemnification rights to the fullest extent permitted under U.K. and Delaware law and under our governing documents and those of Rowan Delaware.

Rowan Companies, Inc. is incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware. Section 145 of the Delaware General Corporation Law (DGCL) provides that a corporation may indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation) by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with such action, suit or proceeding if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any

criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe the person s conduct was unlawful. Section 145 further provides that a corporation similarly may indemnify any such person serving in any such capacity who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action or suit by or in the right of the corporation to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against expenses (including attorneys fees) actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation and except that no indemnification shall be made in respect of any claim, issue or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable to the corporation unless and only to the extent that the Delaware Court of Chancery or such other court in which such action or suit was brought shall determine upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all of the circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses which the Delaware Court of Chancery or such other court shall deem proper. Rowan s certificate of incorporation and bylaws provide that indemnification shall be to the fullest extent permitted by the DGCL for all current or former directors or officers of Rowan. As permitted by the Section 102(b)(7) of the DGCL, Rowan s certificate of incorporation provides that directors of Rowan shall have no personal liability to Rowan or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, except (1) for any breach of the director s duty of loyalty to Rowan or its stockholders, (2) for acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or knowing violation of law, (3) under Section 174 of the DGCL or (4) for any transaction from which a director derived an improper personal benefit.

Rowan has entered into indemnification agreements with its directors and certain of its officers that provide them with indemnification to the fullest extent permitted by Section 145 of the DGCL.

We maintain directors and officers insurance coverage, which, subject to policy terms and limitations, will include coverage to reimburse Rowan UK for amounts that it may be required or permitted by law to pay our directors or officers.

ITEM 16. ***Exhibits.***
The exhibits listed in the accompanying Exhibit Index are filed (except where otherwise indicated) as part of this registration statement.

ITEM 17. ***Undertakings*.**
The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:

(a) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

(1) To include any prospectus required by section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;

(2) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising 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. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the SEC pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the Calculation of Registration Fee table in the effective registration statement;

(3) 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;

provided, however, that the undertakings set forth in paragraphs (1), (2) and (3) above do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the SEC by the Registrant pursuant to section 13 or section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in this registration statement, or is contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of the registration statement.

(b) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(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.

(d) That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser:

(1) Each prospectus filed by the Registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of the registration statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in the registration statement; and

(2) Each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5) or (b)(7) as part of a registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (vii) or (x) for the purpose of providing the information required by Section 10(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the earlier of the date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of the registration statement relating to the securities in the registration statement to which that prospectus relates and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof. 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 effective date, 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 effective date.

(e) That, for the purpose of determining liability of the Registrant under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the 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 such purchaser:

(1) Any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the Registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;

(2) Any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of an undersigned Registrant or used or referred to by the undersigned Registrant;

(3) The portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about the Registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the Registrant; and

(4) Any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the Registrant to the purchaser.

(f) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the Registrant s annual report pursuant to section 13(a) or section 15(d) of the Exchange Act (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan s annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act) that is incorporated by reference in this registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(g) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 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 SEC such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 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 of 1933 and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

(h) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes that:

(1) For purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, the information omitted from the form of prospectus filed as part of this registration statement in reliance upon Rule 430A and contained in a form of prospectus filed by the Registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(1) or (4) or 497(h) under the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be part of this registration statement as of the time it was declared effective.

(2) For the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(i) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes to file an application for the purpose of determining the eligibility of the trustee to act under subsection (a) of Section 310 of the Trust Indenture Act in accordance with the rules and regulations prescribed by the SEC under Section 305(b)(2) of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Houston, State of Texas, on May 16, 2012.

ROWAN COMPANIES plc

By: /s/ W. Matt Ralls
W. Matt Ralls
President, Chief Executive Officer and Director

POWERS OF ATTORNEY

Each person whose signature appears below hereby constitutes and appoints W. Matt Ralls, John L. Buvens, William H. Wells, J. Kevin Bartol and Melanie M. Trent, and each of them (with full power to act alone), as his or her true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, with full power of substitution and re-substitution, for him or her in his or her name, place and stead, in any and all capacity, in connection with this Registration Statement, including to sign and file in the name and on behalf of the undersigned as director or officer of the registrant (i) any and all amendments or supplements (including any and all prospectus supplements, stickers and post-effective amendments) to the Registration Statement, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith and (ii) any registration statement relating to the same offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act of 1933, with the Securities and Exchange Commission and any applicable securities exchange, securities self-regulatory body or other regulatory authority, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them (with full power to act alone), full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite or necessary to be done in and about the premises, as fully to all intents and purposes as he or she might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents or any of them, or their substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature	Title	Date
/s/ W. Matt Ralls W. Matt Ralls	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director (Principal Executive Officer)	May 16, 2012
/s/ William H. Wells William H. Wells	Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer (Principal Financial Officer)	May 16, 2012
/s/ Gregory M. Hatfield Gregory M. Hatfield	Vice President and Controller (Principal Accounting Officer)	May 16, 2012
/s/ R. G. Croyle R.G. Croyle	Director	May 16, 2012

Signature	Title	Date
/s/ William T. Fox III William T. Fox III	Director	May 16, 2012
/s/ Sir Graham Hearne Sir Graham Hearne	Director	May 16, 2012
/s/ Thomas R. Hix Thomas R. Hix	Director	May 15, 2012
/s/ H.E. Lentz H.E. Lentz	Chairman of the Board of Directors	May 16, 2012
/s/ Lord Moynihan Lord Moynihan	Director	May 16, 2012
/s/ Suzanne P. Nimocks Suzanne P. Nimocks	Director	May 16, 2012
/s/ P. Dexter Peacock P. Dexter Peacock	Director	May 16, 2012
/s/ John J. Quicke John J. Quicke	Director	May 16, 2012
/s/ Melanie M. Trent Melanie M. Trent	Senior Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer, Company Secretary and Authorized Representative in the United States	May 16, 2012

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Houston, State of Texas, on May 16, 2012.

ROWAN COMPANIES, INC.

By: /s/ W. Matt Ralls
W. Matt Ralls
President and Chief Executive Officer

POWERS OF ATTORNEY

Each person whose signature appears below hereby constitutes and appoints W. Matt Ralls, John L. Buvens, William H. Wells, J. Kevin Bartol and Melanie M. Trent, and each of them (with full power to act alone), as his or her true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, with full power of substitution and re-substitution, for him or her in his or her name, place and stead, in any and all capacity, in connection with this Registration Statement, including to sign and file in the name and on behalf of the undersigned as director or officer of the registrant (i) any and all amendments or supplements (including any and all prospectus supplements, stickers and post-effective amendments) to the Registration Statement, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith and (ii) any registration statement relating to the same offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act of 1933, with the Securities and Exchange Commission and any applicable securities exchange, securities self-regulatory body or other regulatory authority, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them (with full power to act alone), full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite or necessary to be done in and about the premises, as fully to all intents and purposes as he or she might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents or any of them, or their substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature	Title	Date
/s/ W. Matt Ralls	President and Chief Executive Officer	May 16, 2012
W. Matt Ralls	(Principal Executive Officer)	
/s/ William H. Wells	Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Chairman	May 16, 2012
William H. Wells	(Principal Financial Officer)	
/s/ Gregory M. Hatfield	Vice President and Controller	May 16, 2012
Gregory M. Hatfield	(Principal Accounting Officer)	
	Director	May 16, 2012
Thomas P. Burke		
/s/ John. L. Buvens	Director	May 16, 2012
John L. Buvens		
/s/ Melanie M. Trent	Director	May 16, 2012
Melanie M. Trent		

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number	Description
**1.1	Form of Underwriting Agreement for each of the securities registered hereby.
*3.1	Certificate of Incorporation of Rowan Companies Limited (the former name of Rowan Companies plc prior to re-registration as a public company), dated October 11, 2011.
*3.2	Certificate of Incorporation on Re-Registration of a Private Company as a Public Company of Rowan Companies plc, dated May 1, 2012.
3.3	Articles of Association of Rowan Companies plc, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Current Report on Form 8-K12B of Rowan Companies plc, dated May 4, 2012 (File No. 001-05491).
*3.4	Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Rowan Companies, Inc., dated May 10, 2012.
*3.5	Amended and Restated Bylaws of Rowan Companies, Inc., effective as of May 4, 2012.
4.1	Form of Share Certificate for Rowan Companies plc, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.5 to the Current Report on Form 8-K12B of Rowan Companies plc, dated May 4, 2012 (File No. 001-05491).
*4.2	Form of Senior Indenture of Rowan UK (including form of senior debt security and form of guaranty agreement).
*4.3	Form of Subordinated Indenture of Rowan UK (including form of subordinated debt security and form of guaranty agreement).
*4.4	Senior Indenture of Rowan Delaware (including form of senior debt security and form of guaranty agreement).
*4.5	Form of Subordinated Indenture of Rowan Delaware (including form of subordinated debt security and form of guaranty agreement).
**4.6	Form of Warrant Agreement (including form of warrant certificate).
**4.7	Form of Unit Agreement (including form of unit certificate).
*5.1	Opinion of Baker & McKenzie LLP, U.K., regarding legality of the equity securities being registered.
*5.2	Opinion of Andrews Kurth LLP regarding legality of the debt securities being registered.
**8.1	Opinion of Andrews Kurth LLP regarding material U.S. federal income tax matters.
*12.1	Statement regarding computation of ratio of earnings to fixed charges.
*23.1	Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP.
*23.2	Consent of Baker & McKenzie LLP, U.K. (included in Exhibit 5.1).
*23.3	Consent of Andrews Kurth LLP (included in Exhibit 5.2).
*24.1	Powers of Attorney (included in Part II as a part of the signature pages of the Registration Statement).
*25.1	Form T-1 Statement of Eligibility under Trust Indenture Act of 1939 of Trustee (Senior Debt Securities).
*25.2	Form T-1 Statement of Eligibility under Trust Indenture Act of 1939 of Trustee (Subordinated Debt Securities).

* Filed herewith.

** To be filed either by amendment or as an exhibit to a report filed under the Exchange Act and incorporated by reference to this registration statement.