

ARES CAPITAL CORP
Form N-2/A
July 31, 2017

Use these links to rapidly review the document

[TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)
[TABLE OF CONTENTS 2](#)
[PART C](#)

[Table of Contents](#)

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 31, 2017

Registration No. 333-212142

U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM N-2

REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

✓ PRE-EFFECTIVE AMENDMENT NO. 2
o POST-EFFECTIVE AMENDMENT NO.

ARES CAPITAL CORPORATION

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

245 Park Avenue, 44th Floor
New York, New York 10167
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

Registrant's Telephone Number, including Area Code: (212) 750-7300

Joshua M. Bloomstein
General Counsel
Ares Capital Corporation
245 Park Avenue, 44th Floor
New York, New York 10167
(212) 750-7300
(Name and Address of Agent for Service)

Copies of information to:

Monica J. Shilling
Proskauer Rose LLP
2049 Century Park East, 32nd Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90067-3206
(310) 557-2900

Approximate Date of Proposed Public Offering:
From time to time after the effective date of this Registration Statement.

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

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

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

when declared effective pursuant to section 8(c).

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

Title of Securities Being Registered	Amount Being Registered	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Unit	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price(1)	Amount of Registration Fee
Common Stock, \$0.001 par value per share(2)(3)				
Preferred Stock, \$0.001 par value per share(2)				
Subscription Rights(2)				
Warrants(3)				
Debt Securities(5)				
Units(6)				
Total			\$3,000,000,000(7)	\$302,100(8)

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

THE REGISTRANT HEREBY AMENDS THIS REGISTRATION STATEMENT ON SUCH DATE OR DATES AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO DELAY ITS EFFECTIVE DATE UNTIL THE REGISTRANT SHALL FILE A FURTHER AMENDMENT WHICH SPECIFICALLY STATES THAT THIS REGISTRATION STATEMENT SHALL THEREAFTER BECOME EFFECTIVE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 8(a) OF THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, AS AMENDED, OR UNTIL THIS REGISTRATION STATEMENT SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE ON SUCH DATE AS THE COMMISSION, ACTING PURSUANT TO SECTION 8(a), MAY DETERMINE.

Table of Contents

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

Subject to Completion, dated July 31, 2017

PROSPECTUS

\$3,000,000,000

**Common Stock
Preferred Stock
Debt Securities
Subscription Rights
Warrants
Units**

Ares Capital Corporation is a specialty finance company that is a closed-end, non-diversified management investment company incorporated in Maryland. We have elected to be regulated as a business development company under the Investment Company Act of 1940. Our investment objective is to generate both current income and capital appreciation through debt and equity investments. We invest primarily in first lien senior secured loans (including "unitranche" loans, which are loans that combine both senior and mezzanine debt, generally in a first lien position), second lien senior secured loans and mezzanine debt, which in some cases includes an equity component. To a lesser extent, we also make preferred and/or common equity investments.

We are externally managed by our investment adviser, Ares Capital Management LLC, a subsidiary of Ares Management, L.P., a publicly traded, leading global asset manager. Ares Operations LLC, a subsidiary of Ares Management, L.P., provides certain administrative and other services necessary for us to operate.

Our common stock is traded on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "ARCC." On July 27, 2017 the last reported sales price of our common stock on The NASDAQ Global Select Market was \$16.43 per share. The net asset value per share of our common stock at March 31, 2017 (the last date prior to the date of this prospectus on which we determined net asset value) was \$16.50.

Investing in our securities involves risks that are described in the "Risk Factors" section beginning on page 24 of this prospectus, including the risk of leverage.

We may offer, from time to time, in one or more offerings or series, up to \$3,000,000,000 of our common stock, preferred stock, debt securities, subscription rights to purchase shares of our common stock, warrants representing rights to purchase shares of our common stock, preferred stock or debt securities, or units comprised of any combination of the foregoing, which we refer to, collectively, as the "securities." The preferred stock, debt securities, subscription rights and warrants (including as part of a unit) offered hereby may be convertible or exchangeable into shares of our common stock. The securities may be offered at prices and on terms to be described in one or more supplements to this prospectus. In the event we offer common stock, the offering price per share of our common stock less any underwriting commissions or discounts will generally not be less than the net asset value per share of our common stock at the time we make the offering. However, we may issue shares of our common stock pursuant to this prospectus at a price per share that is less than our net asset value per share (a) in connection with a rights offering to our existing stockholders, (b) with the prior approval of the majority of our common stockholders or (c) under such circumstances as the SEC may permit. This prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement concisely provide important information about us that you should know before investing in our securities. Please read this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement before you invest and keep it for future

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

reference. We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. This information is available free of charge by calling us collect at (310) 201-4200 or on our website at www.arescapitalcorp.com. The SEC also maintains a website at www.sec.gov that contains such information.

Neither the SEC 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.

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

The date of this prospectus is _____, 2017.

Table of Contents

You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus and the 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 to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should assume that the information appearing in this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement is accurate only as of the date on the front cover of this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement, as applicable. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since that date.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<u>Prospectus Summary</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>The Company</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>Offerings</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>Fees and Expenses</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>Selected Condensed Consolidated Financial Data of Ares Capital</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>Risk Factors</u>	<u>24</u>
<u>Forward-Looking Statements</u>	<u>54</u>
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	<u>56</u>
<u>Price Range of Common Stock and Distributions</u>	<u>58</u>
<u>Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges</u>	<u>60</u>
<u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	<u>61</u>
<u>Senior Securities</u>	<u>104</u>
<u>Business</u>	<u>107</u>
<u>Portfolio Companies</u>	<u>126</u>
<u>Management</u>	<u>148</u>
<u>Certain Relationships and Related Transactions</u>	<u>177</u>
<u>Control Persons and Principal Stockholders</u>	<u>179</u>
<u>Determination of Net Asset Value</u>	<u>181</u>
<u>Dividend Reinvestment Plan</u>	<u>183</u>
<u>Certain Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations</u>	<u>185</u>
<u>Description of Securities</u>	<u>196</u>
<u>Description of Our Capital Stock</u>	<u>197</u>
<u>Description of Our Preferred Stock</u>	<u>204</u>
<u>Description of Our Subscription Rights</u>	<u>205</u>
<u>Description of Our Warrants</u>	<u>207</u>
<u>Description of Our Debt Securities</u>	<u>209</u>
<u>Description of Our Units</u>	<u>222</u>
<u>Sales of Common Stock Below Net Asset Value</u>	<u>223</u>
<u>Issuance of Warrants or Securities to Subscribe For or Convertible Into Shares of Our Common Stock</u>	<u>228</u>
<u>Regulation</u>	<u>229</u>
<u>Custodian, Transfer and Dividend Paying Agent and Registrar</u>	<u>237</u>
<u>Brokerage Allocation and Other Practices</u>	<u>238</u>
<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	<u>239</u>
<u>Legal Matters</u>	<u>241</u>
<u>Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u>	<u>242</u>
<u>Available Information</u>	<u>243</u>
<u>Financial Statements</u>	<u>F-1</u>

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we have filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), using the "shelf" registration process. Under the shelf registration process, we may offer, from time to time, in one or more offerings or series, up to \$3,000,000,000 of our common stock, preferred stock, debt securities, subscription rights to purchase shares of our common stock, warrants representing rights to purchase shares of our common stock, preferred stock or debt securities, or units comprised of any combination of the foregoing, on terms to be determined at the time of the offering. The securities may be offered at prices and on terms described in one or more supplements to this prospectus. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities that we may offer. Each time we use this prospectus to offer securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. Please carefully read this prospectus and the prospectus supplement together with any exhibits and the additional information described under the headings "Available Information" and "Risk Factors" before you make an investment decision.

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary highlights some of the information contained elsewhere in this prospectus. It is not complete and may not contain all of the information that you may want to consider. You should read carefully the more detailed information set forth under "Risk Factors" and the other information included in this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement. Except where the context suggests otherwise, the terms "we," "us," "our," "the Company" and "Ares Capital" refer to Ares Capital Corporation and its consolidated subsidiaries; "Ares Capital Management" and "our investment adviser" refer to Ares Capital Management LLC; "Ares Operations" and "our administrator" refer to Ares Operations LLC; and "Ares" and "Ares Management" refer to Ares Management, L.P. (NYSE: ARES) and its affiliated companies (other than portfolio companies of its affiliated funds).

THE COMPANY

Overview

Ares Capital, a Maryland corporation, is a specialty finance company that is a closed-end, non-diversified management investment company. We have elected to be regulated as a business development company, or a "BDC," under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder or the "Investment Company Act." We were founded on April 16, 2004, were initially funded on June 23, 2004 and completed our initial public offering on October 8, 2004. As of March 31, 2017, we were the largest BDC with approximately \$12.0 billion of total assets.

We are externally managed by our investment adviser, Ares Capital Management, a subsidiary of Ares Management, a publicly traded, leading global alternative asset manager. Our administrator, Ares Operations, a subsidiary of Ares Management, provides certain administrative and other services necessary for us to operate.

Our investment objective is to generate both current income and capital appreciation through debt and equity investments. We invest primarily in U.S. middle-market companies, where we believe the supply of primary capital is limited and the investment opportunities are most attractive. However, we may from time to time invest in larger or smaller (in particular, for investments in early stage and/or venture capital-backed) companies. We generally use the term "middle-market" to refer to companies with annual EBITDA between \$10 million and \$250 million. As used herein, EBITDA represents net income before net interest expense, income tax expense, depreciation and amortization.

We invest primarily in first lien senior secured loans (including "unitranche" loans, which are loans that combine both senior and mezzanine debt, generally in a first lien position), second lien senior secured loans and mezzanine debt, which in some cases includes an equity component. First and second lien senior secured loans generally are senior debt instruments that rank ahead of subordinated debt of a given portfolio company. Mezzanine debt is subordinated to senior loans and is generally unsecured. Our investments in corporate borrowers generally range between \$30 million and \$500 million each, investments in project finance/power generation projects generally range between \$10 million and \$200 million each and investments in early-stage and/or venture capital-backed companies generally range between \$1 million and \$25 million each. However, the investment sizes may be more or less than these ranges and may vary based on, among other things, our capital availability, the composition of our portfolio and general micro- and macro-economic factors.

To a lesser extent, we also make preferred and/or common equity investments, which have generally been non-control equity investments of less than \$20 million (usually in conjunction with a concurrent debt investment). However, we may increase the size or change the nature of these investments. Also, as a result of the American Capital Acquisition (as defined below), American

Table of Contents

Capital's (as defined below) equity investments, including equity investments pursuant to which American Capital controlled a particular portfolio company, became part of our portfolio.

The proportion of these types of investments will change over time given our views on, among other things, the economic and credit environment in which we are operating. In connection with our investing activities, we may make commitments with respect to indebtedness or securities of a potential portfolio company substantially in excess of our final investment. In such situations, while we may initially agree to fund up to a certain dollar amount of an investment, we may subsequently syndicate or sell a portion of such amount (including, without limitation, to vehicles managed by our portfolio company, Ivy Hill Asset Management, L.P. ("IHAM")), such that we are left with a smaller investment than what was reflected in our original commitment. In addition to originating investments, we may also acquire investments in the secondary market (including purchases of a portfolio of investments).

The first and second lien senior secured loans in which we invest generally have stated terms of three to 10 years and the mezzanine debt investments in which we invest generally have stated terms of up to 10 years, but the expected average life of such first and second lien loans and mezzanine debt is generally between three and seven years. However, we may invest in loans and securities with any maturity or duration. The instruments in which we invest typically are not rated by any rating agency, but we believe that if such instruments were rated, they would be below investment grade (rated lower than "Baa3" by Moody's Investors Service, lower than "BBB " by Fitch Ratings or lower than "BBB " by Standard & Poor's Ratings Services), which, under the guidelines established by these entities, is an indication of having predominantly speculative characteristics with respect to the issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal. Bonds that are rated below investment grade are sometimes referred to as "high yield bonds" or "junk bonds." We may invest without limit in debt or other securities of any rating, as well as debt or other securities that have not been rated by any nationally recognized statistical rating organization.

We believe that our investment adviser, Ares Capital Management, is able to leverage the current investment platform, resources and existing relationships of Ares Management with financial sponsors, financial institutions, hedge funds and other investment firms to provide us with attractive investment opportunities. In addition to deal flow, the Ares investment platform assists our investment adviser in analyzing, structuring and monitoring investments. Ares has been in existence for over 15 years and its partners have an average of over 24 years of experience in leveraged finance, private equity, distressed debt, commercial real estate finance, investment banking and capital markets. We have access to Ares' investment professionals and administrative professionals, who provide assistance in accounting, finance, legal, compliance, operations, information technology and investor relations. As of March 31, 2017, Ares had approximately 370 investment professionals and approximately 585 administrative professionals.

While our primary focus is to generate current income and capital appreciation through investments in first and second lien senior secured loans and mezzanine debt and, to a lesser extent, equity securities of eligible portfolio companies, we also may invest up to 30% of our portfolio in non-qualifying assets, as permitted by the Investment Company Act. See "Regulation." Specifically, as part of this 30% basket, we may invest in entities that are not considered "eligible portfolio companies" (as defined in the Investment Company Act), including companies located outside of the United States, entities that are operating pursuant to certain exceptions under the Investment Company Act, and publicly traded entities whose public equity market capitalization exceeds the levels provided for under the Investment Company Act.

In the first quarter of 2011, the staff of the SEC (the "Staff") informally communicated to certain BDCs the Staff's belief that certain entities, which would be classified as an "investment company" under the Investment Company Act but for the exception from the definition of "investment company" set forth in Rule 3a-7 promulgated under the Investment Company Act, could not be treated

Table of Contents

as "eligible portfolio companies" (as defined in Section 2(a)(46) under the Investment Company Act) (i.e., not eligible to be included in a BDC's 70% "qualifying assets" basket). Subsequently, in August 2011 the SEC issued a concept release (the "Concept Release") which stated that "[a]s a general matter, the Commission presently does not believe that Rule 3a-7 issuers are the type of small, developing and financially troubled businesses in which the U.S. Congress intended BDCs primarily to invest" and requested comment on whether or not a 3a-7 issuer should be considered an "eligible portfolio company." We provided a comment letter in respect of the Concept Release and continue to believe that the language of Section 2(a)(46) of the Investment Company Act permits a BDC to treat as "eligible portfolio companies" entities that rely on the 3a-7 exception. However, given the current uncertainty in this area (including the language in the Concept Release) and subsequent discussions with the Staff, we have, solely for purposes of calculating the composition of our portfolio pursuant to Section 55(a) of the Investment Company Act, identified such entities, which include the SSLP (as defined below), as "non-qualifying assets" should the Staff ultimately disagree with our position.

The American Capital Acquisition

On January 3, 2017, we completed our acquisition (the "American Capital Acquisition") of American Capital, Ltd. ("American Capital") in a cash and stock transaction valued at approximately \$4.2 billion. In connection with the stock consideration, we issued approximately 112 million shares of our common stock to American Capital's then-existing stockholders (including holders of outstanding in-the-money American Capital stock options), thereby resulting in our then-existing stockholders owning approximately 73.7% of the combined company and then-existing American Capital stockholders owning approximately 26.3% of the combined company. See Note 14 to our consolidated financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2017 and Note 16 to our consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016 for additional information regarding the American Capital Acquisition.

In connection with the American Capital Acquisition, Ares Capital Management has agreed to waive up to \$100 million in income based fees from us for the first ten calendar quarters beginning with the second quarter of 2017, in an amount equal to the lesser of (1) \$10 million of the income based fees and (2) the amount of income based fees for each such quarter, in each case, to the extent earned and payable by us in such quarter pursuant to and as calculated under our investment advisory and management agreement (the "Fee Waiver").

Co-Investment Programs

Senior Direct Lending Program

We established a joint venture with Varagon Capital Partners ("Varagon") to make certain first lien senior secured loans, including certain stretch senior and unitranche loans, primarily to U.S. middle-market companies. Varagon was formed in 2013 as a lending platform by American International Group, Inc. (NYSE:AIG) and other partners. The joint venture is called the Senior Direct Lending Program (the "SDLP"). The SDLP may generally commit and hold individual loans of up to \$300 million. We may directly co-invest with the SDLP to accommodate larger transactions. The SDLP is capitalized as transactions are completed and all portfolio decisions and generally all other decisions in respect of the SDLP must be approved by an investment committee of the SDLP consisting of representatives of the Company and Varagon (with approval from a representative of each required).

We provide capital to the SDLP in the form of subordinated certificates (the "SDLP Certificates"), and Varagon and its clients provide capital to the SDLP in the form of senior notes, intermediate funding notes and SDLP Certificates. As of March 31, 2017, we and a client of Varagon owned 87.5% and 12.5%, respectively, of the outstanding SDLP Certificates.

Table of Contents

As of March 31, 2017, we and Varagon and its clients have agreed to make capital available to the SDLP of \$2.9 billion in the aggregate, of which approximately \$1.3 billion has been funded. As of March 31, 2017, we agreed to make available to the SDLP (subject to the approval of the investment committee of the SDLP as described above) \$591 million, of which \$269 million was funded. As of March 31, 2017, the SDLP had commitments to fund delayed draw loans to certain of its portfolio companies of \$168 million, which had been approved by the investment committee of the SDLP as described above, of which \$35 million was committed by us. As of March 31, 2017, the amortized cost and fair value of the SDLP Certificates held by us were \$269 million and \$269 million, respectively, which represented approximately 2.4% of our total portfolio at fair value. As of March 31, 2017, the SDLP had 14 different underlying borrowers. For more information on the SDLP, see "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Portfolio and Investment Activity Senior Direct Lending Program."

Senior Secured Loan Program

We and General Electric Capital Corporation ("GECC") and GE Global Sponsor Finance LLC (collectively, "GE") have co-invested in first lien senior secured loans of middle market companies through an unconsolidated Delaware limited liability company, the Senior Secured Loan Fund LLC (d/b/a "the Senior Secured Loan Program") or the SSLP (the "SSLP"). The SSLP has been capitalized as transactions are completed. All portfolio decisions and generally all other decisions in respect of the SSLP must be approved by an investment committee of the SSLP consisting of our representatives and the representatives of GE (with approval from a representative of each required). We have provided capital to the SSLP in the form of subordinated certificates (the "SSLP Certificates").

In August 2015, GE completed the sale of its U.S. Sponsor Finance business, through which GE had participated with us in the SSLP, to Canada Pension Plan Investment Board ("CPPIB"). This sale excluded GE's interest in the SSLP, and we and GE continue to operate the SSLP. We and GE no longer have an obligation to present senior secured lending investment opportunities to the SSLP and since June 30, 2015, the SSLP has not made any investments related to new portfolio companies; however, we and GE may provide capital to support the SSLP's funding of existing commitments (see below) and other amounts to its portfolio companies. On August 24, 2015, we were advised that GECC, as the holder of the senior notes of the SSLP (the "Senior Notes"), directed State Street Bank and Trust Company, as trustee of the Senior Notes and the SSLP Certificates, pursuant to the terms of the indenture governing the Senior Notes and the SSLP Certificates, to apply all principal proceeds received by the SSLP from its investments to the repayment of the outstanding principal amount of the Senior Notes until paid in full (prior to the distribution of any such principal proceeds to the holders of the SSLP Certificates, which includes us). GECC had previously elected to waive its right to receive priority repayments on the Senior Notes from principal proceeds in most circumstances. Prior to closing the sale to CPPIB, GE had announced its intention to provide us and CPPIB the opportunity to work together on the SSLP on a go-forward basis. GECC has also stated that if a mutual agreement between us and CPPIB to partner on the SSLP is not reached, it intends to retain its interest in the SSLP and the SSLP would be wound down in an orderly manner.

As of March 31, 2017, we and GE had outstanding amounts funded of approximately \$3.3 billion in aggregate principal amount to the SSLP. As discussed above, we anticipate that no new investments will be made by the SSLP and that we and GE will only provide additional capital to support the SSLP's funding of existing commitments and other amounts to its portfolio companies. As of March 31, 2017, the SSLP had commitments to fund delayed draw loans to certain of its portfolio companies of \$50 million, which had been approved by the investment committee of the SSLP as described above. As of March 31, 2017, we had funded approximately \$2.0 billion in aggregate principal amount to the SSLP. Additionally, as of March 31, 2017, we had commitments to co-invest in the SSLP

Table of Contents

for our portion of the SSLP's commitments to fund delayed draw loans to portfolio companies of up to \$7 million. As of March 31, 2017, the amortized cost and fair value of the SSLP Certificates held by us were \$1.9 billion and \$1.9 billion (including unrealized depreciation of \$19 million), respectively, which represented approximately 16.8% of our total portfolio at fair value. As of March 31, 2017, the SSLP had 18 different underlying borrowers. For more information on the SSLP, see "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Portfolio and Investment Activity Senior Secured Loan Program."

Ivy Hill Asset Management, L.P.

As of March 31, 2017, our portfolio company, IHAM, an SEC-registered investment adviser, managed 22 vehicles and served as the sub-manager/sub-servicer for two other vehicles (such vehicles, the "IHAM Vehicles"). As of March 31, 2017, IHAM had assets under management of approximately \$4.3 billion. As of March 31, 2017 Ares Capital had invested approximately \$296 million (at amortized cost) in IHAM. In connection with IHAM's registration as a registered investment adviser, on March 30, 2012, we received exemptive relief from the SEC allowing us to, subject to certain conditions, own directly or indirectly up to 100% of IHAM's outstanding equity interests and make additional investments in IHAM. From time to time, IHAM or certain IHAM Vehicles may purchase investments from us or sell investments to us, in each case for a price equal to the fair market value of such investments determined at the time of such transactions.

On May 19, 2017, pursuant to approval granted at a special meeting of stockholders of American Capital Senior Floating, Ltd. ("ACSF"), IHAM entered into a new management agreement with ACSF, a Maryland corporation that has elected to be regulated as a BDC under the Investment Company Act, pursuant to which IHAM serves as ACSF's investment adviser.

See Note 4 to our consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016 and the three months ended March 31, 2017 for more information about IHAM and Note 16 to our consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016 and Note 14 to our consolidated financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2017 for information related to IHAM's role in the American Capital Acquisition.

Ares Capital Management LLC

Ares Capital Management, our investment adviser, is served by an origination, investment and portfolio management team of approximately 100 U.S.-based investment professionals as of March 31, 2017 and led by certain partners of the Ares Credit Group: Michael Arougheti, Kipp deVeer, Mitchell Goldstein and Michael Smith. Ares Capital Management leverages off of Ares' investment platform and benefits from the significant capital markets, trading and research expertise of Ares' investment professionals. Ares Capital Management's investment committee has eight members comprised of certain of the U.S.-based partners of the Ares Credit Group.

MARKET OPPORTUNITY

We believe that current market conditions present attractive opportunities for us to invest in middle-market companies, specifically:

We believe that many commercial and investment banks have, in recent years, de-emphasized their service and product offerings to middle-market businesses in favor of lending to large corporate clients and managing capital markets transactions. In addition, these lenders may be constrained in their ability to underwrite and hold bank loans and high yield securities for middle-market issuers as they seek to meet existing and future regulatory capital requirements. These factors may result in opportunities for alternative

Table of Contents

funding sources to middle-market companies and therefore more new-issue market opportunities for us.

We believe disruption and volatility that occurs periodically in the credit markets, reduces capital available to certain capital providers, causing a reduction in competition. When these volatile market conditions occur, they often create opportunities to achieve attractive risk-adjusted returns.

We believe that there is a lack of market participants that are willing to hold meaningful amounts of certain middle-market loans. As a result, we believe our ability to minimize syndication risk for a company seeking financing by being able to hold our loans without having to syndicate them is a competitive advantage.

We believe that middle-market companies have faced difficulty in raising debt through the capital markets. This approach to financing may become more difficult to the extent institutional investors seek to invest in larger, more liquid offerings, leaving less competition and fewer financing alternatives for middle-market companies.

We believe there is a large pool of un-invested private equity capital for middle-market businesses. We expect private equity firms will seek to leverage their investments by combining equity capital with senior secured loans and mezzanine debt from other sources such as us.

COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES

We believe that we have the following competitive advantages over other capital providers to middle-market companies:

The Ares Platform

Ares operates three distinct but complementary investment groups, including the Ares Credit Group, the Ares Private Equity Group and the Ares Real Estate Group. We believe Ares' current investment platform provides a competitive advantage in terms of access to origination and marketing activities and diligence for us. In particular, we believe that the Ares platform provides us with an advantage through its deal flow generation and investment evaluation process. Ares' asset management platform also provides additional market information, company knowledge and industry insight that benefit our investment and due diligence process. Ares' professionals maintain extensive financial sponsor and intermediary relationships, which provide valuable insight and access to transactions and information.

Seasoned Management Team

The investment professionals in the Ares Credit Group and members of our investment adviser's investment committee also have significant experience investing across market cycles. This experience also provides us with a competitive advantage in identifying, originating, investing in and managing a portfolio of investments in middle-market companies.

Broad Origination Strategy

We focus on self-originating most of our investments by pursuing a broad array of investment opportunities in middle-market companies, venture capital backed businesses and power generation projects across multiple channels. We also leverage off of the extensive relationships of the broader Ares platform, including relationships with the portfolio companies in the IHAM Vehicles, to identify investment opportunities. We believe that this allows for asset selectivity and that there is a significant relationship between proprietary deal origination and credit performance. We believe that our focus on

Table of Contents

generating proprietary deal flow and lead investing also gives us greater control over capital structure, deal terms, pricing and documentation and enables us to actively manage our portfolio investments. Moreover, by leading the investment process, we are often able to secure controlling positions in credit tranches, thereby providing additional control in investment outcomes. We also have originated substantial proprietary deal flow from middle-market intermediaries, which often allows us to act as the sole or principal source of institutional capital to the borrower.

Scale and Flexible Transaction Structuring

We believe that being the largest BDC makes us a more desirable and flexible capital provider, especially in competitive markets. We are flexible with the types of investments we make and the terms associated with those investments. We believe this approach and experience enables our investment adviser to identify attractive investment opportunities throughout economic cycles and across a company's capital structure so we can make investments consistent with our stated investment objective and preserve principal while seeking appropriate risk adjusted returns. In addition, we have the flexibility to provide "one stop" financing with the ability to invest capital across the balance sheet and syndicate and hold larger investments than many of our competitors. We believe that the ability to underwrite, syndicate and hold larger investments benefits our stockholders by (a) potentially increasing net income and earnings through syndication, (b) increasing originated deal flow flexibility, (c) broadening market relationships and deal flow, (d) allowing us to optimize our portfolio composition and (e) allowing us to provide capital to a broader spectrum of middle-market companies, which we believe currently have limited access to capital from traditional lending sources. In addition, we believe that the ability to provide capital at every level of the balance sheet provides a strong value proposition to middle-market borrowers and our senior debt capabilities provide superior deal origination and relative value analysis capabilities compared to traditional "mezzanine only" lenders.

Experience with and Focus on Middle-Market Companies

Ares has historically focused on investments in middle-market companies and we benefit from this experience. In sourcing and analyzing deals, our investment adviser benefits from Ares' extensive network of relationships focused on middle-market companies, including management teams, members of the investment banking community, private equity groups and other investment firms with whom Ares has had long-term relationships. We believe this network enables us to identify well-positioned prospective portfolio company investments. The Ares Credit Group works closely with Ares' other investment professionals. As of March 31, 2017, Ares oversaw a portfolio of investments in over 1,300 companies, approximately 565 structured assets and over 160 properties across over 60 industries, which provides access to an extensive network of relationships and insights into industry trends and the state of the capital markets.

Disciplined Investment Philosophy

In making its investment decisions, our investment adviser has adopted Ares' long-standing, consistent, credit-based investment approach that was developed over 20 years ago by its founders. Specifically, our investment adviser's investment philosophy, portfolio construction and portfolio management involve an assessment of the overall macroeconomic environment and financial markets and company-specific research and analysis. Its investment approach emphasizes capital preservation, low volatility and minimization of downside risk. In addition to engaging in extensive due diligence from the perspective of a long-term investor, our investment adviser's approach seeks to reduce risk in investments by focusing on:

businesses with strong franchises and sustainable competitive advantages;

industries with positive long-term dynamics;

Table of Contents

businesses and industries with cash flows that are dependable and predictable;

management teams with demonstrated track records and appropriate economic incentives;

rates of return commensurate with the perceived risks;

securities or investments that are structured with appropriate terms and covenants; and

businesses backed by experienced private equity sponsors.

Extensive Industry Focus

We seek to concentrate our investing activities in industries with a history of predictable and dependable cash flows and in which the Ares investment professionals have had extensive investment experience. Ares investment professionals have developed long-term relationships with management teams and management consultants in over 50 industries, and have accumulated substantial information and identified potential trends within these industries. In turn, we benefit from these relationships, information and identification of potential trends in making investments.

OPERATING AND REGULATORY STRUCTURE

Our investment activities are managed by our investment adviser, Ares Capital Management, which is a subsidiary of Ares, and supervised by our board of directors, a majority of whom are independent of Ares and its affiliates. Ares Capital Management is registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, or the "Advisers Act." Under our Amended and Restated Investment Advisory and Management Agreement with Ares Capital Management, referred to herein as our "investment advisory and management agreement," we have agreed to pay Ares Capital Management base management fees based on our total assets, as defined under the Investment Company Act (other than cash and cash equivalents, but including assets purchased with borrowed funds) ("base management fees"), fees based on our net investment income ("income based fees") and fees based on our net capital gains ("capital gains incentive fees"). See "Management Investment Advisory and Management Agreement." Ares Operations provides us with certain administrative and other services necessary for us to operate pursuant to an Amended and Restated Administration Agreement, referred to herein as our "administration agreement." See "Management Administration Agreement."

As a BDC, we are required to comply with certain regulatory requirements. For example, we are not generally permitted to co-invest in any portfolio company in which a fund managed by Ares or any of its downstream affiliates (other than us and our downstream affiliates) currently has an investment. However, we may co-invest with funds managed by Ares or any of its downstream affiliates, subject to compliance with existing regulatory guidance, applicable regulations and our allocation procedures. On January 18, 2017, we received an order from the SEC that permits us and other business development companies and registered closed-end management investment companies managed by Ares to co-invest in portfolio companies with each other and with affiliated investment funds (the "Order"). Co-investments made under the Order are subject to compliance with the conditions and other requirements contained in the Order, which could limit our ability to participate in a co-investment transaction.

Also, while we may borrow funds to make investments, our ability to use debt is limited in certain significant aspects. See "Business Operating and Regulatory Structure" and "Regulation." In particular, BDCs must have at least 200% asset coverage calculated pursuant to the Investment Company Act (i.e., we are permitted to borrow one dollar for every dollar we have in assets less all liabilities and indebtedness not represented by senior securities issued by us) in order to incur debt or issue preferred stock (which we refer to collectively as "senior securities"), which requires us to finance our investments with at least as much equity as senior securities in the aggregate. Certain of our credit

Table of Contents

facilities also require that we maintain asset coverage of at least 200%. As of March 31, 2017, our asset coverage was 249% (excluding the SBA Debentures (as defined below)).

In addition, as a consequence of us being a regulated investment company ("RIC") under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") for U.S. federal income tax purposes, our asset growth is dependent on our ability to raise equity capital through the issuance of common stock. RICs generally must distribute substantially all of their investment company taxable income (as defined under the Code) to stockholders as dividends in order to preserve their status as a RIC and not be subject to additional U.S. federal corporate-level taxes. This requirement, in turn, generally prevents us from using our earnings to support our operations, including making new investments. See "Certain Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations."

ACQUISITION OPPORTUNITIES

We believe the recent volatility in the credit markets has increased the likelihood of further consolidation in our industry. From time to time, we evaluate potential strategic opportunities, including acquisitions of:

asset portfolios;

other private and public finance companies, business development companies and asset managers; and

selected secondary market assets.

In this regard, on January 3, 2017, we completed the American Capital Acquisition. See " The American Capital Acquisition" below for more information.

We have been in, and from time to time may engage in, discussions with counterparties in respect of various potential strategic acquisition and investment transactions, including potential acquisitions of other finance companies, business development companies and asset managers. Some of these transactions could be material to our business and, if completed, could be difficult to integrate, result in increased leverage or dilution and/or subject us to unexpected liabilities. However, none of these discussions has progressed to the point at which the completion of any such transaction could be deemed to be probable or reasonably certain as of the date of this prospectus. Completion of any such transaction would be subject to completion of due diligence, finalization of key business and financial terms (including price) and negotiation of final definitive documentation as well as a number of other factors and conditions including, without limitation, the approval of our board of directors, any required third party consents and, in certain cases, the approval of our stockholders. We cannot predict how quickly the terms of any such transaction could be finalized, if at all. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that such transaction would be completed. We have incurred, and may in the future incur, significant expenses in connection with evaluating potential strategic acquisition and investment transactions.

INDEBTEDNESS

As of March 31, 2017, we had approximately \$4.7 billion in aggregate principal amount of total outstanding indebtedness, approximately \$3.3 billion aggregate principal amount of which was unsecured indebtedness of Ares Capital, approximately \$622 million aggregate principal amount of which was secured indebtedness at the Ares Capital level and approximately \$740 million aggregate principal amount of which was secured indebtedness of our consolidated subsidiaries.

For more information on our debt, see "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Financial Condition, Liquidity and Capital Resources."

Table of Contents

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

In May 2017, we notified the trustee for the Company's 5.875% Senior Notes due 2022 (the "October 2022 Notes") of our election to redeem the entire \$182.5 million aggregate principal amount outstanding of the October 2022 Notes and instructed the trustee to provide notice of such redemption to the holders of the October 2022 Notes in accordance with the terms of the indenture governing the October 2022 Notes. The redemption was completed on June 21, 2017. None of the October 2022 Notes remain outstanding.

In May 2017, we entered into agreements with respect to the Revolving Credit Facility that, among other things, (a) increased the term loan tranche by \$12.5 million to \$395 million, (b) extended the expiration of the revolving period for certain lenders electing to extend their commitments in an amount equal to \$37.5 million from May 4, 2020 to January 4, 2021, and (c) extended the stated maturity date for certain lenders electing to extend their revolving commitments in an amount equal to \$37.5 million from May 4, 2021 to January 4, 2022.

RISK FACTORS

Investing in Ares Capital involves risks. The following is a summary of the principal risks that you should carefully consider before investing in our securities. In addition, see "Risk Factors" beginning on page 24 for a more detailed discussion of the principal risks as well as certain other risks you should carefully consider before deciding to invest in our securities.

The capital markets may experience periods of disruption and instability. Such market conditions may materially and adversely affect debt and equity capital markets, which may have a negative impact on our business and operations.

Uncertainty about the financial stability of the United States, China and several countries in Europe could have a significant adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our shares of common stock have traded at a discount from net asset value and may do so again, which could limit our ability to raise additional equity capital.

A failure on our part to maintain our status as a BDC would significantly reduce our operating flexibility and a failure to maintain our status as a RIC may subject us to additional corporate-level income taxes.

We are dependent upon certain key personnel of Ares for our future success and upon their access to other Ares investment professionals.

We may be unable to realize the benefits anticipated by the American Capital Acquisition, including estimated cost savings and synergies, or it may take longer than anticipated to achieve such benefits.

Our ability to grow depends on our ability to raise capital.

We borrow money, which magnifies the potential for gain or loss on amounts invested, subjects us to certain covenants with which we must comply and may increase the risk of investing with us.

We operate in a highly competitive market for investment opportunities.

We are exposed to risks associated with changes in interest rates.

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Most of our portfolio investments are not publicly traded and, as a result, the fair value of these investments may not be readily determinable. Additionally, to the extent that we

Table of Contents

need liquidity and need to sell assets, the lack of liquidity in our investments may adversely affect our business.

Our financial condition and results of operations could be negatively affected if a significant investment fails to perform as expected.

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

Declines in market prices and liquidity in the corporate debt markets can result in significant net unrealized depreciation of our portfolio, which in turn would reduce our net asset value.

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

Our investments, which are primarily in middle-market companies, may be risky and we could lose all or part of our investment.

Our portfolio companies may be highly leveraged.

Our credit ratings may not reflect all risks of an investment in our debt securities.

OUR CORPORATE INFORMATION

Our administrative offices are located at 2000 Avenue of the Stars, 12th Floor, Los Angeles, California 90067, telephone number (310) 201-4200, and our executive offices are located at 245 Park Avenue, 44th Floor, New York, New York 10167, telephone number (212) 750-7300.

Table of Contents

OFFERINGS

We may offer, from time to time, in one or more offerings or series, up to \$3,000,000,000 of our common stock, preferred stock, debt securities, subscription rights to purchase shares of our common stock, warrants representing rights to purchase shares of our common stock, preferred stock or debt securities, or units comprised of any combination of the foregoing, on terms to be determined at the time of the offering. We will offer our securities at prices and on terms to be set forth in one or more supplements to this prospectus. The offering price per share of our common stock, less any underwriting commissions or discounts, generally will not be less than the net asset value per share of our common stock at the time of an offering. However, we may issue shares of our common stock pursuant to this prospectus at a price per share that is less than our net asset value per share (a) in connection with a rights offering to our existing stockholders, (b) with the prior approval of the majority of our common stockholders or (c) under such other circumstances as the SEC may permit. Any such issuance of shares of our common stock below net asset value may be dilutive to the net asset value of our common stock. See "Risk Factors Risks Relating to Offerings Pursuant to this Prospectus."

Pursuant to approval granted at a special meeting of stockholders held on May 22, 2017, we currently are permitted to sell or otherwise issue shares of our common stock at a price below net asset value, subject to certain limitations and determinations that must be made by our board of directors. Such stockholder approval expires on May 22, 2018.

We may offer our securities directly to one or more purchasers, including existing stockholders in a rights offering, through agents that we designate from time to time or to or through underwriters or dealers. The prospectus supplement relating to each offering will identify any agents or underwriters involved in the sale of our securities, and will set forth any applicable purchase price, fee, commission or discount arrangement between us and our agents or underwriters or among our underwriters or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated. See "Plan of Distribution." We may not sell any of our securities through agents, underwriters or dealers without delivery of a prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the offering of our securities.

Set forth below is additional information regarding offerings of our securities:

Use of proceeds

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

Distributions

We currently intend to pay dividends or make other distributions to our stockholders on a quarterly basis out of assets legally available for distribution. We may also pay additional dividends or make additional distributions to our stockholders from time to time. Our quarterly and additional dividends or distributions, if any, will be determined by our board of directors. For more information, see "Price Range of Common Stock and Distributions."

Table of Contents

Taxation	We have elected to be treated as a RIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes. As a RIC, we generally will not pay U.S. federal corporate-level income taxes on any income and gain that we distribute to our stockholders as dividends on a timely basis. Among other things, in order to maintain our RIC status, we must meet specified source of income and asset diversification requirements and distribute annually generally an amount equal to at least 90% of our investment company taxable income, out of assets legally available for distribution. See "Risk Factors Risks Relating to Our Business We may be subject to additional corporate-level income taxes if we fail to maintain our status as a RIC" and "Price Range of Common Stock and Distributions."
Dividend reinvestment plan	We have a dividend reinvestment plan for our stockholders. This is an "opt out" dividend reinvestment plan. As a result, if we declare a cash dividend, then stockholders' dividends will be automatically reinvested in additional shares of our common stock, unless they specifically "opt out" of the dividend reinvestment plan so as to receive cash. Stockholders whose cash dividends are reinvested in additional shares of our common stock will be subject to the same U.S. federal, state and local tax consequences as stockholders who elect to receive their dividends in cash. See "Dividend Reinvestment Plan."
The NASDAQ Global Select Market symbol	"ARCC"
Anti-takeover provisions	Our board of directors is divided into three classes of directors serving staggered three-year terms. This structure is intended to provide us with a greater likelihood of continuity of management, which may be necessary for us to realize the full value of our investments. A staggered board of directors also may serve to deter hostile takeovers or proxy contests, as may certain other measures adopted by us. See "Description of Our Capital Stock."
Leverage	We borrow funds to make additional investments. We use this practice, which is known as "leverage," to attempt to increase returns to our stockholders, but it involves significant risks. See "Risk Factors," "Senior Securities" and "Regulation Indebtedness and Senior Securities." With certain limited exceptions, we are only allowed to borrow amounts such that our asset coverage, as calculated pursuant to the Investment Company Act, equals at least 200% after such borrowing. The amount of leverage that we employ at any particular time will depend on our investment adviser's and our board of directors' assessments of market and other factors at the time of any proposed borrowing.

Table of Contents

Management arrangements

Ares Capital Management serves as our investment adviser. Ares Operations serves as our administrator. For a description of Ares Capital Management, Ares Operations, Ares and our contractual arrangements with these companies, see "Management Investment Advisory and Management Agreement," and " Administration Agreement."

Available information

We are required to file periodic reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. This information is available free of charge by calling us collect at (310) 201-4200 or on our website at www.arescapitalcorp.com. Information contained on our website is not incorporated into this prospectus and you should not consider such information to be part of this prospectus. Such information is also available from the EDGAR database on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.

14

Table of Contents**FEEES AND EXPENSES**

The following table is intended to assist you in understanding the costs and expenses that an investor in our common stock will bear, directly or indirectly, based on the assumptions set forth below. We caution you that some of the percentages indicated in the table below are estimates and may vary. Except where the context suggests otherwise, whenever this table contains a reference to our fees or expenses, we will pay such fees and expenses out of our net assets and, consequently, stockholders will indirectly bear such fees or expenses as investors in Ares Capital.

Stockholder transaction expenses (as a percentage of offering price):	
Sales load	(1)
Offering expenses	(2)
Dividend reinvestment plan expenses	None (3)
Total stockholder transaction expenses paid	(4)
Annual expenses (as a percentage of consolidated net assets attributable to common stock)(5):	
Base management fees	2.73%(6)
Income based fees and capital gains incentive fees	1.48%(7)
Interest payments on borrowed funds	3.22%(8)
Other expenses	1.17%(9)
Acquired fund fees and expenses	0.07%(10)
Total annual expenses	8.67%(11)

-
- (1) In the event that the securities to which this prospectus relates are sold to or through underwriters, a corresponding prospectus supplement will disclose the applicable sales load (underwriting discount or commission). Purchases of shares of our common stock on the secondary market are not subject to sales charges but may be subject to brokerage commissions or other charges. The table does not include any sales load that stockholders may have paid in connection with their purchase of shares of our common stock.
- (2) The related prospectus supplement will disclose the estimated amount of offering expenses, the offering price and the offering expenses borne by us as a percentage of the offering price.
- (3) The expenses of the dividend reinvestment plan are included in "Other expenses." The plan administrator's fees under the plan are paid by us. If a participant elects by notice to the plan administrator in advance of termination to have the plan administrator sell part or all of the shares held by the plan administrator in the participant's account and remit the proceeds to the participant, the plan administrator is authorized to deduct a transaction fee of up to \$15 plus a \$0.12 per share fee from the proceeds. See "Dividend Reinvestment Plan" for more information.
- (4) The related prospectus supplement will disclose the offering price and the total stockholder transaction expenses as a percentage of the offering price.
- (5)

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

The "consolidated net assets attributable to common stock" used to calculate the percentages in this table is our average net assets of \$7.0 billion for the three months ended March 31, 2017.

(6)

Our base management fee is currently 1.5% of our total assets (other than cash and cash equivalents) (which includes assets purchased with borrowed amounts). Our base management fee has been estimated by multiplying our average total assets (assuming we maintain no cash or cash equivalents) for the three months ended March 31, 2017 by 1.5%. The 2.73% reflected on the table is higher than 1.5% because it is calculated on our average net assets (rather than our

Table of Contents

average total assets) for the same period. See "Management Investment Advisory and Management Agreement."

(7)

This item represents our investment adviser's income based fees and capital gains incentive fees estimated by annualizing income based fees for the three months ended March 31, 2017 and the capital gains incentive fee expense accrued in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") for the three months ended March 31, 2017, even though no capital gains incentive fee was actually payable under the investment advisory and management agreement as of March 31, 2017.

GAAP requires that the capital gains incentive fee accrual consider the cumulative aggregate unrealized capital appreciation in the calculation, as a capital gains incentive fee would be payable if such unrealized capital appreciation were realized, even though such unrealized capital appreciation is not permitted to be considered in calculating the fee actually payable under the Investment Company Act or the investment advisory and management agreement. This GAAP accrual is calculated using the aggregate cumulative realized capital gains and losses and aggregate cumulative unrealized capital depreciation included in the calculation of the capital gains incentive fee actually payable under the investment advisory and management agreement plus the aggregate cumulative unrealized capital appreciation. If such amount is positive at the end of a period, then GAAP requires us to record a capital gains incentive fee equal to 20% of such cumulative amount, less the aggregate amount of actual capital gains incentive fees paid or capital gains incentive fees accrued under GAAP in all prior periods. The resulting accrual for any capital gains incentive fee under GAAP in a given period may result in an additional expense if such cumulative amount is greater than in the prior period or a reversal of previously recorded expense if such cumulative amount is less than in the prior period. If such cumulative amount is negative, then there is no accrual. There can be no assurance that such unrealized capital appreciation will be realized in the future or that the amount accrued for will ultimately be paid.

For purposes of this table, we have assumed that these fees will be payable (in the case of the capital gains incentive fee) and that they will remain constant, although they are based on our performance and will not be paid unless we achieve certain goals. We expect to invest or otherwise utilize all of the net proceeds from securities registered under the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part pursuant to a particular prospectus supplement within three months of the date of the offering pursuant to such prospectus supplement and may have capital gains and interest income that could result in the payment of these fees to our investment adviser in the first year after completion of offerings pursuant to this prospectus. Since our initial public offering through March 31, 2017, the average quarterly fees accrued related to income based fees and capital gains incentive fees (including capital gains incentive fees accrued under GAAP even though they may not be payable) has been approximately 0.69% of our weighted average net assets (2.75% on an annualized basis). For more detailed information on the calculation of our income based fees and capital gains incentive fees, please see below. For more detailed information about income based fees and capital gains incentive fees previously incurred by us, please see Note 3 to our consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016 and the three months ended March 31, 2017.

Income based fees are payable quarterly in arrears in an amount equal to 20% of our pre-incentive fee net investment income (including interest that is accrued but not yet received in cash), subject to a 1.75% quarterly (7.0% annualized) hurdle rate and a "catch-up" provision measured as of the end of each calendar quarter. Under this provision, in any calendar quarter, our investment adviser receives no income based fees until our net investment income equals the hurdle rate of 1.75% but then receives, as a "catch-up," 100% of our pre-incentive fee net investment income with respect to that portion of such pre-incentive fee net investment income, if any, that exceeds the hurdle rate but is less than 2.1875%. The effect of this provision is that, if pre-incentive fee net

Table of Contents

investment income exceeds 2.1875% in any calendar quarter, our investment adviser will receive 20% of our pre-incentive fee net investment income as if a hurdle rate did not apply.

In connection with the American Capital Acquisition, our investment adviser has agreed to waive, for each of the first ten calendar quarters beginning in the second quarter of 2017, the lesser of (a) \$10 million of the income based fees and (b) the amount of income based fees for such quarter, in each case, to the extent earned and payable by us in such quarter pursuant to and as calculated under our investment advisory and management agreement.

Capital gains incentive fees are payable annually in arrears in an amount equal to 20% of our realized capital gains on a cumulative basis from inception through the end of the year, if any, computed net of all realized capital losses and unrealized capital depreciation on a cumulative basis, less the aggregate amount of capital gains incentive fees paid in all prior years.

We will defer cash payment of any income based fees and capital gains incentive fees otherwise earned by our investment adviser if, during the most recent four full calendar quarter period ending on or prior to the date such payment is to be made, the sum of (a) our aggregate distributions to our stockholders and (b) our change in net assets (defined as total assets less indebtedness and before taking into account any income based fees or capital gains incentive fees accrued during the period) is less than 7.0% of our net assets (defined as total assets less indebtedness) at the beginning of such period. Any deferred income based fees and capital gains incentive fees are carried over for payment in subsequent calculation periods to the extent such payment is payable under the investment advisory and management agreement.

These calculations will be adjusted for any share issuances or repurchases.

See "Management Investment Advisory and Management Agreement."

- (8) "Interest payments on borrowed funds" represents our interest expenses estimated by annualizing our actual interest and credit facility expenses incurred for the three months ended March 31, 2017. During the three months ended March 31, 2017, our average outstanding borrowings were approximately \$4.6 billion and cash paid for interest expense was \$48 million. We had outstanding borrowings of approximately \$4.7 billion (with a carrying value of approximately \$4.6 billion) as of March 31, 2017. This item is based on the assumption that our borrowings and interest costs after an offering will remain similar to those prior to such offering. The amount of leverage that we may employ at any particular time will depend on, among other things, our investment adviser's and our board of directors' assessment of market and other factors at the time of any proposed borrowing. See "Risk Factors Risks Relating to Our Business We borrow money, which magnifies the potential for gain or loss on amounts invested and may increase the risk of investing with us."
- (9) Includes our overhead expenses, including payments under our administration agreement based on our allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by Ares Operations in performing its obligations under the administration agreement, and income taxes. Such expenses are estimated by annualizing "Other expenses" for the three months ended March 31, 2017 (other than \$26 million of professional and other costs related to the American Capital Acquisition, which are included in "Other Expenses" but not annualized). The holders of shares of our common stock (and not the holders of our debt securities or preferred stock, if any) indirectly bear the cost associated with our annual expenses. See "Management Administration Agreement."
- (10) Our stockholders indirectly bear the expenses of underlying funds or other investment vehicles that would be investment companies under section 3(a) of the Investment Company Act but for the exceptions to that definition provided for in sections 3(c)(1) and 3(c)(7) of the Investment Company Act ("Acquired Funds") in which we invest. Such underlying funds or other investment vehicles are referred to in this prospectus as "Acquired Funds." This amount includes the

Table of Contents

estimated annual fees and operating expenses of Acquired Funds as of March 31, 2017. Certain of these Acquired Funds are subject to management fees, which generally range from 1% to 2.5% of total net assets, or incentive fees, which generally range between 15% and 25% of net profits. When applicable, fees and operating expenses estimates are based on historic fees and operating expenses for the Acquired Funds. For those Acquired Funds with little or no operating history, fees and operating expenses are estimates based on expected fees and operating expenses stated in the Acquired Funds' offering memorandum, private placement memorandum or other similar communication without giving effect to any performance. Future fees and operating expenses for these Acquired Funds may be substantially higher or lower because certain fees and operating expenses are based on the performance of the Acquired Funds, which may fluctuate over time. Also included with the amount is an estimate of the annual fees and operating expenses of the SDLP, which was initially funded in July 2016. See "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Portfolio and Investment Activity Senior Direct Lending Program" and Note 4 to our consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016 and the three months ended March 31, 2017, for more information on the SDLP. The annual fees and operating expenses of the SDLP were estimated based on the funded portfolio of the SDLP as of March 31, 2017 and are primarily comprised of management fees and administrative expenses of the SDLP. For the purpose of this line item, interest payments on borrowed funds are not included in operating expenses. If interest payments on the senior notes and intermediate funding notes of the SDLP were included for purposes of this calculation, "Acquired fund fees and expenses" would be 0.64%.

(11)

"Total annual expenses" as a percentage of consolidated net assets attributable to common stock are higher than the total annual expenses percentage would be for a company that is not leveraged. We borrow money to leverage and increase our total assets. The SEC requires that the "Total annual expenses" percentage be calculated as a percentage of net assets (defined as total assets less indebtedness and before taking into account any income based fees or capital gains incentive fees accrued during the period), rather than the total assets, including assets that have been funded with borrowed monies.

Example

The following example demonstrates the projected dollar amount of total cumulative expenses over various periods with respect to a hypothetical investment in our common stock. In calculating the following expense amounts, we have assumed that we would have no additional leverage, that none of our assets are cash or cash equivalents and that our annual operating expenses would remain at the levels set forth in the table above. Income based fees and the capital gains incentive fees under the investment advisory and management agreement, which, assuming a 5% annual return, would either not be payable or have an insignificant impact on the expense amounts shown below, are not included in the example, except as specifically set forth below. Transaction expenses are not included in the following example. In the event that shares to which this prospectus relates are sold to or through

Table of Contents

underwriters, a corresponding prospectus supplement will restate this example to reflect the applicable sales load.

	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years
You would pay the following expenses on a \$1,000 common stock investment, assuming a 5% annual return (none of which is subject to the capital gains incentive fee)(1)	\$ 74	\$ 216	\$ 351	\$ 663
You would pay the following expenses on a \$1,000 common stock investment, assuming a 5% annual return resulting entirely from net realized capital gains (all of which is subject to the capital gains incentive fee)(2)	\$ 84	\$ 244	\$ 395	\$ 737

- (1) Assumes that we will not realize any capital gains computed net of all realized capital losses and unrealized capital depreciation.
- (2) Assumes no unrealized capital depreciation and a 5% annual return resulting entirely from net realized capital gains and not otherwise deferrable under the terms of the investment advisory and management agreement and therefore subject to the capital gains incentive fee.

The foregoing table is to assist you in understanding the various costs and expenses that an investor in our common stock will bear directly or indirectly. While the example assumes, as required by the SEC, a 5% annual return, our performance will vary and may result in a return greater or less than 5%. If we were to achieve sufficient returns on our investments, including through the realization of capital gains, to trigger income based fees or capital gains incentive fees of a material amount, our expenses, and returns to our investors, would be higher. In addition, while the example assumes reinvestment of all dividends and distributions at net asset value, if our board of directors authorizes and we declare a cash dividend, participants in our dividend reinvestment plan who have not otherwise elected to receive cash will receive a number of shares of our common stock determined by dividing the total dollar amount of the dividend payable to a participant by the market price per share of our common stock at the close of trading on the valuation date for the dividend. See "Dividend Reinvestment Plan" for additional information regarding our dividend reinvestment plan.

This example and the expenses in the table above should not be considered a representation of our future expenses as actual expenses (including the cost of debt, if any, and other expenses) that we may incur in the future and such actual expenses may be greater or less than those shown.

Table of Contents

SELECTED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL DATA OF ARES CAPITAL

The following selected financial and other data as of and for the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013 and 2012 are derived from our consolidated financial statements, which have been audited by KPMG LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm whose report thereon is included elsewhere in this prospectus. The selected financial and other data as of and for the three months ended March 31, 2017 and March 31, 2016 and other quarterly financial information is derived from our unaudited financial statements, but in the opinion of management, reflects all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring adjustments) that are necessary to present fairly the results of such interim periods. Interim results as of and for the three months ended March 31, 2017 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ending December 31, 2017. The data should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and notes thereto and "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and "Senior Securities," which are included elsewhere in this prospectus or the accompanying prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

ARES CAPITAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

As of and For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2017 and March 31, 2016 and
As of and For the Years Ended December 31, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013 and 2012
(dollar amounts in millions, except per share data and as otherwise indicated)

	As of and For the Three Months Ended March 31,		As of and For the Year Ended December 31,				
	2017	2016	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Total Investment Income	\$ 275	\$ 248	\$ 1,012	\$ 1,025	\$ 989	\$ 882	\$ 748
Total Expenses	179	130	497	499	533	437	388
Net Investment Income Before Income Taxes	96	118	515	526	456	445	360
Income Tax Expense, Including Excise Tax	2	5	21	18	18	14	11
Net Investment Income	94	113	494	508	438	431	349
Net Realized and Unrealized Gains (Losses) on Investments, Foreign Currencies, Extinguishment of Debt and Other Assets	24	19	(20)	(129)	153	58	159
Net Increase in Stockholders' Equity Resulting from Operations	\$ 118	\$ 132	\$ 474	\$ 379	\$ 591	\$ 489	\$ 508

Per Share Data:

Net Increase in Stockholder's Equity Resulting from Operations:

Basic	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.42	\$ 1.51	\$ 1.20	\$ 1.94	\$ 1.83	\$ 2.21
Diluted	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.42	\$ 1.51	\$ 1.20	\$ 1.94	\$ 1.83	\$ 2.21
Cash Dividends Declared and Payable(1)	\$ 0.38	\$ 0.38	\$ 1.52	\$ 1.57	\$ 1.57	\$ 1.57	\$ 1.60
Net Asset Value	\$ 16.50	\$ 16.50	\$ 16.45	\$ 16.46	\$ 16.82	\$ 16.46	\$ 16.04
Total Assets(2)	\$ 11,990	\$ 9,366	\$ 9,245	\$ 9,507	\$ 9,454	\$ 8,094	\$ 6,361
Total Debt (Carrying Value)(2)	\$ 4,585	\$ 3,985	\$ 3,874	\$ 4,114	\$ 3,881	\$ 2,939	\$ 2,155
Total Debt (Principal Amount)	\$ 4,683	\$ 4,063	\$ 3,951	\$ 4,197	\$ 3,999	\$ 3,079	\$ 2,294
Total Stockholders' Equity	\$ 7,035	\$ 5,180	\$ 5,165	\$ 5,173	\$ 5,284	\$ 4,904	\$ 3,988

Other Data:

Number of Portfolio Companies at Period End(3)	316	220	218	218	205	193	152
Principal Amount of Investments Purchased(4)	\$ 914	\$ 498	\$ 3,490	\$ 3,905	\$ 4,534	\$ 3,493	\$ 3,162
Principal Amount of Investments Acquired as part of the American Capital Acquisition	\$ 2,543						
Principal Amount of Investments Sold and Repayments	\$ 909	\$ 483	\$ 3,655	\$ 3,651	\$ 3,213	\$ 1,801	\$ 2,483
Total Return Based on Market Value(5)	7.7%	6.8%	26.4%	1.3%	(3.3)%	10.5%	23.6%
Total Return Based on Net Asset Value(6)	3.5%	2.5%	9.2%	7.2%	11.8%	11.4%	14.3%
Weighted Average Yield of Debt and Other Income Producing Securities at Fair Value(7):	9.4%	10.3%	9.4%	10.3%	10.1%	10.4%	11.3%
Weighted Average Yield of Debt and Other Income Producing Securities at Amortized Cost(7) :	9.3%	10.1%	9.3%	10.1%	10.1%	10.4%	11.4%
Weighted Average Yield of Total Investments at Fair Value(8):	8.2%	9.3%	8.5%	9.2%	9.1%	9.3%	10.0%
Weighted Average Yield of Total Investments at Amortized Cost(8):	8.1%	9.2%	8.3%	9.1%	9.3%	9.4%	10.1%

(1)

Includes an additional dividend of \$0.05 per share paid in the three months ended March 31, 2015, an additional dividend of \$0.05 per share paid in the year ended December 31, 2015, an additional dividend of \$0.05 per share paid in the year ended December 31, 2014, an additional dividend of \$0.05 per share paid in the year ended December 31, 2013 and additional dividends of \$0.10 per share in the aggregate paid in the year ended December 31, 2012.

(2)

Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to the 2016 presentation. In particular, unamortized debt issuance costs were previously included in other assets and were reclassified to long-term debt as a result of the adoption of Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2015-03, Interest Imputation of Interest (Topic 835): Simplifying the Presentation of Debt Issuance Costs during the first quarter of 2016.

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

- (3) Includes commitments to portfolio companies for which funding had yet to occur.
- (4) Excludes investments acquired as part of the American Capital Acquisition.
- (5) For the three months ended March 31, 2017, the total return based on market value equaled the increase of the ending market value at March 31, 2017 of \$17.38 per share from the ending market value at December 31, 2016 of \$16.49 per share plus the declared and payable dividends of \$0.38 per share for the three months ended March 31, 2017, divided by

Table of Contents

the market value at December 31, 2016. For the three months ended March 31, 2016, the total return based on market value equaled the increase of the ending market value at March 31, 2016 of \$14.84 per share from the ending market value at December 31, 2015 of \$14.25 per share plus the declared and payable dividends of \$0.38 per share for the three months ended March 31, 2016, divided by the market value at December 31, 2015. For the year ended December 31, 2016, the total return based on market value equaled the increase of the ending market value at December 31, 2016 of \$16.49 per share from the ending market value at December 31, 2015 of \$14.25 per share plus the declared and payable dividends of \$1.52 per share for the year ended December 31, 2016, divided by the market value at December 31, 2015. For the year ended December 31, 2015, the total return based on market value equaled the decrease of the ending market value at December 31, 2015 of \$14.25 per share from the ending market value at December 31, 2014 of \$15.61 per share plus the declared and payable dividends of \$1.57 per share for the year ended December 31, 2015, divided by the market value at December 31, 2014. For the year ended December 31, 2014, the total return based on market value equaled the decrease of the ending market value at December 31, 2014 of \$15.61 per share from the ending market value at December 31, 2013 of \$17.77 per share plus the declared and payable dividends of \$1.57 per share for the year ended December 31, 2014, divided by the market value at December 31, 2013. For the year ended December 31, 2013, the total return based on market value equaled the increase of the ending market value at December 31, 2013 of \$17.77 per share from the ending market value at December 31, 2012 of \$17.50 per share plus the declared and payable dividends of \$1.57 per share for the year ended December 31, 2013, divided by the market value at December 31, 2012. For the year ended December 31, 2012, the total return based on market value equaled the increase of the ending market value at December 31, 2012 of \$17.50 per share from the ending market value at December 31, 2011 of \$15.45 per share plus the declared and payable dividends of \$1.60 per share for the year ended December 31, 2012, divided by the market value at December 31, 2011. Our shares fluctuate in value. Our performance changes over time and currently may be different than that shown. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

(6)

For the three months ended March 31, 2017, the total return based on net asset value equaled the change in net asset value during the period plus the declared and payable dividends of \$0.38 per share for the three months ended March 31, 2017, divided by the beginning net asset value for the period. For the three months ended March 31, 2016, the total return based on net asset value equaled the change in net asset value during the period plus the declared and payable dividends of \$0.38 per share for the three months ended March 31, 2016, divided by the beginning net asset value for the period. For the year ended December 31, 2016, the total return based on net asset value equaled the change in net asset value during the period plus the declared and payable dividends of \$1.52 per share for the year ended December 31, 2016, divided by the beginning net asset value for the period. For the year ended December 31, 2015, the total return based on net asset value equaled the change in net asset value during the period plus the declared and payable dividends of \$1.57 per share for the year ended December 31, 2015, divided by the beginning net asset value for the period. For the year ended December 31, 2014, the total return based on net asset value equaled the change in net asset value during the period plus the declared and payable dividends of \$1.57 per share for the year ended December 31, 2014, divided by the beginning net asset value for the period. For the year ended December 31, 2013, the total return based on net asset value equaled the change in net asset value during the period plus the declared and payable dividends of \$1.57 per share for the year ended December 31, 2013, divided by the beginning net asset value for the period. For the year ended December 31, 2012, the total return based on net asset value equaled the change in net asset value during the period plus the declared and payable dividends of \$1.60 per share for the year ended December 31, 2012 divided by the beginning net asset value for the period. These calculations are adjusted for shares issued in connection with the dividend reinvestment plan and the issuance of common stock in connection with any equity offerings and the equity components of any convertible notes issued during the period. Our performance changes over time and currently may be different than that shown. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

(7)

"Weighted average yield of debt and other income producing securities" is computed as (a) the annual stated interest rate or yield earned plus the net annual amortization of original issue discount and market discount or premium earned on accruing debt and other income producing securities, divided by (b) the total accruing debt and other income producing securities at amortized cost or at fair value, as applicable. The weighted average yield of debt and other income producing securities that were acquired as part of the American Capital Acquisition and held as of March 31, 2017 was 10.0% and 10.0% at amortized cost and fair value, respectively.

(8)

"Weighted average yield on total investments" is computed as (a) the annual stated interest rate or yield earned plus the net annual amortization of original issue discount and market discount or premium earned on accruing debt and other income producing securities, divided by (b) the total investments at amortized cost or at fair value, as applicable. The weighted average yield on total investments that were acquired as part of the American Capital Acquisition and held as of March 31, 2017 was 7.9% and 7.8% at amortized cost and fair value, respectively.

Table of Contents

SELECTED QUARTERLY DATA (Unaudited)
(dollar amounts in millions, except per share data)

	2017	
		Q1
Total investment income	\$	275
Net investment income before net realized and unrealized gains and income based fees and capital gains incentive fees		
	\$	142
Income based fees and capital gains incentive fees	\$	48
Net investment income before net realized and unrealized gains	\$	94
Net realized and unrealized gains	\$	24
Net increase in stockholders' equity resulting from operations		118
Basic and diluted earnings per common share		0.28
Net asset value per share as of the end of the quarter	\$	16.50

	2016			
	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1
Total investment income	\$ 261	\$ 258	\$ 245	\$ 248
Net investment income before net realized and unrealized gains (losses) and income based fees and capital gains incentive fees				
	\$ 158	\$ 164	\$ 144	\$ 146
Income based fees and capital gains incentive fees	\$ 19	\$ 27	\$ 39	\$ 33
Net investment income before net realized and unrealized gains (losses)	\$ 139	\$ 137	\$ 105	\$ 113
Net realized and unrealized gains (losses)	\$ (64)	\$ (27)	\$ 52	\$ 19
Net increase in stockholders' equity resulting from operations	\$ 75	\$ 110	\$ 157	\$ 132
Basic and diluted earnings per common share	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.42
Net asset value per share as of the end of the quarter	\$ 16.45	\$ 16.59	\$ 16.62	\$ 16.50

	2015			
	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1
Total investment income	\$ 262	\$ 261	\$ 249	\$ 253
Net investment income before net realized and unrealized gains (losses) and income based fees and capital gains incentive fees				
	\$ 151	\$ 159	\$ 146	\$ 147
Income based fees and capital gains incentive fees	\$ 4	\$ 29	\$ 37	\$ 25
Net investment income before net realized and unrealized gains (losses)	\$ 147	\$ 130	\$ 109	\$ 122
Net realized and unrealized gains (losses)	\$ (132)	\$ (14)	\$ 38	\$ (21)
Net increase in stockholders' equity resulting from operations	\$ 15	\$ 116	\$ 147	\$ 101
Basic and diluted earnings per common share	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.37	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.32
Net asset value per share as of the end of the quarter	\$ 16.46	\$ 16.79	\$ 16.80	\$ 16.71

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

You should carefully consider the risk factors described below, together with all of the other information included in this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement, including our consolidated financial statements and the related notes thereto, before you decide whether to make an investment in our securities. The risks set out below are not the only risks we face. Additional risks and uncertainties not currently known to us or that we currently deem to be immaterial also may materially adversely affect our business, financial condition and/or operating results. If any of the following events occur, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be materially adversely affected. In such case, the net asset value of our common stock and the trading price of our securities could decline, and you may lose all or part of your investment.

RISKS RELATING TO OUR BUSINESS

The capital markets may experience periods of disruption and instability. Such market conditions may materially and adversely affect debt and equity capital markets, which may have a negative impact on our business and operations.

From time to time, capital markets may experience periods of disruption and instability. For example, between 2008 and 2009, the global capital markets were unstable as evidenced by periodic disruptions in liquidity in the debt capital markets, significant write-offs in the financial services sector, the re-pricing of credit risk in the broadly syndicated credit market and the failure of major financial institutions. Despite actions of the U.S. federal government and foreign governments, these events contributed to worsening general economic conditions that materially and adversely impacted the broader financial and credit markets and reduced the availability of debt and equity capital for the market as a whole and financial services firms in particular. While market conditions have largely recovered from the events of 2008 and 2009, there have been continuing periods of volatility, some lasting longer than others. For example, the referendum by British voters to exit the European Union ("E.U.") ("Brexit") in June 2016 has led to further disruption and instability in the global markets. There can be no assurance these market conditions will not repeat themselves or worsen in the future.

Equity capital may be difficult to raise during periods of adverse or volatile market conditions because, subject to some limited exceptions, as a BDC, we are generally not able to issue additional shares of our common stock at a price less than net asset value without first obtaining approval for such issuance from our stockholders and our independent directors. We generally seek approval from our stockholders so that we have the flexibility to issue up to 25% of our then outstanding shares of our common stock at a price below net asset value. Pursuant to approval granted at a special meeting of stockholders held on May 22, 2017, we currently are permitted to sell or otherwise issue shares of our common stock at a price below net asset value, subject to certain limitations and determinations that must be made by our board of directors. Such stockholder approval expires on May 22, 2018.

Volatility and dislocation in the capital markets can also create a challenging environment in which to raise or access debt capital. The reappearance of market conditions similar to those experienced from 2008 through 2009 for any substantial length of time could make it difficult to extend the maturity of or refinance our existing indebtedness or obtain new indebtedness with similar terms and any failure to do so could have a material adverse effect on our business. The debt capital that will be available to us in the future, if at all, may be at a higher cost and on less favorable terms and conditions than what we currently experience. If we are unable to raise or refinance debt, then our equity investors may not benefit from the potential for increased returns on equity resulting from leverage and we may be limited in our ability to make new commitments or to fund existing commitments to our portfolio companies.

Significant changes or volatility in the capital markets may also have a negative effect on the valuations of our investments. While most of our investments are not publicly traded, applicable

Table of Contents

accounting standards require us to assume as part of our valuation process that our investments are sold in a principal market to market participants (even if we plan on holding an investment through its maturity). Significant changes in the capital markets may also affect the pace of our investment activity and the potential for liquidity events involving our investments. Thus, the illiquidity of our investments may make it difficult for us to sell such investments to access capital if required, and as a result, we could realize significantly less than the value at which we have recorded our investments if we were required to sell them for liquidity purposes. An inability to raise or access capital could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Uncertainty about the financial stability of the United States, China and several countries in Europe could have a significant adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Due to federal budget deficit concerns, Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC ("S&P") downgraded the federal government's credit rating from AAA to AA+ for the first time in history on August 5, 2011. Further, Moody's Investor Services, Inc. ("Moody's") and Fitch Ratings, Inc. ("Fitch") had warned that they may downgrade the federal government's credit rating. Further downgrades or warnings by S&P or other rating agencies, and the United States government's credit and deficit concerns in general, could cause interest rates and borrowing costs to rise, which may negatively impact both the perception of credit risk associated with our debt portfolio and our ability to access the debt markets on favorable terms. In addition, a decreased U.S. government credit rating could create broader financial turmoil and uncertainty, which may weigh heavily on our financial performance and the value of our common stock.

Deterioration in the economic conditions in the Eurozone and globally, including instability in financial markets, may pose a risk to our business. In recent years, financial markets have been affected at times by a number of global macroeconomic and political events, including the following: large sovereign debts and fiscal deficits of several countries in Europe and in emerging markets jurisdictions, levels of non-performing loans on the balance sheets of European banks, the potential effect of any European country leaving the Eurozone, the potential effect of the United Kingdom leaving the European Union, the potential effect of Scotland leaving the United Kingdom, and market volatility and loss of investor confidence driven by political events, including the general elections in the United Kingdom in June 2017 and in Germany in September 2017 and referenda in the United Kingdom in June 2016 and Italy in December 2016. Market and economic disruptions have affected, and may in the future affect, consumer confidence levels and spending, personal bankruptcy rates, levels of incurrence and default on consumer debt and home prices, among other factors. We cannot assure you that market disruptions in Europe, including the increased cost of funding for certain governments and financial institutions, will not impact the global economy, and we cannot assure you that assistance packages will be available, or if available, be sufficient to stabilize countries and markets in Europe or elsewhere affected by a financial crisis. To the extent uncertainty regarding any economic recovery in Europe negatively impacts consumer confidence and consumer credit factors, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be significantly and adversely affected.

In the second quarter of 2015, stock prices in China experienced a significant drop, resulting primarily from continued sell-off of shares trading in Chinese markets. In addition, in August 2015, Chinese authorities sharply devalued China's currency. Since then, the Chinese capital markets have continued to experience periods of instability. These market and economic disruptions have affected, and may in the future affect, the U.S. capital markets, which could adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operations.

The Federal Reserve raised the Federal Funds Rate in December 2015, in December 2016 and again in March 2017, and has announced its intention to continue to raise the federal funds rate over time. These developments, along with the United States government's credit and deficit concerns, the

Table of Contents

European sovereign debt crisis and the economic slowdown in China, could cause interest rates to be volatile, which may negatively impact our ability to access the debt markets on favorable terms.

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

If we fail to maintain our status as a BDC, we might be regulated as a closed-end investment company that is required to register under the Investment Company Act, which would subject us to additional regulatory restrictions and significantly decrease our operating flexibility. In addition, any such failure could cause an event of default under our outstanding indebtedness, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

We are dependent upon certain key personnel of Ares for our future success and upon their access to other Ares investment professionals.

We depend on the diligence, skill and network of business contacts of certain key personnel of the Ares Credit Group. We also depend, to a significant extent, on access to the investment professionals of other groups within Ares and the information and deal flow generated by Ares' investment professionals in the course of their investment and portfolio management activities. Our future success depends on the continued service of certain key personnel of the Ares Credit Group. The departure of any of these individuals, or of a significant number of the investment professionals or partners of Ares, could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations. In addition, we cannot assure you that Ares Capital Management will remain our investment adviser or that we will continue to have access to Ares' investment professionals or its information and deal flow. Further, there can be no assurance that Ares Capital will replicate its own or Ares' historical success, and we caution you that our investment returns could be substantially lower than the returns achieved by other Ares-managed funds.

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

Our ability to achieve our investment objective depends on our ability to acquire suitable investments and monitor and administer those investments, which depends, in turn, on our investment adviser's ability to identify, invest in and monitor companies that meet our investment criteria.

Accomplishing this result on a cost-effective basis is largely a function of the structuring of our investment process and the ability of our investment adviser to provide competent, attentive and efficient services to us. Our executive officers and the members of our investment adviser's investment committee have substantial responsibilities in connection with their roles at Ares and with the other Ares funds, as well as responsibilities under the investment advisory and management agreement. They may also be called upon to provide significant managerial assistance to certain of our portfolio companies. These demands on their time, which will increase as the number of investments grow, may distract them or slow the rate of investment. In order to grow, Ares will need to hire, train, supervise, manage and retain new employees. However, we cannot assure you that Ares will be able to do so effectively. Any failure to manage our future growth effectively could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

In addition, as we grow, we may open up new offices in new geographic regions that may increase our direct operating expenses without corresponding revenue growth.

Table of Contents

We may be unable to realize the benefits anticipated by the American Capital Acquisition, including estimated cost savings and synergies, or it may take longer than anticipated to achieve such benefits.

On January 3, 2017, we completed the American Capital Acquisition. The realization of certain benefits anticipated as a result of the American Capital Acquisition will depend in part on the integration of American Capital's investment portfolio with our investment portfolio and the integration of American Capital's business with our business. There can be no assurance that American Capital's investment portfolio or business can be operated profitably or integrated successfully into our business in a timely fashion or at all. The dedication of management resources to such integration may detract attention from our day-to-day business and there can be no assurance that there will not be substantial costs associated with the transition process or that there will not be other material adverse effects as a result of these integration efforts. Such effects, including but not limited to, incurring unexpected costs or delays in connection with such integration and failure of American Capital's investment portfolio to perform as expected, could have a material adverse effect on our financial results.

We also expect to achieve certain cost savings and synergies from the American Capital Acquisition when the two companies have fully integrated their portfolios. It is possible that our estimates of the potential cost savings and synergies could turn out to be incorrect. If the estimates turn out to be incorrect or we are not able to successfully combine the investment portfolios and businesses of the two companies, the anticipated cost savings and synergies may not be fully realized or realized at all or may take longer to realize than expected.

Our ability to grow depends on our ability to raise capital.

We will need to periodically access the capital markets to raise cash to fund new investments in excess of our repayments, and we may also need to access the capital markets to refinance existing debt obligations to the extent such maturing obligations are not repaid with availability under our revolving credit facilities or cash flows from operations. We have elected to be treated as a RIC and operate in a manner so as to qualify for the U.S. federal income tax treatment applicable to RICs. Among other things, in order to maintain our RIC status, we must distribute to our stockholders on a timely basis generally an amount equal to at least 90% of our investment company taxable income, and, as a result, such distributions will not be available to fund investment originations or repay maturing debt. We must continue to borrow from financial institutions and issue additional securities to fund our growth. Unfavorable economic or capital market conditions may increase our funding costs, limit our access to the capital markets or could result in a decision by lenders not to extend credit to us. An inability to successfully access the capital markets may limit our ability to refinance our existing debt obligations as they come due and/or to fully execute our business strategy and could limit our ability to grow or cause us to have to shrink the size of our business, which could decrease our earnings, if any.

In addition, with certain limited exceptions, we are only allowed to borrow amounts or issue debt securities or preferred stock, which we refer to collectively as "senior securities," such that our asset coverage, as calculated pursuant to the Investment Company Act, equals at least 200% immediately after such borrowing, which, in certain circumstances, may restrict our ability to borrow or issue debt securities or preferred stock. The amount of leverage that we employ will depend on our investment adviser's and our board of directors' assessments of market and other factors at the time of any proposed borrowing or issuance of senior securities. We cannot assure you that we will be able to maintain our current Facilities (as defined below), obtain other lines of credit or issue senior securities at all or on terms acceptable to us.

Table of Contents

Regulations governing our operation as a BDC affect our ability to, and the way in which we, raise additional capital.

We may issue senior securities or borrow money from banks or other financial institutions, up to the maximum amount permitted by the Investment Company Act. Under the provisions of the Investment Company Act, we are permitted, as a BDC, to incur indebtedness or issue senior securities only in amounts such that our asset coverage, as calculated pursuant to the Investment Company Act, equals at least 200% after each such incurrence or issuance. If the value of our assets declines, we may be unable to satisfy this test, which may prohibit us from paying dividends and could prevent us from maintaining our status as a RIC or may prohibit us from repurchasing shares of our common stock. In addition, our inability to satisfy this test could cause an event of default under our existing indebtedness. If we cannot satisfy this test, we may be required to sell a portion of our investments at a time when such sales may be disadvantageous and, depending on the nature of our leverage, repay a portion of our indebtedness. Accordingly, any failure to satisfy this test could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations. As of March 31, 2017, our asset coverage calculated in accordance with the Investment Company Act was 249%. Also, to generate cash for funding new investments, we may in the future seek to issue additional debt or to securitize certain of our loans. The Investment Company Act may impose restrictions on the structure of any such securitization.

We are not generally able to issue and sell our common stock at a price below net asset value per share. We may, however, sell our common stock, or warrants, options or rights to acquire our common stock, at a price below the current net asset value per share of our common stock if our board of directors determines that such sale is in our best interests and the best interests of our stockholders, and our stockholders approve such sale. Any such sale would be dilutive to the net asset value per share of our common stock. In any such case, the price at which our securities are to be issued and sold may not be less than a price that, in the determination of our board of directors, closely approximates the market value of such securities (less any commission or discount). If our common stock trades at a discount to net asset value, this restriction could adversely affect our ability to raise capital.

Pursuant to approval granted at a special meeting of stockholders held on May 22, 2017, we currently are permitted to sell or otherwise issue shares of our common stock at a price below net asset value, subject to certain limitations and determinations that must be made by our board of directors. Such stockholder approval expires on May 22, 2018.

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

Borrowings, also known as leverage, magnify the potential for gain or loss on amounts invested and, therefore, increase the risks associated with investing in our securities. We currently borrow under the Facilities and have issued or assumed other senior securities, and in the future may borrow from, or issue additional senior securities to, banks, insurance companies, funds, institutional investors and other lenders and investors. Lenders and holders of such senior securities have fixed dollar claims on our consolidated assets that are superior to the claims of our common stockholders or any preferred stockholders. If the value of our consolidated assets increases, then leveraging would cause the net asset value per share of our common stock to increase more sharply than it would have had we not incurred leverage.

Conversely, if the value of our consolidated assets decreases, leveraging would cause net asset value to decline more sharply than it otherwise would have had we not incurred leverage. Similarly, any increase in our consolidated income in excess of consolidated interest payable on the borrowed funds would cause our net income to increase more than it would had we not incurred leverage, while any

Table of Contents

decrease in our consolidated income would cause net income to decline more sharply than it would have had we not incurred leverage. Such a decline could negatively affect our ability to make common stock dividend payments. There can be no assurance that a leveraging strategy will be successful.

As of March 31, 2017, we had approximately \$1.3 billion of outstanding borrowings under the Facilities, approximately \$25 million in aggregate principal amount outstanding of the SBA Debentures, approximately \$958 million in aggregate principal amount outstanding of the Convertible Unsecured Notes (as defined below) and approximately \$2.4 billion in aggregate principal amount outstanding of the Unsecured Notes. In order for us to cover our annual interest payments on our outstanding indebtedness at March 31, 2017, we must achieve annual returns on our March 31, 2017 total assets of at least 1.6%. The weighted average stated interest rate charged on our principal amount of outstanding indebtedness as of March 31, 2017 was 4.0%. We intend to continue borrowing under the Facilities in the future and we may increase the size of the Facilities or issue additional debt securities or other evidences of indebtedness (although there can be no assurance that we will be successful in doing so). For more information on our indebtedness, see "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Financial Condition, Liquidity and Capital Resources" and "Recent Developments." Our ability to service our debt depends largely on our financial performance and is subject to prevailing economic conditions and competitive pressures. The amount of leverage that we employ at any particular time will depend on our investment adviser's and our board of directors' assessments of market and other factors at the time of any proposed borrowing.

The Facilities, the SBA Debentures, the Convertible Unsecured Notes and the Unsecured Notes impose financial and operating covenants that restrict our business activities, including limitations that could hinder our ability to finance additional loans and investments or to make the distributions required to maintain our status as a RIC. A failure to renew the Facilities or to add new or replacement debt facilities or to issue additional debt securities or other evidences of indebtedness could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

The following table illustrates the effect on return to a holder of our common stock of the leverage created by our use of borrowing at the weighted average stated interest rate of 4.0% as of March 31, 2017, together with (a) our total value of net assets as of March 31, 2017; (b) approximately \$4.7 billion in aggregate principal amount of indebtedness outstanding as of March 31, 2017 and (c) hypothetical annual returns on our portfolio of minus 15% to plus 15%.

Assumed Return on Portfolio (Net of Expenses)(1)	15%	10%	5%	%	5%	10%	15%
Corresponding Return to Common Stockholders(2)	28.19%	19.69%	11.19%	2.68%	5.82%	14.33%	22.83%

(1) The assumed portfolio return is required by SEC regulations and is not a prediction of, and does not represent, our projected or actual performance. Actual returns may be greater or less than those appearing in the table. Pursuant to SEC regulations, this table is calculated as of March 31, 2017. As a result, it has not been updated to take into account any changes in assets or leverage since March 31, 2017.

(2) In order to compute the "Corresponding Return to Common Stockholders," the "Assumed Return on Portfolio" is multiplied by the total value of our assets at March 31, 2017 to obtain an assumed return to us. From this amount, the interest expense (calculated by multiplying the weighted average stated interest rate of 4.0% by the approximately \$4.7 billion of principal debt outstanding) is subtracted to determine the return available to stockholders. The return available to stockholders is then divided by the total value of our net assets as of March 31, 2017 to determine the "Corresponding Return to Common Stockholders."

Table of Contents

In addition to regulatory requirements that restrict our ability to raise capital, the Facilities, the Convertible Unsecured Notes, the Unsecured Notes and the SBA Debentures contain various covenants that, if not complied with, could accelerate repayment under the Facilities, the Convertible Unsecured Notes, the Unsecured Notes and SBA Debentures, thereby materially and adversely affecting our liquidity, financial condition and results of operations.

The agreements governing the Facilities, the Convertible Unsecured Notes, the Unsecured Notes and the SBA Debentures require us to comply with certain financial and operational covenants. These covenants may include, among other things:

restrictions on the level of indebtedness that we are permitted to incur in relation to the value of our assets;

restrictions on our ability to incur liens; and

maintenance of a minimum level of stockholders' equity.

As of the date of this prospectus, we are in compliance in all material respects with the covenants of the Facilities, the Convertible Unsecured Notes, the Unsecured Notes and the SBA Debentures. However, our continued compliance with these covenants depends on many factors, some of which are beyond our control. For example, depending on the condition of the public debt and equity markets and pricing levels, unrealized depreciation in our portfolio may increase in the future. Any such increase could result in our inability to comply with our obligation to restrict the level of indebtedness that we are able to incur in relation to the value of our assets or to maintain a minimum level of stockholders' equity.

Accordingly, although we believe we will continue to be in compliance, there are no assurances that we will continue to comply with the covenants in the Facilities, the Convertible Unsecured Notes, the Unsecured Notes and the SBA Debentures. Failure to comply with these covenants could result in a default under the Facilities, the Convertible Unsecured Notes, the Unsecured Notes or the SBA Debentures that, if we were unable to obtain a waiver from the lenders or holders of such indebtedness, as applicable, such lenders or holders could accelerate repayment under such indebtedness and thereby have a material adverse impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

We operate in a highly competitive market for investment opportunities.

A number of entities compete with us to make the types of investments that we make in middle-market companies. We compete with other BDCs, public and private funds, commercial and investment banks, commercial financing companies, insurance companies, hedge funds, and, to the extent they provide an alternative form of financing, private equity funds. Many of our competitors are substantially larger and have considerably greater financial, technical and marketing resources than we do. Some competitors may have a lower cost of funds and access to funding sources that are not available to us. In addition, some of our competitors may have higher risk tolerances or different risk assessments, which could allow them to consider a wider variety of investments and establish more relationships than us. Furthermore, many of our competitors are not subject to the regulatory restrictions that the Investment Company Act imposes on us as a BDC and that the Code imposes on us as a RIC. We cannot assure you that the competitive pressures we face will not have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. Also, as a result of this competition, we may not be able to pursue attractive investment opportunities from time to time.

Table of Contents

We do not seek to compete primarily based on the interest rates we offer and we believe that some of our competitors may make loans with interest rates that are comparable to or lower than the rates we offer. Rather, we compete with our competitors based on our existing investment platform, seasoned investment professionals, experience and focus on middle-market companies, disciplined investment philosophy, extensive industry focus and flexible transaction structuring. For a more detailed discussion of these competitive advantages, see "Business Competitive Advantages."

We may lose investment opportunities if we do not match our competitors' pricing, terms and structure. If we match our competitors' pricing, terms and structure, we may experience decreased net interest income and increased risk of credit loss. As a result of operating in such a competitive environment, we may make investments that are on less favorable terms than what we may have originally anticipated, which may impact our return on these investments.

We may be subject to additional corporate-level income taxes if we fail to maintain our status as a RIC.

We have elected to be treated as a RIC under the Code and operate in a manner so as to qualify for the U.S. federal income tax treatment applicable to RICs. As a RIC, we generally will not pay U.S. federal corporate-level income taxes on our income and net capital gains that we distribute to our stockholders as dividends on a timely basis. We will be subject to U.S. federal corporate-level income tax on any undistributed income and/or gains. To maintain our status as a RIC, we must meet certain source of income, asset diversification and annual distribution requirements. We may also be subject to certain U.S. federal excise taxes, as well as state, local and foreign taxes.

To maintain our RIC status, we must timely distribute an amount equal to at least 90% of our investment company taxable income (as defined by the Code, which generally includes net ordinary income and net short term capital gains) to our stockholders (the "Annual Distribution Requirement"). We have the ability to pay a large portion of our dividends in shares of our stock, and as long as a portion of such dividend is paid in cash and other requirements are met, such stock dividends will be taxable as a dividend for U.S. federal income tax purposes. This may result in our U.S. stockholders having to pay tax on such dividends, even if no cash is received, and may result in our non-U.S. stockholders being subject to withholding tax in respect of amounts distributed in our stock. Because we use debt financing, we are subject to certain asset coverage ratio requirements under the Investment Company Act and financial covenants under our indebtedness that could, under certain circumstances, restrict us from making distributions necessary to qualify as a RIC. If we are unable to obtain cash from other sources, we may fail to maintain our status as a RIC and, thus, may be subject to corporate-level income tax on all of our income and/or gains.

To maintain our status as a RIC, in addition to the Annual Distribution Requirement, we must also meet certain annual source of income requirements at the end of each taxable year and asset diversification requirements at the end of each calendar quarter. Failure to meet these requirements may result in our having to (a) dispose of certain investments quickly or (b) raise additional capital to prevent the loss of RIC status. Because most of our investments are in private companies and are generally illiquid, any such dispositions may be at disadvantageous prices and may result in losses. Also, the rules applicable to our qualification as a RIC are complex with many areas of uncertainty. Accordingly, no assurance can be given that we have qualified or will continue to qualify as a RIC. If we fail to maintain our status as a RIC for any reason and become subject to regular "C" corporation income tax, the resulting corporate-level income taxes could substantially reduce our net assets, the amount of income available for distribution and the amount of our distributions. Such a failure would have a material adverse effect on us and on any investment in us. Certain provisions of the Code provide some relief from RIC disqualification due to failures of the source of income and asset diversification requirements, although there may be additional taxes due in such cases. We cannot

Table of Contents

assure you that we would qualify for any such relief should we fail the source of income or asset diversification requirements.

We may have difficulty paying our required distributions under applicable tax rules if we recognize income before or without receiving cash representing such income.

For U.S. federal income tax purposes, we generally are required to include in income certain amounts that we have not yet received in cash, such as original issue discount, which may arise, for example, if we receive warrants in connection with the making of a loan or payment in kind ("PIK") interest representing contractual interest added to the loan principal balance and due at the end of the loan term. Such original issue discount or PIK interest is included in income before we receive any corresponding cash payments. We also may be required to include in income certain other amounts that we will not receive in cash, including, for example, amounts attributable to hedging and foreign currency transactions.

Since, in certain cases, we may recognize income before or without receiving cash in respect of such income, we may have difficulty meeting the U.S. federal income tax requirement to distribute generally an amount equal to at least 90% of our investment company taxable income to maintain our status as a RIC. Accordingly, we may have to sell some of our investments at times we would not consider advantageous, raise additional debt or equity capital or reduce new investment originations to meet these distribution requirements. If we are not able to obtain cash from other sources, we may fail to qualify as a RIC and thus be subject to additional corporate-level income taxes. Such a failure would have a material adverse effect on us and on any investment in us. See "Certain Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations Taxation as a RIC."

We are exposed to risks associated with changes in interest rates.

General interest rate fluctuations may have a substantial negative impact on our investments and investment opportunities and, accordingly, may have a material adverse effect on our investment objective and rate of return on invested capital. Because we borrow money and may issue debt securities or preferred stock to make investments, our net investment income is dependent upon the difference between the rate at which we borrow funds or pay interest or dividends on such debt securities or preferred stock and the rate at which we invest these funds. As a result, there can be no assurance that a significant change in market interest rates will not have a material adverse effect on our net investment income.

Trading prices for debt that pays a fixed rate of return tend to fall as interest rates rise. Trading prices tend to fluctuate more for fixed-rate securities that have longer maturities. In the past, we have entered into certain hedging transactions, such as interest rate swap agreements, to mitigate our exposure to adverse fluctuations in interest rates, and we may do so again in the future. In addition, we may increase our floating rate investments to position the portfolio for rate increases. However, we cannot assure you that such transactions will be successful in mitigating our exposure to interest rate risk. Hedging transactions may also limit our ability to participate in the benefits of lower interest rates with respect to our portfolio investments.

Although we have no policy governing the maturities of our investments, under current market conditions we expect that we will invest in a portfolio of debt generally having maturities of up to 10 years. This means that we are subject to greater risk (other things being equal) than a fund invested solely in shorter-term securities. A decline in the prices of the debt we own could adversely affect the trading price of our common stock. Also, an increase in interest rates available to investors could make an investment in our common stock less attractive if we are not able to increase our dividend rate, which could reduce the value of our common stock.

Table of Contents

Most of our portfolio investments are not publicly traded and, as a result, the fair value of these investments may not be readily determinable.

A large percentage of our portfolio investments are not publicly traded. The fair value of investments that are not publicly traded may not be readily determinable. We value these investments quarterly at fair value as determined in good faith by our board of directors based on, among other things, the input of our management and audit committee and independent valuation firms that have been engaged at the direction of our board of directors to assist in the valuation of each portfolio investment without a readily available market quotation at least once during a trailing 12-month period (with certain de minimis exceptions). The valuation process is conducted at the end of each fiscal quarter, with a portion (based on value) of our valuations of portfolio companies without readily available market quotations subject to review by an independent valuation firm each quarter. However, we may use these independent valuation firms to review the value of our investments more frequently, including in connection with the occurrence of significant events or changes in value affecting a particular investment. In addition, our independent registered public accounting firm obtains an understanding of, and performs select procedures relating to, our investment valuation process within the context of performing the integrated audit.

The types of factors that may be considered in valuing our investments include the enterprise value of the portfolio company (the entire value of the portfolio company to a market participant, including the sum of the values of debt and equity securities used to capitalize the enterprise at a point in time), the nature and realizable value of any collateral, the portfolio company's ability to make payments and its earnings and discounted cash flows, the markets in which the portfolio company does business, a comparison of the portfolio company's securities to similar publicly traded securities, changes in the interest rate environment and the credit markets generally that may affect the price at which similar investments would trade in their principal markets and other relevant factors. When an external event such as a purchase transaction, public offering or subsequent equity sale occurs, we consider the pricing indicated by the external event to corroborate our valuation. Because such valuations, and particularly valuations of private investments and private companies, are inherently uncertain, may fluctuate over short periods of time and may be based on estimates, our determinations of fair value may differ materially from the values that would have been used if a ready market for these investments existed and may differ materially from the values that we may ultimately realize. Our net asset value per share could be adversely affected if our determinations regarding the fair value of these investments are higher than the values that we realize upon disposition of such investments.

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

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

We may experience fluctuations in our quarterly results.

We could experience fluctuations in our quarterly operating results due to a number of factors, including the interest rates payable on the debt investments we make, the default rates on such investments, the level of our expenses, variations in and the timing of the recognition of realized and unrealized gains or losses, the degree to which we encounter competition in our markets and general

Table of Contents

economic conditions. As a result of these factors, results for any period should not be relied upon as being indicative of performance in future periods.

Our financial condition and results of operations could be negatively affected if a significant investment fails to perform as expected.

Our investment portfolio includes investments that may be significant individually or in the aggregate. If a significant investment in one or more companies fails to perform as expected, such a failure could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations, and the magnitude of such effect could be more significant than if we had further diversified our portfolio.

Our investment portfolio includes our investment in the SSLP, which as of March 31, 2017, represented approximately 16.8% of our total portfolio at fair value. In addition, for the three months ended March 31, 2017, approximately 13.1% of our total investment income was earned from our investment in the SSLP. The income earned from the SSLP is derived from the interest and fee income earned by the SSLP from its investments in first lien senior secured loans of middle market companies. We provide capital to the SSLP in the form of SSLP Certificates, which had a 6.6% yield at fair value as of March 31, 2017 and are junior in right of payment to the senior notes held by GE in the SSLP. For more information on the SSLP, see "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Portfolio and Investment Activity Senior Secured Loan Program." Our return on and repayment of our investment in the SSLP Certificates depends on the performance of the loans in the SSLP's portfolio in the aggregate. Accordingly, any material degradation in the performance of the loans in the SSLP's portfolio in the aggregate would have a negative effect on the yield on our SSLP Certificates and could ultimately result in the loss of some or all of our investment in the SSLP Certificates.

As discussed in this prospectus, GE sold its U.S. Sponsor Finance business, through which GE had participated with us in the SSLP, to CPPIB. Prior to closing the sale to CPPIB, GE had announced its intention to provide us and CPPIB the opportunity to work together on the SSLP on a go-forward basis. GECC has also stated that if a mutual agreement between us and CPPIB to partner on the SSLP is not reached, it intends to retain its interest in the SSLP and the SSLP would be wound down in an orderly manner. We notified the SSLP on June 9, 2015 of our election to terminate, effective 90 days thereafter, our obligation to present senior secured lending investment opportunities to the SSLP prior to pursuing such opportunities for ourselves. We do not anticipate that we will make any investments in the SSLP related to new portfolio companies. On August 24, 2015, we were advised that GECC, as the holder of the Senior Notes, directed State Street Bank and Trust Company, as trustee of the Senior Notes and the SSLP Certificates, pursuant to the terms of the indenture governing the Senior Notes and the SSLP Certificates, to apply all principal proceeds received by the SSLP from its investments to the repayment of the outstanding principal amount of the Senior Notes until paid in full (prior to the distribution of any such principal proceeds to the holders of the SSLP Certificates, which includes us). GECC had previously elected to waive its right to receive priority repayments on the Senior Notes from principal proceeds in most circumstances. As a result of these events, we expect that the aggregate SSLP portfolio will continue to decline over time as loans in the program are repaid or exited, and as a result the yield on our investment in the SSLP will decline over time and the portion of our earnings attributable to our investment in the SSLP will decline over time as well.

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

Certain of our executive officers and directors, and members of the investment committee of our investment adviser, serve or may serve as officers, directors or principals of other entities and affiliates of our investment adviser and investment funds managed by our affiliates. Accordingly, they may have obligations to investors in those entities, the fulfillment of which might not be in our or our stockholders' best interests or may require them to devote time to services for other entities, which

Table of Contents

could interfere with the time available to provide services to us. Certain members of our investment adviser's investment committee may have significant responsibilities for other Ares funds. Similarly, although the professional staff of our investment adviser will devote as much time to the management of us as appropriate to enable our investment adviser to perform its duties in accordance with the investment advisory and management agreement, the investment professionals of our investment adviser may have conflicts in allocating their time and services among us, on the one hand, and investment vehicles managed by Ares or one or more of its affiliates, on the other hand. These activities could be viewed as creating a conflict of interest insofar as the time and effort of the professional staff of our investment adviser and its officers and employees will not be devoted exclusively to our business but will instead be allocated between our business and the management of these other investment vehicles. However, Ares believes that the efforts of such individuals are synergistic with and beneficial to the affairs of Ares Capital and these other investment vehicles managed by Ares or its affiliates.

In addition, certain Ares funds may have investment objectives that compete or overlap with, and may from time to time invest in asset classes similar to those targeted by, Ares Capital. Consequently, we, on the one hand, and these other entities, on the other hand, may from time to time pursue the same or similar capital and investment opportunities. Ares and our investment adviser endeavor to allocate investment opportunities in a fair and equitable manner, and in any event consistent with any fiduciary duties owed to Ares Capital. Nevertheless, it is possible that we may not be given the opportunity to participate in certain investments made by investment funds managed by investment managers affiliated with Ares. In addition, there may be conflicts in the allocation of investments among us and the funds managed by investment managers affiliated with Ares or one or more of our controlled affiliates or among the funds they manage, including investments made pursuant to the Order. Further, such other Ares-managed funds may hold positions in portfolio companies in which Ares Capital has also invested. Such investments may raise potential conflicts of interest between Ares Capital and such other Ares-managed funds, particularly if Ares Capital and such other Ares-managed funds invest in different classes or types of securities or investments of the same underlying portfolio company. In that regard, actions may be taken by such other Ares-managed funds that are adverse to Ares Capital's interests, including, but not limited to, during a restructuring, bankruptcy or other insolvency proceeding or similar matter occurring at the underlying portfolio company.

We have from time to time sold assets to IHAM and certain of the vehicles managed by IHAM and, as part of our investment strategy, we may offer to sell additional assets to vehicles managed by one or more of our controlled affiliates (including IHAM) or we may purchase assets from vehicles managed by one or more of our controlled affiliates (including IHAM). In addition, vehicles managed by one or more of our controlled affiliates (including IHAM) may offer assets to or may purchase assets from one another. While assets may be sold or purchased at prices that are consistent with those that could be obtained from third parties in the marketplace, and although these types of transactions generally require approval of one or more independent parties, there may be an inherent conflict of interest in such transactions between us and funds managed by one of our controlled affiliates.

We pay a base management fee, an income based fee and a capital gains incentive fee to our investment adviser, and reimburse our investment adviser for certain expenses it incurs. In addition, investors in our common stock will invest on a gross basis and receive distributions on a net basis after expenses, resulting in, among other things, a lower rate of return than one might achieve if distributions were made on a gross basis.

Our investment adviser's base management fee is based on a percentage of our total assets (other than cash or cash equivalents but including assets purchased with borrowed funds) and, consequently, our investment adviser may have conflicts of interest in connection with decisions that

Table of Contents

could affect our total assets, such as decisions as to whether to incur indebtedness or to make future investments.

The income based fees payable by us to our investment adviser that relate to our pre-incentive fee net investment income is computed and paid on income that may include interest that is accrued but not yet received in cash. If a portfolio company defaults on a loan that is structured to provide accrued interest, it is possible that accrued interest previously used in the calculation of such fee will become uncollectible. Our investment adviser is not under any obligation to reimburse us for any part of the income based fees it received that were based on accrued interest that we never actually receive.

Our investment advisory and management agreement renews for successive annual periods if approved by our board of directors or by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of our outstanding voting securities, including, in either case, approval by a majority of our directors who are not "interested persons" of us as defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the Investment Company Act. However, both we and our investment adviser have the right to terminate the agreement without penalty upon 60 days' written notice to the other party. Moreover, conflicts of interest may arise if our investment adviser seeks to change the terms of our investment advisory and management agreement, including, for example, the terms for compensation. While any material change to the investment advisory and management agreement must be submitted to stockholders for approval under the Investment Company Act, we may from time to time decide it is appropriate to seek stockholder approval to change the terms of the agreement.

We are party to an administration agreement with our administrator, Ares Operations, a subsidiary of Ares Management, pursuant to which our administrator furnishes us with administrative services and we pay our administrator at cost our allocable portion of overhead and other expenses (including travel expenses) incurred by our administrator in performing its obligations under our administration agreement, including our allocable portion of the cost of certain of our officers (including our chief compliance officer, chief financial officer, chief accounting officer, general counsel, treasurer and assistant treasurer) and their respective staffs, but not investment professionals.

Our portfolio company, IHAM, is party to an administration agreement, referred to herein as the "IHAM administration agreement," with Ares Operations. Pursuant to the IHAM administration agreement, our administrator provides IHAM with administrative services and IHAM reimburses our administrator for all of the actual costs associated with such services, including its allocable portion of our administrator's overhead and the cost of our administrator's officers and respective staff in performing its obligations under the IHAM administration agreement. Prior to entering into the IHAM administration agreement, IHAM was party to a services agreement with our investment adviser, pursuant to which our investment adviser provided similar services.

As a result of the arrangements described above, there may be times when the management team of Ares (including those members of management focused primarily on managing Ares Capital) has interests that differ from those of yours, giving rise to a conflict.

Our stockholders may have conflicting investment, tax and other objectives with respect to their investments in us. The conflicting interests of individual stockholders may relate to or arise from, among other things, the nature of our investments, the structure or the acquisition of our investments, and the timing of dispositions of our investments. As a consequence, conflicts of interest may arise in connection with decisions made by our investment adviser, including with respect to the nature or structuring of our investments, that may be more beneficial for one stockholder than for another stockholder, especially with respect to stockholders' individual tax situations. In selecting and structuring investments appropriate for us, our investment adviser will consider our investment and tax objectives and the investment and tax objectives of our stockholders, as a whole, not the investment, tax or other objectives of any stockholder individually.

Table of Contents

We are dependent on information systems and systems failures could significantly disrupt our business, which may, in turn, negatively affect our liquidity, financial condition or results of operations.

Our business is dependent on our and third parties' communications and information systems. Any failure or interruption of those systems, including as a result of the termination of an agreement with any third-party service providers, could cause delays or other problems in our activities. Our financial, accounting, data processing, backup or other operating systems and facilities may fail to operate properly or become disabled or damaged as a result of a number of factors including events that are wholly or partially beyond our control and adversely affect our business. There could be:

sudden electrical or telecommunications outages;

natural disasters such as earthquakes, tornadoes and hurricanes;

disease pandemics;

events arising from local or larger scale political or social matters, including terrorist acts; and

cyber-attacks.

These events, in turn, could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and operating results and negatively affect the market price of our common stock and our ability to pay dividends to our stockholders.

Cybersecurity risks and cyber incidents may adversely affect our business by causing a disruption to our operations, a compromise or corruption of our confidential information and/or damage to our business relationships, all of which could negatively impact our business, financial condition and operating results.

A cyber incident is considered to be any adverse event that threatens the confidentiality, integrity or availability of our information resources. These incidents may be an intentional attack or an unintentional event and could involve gaining unauthorized access to our information systems for purposes of misappropriating assets, stealing confidential information, corrupting data or causing operational disruption. The result of these incidents may include disrupted operations, misstated or unreliable financial data, liability for stolen assets or information, increased cybersecurity protection and insurance costs, litigation and damage to our business relationships. As our reliance on technology has increased, so have the risks posed to our information systems, both internal and those provided by Ares Management and third-party service providers. Ares Management has implemented processes, procedures and internal controls to help mitigate cybersecurity risks and cyber intrusions, but these measures, as well as our increased awareness of the nature and extent of a risk of a cyber-incident, do not guarantee that a cyber-incident will not occur and/or that our financial results, operations or confidential information will not be negatively impacted by such an incident.

Ineffective internal controls could impact our business and operating results.

Our internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements because of its inherent limitations, including the possibility of human error, the circumvention or overriding of controls, or fraud. Even effective internal controls can provide only reasonable assurance with respect to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements. If we fail to maintain the adequacy of our internal controls, including any failure to implement required new or improved controls, or if we experience difficulties in their implementation, our business and operating results could be harmed and we could fail to meet our financial reporting obligations.

Table of Contents

Changes in laws or regulations governing our operations or the operations of our portfolio companies or our SBIC subsidiary, changes in the interpretation thereof or newly enacted laws or regulations, such as the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "Dodd-Frank Act"), and any failure by us or our portfolio companies to comply with these laws or regulations, could require changes to certain business practices of us or our portfolio companies, negatively impact the operations, cash flows or financial condition of us or our portfolio companies, impose additional costs on us or our portfolio companies or otherwise adversely affect our business or the business of our portfolio companies.

We and our portfolio companies are subject to regulation by laws and regulations at the local, state, federal and, in some cases, foreign levels. These laws and regulations, as well as their interpretation, may be changed from time to time, and new laws and regulations may be enacted. Accordingly, any change in these laws or regulations, changes in their interpretation, or newly enacted laws or regulations and any failure by us or our portfolio companies to comply with these laws or regulations, could require changes to certain business practices of us or our portfolio companies, negatively impact the operations, cash flows or financial condition of us or our portfolio companies, impose additional costs on us or our portfolio companies or otherwise adversely affect our business or the business of our portfolio companies.

On July 21, 2010, President Obama signed into law the Dodd-Frank Act. Many of the provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act have had extended implementation periods and delayed effective dates and have required extensive rulemaking by regulatory authorities. While many of the rules required to be written have been promulgated, some have not yet been implemented. Although the full impact of the Dodd-Frank Act on us and our portfolio companies may not be known for an extended period of time, the Dodd-Frank Act, including the rules implementing its provisions and the interpretation of those rules, along with other legislative and regulatory proposals directed at the financial services industry or affecting taxation that are proposed or pending in the U.S. Congress, may negatively impact the operations, cash flows or financial condition of us or our portfolio companies, impose additional costs on us or our portfolio companies, intensify the regulatory supervision of us or our portfolio companies or otherwise adversely affect our business or the business of our portfolio companies.

Over the last several years, there also has been an increase in regulatory attention to the extension of credit outside of the traditional banking sector, raising the possibility that some portion of the non-bank financial sector will be subject to new regulation. While it cannot be known at this time whether any regulation will be implemented or what form it will take, increased regulation of non-bank credit extension could negatively impact our operating results or financial condition, impose additional costs on us, intensify the regulatory supervision of us or otherwise adversely affect our business.

Reform proposals have been recently put forth by members of Congress and President Trump which, if ultimately proposed as legislation and enacted as law, would substantially change the U.S. federal taxation of (among other things) individuals and businesses. In 2016, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee published "A Better Way." Separately, on April 26, 2017, the President released a one-page document on tax reform. Each of these proposals set forth a variety of principles to guide potential tax reform legislation. As of the date of this prospectus, no legislation in respect of either of these proposals has been introduced in the Congress. However, the principles set forth in both "A Better Way" and the President's one-page proposal, if ultimately reduced to legislation enacted by the Congress and signed into law by the President in a form that is consistent with those principles, could dramatically change the U.S. federal taxation of us, our portfolio companies, and a holder of our securities. Under both "A Better Way" and President Trump's proposal, individual and corporate tax rates may be meaningfully reduced. Under "A Better Way," the U.S. federal tax system would be converted into a "destination-based cash-flow" tax system under which net interest expense would not be deductible, investment in tangible property

Table of Contents

(other than land) and intangible assets would be immediately deductible, export revenue would not be taxable, and the cost of imports would not be deductible. While it is impossible to predict whether and to what extent any tax reform legislation (or other legislative, regulatory or administrative change to the U.S. federal tax laws) will be proposed or enacted, any such change in the U.S. federal tax laws could materially impact us, our portfolio companies and the value of any investment in our securities. Prospective investors should consult their tax advisors regarding possible legislative and regulatory changes and the potential effect of such changes on an investment in us or our securities.

On February 3, 2017, President Trump signed Executive Order 13772 announcing the new Administration's policy to regulate the U.S. financial system in a manner consistent with certain "Core Principles," including regulation that is efficient, effective and appropriately tailored. The Executive Order directed the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the heads of the member agencies of the Financial Stability Oversight Council, to report to the President on the extent to which existing laws, regulations and other government policies promote the Core Principles and to identify government policies that inhibit financial regulation consistent with them. On June 12, 2017, the U.S. Department of the Treasury published the first of four reports in response to the Executive Order on the depository system covering banks and other savings institutions. Subsequent reports are expected to address: capital markets; the asset management and insurance industries, and retail and institutional investment products and vehicles; and non-bank financial institutions, financial technology, and financial innovation. The report included recommendations to reduce fragmentation, overlap, and duplication in the U.S. regulatory structure; to decrease the burden of statutory stress testing and ease liquidity and leverage standards for domestic banks; to restructure the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau; to reduce compliance burdens under the Volcker Rule; to reconsider the implications of implementing the revised standards for credit risk under Basel III; and to require uniform, consistent and rigorous methods to analyze costs and benefits, increase transparency and make available for public comment cost-benefit analyses for all "economically significant" proposed regulations.

On June 8, 2017, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Financial Choice Act, which includes legislation intended to repeal or replace substantial portions of the Dodd-Frank Act. Among other things, the proposed law would repeal the Volcker Rule limiting certain proprietary investment and trading activities by banks, eliminate the authority of regulators to designate asset managers and other large non-bank institutions as "systemically important financial institutions," and repeal the Department of Labor (DOL) "fiduciary rule" governing standards for dealing with retirement plans until the SEC issues standards for similar dealings by broker-dealers and limiting the substance of any subsequent DOL rule to the SEC standards. The bill must be approved by the Senate, where we believe it is unlikely to pass in its current form. At this time it is unclear what impact the Administration's policies in response to the Executive Order, the Financial Choice Act or other pending legislation and developments will have on regulations that affect our and our competitors' and our portfolio companies' businesses.

Our investment adviser's liability is limited under the investment advisory and management agreement, and we are required to indemnify our investment adviser against certain liabilities, which may lead our investment adviser to act in a riskier manner on our behalf than it would when acting for its own account.

Our investment adviser has not assumed any responsibility to us other than to render the services described in the investment advisory and management agreement, and it will not be responsible for any action of our board of directors in declining to follow our investment adviser's advice or recommendations. Pursuant to the investment advisory and management agreement, our investment adviser and its members and their respective officers, managers, partners, agents, employees, controlling persons and members and any other persons or entities affiliated with it will not be liable to us for their acts under the investment advisory and management agreement, absent willful misfeasance, bad

Table of Contents

faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard in the performance of their duties. We have agreed to indemnify, defend and protect our investment adviser and its members and their respective officers, managers, partners, agents, employees, controlling persons and members and any other persons or entities affiliated with it with respect to all damages, liabilities, costs and expenses arising out of or otherwise based upon the performance of any of our investment adviser's duties or obligations under the investment advisory and management agreement or otherwise as an investment adviser for us, and not arising out of willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard in the performance of their duties under the investment advisory and management agreement. These protections may lead our investment adviser to act in a riskier manner when acting on our behalf than it would when acting for its own account. See "Risk Factors Risks Relating to Our Investments Our investment adviser's fee structure may induce it to make certain investments on our behalf, including speculative investments."

We may be obligated to pay our investment adviser certain fees even if we incur a loss.

Our investment adviser is entitled to income based fees for each fiscal quarter in an amount equal to a percentage of the excess of our pre-incentive fee net investment income for that quarter (before deducting any income based fee and capital gains incentive fees and certain other items) above a threshold return for that quarter. Our pre-incentive fee net investment income for income based fee purposes excludes realized and unrealized capital losses or depreciation and income taxes related to realized gains that we may incur in the fiscal quarter, even if such capital losses or depreciation and income taxes related to realized gains result in a net loss on our statement of operations for that quarter. Thus, we may be required to pay our investment adviser income based fees for a fiscal quarter even if there is a decline in the value of our portfolio or the net asset value of our common stock or we incur a net loss for that quarter.

Under the investment advisory and management agreement, we will defer cash payment of any income based fee and the capital gains incentive fee otherwise earned by our investment adviser if, during the most recent four full calendar quarter periods ending on or prior to the date such payment is to be made, the sum of (a) our aggregate distributions to our stockholders and (b) our change in net assets (defined as total assets less indebtedness and before taking into account any income based fees or capital gains incentive fees accrued during the period) is less than 7.0% of our net assets (defined as total assets less indebtedness) at the beginning of such period. These calculations will be adjusted for any share issuances or repurchases. Any such deferred fees will be carried over for payment in subsequent calculation periods to the extent such payment can then be made under the investment advisory and management agreement.

If a portfolio company defaults on a loan that is structured to provide accrued interest, it is possible that accrued interest previously used in the calculation of income based fees will become uncollectible. Our investment adviser is not under any obligation to reimburse us for any part of income based fees it received that was based on accrued income that we never receive as a result of a default on the obligation that resulted in the accrual of such income.

Our SBIC subsidiary is subject to SBA regulations.

Our wholly owned subsidiary, Ares Venture Finance, L.P. ("AVF LP"), is a licensed Small Business Investment Company ("SBIC") and is regulated by the Small Business Administration ("SBA"). As of March 31, 2017, AVF LP held approximately \$57 million in assets and accounted for approximately 0.5% of our total assets. AVF LP obtains leverage by issuing the SBA Debentures. As of March 31, 2017, AVF LP had approximately \$25 million in aggregate principal amount of the SBA Debentures outstanding.

Table of Contents

If AVF LP fails to comply with applicable regulations, the SBA could, depending on the severity of the violation, limit or prohibit AVF LP's use of SBA Debentures, declare outstanding SBA Debentures immediately due and payable, and/or limit AVF LP from making new investments. In addition, the SBA could revoke or suspend AVF LP's license for willful or repeated violation of, or willful or repeated failure to observe, any provision of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as amended (the "Small Business Investment Act") or any rule or regulation promulgated thereunder. AVF LP's status as an SBIC does not automatically assure that it will receive SBA Debenture funding. Receipt of SBA leverage funding is dependent upon whether AVF LP is and continues to be in compliance with SBA regulations and policies and whether funding is available. The amount of SBA leverage funding available to SBICs is dependent upon annual Congressional authorizations and in the future may be subject to annual Congressional appropriations. There can be no assurance that there will be sufficient debenture funding available at the times desired by AVF LP. For more information on SBA Debentures or the SBA regulations to which AVF LP is subject, see "Regulation SBA Regulation."

We have elected to be treated as a RIC and operate in a manner so as to qualify for the U.S. federal income tax treatment applicable to RICs. Among other things, in order to maintain our RIC status, we must distribute to our stockholders on a timely basis generally an amount equal to at least 90% of our investment company taxable income, which includes taxable income from AVF LP. AVF LP may be limited by SBA regulations from making certain distributions to us that may be necessary to timely make distributions to stockholders and to maintain our status as a RIC. Compliance with the SBA regulations may cause us to fail to qualify as a RIC and consequently result in the imposition of additional corporate-level income taxes on us. Noncompliance with the SBA regulations may result in adverse consequences for AVF LP as described above.

RISKS RELATING TO OUR INVESTMENTS

Declines in market prices and liquidity in the corporate debt markets can result in significant net unrealized depreciation of our portfolio, which in turn would reduce our net asset value.

As a BDC, we are required to carry our investments at market value or, if no market value is ascertainable, at fair value as determined in good faith by or under the direction of our board of directors. We may take into account the following types of factors, if relevant, in determining the fair value of our investments: the enterprise value of a portfolio company (the entire value of the portfolio company to a market participant, including the sum of the values of debt and equity securities used to capitalize the enterprise at a point in time), the nature and realizable value of any collateral, the portfolio company's ability to make payments and its earnings and discounted cash flow, the markets in which the portfolio company does business, a comparison of the portfolio company's securities to similar publicly traded securities, changes in the interest rate environment and the credit markets generally that may affect the price at which similar investments would trade in their principal markets and other relevant factors. When an external event such as a purchase transaction, public offering or subsequent equity sale occurs, we use the pricing indicated by the external event to corroborate our valuation. While most of our investments are not publicly traded, applicable accounting standards require us to assume as part of our valuation process that our investments are sold in a principal market to market participants (even if we plan on holding an investment through its maturity). As a result, volatility in the capital markets can also adversely affect our investment valuations. Decreases in the market values or fair values of our investments are recorded as unrealized depreciation. The effect of all of these factors on our portfolio can reduce our net asset value (and, as a result our asset coverage calculation) by increasing net unrealized depreciation in our portfolio. Depending on market conditions, we could incur substantial realized losses and may suffer unrealized losses, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Table of Contents

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

Many of our portfolio companies may be susceptible to economic downturns or recessions and may be unable to repay our loans during these periods. Therefore, during these periods our non-performing assets may increase and the value of our portfolio may decrease if we are required to write down the values of our investments. Adverse economic conditions may also decrease the value of collateral securing some of our loans and the value of our equity investments. Economic slowdowns or recessions could lead to financial losses in our portfolio and a decrease in revenues, net income and assets. Unfavorable economic conditions also could increase our funding costs, limit our access to the capital markets or result in a decision by lenders not to extend credit to us. These events could prevent us from increasing investments and harm our operating results. We experienced to some extent such effects as a result of the economic downturn that occurred from 2008 through 2009 and may experience such effects again in any future downturn or recession.

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

Investments in privately held middle-market companies involve significant risks.

We primarily invest in privately held U.S. middle-market companies. Investments in privately held middle-market companies involve a number of significant risks, including the following:

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

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

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

there is generally little public information about these companies. These companies and their financial information are not subject to the Exchange Act (as defined below) and other regulations that govern public companies, and we may be unable to uncover all material information about these companies, which may prevent us from making a fully informed investment decision and cause us to lose money on our investments;

they generally have less predictable operating results and may require substantial additional capital to support their operations, finance expansion or maintain their competitive position;

our executive officers, directors and our investment adviser may, in the ordinary course of business, be named as defendants in litigation arising from our investments in our portfolio companies;

changes in laws and regulations, as well as their interpretations, may adversely affect their business, financial structure or prospects; and

Table of Contents

they may have difficulty accessing the capital markets to meet future capital needs.

Our debt investments may be risky and we could lose all or part of our investment.

The debt that we invest in is typically not initially rated by any rating agency, but we believe that if such investments were rated, they would be below investment grade (rated lower than "Baa3" by Moody's Investors Service, lower than "BBB " by Fitch Ratings or lower than "BBB " by Standard & Poor's Ratings Services), which under the guidelines established by these entities is an indication of having predominantly speculative characteristics with respect to the issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal. Bonds that are rated below investment grade are sometimes referred to as "high yield bonds" or "junk bonds." Therefore, our investments may result in an above average amount of risk and volatility or loss of principal. While the debt we invest in is often secured, such security does not guarantee that we will receive principal and interest payments according to the terms of the loan, or that the value of any collateral will be sufficient to allow us to recover all or a portion of the outstanding amount of the loan should we be forced to enforce our remedies.

We also may invest in assets other than first and second lien and mezzanine debt investments, including high-yield securities, U.S. government securities, credit derivatives and other structured securities and certain direct equity investments. These investments entail additional risks that could adversely affect our investment returns.

Investments in equity securities, many of which are illiquid with no readily available market, involve a substantial degree of risk.

We may purchase common and other equity securities. Although common stock has historically generated higher average total returns than fixed income securities over the long-term, common stock also has experienced significantly more volatility in those returns. The equity securities we acquire may fail to appreciate and may decline in value or become worthless and our ability to recover our investment will depend on the underlying portfolio company's success. Investments in equity securities involve a number of significant risks, including:

any equity investment we make in a portfolio company could be subject to further dilution as a result of the issuance of additional equity interests and to serious risks as a junior security that will be subordinate to all indebtedness (including trade creditors) or senior securities in the event that the issuer is unable to meet its obligations or becomes subject to a bankruptcy process;

to the extent that the portfolio company requires additional capital and is unable to obtain it, we may not recover our investment; and

in some cases, equity securities in which we invest will not pay current dividends, and our ability to realize a return on our investment, as well as to recover our investment, will be dependent on the success of the portfolio company. Even if the portfolio company is successful, our ability to realize the value of our investment may be dependent on the occurrence of a liquidity event, such as a public offering or the sale of the portfolio company. It is likely to take a significant amount of time before a liquidity event occurs or we can otherwise sell our investment. In addition, the equity securities we receive or invest in may be subject to restrictions on resale during periods in which it could be advantageous to sell them.

There are special risks associated with investing in preferred securities, including:

preferred securities may include provisions that permit the issuer, at its discretion, to defer distributions for a stated period without any adverse consequences to the issuer. If we own

Table of Contents

a preferred security that is deferring its distributions, we may be required to report income for tax purposes before we receive such distributions;

preferred securities are subordinated to debt in terms of priority to income and liquidation payments, and therefore will be subject to greater credit risk than debt;

preferred securities may be substantially less liquid than many other securities, such as common stock or U.S. government securities; and

generally, preferred security holders have no voting rights with respect to the issuing company, subject to limited exceptions.

Additionally, when we invest in first lien senior secured loans (including unitranche loans), second lien senior secured loans or mezzanine debt, we may acquire warrants or other equity securities as well. Our goal is ultimately to dispose of such equity interests and realize gains upon our disposition of such interests. However, the equity interests we receive may not appreciate in value and, in fact, may decline in value. Accordingly, we may not be able to realize gains from our equity interests and any gains that we do realize on the disposition of any equity interests may not be sufficient to offset any other losses we experience.

We may invest, to the extent permitted by law, in the equity securities of investment funds that are operating pursuant to certain exceptions to the Investment Company Act and in advisers to similar investment funds and, to the extent we so invest, will bear our ratable share of any such company's expenses, including management and performance fees. We will also remain obligated to pay the base management fee, income based fee and capital gains incentive fee to our investment adviser with respect to the assets invested in the securities and instruments of such companies. With respect to each of these investments, each of our common stockholders will bear his or her share of the base management fee, income based fee and capital gains incentive fee due to our investment adviser as well as indirectly bearing the management and performance fees and other expenses of any such investment funds or advisers.

Also, as a result of the American Capital Acquisition, American Capital's equity investments, including equity investments pursuant to which American Capital controlled a particular portfolio company, became part of our portfolio. We intend to actively seek opportunities over time to dispose of certain of these investments and rotate them into yielding assets consistent with our investment policy. However, there can be no assurance that this strategy will be successful.

There may be circumstances in which our debt investments could be subordinated to claims of other creditors or we could be subject to lender liability claims.

If one of our portfolio companies were to go bankrupt, even though we may have structured our interest as senior debt, depending on the facts and circumstances, a bankruptcy court might recharacterize our debt holding as an equity investment and subordinate all or a portion of our claim to that of other creditors. In addition, lenders can be subject to lender liability claims for actions taken by them where they become too involved in the borrower's business or exercise control over the borrower. For example, we could become subject to a lender's liability claim, if, among other things, we actually render significant managerial assistance.

Our portfolio companies may incur debt or issue equity securities that rank equally with, or senior to, our investments in such companies.

Our portfolio companies may have, or may be permitted to incur, other debt, or issue other equity securities, that rank equally with, or senior to, our investments. By their terms, such instruments may provide that the holders are entitled to receive payment of dividends, interest or principal on or before the dates on which we are entitled to receive payments in respect of our investments. These

Table of Contents

debt instruments would usually prohibit the portfolio companies from paying interest on or repaying our investments in the event and during the continuance of a default under such debt. Also, in the event of insolvency, liquidation, dissolution, reorganization or bankruptcy of a portfolio company, holders of securities ranking senior to our investment in that portfolio company typically are entitled to receive payment in full before we receive any distribution in respect of our investment. After repaying such holders, the portfolio company may not have any remaining assets to use for repaying its obligation to us. In the case of securities ranking equally with our investments, we would have to share on an equal basis any distributions with other security holders in the event of an insolvency, liquidation, dissolution, reorganization or bankruptcy of the relevant portfolio company.

The rights we may have with respect to the collateral securing any junior priority loans we make to our portfolio companies may also be limited pursuant to the terms of one or more intercreditor agreements (including agreements governing "first out" and "last out" structures) that we enter into with the holders of senior debt. Under such an intercreditor agreement, at any time that senior obligations are outstanding, we may forfeit certain rights with respect to the collateral to the holders of the senior obligations. These rights may include the right to commence enforcement proceedings against the collateral, the right to control the conduct of such enforcement proceedings, the right to approve amendments to collateral documents, the right to release liens on the collateral and the right to waive past defaults under collateral documents. We may not have the ability to control or direct such actions, even if as a result our rights as junior lenders are adversely affected.

When we are a debt or minority equity investor in a portfolio company, we are often not in a position to exert influence on the entity, and other equity holders and management of the company may make decisions that could decrease the value of our portfolio holdings.

When we make debt or minority equity investments, we are subject to the risk that a portfolio company may make business decisions with which we disagree and the other equity holders and management of such company may take risks or otherwise act in ways that do not serve our interests. As a result, a portfolio company may make decisions that could decrease the value of our investment.

Our portfolio companies may be highly leveraged.

Some of our portfolio companies may be highly leveraged, which may have adverse consequences to these companies and to us as an investor. These companies may be subject to restrictive financial and operating covenants and the leverage may impair these companies' ability to finance their future operations and capital needs. As a result, these companies' flexibility to respond to changing business and economic conditions and to take advantage of business opportunities may be limited. Further, a leveraged company's income and net assets will tend to increase or decrease at a greater rate than if borrowed money were not used.

Our investment adviser's fee structure may induce it to make certain investments on our behalf, including speculative investments.

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

Table of Contents

The income based fees will be computed and paid on income that has been accrued but not yet received in cash, including as a result of investments with a deferred interest feature such as debt instruments with PIK interest, preferred stock with PIK dividends and zero coupon securities. If a portfolio company defaults on a loan that is structured to provide accrued interest, it is possible that accrued interest previously used in the calculation of the income based fee will become uncollectible. Our investment adviser is not under any obligation to reimburse us for any part of the fees it received that were based on such accrued interest that we never actually received.

Because of the structure of the income based fees, it is possible that we may have to pay income based fees in a quarter during which we incur a loss. For example, if we receive pre-incentive fee net investment income in excess of the hurdle rate for a quarter, we will pay the applicable income based fees even if we have incurred a loss in that quarter due to realized and/or unrealized capital losses. In addition, if market interest rates rise, our investment adviser may be able to invest our funds in debt instruments that provide for a higher return, which would increase our pre-incentive fee net investment income and make it easier for our investment adviser to surpass the fixed hurdle rate and receive income based fees.

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

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

Although most of our investments will be U.S. dollar denominated, our investments that are denominated in a foreign currency will be subject to the risk that the value of a particular currency will change in relation to one or more other currencies. Among the factors that may affect currency values are trade balances, the level of short-term interest rates, differences in relative values of similar assets in different currencies, long-term opportunities for investment and capital appreciation and political developments. We may employ hedging techniques to minimize these risks, but we cannot assure you that such strategies will be effective or without risk to us.

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

We have and may in the future enter into hedging transactions, which may expose us to risks associated with such transactions. We may utilize instruments such as forward contracts, currency options and interest rate swaps, caps, collars and floors to seek to hedge against fluctuations in the relative values of our portfolio positions from changes in currency exchange rates and market interest rates. Use of these hedging instruments may include counter-party credit risk.

Hedging against a decline in the values of our portfolio positions does not eliminate the possibility of fluctuations in the values of such positions or prevent losses if the values of such positions decline. However, such hedging can establish other positions designed to gain from those same developments, thereby offsetting the decline in the value of such portfolio positions. Such hedging transactions may also limit the opportunity for gain if the values of the underlying portfolio positions should increase. Moreover, it may not be possible to hedge against an exchange rate or interest rate fluctuation that is so generally anticipated that we are not able to enter into a hedging transaction at an acceptable price.

Table of Contents

The success of our hedging transactions will depend on our ability to correctly predict movements in currencies and interest rates. Therefore, while we may enter into such transactions to seek to reduce currency exchange rate and interest rate risks, unanticipated changes in currency exchange rates or interest rates may result in poorer overall investment performance than if we had not engaged in any such hedging transactions. In addition, the degree of correlation between price movements of the instruments used in a hedging strategy and price movements in the portfolio positions being hedged may vary. Moreover, for a variety of reasons, we may not seek to (or be able to) establish a perfect correlation between such hedging instruments and the portfolio holdings being hedged. Any such imperfect correlation may prevent us from achieving the intended hedge and expose us to risk of loss. In addition, it may not be possible to hedge fully or perfectly against currency fluctuations affecting the value of securities denominated in non-U.S. currencies because the value of those securities is likely to fluctuate as a result of factors not related to currency fluctuations. See also "Risk Factors Risks Relating to Our Business We are exposed to risks associated with changes in interest rates."

We may initially invest a portion of the net proceeds of offerings pursuant to this prospectus primarily in high-quality short-term investments, which will generate lower rates of return than those expected from the interest generated on first and second lien senior secured loans and mezzanine debt.

We may initially invest a portion of the net proceeds of offerings pursuant to this prospectus primarily in cash, cash equivalents, U.S. government securities and other high-quality short-term investments. These securities generally earn yields substantially lower than the income that we anticipate receiving once we are fully invested in accordance with our investment objective. As a result, we may not, for a time, be able to achieve our investment objective and/or we may need to, for a time, decrease the amount of any dividend that we may pay to our stockholders to a level that is substantially lower than the level that we expect to pay when the net proceeds of offerings are fully invested in accordance with our investment objective. If we do not realize yields in excess of our expenses, we may incur operating losses and the market price of our shares may decline.

The American Capital Acquisition may have triggered certain anti-assignment, "change of control" or similar provisions and other restrictions in contracts of American Capital or its affiliates and the failure to obtain any required consents or waivers could adversely impact us.

Certain agreements of American Capital or its affiliates, including with respect to certain managed funds of American Capital Asset Management, LLC ("ACAM") and its affiliates, may have required the consent or waiver of one or more counterparties in connection with the American Capital Acquisition. The failure to obtain any such consent may permit such counterparties to terminate, or otherwise increase their rights or our or American Capital's obligations under, any such agreement because the American Capital Acquisition may have violated an anti-assignment, change of control or similar provision. If this happens, we may have to seek to replace that agreement with a new agreement or seek a waiver or amendment to such agreement. We cannot assure you that we will be able to replace, amend or obtain a waiver under any such agreement on comparable terms or at all and the failure to do so could adversely affect our financial condition, results of operations, assets or business.

RISKS RELATING TO OFFERINGS PURSUANT TO THIS PROSPECTUS

Our shares of common stock have traded at a discount from net asset value and may do so again, which could limit our ability to raise additional equity capital.

Shares of closed-end investment companies frequently trade at a market price that is less than the net asset value that is attributable to those shares. This characteristic of closed-end investment companies is separate and distinct from the risk that our net asset value per share may decline. It is not possible to accurately predict whether any shares of our common stock will trade at, above, or

Table of Contents

below net asset value. In the recent past, the stocks of BDCs as an industry, including from time to time shares of our common stock, have traded below net asset value and during much of 2009 traded at near historic lows as a result of concerns over liquidity, leverage restrictions and distribution requirements. See "Risk Factors Risks Relating to Our Business The capital markets may experience periods of disruption and instability. Such market conditions may materially and adversely affect debt and equity capital markets, which may have a negative impact on our business and operations." When our common stock is trading below its net asset value per share, we will generally not be able to issue additional shares of our common stock at its market price without first obtaining approval for such issuance from our stockholders and our independent directors. Pursuant to approval granted at a special meeting of stockholders held on May 22, 2017, we currently are permitted to sell or otherwise issue shares of our common stock at a price below net asset value, subject to certain limitations and determinations that must be made by our board of directors. Such stockholder approval expires on May 22, 2018.

There is a risk that investors in our common stock may not receive dividends or that our dividends may not grow over time and that investors in our debt securities may not receive all of the interest income to which they are entitled.

We intend to make distributions on a quarterly basis to our stockholders out of assets legally available for distribution. We cannot assure you that we will achieve investment results that will allow us to make a specified level of cash distributions or year-to-year increases in cash distributions. If we declare a dividend and if more stockholders opt to receive cash distributions rather than participate in our dividend reinvestment plan, we may be forced to sell some of our investments in order to make cash dividend payments.

In addition, due to the asset coverage test applicable to us as a BDC, we may be limited in our ability to make distributions. Certain of the Facilities may also limit our ability to declare dividends if we default under certain provisions. Further, if we invest a greater amount of assets in equity securities that do not pay current dividends, it could reduce the amount available for distribution. See "Price Range of Common Stock and Distributions."

The above-referenced restrictions on distributions may also inhibit our ability to make required interest payments to holders of our debt, which may cause a default under the terms of our debt agreements. Such a default could materially increase our cost of raising capital, as well as cause us to incur penalties under the terms of our debt agreements.

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

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

Table of Contents

Share Acquisition Act also may make it more difficult for a third party to obtain control of us and increase the difficulty of consummating such an offer.

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

Investing in our common stock may involve an above average degree of risk.

The investments we make in accordance with our investment objective may result in a higher amount of risk than alternative investment options and volatility or loss of principal. Our investments in portfolio companies may be highly speculative and aggressive and, therefore, an investment in our securities may not be suitable for someone with lower risk tolerance.

The market price of our common stock may fluctuate significantly.

The capital and credit markets have experienced periods of extreme volatility and disruption over the past several years. The market price and liquidity of the market for shares of our common stock may be significantly affected by numerous factors, some of which are beyond our control and may not be directly related to our operating performance. These factors include:

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

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

the inclusion or exclusion of our common stock from certain indices;

changes in law, regulatory policies or tax guidelines, or interpretations thereof, particularly with respect to RICs or BDCs;

loss of our RIC status;

changes in our earnings or variations in our operating results;

changes in the value of our portfolio of investments;

our ability to manage our capital resources effectively, including rotating out of certain investments acquired in connection with the American Capital Acquisition and re-deploying such capital effectively and on favorable terms;

any shortfall in revenue or net income or any increase in losses from levels expected by investors or securities analysts;

departure of Ares Capital Management's key personnel;

operating performance of companies comparable to us;

short-selling pressure with respect to shares of our common stock or BDCs generally;

Table of Contents

future sales of our securities convertible into or exchangeable or exercisable for our common stock or the conversion of such securities, including the Convertible Unsecured Notes;

uncertainty surrounding the strength of the U.S. economic recovery;

concerns regarding European sovereign debt;

concerns regarding volatility in the Chinese stock market and Chinese currency;

general economic trends and other external factors; and

loss of a major funding source.

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

We may in the future determine to issue preferred stock, which could adversely affect the market value of our common stock.

The issuance of shares of preferred stock with dividend or conversion rights, liquidation preferences or other economic terms favorable to the holders of preferred stock could adversely affect the market price for our common stock by making an investment in the common stock less attractive. In addition, the dividends on any preferred stock we issue must be cumulative. Payment of dividends and repayment of the liquidation preference of preferred stock must take preference over any dividends or other payments to our common stockholders, and holders of preferred stock are not subject to any of our expenses or losses and are not entitled to participate in any income or appreciation in excess of their stated preference (other than convertible preferred stock that converts into common stock). In addition, under the Investment Company Act, preferred stock constitutes a "senior security" for purposes of the 200% asset coverage test.

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

At a special meeting of stockholders held on May 22, 2017, subject to certain determinations required to be made by our board of directors, our stockholders approved our ability to sell or otherwise issue shares of our common stock, in an amount not exceeding 25% of our then outstanding common stock, at a price below the then current net asset value per share during a period that began on May 22, 2017 and expires on May 22, 2018.

In addition, at our 2009 annual stockholders meeting, our stockholders approved a proposal authorizing us to sell or otherwise issue warrants or securities to subscribe for or convertible into shares of our common stock subject to certain limitations (including, without limitation, that the number of shares issuable does not exceed 25% of our then outstanding common stock and that the exercise or conversion price thereof is not, at the date of issuance, less than the greater of the market value per share and the net asset value per share of our common stock). The authorization granted to sell or issue warrants or securities to subscribe for or convertible into shares of our common stock has no expiration.

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

Table of Contents

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

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

Further, if our current stockholders do not purchase any shares to maintain their percentage interest, regardless of whether such offering is above or below the then current net asset value per share, their voting power will be diluted. For additional information and hypothetical examples of these risks, see "Sales of Common Stock Below Net Asset Value" and the prospectus supplement pursuant to which such sale is made.

Your interest in us may be diluted if you do not fully exercise your subscription rights in any rights offering. In addition, if the subscription price is less than our net asset value per share, then you will experience an immediate dilution of the aggregate net asset value of your shares.

In the event we issue subscription rights, stockholders who do not fully exercise their subscription rights should expect that they will, at the completion of a rights offering pursuant to this prospectus, own a smaller proportional interest in us than would otherwise be the case if they fully exercised their rights. We cannot state precisely the amount of any such dilution in share ownership because we do not know at this time what proportion of the shares will be purchased as a result of such rights offering.

In addition, if the subscription price is less than the net asset value per share of our common stock, then our stockholders would experience an immediate dilution of the aggregate net asset value of their shares as a result of the offering. The amount of any decrease in net asset value is not predictable because it is not known at this time what the subscription price and net asset value per share will be on the expiration date of a rights offering or what proportion of the shares will be purchased as a result of such rights offering. Such dilution could be substantial. See "Risk Factors Risks Relating to Offerings Pursuant to this Prospectus The net asset value per share of our common stock may be diluted if we sell shares of our common stock in one or more offerings at prices below the then current net asset value per share of our common stock or securities to subscribe for or convertible into shares of our common stock" and "Sales of Common Stock Below Net Asset Value."

Investors in offerings of our common stock will likely incur immediate dilution upon the closing of such offering.

We generally expect the public offering price of any offering of shares of our common stock to be higher than the book value per share of our outstanding common stock (unless we offer shares pursuant to a rights offering or after obtaining prior approval for such issuance from our stockholders and our independent directors). Accordingly, investors purchasing shares of our common stock in

Table of Contents

offerings pursuant to this prospectus may pay a price per share that exceeds the tangible book value per share after such offering.

Our stockholders will experience dilution in their ownership percentage if they opt out of our dividend reinvestment plan.

All dividends declared in cash payable to stockholders that are participants in our dividend reinvestment plan are automatically reinvested in shares of our common stock. As a result, our stockholders that opt out of our dividend reinvestment plan will experience dilution in their ownership percentage of our common stock over time.

Our stockholders may experience dilution upon the conversion of the Convertible Unsecured Notes.

The 2018 Convertible Notes (as defined below) are convertible into shares of our common stock beginning on July 15, 2017 or, under certain circumstances, earlier. The 2019 Convertible Notes (as defined below) are convertible into shares of our common stock beginning on July 15, 2018 or, under certain circumstances, earlier. The 2022 Convertible Notes (as defined below) are convertible into shares of our common stock beginning on August 1, 2021 or, under certain circumstances, earlier. Upon conversion of the Convertible Unsecured Notes, we have the choice to pay or deliver, as the case may be, at our election, cash, shares of our common stock or a combination of cash and shares of our common stock. As of March 31, 2017, the conversion price of the 2018 Convertible Notes was effectively \$19.64 per share, the conversion price of the 2019 Convertible Notes was effectively \$19.99 per share and the conversion price of the 2022 Convertible Notes was effectively \$19.39 per share; in each case taking into account certain de minimis adjustments that will be made on the conversion date and subject to further adjustment in certain circumstances. If we elect to deliver shares of common stock upon a conversion at the time our tangible book value per share exceeds the conversion price in effect at such time, our stockholders may incur dilution. In addition, our stockholders will experience dilution in their ownership percentage of common stock upon our issuance of common stock in connection with the conversion of the Convertible Unsecured Notes and any dividends paid on our common stock will also be paid on shares issued in connection with such conversion after such issuance.

Our stockholders may receive shares of our common stock as dividends, which could result in adverse tax consequences to them.

In order to satisfy the Annual Distribution Requirement applicable to RICs, we have the ability to declare a large portion of a dividend in shares of our common stock instead of in cash. As long as a portion of such dividend is paid in cash (which portion could be as low as 20%) and certain requirements are met, the entire distribution would be treated as a dividend for U.S. federal income tax purposes. As a result, a stockholder would be taxed on 100% of the fair market value of the shares received as part of the dividend on the date a stockholder received it in the same manner as a cash dividend, even though most of the dividend was paid in shares of our common stock.

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

Sales of substantial amounts of our common stock, or the availability of such common stock for sale (including as a result of the conversion of our Convertible Unsecured Notes into common stock), could adversely affect the prevailing market prices for our common stock. If this occurs and continues, it could impair our ability to raise additional capital through the sale of securities should we desire to do so.

Table of Contents

The trading market or market value of our publicly issued debt securities may fluctuate.

Our publicly issued debt securities may or may not have an established trading market. We cannot assure you that a trading market for our publicly issued debt securities will ever develop or be maintained if developed. In addition to our creditworthiness, many factors may materially adversely affect the trading market for, and market value of, our publicly issued debt securities. These factors include, but are not limited to, the following:

- the time remaining to the maturity of these debt securities;
- the outstanding principal amount of debt securities with terms identical to these debt securities;
- the ratings assigned by national statistical ratings agencies;
- the general economic environment;
- the supply of such debt securities trading in the secondary market, if any;
- the redemption or repayment features, if any, of these debt securities;
- the level, direction and volatility of market interest rates generally; and
- market rates of interest higher or lower than rates borne by the debt securities.

You should also be aware that there may be a limited number of buyers if and when you decide to sell your debt securities. This too may materially adversely affect the market value of the debt securities or the trading market for the debt securities.

Terms relating to redemption may materially adversely affect your return on any debt securities that we may issue.

If your debt securities are redeemable at our option, we may choose to redeem your debt securities at times when prevailing interest rates are lower than the interest rate paid on your debt securities. In addition, if your debt securities are subject to mandatory redemption, we may be required to redeem your debt securities also at times when prevailing interest rates are lower than the interest rate paid on your debt securities. In this circumstance, you may not be able to reinvest the redemption proceeds in a comparable security at an effective interest rate as high as your debt securities being redeemed.

Our credit ratings may not reflect all risks of an investment in our debt securities.

Our credit ratings are an assessment by third parties of our ability to pay our obligations. Consequently, real or anticipated changes in our credit ratings will generally affect the market value of our debt securities. Our credit ratings, however, may not reflect the potential impact of risks related to market conditions generally or other factors discussed above on the market value of or trading market for the publicly issued debt securities.

Table of Contents

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Some of the statements in this prospectus constitute forward-looking statements, which relate to future events or our future performance or financial condition. The forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus involve a number of risks and uncertainties, including statements concerning:

our, or our portfolio companies', future business, operations, operating results or prospects;

the return or impact of current and future investments;

the impact of a protracted decline in the liquidity of credit markets on our business;

the impact of fluctuations in interest rates on our business;

the impact of changes in laws or regulations (including the interpretation thereof) governing our operations or the operations of our portfolio companies or the operations of our competitors;

the valuation of our investments in portfolio companies, particularly those having no liquid trading market;

our ability to successfully integrate our business with the business of American Capital, including rotating out of certain investments acquired in connection therewith and re-deploying such capital effectively and on favorable terms;

our ability to recover unrealized losses;

our ability to successfully invest any capital raised in an offering;

market conditions and our ability to access alternative debt markets and additional debt and equity capital and our ability to manage our capital resources effectively;

our contractual arrangements and relationships with third parties, including parties to our co-investment programs;

the general economy and its impact on the industries in which we invest;

uncertainty surrounding the financial stability of the United States, Europe and China;

the social, geopolitical, financial, trade and legal implications of Brexit;

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Middle East turmoil and the potential for volatility in energy prices and its impact on the industries in which we invest;

the financial condition of and ability of our current and prospective portfolio companies to achieve their objectives;

our expected financings and investments;

our ability to successfully complete and integrate any other acquisitions;

the outcome and impact of any litigation or other regulatory matters acquired in connection with the American Capital Acquisition;

the impact to the periods following the completion of the American Capital Acquisition;

the adequacy of our cash resources and working capital;

the timing, form and amount of any dividend distributions;

the timing of cash flows, if any, from the operations of our portfolio companies; and

Table of Contents

the ability of our investment adviser to locate suitable investments for us and to monitor and administer our investments.

We use words such as "anticipates," "believes," "expects," "intends," "will," "should," "may" and similar expressions to identify forward-looking statements, although not all forward-looking statements include these words. Our actual results and condition could differ materially from those implied or expressed in the forward-looking statements for any reason, including the factors set forth in "Risk Factors" and the other information included in this prospectus.

We have based the forward-looking statements included in this prospectus on information available to us on the date of this prospectus, and we assume no obligation to update any such forward-looking statements. Although we undertake no obligation to revise or update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, you are advised to consult any additional disclosures that we may make directly to you or through reports that we have filed or in the future may file with the SEC, including annual reports on Form 10-K, registration statements on Form N-2, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and current reports on Form 8-K.

The forward-looking statements in this prospectus are excluded from the safe harbor protection provided by Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act") and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act").

Table of Contents**USE OF PROCEEDS**

Unless otherwise specified in a prospectus supplement, we intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of our securities for general corporate purposes, which include investing in portfolio companies in accordance with our investment objective. We also expect to use the net proceeds of an offering to repay or repurchase outstanding indebtedness, which may include indebtedness (approximately \$4.7 billion aggregate principal amount outstanding as of March 31, 2017) under (a) the Revolving Credit Facility (as defined below) (\$622 million outstanding as of March 31, 2017), (b) the Revolving Funding Facility (as defined below) (approximately \$575 million outstanding as of March 31, 2017), (c) the SMBC Funding Facility (as defined below) (approximately \$140 million outstanding as of March 31, 2017), (d) the 2018 Convertible Notes (approximately \$270 million aggregate principal amount outstanding as of March 31, 2017), (e) the 2019 Convertible Notes (approximately \$300 million aggregate principal amount outstanding as of March 31, 2017), (f) the 2022 Convertible Notes (approximately \$388 million aggregate principal amount outstanding as of March 31, 2017), (g) the 2018 Notes (as defined below) (approximately \$750 million aggregate principal amount outstanding as of March 31, 2017), (h) the 2020 Notes (as defined below) (approximately \$600 million aggregate principal amount outstanding as of March 31, 2017), (i) the January 2022 Notes (as defined below) (approximately \$600 million aggregate principal amount outstanding as of March 31, 2017), (j) the October 2022 Notes (approximately \$183 million aggregate principal amount outstanding as of March 31, 2017), and (k) the 2047 Notes (as defined below) (approximately \$230.0 million aggregate principal amount outstanding as of March 31, 2017).

The interest charged on the indebtedness incurred under the Revolving Credit Facility is based on LIBOR (one-, two-, three- or six-month) plus an applicable spread of either 1.75% or 2.00% or an "alternate base rate" (as defined in the agreements governing the Revolving Credit Facility) plus an applicable spread of either 0.75% or 1.00%, in each case, determined monthly based on the total amount of the borrowing base relative to the total commitments of the Revolving Credit Facility and other debt, if any, secured by the same collateral as the Revolving Credit Facility. As of March 31, 2017, the one, two, three and six month LIBOR was 0.98%, 1.03%, 1.15% and 1.42%, respectively. As of March 31, 2017, for \$2.0 billion of the total Revolving Credit Facility capacity, the expiration date is January 4, 2022, for \$75 million of the Revolving Credit Facility capacity, the expiration date is May 4, 2021 and for the remaining \$45 million, the expiration date is May 4, 2020. See "Recent Developments" for more information on the Revolving Credit Facility. The interest charged on the indebtedness incurred under the Revolving Funding Facility is based on LIBOR plus 2.30% per annum or a "base rate" (as defined in the agreements governing the Revolving Funding Facility) of 1.30% per annum. The Revolving Funding Facility is scheduled to expire on January 3, 2022 (subject to extension exercisable upon mutual consent). The interest rate charged on the indebtedness incurred under the SMBC Funding Facility is based on an applicable spread of either 1.75% or 2.00% over LIBOR or 0.75% or 1.00% over a "base rate" (as defined in the agreements governing the SMBC Funding Facility), in each case, determined monthly based on the amount of the average borrowings outstanding under the SMBC Funding Facility. The SMBC Funding Facility is scheduled to expire on September 14, 2022 (subject to two one-year extension options exercisable upon mutual consent).

The interest charged on the Convertible Unsecured Notes and the Unsecured Notes is as follows: (a) 4.75% in the case of the 2018 Convertible Notes, (b) 4.375% in the case of the 2019 Convertible Notes, (c) 3.75% in the case of the 2022 Convertible Notes, (d) 4.875% in the case of the 2018 Notes, (e) 3.875% in the case of the 2020 Notes, (f) 3.625% in the case of the January 22 Notes, (g) 5.875% in the case of the October 2022 Notes and (h) 6.875% in the case of the 2047 Notes. The 2018 Convertible Notes, the 2019 Convertible Notes and the 2022 Convertible Notes mature on January 15, 2018, January 15, 2019 and February 1, 2022, respectively. The 2018 Notes, the 2020 Notes, the January 2022 Notes, the October 2022 Notes and the 2047 Notes mature on November 30, 2018, January 15, 2020, January 19, 2022, October 1, 2022 and April 15, 2047, respectively. The supplement

Table of Contents

to this prospectus relating to an offering may more fully identify the use of the proceeds from such offering.

We anticipate that substantially all of the net proceeds of an offering of securities pursuant to this prospectus and its related prospectus supplement will be used for the above purposes within three months of any such offering, depending on the availability of appropriate investment opportunities consistent with our investment objective, but no longer than within six months of any such offerings.

While our primary focus is to generate current income and capital appreciation through investments in first and second lien senior secured loans and mezzanine debt and, to a lesser extent, equity securities of eligible portfolio companies, we also may invest up to 30% of our portfolio in non-qualifying assets, as permitted by the Investment Company Act. See "Regulation." Specifically, as part of this 30% basket, we may invest in entities that are not considered "eligible portfolio companies" (as defined in the Investment Company Act), including companies located outside of the United States, entities that are operating pursuant to certain exceptions under the Investment Company Act, and publicly traded entities whose public equity market capitalization exceeds the levels provided for under the Investment Company Act. Pending such investments, we will invest a portion of the net proceeds primarily in cash, cash equivalents, U.S. government securities and other high-quality short-term investments. These securities generally earn yields substantially lower than the income that we anticipate receiving once we are fully invested in accordance with our investment objective. As a result, we may not, for a time, be able to achieve our investment objective and/or we may need to, for a time, decrease the amount of any dividend that we may pay to our stockholders to a level that is substantially lower than the level that we expect to pay when the net proceeds of offerings are fully invested in accordance with our investment objective. If we do not realize yields in excess of our expenses, we may incur operating losses and the market price of our common stock and debt securities may decline. See "Regulation Temporary Investments" for additional information about temporary investments we may make while waiting to make longer-term investments in pursuit of our investment objective.

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

Our common stock is traded on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "ARCC." Our common stock has historically traded at prices both above and below our net asset value per share. It is not possible to predict whether our common stock will trade at, above or below net asset value. See "Risk Factors Risks Relating to Offerings Pursuant to this Prospectus Our shares of common stock have traded at a discount from net asset value and may do so again in the future, which could limit our ability to raise additional equity capital."

The following table sets forth, for the fiscal quarter ended March 31, 2017 and each fiscal quarter for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2015 and 2016, the net asset value per share of our common stock, the range of high and low closing sales prices of our common stock, the closing sales price as a premium (discount) to net asset value and the dividends or distributions declared by us. On July 27, 2017, the last reported closing sales price of our common stock on The NASDAQ Global Select Market was \$16.43 per share, which represented a discount of approximately 0.4% to the net asset value per share reported by us as of March 31, 2017.

	Net Asset Value(1)	Price Range		High Sales Price Premium (Discount) to Net Asset Value(2)	Low Sales Price Premium (Discount) to Net Asset Value(2)	Cash Dividend Per Share(3)
		High	Low			
Year ended December 31, 2015						
First Quarter	\$ 16.71	\$ 17.60	\$ 15.55	5.33%	(6.94)%	\$ 0.43(4)
Second Quarter	\$ 16.80	\$ 17.30	\$ 16.01	2.98%	(4.70)%	\$ 0.38
Third Quarter	\$ 16.79	\$ 16.58	\$ 14.06	(1.25)%	(16.26)%	\$ 0.38
Fourth Quarter	\$ 16.46	\$ 15.87	\$ 13.97	(3.58)%	(15.13)%	\$ 0.38
Year ended December 31, 2016						
First Quarter	\$ 16.50	\$ 14.84	\$ 12.54	(10.06)%	(24.00)%	\$ 0.38
Second Quarter	\$ 16.62	\$ 15.38	\$ 13.87	(7.46)%	(16.55)%	\$ 0.38
Third Quarter	\$ 16.59	\$ 16.40	\$ 13.96	(1.15)%	(15.85)%	\$ 0.38
Fourth Quarter	\$ 16.45	\$ 16.86	\$ 15.16	2.49%	(7.84)%	\$ 0.38
Year ending December 31, 2017						
First Quarter	\$ 16.50	\$ 17.81	\$ 16.42	7.94%	(0.48)%	\$ 0.38
Second Quarter	*	\$ 17.64	\$ 16.18	*	*	\$ 0.38
Third Quarter (through July 27, 2017)	*	\$ 16.52	\$ 16.33	*	*	**

- (1) Net asset value per share is determined as of the last day in the relevant quarter and therefore may not reflect the net asset value per share on the date of the high and low closing sales prices. The net asset values shown are based on outstanding shares at the end of the relevant quarter.
- (2) Calculated as the respective high or low closing sales price less net asset value, divided by net asset value (in each case, as of the applicable quarter).
- (3) Represents the dividend or distribution declared in the relevant quarter.
- (4) Consists of a quarterly dividend of \$0.38 per share and an additional dividend of \$0.05 per share.
- * Net asset value has not yet been calculated for this period.
- ** Dividend has not yet been declared for this period.

We currently intend to distribute dividends or make distributions to our stockholders on a quarterly basis out of assets legally available for distribution. We may also distribute additional

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

dividends or make additional distributions to our stockholders from time to time. Our quarterly and additional dividends or distributions, if any, will be determined by our board of directors.

The following table summarizes our dividends or distributions declared and payable for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2015, 2016 and 2017:

Date Declared	Record Date	Payment Date	Amount
February 26, 2015	March 13, 2015	March 31, 2015	\$ 0.38
February 26, 2015	March 13, 2015	March 31, 2015	\$ 0.05(1)
May 4, 2015	June 15, 2015	June 30, 2015	\$ 0.38
August 4, 2015	September 15, 2015	September 30, 2015	\$ 0.38
November 4, 2015	December 15, 2015	December 31, 2015	\$ 0.38
Total declared and payable for 2015			\$ 1.57
February 24, 2016	March 15, 2016	March 31, 2016	\$ 0.38
May 4, 2016	June 15, 2016	June 30, 2016	\$ 0.38
August 3, 2016	September 15, 2016	September 30, 2016	\$ 0.38
November 2, 2016	December 15, 2016	December 30, 2016	\$ 0.38
Total declared and payable for 2016			\$ 1.52
February 22, 2017	March 15, 2017	March 31, 2017	\$ 0.38
May 3, 2017	June 15, 2017	June 30, 2017	\$ 0.38
Total declared and payable for 2017			\$ 0.76

(1) Represents an additional dividend.

Of the \$1.52 per share in dividends declared and payable for the year ended December 31, 2016, \$1.26 per share was comprised of ordinary income and \$0.26 was comprised of long-term capital gains. Of the \$1.57 per share in dividends declared and payable for the year ended December 31, 2015, \$1.56 per share was comprised of ordinary income and \$0.01 was comprised of long-term capital gains.

To maintain our RIC status under the Code, we must timely distribute an amount equal to at least 90% of our investment company taxable income (as defined by the Code, which generally includes net ordinary income and net short term capital gains) to our stockholders. In addition, we generally will be required to pay an excise tax equal to 4% on certain undistributed taxable income unless we distribute in a timely manner an amount at least equal to the sum of (i) 98% of our ordinary income recognized during a calendar year, (ii) 98.2% of our capital gain net income, as defined by the Code, recognized for the one year period ending October 31st in that calendar year, and (iii) any income recognized, but not distributed, in preceding years. The taxable income on which we pay excise tax is generally distributed to our stockholders in the next tax year. Depending on the level of taxable income earned in a tax year, we may choose to carry forward such taxable income for distribution in the following year, and pay any applicable excise tax. For the three months ended March 31, 2017, we recorded a net excise tax expense of \$4 million. For the year ended December 31, 2016, we recorded a net excise tax expense of \$12 million, which includes a reduction in expense related to the recording of a requested refund resulting from the overpayment of 2015 excise tax of \$1.3 million. For the year ended December 31, 2015, we recorded a net excise tax expense of \$9 million. We cannot assure you that we will achieve results that will permit the payment of any cash distributions. We maintain an "opt out" dividend reinvestment plan for our common stockholders. As a result, if we declare a cash dividend, stockholders' cash dividends will be automatically reinvested in additional shares of our common stock, unless they specifically "opt out" of the dividend reinvestment plan so as to receive cash dividends. See "Dividend Reinvestment Plan."

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

For the three months ended March 31, 2017 and years ended December 31, 2016, 2015, 2014 2013 and 2012, the ratios of earnings to fixed charges of the Company, computed as set forth below, were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2017	For the Year Ended December 31, 2016	For the Year Ended December 31, 2015	For the Year Ended December 31, 2014	For the Year Ended December 31, 2013	For the Year Ended December 31, 2012
Earnings to Fixed Charges(1)	3.2	3.7	2.7(2)	3.8(3)	3.9	4.6(4)

For purposes of computing the ratios of earnings to fixed charges, earnings represent net increase in stockholders' equity resulting from operations plus (or minus) income tax expense (benefit) including excise tax expense plus fixed charges. Fixed charges include interest and credit facility fees expense and amortization of debt issuance costs.

- (1) Earnings include net realized and unrealized gains or losses and the capital gains incentive fee expense accrued in accordance with GAAP. Net realized and unrealized gains or losses and the capital gains incentive fee expense accrued in accordance with GAAP can vary substantially from period to period.

Excluding the net realized and unrealized gains or losses and the capital gains incentive fee expense accrued in accordance with GAAP, the earnings to fixed charges ratio would be 3.0 for the three months ended March 31, 2017, 3.7 for the year ended December 31, 2016, 3.2 for the year ended December 31, 2015, 3.2 for the year ended December 31, 2014, 3.7 for the year ended December 31, 2013 and 3.7 for the year ended December 31, 2012.

- (2) Earnings for the year ended December 31, 2015 included a net realized loss on the extinguishment of debt of \$10.4 million.
- (3) Earnings for the year ended December 31, 2014 included a net realized loss on the extinguishment of debt of \$0.1 million.
- (4) Earnings for the year ended December 31, 2012 included a net realized loss on the extinguishment of debt of \$2.7 million.

Table of Contents

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

The information contained in this section should be read in conjunction with the "Selected Condensed Consolidated Financial Data of Ares Capital" and our financial statements and notes thereto appearing elsewhere in this prospectus or the accompanying prospectus supplement.

OVERVIEW

We are a specialty finance company that is a closed-end, non-diversified management investment company incorporated in Maryland. We have elected to be regulated as BDC under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended.

We are externally managed by Ares Capital Management, a subsidiary of Ares Management, a publicly traded, leading global alternative asset manager, pursuant to our investment advisory and management agreement. Our administrator provides certain administrative and other services necessary for us to operate.

Our investment objective is to generate both current income and capital appreciation through debt and equity investments. We invest primarily in first lien senior secured loans (including unitranche loans), second lien senior secured loans and mezzanine debt, which in some cases includes an equity component like warrants.

To a lesser extent, we also make preferred and/or common equity investments, which have generally been non-control equity investments, of less than \$20 million (usually in conjunction with a concurrent debt investment). However, we may increase the size or change the nature of these investments. Also, as a result of the American Capital Acquisition, American Capital's equity investments, including equity investments pursuant to which American Capital controlled a particular portfolio company, became part of our portfolio.

Since our initial public offering ("IPO") on October 8, 2004 through March 31, 2017, our exited investments resulted in an aggregate cash flow realized internal rate of return to us of approximately 13% (based on original cash invested, net of syndications, of approximately \$14.7 billion and total proceeds from such exited investments of approximately \$18.0 billion). Internal rate of return is the discount rate that makes the net present value of all cash flows related to a particular investment equal to zero. Internal rate of return is gross of expenses related to investments as these expenses are not allocable to specific investments. Investments are considered to be exited when the original investment objective has been achieved through the receipt of cash and/or non-cash consideration upon the repayment of a debt investment or sale of an investment or through the determination that no further consideration was collectible and, thus, a loss may have been realized. Approximately 65% of these exited investments resulted in an aggregate cash flow realized internal rate of return to us of 10% or greater.

Additionally, since our IPO on October 8, 2004 through March 31, 2017, our realized gains have exceeded our realized losses by approximately \$592 million (excluding a one-time gain on the acquisition of Allied Capital Corporation ("Allied Capital") and realized gains/losses from the extinguishment of debt and other assets). For this same time period, our average annualized net realized gain rate was approximately 1.1% (excluding a one-time gain on the acquisition of Allied Capital and realized gains/losses from the extinguishment of debt and other assets). Net realized gain/loss rates for a particular period are the amount of net realized gains/losses during such period divided by the average quarterly investments at amortized cost in such period.

Information included herein regarding internal rates of return, realized gains and losses and annualized net realized gain rates are historical results relating to our past performance and are not necessarily indicative of future results, the achievement of which cannot be assured.

Table of Contents

As a BDC, we are required to comply with certain regulatory requirements. For instance, we generally have to invest at least 70% of our total assets in "qualifying assets," including securities and indebtedness of private U.S. companies and certain public U.S. companies, cash, cash equivalents, U.S. government securities and high-quality debt investments that mature in one year or less. We also may invest up to 30% of our portfolio in non-qualifying assets, as permitted by the Investment Company Act. See "Regulation." Specifically, as part of this 30% basket, we may invest in entities that are not considered "eligible portfolio companies" (as defined in the Investment Company Act), including companies located outside of the United States, entities that are operating pursuant to certain exceptions under the Investment Company Act, and publicly traded entities whose public equity market capitalization exceeds the levels provided for under the Investment Company Act.

We have elected to be treated as a RIC under the Code and operate in a manner so as to qualify for the tax treatment applicable to RICs. To qualify as a RIC, we must, among other things, meet certain source-of-income and asset diversification requirements and timely distribute to our stockholders generally at least 90% of our investment company taxable income, as defined by the Code, for each year. Pursuant to this election, we generally will not have to pay U.S. federal corporate-level taxes on any income that we distribute to our stockholders provided that we satisfy those requirements.

American Capital Acquisition

On May 23, 2016, we entered into the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated May 23, 2016 (the "Merger Agreement") related to the American Capital Acquisition. Pursuant to the Merger Agreement, American Capital shareholders received total consideration of approximately \$18.06 per share comprised of: (i) \$14.41 per share from us consisting of approximately \$6.48 per share of cash (including a make-up dividend in the amount of \$0.07 per share) and 0.483 shares of our common stock for each American Capital share at a value of \$7.93 per American Capital share (based on the closing price per share of our common stock on January 3, 2017 (the "Acquisition Date")), (ii) \$2.45 per share of cash from American Capital's sale of American Capital Mortgage Management, LLC, and (iii) approximately \$1.20 per share of cash as transaction support provided by Ares Capital Management acting solely on its own behalf. As of the Acquisition Date, the transaction was valued at approximately \$4.2 billion. The total cash and stock consideration paid by us was \$3.3 billion. In connection with the stock consideration, we issued approximately 112 million shares of our common stock to American Capital's then-existing stockholders (including holders of outstanding in-the-money American Capital stock options), thereby resulting in our then-existing stockholders owning approximately 73.7% of the combined company and then-existing American Capital stockholders owning approximately 26.3% of the combined company. As a result of the American Capital Acquisition, Ares Capital acquired \$3.6 billion of assets, including \$2.5 billion of investments, and assumed \$226 million of liabilities.

In connection with the American Capital Acquisition, Ares Capital Management also agreed to waive, for each of the first 10 calendar quarters beginning with the second quarter of 2017, the lesser of (x) \$10 million of income based fees and (y) the amount of income based fees for such quarter, in each case, to the extent earned and payable by us in such quarter pursuant to and as calculated under our investment advisory and management agreement. See Notes 3 and 14 to our consolidated financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2017 for additional information regarding the American Capital Acquisition.

Table of Contents**PORTFOLIO AND INVESTMENT ACTIVITY**

Our investment activity for the three months ended March 31, 2017 and 2016 and for the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014 is presented below (information presented herein is at amortized cost unless otherwise indicated).

(dollar amounts in millions)	For the Three Months Ended March 31,		For the Years Ended December 31,		
	2017	2016	2016	2015	2014
New investment commitments(1):					
New portfolio companies	\$ 385	\$ 276	\$ 2,107	\$ 2,483	\$ 2,284
Existing portfolio companies(2)	479	194	1,596	1,334	2,295
Total new investment commitments(3)	864	470	3,703	3,817	4,579
Less:					
Investment commitments exited(4)	836	484	3,844	3,816	3,540
Net investment commitments (exited)	\$ 28	\$ (14)	\$ (141)	\$ 1	\$ 1,039
Principal amount of investments funded excluding investments acquired as part of the American Capital Acquisition:					
First lien senior secured loans	\$ 663	\$ 272	\$ 1,965	\$ 2,071	\$ 2,642
Second lien senior secured loans	195	157	987	1,232	1,047
Subordinated certificates of the SDLP(5)			272		
Subordinated certificates of the SSLP(6)		3	3	229	463
Senior subordinated debt		59	173	257	299
Preferred equity securities	1	6	37	89	14
Other equity securities	55	1	53	27	69
Total	\$ 914	\$ 498	\$ 3,490	\$ 3,905	\$ 4,534
Principal amount of investments sold or repaid excluding investments acquired as part of the American Capital Acquisition:					
First lien senior secured loans	\$ 414	\$ 283	\$ 2,522	\$ 2,948	\$ 2,326
Second lien senior secured loans	91	160	903	195	444
Subordinated certificates of the SDLP	1		2		
Subordinated certificates of the SSLP				330	174
Senior subordinated debt	96	29	189	132	144
Preferred equity securities	1		4	11	31
Other equity securities	1	11	35	33	89
Commercial real estate				2	5
Total	\$ 604	\$ 483	\$ 3,655	\$ 3,651	\$ 3,213
Principal amount of investments acquired as part of the American Capital Acquisition:					
First lien senior secured loans	\$ 550				
Second lien senior secured loans	855				
Senior subordinated debt	244				
Collateralized loan obligations	265				
Preferred equity securities	109				
Other equity securities	520				
Total	\$ 2,543				

Table of Contents

(dollar amounts in millions)	For the Three Months Ended March 31,		For the Years Ended December 31,		
	2017	2016	2016	2015	2014
Principal amount of investments acquired as part of the American Capital Acquisition sold or repaid:					
First lien senior secured loans	\$ 25				
Second lien senior secured loans	52				
Senior subordinated debt	3				
Collateralized loan obligations	19				
Other equity securities	205				
Total	\$ 304				
Number of new investment commitments(7)	28	19	82	86	115
Average new investment commitment amount	\$ 31	\$ 25	\$ 45	\$ 44	\$ 40
Weighted average term for new investment commitments (in months)(8)	65	59	80	65	73
Percentage of new investment commitments at floating rates	93%	81%	91%	89%	90%
Percentage of new investment commitments at fixed rates	%	17%	6%	8%	8%
Weighted average yield of debt and other income producing securities(9):					
Funded during the period at amortized cost	8.8%	9.8%	9.3%	9.0%	9.0%
Funded during the period at fair value(8)	8.7%	9.7%	9.2%	9.0%	9.0%
Exited or repaid during the period at amortized cost	8.8%	9.3%	8.5%	7.9%	8.3%
Exited or repaid during the period at fair value(8)	8.8%	9.3%	8.4%	7.9%	8.3%
Weighted average yield of debt and other income producing securities acquired as part of the American Capital Acquisition:					
Funded during the period at amortized cost	10.0%				
Funded during the period at fair value(8)	10.0%				
Exited or repaid during the period at amortized cost	7.9%				
Exited or repaid during the period at fair value(8)	8.5%				

- (1) New investment commitments include new agreements to fund revolving credit facilities or delayed draw loans. See "Off Balance Sheet Arrangements" as well as Note 7 to our consolidated financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2017, for more information on our commitments to fund revolving credit facilities or delayed draw loans.
- (2) Includes both funded and unfunded commitments. Of these new investment commitments, we funded \$783 million and \$434 million for the three months ended March 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively, and \$3.3 billion, \$3.6 billion and \$4.1 billion for the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014, respectively.
- (3) Includes both funded and unfunded commitments. For the three months ended March 31, 2017 and 2016, investment commitments exited included exits of unfunded commitments of \$25 million and \$43 million, respectively. For the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014, investment commitments exited included exits of unfunded commitments of \$341 million, \$263 million and \$449 million, respectively.
- (4) See "Senior Direct Lending Program" below and Note 4 to our consolidated financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2017 for more information on the SDLP.
- (5) See "Senior Secured Loan Program" below and Note 4 to our consolidated financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2017 for more information on the SSLP.
- (6) Number of new investment commitments represents each commitment to a particular portfolio company or a commitment to multiple companies as part of an individual transaction (e.g., the purchase of a portfolio of investments).
- (7)

"Weighted average yield of debt and other income producing securities" is computed as (a) the annual stated interest rate or yield earned plus the net annual amortization of original issue discount and market discount

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

or premium earned on accruing debt and other income producing securities, divided by (b) the total accruing debt and other income producing securities at amortized cost or at fair value, as applicable.

(8) Represents fair value for investments in the portfolio as of the most recent prior quarter end, if applicable.

(9) Excludes investments acquired as part of the American Capital Acquisition. See Note 14 to our consolidated financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2017 for additional information regarding the American Capital Acquisition.

As of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016, our investments consisted of the following:

(in millions)	As of			
	March 31, 2017		December 31, 2016	
	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value
First lien senior secured loans	\$ 2,875	\$ 2,791	\$ 2,102	\$ 2,036
Second lien senior secured loans	3,975	3,887	3,069	2,987
Subordinated certificates of the SDLP(1)	269	269	270	270
Subordinated certificates of the SSLP(2)	1,938	1,919	1,938	1,914
Senior subordinated debt	846	868	692	714
Collateralized loan obligations	245	242		
Preferred equity securities	626	407	505	273
Other equity securities	828	1,024	458	626
Total	\$ 11,602	\$ 11,385	\$ 9,034	\$ 8,820

(1) The proceeds from these certificates were applied to co-investments with Varagon and its clients to fund first lien senior secured loans to 14 and 14 different borrowers as of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016, respectively.

(2) The proceeds from these certificates were applied to co-investments with GE to fund first lien senior secured loans to 18 and 19 different borrowers as of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016, respectively.

The weighted average yields at amortized cost and fair value of the following portions of our portfolio as of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016 were as follows:

	As of			
	March 31, 2017		December 31, 2016	
	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value
Debt and other income producing securities(1)	9.3%	9.4%	9.3%	9.4%
Total portfolio(2)	8.1%	8.2%	8.3%	8.5%
First lien senior secured loans(2)	8.0%	8.3%	8.4%	8.6%
Second lien senior secured loans(2)	9.9%	10.1%	9.8%	10.1%
Subordinated certificates of the SDLP(2)(3)	14.0%	14.0%	14.0%	14.0%
Subordinated certificates of the SSLP(2)(4)	6.5%	6.6%	7.0%	7.1%
Senior subordinated debt(2)	12.2%	11.9%	12.4%	12.0%
Collateralized loan obligations	12.2%	12.3%	%	%
Income producing equity securities(2)	12.3%	12.0%	13.8%	13.8%

(1)

"Weighted average yield of debt and other income producing securities" is computed as (a) the annual stated interest rate or yield earned plus the net annual amortization of original issue discount and market discount or premium earned on accruing debt and

Table of Contents

other income producing securities, divided by (b) the total accruing debt and other income producing securities at amortized cost or at fair value, as applicable. The weighted average yield of debt and other income producing securities that were acquired as part of the American Capital Acquisition and held as of March 31, 2017 was 10.0% and 10.0% at amortized cost and fair value, respectively.

- (2) "Weighted average yields" are computed as (a) the annual stated interest rate or yield earned plus the net annual amortization of original issue discount and market discount or premium earned on the relevant accruing debt and other income producing securities, divided by (b) the total relevant investments at amortized cost or at fair value, as applicable. The weighted average yield on total investments that were acquired as part of the American Capital Acquisition and held as of March 31, 2017 was 7.9% and 7.8% at amortized cost and fair value, respectively.
- (3) The proceeds from these certificates were applied to co-investments with Varagon and its clients to fund first lien senior secured loans.
- (4) The proceeds from these certificates were applied to co-investments with GE to fund first lien senior secured loans.

Ares Capital Management, our investment adviser, employs an investment rating system to categorize our investments. In addition to various risk management and monitoring tools, our investment adviser grades the credit risk of all investments on a scale of 1 to 4 no less frequently than quarterly. This system is intended primarily to reflect the underlying risk of a portfolio investment relative to our initial cost basis in respect of such portfolio investment (i.e., at the time of origination or acquisition), although it may also take into account under certain circumstances the performance of the portfolio company's business, the collateral coverage of the investment and other relevant factors. Under this system, investments with a grade of 4 involve the least amount of risk to our initial cost basis. The trends and risk factors for this investment since origination or acquisition are generally favorable, which may include the performance of the portfolio company or a potential exit. Investments graded 3 involve a level of risk to our initial cost basis that is similar to the risk to our initial cost basis at the time of origination or acquisition. This portfolio company is generally performing as expected and the risk factors to our ability to ultimately recoup the cost of our investment are neutral to favorable. All investments or acquired investments in new portfolio companies are initially assessed a grade of 3. Investments graded 2 indicate that the risk to our ability to recoup the initial cost basis of such investment has increased materially since origination or acquisition, including as a result of factors such as declining performance and non-compliance with debt covenants; however, payments are generally not more than 120 days past due. An investment grade of 1 indicates that the risk to our ability to recoup the initial cost basis of such investment has substantially increased since origination or acquisition, and the portfolio company likely has materially declining performance. For debt investments with an investment grade of 1, most or all of the debt covenants are out of compliance and payments are substantially delinquent. For investments graded 1, it is anticipated that we will not recoup our initial cost basis and may realize a substantial loss of our initial cost basis upon exit. For investments graded 1 or 2, our investment adviser enhances its level of scrutiny over the monitoring of such portfolio company. The grade of a portfolio investment may be reduced or increased over time.

Table of Contents

We assigned a fair value as of the Acquisition Date to each of the portfolio investments acquired in connection with the American Capital Acquisition. The initial cost basis of each investment acquired was equal to the fair value of such investment as of the Acquisition Date. Many of these portfolio investments were assigned a fair value reflecting a discount to American Capital's cost basis at the time of American Capital's origination or acquisition. Each investment was initially assessed a grade of 3 (i.e., generally the grade we assign a portfolio company at acquisition), reflecting the relative risk to our initial cost basis of such investments. It is important to note that our grading system does not take into account factors or events in respect of the period from when American Capital originated or acquired such portfolio investments or the current status of these portfolio investments in terms of compliance with debt facilities, financial performance and similar factors. Rather, it is only intended to measure risk from the time that we acquired the portfolio investment in connection with the American Capital Acquisition. Accordingly, it is possible that the grades of these portfolio investments may be reduced or increased in the future.

Set forth below is the grade distribution of our portfolio companies as of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016:

(dollar amounts in millions)	As of							
	March 31, 2017				December 31, 2016			
	Fair Value	%	Number of Companies	%	Fair Value	%	Number of Companies	%
Grade 1	\$ 113	1.0%	16	5.0%	\$ 92	1.0%	13	6.0%
Grade 2	292	2.5%	10	3.2%	323	3.7%	12	5.5%
Grade 3	9,604	84.2%	267	84.2%	7,451	84.4%	172	78.9%
Grade 4	1,398	12.3%	23	7.6%	954	10.9%	21	9.6%
Total	\$ 11,407	100.0%	316	100.0%	\$ 8,820	100.0%	218	100.0%

As of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016, the weighted average grade of the investments in our portfolio at fair value was 3.1 and 3.1, respectively.

As of March 31, 2017, investments on non-accrual status represented 2.9% and 1.1% of the total investments at amortized cost and at fair value, respectively. As of December 31, 2016, investments on non-accrual status represented 2.9% and 0.8% of the total investments at amortized cost and at fair value, respectively.

Co-Investment Programs***Senior Direct Lending Program***

We have established a joint venture with Varagon to make certain first lien senior secured loans, including certain stretch senior and unitranche loans, primarily to U.S. middle market companies. Varagon was formed in 2013 as a lending platform by American International Group, Inc. (NYSE:AIG) and other partners. The joint venture is called the SDLP. In July 2016, we and Varagon and its clients completed the initial funding of the SDLP. In conjunction with the initial funding, we and Varagon and its clients sold investment commitments to the SDLP. Such investment commitments included \$529 million of investment commitments sold to the SDLP by us. No realized gains or losses were recorded by us on these transactions. The SDLP may generally commit and hold individual loans of up to \$300 million. The SDLP is capitalized as transactions are completed and all portfolio decisions and generally all other decisions in respect of the SDLP must be approved by an investment committee of the SDLP consisting of representatives of ours and Varagon (with approval from a representative of each required).

Table of Contents

We provide capital to the SDLP in the form of the SDLP Certificates, and Varagon and its clients provide capital to the SDLP in the form of senior notes, intermediate funding notes and SDLP Certificates. As of March 31, 2017, we and a client of Varagon owned 87.5% and 12.5%, respectively, of the outstanding SDLP Certificates.

As of March 31, 2017, we and Varagon and its clients had agreed to make capital available to the SDLP of \$2.9 billion in the aggregate, of which \$591 million has been made available from us. This capital will only be committed to the SDLP upon approval of transactions by the investment committee of the SDLP. Below is a summary of the funded capital and unfunded capital commitments of the SDLP.

(in millions)	As of	
	March 31, 2017	December 31, 2016
Total capital funded to the SDLP(1)	\$ 1,282	\$ 1,285
Total capital funded to the SDLP by the Company(1)	\$ 269	\$ 270
Total unfunded capital commitments to the SDLP(2)	\$ 168	\$ 177
Total unfunded capital commitments to the SDLP by the Company(2)	\$ 35	\$ 37

(1) At principal amount.

(2) These commitments have been approved by the investment committee of the SDLP and will be funded as the transactions are completed.

The SDLP Certificates pay a coupon of LIBOR plus 8.0% and also entitle the holders thereof to receive a portion of the excess cash flow from the loan portfolio, after expenses, which may result in a return to the holders of the SDLP Certificates that is greater than the stated coupon. The SDLP Certificates are junior in right of payment to the senior notes and intermediate funding notes.

The amortized cost and fair value of our SDLP Certificates held by us were \$269 million and \$269 million, respectively, as of March 31, 2017 and \$270 million and \$270 million, respectively, as of December 31, 2016. Our yield on our investment in the SDLP at amortized cost and fair value was 14% and 14%, respectively, as of March 31, 2017 and 14% and 14%, respectively, as of December 31, 2016. For the three months ended March 31, 2017, we earned interest income of \$10 million from our investment in the SDLP Certificates. We are also entitled to certain fees in connection with the SDLP. For the three months ended March 31, 2017, in connection with the SDLP, we earned capital structuring service and other fees totaling \$0 million.

As of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016, the portfolio was comprised of all first lien senior secured loans primarily to U.S. middle-market companies and were in industries similar to the companies in our portfolio. As of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016, none of the loans were on

Table of Contents

non-accrual status. Below is a summary of the SDLP's portfolio as of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016:

(dollar amounts in millions)	As of	
	March 31, 2017	December 31, 2016
Total first lien senior secured loans(1)	\$ 1,281	\$ 1,281
Weighted average yield on first lien senior secured loans(2)	7.4%	7.4%
Largest loan to a single borrower(1)	\$ 125	\$ 125
Total of five largest loans to borrowers(1)	\$ 560	\$ 560
Number of borrowers in the SDLP	14	14
Commitments to fund delayed draw loans(3)	\$ 168	\$ 177

- (1) At principal amount.
- (2) Computed as (a) the annual stated interest rate on accruing first lien senior secured loans, divided by (b) total first lien senior secured loans at principal amount.
- (3) As discussed above, these commitments have been approved by the investment committee of the SDLP.

Senior Secured Loan Program

We and GE have co-invested in first lien senior secured loans of middle market companies through the SSLP. The SSLP has been capitalized as transactions are completed. All portfolio decisions and generally all other decisions in respect of the SSLP must be approved by an investment committee of the SSLP consisting of representatives of ours and GE (with approval from a representative of each required). We have provided capital to the SSLP in the form of the SSLP Certificates. As of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016, we and GE owned 87.5% and 12.5%, respectively, of the outstanding SSLP Certificates.

In August 2015, GE completed the sale of its U.S. Sponsor Finance business, through which GE had participated with us in the SSLP, to CPPIB. This sale excluded GE's interest in the SSLP, and we and GE continue to operate the SSLP. We and GE no longer have an obligation to present senior secured lending investment opportunities to the SSLP and since June 30, 2015, the SSLP has not made any investments related to new portfolio companies; however, we and GE may provide capital to support the SSLP's funding of existing commitments (see below) and other amounts to its portfolio companies. On August 24, 2015, we were advised that GECC, as the holder of the Senior Notes, directed State Street Bank and Trust Company, as trustee of the Senior Notes and the SSLP Certificates, pursuant to the terms of the indenture governing the Senior Notes and the SSLP Certificates, to apply all principal proceeds received by the SSLP from its investments to the repayment of the outstanding principal amount of the Senior Notes until paid in full (prior to the distribution of any such principal proceeds to the holders of the SSLP Certificates, which includes us). GECC had previously elected to waive its right to receive priority repayments on the Senior Notes from principal proceeds in most circumstances. Prior to closing the sale to CPPIB, GE had announced its intention to provide us and CPPIB the opportunity to work together on the SSLP on a go-forward basis. GECC has also stated that if a mutual agreement between us and CPPIB to partner on the SSLP is not reached, it intends to retain its interest in the SSLP and the SSLP would be wound down in an orderly manner.

As discussed above, we anticipate that no new investments will be made by the SSLP and that we and GE may only provide additional capital to support the SSLP's funding of existing commitments

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

and other amounts to its portfolio companies. Below is a summary of the funded capital and unfunded capital commitments of the SSLP.

(in millions)	As of	
	March 31, 2017	December 31, 2016
Total capital funded to the SSLP(1)	\$ 3,307	\$ 3,819
Total capital funded to the SSLP by the Company(1)	\$ 2,004	\$ 2,004
Total unfunded capital commitments to the SSLP(2)	\$ 50	\$ 50
Total unfunded capital commitments to the SSLP by the Company(2)	\$ 7	\$ 7

(1) At principal amount.

(2) These commitments have been approved by the investment committee of the SSLP and will be funded as the transactions are completed.

The SSLP Certificates have a weighted average contractual coupon of LIBOR plus approximately 8.0% and also entitle the holders thereof to receive a portion of the excess cash flow from the loan portfolio, after expenses. However, the SSLP Certificates are junior in right of payment to the Senior Notes held by GE, and we expect that for so long as principal proceeds from SSLP repayments are directed entirely to repay the Senior Notes as discussed above, the yield on the SSLP Certificates will be lower than the stated coupon and continue to decline.

The amortized cost and fair value of our SSLP Certificates were \$1.9 billion and \$1.9 billion, respectively, as of March 31, 2017, and \$1.9 billion and \$1.9 billion, respectively, as of December 31, 2016. Our yield on our investment in the SSLP at amortized cost and fair value was 6.5% and 6.6%, respectively, as of March 31, 2017, and 7.0% and 7.1%, respectively, as of December 31, 2016. For the three months ended March 31, 2017 and 2016, we earned interest income of \$34 million and \$59 million, respectively, from our investment in the SSLP Certificates.

We are also entitled to certain fees in connection with the SSLP. For the three months ended March 31, 2017 and 2016, in connection with the SSLP, we earned capital structuring service, sourcing and other fees totaling \$2 million and \$6 million, respectively.

As of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016, the SSLP's portfolio was comprised of all first lien senior secured loans to U.S. middle-market companies and were in industries similar to the companies in our portfolio. As of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016, none of these loans were on non-accrual status. Below is a summary of the SSLP's portfolio.

(dollar amounts in millions)	As of	
	March 31, 2017	December 31, 2016
Total first lien senior secured loans(1)	\$ 3,227	\$ 3,360
Weighted average yield on first lien senior secured loans(2)	6.7%	6.9%
Largest loan to a single borrower(1)	\$ 259	\$ 260
Total of five largest loans to borrowers(1)	\$ 1,252	\$ 1,257
Number of borrowers in the SSLP	18	19
Commitments to fund delay draw loans(3)	\$ 50	\$ 50

(1) At principal amount.

(2) Computed as (a) the annual stated interest rate on accruing first lien senior secured loans, divided by (b) total first lien senior secured loans at principal amount.

(3) As discussed above, these commitments have been approved by the investment committee of the SSLP.

Table of Contents**SSLP Loan Portfolio as of March 31, 2017**

(dollar amounts in millions)				
Portfolio Company	Business Description	Maturity Date	Stated Interest Rate(1)	Principal Amount
AMZ Holding Corp.	Specialty chemicals manufacturer	12/2018	6.8%	\$ 214
Breg, Inc.	Designer, manufacturer, and distributor of non-surgical orthopedic products for preventative, post-operative and rehabilitative use	10/2020	6.6%	147
Connoisseur Media, LLC	Owner and operator of radio stations	6/2019	7.4%	94
DFS Holding Company, Inc.(2)	Distributor of maintenance, repair, and operations parts, supplies, and equipment to the foodservice industry	2/2022	6.6%	190
Drayer Physical Therapy Institute, LLC	Outpatient physical therapy provider	7/2018	8.8%	132
ECI Purchaser Company, LLC	Manufacturer of equipment to safely control pressurized gases	12/2018	6.5%	186
Excelligence Learning Corporation	Developer, manufacturer and retailer of educational products	12/2020	6.8%	175
Gehl Foods, LLC(4)	Producer of low-acid, aseptic food and beverage products	6/2019	7.5%	153
Implus Footcare, LLC	Provider of footwear and other accessories	4/2021	7.0%	259
Intermedix Corporation(3)	Revenue cycle management provider to the emergency healthcare industry	12/2019	5.8%	252
Mavis Tire Supply LLC	Auto parts retailer	10/2020	5.3%	229
MCH Holdings, Inc.(4)	Healthcare professional provider	1/2020	6.5%	169
Palermo Finance Corporation	Provider of mission-critical integrated public safety software and services to local, state, and federal agencies	11/2020	7.0%	185
Sanders Industries Holdings, Inc.(4)	Elastomeric parts, mid-sized composite structures, and composite tooling	5/2020	6.5%	74
Singer Sewing Company	Manufacturer of consumer sewing machines	6/2017	7.8%	181
U.S. Anesthesia Partners, Inc.(3)	Sports technology, data and content company	12/2019	6.0%	258
WCI-Quantum Holdings, Inc.(4)	Anesthesiology service provider	10/2020	6.1%	76
Woodstream Group, Inc.	Distributor of instructional products, services and resources	5/2022	7.3%	253
				\$ 3,227

- (1) Represents the weighted average annual stated interest rate as of March 31, 2017. All interest rates are payable in cash except for 0.5% of the interest rate for Singer Sewing Company, which is payment-in-kind interest.
- (2) We also hold a portion of this company's first lien senior secured loan.
- (3) We also hold a portion of this company's second lien senior secured loan.
- (4) We hold an equity investment in this company.

Table of Contents**SSLP Loan Portfolio as of December 31, 2016**

(dollar amounts in millions)		Maturity	Stated	Principal	Fair
Portfolio Company	Business Description	Date	Interest Rate(1)	Amount	Value(2)
AMZ Holding Corp.	Specialty chemicals manufacturer	12/2018	6.8%	\$ 214	\$ 214
Breg, Inc.	Designer, manufacturer, and distributor of non-surgical orthopedic products for preventative, post-operative and rehabilitative use	10/2020	6.8%	147	147
Connoisseur Media, LLC	Owner and operator of radio stations	6/2019	7.3%	94	94
DFS Holding Company, Inc.	Distributor of maintenance, repair, and operations parts, supplies, and equipment to the foodservice industry	2/2022	6.5%	191	191
Drayer Physical Therapy Institute, LLC	Outpatient physical therapy provider	7/2018	8.8%	132	132
ECI Purchaser Company, LLC	Manufacturer of equipment to safely control pressurized gases	12/2018	6.5%	207	201
Excellence Learning Corporation	Developer, manufacturer and retailer of educational products	12/2020	6.8%	175	175
Gehl Foods, LLC(4)	Producer of low-acid, aseptic food and beverage products	6/2019	7.5%	155	155
Implus Footcare, LLC	Provider of footwear and other accessories	4/2021	7.0%	260	252
Intermedix Corporation(3)	Revenue cycle management provider to the emergency healthcare industry	12/2019	5.8%	254	251
Mavis Tire Supply LLC	Auto parts retailer	10/2020	6.3%	230	225
MCH Holdings, Inc.(4)	Healthcare professional provider	1/2020	6.5%	168	168
Palermo Finance Corporation	Provider of mission-critical integrated public safety software and services to local, state, and federal agencies	11/2020	7.0%	185	185
Sanders Industries Holdings, Inc.(4)	Elastomeric parts, mid-sized composite structures, and composite tooling	5/2020	6.5%	76	76
Singer Sewing Company	Manufacturer of consumer sewing machines	6/2017	7.8%	181	178
STATS Acquisition, LLC	Sports technology, data and content company	6/2018	10.8%	102	99
U.S. Anesthesia Partners, Inc.(3)	Anesthesiology service provider	12/2019	6.0%	259	259
WCI-Quantum Holdings, Inc.(4)	Distributor of instructional products, services and resources	10/2020	6.1%	76	76
Woodstream Group, Inc.	Pet products manufacturer	5/2022	7.3%	254	254
				\$ 3,360	\$ 3,332

- (1) Represents the weighted average annual stated interest rate as of December 31, 2016. All interest rates are payable in cash except for 0.5% and 2.0% of the interest rates for Singer Sewing Company and STATS Acquisition, LLC, respectively, which are payment-in-kind interest.
- (2) Represents the fair value in accordance with ASC 820-10. The determination of such fair value is not included in our board of directors valuation process described elsewhere herein.
- (3) We also hold a portion of this company's second lien senior secured loan.
- (4) We hold an equity investment in this company.

Selected financial information for the SSLP as of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016 and for the three months ended March 31, 2017 and 2016, was as follows:

As of

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

(in millions)	March 31, 2017		December 31, 2016	
Selected Balance Sheet Information:				
Investments in loans receivable, net	\$	3,212	\$	3,343
Cash and other assets		51		439
Total assets	\$	3,263	\$	3,782
Senior notes	\$	1,017	\$	1,529
Other liabilities		50		45
Total liabilities		1,067		1,574
Subordinated certificates and members' capital		2,196		2,208
Total liabilities and members' capital	\$	3,263	\$	3,782

Table of Contents

(in millions)	For the Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2017	2016
Selected Statement of Operations Information:		
Total interest and other income	\$ 58	\$ 139
Interest expense	11	49
Management and sourcing fees	6	15
Other expenses	1	8
Total expenses	18	72
Net income	\$ 40	\$ 67

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS*For the three months ended March 31, 2017 and 2016*

Operating results for the three months ended March 31, 2017 and 2016 were as follows:

(in millions)	For the Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2017	2016
Total investment income	\$ 275	\$ 248
Total expenses	179	130
Net investment income before income taxes	96	118
Income tax expense, including excise tax	2	5
Net investment income	94	113
Net realized gains on investments and foreign currency transactions	2	27
Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments, foreign currency and other transactions	22	(8)
Net increase in stockholders' equity resulting from operations	\$ 118	\$ 132

Net income can vary substantially from period to period due to various factors, including acquisitions, the level of new investment commitments, the recognition of realized gains and losses and unrealized appreciation and depreciation. As a result, comparisons of net increase in stockholders' equity resulting from operations may not be meaningful.

Investment Income

(in millions)	For the Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2017	2016
Interest income from investments	\$ 231	\$ 207
Capital structuring service fees	12	16
Dividend income	24	17
Management and other fees	3	5
Other income	5	3

Total investment income \$ 275 \$ 248

Table of Contents

The increase in interest income from investments for the three months ended March 31, 2017 from the comparable period in 2016 was primarily due to investments acquired in the American Capital Acquisition that contributed \$46 million of interest income for the three months ended March 31, 2017. This increase in interest income was partially offset by a \$25 million decline in interest income earned from the SSLP resulting from the decline in the yield on our SSLP Certificates at amortized cost from 12.0% for the three months ended March 31, 2016 to 7.0% for the comparable period in 2017. The decrease in capital structuring service fees for the three months ended March 31, 2017 from the comparable period in 2016 was due to the decrease in the weighted average capital structuring fees received on new investment commitments, which decreased from 3.3% for the three months ended March 31, 2016 to 1.4% for the comparable period in 2017. This decline was primarily due to having a higher percentage of new investment commitments made to existing portfolio companies during the three months ended March 31, 2017 as compared to the comparable period in 2016. Dividend income for the three months ended March 31, 2017 and 2016 included dividends received from IHAM totaling \$10 million for each period. Also during the three months ended March 31, 2017, we received \$11.6 million in other non-recurring dividends from non-income producing equity securities compared to \$1.4 million for the comparable period in 2016. The decrease in management and other fees for the three months ended March 31, 2017 from the comparable period in 2016 was due to lower sourcing fees from the SSLP resulting from a decrease in the size of the SSLP portfolio.

Operating Expenses

(in millions)	For the Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2017	2016
Interest and credit facility fees	\$ 56	\$ 50
Base management fees	39	35
Income based fees	32	29
Capital gains incentive fees	16	4
Administrative fees	3	3
Professional fees and other costs related to the American Capital Acquisition	26	2
Other general and administrative	8	7
Total operating expenses	\$ 179	\$ 130

Interest and credit facility fees for the three months ended March 31, 2017 and 2016, were comprised of the following:

(in millions)	For the Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2017	2016
Stated interest expense	\$ 47	\$ 43
Facility fees	2	
Amortization of debt issuance costs	4	4
Net accretion of discount on notes payable	2	3
Total interest and credit facility fees	\$ 55	\$ 50

Stated interest expense for the three months ended March 31, 2017 increased from the comparable period in 2016 primarily due to the increase in the average principal amount of debt

Table of Contents

outstanding, partially offset by a decrease in our weighted average stated interest rate of our debt outstanding. The weighted average stated interest rate on our outstanding debt was 4.0% for the three months ended March 31, 2017 as compared to 4.2% for the comparable period in 2016. For the three months ended March 31, 2017, our average principal debt outstanding increased to \$4.6 billion as compared to \$4.1 billion for the comparable period in 2016. Facility fees for the three months ended March 31, 2017 increased from the comparable period in 2016 primarily due to the increased commitments of our revolving facilities resulting in higher unused commitment fees. Net accretion of discount on notes payable for the three months ended March 31, 2017 decreased from the comparable period in 2016 primarily due to the maturity of the February 2016 Convertible Notes and the June 2016 Convertible Notes.

The increase in base management fees for the three months ended March 31, 2017 from the comparable period in 2016 was primarily due to the increase in investments as a result of the American Capital Acquisition. The increase in income based fees for the three months ended March 31, 2017 from the comparable period in 2016 was primarily due to the pre-incentive fee net investment income, as defined in the investment advisory and management agreement, for the three months ended March 31, 2017 being higher than in the comparable period in 2016.

For the three months ended March 31, 2017 and 2016, the capital gains incentive fees expense calculated in accordance with GAAP was \$16 million and \$4 million, respectively. Capital gains incentive fee expense accrual for the three months ended March 31, 2017 included an \$11 million accrual related to the American Capital Acquisition as a result of the fair value of the net assets acquired exceeding the fair value of the merger consideration paid by us. The capital gains incentive fee accrued under GAAP includes an accrual related to unrealized capital appreciation, whereas the capital gains incentive fee actually payable under our investment advisory and management agreement does not. There can be no assurance that such unrealized capital appreciation will be realized in the future. The accrual for any capital gains incentive fee under GAAP in a given period may result in an additional expense if such cumulative amount is greater than in the prior period or a reduction of previously recorded expense if such cumulative amount is less than in the prior period. If such cumulative amount is negative, then there is no accrual. As of March 31, 2017, the total capital gains incentive fee accrual calculated in accordance with GAAP was \$54 million. As of March 31, 2017, there was no capital gains incentive fee actually payable under our investment advisory and management agreement. See Note 3 to our consolidated financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2017, for more information on the base management fees, income based fees and capital gains incentive fees.

Administrative fees represent fees paid to Ares Operations for our allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by Ares Operations in performing its obligations under the administration agreement, including our allocable portion of the cost of certain of our executive officers and their respective staffs.

For the three months ended March 31, 2017, the Company incurred \$26 million in professional fees and other costs related to the American Capital Acquisition that were not incurred in the comparable period in 2016. These costs included \$18 million in one-time investment banking fees incurred upon the closing of the American Capital Acquisition, \$3 million in legal fees and \$3 million in additional administrative fees (see Notes 3 and 14 to the consolidated financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2017). Other general and administrative expenses include professional fees, rent, insurance, depreciation and director's fees, among other costs.

Income Tax Expense, Including Excise Tax

We have elected to be treated as a RIC under the Code and operate in a manner so as to qualify for the tax treatment applicable to RICs. To qualify as a RIC, we must generally (among other

Table of Contents

requirements) timely distribute to our stockholders at least 90% of our investment company taxable income, as defined by the Code, for each year. In order to maintain our RIC status, we have made and intend to continue to make the requisite distributions to our stockholders which will generally relieve us from U.S. federal corporate-level income taxes.

Depending on the level of taxable income earned in a tax year, we may choose to carry forward such taxable income in excess of current year dividend distributions from such current year taxable income into the next tax year and pay a 4% excise tax on such income, as required. If we determine that our estimated current year taxable income will be in excess of estimated dividend distributions for the current year from such income, we accrue excise tax on estimated excess taxable income as such taxable income is earned. For the three months ended March 31, 2017 and 2016, we recorded a net expense of \$4 million and \$3 million for U.S. federal excise tax, respectively.

Certain of our consolidated subsidiaries are subject to U.S. federal and state income taxes. For the three months ended March 31, 2017 and 2016, we recorded a net tax (benefit) expense of approximately \$(2) million and \$2 million for these subsidiaries, respectively. The income tax expense for our taxable consolidated subsidiaries will vary depending on the level of realized gains from the exits of investments held by such taxable subsidiaries during the retrospective periods.

Net Realized Gains/Losses

During the three months ended March 31, 2017, we had \$917 million of sales, repayments or exits of investments resulting in \$13 million of net realized gains on investments. These sales, repayments or exits included \$20 million of investments sold to IHAM and certain vehicles managed by IHAM. A net realized gain of \$0 million was recorded on these transactions with IHAM. See Note 4 to our consolidated financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2017 for more detail on IHAM and its managed vehicles. During the three months ended March 31, 2017, net realized gains on investments of \$13 million were comprised of \$14 million of gross realized gains and \$1 million of gross realized losses. Of the \$13 million of net realized gains on investments, approximately \$1 million were from investments acquired as part of the American Capital Acquisition.

The net realized gains on investments during the three months ended March 31, 2017 consisted of the following:

(in millions) Portfolio Company	Net Realized Gains (Losses)
S Toys Holdings LLC (fka The Step2 Company, LLC)	\$ 7
Other, net	6
Total	\$ 13

During the three months ended March 31, 2017, we also recognized net realized losses on foreign currency transactions of \$11 million.

During the three months ended March 31, 2016, we had \$504 million of sales, repayments or exits of investments resulting in \$26 million of net realized gains on investments. These sales, repayments or exits included \$65 million of investments sold to IHAM and certain vehicles managed by IHAM. A net realized gain of \$0 million was recorded on these transactions. During the three months ended March 31, 2016, net realized gains on investments of \$26 million were comprised of \$26 million of gross realized gains and no gross realized losses.

Table of Contents

The net realized gains on investments during the three months ended March 31, 2016 consisted of the following:

(in millions) Portfolio Company	Net Realized Gains (Losses)
Physiotherapy Associates Holdings, Inc.	\$ 8
AllBridge Financial, LLC	6
Lakeland Tours, LLC	5
MedAssets, Inc.	3
Other, net	4
 Total	 \$ 26

During the three months ended March 31, 2016, we also recognized net realized gains on foreign currency transactions of \$2 million.

Net Unrealized Gains/Losses

We value our portfolio investments quarterly and the changes in value are recorded as unrealized gains or losses in our consolidated statement of operations. Net unrealized gains and losses for our portfolio for the three months ended March 31, 2017 and 2016, were comprised of the following:

(in millions)	For the Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2017	2016
Unrealized appreciation	\$ 100	\$ 73
Unrealized depreciation	(82)	(60)
Net unrealized (appreciation) depreciation reversed related to net realized gains or losses(1)	(9)	(18)
 Total net unrealized gains	 \$ 9	 \$ (5)

(1) The net unrealized (appreciation) depreciation reversed related to net realized gains or losses represents the unrealized appreciation or depreciation recorded on the related asset at the end of the prior period.

Table of Contents

The changes in net unrealized appreciation and depreciation during the three months ended March 31, 2017 consisted of the following:

(in millions) Portfolio Company	Net Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)
Community Education Centers, Inc.	\$ 14
NECCO Realty Investments LLC	11
Bellotto Holdings Limited	5
Senior Secured Loan Fund LLC	5
PERC Holdings 1 LLC	4
Hard 8 Games, LLC	3
Primrose Holding Corporation	3
Feradyne Outdoors, LLC	2
European Capital UK SME Debt LP	2
Tectum Holdings, Inc.	2
Project Alpha Intermediate II Holding, Inc.	2
Market Track Holdings, LLC	2
Garden Fresh Restaurant Corp.	2
Green Energy Partners	(2)
Absolute Dental Management LLC	(2)
NMSC Holdings, Inc. and ASP NAPA Holdings, LLC	(3)
New Trident Holdcorp, Inc.	(3)
Cadence Aerospace, LLC	(4)
Joule Unlimited Technologies, Inc.	(4)
Infilaw Holding, LLC	(6)
EcoMotors, Inc.	(7)
ADF Capital, Inc.	(9)
Other, net	10
 Total	 \$ 27

During the three months ended March 31, 2017, we also recognized net unrealized gains on foreign currency and other transactions of \$4 million.

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

The changes in net unrealized appreciation and depreciation during the three months ended March 31, 2016 consisted of the following:

(in millions) Portfolio Company	Net Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)
UL Holding Co., LLC	\$ 9
The Step2 Company, LLC	9
ADF Restaurant Group, LLC	8
Community Education Centers, Inc.	5
Netsmart Technologies, Inc. and NS Holdings, Inc.	4
R3 Education, Inc.	4
Orion Foods, LLC	3
Napa Management Services Corporation	3
POS I Corp. (fka Vantage Oncology, Inc.)	2
Things Remembered, Inc.	(2)
Ivy Hill Asset Management, L.P.	(3)
Ciena Capital LLC	(3)
Primexx Energy Corporation	(4)
Infilaw Holding, LLC	(5)
Indra Holdings Corp.	(6)
Instituto de Banca y Comercio, Inc.	(9)
Other, net	(3)
Total	\$ 12

During the three months ended March 31, 2016, we also recognized net unrealized losses on foreign currency and other transactions of \$3 million.

For the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014

Operating results for the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014 were as follows:

(in millions)	For the Years Ended December 31,		
	2016	2015	2014
Total investment income	\$ 1,012	\$ 1,025	\$ 989
Total expenses	497	499	533
Net investment income before income taxes	515	526	456
Income tax expense, including excise tax	21	18	18
Net investment income	494	508	438
Net realized gains on investments and foreign currency transactions	110	127	94
Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments, foreign currency and other transactions	(130)	(246)	59
Realized losses on extinguishment of debt		(10)	
Net increase in stockholders' equity resulting from operations	\$ 474	\$ 379	\$ 591

Table of Contents

Net income can vary substantially from period to period due to various factors, including acquisitions, the level of new investment commitments, the recognition of realized gains and losses and unrealized appreciation and depreciation. As a result, comparisons of net increase in stockholders' equity resulting from operations may not be meaningful.

Investment Income

(in millions)	For the Years Ended		
	December 31,		
	2016	2015	2014
Interest income from investments	\$ 806	\$ 817	\$ 741
Capital structuring service fees	99	95	113
Dividend income	75	74	85
Management and other fees	16	24	25
Other income	16	15	25
Total investment income	\$ 1,012	\$ 1,025	\$ 989

The decrease in interest income from investments for the year ended December 31, 2016 from the comparable period in 2015 was primarily due to a decrease in the weighted average yield of our portfolio, partially offset by an increase in the average size of our portfolio. The weighted average yield of our portfolio decreased from 9.5% for the year ended December 31, 2015 to 8.9% for the comparable period in 2016, primarily driven by the decrease in the yield of the SSLP Certificates. The size of our portfolio increased from an average of \$8.6 billion at amortized cost for the year ended December 31, 2015 to an average of \$9.0 billion at amortized cost for the comparable period in 2016. The increase in capital structuring service fees for the year ended December 31, 2016 from the comparable period in 2015 was due to the increase in weighted average capital structuring fees received on new investment commitments, which increased from 2.5% for the year ended December 31, 2015 to 3.1% for the comparable period in 2016. Dividend income for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015 included dividends received from IHAM totaling \$40 million and \$50 million, respectively. The dividends received from IHAM for the year ended December 31, 2015 included additional dividends of \$10 million that were paid in addition to the quarterly dividends generally paid by IHAM. IHAM paid the additional dividends out of accumulated earnings that had previously been retained by IHAM. Also during the year ended December 31, 2016, we received \$20 million in other non-recurring dividends from non-income producing equity securities compared to \$9 million for the comparable period in 2015. The decrease in management and other fees for the year ended December 31, 2016 from the comparable period in 2015 was due to lower sourcing fees from the SSLP resulting from a decrease in the size of the SSLP portfolio.

The increase in interest income from investments for the year ended December 31, 2015 from the comparable period in 2014 was primarily due to an increase in the size of our portfolio, which increased from an average of \$8.1 billion at amortized cost for the year ended December 31, 2014 to an average of \$8.6 billion at amortized cost for the comparable period in 2015. The decrease in capital structuring service fees for the year ended December 31, 2015 from the comparable period in 2014 was primarily due to the decrease in new investment commitments, which decreased from \$4.6 billion for the year ended December 31, 2014 to \$3.8 billion for the comparable period in 2015. Dividend income for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 included dividends received from IHAM totaling \$50 million and \$50 million, respectively. The dividends received from IHAM for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 each included additional dividends of \$10 million that were paid in addition to the quarterly dividends generally paid by IHAM. IHAM paid the additional dividends out of accumulated earnings that had previously been retained by IHAM. Also during the year ended December 31, 2015, we received \$9 million in other non-recurring dividends from non-income

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

producing equity securities compared to \$19 million for the comparable period in 2014. The decrease in other income for the year ended December 31, 2015 from the comparable period in 2014 was primarily attributable to lower amendment fees.

Operating Expenses

(in millions)	For the Years Ended December 31,		
	2016	2015	2014
Interest and credit facility fees	\$ 186	\$ 227	\$ 216
Base management fees	137	134	128
Income based fees	123	121	118
Capital gains incentive fees	(5)	(27)	30
Administrative fees	14	14	14
Professional fees and other costs related to the American Capital Acquisition	15		
Other general and administrative	27	30	27
Total operating expenses	\$ 497	\$ 499	\$ 533

Interest and credit facility fees for the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014, were comprised of the following:

(in millions)	For the Years Ended December 31,		
	2016	2015	2014
Stated interest expense	\$ 161	\$ 183	\$ 175
Facility fees	5	10	10
Amortization of debt issuance costs	14	17	16
Net accretion of discount on notes payable	6	17	15
Total interest and credit facility fees	\$ 186	\$ 227	\$ 216

Stated interest expense for the year ended December 31, 2016 decreased from the comparable period in 2015 primarily due to the decrease in our weighted average stated interest rate of our debt outstanding, partially offset by an increase in the average principal amount of debt outstanding. The weighted average stated interest rate on our outstanding debt was 4.1% for the year ended December 31, 2016 as compared to 5.0% for the comparable period in 2015 primarily as a result of the repayment upon maturity of the higher cost February 2016 Convertible Notes and June 2016 Convertible Notes and increased utilization of our lower cost revolving facilities. For the year ended December 31, 2016, our average principal debt outstanding increased to \$3.9 billion as compared to \$3.7 billion for the comparable period in 2015. Facility fees for the year ended December 31, 2016 decreased from the comparable period in 2015 primarily due to the increased utilization of our revolving facilities resulting in lower unused commitment fees. Amortization of debt issuance costs and net accretion of discount on notes payable for the year ended December 31, 2016 decreased from the comparable period in 2015 primarily due to the maturity of the February 2016 Convertible Notes and the June 2016 Convertible Notes.

Stated interest expense for the year ended December 31, 2015 increased from the comparable period in 2014 primarily due to the increase in the average principal amount of debt outstanding, partially offset by a decrease in our weighted average stated interest rate of our debt outstanding. For the year ended December 31, 2015, our average principal debt outstanding increased to \$3.7 billion as compared to \$3.3 billion for the comparable period in 2014, and the weighted average stated interest

Table of Contents

rate on our outstanding debt was 5.0% for the year ended December 31, 2015 as compared to 5.3% for the comparable period in 2014.

The increase in base management fees for the year ended December 31, 2016 from the comparable period in 2015 was primarily due to the increase in the size of the portfolio. The increase in income based fees for the year ended December 31, 2016 from the comparable period in 2015 was primarily due to the increase in net investment income excluding income based fees and capital gains incentive fees.

For the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, the reduction in capital gains incentive fees calculated in accordance with GAAP was \$5 million and \$27 million, respectively. For the year ended December 31, 2014, the capital gains incentive fees expense calculated in accordance with GAAP was \$30 million. Capital gains incentive fee expense accrual for the year ended December 31, 2016 changed from the comparable period in 2015 primarily due to net losses on investments, foreign currency and other transactions and the extinguishment of debt during the year ended December 31, 2016 of \$20 million compared to net losses of \$129 million during the year ended December 31, 2015. Capital gains incentive fee expense accrual for the year ended December 31, 2015 changed from the comparable period in 2014 primarily due to net losses on investments, foreign currency and other transactions and the extinguishment of debt during the year ended December 31, 2015 of \$129 million compared to net gains of \$153 million during the year ended December 31, 2014. The capital gains incentive fee accrued under GAAP includes an accrual related to unrealized capital appreciation, whereas the capital gains incentive fee actually payable under our investment advisory and management agreement does not. There can be no assurance that such unrealized capital appreciation will be realized in the future. The accrual for any capital gains incentive fee under GAAP in a given period may result in an additional expense if such cumulative amount is greater than in the prior period or a reduction of previously recorded expense if such cumulative amount is less than in the prior period. If such cumulative amount is negative, then there is no accrual. As of December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014, the total capital gains incentive fee accrual calculated in accordance with GAAP was \$38 million, \$42 million and \$93 million, respectively. As of December 31, 2016 and 2015, there was no capital gains incentive fee actually payable under our investment advisory and management agreement. As of December 31, 2014, the capital gains incentive fee actually payable under our investment advisory and management agreement was \$17 million. See Note 3 to our consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016, for more information on the base management fees, income based fees and capital gains incentive fees.

Administrative fees represent fees paid to Ares Operations for our allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by Ares Operations in performing its obligations under the administration agreement, including our allocable portion of the cost of certain of our executive officers and their respective staffs.

For the year ended December 31, 2016, we incurred \$15 million in professional fees and other costs related to the American Capital Acquisition. No such expenses were incurred in the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014. Other general and administrative expenses include professional fees, rent, insurance, depreciation and director's fees, among other costs.

Income Tax Expense, Including Excise Tax

We have elected to be treated as a RIC under the Code and operate in a manner so as to qualify for the tax treatment applicable to RICs. To qualify as a RIC, we must generally (among other requirements) timely distribute to our stockholders at least 90% of our investment company taxable income, as defined by the Code, for each year. In order to maintain our RIC status, we have made and intend to continue to make the requisite distributions to our stockholders which will generally relieve us from U.S. federal corporate-level income taxes.

Table of Contents

Depending on the level of taxable income earned in a tax year, we may choose to carry forward such taxable income in excess of current year dividend distributions from such current year taxable income into the next tax year and pay a 4% excise tax on such income, as required. If we determine that our estimated current year taxable income will be in excess of estimated dividend distributions for the current year from such income, we accrue excise tax on estimated excess taxable income as such taxable income is earned. For the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014, we recorded a net expense of \$12 million, \$9 million and \$6 million, respectively, for U.S. federal excise tax. The net expense for the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014 each included a reduction in expense related to the recording of a requested refund resulting from the overpayment of the prior year's excise tax of \$1 million, \$1 million and \$2 million, respectively.

Certain of our consolidated subsidiaries are subject to U.S. federal and state income taxes. For the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014, we recorded a tax expense of approximately \$9 million, \$9 million and \$12 million, respectively, for these subsidiaries. The income tax expense for our taxable consolidated subsidiaries will vary depending on the level of realized gains from the exits of investments held by such taxable subsidiaries during the retrospective periods.

Net Realized Gains/Losses

During the year ended December 31, 2016, we had \$3.7 billion of sales, repayments or exits of investments resulting in \$110 million of net realized gains on investments. These sales, repayments or exits included \$472 million of investments sold to IHAM and certain vehicles managed by IHAM and \$474 million of investments sold to the SDLP in conjunction with the initial funding of the SDLP. A net realized gain of \$1 million was recorded on these transactions with IHAM and there was no realized gains or losses recorded on these transactions with the SDLP. See Note 4 to our consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016 for more detail on IHAM and its managed vehicles. During the year ended December 31, 2016, net realized gains on investments of \$110 million were comprised of \$121 million of gross realized gains and \$11 million of gross realized losses.

The net realized gains on investments during the year ended December 31, 2016 consisted of the following:

(in millions) Portfolio Company	Net Realized Gains (Losses)
The Step2 Company, LLC	\$ 18
Napa Management Services Corporation	16
UL Holding Co., LLC	13
Physiotherapy Associates Holdings, Inc.	8
Netsmart Technologies, Inc.	8
Ministry Brands, LLC and MB Parent Holdings, LLC	7
AllBridge Financial, LLC	6
Lakeland Tours, LLC	5
WorldPay Group PLC	4
Primexx Energy Corporation	4
Q9 Holdings Inc.	(9)
Other, net	30
Total, net	\$ 110

During the year ended December 31, 2015, we had \$3.7 billion of sales, repayments or exits of investments resulting in \$121 million of net realized gains on investments. These sales, repayments or exits included \$538 million of investments sold to IHAM or certain vehicles managed by IHAM. A net realized gain of \$1 million was recorded on these transactions. See Note 4 to our consolidated financial

Table of Contents

statements for the year ended December 31, 2016 for more detail on IHAM and its managed vehicles. Net realized gains on investments of \$121 million were comprised of \$125 million of gross realized gains and \$4 million of gross realized losses.

The net realized gains on investments during the year ended December 31, 2015 consisted of the following:

(in millions) Portfolio Company	Net Realized Gains (Losses)
Cast & Crew Payroll, LLC	\$ 26
Tripwire, Inc.	14
TAP Holdings, LLC	11
Global Healthcare Exchange, LLC	8
Protective Industries, Inc.	8
Hojeij Branded Foods, Inc.	8
Wellspring Distribution Corp	6
Driven Brands, Inc.	5
Fulton Holdings Corp.	5
Other, net	30
Total	\$ 121

During the year ended December 31, 2015, we also recognized net realized gains on foreign currency transactions of \$6 million. In addition, during the year ended December 31, 2015, we redeemed the entire \$144 million aggregate principal amount outstanding of the unsecured notes that were scheduled to mature on February 15, 2022 (the "February 2022 Notes"). The February 2022 Notes were redeemed at par plus accrued and unpaid interest for a total redemption price of approximately \$145 million, which resulted in a realized loss on the extinguishment of debt of \$4 million. The \$200 million aggregate principal amount of unsecured notes that were scheduled to mature on October 15, 2040 were redeemed at par plus accrued and unpaid interest for a total redemption price of approximately \$201 million, which resulted in a realized loss on the extinguishment of debt of \$7 million.

During the year ended December 31, 2014, we had \$3.3 billion of sales, repayments or exits of investments resulting in \$92 million of net realized gains on investments. These sales, repayments or exits included \$220 million of investments sold to IHAM or certain vehicles managed by IHAM. There were no realized gains or losses recorded on these transactions. Net realized gains on investments of \$92 million were comprised of \$154 million of gross realized gains and \$62 million of gross realized losses.

Table of Contents

The net realized gains on investments during the year ended December 31, 2014 consisted of the following:

(in millions)	Net Realized
Portfolio Company	Gains (Losses)
Insight Pharmaceuticals Corporation	\$ 33
The Dwyer Group	21
Waste Pro USA, Inc.	19
Service King Paint & Body, LLC	11
The Thymes, LLC	10
CT Technologies Intermediate Holdings, Inc.	7
ELC Acquisition Corp.	6
VSS-Tranzact Holdings, LLC	5
Platform Acquisition, Inc.	5
Apple & Eve, LLC	4
Pillar Processing LLC	(7)
CitiPostal Inc.	(21)
MVL Group, Inc.	(28)
Other, net	27
Total	\$ 92

During the year ended December 31, 2014, we also recognized net realized gains on foreign currency transactions of \$2 million. In addition, during the year ended December 31, 2014, we purchased \$0 million aggregate principal amount of the 2047 Notes and as a result of these transactions, we recognized realized losses on extinguishment of debt of \$2 million.

Net Unrealized Gains/Losses

We value our portfolio investments quarterly and the changes in value are recorded as unrealized gains or losses in our consolidated statement of operations. Net unrealized gains and losses for our portfolio for the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014, were comprised of the following:

(in millions)	For the Years Ended		
	December 31,		
	2016	2015	2014
Unrealized appreciation	\$ 168	\$ 116	\$ 176
Unrealized depreciation	(306)	(304)	(120)
Net unrealized (appreciation) depreciation reversed related to net realized gains or losses(1)	13	(60)	1
Total net unrealized gains (losses)	\$ (125)	\$ (248)	\$ 57

-
- (1) The net unrealized (appreciation) depreciation reversed related to net realized gains or losses represents the unrealized appreciation or depreciation recorded on the related asset at the end of the prior period.

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

The changes in net unrealized appreciation and depreciation during the year ended December 31, 2016 consisted of the following:

(in millions) Portfolio Company	Net Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)
Senior Secured Loan Fund LLC	\$ 26
UL Holding Co., LLC	20
Community Education Centers, Inc.	19
Spin HoldCo Inc.	7
R3 Education, Inc.	7
Green Energy Partners	6
The Step2 Company, LLC	6
TA THI Buyer, Inc.	5
Things Remembered, Inc.	(6)
Ivy Hill Asset Management, L.P.	(6)
Brandtone Holdings Limited	(8)
FastMed Holdings I, LLC	(8)
ADF Capital, Inc.	(9)
10th Street, LLC	(9)
Indra Holdings Corp.	(11)
CCS Intermediate Holdings, LLC	(22)
Instituto de Banca y Comercio, Inc.	(52)
Infilaw Holding, LLC	(127)
Other, net	24
Total, net	\$ (138)

During the year ended December 31, 2016, we also recognized net unrealized losses on foreign currency and other transactions of \$5 million.

Table of Contents

The changes in net unrealized appreciation and depreciation during the year ended December 31, 2015 consisted of the following:

(in millions) Portfolio Company	Net Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)
OTG Management, LLC	\$ 28
Ciena Capital LLC	11
Physiotherapy Associates Holdings, Inc.	6
Napa Management Services Corporation	6
UL Holding Co., LLC	5
Lakeland Tours, LLC	4
Spin HoldCo Inc.	(6)
Things Remembered, Inc.	(6)
La Paloma Generating Company, LLC	(6)
10th Street, LLC	(7)
Indra Holdings Corp.	(7)
Green Energy Partners	(8)
Primexx Energy Corporation	(8)
Nodality, Inc.	(9)
Competitor Group, Inc.	(9)
2329497 Ontario Inc.	(10)
Instituto de Banca y Comercio, Inc.	(14)
CCS Intermediate Holdings, LLC	(14)
Infilaw Holding, LLC	(14)
Ivy Hill Asset Management, L.P.	(24)
Petroflow Energy Corporation	(26)
Senior Secured Loan Fund LLC	(77)
Other, net	(3)
 Total	 \$ (188)

During the year ended December 31, 2015, we also recognized net unrealized gains on foreign currency and other transactions of \$2 million.

Table of Contents

The changes in net unrealized appreciation and depreciation during the year ended December 31, 2014 consisted of the following:

(in millions) Portfolio Company	Net Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)
10th Street, LLC	\$ 44
UL Holding Co., LLC	15
Cast & Crew Payroll, LLC	11
Imperial Capital Private Opportunities, LP	10
Ciena Capital LLC	10
Tripwire, Inc.	8
Senior Secured Loan Fund LLC	7
Campus Management Corp.	7
Global Healthcare Exchange, LLC	4
Eckler Industries, Inc.	(4)
OTG Management, LLC	(4)
Orion Foods, LLC	(5)
Community Education Centers, Inc.	(7)
2329497 Ontario Inc.	(7)
The Step2 Company, LLC	(17)
ADF Restaurant Group, LLC	(18)
Ivy Hill Asset Management, L.P.	(21)
Other, net	23
Total	\$ 56

During the year ended December 31, 2014, we also recognized net unrealized gains on foreign currency transactions of \$2 million.

FINANCIAL CONDITION, LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Our liquidity and capital resources are generated primarily from the net proceeds of public offerings of equity and debt securities, advances from the Revolving Credit Facility, the Revolving Funding Facility and the SMBC Funding Facility (each as defined below and together, the "Facilities"), net proceeds from the issuance of other securities, including SBA-guaranteed debentures (the "SBA Debentures"), as well as cash flows from operations.

As of March 31, 2017, we had \$247 million in cash and cash equivalents and \$4.7 billion in total aggregate principal amount of debt outstanding (\$4.6 billion at carrying value). Subject to leverage, borrowing base and other restrictions, we had approximately \$2.2 billion available for additional borrowings under the Facilities and the SBA Debentures as of March 31, 2017.

We may from time to time seek to retire or repurchase our common stock through cash purchases, as well as retire, cancel or purchase our outstanding debt through cash purchases and/or exchanges, in open market purchases, privately negotiated transactions or otherwise. Such purchases or exchanges, if any, will depend on prevailing market conditions, our liquidity requirements, contractual and regulatory restrictions and other factors. The amounts involved may be material. In addition, we may from time to time enter into additional debt facilities, increase the size of existing facilities or issue additional debt securities, including unsecured debt and/or debt securities convertible into common stock. Any such incurrence or issuance would be subject to prevailing market conditions, our liquidity requirements, contractual and regulatory restrictions and other factors. In accordance with the Investment Company Act, with certain limited exceptions, we are only allowed to borrow amounts such that our asset coverage, calculated pursuant to the Investment Company Act, is at least 200% after

Table of Contents

such borrowing. On June 21, 2016, we received exemptive relief from the SEC allowing us to modify our calculation of asset coverage requirements to exclude the SBA Debentures. This exemptive relief provides us with increased investment flexibility but also increases our risk related to leverage. As of March 31, 2017, our asset coverage was 249% (excluding the SBA Debentures).

Equity Capital Activities

As of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016, our total equity market capitalization was \$7.4 billion and \$5.2 billion, respectively. There were no sales of our equity securities during the three months ended March 31, 2017 and 2016.

On January 3, 2017, in connection with the American Capital Acquisition, we issued 112 million shares valued at approximately \$16.42 per share.

In September 2015, our board of directors approved a stock repurchase program authorizing us to repurchase up to \$100 million in the aggregate of our outstanding common stock in the open market at certain thresholds below our net asset value per share, in accordance with the guidelines specified in Rule 10b-18 under the Exchange Act. The timing, manner, price and amount of any share repurchases will be determined by us, in our discretion, based upon the evaluation of economic and market conditions, stock price, applicable legal and regulatory requirements and other factors. In May 2016, we suspended our stock repurchase program pending the completion of the American Capital Acquisition. In February 2017, our board of directors authorized an amendment to our stock repurchase program to (a) increase the total authorization under the program from \$100 million to \$300 million and (b) extend the expiration date of the program from February 28, 2017 to February 28, 2018. Under the stock repurchase program, we may repurchase up to \$300 million in the aggregate of our outstanding common stock in the open market at a price per share that meets certain thresholds below our net asset value per share, in accordance with the guidelines specified in Rule 10b-18 of the Exchange Act. The program does not require us to repurchase any specific number of shares and we cannot assure stockholders that any shares will be repurchased under the program. The program may be suspended, extended, modified or discontinued at any time.

As of March 31, 2017, we had repurchased a total of 0.5 million shares of our common stock in the open market under the stock repurchase program since its inception in September 2015, at an average price of \$13.92 per share, including commissions paid, leaving approximately \$293 million available for additional repurchases under the program. During the three months ended March 31, 2017, we did not repurchase any shares of our common stock under the stock repurchase program.

Table of Contents**Debt Capital Activities**

Our debt obligations consisted of the following as of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016:

(in millions)	As of March 31, 2017			As of December 31, 2016		
	Total Aggregate Principal Amount Available/ Outstanding(1)	Principal Amount	Carrying Value	Total Aggregate Principal Amount Available/ Outstanding(1)	Principal Amount	Carrying Value
Revolving Credit Facility	\$ 2,095(2)	\$ 622	\$ 622	\$ 1,265	\$ 571	\$ 571
Revolving Funding Facility	1,000	575	575	540	155	155
SMBC Funding Facility	400	140	140	400	105	105
SBA Debentures	75	25	24	75	25	24
2017 Convertible Notes			(3)	162	162	162(4)
2018 Convertible Notes	270	270	268(4)	270	270	267(4)
2019 Convertible Notes	300	300	297(4)	300	300	296(4)
2022 Convertible Notes	388	388	364(4)			
2018 Notes	750	750	746(5)	750	750	745(5)
2020 Notes	600	600	596(6)	600	600	596(6)
January 2022 Notes	600	600	592(7)	600	600	592(7)
October 2022 Notes	183	183	179(8)	183	183	179(8)
2047 Notes	230	230	182(9)	230	230	182(9)
Total	\$ 6,891	\$ 4,683	\$ 4,585	\$ 5,375	\$ 3,951	\$ 3,874

-
- (1) Subject to borrowing base, leverage and other restrictions. Represents the total aggregate amount committed or outstanding, as applicable, under such instrument.
- (2) Provides for a feature that allows us, under certain circumstances, to increase the size of the Revolving Credit Facility to a maximum of \$3.1 billion.
- (3) See below for more information on the repayment of the 2017 Convertible Notes at maturity.
- (4) Represents the aggregate principal amount outstanding of the Convertible Unsecured Notes. As of March 31, 2017, the total unamortized debt issuance costs and the unaccreted discount for the 2018 Convertible Notes, the 2019 Convertible Notes and the 2022 Convertible Notes were \$2 million, \$3 million and \$24 million, respectively. As of December 31, 2016, the total unamortized debt issuance costs and the unaccreted discount for the 2017 Convertible Notes, the 2018 Convertible Notes and the 2019 Convertible Notes were \$0 million, \$3 million and \$4 million, respectively.
- (5) Represents the aggregate principal amount outstanding of the 2018 Notes less unamortized debt issuance costs and plus the net unamortized premium that was recorded upon the issuances of the 2018 Notes. As of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016, the total unamortized debt issuance costs less the net unamortized premium was \$4 million and \$5 million, respectively.

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

- (6) Represents the aggregate principal amount outstanding of the 2020 Notes less unamortized debt issuance costs and the net unaccreted discount recorded upon the issuances of the 2020 Notes. As of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016, the total unamortized debt issuance costs and the net unaccreted discount was \$4 million and \$4 million, respectively.
- (7) Represents the aggregate principal amount outstanding of the January 2022 Notes less unamortized debt issuance costs and the net unaccreted discount recorded upon the issuance of

Table of Contents

the January 2022 Notes. As of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016, the total unamortized debt issuance costs and the unaccreted discount was \$8 million and \$8 million, respectively.

(8) Represents the aggregate principal amount outstanding of the October 2022 Notes less unamortized debt issuance costs. As of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016, the total unamortized debt issuance costs was \$4 million and \$4 million, respectively.

(9) Represents the aggregate principal amount outstanding of the 2047 Notes less the unaccreted purchased discount recorded as part of the acquisition of Allied Capital Corporation in April 2010 (the "Allied Acquisition"). As of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016, the total unaccreted purchased discount was \$48 million and \$48 million, respectively.

The weighted average stated interest rate and weighted average maturity, both on aggregate principal amount, of all our debt outstanding as of March 31, 2017 were 4.0% and 4.5 years, respectively, and as of December 31, 2016 were 4.2% and 4.8 years, respectively.

The ratio of total principal amount of debt outstanding to stockholders' equity as of March 31, 2017 was 0.67:1.00 compared to 0.77:1.00 as of December 31, 2016.

Revolving Credit Facility

We are party to a senior secured revolving credit facility (as amended and restated, the "Revolving Credit Facility"), that allows us to borrow up to \$2.1 billion at any one time outstanding. As of March 31, 2017, the Revolving Credit Facility consisted of a \$383 million term loan tranche with a stated maturity date of January 4, 2022 and a \$1.7 billion revolving tranche. For \$1.6 billion of the revolving tranche, the end of the revolving period and the stated maturity date are January 4, 2021 and January 4, 2022, respectively. As of March 31, 2017, for \$75 million of the revolving tranche, the end of the revolving period and the stated maturity date were May 4, 2020 and May 4, 2021, respectively. For the remaining \$45 million of the revolving tranche, the end of the revolving period and the stated maturity date are May 4, 2019 and May 4, 2020, respectively. The Revolving Credit Facility also provides for a feature that allows us, under certain circumstances, to increase the overall size of the Revolving Credit Facility to a maximum of \$3.1 billion. The interest rate charged on the Revolving Credit Facility is based on an applicable spread of either 1.75% or 2.00% over LIBOR or 0.75% or 1.00% over an "alternate base rate" (as defined in the agreements governing the Revolving Credit Facility), in each case, determined monthly based on the total amount of the borrowing base relative to the total commitments of the Revolving Credit Facility and other debt, if any, secured by the same collateral as the Revolving Credit Facility. As of March 31, 2017, the interest rate in effect was LIBOR plus 1.75%. We are also required to pay a letter of credit fee of either 2.00% or 2.25% per annum on letters of credit issued, determined monthly based on the total amount of the borrowing base relative to the total commitments of the Revolving Credit Facility and other debt, if any, secured by the same collateral as the Revolving Credit Facility. Additionally, we are required to pay a commitment fee of 0.375% per annum on any unused portion of the Revolving Credit Facility. As of March 31, 2017, there was \$622 million outstanding under the Revolving Credit Facility and we were in compliance in all material respects with the terms of the Revolving Credit Facility. See "Recent Developments" for more information on the Revolving Credit Facility.

Table of Contents

Revolving Funding Facility

Our consolidated subsidiary, Ares Capital CP Funding LLC ("Ares Capital CP"), is party to a revolving funding facility (as amended, the "Revolving Funding Facility"), that allows Ares Capital CP to borrow up to \$1 billion at any one time outstanding. The Revolving Funding Facility is secured by all of the assets held by, and the membership interest in, Ares Capital CP. The end of the reinvestment period and the stated maturity date for the Revolving Funding Facility are January 3, 2019 and January 3, 2022, respectively. The interest rate charged on the Revolving Funding Facility is based on LIBOR plus 2.30% per annum or a "base rate" (as defined in the agreements governing the Revolving Funding Facility) plus 1.30% per annum. Ares Capital CP is also required to pay a commitment fee of between 0.50% and 1.50% per annum depending on the size of the unused portion of the Revolving Funding Facility. As of March 31, 2017, there was \$575 million outstanding under the Revolving Funding Facility and we and Ares Capital CP were in compliance in all material respects with the terms of the Revolving Funding Facility.

SMBC Funding Facility

Our consolidated subsidiary, Ares Capital JB Funding LLC ("ACJB"), is party to a revolving funding facility (as amended, the "SMBC Funding Facility"), that allows ACJB to borrow up to \$400 million at any one time outstanding. The SMBC Funding Facility is secured by all of the assets held by ACJB. As of March 31, 2017, the end of the reinvestment period and the stated maturity date for the SMBC Funding Facility were September 14, 2017 and September 14, 2022, respectively. The reinvestment period and the stated maturity date are both subject to two one-year extensions by mutual agreement. The interest rate charged on the SMBC Funding Facility is based on an applicable spread of either 1.75% or 2.00% over LIBOR or 0.75% or 1.00% over a "base rate" (as defined in the agreements governing the SMBC Funding Facility), in each case, determined monthly based on the amount of the average borrowings outstanding under the SMBC Funding Facility. As of March 31, 2017, the interest rate in effect was LIBOR plus 1.75%. Additionally, ACJB is required to pay a commitment fee of between 0.35% and 0.875% per annum depending on the size of the unused portion of the SMBC Funding Facility. As of March 31, 2017, there was \$140 million outstanding under the SMBC Funding Facility and we and ACJB were in compliance in all material respects with the terms of the SMBC Funding Facility.

SBA Debentures

In April 2015, our wholly owned subsidiary, AVF LP, received a license from the SBA to operate as a SBIC under the provisions of Section 301(c) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as amended. The SBA places certain limitations on the financing of investments by SBICs in portfolio companies, including regulating the types of financings, restricting investments to only include small businesses with certain characteristics or in certain industries, and requiring capitalization thresholds that may limit distributions to us.

The license from the SBA allows AVF LP to obtain leverage by issuing the SBA Debentures, subject to issuance of a capital commitment by the SBA and other customary procedures. Leverage through the SBA Debentures is subject to required capitalization thresholds. Current SBA regulations limit the amount that any SBIC may borrow to \$150 million and as of March 31, 2017, the original amount committed to AVF LP by the SBA was \$75 million. Any undrawn commitments expire on September 30, 2019. The SBA Debentures are non-recourse to us, have interest payable semi-annually, have a ten-year maturity and may be prepaid at any time without penalty. As of March 31, 2017, AVF LP had \$25 million of the SBA Debentures issued and outstanding, which mature between September 2025 and March 2026. As of March 31, 2017, AVF LP was in compliance in all material respects with SBA regulatory requirements.

Table of Contents

The interest rate for the SBA Debentures is fixed at the time the SBA Debentures and other applicable issued SBA-guaranteed debentures can be pooled and sold to the public and is based on a spread over U.S. treasury notes with ten-year maturities. The pooling of newly issued SBA-guaranteed debentures occurs twice per year. The spread includes an annual charge as determined by the SBA (the "Annual Charge") as well as a market-driven component. Prior to the ten-year fixed interest rate being determined, the interest rate charged for the SBA Debentures is based on LIBOR plus an applicable spread of 0.30% and the Annual Charge. As of March 31, 2017, the weighted average fixed interest rate in effect for the SBA Debentures was 3.48%.

Convertible Unsecured Notes

We have issued \$270 million aggregate principal amount of unsecured convertible notes that mature on January 15, 2018 (the "2018 Convertible Notes"), \$300 million aggregate principal amount of unsecured convertible notes that mature on January 15, 2019 (the "2019 Convertible Notes") and \$388 million aggregate principal amount of unsecured convertible notes that mature on February 1, 2022 (the "2022 Convertible Notes" and together with the 2018 Convertible Notes and the 2019 Convertible Notes, the "Convertible Unsecured Notes"). The Convertible Unsecured Notes mature upon their respective maturity dates unless previously converted or repurchased in accordance with their terms. We do not have the right to redeem the Convertible Unsecured Notes prior to maturity. The 2018 Convertible Notes, the 2019 Convertible Notes and the 2022 Convertible Notes bear interest at a rate of 4.750%, 4.375% and 3.75%, respectively, per year, payable semi-annually.

In certain circumstances, the Convertible Unsecured Notes will be convertible into cash, shares of our common stock or a combination of cash and shares of our common stock, at our election, at their respective conversion rates (listed below as of March 31, 2017) subject to customary anti-dilution adjustments and the requirements of their respective indenture (the "Convertible Unsecured Notes Indentures"). Prior to the close of business on the business day immediately preceding their respective conversion date (listed below), holders may convert their Convertible Unsecured Notes only under certain circumstances set forth in the respective Convertible Unsecured Notes Indenture. On or after their respective conversion dates until the close of business on the scheduled trading day immediately preceding their respective maturity date, holders may convert their Convertible Unsecured Notes at any time. In addition, if we engage in certain corporate events as described in their respective Convertible Unsecured Notes Indenture, holders of the Convertible Unsecured Notes may require us to repurchase for cash all or part of the Convertible Unsecured Notes at a repurchase price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the Convertible Unsecured Notes to be repurchased, plus accrued and unpaid interest through, but excluding, the required repurchase date.

Certain key terms related to the convertible features for each of the Convertible Unsecured Notes as of March 31, 2017 are listed below.

	2018	2019	2022
	Convertible Notes	Convertible Notes	Convertible Notes
Conversion premium	17.5%	15.0%	15.0%
Closing stock price at issuance	\$16.91	\$17.53	\$16.86
Closing stock price date	October 3, 2012	July 15, 2013	January 23, 2017
Conversion price(1)	\$19.64	\$19.99	\$19.39
Conversion rate (shares per one thousand dollar principal amount)(1)	50.9054	50.0292	51.5756
Conversion dates	July 15, 2017	July 15, 2018	August 1, 2021

- (1) Represents conversion price and conversion rate, as applicable, as of March 31, 2017, taking into account certain de minimis adjustments that will be made on the conversion date.

In March 2017, we repaid in full \$162 million in aggregate principal amount of unsecured convertible notes (the "2017 Convertible Notes") due in March 2017 upon their maturity.

Table of Contents

Unsecured Notes

2018 Notes

We have issued \$750 million in aggregate principal amount of unsecured notes, which bear interest at a rate of 4.875% per year and mature on November 30, 2018 (the "2018 Notes"). The 2018 Notes require payment of interest semi-annually, and all principal is due upon maturity. These notes are redeemable in whole or in part at any time at our option at a redemption price equal to par plus a "make whole" premium, as determined pursuant to the indenture governing the 2018 Notes, and any accrued and unpaid interest. \$600 million in aggregate principal amount of the 2018 Notes were issued at a discount to the principal amount and \$150 million in aggregate principal amount of the 2018 Notes were issued at a premium to the principal amount.

2020 Notes

We have issued \$600 million in aggregate principal amount of unsecured notes, which bear interest at a rate of 3.875% per year and mature on January 15, 2020 (the "2020 Notes"). The 2020 Notes require payment of interest semi-annually, and all principal is due upon maturity. These notes are redeemable in whole or in part at any time at our option at a redemption price equal to par plus a "make whole" premium, if applicable, as determined pursuant to the indenture governing the 2020 Notes, and any accrued and unpaid interest. \$400 million in aggregate principal amount of the 2020 Notes were issued at a discount to the principal amount and \$200 million in aggregate principal amount of the 2020 Notes were issued at a premium to the principal amount.

January 2022 Notes

We have issued \$600 million in aggregate principal amount of unsecured notes, which bear interest at a rate of 3.625% per year and mature on January 19, 2022 (the "January 2022 Notes"). The January 2022 Notes require payment of interest semi-annually, and all principal is due upon maturity. These notes are redeemable in whole or in part at any time at our option at a redemption price equal to par plus a "make whole" premium, if applicable, as determined pursuant to the indenture governing the January 2022 Notes, and any accrued and unpaid interest. The January 2022 Notes were issued at a discount to the principal amount.

October 2022 Notes

We have issued \$183 million in aggregate principal amount of unsecured notes, which bear interest at a rate of 5.875% per year and mature on October 1, 2022. The October 2022 Notes require payment of interest quarterly and all principal is due upon maturity. These notes are redeemable in whole or in part at any time or from time to time at our option, at a par redemption price of \$25.00 per security plus accrued and unpaid interest. See "Recent Developments" for more information relating to a redemption of the October 2022 Notes.

2047 Notes

As part of the Allied Acquisition, we assumed \$230 million aggregate principal amount of unsecured notes which bear interest at a rate of 6.875% and mature on April 15, 2047 (the "2047 Notes" and together with the 2018 Notes, the 2020 Notes, the January 2022 Notes and the October 2022 Notes, the "Unsecured Notes"). The 2047 Notes require payment of interest quarterly, and all principal is due upon maturity. These notes are redeemable in whole or in part at any time or from time to time at our option, at a par redemption price of \$25.00 per security plus accrued and unpaid interest.

Table of Contents

As of March 31, 2017, we were in compliance in all material respects with the terms of the Convertible Unsecured Notes Indentures and the indentures governing the Unsecured Notes.

The Convertible Unsecured Notes and the Unsecured Notes are our senior unsecured obligations and rank senior in right of payment to any future indebtedness that is expressly subordinated in right of payment to the Convertible Unsecured Notes and the Unsecured Notes; equal in right of payment to our existing and future unsecured indebtedness that is not expressly subordinated; effectively junior in right of payment to any of our secured indebtedness (including existing unsecured indebtedness that we later secure) to the extent of the value of the assets securing such indebtedness; and structurally junior to all existing and future indebtedness (including trade payables) incurred by our subsidiaries, financing vehicles or similar facilities.

See Note 5 to our consolidated financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2017 for more information on our debt obligations.

CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS

A summary of the maturities of our principal amounts of debt and other contractual payment obligations as of December 31, 2016 are as follows:

(in millions)	Total	Payments Due by Period			
		Less than 1 year	1-3 years	3-5 years	After 5 years
Revolving Credit Facility	\$ 571	\$	\$	\$ 571	\$
Revolving Funding Facility	155		155		
SMBC Funding Facility	105				105
SBA Debentures	25				25
2017 Convertible Notes	162	162			
2018 Convertible Notes	270		270		
2019 Convertible Notes	300		300		
2018 Notes	750		750		
2020 Notes	600			600	
January 2022 Notes	600				600
October 2022 Notes	183				183
2047 Notes	230				230
Operating lease obligations	85	9	18	18	40
	\$ 4,036	\$ 171	\$ 1,493	\$ 1,189	\$ 1,183

Table of Contents**OFF BALANCE SHEET ARRANGEMENTS**

We have various commitments to fund investments in our portfolio, as described below.

As of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016, we had the following commitments to fund various revolving and delayed draw senior secured and subordinated loans, including commitments to fund which are at (or substantially at) our discretion:

(in millions)	As of	
	March 31, 2017	December 31, 2016
Total revolving and delayed draw loan commitments	\$ 548	\$ 411
Less: drawn commitments	(128)	(81)
Total undrawn commitments	420	330
Less: commitments substantially at our discretion	(15)	(12)
Less: unavailable commitments due to borrowing base or other covenant restrictions		
Total net adjusted undrawn revolving and delayed draw loan commitments	\$ 405	\$ 318

Included within the total revolving and delayed draw loan commitments as of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016 were delayed draw loan commitments totaling \$111 million and \$92 million, respectively. Our commitment to fund delayed draw loans is triggered upon the satisfaction of certain pre-negotiated terms and conditions. Generally, the most significant and uncertain term requires the borrower to satisfy a specific use of proceeds covenant. The use of proceeds covenant typically requires the borrower to use the additional loans for the specific purpose of a permitted acquisition or permitted investment, for example. In addition to the use of proceeds covenant, the borrower is generally required to satisfy additional negotiated covenants (including specified leverage levels).

Also included within the total revolving and delayed draw loan commitments as of March 31, 2017 were commitments to issue up to \$73 million in letters of credit through a financial intermediary on behalf of certain portfolio companies. As of March 31, 2017, we had \$16 million in letters of credit issued and outstanding under these commitments on behalf of the portfolio companies. For all these letters of credit issued and outstanding, we would be required to make payments to third parties if the portfolio companies were to default on their related payment obligations. None of these letters of credit issued and outstanding are recorded as a liability on our balance sheet as such letters of credit are considered in the valuation of the investments in the portfolio company. Of these letters of credit, \$3 million expire in 2017 and \$13 million expire in 2018.

We also have commitments to co-invest in the SDLP and the SSLP for our portion of the SDLP's and the SSLP's commitments to fund delayed draw loans to certain portfolio companies of the SDLP and the SSLP. See "Senior Direct Lending Program" and "Senior Secured Loan Program" above and Note 4 to our consolidated financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2017 for more information.

As of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016, we were party to subscription agreements to fund equity investments in private equity investment partnerships as follows:

(in millions)	As of	
	March 31, 2017	December 31, 2016
Total private equity commitments	\$ 88	\$ 57
Less: funded private equity commitments	(34)	(17)
Total unfunded private equity commitments	54	40
Less: private equity commitments substantially our discretion	(53)	(39)
Total net adjusted unfunded private equity commitments	\$ 1	\$ 1

Table of Contents

In the ordinary course of business, we may sell certain of our investments to third party purchasers. In particular, in connection with the sale of certain controlled portfolio company equity investments (as well as certain other sales), we have, and may continue to do so in the future, agreed to indemnify such purchasers for future liabilities arising from the investments and the related sale transaction. Such indemnification provisions have given rise to liabilities in the past and may do so in the future. In addition, in the ordinary course of business, we may guarantee certain obligations of our portfolio companies (in particular, certain controlled portfolio companies). Under these guarantee arrangements, payments may be required to be made to third parties if the portfolio companies were to default on their related obligations.

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in conformity with GAAP, and include the accounts of ours and our consolidated subsidiaries. We are an investment company following accounting and reporting guidance in ASC 946. The consolidated financial statements reflect all adjustments and reclassifications that, in the opinion of management, are necessary for the fair presentation of the results of the operations and financial condition as of and for the periods presented. All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated.

Interim financial statements are prepared in accordance with GAAP for interim financial information and pursuant to the requirements for reporting on Form 10-Q and Articles 6 or 10 of Regulation S-X. In the opinion of management, all adjustments, consisting solely of normal recurring accruals considered necessary for the fair presentation of financial statements for the interim period presented, have been included. The current period's results of operations will not necessarily be indicative of results that ultimately may be achieved for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include funds from time to time deposited with financial institutions and short-term, liquid investments in a money market account. Cash and cash equivalents are carried at cost which approximates fair value.

Concentration of Credit Risk

We place our cash and cash equivalents with financial institutions and, at times, cash held in money market accounts may exceed the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation insured limit.

Investments

Investment transactions are recorded on the trade date. Realized gains or losses are measured by the difference between the net proceeds from the repayment or sale and the amortized cost basis of the investment using the specific identification method without regard to unrealized gains or losses previously recognized, and include investments charged off during the period, net of recoveries. Unrealized gains or losses primarily reflect the change in investment values, including the reversal of previously recorded unrealized gains or losses when gains or losses are realized.

Investments for which market quotations are readily available are typically valued at such market quotations. In order to validate market quotations, we look at a number of factors to determine if the quotations are representative of fair value, including the source and nature of the quotations. Debt and equity securities that are not publicly traded or whose market prices are not readily available (i.e., substantially all of our investments) are valued at fair value as determined in good faith by our

Table of Contents

board of directors, based on, among other things, the input of our investment adviser, audit committee and independent third-party valuation firms that have been engaged at the direction of our board of directors to assist in the valuation of each portfolio investment without a readily available market quotation at least once during a trailing 12-month period (with certain de minimis exceptions) and under a valuation policy and a consistently applied valuation process. The valuation process is conducted at the end of each fiscal quarter, and a portion of the Company's investment portfolio at fair value is subject to review by an independent valuation firm each quarter. In addition, our independent registered public accounting firm obtains an understanding of, and performs select procedures relating to, our investment valuation process within the context of performing the integrated audit.

As part of the valuation process, we may take into account the following types of factors, if relevant, in determining the fair value of our investments: the enterprise value of a portfolio company (the entire value of the portfolio company to a market participant, including the sum of the values of debt and equity securities used to capitalize the enterprise at a point in time), the nature and realizable value of any collateral, the portfolio company's ability to make payments and its earnings and discounted cash flow, the markets in which the portfolio company does business, a comparison of the portfolio company's securities to any similar publicly traded securities, changes in the interest rate environment and the credit markets, which may affect the price at which similar investments would trade in their principal markets and other relevant factors. When an external event such as a purchase transaction, public offering or subsequent equity sale occurs, we consider the pricing indicated by the external event to corroborate our valuation.

Because there is not a readily available market value for most of the investments in our portfolio, we value substantially all of our portfolio investments at fair value as determined in good faith by our board of directors, as described herein. Due to the inherent uncertainty of determining the fair value of investments that do not have a readily available market value, the fair value of our investments may fluctuate from period to period. Additionally, the fair value of our investments may differ significantly from the values that would have been used had a ready market existed for such investments and may differ materially from the values that we may ultimately realize. Further, such investments are generally subject to legal and other restrictions on resale or otherwise are less liquid than publicly traded securities. If we were required to liquidate a portfolio investment in a forced or liquidation sale, we could realize significantly less than the value at which we have recorded it.

In addition, changes in the market environment and other events that may occur over the life of the investments may cause the gains or losses ultimately realized on these investments to be different than the unrealized gains or losses reflected in the valuations currently assigned.

Our board of directors undertakes a multi-step valuation process each quarter, as described below:

Our quarterly valuation process begins with each portfolio company or investment being initially valued by the investment professionals responsible for the portfolio investment in conjunction with our portfolio management team.

Preliminary valuations are reviewed and discussed with our investment adviser's management and investment professionals, and then valuation recommendations are presented to our board of directors.

The audit committee of our board of directors reviews these valuations, as well as the input of third parties, including independent third-party valuation firms who have reviewed a portion of the investments in the Company's portfolio at fair value.

Our board of directors discusses valuations and ultimately determines the fair value of each investment in our portfolio without a readily available market quotation in good faith based on, among other things, the input of our investment adviser, audit committee and, where applicable, independent third-party valuation firms.

Table of Contents

See Note 8 to our consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016 and Note 8 to our consolidated financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2017 for more information on our valuation process.

Interest and Dividend Income Recognition

Interest income is recorded on an accrual basis and includes the accretion of discounts and amortization of premiums. Discounts from and premiums to par value on securities purchased are accreted/amortized into interest income over the life of the respective security using the effective yield method. The amortized cost of investments represents the original cost adjusted for the accretion of discounts and amortization of premiums, if any.

Loans are generally placed on non-accrual status when principal or interest payments are past due 30 days or more or when there is reasonable doubt that principal or interest will be collected in full. Accrued and unpaid interest is generally reversed when a loan is placed on non-accrual status. Interest payments received on non-accrual loans may be recognized as income or applied to principal depending upon management's judgment regarding collectability. Non-accrual loans are restored to accrual status when past due principal and interest is paid and, in management's judgment, are likely to remain current. We may make exceptions to this policy if the loan has sufficient collateral value and is in the process of collection.

Dividend income on preferred equity securities is recorded as dividend income on an accrual basis to the extent that such amounts are payable by the portfolio company and are expected to be collected. Dividend income on common equity securities is recorded on the record date for private portfolio companies or on the ex-dividend date for publicly traded portfolio companies.

Payment-in-Kind Interest

We have loans in our portfolio that contain PIK provisions. The PIK interest, computed at the contractual rate specified in each loan agreement, is added to the principal balance of the loan and recorded as interest income. To maintain our status as a RIC, this non-cash source of income must be paid out to stockholders in the form of dividends, even though we have not yet collected the cash.

Capital Structuring Service Fees and Other Income

Our investment adviser seeks to provide assistance to our portfolio companies and in return we may receive fees for capital structuring services. These fees are generally only available to us as a result of our underlying investments, are normally paid at the closing of the investments, are generally non-recurring and are recognized as revenue when earned upon closing of the investment. The services that our investment adviser provides vary by investment, but generally include reviewing existing credit facilities, arranging bank financing, arranging equity financing, structuring financing from multiple lenders, structuring financing from multiple equity investors, restructuring existing loans, raising equity and debt capital, and providing general financial advice, which concludes upon closing of the investment. Any services of the above nature subsequent to the closing would generally generate a separate fee payable to us. In certain instances where we are invited to participate as a co-lender in a transaction and do not provide significant services in connection with the investment, a portion of loan fees paid to us in such situations will be deferred and amortized over the estimated life of the loan.

Other income includes fees for management and consulting services, loan guarantees, commitments, amendments and other services rendered by us to portfolio companies. Such fees are recognized as income when earned or the services are rendered.

Table of Contents

Foreign Currency Translation

Our books and records are maintained in U.S. dollars. Any foreign currency amounts are translated into U.S. dollars on the following basis:

- (1) Fair value of investment securities, other assets and liabilities at the exchange rates prevailing at the end of the period.
- (2) Purchases and sales of investment securities, income and expenses at the exchange rates prevailing on the respective dates of such transactions, income or expenses.

Results of operations based on changes in foreign exchange rates are separately disclosed in the statement of operations, if any. Foreign security and currency translations may involve certain considerations and risks not typically associated with investing in U.S. companies and U.S. government securities. These risks include, but are not limited to, currency fluctuations and revaluations and future adverse political, social and economic developments, which could cause investments in foreign markets to be less liquid and prices more volatile than those of comparable U.S. companies or U.S. government securities.

Derivative Instruments

We do not utilize hedge accounting and as such we value our derivatives at fair value with the unrealized gains or losses recorded in "net unrealized gains (losses) from foreign currency and other transactions" in our consolidated statement of operations.

Equity Offering Expenses

Our offering costs are charged against the proceeds from equity offerings when proceeds are received.

Debt Issuance Costs

Debt issuance costs are amortized over the life of the related debt instrument using the straight line method or the effective yield method, depending on the type of debt instrument.

Income Taxes

We have elected to be treated as a RIC under the Code and operate in a manner so as to qualify for the tax treatment applicable to RICs. To qualify as a RIC, we must (among other requirements) meet certain source-of- income and asset diversification requirements and timely distribute to our stockholders at least 90% of our investment company taxable income, as defined by the Code, for each year. We (among other requirements) have made and intend to continue to make the requisite distributions to our stockholders, which will generally relieve us from U.S. federal corporate-level income taxes.

Depending on the level of taxable income earned in a tax year, we may choose to carry forward taxable income in excess of current year dividend distributions from such current year taxable income into the next tax year and pay a 4% excise tax on such income, as required. To the extent that we determine that our estimated current year taxable income will be in excess of estimated dividend distributions for the current year, we accrue excise tax, if any, on estimated excess taxable income as such taxable income is earned.

Certain of our consolidated subsidiaries are subject to U.S. federal and state corporate-level income taxes.

Table of Contents

Dividends to Common Stockholders

Dividends and distributions to common stockholders are recorded on the ex-dividend date. The amount to be paid out as a dividend is determined by our board of directors each quarter and is generally based upon the earnings estimated by management. Net realized capital gains, if any, are generally distributed, although we may decide to retain such capital gains for investment.

We have adopted a dividend reinvestment plan that provides for reinvestment of any distributions we declare in cash on behalf of our stockholders, unless a stockholder elects to receive cash. As a result, if our board of directors authorizes, and we declare, a cash dividend, then our stockholders who have not "opted out" of our dividend reinvestment plan will have their cash dividends automatically reinvested in additional shares of our common stock, rather than receiving the cash dividend. We intend to use primarily newly issued shares to implement the dividend reinvestment plan (so long as we are trading at a premium to net asset value). If our shares are trading at a discount to net asset value and we are otherwise permitted under applicable law to purchase such shares, we may purchase shares in the open market in connection with our obligations under our dividend reinvestment plan. However, we reserve the right to issue new shares of our common stock in connection with our obligations under the dividend reinvestment plan even if our shares are trading below net asset value.

Use of Estimates in the Preparation of Financial Statements

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of actual and contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of income or loss and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Significant estimates include the valuation of investments.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (the "FASB") issued ASU No. 2014-09, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606)*. The guidance in this ASU supersedes the revenue recognition requirements in *Revenue Recognition (Topic 605)*. Under the new guidance, an entity should recognize revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. The amendments in ASU No. 2014-09 are effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017, including interim periods within that reporting period. In March 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-08, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606): Principal versus Agent Considerations*, which clarifies the guidance in ASU No. 2014-09 and has the same effective date as the original standard. In April 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-10, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606): Identifying Performance Obligations and Licensing*, an update on identifying performance obligations and accounting for licenses of intellectual property. In May 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-12, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606): Narrow-Scope Improvements and Practical Expedients*, which includes amendments for enhanced clarification of the guidance. In December 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-20, *Technical Corrections and Improvements to Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606)*, the amendments in this update are of a similar nature to the items typically addressed in the technical corrections and improvements project. Additionally, in February 2017, the FASB issued ASU No. 2017-05, *Other Income Gains and Losses from the Derecognition of Nonfinancial Assets (subtopic 610-20): Clarifying the Scope of Asset Derecognition Guidance and Accounting for Partial Sales of Nonfinancial Assets*, an update clarifying that a financial asset is within the scope of Subtopic 610-20 if it is deemed an "in-substance non-financial asset." While we continue to evaluate the impact of ASU No. 2014-09, and cannot currently quantify the impact of ASU No. 2014-09, we expect any impact by the proposed standard to be limited to structuring service fees.

Table of Contents

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-02, *Leases (Topic 842)*. The guidance in this ASU supersedes the leasing guidance in *Leases (Topic 840)*. Under the new guidance, lessees are required to recognize lease assets and lease liabilities on the balance sheet for those leases previously classified as operating leases. The guidance requires the use of a modified retrospective transition approach, which includes a number of optional practical expedients that entities may elect to apply. The amendments in ASU No. 2016-02 are effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2018, including interim periods within that reporting period, with early adoption permitted. While we are currently evaluating the impact of ASU No. 2016-02, we expect an increase to the consolidated balance sheets for lease assets and associated lease liabilities, as well as resulting depreciation expense of the lease assets and interest expense of the lease liabilities in our consolidated statements of income, for our lease agreements previously accounted for as operating leases.

QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

We are subject to financial market risks, including changes in interest rates and the valuations of our investment portfolio.

Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate sensitivity refers to the change in our earnings that may result from changes in the level of interest rates. Because we fund a portion of our investments with borrowings, our net investment income is affected by the difference between the rate at which we invest and the rate at which we borrow. As a result, there can be no assurance that a significant change in market interest rates will not have a material adverse effect on our net investment income. See "Risk Factors - Risks Relating to Our Business - We are exposed to risks associated with changes in interest rates."

As of March 31, 2017, 79% of the investments at fair value in our portfolio bore interest at variable rates, 9% bore interest at fixed rates, 11% were non-interest earning and 1% were on non-accrual status. Additionally, for the variable rate investments, 72% of these investments contained interest rate floors (representing 57% of total investments at fair value). Also, as of March 31, 2017, all the loans made through the SSLP and SDLP contained interest rate floors. The Facilities all bear interest at variable rates with no interest rate floors, while the SBA Debentures, the Unsecured Notes and the Convertible Unsecured Notes bear interest at fixed rates.

We regularly measure our exposure to interest rate risk. We assess interest rate risk and manage our interest rate exposure on an ongoing basis by comparing our interest rate sensitive assets to our interest rate sensitive liabilities. Based on that review, we determine whether or not any hedging transactions are necessary to mitigate exposure to changes in interest rates.

While hedging activities may mitigate our exposure to adverse fluctuations in interest rates, certain hedging transactions that we may enter into in the future, such as interest rate swap agreements, may also limit our ability to participate in the benefits of lower interest rates with respect to our portfolio investments. In addition, there can be no assurance that we will be able to effectively hedge our interest rate risk.

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Based on our March 31, 2017, balance sheet, the following table shows the annual impact on net income of base rate changes in interest rates (considering interest rate floors for variable rate instruments) assuming no changes in our investment and borrowing structure:

(in millions) Basis Point Change	Interest Income	Interest Expense	Net Income(1)
Up 300 basis points	\$ 263	\$ 41	\$ 222
Up 200 basis points	\$ 175	\$ 27	\$ 148
Up 100 basis points	\$ 87	\$ 14	\$ 73
Down 100 basis points	\$ (3)	\$ (13)	\$ 10
Down 200 basis points	\$ (3)	\$ (13)	\$ 10
Down 300 basis points	\$ (3)	\$ (13)	\$ 10

(1)

Excludes the impact of income based fees. See Note 3 to our consolidated financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2017 for more information on the income based fees.

Based on our December 31, 2016, balance sheet, the following table shows the annual impact on net income of base rate changes in interest rates (considering interest rate floors for variable rate instruments) assuming no changes in our investment and borrowing structure:

(in millions) Basis Point Change	Interest Income	Interest Expense	Net Income(1)
Up 300 basis points	\$ 205	\$ 25	\$ 180
Up 200 basis points	\$ 136	\$ 17	\$ 119
Up 100 basis points	\$ 67	\$ 9	\$ 58
Down 100 basis points	\$ 9	\$ (6)	\$ 15
Down 200 basis points	\$ 8	\$ (6)	\$ 14
Down 300 basis points	\$ 8	\$ (6)	\$ 14

(1)

Excludes the impact of income based fees. See Note 3 to our consolidated financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2017 for more information on the income based fees.

Table of Contents

SENIOR SECURITIES
(dollar amounts in thousands, except per unit data)

Information about our senior securities (including preferred stock, debt securities and other indebtedness) is shown in the following tables as of the end of the last ten fiscal years and as of March 31, 2017. The report of our independent registered public accounting firm, KPMG LLP, on the senior securities table as of December 31, 2016, is attached as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement is a part. The " " indicates information that the SEC expressly does not require to be disclosed for certain types of senior securities.

Class and Year	Total Amount Outstanding Exclusive of Treasury Securities(1)	Asset Coverage Per Unit(2)	Involuntary Liquidating Preference Per Unit(3)	Average Market Value Per Unit(4)
Revolving Credit Facility				
Fiscal 2017 (as of March 31, 2017, unaudited)	\$ 622,500	\$ 2,490	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2016	\$ 571,053	\$ 2,296	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2015	\$ 515,000	\$ 2,213	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2014	\$ 170,000	\$ 2,292	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2013	\$	\$	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2012	\$	\$	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2011	\$ 395,000	\$ 2,393	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2010	\$ 146,000	\$ 3,079	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2009	\$ 474,144	\$ 2,294	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2008	\$ 480,486	\$ 2,201	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2007	\$ 282,528	\$ 2,644	\$	N/A
Revolving Funding Facility				
Fiscal 2017 (as of March 31, 2017, unaudited)	\$ 575,000	\$ 2,490	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2016	\$ 155,000	\$ 2,296	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2015	\$ 250,000	\$ 2,213	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2014	\$ 324,000	\$ 2,292	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2013	\$ 185,000	\$ 2,547	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2012	\$ 300,000	\$ 2,721	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2011	\$ 463,000	\$ 2,393	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2010	\$ 242,050	\$ 3,079	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2009	\$ 221,569	\$ 2,294	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2008	\$ 114,300	\$ 2,201	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2007	\$ 85,000	\$ 2,644	\$	N/A
Revolving Funding II Facility				
Fiscal 2009	\$	\$	\$	N/A
SMBC Revolving Funding Facility				
Fiscal 2017 (as of March 31, 2017, unaudited)	\$ 140,000	\$ 2,490	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2016	\$ 105,000	\$ 2,296	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2015	\$ 110,000	\$ 2,213	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2014	\$ 62,000	\$ 2,292	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2013	\$	\$	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2012	\$	\$	\$	N/A
SBA Debentures				
Fiscal 2017 (as of March 31, 2017, unaudited)	\$ 25,000	\$ 2,490	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2016	\$ 25,000	\$ 2,296	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2015	\$ 22,000	\$ 2,213	\$	N/A
Debt Securitization				
Fiscal 2011	\$ 77,531	\$ 2,393	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2010	\$ 155,297	\$ 3,079	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2009	\$ 273,752	\$ 2,294	\$	N/A

Table of Contents

Class and Year	Total Amount Outstanding Exclusive of Treasury Securities(1)	Asset Coverage Per Unit(2)	Involuntary Liquidating Preference Per Unit(3)	Average Market Value Per Unit(4)
Fiscal 2008	\$ 314,000	\$ 2,201	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2007	\$ 314,000	\$ 2,644	\$	N/A
February 2016 Convertible Notes				
Fiscal 2015	\$ 575,000	\$ 2,213	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2014	\$ 575,000	\$ 2,292	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2013	\$ 575,000	\$ 2,547	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2012	\$ 575,000	\$ 2,721	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2011	\$ 575,000	\$ 2,393	\$	N/A
June 2016 Convertible Notes				
Fiscal 2015	\$ 230,000	\$ 2,213	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2014	\$ 230,000	\$ 2,292	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2013	\$ 230,000	\$ 2,547	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2012	\$ 230,000	\$ 2,721	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2011	\$ 230,000	\$ 2,393	\$	N/A
2017 Convertible Notes				
Fiscal 2016	\$ 162,500	\$ 2,296	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2015	\$ 162,500	\$ 2,213	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2014	\$ 162,500	\$ 2,292	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2013	\$ 162,500	\$ 2,547	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2012	\$ 162,500	\$ 2,721	\$	N/A
2018 Convertible Notes				
Fiscal 2017 (as of March 31, 2017, unaudited)	\$ 270,000	\$ 2,490	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2016	\$ 270,000	\$ 2,296	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2015	\$ 270,000	\$ 2,213	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2014	\$ 270,000	\$ 2,292	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2013	\$ 270,000	\$ 2,547	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2012	\$ 270,000	\$ 2,721	\$	N/A
2019 Convertible Notes				
Fiscal 2017 (as of March 31, 2017, unaudited)	\$ 300,000	\$ 2,490	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2016	\$ 300,000	\$ 2,296	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2015	\$ 300,000	\$ 2,213	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2014	\$ 300,000	\$ 2,292	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2013	\$ 300,000	\$ 2,547	\$	N/A
2022 Convertible Notes				
Fiscal 2017 (as of March 31, 2017, unaudited)	\$ 388,000	\$ 2,490	\$	N/A
2011 Notes				
Fiscal 2010	\$ 300,584	\$ 3,079	\$	\$ 1,018
2012 Notes				
Fiscal 2010	\$ 161,210	\$ 3,079	\$	\$ 1,018
2018 Notes				
Fiscal 2017 (as of March 31, 2017, unaudited)	\$ 750,000	\$ 2,490	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2016	\$ 750,000	\$ 2,296	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2015	\$ 750,000	\$ 2,213	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2014	\$ 750,000	\$ 2,292	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2013	\$ 600,000	\$ 2,547	\$	N/A
2020 Notes				
Fiscal 2017 (as of March 31, 2017, unaudited)	\$ 600,000	\$ 2,490	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2016	\$ 600,000	\$ 2,296	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2015	\$ 600,000	\$ 2,213	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2014	\$ 400,000	\$ 2,292	\$	N/A
January 2022 Notes				
Fiscal 2017 (as of March 31, 2017, unaudited)	\$ 600,000	\$ 2,490	\$	N/A
Fiscal 2016	\$ 600,000	\$ 2,296	\$	N/A

Table of Contents

Class and Year	Total Amount Outstanding Exclusive of Treasury Securities(1)	Asset Coverage Per Unit(2)	Involuntary Liquidating Preference Per Unit(3)	Average Market Value Per Unit(4)
February 2022 Notes				
Fiscal 2014	\$ 143,750	\$ 2,292	\$	\$ 1,024
Fiscal 2013	\$ 143,750	\$ 2,547	\$	\$ 1,043
Fiscal 2012	\$ 143,750	\$ 2,721	\$	\$ 1,035
October 2022 Notes				
Fiscal 2017 (as of March 31, 2017, unaudited)	\$ 182,500	\$ 2,490	\$	\$ 1,024
Fiscal 2016	\$ 182,500	\$ 2,296	\$	\$ 1,017
Fiscal 2015	\$ 182,500	\$ 2,213	\$	\$ 1,011
Fiscal 2014	\$ 182,500	\$ 2,292	\$	\$ 1,013
Fiscal 2013	\$ 182,500	\$ 2,547	\$	\$ 993
Fiscal 2012	\$ 182,500	\$ 2,721	\$	\$ 986
2040 Notes				
Fiscal 2014	\$ 200,000	\$ 2,292	\$	\$ 1,040
Fiscal 2013	\$ 200,000	\$ 2,547	\$	\$ 1,038
Fiscal 2012	\$ 200,000	\$ 2,721	\$	\$ 1,041
Fiscal 2011	\$ 200,000	\$ 2,393	\$	\$ 984
Fiscal 2010	\$ 200,000	\$ 3,079	\$	\$ 952
2047 Notes				
Fiscal 2017 (as of March 31, 2017, unaudited)	\$ 229,557	\$ 2,490	\$	\$ 1,015
Fiscal 2016	\$ 229,557	\$ 2,296	\$	\$ 1,015
Fiscal 2015	\$ 229,557	\$ 2,213	\$	\$ 1,011
Fiscal 2014	\$ 229,557	\$ 2,292	\$	\$ 985
Fiscal 2013	\$ 230,000	\$ 2,547	\$	\$ 972
Fiscal 2012	\$ 230,000	\$ 2,721	\$	\$ 978
Fiscal 2011	\$ 230,000	\$ 2,393	\$	\$ 917
Fiscal 2010	\$ 230,000	\$ 3,079	\$	\$ 847

(1) Total amount of each class of senior securities outstanding at principal value at the end of the period presented.

(2) The asset coverage ratio for a class of senior securities representing indebtedness is calculated as our consolidated total assets, less all liabilities and indebtedness not represented by senior securities, divided by total senior securities representing indebtedness. This asset coverage ratio is multiplied by \$1,000 to determine the "Asset Coverage Per Unit" (including for the February 2022 Notes, the October 2022 Notes, the 2040 Notes and the 2047 Notes, which were issued in \$25 increments). In June 2016, Ares Capital received exemptive relief from the SEC allowing it to modify the asset coverage requirements to exclude SBA Debentures from this calculation. As such, the asset coverage ratio beginning with Fiscal 2016 excludes the SBA Debentures. Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to the 2016 presentation. In particular, unamortized debt issuance costs were previously included in other assets and were reclassified to long-term debt as a result of the adoption of ASU 2015-03, Interest Imputation of Interest (Topic 835): Simplifying the Presentation of Debt Issuance Costs during the first quarter of 2016.

(3) The amount to which such class of senior security would be entitled upon our involuntary liquidation in preference to any security junior to it.

(4) Not applicable, except for with respect to the 2011 Notes, the 2012 Notes, the February 2022 Notes, the October 2022 Notes, the 2040 Notes and the 2047 Notes, as other senior securities are not registered for public trading on a stock exchange. The average market value per unit for each of the 2011 Notes, the 2012 Notes, the February 2022 Notes, the October 2022 Notes, the 2040 Notes and the 2047 Notes is based on the average daily prices of such notes and is expressed per \$1,000 of indebtedness (including for the February 2022 Notes, the October 2022 Notes, the 2040 Notes and the 2047 Notes, which were issued in \$25 increments).

Table of Contents

BUSINESS

Ares Capital

Ares Capital, a Maryland corporation, is a specialty finance company that is a closed-end, non-diversified management investment company. We have elected to be regulated as a BDC under the Investment Company Act. We were founded on April 16, 2004, were initially funded on June 23, 2004 and completed our initial public offering on October 8, 2004. As of March 31, 2017, we were the largest BDC with approximately \$12.0 billion of total assets.

We are externally managed by our investment adviser, Ares Capital Management, a subsidiary of Ares Management, a publicly traded, leading global alternative asset manager. Our administrator, Ares Operations, a subsidiary of Ares Management, provides certain administrative and other services necessary for us to operate.

Our investment objective is to generate both current income and capital appreciation through debt and equity investments. We invest primarily in U.S. middle-market companies, where we believe the supply of primary capital is limited and the investment opportunities are most attractive. However, we may from time to time invest in larger or smaller (in particular, for investments in early-stage and/or venture capital-backed) companies. We generally use the term "middle-market" to refer to companies with annual EBITDA between \$10 million and \$250 million. As used herein, EBITDA represents net income before net interest expense, income tax expense, depreciation and amortization.

We invest primarily in first lien senior secured loans (including "unitranche" loans, which are loans that combine both senior and mezzanine debt, generally in a first lien position), second lien senior secured loans and mezzanine debt, which in some cases includes an equity component. First and second lien senior secured loans generally are senior debt instruments that rank ahead of subordinated debt of a given portfolio company. Mezzanine debt is subordinated to senior loans and is generally unsecured. Our investments in corporate borrowers generally range between \$30 million and \$500 million each, investments in project finance/power generation projects generally range between \$10 million and \$200 million each and investments in early-stage and/or venture capital-backed companies generally range between \$1 million and \$25 million each. However, the investment sizes may be more or less than these ranges and may vary based on, among other things, our capital availability, the composition of our portfolio and general micro- and macro-economic factors.

To a lesser extent, we also make preferred and/or common equity investments, which have generally been non-control equity investments of less than \$20 million (usually in conjunction with a concurrent debt investment). However, we may increase the size or change the nature of these investments. Also, as a result of the American Capital Acquisition, American Capital's equity investments, including equity investments pursuant to which American Capital controlled a particular portfolio company, became part of our portfolio.

The proportion of these types of investments will change over time given our views on, among other things, the economic and credit environment in which we are operating. In connection with our investing activities, we may make commitments with respect to indebtedness or securities of a potential portfolio company substantially in excess of our final investment. In such situations, while we may initially agree to fund up to a certain dollar amount of an investment, we may subsequently syndicate or sell a portion of such amount (including, without limitation, to vehicles managed by our portfolio company, IHAM), such that we are left with a smaller investment than what was reflected in our original commitment. In addition to originating investments, we may also acquire investments in the secondary market (including purchases of a portfolio of investments).

The first and second lien senior secured loans in which we invest generally have stated terms of three to 10 years and the mezzanine debt investments in which we invest generally have stated terms of up to 10 years, but the expected average life of such first and second lien loans and mezzanine debt is

Table of Contents

generally between three and seven years. However, we may invest in loans and securities with any maturity or duration. The instruments in which we invest typically are not rated by any rating agency, but we believe that if such instruments were rated, they would be below investment grade (rated lower than "Baa3" by Moody's Investors Service, lower than "BBB " by Fitch Ratings or lower than "BBB " by Standard & Poor's Ratings Services), which, under the guidelines established by these entities, is an indication of having predominantly speculative characteristics with respect to the issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal. Bonds that are rated below investment grade are sometimes referred to as "high yield bonds" or "junk bonds." We may invest without limit in debt or other securities of any rating, as well as debt or other securities that have not been rated by any nationally recognized statistical rating organization.

We believe that our investment adviser, Ares Capital Management, is able to leverage the current investment platform, resources and existing relationships of Ares with financial sponsors, financial institutions, hedge funds and other investment firms to provide us with attractive investment opportunities. In addition to deal flow, the Ares investment platform assists our investment adviser in analyzing, structuring and monitoring investments. Ares has been in existence for over 15 years and its partners have an average of over 24 years of experience in leveraged finance, private equity, distressed debt, commercial real estate finance, investment banking and capital markets. We have access to Ares' investment professionals and administrative professionals, who provide assistance in accounting, finance, legal, compliance, operations, information technology and investor relations. As of March 31, 2017, Ares had approximately 370 investment professionals and approximately 585 administrative professionals.

American Capital Acquisition

On January 3, 2017, we completed the American Capital Acquisition in a cash and stock transaction valued at approximately \$4.2 billion. In connection with the stock consideration, we issued approximately 112 million shares of our common stock to American Capital's then-existing stockholders (including holders of outstanding in-the-money American Capital stock options), thereby resulting in our then-existing stockholders owning approximately 73.7% of the combined company and then-existing American Capital stockholders owning approximately 26.3% of the combined company. See Note 14 to our consolidated financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2017 and Note 16 to our consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016 for additional information regarding the American Capital Acquisition.

In connection with the American Capital Acquisition, Ares Capital Management has agreed to the Fee Waiver.

Ares Management, L.P.

Ares is a publicly traded, leading global alternative asset manager. As of March 31, 2017, Ares had approximately 955 employees in over 15 principal and originating offices across the United States, Europe, Asia and Australia. Since its inception in 1997, Ares has adhered to a disciplined investment philosophy that focuses on delivering strong risk-adjusted investment returns throughout market cycles. Ares believes each of its three distinct but complementary investment groups in Credit, Private Equity and Real Estate is a market leader based on investment performance. Ares was built upon the fundamental principle that each group benefits from being part of the greater whole.

Ares Capital Management LLC

Ares Capital Management, our investment adviser, is served by an origination, investment and portfolio management team of approximately 100 U.S.-based investment professionals as of March 31, 2017 and led by certain partners of the Ares Credit Group: Michael Arougheti, Kipp deVeer, Mitchell

Table of Contents

Goldstein and Michael Smith. Ares Capital Management leverages off of Ares' investment platform and benefits from the significant capital markets, trading and research expertise of Ares' investment professionals. Ares Capital Management's investment committee has eight members comprised of certain of the U.S.-based partners of the Ares Credit Group.

MARKET OPPORTUNITY

We believe that current market conditions present attractive opportunities for us to invest in middle-market companies, specifically:

We believe that many commercial and investment banks have, in recent years, de-emphasized their service and product offerings to middle-market businesses in favor of lending to large corporate clients and managing capital markets transactions. In addition, these lenders may be constrained in their ability to underwrite and hold bank loans and high yield securities for middle-market issuers as they seek to meet existing and future regulatory capital requirements. These factors may result in opportunities for alternative funding sources to middle-market companies and therefore more new-issue market opportunities for us.

We believe disruption and volatility that occurs periodically in the credit markets, reduces capital available to certain capital providers, causing a reduction in competition. When these volatile market conditions occur, they often create opportunities to achieve attractive risk-adjusted returns.

We believe that there is a lack of market participants that are willing to hold meaningful amounts of certain middle-market loans. As a result, we believe our ability to minimize syndication risk for a company seeking financing by being able to hold our loans without having to syndicate them is a competitive advantage.

We believe that middle-market companies have faced difficulty in raising debt through the capital markets. This approach to financing may become more difficult to the extent institutional investors seek to invest in larger, more liquid offerings, leaving less competition and fewer financing alternatives for middle-market companies.

We believe there is a large pool of un-invested private equity capital for middle-market businesses. We expect private equity firms will seek to leverage their investments by combining equity capital with senior secured loans and mezzanine debt from other sources such as us.

COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES

We believe that we have the following competitive advantages over other capital providers to middle-market companies:

The Ares Platform

Ares operates three distinct but complementary investment groups, including the Ares Credit Group, the Ares Private Equity Group and the Ares Real Estate Group. We believe Ares' current investment platform provides a competitive advantage in terms of access to origination and marketing activities and diligence for us. In particular, we believe that the Ares platform provides us with an advantage through its deal flow generation and investment evaluation process. Ares' asset management platform also provides additional market information, company knowledge and industry insight that benefit our investment and due diligence process. Ares' professionals maintain extensive financial sponsor and intermediary relationships, which provide valuable insight and access to transactions and information.

Table of Contents

Seasoned Management Team

The investment professionals in the Ares Credit Group and members of our investment adviser's investment committee also have significant experience investing across market cycles. This experience also provides us with a competitive advantage in identifying, originating, investing in and managing a portfolio of investments in middle-market companies.

Broad Origination Strategy

We focus on self-originating most of our investments by pursuing a broad array of investment opportunities in middle-market companies, venture capital backed businesses and power generation projects across multiple channels. We also leverage off of the extensive relationships of the broader Ares platform, including relationships with the portfolio companies in the IHAM Vehicles, to identify investment opportunities. We believe that this allows for asset selectivity and that there is a significant relationship between proprietary deal origination and credit performance. We believe that our focus on generating proprietary deal flow and lead investing also gives us greater control over capital structure, deal terms, pricing and documentation and enables us to actively manage our portfolio investments. Moreover, by leading the investment process, we are often able to secure controlling positions in credit tranches, thereby providing additional control in investment outcomes. We also have originated substantial proprietary deal flow from middle-market intermediaries, which often allows us to act as the sole or principal source of institutional capital to the borrower.

Scale and Flexible Transaction Structuring

We believe that being the largest BDC makes us a more desirable and flexible capital provider, especially in competitive markets. We are flexible with the types of investments we make and the terms associated with those investments. We believe this approach and experience enables our investment adviser to identify attractive investment opportunities throughout economic cycles and across a company's capital structure so we can make investments consistent with our stated investment objective and preserve principal while seeking appropriate risk adjusted returns. In addition, we have the flexibility to provide "one stop" financing with the ability to invest capital across the balance sheet and syndicate and hold larger investments than many of our competitors. We believe that the ability to underwrite, syndicate and hold larger investments benefits our stockholders by (a) potentially increasing net income and earnings through syndication, (b) increasing originated deal flow flexibility, (c) broadening market relationships and deal flow, (d) allowing us to optimize our portfolio composition and (e) allowing us to provide capital to a broader spectrum of middle-market companies, which we believe currently have limited access to capital from traditional lending sources. In addition, we believe that the ability to provide capital at every level of the balance sheet provides a strong value proposition to middle-market borrowers and our senior debt capabilities provide superior deal origination and relative value analysis capabilities compared to junior capital focused lenders.

Experience with and Focus on Middle-Market Companies

Ares has historically focused on investments in middle-market companies and we benefit from this experience. In sourcing and analyzing deals, our investment adviser benefits from Ares' extensive network of relationships focused on middle-market companies, including management teams, members of the investment banking community, private equity groups and other investment firms with whom Ares has had long-term relationships. We believe this network enables us to identify well-positioned prospective portfolio company investments. The Ares Credit Group works closely with Ares' other investment professionals. As of March 31, 2017, Ares oversaw a portfolio of investments in over 1,300 companies, approximately 565 structured assets and over 160 properties across over 60 industries, which provides access to an extensive network of relationships and insights into industry trends and the state of the capital markets.

Table of Contents

Disciplined Investment Philosophy

In making its investment decisions, our investment adviser has adopted Ares' long-standing, consistent, credit-based investment approach that was developed over 20 years ago by its founders. Specifically, our investment adviser's investment philosophy, portfolio construction and portfolio management involve an assessment of the overall macroeconomic environment and financial markets and company-specific research and analysis. Its investment approach emphasizes capital preservation, low volatility and minimization of downside risk. In addition to engaging in extensive due diligence from the perspective of a long-term investor, our investment adviser's approach seeks to reduce risk in investments by focusing on:

businesses with strong franchises and sustainable competitive advantages;

industries with positive long-term dynamics;

businesses and industries with cash flows that are dependable and predictable;

management teams with demonstrated track records and appropriate economic incentives;

rates of return commensurate with the perceived risks;

securities or investments that are structured with appropriate terms and covenants; and

businesses backed by experienced private equity sponsors.

Extensive Industry Focus

We seek to concentrate our investing activities in industries with a history of predictable and dependable cash flows and in which the Ares investment professionals have had extensive investment experience. Ares investment professionals have developed long-term relationships with management teams and management consultants in over 50 industries, and have accumulated substantial information and identified potential trends within these industries. In turn, we benefit from these relationships, information and identification of potential trends in making investments.

OPERATING AND REGULATORY STRUCTURE

Our investment activities are managed by our investment adviser and supervised by our board of directors, a majority of whom are independent of Ares and its affiliates. Our investment adviser is registered under the Advisers Act. Under our investment advisory agreement we have agreed to pay our investment adviser base management fees based on our total assets, as defined under the Investment Company Act (other than cash and cash equivalents, but including assets purchased with borrowed funds), income based fees and capital gains incentive fees. See " Investment Advisory and Management Agreement". Ares Operations provides us with certain administrative and other services necessary for us to operate pursuant to the administration agreement. See " Administration Agreement".

As a BDC, we are required to comply with certain regulatory requirements. For example, we are not generally permitted to co-invest in any portfolio company in which a fund managed by Ares or any of its downstream affiliates (other than us and our downstream affiliates) currently has an investment. However, we may co-invest with funds managed by Ares or any of its downstream affiliates, subject to compliance with existing regulatory guidance, applicable regulations and our allocation procedures. On January 18, 2017, we received an order from the SEC that permits us and other BDCs and registered closed-end management investment companies managed by Ares to co-invest in portfolio companies with each other and with affiliated investment funds. Co-investments made under the Order are subject to compliance with certain conditions and other requirements, which could limit our ability to participate in a co-investment transaction.

Table of Contents

Also, while we may borrow funds to make investments, our ability to use debt is limited in certain significant aspects. In particular, BDCs must have at least 200% asset coverage calculated pursuant to the Investment Company Act (i.e., we are permitted to borrow one dollar for every dollar we have in assets less all liabilities and indebtedness not represented by senior securities issued by us) in order to issue senior securities, which requires us to finance our investments with at least as much equity as senior securities in the aggregate. Certain of our credit facilities also require that we maintain asset coverage of at least 200%. As of March 31, 2017, our asset coverage was 249% (excluding the SBA Debentures).

In addition, as a consequence of us being a RIC under the Code for U.S. federal income tax purposes, our asset growth is dependent on our ability to raise equity capital through the issuance of common stock. RICs generally must distribute substantially all of their investment company taxable income (as defined under the Code) to stockholders as dividends in order to preserve their status as a RIC and not to be subject to additional U.S. federal corporate-level taxes. This requirement, in turn, generally prevents us from using our earnings to support our operations, including making new investments.

INVESTMENTS

Ares Capital Corporation Portfolio

We have built an investment portfolio of primarily first and second lien senior secured loans, mezzanine debt and, to a lesser extent, equity investments in private middle-market companies. Our portfolio is well diversified by industry sector and its concentration to any single issuer is limited.

Our debt investments in corporate borrowers generally range between \$30 million and \$500 million each, investments in project finance/power generation projects generally range between \$10 million and \$200 million each and investments in early-stage and/or venture capital-backed companies generally range between \$1 million and \$25 million each. However, the sizes of our investments may be more or less than these ranges and may vary based on, among other things, our capital availability, the composition of our portfolio and general micro- and macro-economic factors.

Our preferred and/or common equity investments have generally been non-control equity investments of less than \$20 million (usually in conjunction with a concurrent debt investment). However, we may increase the size or change the nature of these investments. Also, as a result of the American Capital Acquisition, American Capital's equity investments, including equity investments pursuant to which American Capital controlled a particular portfolio company, became part of our portfolio.

In addition, the proportion of these types of investments will change over time given our views on, among other things, the economic and credit environment in which we are operating. In connection with our investing activities, we may make commitments with respect to indebtedness or securities of a potential portfolio company substantially in excess of our expected final hold size. In such situations, while we may initially agree to fund up to a certain dollar amount of an investment, we may subsequently syndicate a portion of such amount such that we are left with a smaller investment than what was reflected in our original commitment. We may also syndicate a "first out" loan to an investor and retain a "last out" loan, in which case the "first out" loan will generally receive priority with respect to payments of principal, interest and any other amounts due thereunder. In addition to originating investments, we may also acquire investments in the secondary market (including purchases of a portfolio of investments).

We make senior secured loans primarily in the form of first lien loans (including unitranche loans) and second lien loans. Our senior secured loans generally have terms of three to ten years. In connection with our senior secured loans we generally receive a security interest in certain of the assets

Table of Contents

of the borrower and consequently such assets serve as collateral in support of the repayment of such senior secured loans. Senior secured loans are generally exposed to the least amount of credit risk because they typically hold a senior position with respect to scheduled interest and principal payments and security interests in assets of the borrower. However, unlike mezzanine debt, senior secured loans typically do not receive any stock, warrants to purchase stock or other yield enhancements. Senior secured loans may include both revolving lines of credit and term loans.

Structurally, mezzanine debt usually ranks subordinate in priority of payment to senior secured loans and is often unsecured. However, mezzanine debt ranks senior to preferred and common equity in a borrower's capital structure. Mezzanine debt investments generally offer lenders fixed returns in the form of interest payments and will often provide lenders an opportunity to participate in the capital appreciation of a borrower, if any, through an equity interest. This equity interest typically takes the form of an equity co-investment and/or warrants. Due to its higher risk profile and often less restrictive covenants as compared to senior secured loans, mezzanine debt generally bears a higher stated interest rate than senior secured loans. The equity co-investment and warrants (if any) associated with a mezzanine debt investment typically allow lenders to receive repayment of their principal on an agreed amortization schedule while retaining their equity interest in the borrower. Equity issued in connection with mezzanine debt also may include a "put" feature, which permits the holder to sell its equity interest back to the borrower at a price determined through an agreed formula.

In making an equity investment, in addition to considering the factors discussed under " Investment Selection" below, we also consider the anticipated timing of a liquidity event, such as a public offering, sale of the company or redemption of our equity securities.

While our primary focus is to generate current income and capital appreciation through investments in first and second lien senior secured loans and mezzanine debt and, to a lesser extent, equity securities of eligible portfolio companies, we also may invest up to 30% of our portfolio in non-qualifying assets, as permitted by the Investment Company Act. See " Regulation" below. Specifically, as part of this 30% basket, we may invest in entities that are not considered "eligible portfolio companies" (as defined in the Investment Company Act), including companies located outside of the United States, entities that are operating pursuant to certain exceptions under the Investment Company Act, and publicly traded entities whose public equity market capitalization exceeds the levels provided for under the Investment Company Act.

In the first quarter of 2011, the Staff informally communicated to certain BDCs the Staff's belief that certain entities, which would be classified as an "investment company" under the Investment Company Act but for the exception from the definition of "investment company" set forth in Rule 3a-7 promulgated under the Investment Company Act, could not be treated as eligible portfolio companies (as defined in Section 2(a)(46) under the Investment Company Act) (i.e., not eligible to be included in a BDC's 70% "qualifying assets" basket). Subsequently, in August 2011 the SEC issued the Concept Release which stated that "[a]s a general matter, the Commission presently does not believe that Rule 3a-7 issuers are the type of small, developing and financially troubled businesses in which the U.S. Congress intended BDCs primarily to invest" and requested comment on whether or not a 3a-7 issuer should be considered an "eligible portfolio company." We provided a comment letter in respect of the Concept Release and continue to believe that the language of Section 2(a)(46) of the Investment Company Act permits a BDC to treat as "eligible portfolio companies" entities that rely on the 3a-7 exception. However, given the current uncertainty in this area (including the language in the Concept Release) and subsequent discussions with the Staff, we have, solely for purposes of calculating the composition of our portfolio pursuant to Section 55(a) of the Investment Company Act, identified such entities, which include the SDLP and the SSLP, as "non-qualifying assets" should the Staff ultimately disagree with our position.

Table of Contents**Co-Investment Programs*****Senior Direct Lending Program***

We have established a joint venture with Varagon to make certain first lien senior secured loans, including certain stretch senior and unitranche loans, primarily to U.S. middle market companies. Varagon was formed in 2013 as a lending platform by American International Group, Inc. (NYSE:AIG) and other partners. The joint venture is called the SDLP. In July 2016, we and Varagon and its clients completed the initial funding of the SDLP. The SDLP may generally commit and hold individual loans of up to \$300 million. The SDLP is capitalized as transactions are completed and all portfolio decisions and generally all other decisions in respect of the SDLP must be approved by an investment committee of the SDLP consisting of representatives of ours and Varagon (with approval from a representative of each required).

We provide capital to the SDLP in the form of the SDLP Certificates, and Varagon and its clients provide capital to the SDLP in the form of senior notes, intermediate funding notes and SDLP Certificates. As of March 31, 2017, we and a client of Varagon owned 87.5% and 12.5%, respectively, of the outstanding SDLP Certificates. The SDLP Certificates pay a coupon of LIBOR plus a stated spread and also entitle the holders thereof to receive a portion of the excess cash flow from the loan portfolio, which may result in a return to the holders of the SDLP Certificates that is greater than the stated coupon. The SDLP Certificates are junior in right of payment to the senior notes and intermediate funding notes.

As of March 31, 2017, we and Varagon and its clients had agreed to make capital available to the SDLP of \$2.9 billion in the aggregate, of which \$591 million has been made available from us. This capital will only be committed to the SDLP upon approval of transactions by the investment committee of the SDLP as discussed above. Below is a summary of the funded capital and unfunded capital commitments of the SDLP.

	As of	
	March 31, 2017	December 31, 2016
Total capital funded to the SDLP(1)	\$ 1,282	\$ 1,285
Total capital funded to the SDLP by the Company(1)	\$ 269	\$ 270
Total unfunded capital commitments to the SDLP(2)	\$ 168	\$ 177
Total unfunded capital commitments to the SDLP by the Company(2)	\$ 35	\$ 37

(1) At principal amount.

(2) These commitments have been approved by the investment committee of the SDLP and will be funded as the transactions are completed.

As of March 31, 2017, the fair value of the SDLP Certificates held by us was \$269 million (no unrealized appreciation or depreciation), which represented approximately 2.4% of our total portfolio at fair value. As of March 31, 2017, the SDLP had 14 different underlying borrowers.

For more information on the SDLP, see "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Portfolio and Investment Activity Senior Direct Lending Program."

Senior Secured Loan Program

We and GE have co-invested in first lien senior secured loans of middle market companies through the SSLP. The SSLP has been capitalized as transactions are completed. All portfolio decisions and generally all other decisions in respect of the SSLP must be approved by an investment committee

Table of Contents

of the SSLP consisting of representatives of ours and GE (with approval from a representative of each required). We have provided capital to the SSLP in the form of the SSLP Certificates. As of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016, we and GE owned 87.5% and 12.5%, respectively, of the outstanding SSLP Certificates.

In August 2015, GE completed the sale of its U.S. Sponsor Finance business, through which GE had participated with us in the SSLP, to CPPIB. This sale excluded GE's interest in the SSLP, and we and GE continue to operate the SSLP. We and GE no longer have an obligation to present senior secured lending investment opportunities to the SSLP and since June 30, 2015, the SSLP has not made any investments related to new portfolio companies; however, we and GE may provide capital to support the SSLP's funding of existing commitments (see below) and other amounts to its portfolio companies. On August 24, 2015, we were advised that GECC, as the holder of the Senior Notes, directed State Street Bank and Trust Company, as trustee of the Senior Notes and the SSLP Certificates, pursuant to the terms of the indenture governing the Senior Notes and the SSLP Certificates, to apply all principal proceeds received by the SSLP from its investments to the repayment of the outstanding principal amount of the Senior Notes until paid in full (prior to the distribution of any such principal proceeds to the holders of the SSLP Certificates, which includes us). GECC had previously elected to waive its right to receive priority repayments on the Senior Notes from principal proceeds in most circumstances. Prior to closing the sale to CPPIB, GE had announced its intention to provide us and CPPIB the opportunity to work together on the SSLP on a go-forward basis. GECC has also stated that if a mutual agreement between us and CPPIB to partner on the SSLP is not reached, it intends to retain its interest in the SSLP and the SSLP would be wound down in an orderly manner.

As discussed above, we anticipate that no new investments will be made by the SSLP and that we and GE will only provide additional capital to support the SSLP's funding of existing commitments and other amounts to its portfolio companies.

Below is a summary of the funded capital and unfunded capital commitments of the SSLP.

	March 31, 2017	As of December 31, 2016
Total capital funded to the SSLP(1)	\$ 3,307	\$ 3,819
Total capital funded to the SSLP by the Company(1)	\$ 2,004	\$ 2,004
Total unfunded capital commitments to the SSLP(2)	\$ 50	\$ 50
Total unfunded capital commitments to the SSLP by the Company(2)	\$ 7	\$ 7

(1) At principal amount.

(2) These commitments have been approved by the investment committee of the SSLP and will be funded as the transactions are completed.

As of March 31, 2017, the fair value of the SSLP Certificates held by us was \$1.9 billion (including unrealized depreciation of \$19 million), which represented approximately 16.8% of our total portfolio at fair value. As of December 31, 2016, the fair value of the SSLP Certificates held by us was \$1.9 billion (including unrealized depreciation of \$26 million), which represented approximately 21.7% of our total portfolio at fair value.

For more information on the SSLP, see "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Portfolio and Investment Activity Senior Secured Loan Program."

Table of Contents

Ivy Hill Asset Management, L.P.

As of March 31, 2017, our portfolio company, IHAM, an SEC-registered investment adviser, managed 22 vehicles and served as the sub-manager/sub-servicer for two other vehicles. As of March 31, 2017, IHAM had assets under management of approximately \$4.3 billion. As of March 31, 2017, the amortized cost and fair value of our investment in IHAM was \$296 million and \$354 million, respectively. In connection with IHAM's registration as a registered investment adviser, on March 30, 2012, we received exemptive relief from the SEC allowing us to, subject to certain conditions, own directly or indirectly up to 100% of IHAM's outstanding equity interests and make additional investments in IHAM. From time to time, IHAM or certain IHAM Vehicles may purchase investments from us or sell investments to us, in each case for a price equal to the fair market value of such investments determined at the time of such transactions.

On January 3, 2017, in connection with the American Capital Acquisition, ACAM merged with and into IHAM, with IHAM remaining as the surviving entity as a wholly owned portfolio company of ours. As a result, IHAM now manages certain funds that were previously managed by ACAM. Additionally, on May 19, 2017, pursuant to approval granted at a special meeting of stockholders of ACSF held on May 19, 2017, IHAM entered into a new management agreement with ACSF, pursuant to which IHAM serves as ACSF's investment adviser.

Industry Composition

We generally seek to invest in companies in the industries in which Ares' investment professionals have direct expertise. The following is a representative list of the industries in which we have invested:

Aerospace and Defense

Automotive Services

Business Services

Consumer Products

Containers and Packaging

Education

Environmental Services

Financial Services

Food and Beverage

Healthcare Services

Investment Funds and Vehicles

Manufacturing

Oil and Gas

Other Services

Power Generation

Restaurant and Food Services

Retail

Telecommunications

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

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

The industry and geographic compositions of our portfolio at fair value as of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016 were as follows:

Industry	As of	
	March 31, 2017	December 31, 2016
Investment Funds and Vehicles(1)	22.1%	25.2%
Business Services	15.4	9.8
Healthcare Services	13.4	14.3
Other Services	7.9	8.9
Consumer Products	7.5	7.2
Financial Services	4.3	4.2
Power Generation	3.9	6.4
Restaurants and Food Services	3.7	4.5
Manufacturing	3.4	3.8
Containers and Packaging	2.8	2.8
Food and Beverage	2.7	2.2
Education	2.5	2.0
Automotive Services	1.8	1.9
Environmental Services	1.6	0.9
Commercial Real Estate Finance	1.3	1.0
Other	5.7	4.9
Total	100.0%	100.0%

(1)

Includes the Company's investment in the SDLP, which had made first lien senior secured loans to 14 and 14 different borrowers as of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016, respectively, and the Company's investment in the SSLP, which had made first lien senior secured loans to 18 and 19 different borrowers as of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016, respectively. The portfolio companies in the SDLP and SSLP are in industries similar to the companies in the Company's portfolio.

Geographic Region	As of	
	March 31, 2017	December 31, 2016
West(1)	34.9%	41.5%
Southeast	21.1	19.5
Midwest	20.8	19.7
Mid Atlantic	14.2	14.7
International	5.7	1.0
Northeast	3.3	3.6
Total	100.0%	100.0%

(1)

Includes the Company's investment in the SDLP, which represented 2.4% and 3.1% of the total investment portfolio at fair value as of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016, respectively, and the Company's investment in the SSLP, which represented 16.8% and

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

21.7% of the total investment portfolio at fair value as of March 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016, respectively.

As of March 31, 2017, 2.9% of total investments at amortized cost (or 1.1% of total investments at fair value) were on non-accrual status. As of December 31, 2016, 2.9% of total investments at amortized cost (or 0.8% of total investments at fair value) were on non-accrual status.

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Since our IPO on October 8, 2004 through March 31, 2017, our exited investments resulted in an aggregate cash flow realized internal rate of return (as discussed in more detail in footnote 1 to the table below) to us of approximately 13% (based on original cash invested, net of syndications, of approximately \$14.7 billion and total proceeds from such exited investments of approximately \$18.0 billion). Approximately 65% of these exited investments resulted in an aggregate cash flow realized internal rate of return to us of 10% or greater.

The aggregate cash flow realized internal rate of return, original cash invested, net of syndications, and total proceeds, in each case from exited investments, are listed below from our IPO on October 8, 2004 through the end of each period shown below.

(dollar amounts in millions)	Exited Investments													
	March 31, 2017	December 31, 2016	December 31, 2015	December 31, 2014	December 31, 2013	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2011	December 31, 2010	December 31, 2009	December 31, 2008	December 31, 2007	December 31, 2006	December 31, 2005	December 31, 2004
Realized internal rate of return(1)	13%	13%	13%	13%	13%	13%	14%	15%	14%	19%	21%	26%	41%	17%
Original cash invested, net of syndications	\$ 14,704	\$ 14,264	\$ 12,170	\$ 9,883	\$ 7,717	\$ 6,817	\$ 4,638	\$ 2,696	\$ 1,220	\$ 923	\$ 684	\$ 424	\$ 119	\$ 28
Total proceeds	\$ 18,046	\$ 17,523	\$ 14,903	\$ 12,121	\$ 9,445	\$ 8,264	\$ 5,627	\$ 3,256	\$ 1,405	\$ 1,104	\$ 818	\$ 511	\$ 140	\$ 32

(1) Internal rate of return is the discount rate that makes the net present value of all cash flows related to a particular investment equal to zero. Internal rate of return is gross of expenses related to investments as these expenses are not allocable to specific investments. Investments are considered to be exited when the original investment objective has been achieved through the receipt of cash and/or non-cash consideration upon the repayment of a debt investment or sale of an investment or through the determination that no further consideration was collectible and, thus, a loss may have been realized.

Additionally, since our IPO on October 8, 2004 through March 31, 2017, our realized gains have exceeded our realized losses by approximately \$592 million (excluding a one-time gain on the acquisition of Allied Capital and realized gains/losses from the extinguishment of debt and other assets). For this same time period, our average annualized net realized gain rate was approximately 1.1% (excluding a one-time gain on the Allied Acquisition and realized gains/losses from the extinguishment of debt and other assets). Net realized gain/loss rates for a particular period are the amount of net realized gains/losses during such period divided by the average quarterly investments at amortized cost in such period.

Information included herein regarding internal rates of return, realized gains and losses and annualized net realized gain rates are historical results relating to our past performance and are not necessarily indicative of future results, the achievement of which cannot be assured.

INVESTMENT SELECTION

Ares' investment philosophy was developed over 20 years ago and has remained consistent and relevant throughout a number of economic cycles. We are managed using a similar investment philosophy used by the investment professionals of Ares in respect of its other investment funds.

This investment philosophy involves, among other things:

- an assessment of the overall macroeconomic environment and financial markets and how such assessment may impact industry and asset selection;

- company-specific research and analysis; and

- with respect to each individual company, an emphasis on capital preservation, low volatility and minimization of downside risk.

The foundation of Ares' investment philosophy is intensive credit investment analysis, a portfolio management discipline based on both market technicals and fundamental value-oriented research, and diversification strategy. We follow a rigorous investment process based on:

a comprehensive analysis of issuer creditworthiness, including a quantitative and qualitative assessment of the issuer's business;

an evaluation of management and its economic incentives;

Table of Contents

an analysis of business strategy and industry trends; and

an in-depth examination of capital structure, financial results and projections.

We seek to identify those companies exhibiting superior fundamental risk-reward profiles and strong defensible business franchises while focusing on the relative value of the investment across the industry as well as for the specific company.

Intensive Due Diligence

The process through which an investment decision is made involves extensive research into the target company, its industry, its growth prospects and its ability to withstand adverse conditions. If the senior investment professional responsible for the potential transaction determines that an investment opportunity should be pursued, we will engage in an intensive due diligence process. Approximately 30-40% of the investments initially reviewed by us proceed to this phase. Though each transaction will involve a somewhat different approach, the regular due diligence steps generally undertaken include:

meeting with the target company's management team to get a detailed review of the business, and to probe for potential weaknesses in business prospects;

checking management's backgrounds and references;

performing a detailed review of historical financial performance, including performance through various economic cycles, and the quality of earnings;

reviewing both short and long term projections of the business, and sensitizing them for both upside and downside risk;

visiting headquarters and company operations and meeting with top and middle-level executives;

contacting customers and vendors to assess both business prospects and standard practices;

conducting a competitive analysis, and comparing the issuer to its main competitors on an operating, financial, market share and valuation basis;

researching the industry for historic growth trends and future prospects as well as to identify future exit alternatives (including available Wall Street research, industry association literature and general news);

assessing asset value and the ability of physical infrastructure and information systems to handle anticipated growth; and

investigating legal risks and financial and accounting systems.

Selective Investment Process

After an investment has been identified and preliminary diligence has been completed, a credit research and analysis report is prepared. This report is reviewed by the senior investment professional in charge of the potential investment. If such senior and other investment professionals are in favor of the potential investment, then it is first presented to the investment committee on a preliminary basis, which is

comprised of certain U.S.-based partners of the Ares Credit Group.

After the investment committee approves continued work on the potential investment, a more extensive due diligence process is employed by the transaction team. Additional due diligence with respect to any investment may be conducted on our behalf by attorneys, independent accountants, and other third party consultants and research firms prior to the closing of the investment, as appropriate on a case-by-case basis. Approximately 7-10% of all investments initially reviewed by us will be

Table of Contents

presented to the investment committee. Approval of an investment for funding requires the approval of the majority of the investment committee of our investment adviser, although unanimous consent is sought.

Issuance of Formal Commitment

Once we have determined that a prospective portfolio company is suitable for investment, we work with the management and/or sponsor of that company and its other capital providers, including senior, junior and equity capital providers, if any, to finalize the structure of the investment. Approximately 3-5% of the investments to new portfolio companies initially reviewed by us eventually result in the issuance of formal commitments and the closing of such transactions.

Debt Investments

We invest in portfolio companies primarily in the form of first lien senior secured loans (including unitranche loans), second lien senior secured loans and mezzanine debt. The first and second lien senior secured loans generally have terms of three to ten years. In connection with our first and second lien senior secured loans we generally receive security interests in certain assets of our portfolio companies that could serve as collateral in support of the repayment of such loans. First and second lien senior secured loans generally have floating interest rates, which may have LIBOR floors, and also may provide for some amortization of principal and excess cash flow payments, with the remaining principal balance due at maturity.

We structure our mezzanine investments primarily as unsecured subordinated loans that provide for relatively higher fixed interest rates. The mezzanine debt investments generally have terms of up to ten years. These loans typically have interest-only payments, with amortization of principal, if any, deferred to the later years of the mezzanine investment. In some cases, we may enter into loans that, by their terms, convert into equity or additional debt or defer payments of interest (or at least cash interest) for the first few years after our investment. Also, in some cases our mezzanine debt will be secured by a subordinated lien on some or all of the assets of the borrower.

In some cases, our debt investments may provide for a portion of the interest payable to be PIK interest. To the extent interest is PIK, it will be payable through the increase of the principal amount of the loan by the amount of interest due on the then-outstanding aggregate principal amount of such loan.

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

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

incorporating "put" rights, call protection and LIBOR floors for floating rate loans, into the investment structure; and

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

Table of Contents

We generally require financial covenants and terms that require an issuer to reduce leverage, thereby enhancing credit quality. These methods include: (a) maintenance leverage covenants requiring a decreasing ratio of indebtedness to cash flow over time, (b) maintenance cash flow covenants requiring an increasing ratio of cash flow to the sum of interest expense and capital expenditures and (c) indebtedness incurrence prohibitions, limiting a company's ability to take on additional indebtedness. In addition, by including limitations on asset sales and capital expenditures we may be able to prevent a borrower from changing the nature of its business or capitalization without our consent.

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

Equity Investments

To a lesser extent, we also make preferred and/or common equity investments, which have generally been non-control equity investments of less than \$20 million (usually in conjunction with a concurrent debt investment). However, we may increase the size or change the nature of these investments. Also, as a result of the American Capital Acquisition, American Capital's equity investments, including equity investments pursuant to which American Capital controlled a particular portfolio company, became part of our portfolio.

ACQUISITION OPPORTUNITIES

We believe that there may be opportunity for further consolidation in our industry. From time to time, we evaluate potential strategic opportunities, including acquisitions of:

asset portfolios;

other private and public finance companies, business development companies and asset managers; and

selected secondary market assets.

In this regard, on January 3, 2017, we completed the American Capital Acquisition.

We have been in, and from time to time may engage in, discussions with counterparties in respect of various potential strategic acquisition and investment transactions, including potential acquisitions of other finance companies, business development companies and asset managers. Some of these transactions could be material to our business and, if completed, could be difficult to integrate, result in increased leverage or dilution and/or subject us to unexpected liabilities. However, other than in connection with the American Capital Acquisition, none of these discussions has progressed to the point at which the completion of any such transaction could be deemed to be probable or reasonably certain as of the date of this prospectus. Completion of any such transaction would be subject to completion of due diligence, finalization of key business and financial terms (including price) and negotiation of final definitive documentation as well as a number of other factors and conditions including, without limitation, the approval of our board of directors, any required third party consents and, in certain cases, the approval of our stockholders. We cannot predict how quickly the terms of any such transaction could be finalized, if at all. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that such

Table of Contents

transaction would be completed. We have incurred, and may in the future incur, significant expenses in connection with evaluating potential strategic acquisition and investment transactions.

ON-GOING RELATIONSHIPS WITH AND MONITORING OF PORTFOLIO COMPANIES

We closely monitor each investment we make, maintain a regular dialogue with both the management team and other stakeholders and seek specifically tailored financial reporting. In addition, senior investment professionals may take board seats or obtain board observation rights in connection with our portfolio companies. As of March 31, 2017, of our 316 portfolio companies, we were entitled to board seats or board observation rights on 33% of these companies and these companies represented approximately 58% of our portfolio at fair value.

We seek to exert significant influence post-investment, in addition to covenants and other contractual rights and through board participation, when appropriate, by actively working with management on strategic initiatives. We often introduce managers of companies in which we have invested to other portfolio companies to capitalize on complementary business activities and best practices.

Our investment adviser employs an investment rating system to categorize our investments. In addition to various risk management and monitoring tools, our investment adviser grades the credit risk of all investments on a scale of 1 to 4 no less frequently than quarterly. This system is intended primarily to reflect the underlying risk of a portfolio investment relative to our initial cost basis in respect of such portfolio investment (i.e., at the time of origination or acquisition), although it may also take into account under certain circumstances the performance of the portfolio company's business, the collateral coverage of the investment and other relevant factors. Under this system, investments with a grade of 4 involve the least amount of risk to our initial cost basis. The trends and risk factors for this investment since origination or acquisition are generally favorable, which may include the performance of the portfolio company or a potential exit. Investments graded 3 involve a level of risk to our initial cost basis that is similar to the risk to our initial cost basis at the time of origination or acquisition. This portfolio company is generally performing as expected and the risk factors to our ability to ultimately recoup the cost of our investment are neutral to favorable. All investments or acquired investments in new portfolio companies are initially assessed a grade of 3. Investments graded 2 indicate that the risk to our ability to recoup the initial cost basis of such investment has increased materially since origination or acquisition, including as a result of factors such as declining performance and non-compliance with debt covenants; however, payments are generally not more than 120 days past due. An investment grade of 1 indicates that the risk to our ability to recoup the initial cost basis of such investment has substantially increased since origination or acquisition, and the portfolio company likely has materially declining performance. For debt investments with an investment grade of 1, most or all of the debt covenants are out of compliance and payments are substantially delinquent. For investments graded 1, it is anticipated that we will not recoup our initial cost basis and may realize a substantial loss of our initial cost basis upon exit. For investments graded 1 or 2, our investment adviser enhances its level of scrutiny over the monitoring of such portfolio company. The grade of a portfolio investment may be reduced or increased over time.

We assigned a fair value as of the Acquisition Date to each of the portfolio investments acquired in connection with the American Capital Acquisition. The initial cost basis of each investment acquired was equal to the fair value of such investment as of the Acquisition Date. Many of these portfolio investments were assigned a fair value reflecting a discount to American Capital's cost basis at the time of American Capital's origination or acquisition. Each investment was initially assessed a grade of 3 (i.e., generally the grade we assign a portfolio company at acquisition), reflecting the relative risk to our initial cost basis of such investments. It is important to note that our grading system does not take into account factors or events in respect of the period from when American Capital originated or acquired such portfolio investments or the current status of these portfolio investments in terms of

Table of Contents

compliance with debt facilities, financial performance and similar factors. Rather, it is only intended to measure risk from the time that we acquired the portfolio investment in connection with the American Capital Acquisition. Accordingly, it is possible that the grades of these portfolio investments may be reduced or increased in the future.

As of March 31, 2017, the weighted average grade of our portfolio at fair value was 3.1. For more information, see "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Portfolio and Investment Activity."

MANAGERIAL ASSISTANCE

As a BDC, we must offer, and must provide upon request, significant managerial assistance to certain of our portfolio companies. This assistance could involve, among other things, monitoring the operations of our portfolio companies, participating in board and management meetings, consulting with and advising officers of portfolio companies and providing other organizational and financial guidance. Ares Operations may provide all or a portion of this assistance pursuant to our administration agreement, the costs of which will be reimbursed by us. We may receive fees for these services.

COMPETITION

Our primary competitors include public and private funds, commercial and investment banks, commercial finance companies, other BDCs and private equity funds, each of which we compete with for financing opportunities. Many of our competitors are substantially larger and have considerably greater financial and marketing resources than we do. For example, some competitors may have access to funding sources that are not available to us. In addition, some of our competitors may have higher risk tolerances or different risk assessments, which could allow them to consider more investments and establish more relationships than we do. Furthermore, many of our competitors are not subject to the regulatory restrictions that the Investment Company Act imposes on us as a BDC. For additional information concerning the competitive risks we face, see "Risk Factors Risks Relating to Our Business We operate in a highly competitive market for investment opportunities."

We believe that the relationships of the members of our investment adviser's investment committee and of the partners of Ares enable us to learn about, and compete effectively for, financing opportunities with attractive middle-market companies in the industries in which we seek to invest. We believe that Ares' professionals' deep and long-standing direct sponsor relationships and the resulting proprietary transaction opportunities that these relationships often present, provide valuable insight and access to transactions and information. We use the industry information of Ares' investment professionals to which we have access to assess investment risks and determine appropriate pricing for our investments in portfolio companies.

STAFFING

We do not currently have any employees and do not expect to have any employees. Services necessary for our business are provided by individuals who are employees or affiliates of our investment adviser, Ares Capital Management, and our administrator, Ares Operations, each of which is a subsidiary of Ares Management, pursuant to the terms of our investment advisory and management agreement and our administration agreement, respectively, each as described below. Each of our executive officers is an employee or affiliate of our investment adviser or our administrator. Our day-to-day investment activities are managed by our investment adviser. Most of the services necessary for the origination of our investment portfolio are provided by investment professionals employed by Ares Capital Management. Ares Capital Management had approximately 100 U.S.-based investment professionals as of March 31, 2017 who focus on origination, transaction development, investment and

Table of Contents

the ongoing monitoring of our investments. See "Management Investment Advisory and Management Agreement" below. We reimburse both our investment adviser and our administrator for a certain portion of expenses incurred in connection with such staffing, as described in more detail below. Because we have no employees, Ares Capital does not have a formal employee relations policy.

PROPERTIES

We do not own any real estate or other physical properties materially important to our operation. Our headquarters are currently located at 245 Park Avenue, 44th Floor, New York, New York 10167. We are party to office leases pursuant to which we are leasing office facilities from third parties. For certain of these office leases, we have also entered into separate subleases with Ares Management LLC and IHAM, pursuant to which Ares Management LLC, the sole member of Ares Capital Management, and IHAM sublease a portion of these leases. Ares Management LLC has also entered into separate subleases with us, pursuant to which we sublease certain office spaces from Ares Management LLC.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

We are party to certain lawsuits in the normal course of business. In addition, American Capital and Allied Capital were involved in various legal proceedings that we assumed in connection with the American Capital Acquisition and the Allied Acquisition, respectively. Furthermore, third parties may try to seek to impose liability on us in connection with our activities or the activities of our portfolio companies. While the outcome of any such legal proceedings cannot at this time be predicted with certainty, we do not expect that these legal proceedings will materially affect our business, financial condition or results of operations.

On May 20, 2013, we were named as one of several defendants in an action (the "Action") filed in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania (the "Pennsylvania Court") by the bankruptcy trustee of DSI Renal Holdings LLC and two related companies. On March 17, 2014, the Action was transferred to the United States District Court for the District of Delaware (the "Delaware Court") pursuant to a motion filed by the defendants and granted by the Pennsylvania Court. On May 6, 2014, the Delaware Court referred the Action to the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware. The complaint in the Action alleges, among other things, that each of the named defendants participated in a purported "fraudulent transfer" involving the restructuring of a subsidiary of DSI Renal Holdings LLC. Among other things, the complaint seeks, jointly and severally from all defendants, (1) damages of approximately \$425 million, of which the complaint states our individual share is approximately \$117 million, and (2) punitive damages. We are currently unable to assess with any certainty whether we may have any exposure in the Action. We believe the plaintiff's claims are without merit and intend to vigorously defend ourselves in the Action.

On or about February 10, 2017, shareholders of American Capital filed a second consolidated amended putative shareholder class action complaint allegedly on behalf of holders of the common stock of American Capital against the former members of American Capital's board of directors and certain former American Capital officers (collectively, the "American Capital defendants"), as well as Elliott Management Corporation, Elliott Associates, L.P., Elliott International, L.P. and Elliott International Capital Advisors Inc. (collectively "Elliott") in the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland (the "Court") challenging the American Capital Acquisition. This action is a consolidation of putative shareholder complaints filed against the directors of American Capital on June 24, 2016, July 12, 2016, July 21, 2016 and July 27, 2016, which were first consolidated in an amended consolidated putative shareholder class action complaint filed on August 18, 2016. The action alleges that the directors, officers and Elliott failed to adequately discharge their fiduciary duties to the public shareholders of American Capital by hastily commencing a sales process due to the board's manipulation by Elliott. In the alternative, the complaint alleges Elliott aided and abetted breaches of

Table of Contents

fiduciary duty by the American Capital directors and officers. The complaint also alleges that the directors and officers failed to obtain for the shareholders the highest value available in the marketplace for their shares in the American Capital Acquisition. The complaint further alleges that the merger was the product of a flawed process due to Elliott's continued manipulation, the use of deal protection devices in the American Capital Acquisition that precluded other bidders from making a higher offer to American Capital and the directors' conflicts of interest due to special benefits, including the full vesting of American Capital stock options and incentive awards or golden parachutes the directors received upon consummation of the proposed merger. Additionally, the complaint alleges that the registration statement, which was filed with the SEC on July 20, 2016 and included a joint proxy statement to American Capital's shareholders, is materially false and misleading because it omits material information concerning the financial and procedural fairness of the American Capital Acquisition. The complaint seeks to recover compensatory damages for all losses resulting from the alleged breaches of fiduciary duty and waste. We assumed American Capital's indemnification obligations with respect to this legal proceeding in connection with the American Capital Acquisition and believe that these claims are without merit. The American Capital defendants filed their motion to dismiss the second consolidated amended complaint on March 3, 2017. Elliott filed its motion to dismiss the second consolidated amended complaint on April 14, 2017. The plaintiffs filed a consolidated brief in opposition to the defendants' motions to dismiss on May 9, 2017, and the defendants filed replies in support of their motions on May 26, 2017. A hearing on the motions to dismiss was scheduled for June 9, 2017. However, on that date, the plaintiffs and the American Capital defendants reached an agreement in principle to settle the claims against the American Capital defendants. The plaintiffs and the American Capital defendants will seek preliminary approval by the Court of the settlement by no later than July 25, 2017. In the meantime, the Court has stayed proceedings against the American Capital defendants, although Elliott and the plaintiffs are continuing to litigate. There can be no assurance that the Court will approve the settlement. The American Capital defendants have vigorously denied all liability with respect to the facts and claims alleged in the actions. The settlement is not, and should not be construed as, an admission of wrongdoing or liability by any American Capital defendant.

Table of Contents

PORTFOLIO COMPANIES

The following table describes each of the businesses included in our portfolio and reflects data as of March 31, 2017. Percentages shown for class of investment securities held by us represent percentage of the class owned and do not necessarily represent voting ownership. Percentages shown for equity securities, other than warrants or options, represent the actual percentage of the class of security held before dilution. Percentages shown for warrants and options held represent the percentage of class of security we may own assuming we exercise our warrants or options before dilution.

We have indicated by footnote portfolio companies (a) where we directly or indirectly own more than 25% of the outstanding voting securities of such portfolio company and, therefore, are presumed to be "controlled" by us under the Investment Company Act and (b) where we directly or indirectly own 5% to 25% of the outstanding voting securities of such portfolio company or where we hold one or more seats on the portfolio company's board of directors and, therefore, are deemed to be an "affiliated person" under the Investment Company Act. We directly or indirectly own less than 5% of the outstanding voting securities of all other portfolio companies (or have no other affiliations with such portfolio companies) listed on the table. We offer to make significant managerial assistance to certain of our portfolio companies. Where we do not hold a seat on the portfolio company's board of directors, we may receive rights to observe such board meetings.

Where we have indicated by footnote the amount of undrawn commitments to portfolio companies to fund various revolving and delayed draw senior secured and subordinated loans, such undrawn commitments are presented net of (i) standby letters of credit treated as drawn commitments because they are issued and outstanding, (ii) commitments substantially at our discretion and (iii) commitments that are unavailable due to borrowing base or other covenant restrictions.

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

ARES CAPITAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
PORTFOLIO COMPANIES
As of March 31, 2017
(dollar amounts in millions)
(Unaudited)

Company	Business Description	Investment	Interest(1)	Maturity Date	% of Class Held at 3/31/2017	Fair Value
10th Street, LLC and	Real estate holding company	First lien senior secured loan	12.00% Cash, 1.00% PIK	11/2/2019		\$ 25.6
New 10th Street, LLC(4)		Senior subordinated loan	12.00% Cash, 1.00% PIK	11/2/2019		\$ 27.6
5 North 11th Street		Member interest			10.00%	\$ 10.6
Brooklyn, NY 11211		Option			40.10%	\$ 24.6
Absolute Dental Management LLC and ADM Equity, LLC	Dental services provider	First lien senior secured loan	9.05% (Libor + 7.90%/Q)	1/5/2022		\$ 21.4
526 South Tonopah Dr. Suite #200		Class A preferred units			8.46%	\$ 0.4
Las Vegas, NV 89106		Class A common units			8.46%	\$ 0.4
ACAS CLO	Investment vehicle	Subordinated notes		4/20/2021		\$ 0.4
2007-1, Ltd.(4)(88)(89)						
P.O. Box 1093 GT						
Queensgate House, South Church Street						
George Town, Cayman Islands						
ACAS Equity Holdings Corporation(4)(89)	Investment company	Common stock			100.00%	\$ 0.4
2000 Avenue of the Stars, 12th Floor						
Los Angeles, CA 90067						
ACAS Real Estate Holdings Corporation(4)	Real estate holding company	Common stock			100.00%	\$ 2.6
2000 Avenue of the Stars, 12th Floor						
Los Angeles, CA 90067						
Accruent, LLC and	Real estate and facilities	First lien senior secured	8.25% (Base Rate + 4.25%/Q)	5/16/2022		\$ 0.2(5)
Athena Parent, Inc.	management software provider	revolving loan				
10801-2 N Mopac Expressway, Suite 400		Second lien senior secured loan	10.79% (Libor + 9.75%/Q)	11/16/2022		\$ 53.0
Austin, TX 78759		Series A preferred stock			0.76%	\$ 0.7
		Common stock			0.76%	\$ 2.9
Acrisure, LLC, Acrisure Investors FO, LLC and Acrisure Investors SO, LLC	Retail insurance advisor and brokerage	Second lien senior secured loan	10.40% (Libor + 9.25%/Q)	11/22/2024		\$ 9.7
5664 Prairie Creek Dr. SE		Second lien senior secured loan	10.25% (Libor + 9.25%/Q)	11/22/2024		\$ 88.6
Caledonia, MI 49316		Membership interests			1.91%	\$ 9.7
		Membership interests			0.95%	\$ 2.4
Adaptive Mobile Security Limited(88)	Developer of security software for mobile communications networks	First lien senior secured loan	12.00% (EURIBOR + 9.00% Cash, 1.00% PIK/M)	7/1/2018		\$ 1.5
Ferry House		First lien senior secured loan	12.00% (EURIBOR + 9.00% Cash, 1.00% PIK/M)	10/1/2018		\$ 0.4
48-52 Lower Mount Street						
Dublin 2, Ireland				10/1/2018		\$ 1.1

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

		First lien senior secured loan	12.00% (EURIBOR + 9.00% Cash, 1.00% PIK/M)			
ADCS Billings Intermediate Holdings, LLC 151 Southhall Lane, Suite 300 Maitland, FL 32751	Dermatology practice	First lien senior secured revolving loan	8.75% (Base Rate + 4.75%/Q)	5/18/2022	\$	1.6(6)
ADF Capital, Inc., ADF Restaurant Group, LLC, and ARG Restaurant Holdings, Inc.(4) 165 Passaic Avenue Fairfield, NJ 07004	Restaurant owner and operator	First lien senior secured loan		12/18/2018	\$	19.3
		First lien senior secured loan	19.00% PIK (Libor + 18.00%/Q)	12/18/2018	\$	3.2
		Promissory note		12/18/2023	\$	
		Warrant		12/18/2023	95.00% \$	(2)
ADG, LLC and RC IV GEDC Investor LLC 29777 Telegraph Road Suite 3000 Southfield, MI 48304	Dental services provider	First lien senior secured revolving loan	5.75% (Libor + 4.75%/Q)	9/28/2022	\$	2.0(7)
		Second lien senior secured loan	10.00% (Libor + 9.00%/Q)	3/28/2024	\$	87.5
		Membership units			0.92% \$	2.8
AEP Holdings, Inc. and Arrowhead Holdco Company 3787 95th Ave. N.E. Blaine, MN 55014	Distributor of non-discretionary, mission-critical aftermarket replacement parts	First lien senior secured loan	7.79% (Libor + 6.75%/Q)	8/31/2021	\$	1.3
		First lien senior secured loan	7.75% (Libor + 6.75%/Q)	8/31/2021	\$	2.0
		Common stock			1.17% \$	3.8
Aimbridge Hospitality, LLC 5851 Legacy Circle, Suite 400 Plano, TX 75024	Hotel operator	First lien senior secured loan		10/8/2018	\$	(8)
		First lien senior secured loan	8.25% (Libor + 7.00%/Q)	10/8/2018	\$	2.8
		First lien senior secured loan	8.25% (Libor + 7.00%/Q)	10/8/2018	\$	18.1

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Company	Business Description	Investment	Interest(1)	Maturity Date	% of Class Held at 3/31/2017	Fair Value
Alcami Holdings, LLC(4) AAIPharma Services Headquarters 2320 Scientific Park Drive Wilmington, NC 28405	Outsourced drug development services provider	First lien senior secured revolving loan	6.50% (Libor + 5.50%/Q)	10/25/2019		\$ 21.6(9)
		First lien senior secured loan	6.50% (Libor + 5.50%/Q)	10/26/2020		\$ 10.0
		First lien senior secured loan	6.50% (Libor + 5.50%/Q)	10/26/2020		\$ 96.4
		First lien senior secured loan	10.50% (Base Rate + 6.50%/Q)	10/26/2020		\$ 0.2
		Senior subordinated loan	14.75%	10/26/2020		\$ 32.4
		Senior subordinated loan	12.25%	10/26/2020		\$ 25.0
		Senior subordinated loan	11.75%	10/26/2020		\$ 30.0
		Senior subordinated loan	12.00%	10/26/2020		\$ 30.0
		Senior subordinated loan		10/26/2020		\$ 19.2
		Series R preferred membership units				100.00%
Series R-2 preferred membership units				100.00%	\$	
Alegeus Technologies Holdings Corp. 1601 Trapelo Road South Building, 2nd Floor Waltham, MA 02451	Benefits administration and transaction processing provider	Preferred stock			1.50%	\$ 2.5
		Common stock			1.50%	\$
AllBridge Financial, LLC(4) 13760 Noel Road, Suite 1100 Dallas, TX 75240	Asset management services	Equity interests			100.00%	\$
Alphabet Energy, Inc. 26225 Eden Landing Road, Suite D Hayward, CA 94545	Technology developer to convert waste-heat into electricity	First lien senior secured loan	14.53% (Libor + 11.50% Cash, 2.00% PIK/M)	8/1/2017		\$ 3.5
		Series 1B preferred stock Warrant			12/12/2023	0.19% 0.88%
American Broadband Holding Company and Cameron Holdings of NC, Inc. 401 N. Tryon Street, 10th Floor Charlotte, NC 28202	Broadband communication services	Warrant		11/7/2017	20.76%	\$ 4.1(2)
		Warrant		11/7/2017	20.00%	\$ 10.0(2)
American Residential Services L.L.C. 965 Ridge Lake Blvd. Memphis, TN 38120	Heating, ventilation and air conditioning services provider	Second lien senior secured loan	9.15% (Libor + 8.00%/Q)	12/31/2022		\$ 67.0
American Seafoods Group LLC and American Seafoods Partners LLC 2025 First Avenue, Suite 900 Seattle, WA 98121	Harvester and processor of seafood	First lien senior secured revolving loan	8.00% (Base Rate + 4.00%/Q)	8/19/2021		\$ 5.9(10)
		First lien senior secured loan	6.00% (Libor + 5.00%/Q)	8/19/2021		\$ 0.7
		First lien senior secured loan	6.03% (Libor + 5.00%/Q)	8/19/2021		\$ 6.0
		First lien senior secured loan	8.00% (Base Rate + 4.00%/Q)	8/19/2021		\$ 0.1
		Second lien senior secured loan	10.00% (Libor + 9.00%/Q)	2/19/2022		\$ 55.0

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

		Class A units Warrant		8/19/2035	0.24% \$ 3.36% \$	0.1 8.8(2)
Ares IIIR/IVR CLO Ltd.(88)(89) P.O. Box 1093 GT Queensgate House, South Church Street George Town, Cayman Islands	Investment vehicle	Subordinated notes	10.80%	4/16/2021	\$	5.4
Argon Medical Devices, Inc. 5151 Headquarters Drive, Suite 210 Plano, TX 75024	Manufacturer and marketer of single-use specialty medical devices	Second lien senior secured loan	10.50% (Libor + 9.50%/Q)	6/23/2022	\$	9.0
Associated Asphalt Partners, LLC 130 Church Ave SW Roanoke, VA 24011	Provider of asphalt terminalling, storage and distribution	First lien senior secured loan	6.25% (Libor + 5.25%/Q)	4/5/2024	\$	4.3
Athletic Club Holdings, Inc. 5201 East Tudor Road Anchorage, AL 99507	Premier health club operator	First lien senior secured loan	9.50% (Libor + 8.50%/Q)	10/31/2020	\$	35.0
AwarePoint Corporation 600 W. Broadway, Suite 250 San Diego, CA 92101	Healthcare technology platform developer	First lien senior secured loan Warrant	11.55% (Libor + 10.50%/M)	6/1/2018 9/5/2024	\$ 8.83% \$	8.4 0.6(2)
Babson CLO Ltd. 2006-II(88)(89) Walker House, 87 Mary Street George Town, KY1-9002 Cayman Islands	Investment vehicle	Income notes		10/16/2020	\$	
Babson CLO Ltd. 2013-II(88)(89) P.O. Box 1093 Queensgate House Grand Cayman, KY1-1102, Cayman Islands	Investment vehicle	Income notes	10.00%	1/18/2025	\$	3.1
Babson CLO Ltd. 2014-I(88)(89) P.O. Box 1093 Queensgate House Grand Cayman, KY1-1102, Cayman Islands	Investment vehicle	Subordinated notes	13.20%	7/20/2025	\$	5.1
Babson CLO Ltd. 2014-II(88)(89) P.O. Box 1093 Queensgate House Grand Cayman, KY1-1102, Cayman Islands	Investment vehicle	Subordinated notes	19.00%	10/17/2026	\$	14.3

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Company	Business Description	Investment	Interest(1)	Maturity Date	% of Class Held at 3/31/2017	Fair Value
Badger Sportswear Acquisition, Inc. 111 Badger Lane, Statesville, NC 28625	Provider of team uniforms and athletic wear	Second lien senior secured loan	10.00% (Libor + 9.00%/Q)	3/11/2024		\$ 50.0
Bellotto Holdings Limited(4)(88) Colwick Business Park Private Road No. 2 Colwick, Nottingham NG4 2JR, UK	Manufacturer and retailer of blinds and curtains	Preferred stock			97.00%	\$ 42.6
		Preferred stock			80.00%	\$ 2.3
		Common stock			95.80%	\$ 27.9
		Class A common stock			98.20%	\$ 126.1
Benihana, Inc. 8685 Northwest 53rd Terrace Miami, FL 33166	Restaurant owner and operator	First lien senior secured revolving loan	8.25% (Libor + 7.00%/Q)	7/17/2018		\$ 0.8(11)
		First lien senior secured revolving loan	9.75% (Base Rate + 5.75%/Q)	7/17/2018		\$ 0.2(11)
		First lien senior secured loan	8.25% (Libor + 7.00%/Q)	1/17/2019		\$ 4.9
BeyondTrust Software, Inc. 5090 40th St. Suite 400 Phoenix, AZ 85018	Management software solutions provider	First lien senior secured revolving loan		9/25/2019		\$ (12)
		First lien senior secured loan	8.00% (Libor + 7.00%/Q)	9/25/2019		\$ 29.2
Blue Hill CLO, Ltd.(88)(89) PO Box 1350 Clifton House, 75 Fort Street Grand Cayman KY1-1108 Cayman Islands	Investment vehicle	Subordinated notes	16.00%	1/15/2026		\$ 8.2
		Subordinated notes	44.70%	1/15/2026		\$ 0.1
Blue Wolf Capital Fund II, L.P.(88)(89) 48 Wall Street 31 Floor New York, NY 10005	Investment partnership	Limited partnership interest			8.50%	\$ 8.1
BluePay Processing, LLC 184 Shuman Boulevard Suite 350 Naperville, IL 60563	Payment processing solutions provider	Second lien senior secured loan	9.54% (Libor + 8.50%/Q)	8/30/2022		\$ 32.8
Borchers Americas, Inc. 811 Sharon Drive, Westlake, Ohio 44145	Provider of performance enhancing coating additives	First lien senior secured loan	5.90% (Libor + 4.75%/Q)	1/13/2024		\$ 5.0
Brandtone Holdings Limited(88) 51 - 54 Pearse Street Dublin 2, Ireland	Mobile communications and marketing services provider	First lien senior secured loan		11/1/2018		\$
		First lien senior secured loan		2/1/2019		\$
		Warrant		8/5/2026	2.14%	\$ (2)
BRG Sports, Inc. 669 Sugar Lane Elyria, OH 44035	Designer, manufacturer and licensor of branded sporting goods	Preferred stock			1.65%	\$
		Common stock			1.28%	\$
Cadence Aerospace, LLC	Aerospace precision	First lien senior secured loan	7.50% (Libor + 6.25%/Q)	5/9/2018		\$ 3.9

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

2600 94th Street SW, Suite 150 Everett, WA 98204	components manufacturer	Second lien senior secured loan	11.00% (Libor + 9.75%/Q)	5/9/2019	\$	73.3
Callidus Capital Corporation(4) 2000 Avenue of the Stars, 12th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90067	Asset management services	Common stock			100.00%	\$ 1.7
CallMiner, Inc. 200 West Street Waltham, MA 02452	Provider of cloud-based conversational analytics solutions	Second lien senior secured loan Second lien senior secured loan Warrant	10.55% (Libor + 9.50%/M) 10.55% (Libor + 9.50%/M)	5/1/2018 8/1/2018 7/23/2024	\$ \$ 1.83%	1.7 1.0 (2)
Campus Management Acquisition Corp.(3) 350 Park Avenue, 23rd Floor New York, NY 10022	Education software developer	Preferred stock			16.75%	\$ 9.7
Carlyle Global Market Strategies CLO 2013-3, Ltd.(88)(89) 190 Elgin Avenue, George Town Grand Cayman KY1-9005, Cayman Islands	Investment vehicle	Subordinated notes	12.50%	7/15/2025	\$	2.6
Carlyle Global Market Strategies CLO 2015-3, Ltd.(88)(89) 190 Elgin Avenue, George Town Grand Cayman KY1-9005, Cayman Islands	Investment vehicle	Subordinated notes	11.60%	7/28/2028	\$	19.5
Cast & Crew Payroll, LLC 2300 Empire Avenue 5th Floor Burbank, CA 91504	Payroll and accounting services provider to the entertainment industry	Second lien senior secured loan	8.90% (Libor + 7.75%/Q)	8/12/2023	\$	26.7
CCS Intermediate Holdings, LLC and CCS Group Holdings, LLC 3343 Perimeter Hill Drive, Suite 300 Nashville, TN 37211	Correctional facility healthcare operator	First lien senior secured revolving loan First lien senior secured revolving loan First lien senior secured loan Second lien senior secured loan Class A units	5.15% (Libor + 4.00%/Q) 7.00% (Base Rate + 3.00%/Q) 5.15% (Libor + 4.00%/Q) 9.43% (Libor + 8.38%/Q)	7/23/2019 7/23/2019 7/23/2021 7/23/2022	\$ \$ \$ \$ 1.22%	3.2(13) 1.4(13) 5.6 101.3 0.4
Cent CDO 12 Limited(88)(89) P.O. Box 1093, Boundary Hall Cricket Square Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, KY1-1102	Investment vehicle	Income notes	10.00%	11/18/2020	\$	26.4

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Company	Business Description	Investment	Interest(1)	Maturity Date	% of Class Held at 3/31/2017	Fair Value
Cent CLO 22 Limited(88)(89) P.O. Box 1093, Boundary Hall Cricket Square Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, KY1-1102	Investment vehicle	Subordinated notes	10.30%	11/7/2026		\$ 23.4
Cent CLO 24 Limited(88)(89) P.O. Box 1093, Boundary Hall Cricket Square Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, KY1-1102	Investment vehicle	Subordinated notes	10.30%	10/15/2026		\$ 21.4
Centurion CDO 8 Limited(88)(89) P.O. Box 1093 GT Queensgate House, South Church Street George Town, Cayman Islands	Investment vehicle	Subordinated notes		3/8/2019		\$
CFW Co-Invest, L.P., NCP Curves, L.P. and Curves International Holdings, Inc. 100 Ritchie Road Waco, TX 76712	Health club franchisor	Limited partnership interest			12.24%	\$ 1.4
		Limited partnership interest			7.41%	\$ 6.4(88)
		Common stock			12.25%	\$ (88)
ChargePoint, Inc. 1692 Dell Avenue Campbell, CA 95008	Developer and operator of electric vehicle charging stations	Second lien senior secured loan Warrant	9.90% (Libor + 8.75%/M)	8/1/2020 12/24/2024		\$ 20.0 3.70% \$ 2.1(2)
Chariot Acquisition, LLC 3510 Port Jacksonville Pkwy Jacksonville, Fl 32226	Manufacturer of aftermarket golf cart parts and accessories	First lien senior secured revolving loan First lien senior secured loan		9/30/2021 9/30/2021		\$ (14) \$ 29.0
Charter NEX US Holdings, Inc. 1264 E High St. Milton, WI 53563	Producer of high-performance specialty films used in flexible packaging	Second lien senior secured loan	9.30% (Libor + 8.25%/Q)	2/6/2023		\$ 11.8
CHL, LTD. 1023 State Street Schenectady, NY 12307	Repair and service solutions provider for cable, satellite and telecommunications based service providers	Warrant Warrant Warrant		5/2/2020 5/2/2020 5/2/2020	6.00% 6.00% 6.00%	\$ (2) \$ (2) \$ (2)
CIBT Investment Holdings, LLC 111 Huntington Ave., 30th Floor Boston, MA 02199	Expedited travel document processing services	Class A shares			1.76%	\$ 6.4
Ciena Capital LLC(4) 1633 Broadway, 39th Floor New York, NY 10019	Real estate and small business loan servicer	First lien senior secured revolving loan Equity interests	6.00%	12/31/2017		\$ 14.0(15) 100.00% \$ 17.0

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Clearwater Analytics, LLC 777 W. Main Street, Suite 900 Boise, Idaho 83702	Provider of integrated cloud-based investment portfolio management, accounting, reporting and analytics software	First lien senior secured revolving loan	8.50% (Libor + 7.50%/Q)	9/1/2022	\$	1.2(16)	
CMW Parent LLC (fka Black Arrow, Inc.) 65 North San Pedro San Jose, CA 95110	Multiplatform media firm	Series A units			0.00%	\$	
CoLTs 2005-1 Ltd.(4)(88)(89) P.O. Box 908 GT Walker House, Mary Street George Town, Cayman Islands	Investment vehicle	Preferred shares				\$	
CoLTs 2005-2 Ltd.(4)(88)(89) P.O. Box 908 GT Walker House, Mary Street George Town, Cayman Islands	Investment vehicle	Preferred shares				\$	
Columbo Midco Limited, Columbo Bidco Limited and Columbo Topco Limited(4)(88) 25 Bedford Street London WC2E 9ES United Kingdom	Compliance, accounting and tax consulting services provider	Preferred stock			95.52%	\$ 2.6	
		Preferred stock			85.80%	\$ 22.1	
		Preferred stock			100.00%	\$ 4.1	
Command Alkon, Incorporated and CA Note Issuer, LLC 1800 International Park Dr., Suite 400 Birmingham, AL 35243	Software solutions provider to the ready-mix concrete industry	Second lien senior secured loan	9.25% (Libor + 8.25%/Q)	8/8/2020	\$	10.0	
		Second lien senior secured loan	9.25% (Libor + 8.25%/Q)	8/8/2020	\$	11.5	
		Second lien senior secured loan	9.25% (Libor + 8.25%/Q)	8/8/2020	\$	26.5	
		Senior subordinated loan	14.00% PIK	8/8/2021	\$	24.2	
Commercial Credit Group, Inc. 227 West Trade Street, Suite 1450 Charlotte, NC 28202	Commercial equipment finance and leasing company	Senior subordinated loan	11.00% (Libor + 9.75%/Q)	8/31/2022	\$	28.0	
Community Education Centers, Inc. and CEC Parent Holdings LLC(4) 35 Fairfield Place West Caldwell, NJ 07006	Offender re-entry and in-prison treatment services provider	First lien senior secured loan	6.26% (Libor + 5.25%/Q)	12/13/2017	\$	13.5	
		First lien senior secured loan	8.25% (Base Rate + 4.25%/Q)	12/13/2017	\$	0.7	
		Second lien senior secured loan	16.04% (Libor + 15.00%/Q)	6/13/2018	\$	22.3	
		Class A senior preferred units	15.00%		30.77%	\$	12.7
		Class A junior preferred units	8.00%		0.90%	\$	36.4
		Class A common units			30.77%	\$ 12.9	

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Company	Business Description	Investment	Interest(1)	Maturity Date	% of Class Held at 3/31/2017	Fair Value
Competitor Group, Inc., Calera XVI, LLC and Champion Parent Corporation(4) 9401 Waples Street, Suite 150 San Diego, CA 92121	Endurance sports media and event operator	First lien senior secured revolving loan	5.00% (Libor + 3.75%/Q)	11/30/2018		\$ 1.4(17)
		First lien senior secured revolving loan	5.00% (Libor + 3.75%/Q)	11/30/2018		\$ 4.4(18)
		First lien senior secured loan	5.00% (Libor + 3.75%/Q)	11/30/2018		\$ 36.9
		Preferred shares				45.00% \$
		Membership units				7.88% \$
		Common shares				32.96% \$
Component Hardware Group, Inc. 1890 Swarthmore Avenue Lakewood, NJ 08701	Manufacturer of commercial equipment	First lien senior secured revolving loan	5.50% (Libor + 4.50%/Q)	7/1/2019		\$ 1.9(19)
		First lien senior secured loan	5.50% (Libor + 4.50%/Q)	7/1/2019		\$ 8.0
Compusearch Software Systems, Inc. 21251 Ridgetop Circle Suite 100 Dulles, VA 20166	Provider of enterprise software and services for organizations in the public sector	Second lien senior secured loan	9.78% (Libor + 8.75%/Q)	11/8/2021		\$ 51.0
Compuware Parent, LLC 777 Mariners Island Blvd. San Mateo, CA 94404	Web and mobile cloud performance testing and monitoring services provider	Class A-1 common stock			0.41% \$	1.8
		Class B-1 common stock			0.41% \$	0.4
		Class C-1 common stock			0.41% \$	0.2
		Class A-2 common stock			0.41% \$	
		Class B-2 common stock			0.41% \$	
		Class C-2 common stock			0.41% \$	
Convergint Technologies LLC One Commerce Drive Schaumburg, IL 60173	Integrated services provider for security, fire and life safety	Second lien senior secured loan		12/18/2017		\$ (20)
		Second lien senior secured loan	9.32% (Libor + 8.50%/Q)	12/18/2020		\$ 8.0
		Second lien senior secured loan	9.32% (Libor + 8.50%/Q)	12/18/2020		\$ 11.0
		Second lien senior secured loan	9.32% (Libor + 8.00%/Q)	12/18/2020		\$ 75.0
Correctional Medical Group Companies, Inc.	Correctional facility healthcare operator	First lien senior secured loan	9.38% (Libor + 8.38%/Q)	9/29/2021		\$ 3.1
		First lien senior secured loan	9.38% (Libor + 8.38%/Q)	9/29/2021		\$ 48.8
2511 Garden Road, Suite A160 Monterey, CA 93940						
Cozzini Bros., Inc. and BH-Sharp Holdings LP 350 Howard Avenue, Des Plaines, IL 60018	Provider of commercial knife sharpening and cutlery services in the restaurant industry	First lien senior secured revolving loan	6.50% (Libor + 5.50%/Q)	3/10/2023		\$ 1.0(21)
		First lien senior secured loan		3/10/2023		\$ (22)
		First lien senior secured loan	6.50% (Libor + 5.50%/Q)	3/10/2023		\$ 22.4
		Common units				3.24% \$
CPV Maryland Holding Company II, LLC	Gas turbine power generation	Senior subordinated loan	10.00%	12/31/2020		\$ 42.4

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

c/o Competitive Power Ventures, Inc. 8403 Colesville Road, Suite 915 Silver Spring, MD 20910	facilities operator	Warrant		8/8/2018	4.00% \$	(2)
CREST Exeter Street Solar 2004-1(88)(89) P.O. Box 908 GT Walker House, Mary Street George Town, Grand Cayman Cayman Islands	Investment vehicle	Preferred shares			\$	
Crown Health Care Laundry Services, LLC and Crown Laundry Holdings, LLC(3) 1501 North Guillemard Street Pensacola, FL 32501	Provider of outsourced healthcare linen management solutions	First lien senior secured revolving loan		12/20/2021	\$	(23)
		First lien senior secured loan		12/20/2021	\$	(24)
		First lien senior secured loan	7.25% (Libor + 6.25%/Q)	12/20/2021	\$	11.0
		Class A preferred units			10.59% \$	3.3
		Class B common units			10.59% \$	0.4
CSTM LLC(4) 618 Church Street Suite 520 Nashville, TN 37219	Dental services provider	Class A membership units			1.90% \$	
CST Buyer Company (d/b/a Intoxalock) 11035 Aurora Ave, Des Moines, Des Moines, Iowa 50325	Provider of ignition interlock devices	First lien senior secured revolving loan		3/1/2023	\$	(25)
		First lien senior secured loan	7.61% (Libor + 6.25%/Q)	3/1/2023	\$	14.9
D4C Dental Brands HoldCo, Inc. and Bambino Group Holdings, LLC 1350 Spring Street NW Suite 600, Atlanta, GA 30353	Dental services provider	First lien senior secured revolving loan		12/21/2022	\$	(26)
		Class A preferred units			0.64% \$	1.0
Datapipe, Inc. 10 Exchange Place 12th Floor Jersey City, NJ 07302	Data center provider	Second lien senior secured loan	9.00% (Libor + 8.00%/Q)	9/16/2019	\$	28.6
DCA Investment Holding, LLC 6240 Lake Osprey Drive Sarasota, FL 34240	Multi-branded dental practice management	First lien senior secured revolving loan	8.25% (Base Rate + 4.25%/Q)	7/2/2021	\$	1.4(27)
		First lien senior secured loan	6.25% (Libor + 5.25%/Q)	7/2/2021	\$	18.5
Dent Wizard International Corporation and DWH Equity Investors, L.P. 4710 Earth City Expressway Bridgeton, MO 63044	Automotive reconditioning services	Second lien senior secured loan	9.75% (Libor + 8.75%/Q)	10/7/2020	\$	50.0
		Class A common stock			0.44% \$	0.5
		Class B common stock			0.37% \$	1.0

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Company	Business Description	Investment	Interest(1)	Maturity Date	% of Class Held at 3/31/2017	Fair Value
DESRI VI Management Holdings, LLC	Wind power generation	Senior subordinated loan	9.75%	12/24/2021		\$ 25.0
c/o D.E. Shaw & Co., L.P. 1166 Avenue of the Americas, 9th Floor New York, NY 10036	facility operator	Non-controlling units			10.00%	\$ 2.3
DFS Holding Company, Inc. 607 W. Dempster St. Mt. Prospect, IL 60056	Distributor of maintenance, repair, and operations parts, supplies, and equipment to the foodservice industry	First lien senior secured loan	6.15% (Libor + 5.00%/Q)	2/17/2022		\$ 13.0
DineInFresh, Inc. 22 West 19th Street, 5th Floor New York, NY 10011	Meal-delivery provider	First lien senior secured loan Warrant	9.91% (Libor + 8.75%/M)	7/1/2018 12/19/2024		\$ 4.0 1.48% \$ (2)
Directworks, Inc. and Co-Exprise Holdings, Inc. 6021 Wallace Road, Suite 300 Wexford, PA 15090	Provider of cloud-based software solutions for direct materials sourcing and supplier management for manufacturers	First lien senior secured loan Warrant	10.34% (Libor + 9.25%/M)	4/1/2018 12/19/2024		\$ 1.7 4.76% \$ (2)
DiversiTech Corporation 6650 Sugarloaf Parkway #100 Duluth, GA 30097	Manufacturer and distributor of engineered components, chemicals and accessories for the repair, maintenance and installation of heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration systems	Second lien senior secured loan	9.00% (Libor + 8.00%/Q)	11/21/2022		\$ 9.5
DNAexus, Inc. 1975 W. El Camino Real, Suite 101 Mountain View, CA 94040	Bioinformatics company	First lien senior secured loan Warrant	9.25% (Libor + 8.25%/M)	10/1/2018 3/21/2024		\$ 9.1 0.64% \$ 0.1(2)
Dorner Holding Corp. 975 Cottonwood Avenue, Hartland, WI 53029	Manufacturer of precision unit conveyors	First lien senior secured revolving loan First lien senior secured loan	6.75% (Libor + 5.75%/Q) 6.75% (Libor + 5.75%/Q)	3/15/2022 3/15/2023		\$ 1.0(28) \$ 7.5
DTI Holdco, Inc. and OPE DTI Holdings, Inc. Two Ravinia Drive, Suite 850 Atlanta, GA 30346	Provider of legal process outsourcing and managed services	First lien senior secured revolving loan First lien senior secured loan Class A common stock		9/30/2021 9/30/2023		\$ (29) \$ 4.1 0.86% \$ 6.8

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

		Class B common stock			0.86% \$	
Dwyer Acquisition Parent, Inc. and TDG Group Holding Company	Operator of multiple franchise concepts primarily related to home maintenance or repairs	Senior subordinated loan	11.00%	2/15/2020	\$	31.5
		Senior subordinated loan	11.00%	2/15/2020	\$	52.7
1020 N University Park Drive Waco, TX 76707		Common stock			1.87% \$	5.4
Eagle Family Foods Group LLC 1 Strawberry Lane Orrville, OH 44667	Manufacturer and producer of milk products	First lien senior secured loan	10.05% (Libor + 9.05%/Q)	12/31/2021	\$	21.6
		First lien senior secured loan	10.05% (Libor + 9.05%/Q)	12/31/2021	\$	54.8
Earthcolor Group, LLC 249 Pomeroy Road Parsippany, NJ 07054	Printing management services	Limited liability company interests			9.30% \$	
Eaton Vance CDO X plc(88)(89) 85 Merrion Square Dublin 2 Ireland	Investment vehicle	Subordinated notes	11.30%	2/22/2027	\$	5.6
Eckler Industries, Inc. 5200 S. Washington Ave. Titusville, FL 32780	Restoration parts and accessories provider for classic automobiles	First lien senior secured revolving loan	9.00% (Base Rate + 5.00%/Q)	7/12/2017	\$	1.9(30)
		First lien senior secured loan	7.25% (Libor + 6.00%/Q)	7/12/2017	\$	6.6
		First lien senior secured loan	7.25% (Libor + 6.00%/Q)	7/12/2017	\$	24.4
		Series A preferred stock			5.41% \$	
		Common stock			5.41% \$	
EcoMotors, Inc. 17000 Federal Drive, Suite 200 Allen Park, MI 48101	Engine developer	First lien senior secured loan		3/1/2018	\$	0.5
		Warrant		12/28/2022	2.10% \$	(2)
		Warrant		2/24/2025	0.46% \$	(2)
EDS Group(4)(88) Medienst. 5b 94036 Passau, Germany	Provider of print and digital services	First lien senior secured loan	6.00% (Libor + 5.00%/Q)	6/28/2019	\$	0.4
		First lien senior secured loan	6.00% (Libor + 5.00%/Q)	6/28/2019	\$	0.6
		First lien senior secured loan	6.00% (Libor + 5.00%/Q)	6/28/2019	\$	0.2
		First lien senior secured loan	6.00% (Libor + 5.00%/Q)	6/28/2019	\$	0.6
		First lien senior secured loan	6.00% (Libor + 5.00%/Q)	6/28/2019	\$	0.4
		First lien senior secured loan	6.00% (Libor + 5.00%/Q)	6/28/2019	\$	0.1
		Senior subordinated loan	3.13%	6/28/2019	\$	4.9
		Senior subordinated loan	3.13%	6/28/2019	\$	5.0
		Preferred stock			22.20% \$	0.1
		Common stock			22.20% \$	
Edward Don & Company, LLC 9801 Adam Don Pkwy, Woolridge, IL 60517	Distributor of foodservice equipment and supplies	First lien senior secured loan	8.50% (Base Rate + 7.50%/Q)	9/30/2022	\$	48.0

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Company	Business Description	Investment	Interest(1)	Maturity Date	% of Class Held at 3/31/2017	Fair Value
Emerus Holdings, Inc. 82330 North Loop 1604 W San Antonio, TX 78249	Freestanding 24-hour emergency care micro-hospitals operator	First lien senior secured revolving loan		9/1/2020		\$ (31)
		First lien senior secured loan	5.50% (Libor + 4.50%/Q)	9/1/2021		\$ 2.0
EN Engineering, L.L.C. 28100 Torch Parkway, Suite 400 Warrenville, IL 60555	National utility services firm providing engineering and consulting services to natural gas, electric power and other energy and industrial end markets	First lien senior secured loan		6/30/2021		\$ (32)
ESCP PPG Holdings, LLC(3) 8330 State Road Philadelphia, PA 19136	Distributor of new equipment and aftermarket parts to the heavy-duty truck industry	Class A units			7.91%	\$ 3.3
ETG Holdings, Inc.(4) PO Box 487 Greenville, SC 29602	Manufacturer of industrial woven products	Common stock			30.00%	\$
European Capital UK SME Debt LP(4)(88)(89) 25 Bedford Street London WC2E 9ES, United Kingdom	Investment partnership	Limited partnership interest			45.00%	\$ 30.5
Everspin Technologies, Inc 1347 N. Alma School Road, Suite 220 Chandler, AZ 85224	Designer and manufacturer of computer memory solutions	First lien senior secured revolving loan	7.75% (Base Rate + 3.75%/M)	6/5/2017		\$ 1.1(33)
		First lien senior secured loan Warrant	8.85% (Libor + 7.75%/M)	6/1/2019 10/7/2026		\$ 6.5 3.98% \$ (2)
Faction Holdings, Inc. and The Faction Group LLC (fka PeakColo Holdings, Inc.) 303 E. 17th Avenue, Suite 1000 Denver, CO 80203	Wholesaler of cloud-based software applications and services	First lien senior secured revolving loan		1/6/2019		\$ (34)
		First lien senior secured loan	10.26% (Libor + 9.25%/Q)	1/1/2021		\$ 7.8
		Warrant		1/6/2027	3.59%	\$ 0.2(2)
		Warrant		12/3/2025	1.03%	\$ 0.1(2)
Warrant		11/3/2024	1.41%	\$ 0.1(2)		
Fashion Holding Luxembourg SCA(4)(88) 6 rue Eugene Ruppert Luxembourg L-2453 Luxembourg	Retailer of women's clothing	Preferred stock				\$
Feradyne Outdoors, LLC and Bowhunter Holdings, LLC	Provider of branded archery and bowhunting accessories	First lien senior secured loan	4.00% (Libor + 3.00%/Q)	3/31/2019		\$ 4.4
		First lien senior secured loan	4.00% (Libor + 3.00%/Q)	3/31/2019		\$ 5.2

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

110 Beasley Rd. Cartersville, GA 30120		First lien senior secured loan	6.55% (Libor + 5.55%/Q)	3/31/2019	\$	9.3
		First lien senior secured loan	6.55% (Libor + 5.55%/Q)	3/31/2019	\$	49.1
		Common units			3.20% \$	2.8
Financial Asset Management Systems, Inc.(3) and FAMS Holdings, Inc. 1967 Lakeside Parkway Suite 402 Tucker, GA 30084	Debt collection services provider	First lien senior secured loan	8.00%	6/30/2017	100.00% \$	0.2
		Common stock			18.00% \$	
First Insight, Inc. 1606 Carmody Court, Suite 106 Sewickley, PA 15143	Software company providing merchandising and pricing solutions to companies worldwide	Warrant		3/20/2024	0.88% \$	(2)
Flagship CLO V(88)(89) P.O. Box 1093, Boundary Hall Cricket Square Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, KY1-1102	Investment vehicle	Subordinated securities			\$	
Flexera Software LLC 300 Park Boulevard Suite 500 Itasca, IL 60143	Provider of software and software applications that manages application usage, compliance and security risk	Second lien senior secured loan	8.00% (Libor + 7.00%/Q)	4/2/2021	\$	4.9
Flow Solutions Holdings, Inc. 22908 NE Alder Crest Drive, Suite 100 Redmond, WA 98053	Distributor of high value fluid handling, filtration and flow control products	Second lien senior secured loan	10.04% (Libor + 9.00%/Q)	10/30/2018	\$	5.4
		Second lien senior secured loan	10.04% (Libor + 9.00%/Q)	10/30/2018	\$	27.0
Foamex Innovations, Inc. 1400 North Providence Road, Suite 2000 Media, PA 19063	Manufacturer of advanced polymer foam products	Series A common stock			0.10% \$	
		Class B common stock			0.10% \$	
FPI Holding Corporation(4) 38773 Road 48 Dinuba, CA 93618	Distributor of fruits	First lien senior secured loan		4/1/2017	\$	0.4
Galls, LLC 1340 Russell Cave Road Lexington, KY 40505	Distributor of apparel products to safety professionals	Second lien senior secured loan		8/29/2021	\$	(35)
		Second lien senior secured loan	9.00% (Libor + 7.75%/Q)	8/29/2021	\$	14.3
		Second lien senior secured loan	9.00% (Libor + 7.75%/Q)	8/29/2021	\$	26.0
Garden Fresh Restaurant Corp. and GFRC Holdings LLC(4) 15822 Bernardo Center Drive, Suite A San Diego, CA 92127	Restaurant owner and operator	First lien senior secured revolving loan		2/1/2022	\$	(36)
		First lien senior secured loan	10.50% (Libor + 9.00%/Q)	2/1/2022	50.00% \$	40.1
		Class A units			48.60% \$	1.7

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Company	Business Description	Investment	Interest(1)	Maturity Date	% of Class Held at 3/31/2017	Fair Value
Genomatica, Inc. Cambridge Discovery Park, 5th Floor 100 Acorn Park Drive Cambridge, MA 02140	Developer of a biotechnology platform for the production of chemical products	Warrant		3/28/2023	0.70%	\$ (2)
Gentle Communications, LLC 200 5th Avenue, Suite 3 Waltham, MA 02451	Dental services provider	First lien senior secured revolving loan		5/27/2022		\$ (37)
GF Parent LLC 4757 Nexus Center Drive San Diego, CA 92121	Producer of low-acid, aseptic food and beverage products	Class A preferred units Class A common units			2.58% 2.20%	\$ 1.5 \$
Global Franchise Group, LLC and GFG Intermediate Holding, Inc. 1346 Oakbrook Drive, Suite 170 Norcross, GA 30093	Worldwide franchisor of quick service restaurants	First lien senior secured loan	10.46% (Libor + 9.32%/Q)	12/18/2019		\$ 60.8
Global Healthcare Exchange, LLC and GHX Ultimate Parent Corp. 1315 W Century Drive Louisville, CO 80027	On-demand supply chain automation solutions provider	Second lien senior secured loan Class A common stock Class B common stock	9.75% (Libor + 8.75%/Q)	8/14/2023		\$ 47.5 1.03% \$ 1.8 0.93% \$ 5.5
GoldenTree Loan Opportunities VII, Limited(88)(89) P.O. Box 1093, Boundary Hall Cricket Square Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, KY1-1102	Investment vehicle	Subordinated notes	11.50%	4/25/2025		\$ 21.6
Gordian Acquisition Corp. 950 Third Avenue, 17th Floor New York, NY 10022	Financial services firm	Common stock			5.00%	\$
Green Energy Partners, Stonewall LLC and Panda Stonewall Intermediate Holdings II LLC 12 Paoli Pike Suite 5 Paoli, PA 19301	Gas turbine power generation facilities operator	First lien senior secured loan Senior subordinated loan Senior subordinated loan	6.65% (Libor + 5.50%/Q) 8.00% Cash, 5.25% PIK 8.00% Cash, 5.25% PIK	11/13/2021 12/31/2021 12/31/2021		\$ 24.3 \$ 19.2 \$ 89.7
Greenphire, Inc. and RMCF III CIV XXIX, L.P. 640 Freedom Business Center Drive, Suite 201 King of Prussia, PA 19406	Software provider for clinical trial management	First lien senior secured revolving loan First lien senior secured loan First lien senior secured loan Limited partnership interest	7.75% (Base Rate + 3.75%/M) 9.00% (Libor + 8.00%/M) 9.00% (Libor + 8.00%/M)	12/19/2018 12/19/2018 12/19/2018		\$ 0.5(38) \$ 1.5 \$ 3.4 5.01% \$ 2.3
GS Pretium Holdings, Inc.	Manufacturer and supplier of	Common stock			0.41%	\$ 0.6

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

15450 South Outer Forty Drive, Suite 120 Chesterfield, MO 63017	high performance plastic containers					
GTCR Valor Companies, Inc. 30 East Randolph Street 7th Floor Chicago, IL 60601	Public relations software as service provider	Second lien senior secured loan	10.52% (Libor + 9.50%/Q)	6/17/2024	\$	100.0
Halcyon Loan Advisors Funding 2014-1 Ltd.(88)(89) P.O. Box 1093, Boundary Hall Cricket Square Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, KY1-1102	Investment vehicle	Subordinated notes	19.00%	4/18/2026	\$	0.5
Halcyon Loan Advisors Funding 2015-2, Ltd.(88)(89) P.O. Box 1093, Boundary Hall Cricket Square Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, KY1-1102	Investment vehicle	Subordinated notes	14.80%	7/25/2027	\$	14.5
Halex Holdings, Inc.(4) 4200 Santa Ana Street Ontario, CA 91761	Manufacturer of flooring installation products	First lien senior secured revolving loan Common stock		12/31/2018	\$	1.1(39)
HALT Medical, Inc.(4) 101 E. Vineyard Avenue Suite 201 Livermore, CA 94551	Medical supply provider	First lien senior secured loan First lien senior secured loan First lien senior secured loan First lien senior secured loan First lien senior secured loan		4/30/2017 4/30/2017 4/30/2017 4/30/2017 4/30/2017	\$	 \$ \$ \$ \$
Hard 8 Games, LLC(4) 161 Worchester Road Suite 606 Framingham, MA 01701	Designer and manufacturer of high technology casino games	First lien senior secured loan		12/30/2020	\$	12.5
Harvey Tool Company, LLC and Harvey Tool Holding, LLC 428 Newburyport Turnpike Rowley, MA 01969	Manufacturer of cutting tool provider to the metalworking industry	First lien senior secured revolving loan Senior subordinated loan Class A membership units	10.00% Cash, 1.00% PIK	3/28/2019 3/28/2020	\$	(40) 28.2 1.8
HCI Equity, LLC(4)(88)(89) 2000 Avenue of the Stars, 12th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90067	Investment company	Member interest			100.00% \$	0.1

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Company	Business Description	Investment	Interest(1)	Maturity Date	% of Class Held at 3/31/2017	Fair Value
Herbert Park B.V.(88)(89) Herikerbergweg 238, Luna ArenA, 1101 CM Amsterdam Zuidoost, The Netherlands	Investment vehicle	Subordinated notes	13.80%	10/20/2026		\$ 19.7
Heritage Food Service Group, Inc. and WCI-HFG Holdings, LLC 5130 Executive Boulevard Fort Wayne, IN 46808	Distributor of repair and replacement parts for commercial kitchen equipment	Second lien senior secured loan Preferred units	9.65% (Libor + 8.50%/Q)	10/20/2022		\$ 31.6
					2.50%	\$ 3.4
Hygiena Borrower LLC 941 Avenida Acaso Carmarillo, CA 93012	Adenosine triphosphate testing technology provider	First lien senior secured revolving loan		8/26/2022		\$ (41)
		Second lien senior secured loan	10.05% (Libor + 9.00%/Q)	8/26/2023		\$ 10.7
		Second lien senior secured loan	10.15% (Libor + 9.00%/Q)	8/26/2023		\$ 10.0
ICSH, Inc. 1540 Greenwood Avenue Montebello, CA 90640	Industrial container manufacturer, reconditioner and servicer	First lien senior secured revolving loan	6.75% (Libor + 5.75%/Q)	12/31/2018		\$ 1.0(42)
		First lien senior secured loan	6.75% (Libor + 5.75%/Q)	12/31/2018		\$ 47.0
		Second lien senior secured loan	10.00% (Libor + 9%/Q)	12/31/2019		\$ 76.0
IfByPhone Inc. 300 W. Adams Street, Suite 900 Chicago, IL 60606	Voice-based marketing automation software provider	Warrant		10/15/2022	5.00%	\$ 0.1(2)
Imaging Business Machines, L.L.C. and Scanner Holdings Corporation(4) 2750 Crestwood Blvd Birmingham, AL 35210	Provider of high-speed intelligent document scanning hardware and software	Senior subordinated loan	14.00%	6/15/2022		\$ 8.3
		Senior subordinated loan	14.00%	6/15/2022		\$ 8.3
		Series A preferred stock			85.81%	\$ 0.4
		Class A common stock			8.19%	\$
		Class B common stock			8.19%	\$
Imperial Capital Group LLC 2000 Avenue of the Stars, 9th Floor S Los Angeles, CA 90067	Investment services	Class A common units 2006 Class B common units 2007 Class B common units			2.45%	\$ 11.4
					2.45%	\$
					2.45%	\$
Imperial Capital Private Opportunities, LP(89) 2000 Avenue of the Stars, 9th Floor S Los Angeles, CA 90067	Investment partnership	Limited partnership interest			80.00%	\$ 16.4
Indra Holdings Corp. 9655 International Blvd. Cincinnati, OH 45246	Designer, marketer, and distributor of rain and cold weather products	Second lien senior secured loan	8.54% (Libor + 7.50%/Q)	11/1/2021		\$ 59.2
Infilaw Holding, LLC 1100 5th Avenue South, Suite 301	Operator of for-profit law schools	First lien senior secured revolving loan		2/1/2018		\$ 6.0(43)

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Naples, FL 34102		Series A preferred units			95.34% \$	
		Series A-1 preferred units			69.36% \$	
		Series B preferred units			6.67% \$	
Infogix, Inc. and Infogix Parent Corporation 1240 E. Diehl Rd, Suite 400 Naperville, IL 60563	Enterprise data analytics and integrity software solutions provider	First lien senior secured loan Series A preferred stock Common stock	7.90% (Libor + 6.75%/Q)	12/31/2021	\$	89.8 2.7 1.3
Inmar, Inc. 2601 Pilgrim Court Winston Salem, NC 27106	Technology-driven solutions provider for retailers, wholesalers and manufacturers	Second lien senior secured loan	8.15% (Libor + 7.00%/Q)	1/27/2022	\$	20.0
Instituto de Banca y Comercio, Inc. & Leeds IV Advisors, Inc. Calle Santa Ana 1660 Santurce, Puerto Rico 00909	Private school operator	First lien senior secured loan Series B preferred stock Series C preferred stock Senior preferred series A-1 shares Common stock	10.50% PIK (Libor + 9.00%/Q)	12/31/2018	\$	3.0 5.00% \$ 3.98% \$ 83.50% \$ 48.8 4.02% \$
Interactions Corporation 31 Hayward Street, Suite E Franklin, MA 02038	Developer of a speech recognition software based customer interaction system	Second lien senior secured loan Warrant	9.85% (Libor + 8.60%/M)	3/1/2021 6/16/2022	\$	25.1 0.3(2)
Intermedix Corporation 424 Church Street, Suite 2400 Nashville, TN 37219	Revenue cycle management provider to the emergency healthcare industry	Second lien senior secured loan	9.40% (Libor + 8.25%/Q)	6/27/2020	\$	108.6
Ioxus, Inc(3) 18 Stadium Circle Oneonta, NY 13820	Manufacturer of energy storage devices	First lien senior secured loan First lien senior secured loan Series CC preferred stock Warrant Warrant Warrant	12.00% PIK	6/1/2019 6/1/2019 8/24/2026 1/27/2027 1/27/2026	\$	10.2 0.6 10.63% \$ 19.49% \$ 5.51% \$ 19.49% \$ (2) (2) (2)
iParadigms Holdings, LLC 1111 Broadway 3rd Floor Oakland, CA 94607	Anti-plagiarism software provider to the education market	Second lien senior secured loan	8.40% (Libor + 7.25%/Q)	7/29/2022	\$	38.7

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Company(1)	Business Description	Investment	Interest(1)	Maturity Date	% of Class Held at 3/31/2017	Fair Value	(44)
iPipeline, Inc., Internet Pipeline, Inc. and iPipeline Holdings, Inc. 222 Valley Creek Blvd, Suite 300 Exton, PA 19341	Provider of SaaS-based software solutions to the insurance and financial services industry	First lien senior secured revolving loan First lien senior secured loan Preferred stock Common stock	8.25% (Libor + 7.25%/Q)	8/4/2022		\$ 61.6	
IQMS 2231 Wisteria Lane, Paso Robles, CA 93446	Provider of enterprise resource planning and manufacturing execution software for small and midsized manufacturers	First lien senior secured loan	9.25% (Libor + 8.25%/Q)	3/28/2022		\$ 37.8	
Iron Bow Technologies, LLC 4800 Westfields Boulevard Suite 300 Chantilly, VA 20151	Provider and value added reseller of information technology products and solutions	Second lien senior secured loan	12.53% (Libor + 11.75%/Q)	2/8/2021		\$ 15.4	
IronPlanet, Inc. 3825 Hopyard Road, Suite 250 Pleasanton, CA 94588	Online auction platform provider for used heavy equipment	Warrant		9/24/2023	7.60%	\$ 0.4(2)	
Itel Laboratories, Inc. 6745 Phillips Industrial Boulevard Jacksonville, FL 32256	Data services provider for building materials to property insurance industry	First lien senior secured revolving loan Preferred units		6/29/2018		\$ (45)	
Ivy Hill Asset Management, L.P.(4)(89) 245 Park Avenue, 44th Floor New York, NY 10167	Asset management services	Member interest			1.89%	\$ 1.4	
Javlin Three LLC, Javlin Four LLC, and Javlin Five LLC(89) 1414 Harney Street Suite 440 Omaha, NE 68102	Asset-backed financial services company	First lien senior secured loan	10.78% (Libor + 10.00%/Q)	6/24/2017		\$ 27.4	
Jazz Acquisition, Inc. c/o Warburg Pincus 450 Lexington Avenue New York, NY 10017	Designer and distributor of aftermarket replacement components to the commercial airlines industry	Second lien senior secured loan	7.90% (Libor + 6.75%/Q)	6/19/2022		\$ 19.0	
Joule Unlimited Technologies, Inc. and Stichting Joule Global Foundation 18 Crosby Drive Bedford, MA 01730	Renewable fuel and chemical production developer	First lien senior secured loan Warrant		10/1/2018		\$ 1.8	
JWC/KI Holdings, LLC 1701 Crossroads Dr.	Foodservice sales and marketing agency	Membership units		7/25/2023	0.99%	\$ (2)(88)	
					5.13%	\$ 5.6	

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Odenton, MD 21113						
K2 Pure Solutions Nocal, L.P. 260 Queen Street West, 4th Floor Toronto, ON M5V 1Z8	Chemical producer	First lien senior secured revolving loan	8.13% (Libor + 7.13%/Q)	2/19/2021	\$	1.5(46)
		First lien senior secured loan	7.00% (Libor + 6.00%/Q)	2/19/2021	\$	53.0
Canada						
KBHS Acquisition, LLC (d/b/a Alita Care, LLC) 160 Chubb Avenue, Suite 206, Lyndhurst, NJ 07071	Provider of behavioral health services	First lien senior secured revolving loan	6.00% (Libor + 5.00%/Q)	3/17/2022	\$	1.1(47)
Kettle Cuisine, LLC 330 Lynnway Lynn, MA 01901	Manufacturer of fresh refrigerated and frozen food products	Second lien senior secured loan	10.75% (Libor + 9.75%/Q)	2/21/2022	\$	28.5
KHC Holdings, Inc. and Kele Holdco, Inc 3300 Brother Blvd Bartlett, TN 38133	Catalog-based distribution services provider for building automation systems	First lien senior secured revolving loan		10/30/2020	\$	(48)
		First lien senior secured loan Common stock	7.15% (Libor + 6.00%/Q)	10/31/2022	\$	70.4
					2.71% \$	3.1
Kinestral Technologies, Inc. 400 East Jamie Court, Suite 201 South San Francisco, CA 94080	Designer of adaptive, dynamic glass for the commercial and residential markets	First lien senior secured loan Warrant Warrant	8.76% (Libor + 7.75%/M)	10/1/2018 4/22/2024 4/7/2025	\$ 0.66% \$ 0.41% \$	7.4 0.3(2) (2)
KPS Global LLC 4201 N Beach St Fort Worth, TX 76137	Manufacturer of walk-in cooler and freezer systems	First lien senior secured loan	9.80% (Libor + 8.80%/Q)	12/4/2020	\$	27.1
La Paloma Generating Company, LLC 1700 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Suite 800 Washington DC, 20006	Natural gas fired, combined cycle plant operator	Second lien senior secured loan		2/20/2020	\$	
Lakeland Tours, LLC 218 West Water Street, Suite 400 Charlottesville, VA 22902	Educational travel provider	First lien senior secured revolving loan		2/10/2022	\$	(49)
		First lien senior secured loan	5.75% (Libor + 4.75%/Q)	2/10/2022	\$	5.0
		First lien senior secured loan	10.42% (Libor + 9.42%/Q)	2/10/2022	\$	31.7

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Company(1)	Business Description	Investment	Interest(1)	Maturity Date	% of Class Held at 3/31/2017	Fair Value (50)
LBP Intermediate Holdings LLC 1325 S. Cicero Ave. Cicero, IL 60804	Manufacturer of paper and corrugated foodservice packaging	First lien senior secured revolving loan	6.65% (Libor + 5.50%/Q)	7/10/2020		\$ 11.9
Liaison Acquisition, LLC 311 Arsenal Street, Watertown, MA 02472	Provider of centralized applications services to educational associations	First lien senior secured revolving loan		2/8/2022		\$ (51)
		Second lien senior secured loan	10.25% (Libor + 9.25%/Q)	8/8/2023		\$ 15.0
LightPoint CLO VII, Ltd.(88)(89) P.O. Box 1093 GT Queensgate House South Church Street George Town, Grand Cayman Cayman Islands	Investment vehicle	Subordinated notes		5/15/2021		\$
LLSC Holdings Corporation (dba Lawrence Merchandising Services)(4) 3500 Holly Lane, North Suite 10 Plymouth, MN 55447	Marketing services provider	Series A preferred stock			100.00%	\$ 19.6
		Common stock			100.00%	\$
		Warrant		9/28/2017	100.00%	\$ (2)
Lonestar Prospects, Ltd. 4413 Carey Street Fort Worth, TX 76119	Sand based proppant producer and distributor to the oil and natural gas industry	First lien senior secured loan	9.00% (Libor + 7.00% Cash, 1.00% PIK/Q)	3/1/2021		\$ 90.0
LSQ Funding Group, L.C. and LM LSQ(89) Investors LLC 2600 Lucien Way, Suite 100 Maitland, FL 32751	Asset based lender	Senior subordinated loan	10.50%	6/25/2021		\$ 30.0
		Membership units			2.12%	\$ 3.9
LTG Acquisition, Inc. 900 Klein Road Plano, TX 75074	Designer and manufacturer of display, lighting and passenger communication systems for mass transportation markets	Class A membership units			5.08%	\$ 5.0
MacLean-Fogg Company and MacLean-Fogg Holdings, L.L.C. 1000 Allanson Road Mundelein, IL 60060	Manufacturer and supplier for the power utility and automotive markets worldwide	Senior subordinated loan	10.50% Cash, 3.00% PIK	10/9/2025		\$ 100.7
		Preferred units	4.50% Cash, 9.25% PIK		93.58%	\$ 74.1
Market Track Holdings, LLC 10 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 2550 Chicago, IL 60606	Business media consulting services company	Preferred stock			3.51%	\$ 2.7
		Common stock			2.73%	\$ 5.1
Massage Envy, LLC and ME Equity LLC 14350 N. 87th Street Suites 200, 205 and 230 Scottsdale, AZ 85260	Franchisor in the massage industry	First lien senior secured revolving loan		9/26/2018		\$ (52)
		First lien senior secured loan	7.90% (Libor + 6.75%/Q)	9/26/2018		\$ 57.7
		Common stock			1.62%	\$ 3.8

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Maximus Holdings, LLC 4675 MacArthur Court Newport Beach, CA 92660	Provider of software simulation tools and related services	Warrant		10/14/2019	1.55% \$	2.4(2)
MC Acquisition Holdings I, LLC 825 East Gate Blvd. Garden City, NY 11530	Healthcare professional provider	Class A units			0.56% \$	1.2
McKenzie Sports Products, LLC 1910 Saint Luke's Church Road Salisbury, NC 28146	Designer, manufacturer and distributor of hunting-related supplies	First lien senior secured revolving loan		9/18/2020	\$	(53)
		First lien senior secured loan	6.75% (Libor + 5.75%/Q)	9/18/2020	\$	5.4
		First lien senior secured loan	6.75% (Libor + 5.75%/Q)	9/18/2020	\$	83.7
Microstar Logistics LLC, Microstar Global Asset Management LLC, and MStar Holding Corporation 5299 DTC Blvd., Suite 510 Greenwood Village, CO 80111	Keg management solutions provider	Second lien senior secured loan	8.50% (Libor + 7.50%/Q)	12/14/2018	\$	142.5
		Common stock			3.47% \$	8.3
Miles 33 (Finance) Limited(4)(88) Miles House Easthampstead Road Bracknell RG12 1NJ, UK	Software provider to the regional media industry and magazines	First lien senior secured loan	6.76% (Libor + 6.50%/Q)	9/28/2018	\$	2.2
		First lien senior secured loan	6.76% (Libor + 6.50%/Q)	9/28/2018	\$	3.7
		Senior subordinated loan	4.76% (Libor + 4.50%/Q)	9/30/2021	\$	9.8
		Preferred stock			100.00% \$	
		Preferred stock			69.00% \$	
		Common stock			60.00% \$	
Ministry Brands, LLC and MB Parent HoldCo, L.P. 14488 Old Stage Rd Lenoir City, Tennessee 37772	Software and payment services provider to faith-based institutions	First lien senior secured revolving loan	6.00% (Libor + 5.00%/Q)	12/2/2022	\$	3.8(54)
		Second lien senior secured loan	10.25% (Libor + 9.25%/Q)	6/2/2023	\$	16.6
		Second lien senior secured loan	10.25% (Libor + 9.25%/Q)	6/2/2023	\$	90.0
		Class A units			0.55% \$	5.4

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Company(1)	Business Description	Investment	Interest(1)	Maturity Date	% of Class Held at 3/31/2017	Fair Value
Mitchell International, Inc. 9889 Willow Creek Road San Diego, CA 92131	Provider of mission-critical software and solutions to the property and casualty claims industry	Second lien senior secured loan	8.54% (Libor + 7.50%/Q)	10/11/2021		\$ 17.0
Montgomery Lane, LLC and Montgomery Lane, Ltd.(4)(88)(89) 245 Park Avenue, 43rd Floor New York, NY 10167	Investment company	Common stock			100.00%	\$ 3.7
		Common stock			100.00%	\$
Moxie Liberty LLC 4100 Spring Valley, Suite 1001 Dallas, TX 75244	Gas turbine power generation facilities operator	First lien senior secured loan	7.65% (Libor + 6.50%/Q)	8/21/2020		\$ 34.3
Moxie Patriot LLC 4100 Spring Valley, Suite 1001 Dallas, TX 75244	Gas turbine power generation facilities operator	First lien senior secured loan	6.90% (Libor + 5.75%/Q)	12/21/2020		\$ 33.5
MPH Energy Holdings, LP 225 S. Main Street Rutland, VT 05701	Operator of municipal recycling facilities	Limited partnership interest			3.31%	\$
MVL Group, Inc.(4) 1061 E. Indiantown Road, Suite 300 Jupiter, FL 33477	Marketing research provider	Senior subordinated loan Common stock		7/8/2017		\$ 0.2
					56.10%	\$
MW Dental Holding Corp. 680 Hehli Way PO Box 69 Mondovi, WI 54755	Dental services provider	First lien senior secured revolving loan First lien senior secured loan	9.00% (Libor + 7.50%/Q) 9.00% (Libor + 7.50%/Q)	4/12/2018 4/12/2018		\$ 1.5(55) \$ 111.3
My Health Direct, Inc. 4322 Harding Pike Nashville, TN 37205	Healthcare scheduling exchange software solution provider	First lien senior secured revolving loan First lien senior secured loan Warrant	9.00% (Base Rate + 5.00%/M) 10.75%	9/30/2017 1/1/2018 9/18/2024		\$ 1.0(56) \$ 1.0 4.85% \$ (2)
NAS, LLC, Nationwide Marketing Group, LLC and Nationwide Administrative Services, Inc. 110 Oakwood Dr., Suite 200 Winston-Salem, NC 27103	Buying and marketing services organization for appliance, furniture and consumer electronics dealers	Second lien senior secured loan	9.75% (Libor + 8.75%/Q)	12/1/2021		\$ 23.4
NECCO Holdings, Inc.(4) 135 American Legion Highway Revere, MA 02151	Producer and supplier of candy	First lien senior secured revolving loan First lien senior secured loan Common stock		11/9/2017 11/9/2017		\$ 5.1(57) \$ 0.9 100.00% \$

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

NECCO Realty Investments LLC(4) 135 American Legion Highway Revere, MA 02151	Real estate holding company	First lien senior secured loan	14.00%	12/21/2017	\$	26.9	
		Class C preferred membership units			100.00%	\$	17.3
		Membership units				100.00%	\$
New Trident Holdcorp, Inc. 505 Hamilton Ave, Suite 200 Palo Alto, CA 94301	Outsourced mobile diagnostic healthcare service provider	Second lien senior secured loan	10.75% (Libor + 9.50%/Q)	7/31/2020	\$	76.8	
Niagara Fiber Intermediate Corp. 50 Bridge Street North Tonawanda, NY 14120	Manufacturer of insoluble fiber filler products	First lien senior secured revolving loan		5/27/2018	\$	1.1(58)	
		First lien senior secured loan		5/27/2018	\$	0.8	
		First lien senior secured loan		5/27/2018	\$	7.4	
NMSC Holdings, Inc. and ASP NAPA Holdings, LLC 68 South Service Road, Suite 350 Melville, NY 11747	Anesthesia management services provider	Second lien senior secured loan	11.15% (Libor + 10.00%/Q)	10/19/2023	\$	70.6	
		Class A units			0.68%	\$	2.0
Nodality, Inc. 170 Harbor Way, Suite 200 South San Francisco, CA 94080	Biotechnology company	First lien senior secured loan		8/5/2016	\$	2.1	
		First lien senior secured loan		8/5/2016	\$	0.3	
		Warrant		3/15/2026	51.00%	\$	(2)
Noonan Acquisition Company, LLC 3 Waterway Square Place, Suite 475 The Woodlands, TX 77380	Gas turbine power generation facilities operator	Senior subordinated loan	10.25%	12/19/2017	\$	42.5	
Nordco Inc. 245 West Forest Hill Avenue Oak Creek, WI 53154	Manufacturer of railroad maintenance-of-way machinery	First lien senior secured revolving loan		8/26/2020	\$	(59)	
Novetta Solutions, LLC 7921 Jones Branch Drive 5th Floor McLean, VA 22102	Provider of advanced analytics solutions for the government, defense and commercial industries	First lien senior secured loan	6.15% (Libor + 5.00%/Q)	10/16/2022	\$	12.3	
		Second lien senior secured loan	9.65% (Libor + 8.50%/Q)	10/16/2023	\$	28.2	
NSI Holdings, Inc.(3) 1415 Orchard Drive Chambersburg, PA 17201	Manufacturer of plastic containers for the wholesale nursery industry	Series A preferred stock			6.29%	\$	
		Warrant		11/21/2017	6.29%	\$	(2)

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Company(1)	Business Description	Investment	Interest(1)	Maturity Date	% of Class Held at 3/31/2017	Fair Value
NSM Sub Holdings Corp. 320 Premier Court, Ste. 220 Franklin, TN 37067	Provider of customized mobility, rehab and adaptive seating systems	First lien senior secured revolving loan		10/3/2022		\$ (60)
nThrive, Inc. (fka Precyse Acquisition Corp.) 100 North Point Center, East Suite 200 Alpharetta, GA 30009	Provider of healthcare information management technology and services	Second lien senior secured loan	10.75% (Libor + 9.75%/Q)	4/20/2023		\$ 10.0
NYLIM Flatiron CLO 2006-1 LTD.(88)(89) P.O. Box 1093 GT Queensgate House, South Church Street George Town, Grand Cayman Cayman Islands	Investment vehicle	Subordinated securities				\$
Octagon Investment Partners XVIII, Ltd.(88)(89) P.O. Box 1093, Boundary Hall Cricket Square Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, KY1-1102	Investment vehicle	Subordinated notes	13.30%	12/16/2024		\$ 8.1
Octagon Investment Partners XIX, Ltd.(88)(89) P.O. Box 1093, Boundary Hall Cricket Square Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, KY1-1102	Investment vehicle	Subordinated notes	11.50%	4/15/2026		\$ 11.6
OHA Credit Partners XI, Ltd.(88)(89) 190 Elgin Avenue George Town Grand Cayman KY1-9005, Cayman Islands	Investment vehicle	Subordinated notes	11.70%	10/20/2028		\$ 14.3
OmniSYS Acquisition Corporation, OmniSYS, LLC, and OSYS Holdings, LLC 15950 Dallas Parkway Suite 350 Dallas, TX 75248	Provider of technology-enabled solutions to pharmacies	First lien senior secured revolving loan First lien senior secured loan Limited liability company membership interest	8.50% (Libor + 7.50%/Q)	11/21/2018 11/21/2018		\$ (61) \$ 5.9 1.46% \$ 0.8
OpenSky Project, Inc. and OSP Holdings, Inc. 18 West 18th Street New York, NY 10011	Social commerce platform operator	First lien senior secured loan Warrant	10.00%	9/1/2017 4/28/2025		\$ 0.6 3.00% \$ (2)
Orion Foods, LLC(4) 2930 W. Maple Street Sioux Falls, SD 57118	Convenience food service retailer	First lien senior secured loan Second lien senior secured loan Preferred units Class A common units Class B common units		9/30/2015 9/30/2015		\$ 0.5 \$ 93.53% \$ 100.00% \$ 25.00% \$
Osiose Utilities Services, Inc.	Provider of structural			8/21/2020		\$ (62)

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

635 Highway 74 S Peachtree City, GA 30269	integrity management services to transmission and distribution infrastructure	First lien senior secured revolving loan Second lien senior secured loan	8.90% (Libor + 7.75%/Q)	8/21/2023	\$	59.0
OTG Management, LLC 352 Park Avenue South New York, NY 10010	Airport restaurant operator	First lien senior secured revolving loan		8/26/2021	\$	(63)
		First lien senior secured loan		8/26/2021	\$	(64)
		First lien senior secured loan	9.54% (Libor + 8.50%/Q)	8/26/2021	\$	2.4
		First lien senior secured loan	9.55% (Libor + 8.50%/Q)	8/26/2021	\$	97.8
		Senior subordinated loan	17.50% PIK	2/26/2022	\$	22.2
		Class A preferred units			20.00% \$	31.4
		Common units			3.79% \$	10.6
		Warrant		6/19/2018	8.33% \$	23.2(2)
		Warrant		12/31/2018	0.60% \$	(2)
Panda Temple Power II, LLC 4100 Spring Valley Road, Suite 1001 Dallas, TX 75244	Gas turbine power generation facilities operator	First lien senior secured loan	7.25% (Libor + 6.00%/Q)	4/3/2019	\$	17.4
Panda Temple Power, LLC 4100 Spring Valley Road, Suite 1001 Dallas, TX 75244	Gas turbine power generation facilities operator	First lien senior secured loan		3/6/2022	\$	19.8
Paper Source, Inc. and Pine Holdings, Inc 410 N. Milwaukee Chicago, IL 60654	Retailer of fine and artisanal paper products	First lien senior secured revolving loan		9/23/2018	\$	(65)
		First lien senior secured loan	7.40% (Libor + 6.25%/Q)	9/23/2018	\$	9.7
		Class A common stock			3.64% \$	6.4
Park Place Technologies, LLC 5910 Landerbrook Drive Mayfield Heights, OH 44124	Provider of third party hardware maintenance and support services for IT data centers	Second lien senior secured loan	10.11% (Libor + 9.00%/Q)	12/9/2022	\$	41.5
Parmenter Woodland Park Plaza, LLC 701 Brickell Avenue Suite 2020 Miami, FL 33131	Real estate holding company	First lien senior secured loan	5.68% (Libor + 4.90%/Q)	9/4/2018	\$	16.0
Partnership Capital Growth Fund I, L.P.(89) 1 Embarcadero Center, Suite 3810 San Francisco, CA 94111	Investment partnership	Limited partnership interest			25.00% \$	0.1

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Company(1)	Business Description	Investment	Interest(1)	Maturity Date	% of Class Held at 3/31/2017	Fair Value
Partnership Capital Growth Investors III, L.P.(89) 1 Embarcadero Center, Suite 3810 San Francisco, CA 94111	Investment partnership	Limited partnership interest			11.52% \$	3.5
Patterson Medical Supply, Inc. 28100 Torch Parkway, Suite 700 Warrenville, IL 60555	Distributor of rehabilitation supplies and equipment	Second lien senior secured loan	9.50% (Libor + 8.50%/Q)	8/28/2023	\$	78.0
PayNearMe, Inc. 292 Gibraltar Drive, Suite 104 Sunnyvale, CA 94089	Electronic cash payment system provider	First lien senior secured loan Warrant	9.50% (Libor + 8.50%/M)	9/1/2019 3/11/2023	\$ 1.11% \$	10.0 (2)
PCG-Ares Sidecar Investment II, L.P.(89) 1 Embarcadero Center, Suite 3810 San Francisco, CA 94111	Investment partnership	Limited partnership interest			100.00% \$	12.8
PCG-Ares Sidecar Investment, L.P.(89) 1 Embarcadero Center, Suite 3810 San Francisco, CA 94111	Investment partnership	Limited partnership interest			100.00% \$	4.1
Pegasus Community Energy, LLC 809 West Hill Street Charlotte, NC 28208	Operator of municipal recycling facilities	Preferred stock			21.43% \$	
Pegasus Intermediate Holdings, LLC 1101 Haynes Street, # 218 Raleigh, NC 27604	Plant maintenance and scheduling process software provider	First lien senior secured revolving loan First lien senior secured loan		11/7/2022 11/7/2022	\$ 7.25% (Libor + 6.25%/Q)	(66) 1.3
Pelican Products, Inc. 23215 Early Avenue Torrance, CA 90505	Flashlight manufacturer	Second lien senior secured loan	9.40% (Libor + 8.25%/Q)	4/9/2021	\$	37.6
PERC Holdings 1 LLC 2215 So. York Road Suite 202 Oak Brook, IL 60523	Operator of recycled energy, combined heat and power, and energy efficiency facilities	Class B common units			18.94% \$	30.5
PerfectServe, Inc. 1225 East Weisgarber Road, Suite 300 Knoxville, TN 37909	Communications software platform provider for hospitals and physician practices	First lien senior secured loan First lien senior secured loan First lien senior secured loan Warrant Warrant	9.14% (Libor + 8.00%/M) 9.00% (Libor + 8.00%/M) 9.00% (Libor + 8.00%/M)	3/1/2020 6/1/2020 6/1/2021 9/15/2025 12/26/2023	\$ \$ \$ 2.17% \$ 2.60% \$	9.0 2.0 3.0 0.3(2) 0.4(2)
			3.00% (Libor + 2.00%/Q)	6/29/2019	\$	13.7

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Petroflow Energy Corporation and TexOak Petro Holdings LLC(3) 525 S. Main, Suite 1120 Tulsa, OK 74103	Oil and gas exploration and production company	First lien senior secured loan Second lien senior secured loan Common units		12/29/2019	\$	6.7 20.20%
PHNTM Holdings, Inc. and Planview Parent, Inc. 12301 Research Blvd, Research Park Plaza V, Suite 101, Austin, TX 78759	Provider of project and portfolio management software	First lien senior secured loan Second lien senior secured loan Class A common shares Class B common shares	6.25% (Libor + 5.25%/Q) 10.75% (Libor + 9.75%/Q)	1/27/2023 7/27/2023	\$	36.9 62.0 0.19% 0.19%
PhyMED Management LLC 110 29th Avenue North, Suite 301 Nashville, TN 37203	Provider of anesthesia services	Second lien senior secured loan	9.75% (Libor + 8.75%/Q)	5/18/2021	\$	45.3
PIH Corporation and Primrose Holding Corporation(3) 3660 Cedarcrest Road Acworth, GA 30101	Franchisor of education-based early childhood centers	First lien senior secured revolving loan Common stock	6.25% (Libor + 5.25%/Q)	12/15/2018	\$	0.6(67) 8.46%
Pillar Processing LLC and PHL Investors, Inc.(4) 50 Weston Street Hartford, CT 06120	Mortgage services	Class A common stock			100.00%	\$
Piper Jaffray Merchant Banking Fund I, L.P.(89) 800 Nicollet Mall, Suite 800 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Investment partnership	Limited partnership interest			2.00%	\$ 1.5
Plantation Products, LLC, Seed Holdings, Inc. and Flora Parent, Inc. 202 South Washington Street Norton, MA 02766	Provider of branded lawn and garden products	Second lien senior secured loan Common stock	8.99% (Libor + 7.99%/Q)	6/23/2021	\$	66.0 2.56%
Poplicus Incorporated 1061 Market Street, Floor 6 San Francisco, CA 94103	Business intelligence and market analytics platform for companies that sell to the public sector	First lien senior secured loan Warrant		1/18/2018 6/25/2025	\$	2.9 3.23%

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Company(1)	Business Description	Investment	Interest(1)	Maturity Date	% of Class Held at 3/31/2017	Fair Value
PowerPlan, Inc. and Project Torque Ultimate Parent Corporation 300 Galleria Parkway, Suite 2100 Atlanta, GA 30339	Fixed asset financial management software provider	Second lien senior secured loan Class A common stock Class B common stock	10.00% (Libor + 9.00%/Q)	2/23/2023		\$ 80.0
Powersport Auctioneer Holdings, LLC 13175 Gregg Street Poway, CA 92064	Powersport vehicle auction operator	Common units			2.38%	\$ 1.1
Professional Datasolutions, Inc. 3407 S. 31st Street Temple, TX 76502	Provider of enterprise management software for the convenience retail and petroleum wholesale markets	First lien senior secured revolving loan First lien senior secured loan		5/20/2022 5/20/2022		\$ (68) \$ 9.4
Project Alpha Intermediate Holding, Inc. and Qlik Parent, Inc. 150 N. Radnor Chester Road, Suite E220 Radnor, PA 19087	Provider of data visualization software for data analytics	First lien senior secured loan Class A common shares Class B common shares	9.25% (Libor + 8.25%/Q)	8/22/2022		\$ 129.8 0.42% \$ 0.42% \$ 10.6
Pyramid Management Advisors, LLC and Pyramid Investors, LLC One Post Office Square, Suite 1900 Boston, MA 02109	Hotel operator	First lien senior secured loan First lien senior secured loan First lien senior secured loan Membership units	11.73% (Libor + 10.12%/Q) 11.12% (Libor + 10.12%/Q) 11.12% (Libor + 10.12%/Q)	7/15/2021 7/15/2021 7/15/2021		\$ 2.7 \$ 18.9 \$ 0.2 1.40% \$ 0.6
QC Supply, LLC 574 Road 11, Schuyler, NE 68661	Specialty distributor and solutions provider to the swine and poultry markets	First lien senior secured revolving loan First lien senior secured loan First lien senior secured loan	7.00% (Libor + 6.00%/Q)	12/29/2021 12/29/2022 12/29/2022		\$ 2.3(69) \$ (70) \$ 26.3
Qualium Investissement(88)(89) 41 Avenue Friedland Paris, DE	Investment company	Class A common stock Class B common stock Class C common stock			1.93%	\$ 7.0 1.93% \$ 0.1 1.93% \$
R2 Acquisition Corp. 207 NW Park Ave Portland, OR 97209	Marketing services	Common stock			0.32%	\$ 0.2
R3 Education Inc., Equinox EIC Partners LLC and Sierra Education Finance Corp. 1750 W. Broadway St. #222 Oviedo, FL 32765	Medical school operator	Preferred stock Common membership interest Warrant		11/10/2019	18.94% 15.76% 10.00%	\$ 0.5 \$ 33.7 \$ (2)
Ranpak Corp. 7990 Auburn Road	Manufacturer and marketer	Second lien senior secured loan	8.25% (Libor + 7.25%/Q)	10/3/2022		\$ 16.2

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

P.O. Box 8004 Concord Township, OH 44077	of paper-based protective packaging systems and materials					
Regent Education, Inc. 340 E. Patrick Street Suite 201 Frederick, MD 21701	Provider of software solutions designed to optimize the financial aid and enrollment processes	First lien senior secured loan Warrant Warrant	12.00% (Libor + 8.00% Cash, 2.00% PIK/M)	1/1/2021 1/1/2018 12/23/2026 12/23/2026	\$ \$ 8.00% \$	3.2 0.1 (2) 0.1(2)
Respicardia, Inc. 12400 Whitewater Drive, Suite 150 Minnetonka, MN 55343	Developer of implantable therapies to improve cardiovascular health	Warrant		6/28/2022	0.19% \$	(2)
Restaurant Holding Company, LLC Carretera 165 Km 6.2 Zona Industrial Cataño Cataño, Puerto Rico 00962	Fast food restaurant operator	First lien senior secured loan	8.75% (Libor + 7.75%/Q)	2/28/2019	\$	33.7
Restaurant Technologies, Inc 2250 Pilot Knob Road Suite 100 Mendota Heights, MN 55120	Provider of bulk cooking oil management services to the restaurant and fast food service industries	First lien senior secured revolving loan	7.75% (Base Rate + 3.75%/Q)	11/23/2021	\$	1.0(71)
Retriever Medical/Dental Payments LLC 115 E Stevens Ave Valhalla, NY 10595	Provides credit card processing services for medical and dental offices.	First lien senior secured revolving loan		2/3/2023	\$	(72)
RF HP SCF Investor, LLC 71 West 23rd Street, New York, NY 10010	Branded specialty food company	Membership interests			10.08% \$	12.8
Riverview Power LLC 2200 Atlantic Street, Suite 800, Stamford, CT 06902	Operator of natural gas and oil fired power generation facilities	First lien senior secured loan	9.40% (Libor + 8.25%/Q)	12/29/2022	\$	64.4
Roark-Money Mailer LLC 14271 Corporate Drive Garden Grove, CA 92843	Marketer, advertiser and distributor of coupons in the mail industry	Membership units			0.44% \$	

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Company(1)	Business Description	Investment	Interest(1)	Maturity Date	% of Class Held at 3/31/2017	Fair Value
Rocket Fuel Inc. 1900 Seaport Blvd. Pacific Shores Center Redwood City, CA 94063	Provider of open and integrated software for digital marketing optimization	Common stock			0.03%	\$
RuffaloCODY, LLC 1025 Kirkwood Parkway SW Cedar Rapids, IA 52404	Provider of student fundraising and enrollment management services	First lien senior secured revolving loan		5/29/2019		\$ (73)
Rug Doctor, LLC and RD Holdco Inc.(4) 4701 Old Shepard Place Plano, TX 75093	Manufacturer and marketer of carpet cleaning machines	Second lien senior secured loan Common stock Warrant	11.25% (Libor + 9.75%/Q)	12/31/2018 12/23/2023		\$ 16.9 45.86% \$ 13.7 46.98% \$ (2)
S Toys Holdings LLC (fka The Step2 Company, LLC)(4) 10010 Aurora-Hudson Road Streetsboro, OH 44241	Toy manufacturer	Common units Class B common units Warrant			1.77% \$ 100.00% \$ 5.00% \$	0.5 (2)
Sapphire Valley CDO I, Ltd.(88)(89) Walker House, 87 Mary Street George Town, KY1-9002, Cayman Islands	Investment vehicle	Subordinated notes		12/15/2022		\$
Sarnova HC, LLC, Tri-Anim Health Services, Inc., and BEMS Holdings, LLC 333 W. Wacker, Suite 2800 Chicago, IL 60606	Distributor of emergency medical service and respiratory products	Second lien senior secured loan	10.50% (Libor + 9.50%/Q)	7/28/2022		\$ 54.0
Saw Mill PCG Partners LLC 8751 Old State Road 60 Sellersburg, IN 47172	Manufacturer of metal precision engineered components	Common units			66.67%	\$
Senior Direct Lending Program, LLC(4)(89) 2000 Avenue of the Stars, 12th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90067	Co-investment vehicle	Subordinated certificates Member interest	9.15% (Libor + 8.00%/Q)(22)	12/31/2036		\$ 269.2 87.50% \$
Senior Secured Loan Fund LLC(4)(90) 2000 Avenue of the Stars, 12th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90067	Co-investment vehicle	Subordinated certificates Member interest	9.15% (Libor + 8.00%/M)(21)	12/20/2024		\$ 1,919.1 87.50% \$
Severin Acquisition, LLC 150 Parkshore Drive Folsom, CA 95630	Provider of student information system software solutions to the K-12 education market	First lien senior secured revolving loan Second lien senior secured loan Second lien senior secured loan		7/31/2021 7/31/2022 7/31/2022 7/31/2022		\$ (74) \$ 6.3 \$ 9.7 \$ 7.6

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

		Second lien senior secured loan	10.25% (Libor + 9.25%/Q)			
		Second lien senior secured loan	9.90% (Libor + 8.75%/Q)	7/31/2022	\$	35.0
		Second lien senior secured loan	10.25% (Libor + 9.25%/Q)	7/31/2022	\$	5.7
		Second lien senior secured loan	9.75% (Libor + 8.75%/Q)	7/31/2022	\$	38.7
Shift PPC LLC	Digital solutions provider	First lien senior secured revolving loan		12/22/2021	\$	(75)
348 East Maple Road Birmingham, MI 48009		First lien senior secured loan	7.00% (Libor + 6.00%/Q)	12/22/2021	\$	10.2
SHO Holding I Corporation	Manufacturer and distributor of slip resistant footwear	Second lien senior secured loan	9.50% (Libor + 8.50%/Q)	4/27/2023	\$	99.0
250 S. Australian Avenue West Palm Beach, FL 33401						
Shock Doctor, Inc. and Shock Doctor Holdings, LLC(3)	Developer, marketer and distributor of sports protection equipment and accessories	Second lien senior secured loan	11.76% (Libor + 10.50%/Q)	10/22/2021	\$	86.7
110 Cheshire Lane, Suite 120 Minnetonka, MN 55305		Class A preferred units			3.74% \$	3.4
		Class C preferred units			12.20% \$	3.4
SI Holdings, Inc.	Manufacturer of elastomeric parts, mid-sized composite structures, and composite tooling	Common stock			1.83% \$	1.5
3701 Conant St. Long Beach, CA 90808						
Simpson Performance Products, Inc.	Provider of motorsports safety equipment	First lien senior secured loan	9.67% (Libor + 8.67%/Q)	2/20/2020	\$	18.3
328 FM 306 New Braunfels, TX 78130						
SK SPV IV, LLC	Collision repair site operators	Series A common stock			76.92% \$	3.3
600 N. Central Expressway, Suite #4000 Richardson, TX 75080		Series B common stock			76.92% \$	3.3
SocialFlow, Inc.	Social media optimization platform provider	First lien senior secured loan	9.50% (Libor + 8.50%/M)	8/1/2019	\$	3.9
52 Vanderbilt Avenue, 12th Floor New York, NY 10017		Warrant		1/29/2026	0.30% \$	(2)

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Company(1)	Business Description	Investment	Interest(1)	Maturity Date	% of Class Held at 3/31/2017	Fair Value
Soil Safe, Inc. and Soil Safe Acquisition Corp.(4) 6700 Alexander Bell Drive, Suite 300 Columbia, MD 21046	Provider of soil treatment, recycling and placement services	First lien senior secured		1/2/2018		\$ (76)
		revolving loan				
		First lien senior secured loan	8.00% (Libor + 6.25%/Q)	12/31/2018	\$	17.7
		Second lien senior secured loan	10.75% (Libor + 7.75%/Q)	7/1/2019	\$	12.7
		Senior subordinated loan	16.50%	12/31/2019	\$	32.4
		Senior subordinated loan	14.50%	12/31/2019	\$	28.3
		Senior subordinated loan		12/31/2019	\$	12.0
		Common stock			90.00%	\$
Sonian Inc. 201 Jones Road Waltham, MA 02451	Cloud-based email archiving platform	First lien senior secured loan Warrant	9.08% (Libor + 7.65%/M)	6/1/2020 9/9/2022		\$ 7.5 0.78% \$ 0.1(2)
Sonny's Enterprises, LLC 5605 Hiatus Road Tamarac, FL 33321	Manufacturer and supplier of car wash equipment, parts, and supplies to the conveyORIZED car wash market	First lien senior secured revolving loan		12/1/2022		\$ (77)
SoundCloud Limited(88) Rheinsberger Str. 76/77 10115 Berlin, Germany	Platform for receiving, sending, and distributing music	First lien senior secured loan Warrant	11.50% (Libor + 10.50%/Q)	9/10/2020		\$ 27.1 0.18% \$ 0.4(2)
Sparta Systems, Inc. and Project Silverback Holdings Corp. 2000 Waterview Drive Suite 300 Hamilton, NJ 08691	Provider of quality management software	First lien senior secured loan Series A preferred stock Class B common stock	6.65% (Libor + 5.50%/Q)	7/28/2020		\$ 23.9 0.37% \$ 0.9 0.37% \$ 0.9
Spin HoldCo Inc. 303 Sunnyside Blvd., Suite 70 Plainview, NY 11803	Laundry service and equipment provider	Second lien senior secured loan	8.04% (Libor + 7.00%/Q)	5/14/2020		\$ 138.6
Startec Equity, LLC(4) 2000 Avenue of the Stars, 12th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90067	Communication services	Member interest			100.00%	\$
Surface Dive, Inc. 30151 Tomas St. Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688	SCUBA diver training and certification provider	Second lien senior secured loan Second lien senior secured loan	9.00% (Libor + 8.00%/Q) 10.25% (Libor + 9.25%/Q)	1/29/2022 1/29/2022		\$ 31.6 \$ 94.1
Talari Networks, Inc. 1 Almaden Blvd, Suite 200 San Jose, CA 95113	Networking equipment provider	First lien senior secured loan Warrant	9.78% (Libor + 8.75%/M)	12/3/2018 8/3/2022		\$ 6.0 0.27% \$ 0.1(2)

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Teasdale Foods, Inc. 901 Packers Street P.O. Box 814 Atwater, CA 95301	Provider of beans, sauces and hominy to the retail, foodservice and wholesale channels	Second lien senior secured loan	10.53% (Libor + 9.50%/Q)	10/28/2021	\$	21.3
		Second lien senior secured loan	10.04% (Libor + 9.00%/Q)	10/28/2021	\$	31.5
Tectum Holdings, Inc. and TA THI Parent, Inc. 5400 S. State Road Ann Arbor, MI 48108	Truck accessory supplier	Second lien senior secured loan	9.80% (Libor + 8.75%/Q)	1/28/2021	\$	41.5
		Series A preferred stock			1.12%	\$ 7.9
		Series A preferred stock			2.24%	\$ 15.9
The Gordian Group, LLC 140 Bridges Road, Suite E Mauldin, SC 29662	Construction software and service provider	First lien senior secured revolving loan		7/17/2019	\$	(78)
		First lien senior secured loan	6.03% (Libor + 5.00%/Q)	7/17/2019	\$	13.2
		First lien senior secured loan	6.05% (Libor + 5.00%/Q)	7/17/2019	\$	12.3
		First lien senior secured loan	6.15% (Libor + 5.00%/Q)	7/17/2019	\$	12.8
The Greeley Company, Inc. and HCP Acquisition Holdings, LLC(4) 600 Fifth Avenue, 17th Floor New York, NY 10020	Healthcare compliance advisory services	Senior subordinated loan		3/31/2017	\$	0.4
		Class A units			24.66%	\$
The Teaching Company Holdings, Inc. 4151 Lafayette Center Drive, No. 100 Chantilly, VA 20151	Education publications provider	Preferred stock			1.77%	\$ 2.5
		Common stock			3.64%	\$
Things Remembered, Inc. and TRM Holdco Corp.(3) 5500 Avion Park Drive Highland Heights, OH 44143	Personalized gifts retailer	First lien senior secured revolving loan	11.00% (Base Rate + 7.00%/Q)	2/28/2019	\$	0.9(79)
		First lien senior secured loan		3/2/2020	\$	2.6
		Common stock			11.19%	\$
Towne Holdings, Inc. Suites 200-250, Office Building One 200 Park Place Annapolis, MD 21401	Provider of contracted hospitality services and parking systems	First lien senior secured loan		5/24/2022	\$	(80)

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Company(1)	Business Description	Investment	Interest(1)	Maturity Date	% of Class Held at 3/31/2017	Fair Value	
TPTM Merger Corp. 116 American Road Morris Plains, NJ 07950	Manufacturer of time temperature indicator products	First lien senior secured revolving loan	7.53% (Libor + 6.50%/Q)	9/12/2018		\$ 0.8(81)	
		First lien senior secured revolving loan	7.54% (Libor + 6.50%/Q)	9/12/2018		\$ 0.5(81)	
		First lien senior secured loan	9.79% (Libor + 8.67%/Q)	9/12/2018		\$ 16.7	
		First lien senior secured loan	9.67% (Libor + 8.67%/Q)	9/12/2018		\$ 10.3	
TraceLink, Inc. 200 Quannapowitt Parkway Wakefield, MA 01880	Supply chain management software provider for the pharmaceutical industry	Warrant		1/2/2025	0.86%	\$ 2.4(2)	
Transaction Data Systems, Inc. 788 Montgomery Avenue Ocoee, FL 34761	Pharmacy management software provider	Second lien senior secured loan	10.01% (Libor + 9.00%/Q)	6/15/2022		\$ 35.3	
Tyden Cayman Holdings Corp.(88) P.O. Box 908 GT Walker House, Mary Street George Town, Cayman Islands	Producer and marketer of global cargo security, product identification and traceability and utility meter products	Preferred stock			3.84%	\$ 0.4	
		Common stock			3.84%	\$ 2.4	
U.S. Anesthesia Partners, Inc. 2411 Fountain View Dr., Suite 200 Houston, TX 77057	Anesthesiology service provider	Second lien senior secured loan	10.25% (Libor + 9.25%/Q)	9/24/2020		\$ 23.5	
		Second lien senior secured loan	10.25% (Libor + 9.25%/Q)	9/24/2020		\$ 50.0	
U.S. Security Associates Holdings, Inc 200 Mansell Court East, Suite 500 Roswell, GA 30076	Security guard service provider	Second lien senior secured loan	11.00%	7/28/2018		\$ 25.0	
UL Holding Co., LLC(3) 2824 N Ohio Wichita, KS 67201	Provider of collection and landfill avoidance solutions for food waste and unsold food products	Senior subordinated loan	10.00% PIK	5/2/2020		\$ 5.5	
		Senior subordinated loan		5/2/2020		\$ 0.4	
		Senior subordinated loan	10.00% PIK	5/2/2020		\$ 22.5	
		Senior subordinated loan		5/2/2020		\$ 2.4	
		Senior subordinated loan	10.00% PIK	5/2/2020		\$ 2.6	
		Senior subordinated loan		5/2/2020		\$ 0.3	
		Class A common units				8.85%	\$
		Class B-5 common units				40.50%	\$
		Class C common units				8.77%	\$
		Warrant				10.44%	\$ (2)
Warrant				10.44%	\$ (2)		
Warrant				10.44%	\$ (2)		
Warrant				10.44%	\$ (2)		
Warrant				10.44%	\$ (2)		

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

		Warrant			10.44%	\$	(2)
		Warrant			10.44%	\$	(2)
Urgent Cares of America Holdings I, LLC and FastMed Holdings I, LLC	Operator of urgent care clinics	First lien senior secured loan		12/1/2022		\$	(82)
935 Shotwell Road, Suite 108 Clayton, NC 27520		First lien senior secured loan	9.00% (Libor + 6.00% Cash, 2.00% PIK/M)	12/1/2022		\$	12.5
		First lien senior secured loan	9.00% (Libor + 6.00% Cash, 2.00% PIK/M)	12/1/2022		\$	48.7
		Preferred units			20.00%	\$	9.8
		Series A common units			1.12%	\$	0.2
		Series C common units			20.00%	\$	0.1
Varsity Brands Holding Co., Inc., Hercules Achievement, Inc., Hercules Holdings, Inc. and Hercules VB Holdings, Inc.	Leading manufacturer and distributor of textiles, apparel & luxury goods	First lien senior secured loan		12/11/2022		\$	(83)
6745 Lenox Center Court Memphis, TN 38115		Second lien senior secured loan	9.75% (Libor + 8.75%/Q)	12/11/2022		\$	25.0
		Second lien senior secured loan	9.75% (Libor + 8.75%/Q)	12/11/2022		\$	55.6
		Second lien senior secured loan	9.75% (Libor + 8.75%/Q)	12/11/2022		\$	91.6
		Common stock			0.82%	\$	4.0
		Common stock			0.82%	\$	4.0
Velocity Holdings Corp.	Hosted enterprise resource planning application management services provider	Common units			2.00%	\$	2.5
13432 Wards Rd Lynchburg, VA 24501							
VistaPharm, Inc. and Vertice Pharma UK Parent Limited(88)	Manufacturer and distributor of generic pharmaceutical products	Preferred shares			0.35%	\$	0.5
630 Central Avenue New Providence, NJ 07974							
Vitesse CLO, Ltd.(88)(89)	Investment vehicle	Preferred shares				\$	
P.O. Box 1093, Boundary Hall Cricket Square Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, KY1-1102							
Voya CLO 2014-4, Ltd.(88)(89)	Investment vehicle	Subordinated notes	12.50%	10/14/2026		\$	17.2
P.O. Box 1093, Boundary Hall Cricket Square Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, KY1-1102							

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Company(1)	Business Description	Investment	Interest(1)	Maturity Date	% of Class Held at 3/31/2017	Fair Value	(84)
VRC Companies, LLC 5400 Meltech Blvd. Memphis, TN 38118	Provider of records and information management services	First lien senior secured revolving loan		3/31/2023		\$	(84)
		First lien senior secured loan		3/31/2023		\$	(85)
		First lien senior secured loan	7.92% (Libor + 6.50%/Q)	3/31/2023		\$	8.6
VSC Investors LLC(89) 401 Vance Street Los Angeles, CA 90272	Investment company	Membership interests			1.95%	\$	1.3
WASH Multifamily Acquisition Inc. and Coinamatic Canada Inc. 3690 Redondo Beach Ave. Redondo Beach, CA 90278	Laundry service and equipment provider	Second lien senior secured loan	8.00% (Libor + 7.00%/Q)	5/15/2023		\$	3.7
		Second lien senior secured loan	8.00% (Libor + 7.00%/Q)	5/15/2023		\$	21.1
Waste Pro USA, Inc 2101 West State Road 434, Suite 305 Longwood, FL 32779	Waste management services	Second lien senior secured loan	8.50% (Libor + 7.50%/Q)	10/15/2020		\$	75.8
WCI-Quantum Holdings, Inc. 770 N. Raddant Rd Batavia, IL 60510	Distributor of instructional products, services and resources	Series A preferred stock			1.27%	\$	1.2
Wilcon Holdings LLC 624 South Grand Ave., Suite 1200 Los Angeles, CA 90017	Communications infrastructure provider	Class A common stock			2.60%	\$	3.9
Wonder Holdings Acquisition Corp. 8515 E. Anderson Dr. Scottsdale, AZ 85255	Developer and marketer of OTC healthcare products	Warrant		6/30/2021	4.29%	\$	2.1(2)
WorldPay Group PLC(88) The Walbrook Building, 25 Walbrook London EC4N 8AF, United Kingdom	Payment processing company	C2 shares			0.13%	\$	
WP CPP Holdings, LLC 4200 W Valley Blvd. Ponoma, CA 91766	Manufacturer of precision engineered castings	Second lien senior secured loan	8.79% (Libor + 7.75%/Q)	4/30/2021		\$	18.7
Wrench Group LLC 3314 Bear Creek Drive, Melissa, TX 75454	Provider of essential home services to residential customers	First lien senior secured loan	6.27% (Libor + 5.25%/Q)	3/2/2022		\$	4.0
Young Innovations, Inc. 13705 Shoreline Court East Earth City, MO 63045	Dental supplies and equipment manufacturer	Second lien senior secured loan	10.40% (Libor + 9.25%/Q)	7/30/2019		\$	31.4
		Second lien senior secured loan	10.40% (Libor + 9.25%/Q)	7/30/2019		\$	55.0

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Zemax, LLC 22908 NE Alder Crest Drive, Suite 100 Redmond, WA 98053	Provider of optical illumination design software to design engineers	First lien senior secured revolving loan		10/23/2019	\$	(86)
Zywave, Inc. 10100 W. Innovation Drive, Suite 300 Milwaukee, WI 53226	Provider of software and technology-enabled content and analytical solutions to insurance brokers	First lien senior secured revolving loan Second lien senior secured loan	10.04% (Libor + 9.00%/Q)	11/17/2022 11/17/2023	\$	(87) 27.0

- (1) All interest is payable in cash unless otherwise indicated. A majority of the variable rate loans to our portfolio companies bear interest at a rate that may be determined by reference to either LIBOR or an alternate Base Rate (commonly based on the Federal Funds Rate or the Prime Rate), at the borrower's option, which resets daily (D), monthly (M), bimonthly (B), quarterly (Q) or semiannually (S). For each such loan, we have provided the current interest rate in effect as of March 31, 2017.
- (2) Percentages shown for warrants or convertible preferred stock held represents the percentages of common stock we may own on a fully diluted basis, assuming we exercise our warrants or convert our preferred stock to common stock.
- (3) As defined in the Investment Company Act, we are an "Affiliate" of this portfolio company because we own 5% or more of the portfolio company's outstanding voting securities.
- (4) As defined in the Investment Company Act, we are an "Affiliate" of this portfolio company because we own 5% or more of the portfolio company's outstanding voting securities or we have the power to exercise control over the management or policies of such portfolio company (including through a management agreement). In addition, as defined in the Investment Company Act, we "Control" this portfolio company because we own more than 25% of the portfolio company's outstanding voting securities or we have the power to exercise control over the management or policies of such portfolio company (including through a management agreement).
- (5) \$3.0 of total commitment of \$3.2 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (6) \$3.3 of total commitment of \$5.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (7) \$11.7 of total commitment of \$13.7 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (8) Total commitment of \$2.4 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (9) \$8.4 of total commitment of \$30.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (10) \$16.2 of total commitment of \$22.1 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (11) \$1.6 of total commitment of \$3.2 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (12) Total commitment of \$2.7 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.

Table of Contents

- (13) \$0.2 of total commitment of \$7.5 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (14) Total commitment of \$1.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (15) \$6.0 of total commitment of \$20.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (16) \$3.8 of total commitment of \$5.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (17) \$0.0 of total commitment of \$4.7 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (18) \$0.0 of total commitment of \$1.4 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (19) \$1.8 of total commitment of \$3.7 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (20) Total commitment of \$31.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (21) \$9.0 of total commitment of \$10.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (22) Total commitment of \$9.1 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (23) \$4.4 of total commitment of \$5.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (24) Total commitment of \$12.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (25) Total commitment of \$4.2 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (26) Total commitment of \$5.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (27) \$4.3 of total commitment of \$5.8 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (28) \$2.3 of total commitment of \$3.3 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (29) Total commitment of \$8.8 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (30) \$2.0 of total commitment of \$4.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (31) Total commitment of \$2.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (32) Total commitment of \$5.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (33) \$2.9 of total commitment of \$4.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (34) Total commitment of \$2.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (35)

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Total commitment of \$10.7 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.

- (36) \$7.5 of total commitment of \$9.8 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (37) Total commitment of \$5.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (38) \$1.5 of total commitment of \$2.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (39) \$0.9 of total commitment of \$2.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (40) \$0.7 of total commitment of \$0.8 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (41) Total commitment of \$5.3 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (42) \$2.9 of total commitment of \$5.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (43) \$6.5 of total commitment of \$20.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (44) Total commitment of \$4.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (45) Total commitment of \$2.5 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (46) \$3.5 of total commitment of \$5.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (47) \$3.9 of total commitment of \$5.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (48) Total commitment of \$6.9 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (49) \$11.4 of total commitment of \$11.9 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (50) \$0.8 of total commitment of \$0.9 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (51) Total commitment of \$3.9 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (52) Total commitment of \$5.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (53) Total commitment of \$4.5 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (54) \$7.1 of total commitment of \$10.9 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (55) \$8.5 of total commitment of \$10.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (56) \$0.0 of total commitment of \$1.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (57) \$9.0 of total commitment of \$25.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (58)

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

\$0.0 of total commitment of \$1.9 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.

(59)

Total commitment of \$11.3 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.

Table of Contents

- (60) Total commitment of \$5.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (61) Total commitment of \$2.5 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (62) Total commitment of \$6.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (63) Total commitment of \$10.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (64) Total commitment of \$9.8 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (65) Total commitment of \$2.5 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (66) Total commitment of \$5.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (67) \$2.7 of total commitment of \$3.3 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (68) Total commitment of \$1.9 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (69) \$7.7 of total commitment of \$10.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (70) Total commitment of \$16.7 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (71) \$4.0 of total commitment of \$5.4 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (72) Total commitment of \$3.5 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (73) \$7.5 of total commitment of \$7.7 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (74) Total commitment of \$2.9 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (75) Total commitment of \$1.5 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (76) \$1.9 of total commitment of \$5.6 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (77) Total commitment of \$1.8 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (78) Total commitment of \$1.1 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (79) \$1.5 of total commitment of \$2.4 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (80) Total commitment of \$1.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (81) \$1.2 of total commitment of \$2.5 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.
- (82)

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Total commitment of \$16.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.

(83)

Total commitment of \$0.7 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.

(84)

Total commitment of \$1.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.

(85)

Total commitment of \$1.5 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.

(86)

Total commitment of \$3.0 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.

(87)

Total commitment of \$10.5 remains undrawn as of March 31, 2017.

(88)

Non-U.S. company or principal place of business outside the U.S. and as a result is not a qualifying asset under Section 55(a) of the Investment Company Act. Under the Investment Company Act, the Company may not acquire any non-qualifying asset unless, at the time such acquisition is made, qualifying assets represent at least 70% of the Company's total assets.

(89)

Exception from the definition of investment company under Section 3(c) of the Investment Company Act and as a result is not a qualifying asset under Section 55(a) of the Investment Company Act. Under the Investment Company Act, the Company may not acquire any non-qualifying asset unless, at the time such acquisition is made, qualifying assets represent at least 70% of the Company's total assets.

(90)

In the first quarter of 2011, the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Staff") informally communicated to certain business development companies ("BDCs") the Staff's belief that certain entities, which would be classified as an "investment company" under the Investment Company Act but for the exception from the definition of "investment company" set forth in Rule 3a-7 promulgated under the Investment Company Act, could not be treated as eligible portfolio companies (as defined in Section 2(a)(46) under Investment Company Act) (i.e. not eligible to be included in a BDC's 70% "qualifying assets" basket). Subsequently, in August 2011 the Securities and Exchange Commission issued a concept release (the "Concept Release") which stated that "[a]s a general matter, the Commission presently does not believe that Rule 3a-7 issuers are the type of small, developing and financially troubled businesses in which the U.S. Congress intended BDCs primarily to invest" and requested comment on whether or not a 3a-7 issuer should be considered an "eligible portfolio company". The Company provided a comment letter in respect of the Concept Release and continues to believe that the language of Section 2(a)(46) of the Investment Company Act permits a BDC to treat as "eligible portfolio companies" entities that rely on the 3a-7 exception. However, given the current uncertainty in this area (including the language in the Concept Release) and subsequent discussions with the Staff, the Company has, solely for purposes of calculating the composition of its portfolio pursuant to Section 55(a) of the Investment Company Act, identified such entities, which include the SSLP, as "non-qualifying assets" should the Staff ultimately disagree with the Company's position. Pursuant to Section 55(a) of the Investment Company Act (using the Staff's methodology described above solely for this purpose), 28% of the Company's total assets are represented by investments at fair value and other assets that are considered "non-qualifying assets" as of March 31, 2017.

Table of Contents**MANAGEMENT**

Our business and affairs are managed under the direction of our board of directors. The responsibilities of the board of directors include, among other things, the quarterly valuation of our investments. The size of our board of directors is set at nine members and currently consists of four directors who are "interested persons" of Ares Capital as defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the Investment Company Act and five directors who are not such "interested persons." We refer to the directors who are non-interested persons as our "independent directors." We refer to our directors who are "interested persons" as our "interested directors." Our board of directors elects our officers, who serve at the discretion of the board of directors. The board of directors maintains an audit committee and nominating and governance committee, and may establish additional committees from time to time as necessary.

Under our charter and bylaws, our directors are divided into three classes. Directors are elected for staggered terms of three years each, with the term of office of only one of these three classes of directors expiring each year. Each director will hold office for the term to which he or she is elected and until his or her successor is duly elected and qualifies.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CERTAIN OTHER OFFICERS

Name, Address and Age(1)	Position(s) Held with Fund	Term of Office and Length of Time Served	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Director	Other Directorships of Public or Registered Investment Companies Held by Director During Past 5 Years
<i>Independent Directors</i>					
Steve Bartlett, 69	Director	Class II Director since 2012 (term expires in 2018)	Since 2012, Mr. Bartlett has been providing strategic independent consulting services to several U.S. corporations. From 1999 to 2012, Mr. Bartlett served as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Financial Services Roundtable.	One(2)	Intersections Inc.
Ann Torre Bates, 59	Director	Class I Director since 2010 (term expires in 2017)	Ms. Bates currently dedicates her time serving on boards of directors of several companies in the financial sector. From 1997 to 2012, Ms. Bates was a strategic and financial consultant, principally with respect to corporate finance matters.	One(2)	Navient Corporation, SLM Corporation, United Natural Foods, Inc., 19 investment companies in the Franklin Templeton Group of Mutual Funds
Daniel G. Kelly, Jr., 66	Director	Class III Director since 2016 (term expires in 2019)	Since 2016, Mr. Kelly has been retired. From 1999 to 2015, Mr. Kelly was a Partner of the law firm of Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP.	One(2)	American Shared Hospital Services
Steven B. McKeever, 57	Director	Class I Director since 2012 (term expires in 2017)	Since 1997, Mr. McKeever has been CEO of Hidden Beach Recordings, an independent record label based in Los Angeles, California.	One(2)	
Eric B. Siegel, 59	Director	Class III Director since 2004 (term expires in 2019)	Since 2005, Mr. Siegel has served as Special Advisor to the Chairman of the Milwaukee Brewers Baseball Club and a member of the Club's Board of Advisors. Mr. Siegel is a director and Chairman of the Executive Committee and Nominating and Governance Committee and member of the Audit Committee and Security Committee of El Paso Electric Company, a NYSE publicly traded utility company.	One(2)	El Paso Electric Company

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Name, Address and Age(1) <i>Interested Directors</i>	Position(s) Held with Fund	Term of Office and Length of Time Served	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Director	Other Directorships of Public or Registered Investment Companies Held by Director During Past 5 Years
Michael J Arougheti, 44(3)	Co-Chairman and Director; Executive Vice President	Class I Director since February 2009 (term expires in 2017); Executive Vice President since October 2014 (indefinite term)	Since October 2014, Mr. Arougheti has served as an Executive Vice President of the Company, since July 2014, he has served as Co-Chairman of the Board and since February 2009, he has served as a director of the Company. Mr. Arougheti previously served as Chief Executive Officer of the Company from May 2013 to July 2014 and President of the Company from May 2004 to May 2013. Mr. Arougheti is a Co-Founder and President of Ares. He is a Partner of the Ares Credit Group and serves as a member of the Board of Directors and Management Committee of Ares. Mr. Arougheti also is a member of the Investment Committee of Ares Capital Management, the Ares Credit Group's U.S. and European Direct Lending Investment Committees, the Ares Equity Income Opportunity Strategy Portfolio Review Committee and the Ares Operations Management Group.	One(2)	Ares Management, L.P., Ares Commercial Real Estate Corporation
R. Kipp deVeer, 44(6)	Director and Chief Executive Officer	Class III Director since 2015 (term expires in 2019); Chief Executive Officer since July 2014 (indefinite term)	Since July 2014, Mr. deVeer has served as Chief Executive Officer of the Company. Mr. deVeer previously served as President of the Company from May 2013 to July 2014. Mr. deVeer joined Ares in May 2004 and currently serves as a Partner of Ares Management GP LLC, Ares' general partner, a Partner in and Head of the Ares Credit Group and a member of the Management Committee of Ares. Mr. deVeer is a member of the Investment Committees of Ares Capital Management and the Ares Credit Group's U.S. and European Direct Lending Investment Committees and other select Ares Credit Group investment committees. Mr. deVeer is also a director of Ares Management Limited, a subsidiary of Ares overseeing the European activities of Ares.	One(2)	
Robert L. Rosen, 70(4)	Director	Class II Director since 2004 (term expires in 2018)	Since February 2016, Mr. Rosen has been a Partner in the Ares Real Estate Group. Mr. Rosen additionally serves as Interim Co-Chief Executive Officer and a director of Ares Commercial Real Estate Corporation. Since August 2005, Mr. Rosen is the managing partner of RLR Capital Partners, which invests principally in the securities of publicly traded North American companies. From 1987 to the present, Mr. Rosen has been CEO of RLR Partners, LLC, a private investment firm with interests in financial services, healthcare, media and multi-industry companies.	One(2)	Ares Commercial Real Estate Corporation, Sapient Corporation
Bennett Rosenthal, 53(5)	Co-Chairman and Director	Class II Director since 2004 (term expires in 2018)	Since July 2014, Mr. Rosenthal has served as Co-Chairman of the Board, and previously as Chairman of the Board since 2004. Mr. Rosenthal is a Co-Founder of Ares and a Partner of Ares Management GP LLC. He is Co-Head of and a Partner in the Ares Private Equity Group and serves as a member of the Board of Directors and Management Committee of Ares. Mr. Rosenthal is also a member of the Investment Committees of certain funds managed by the Ares Private Equity Group.	One(2)	Ares Management, L.P., Nortek, Inc., Hanger, Inc.

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Name, Address and Age(1)	Position(s) Held with Fund	Term of Office and Length of Time Served	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Director	Other Directorships of Public or Registered Investment Companies Held by Director During Past 5 Years
Executive Officers and Certain Other Officers Who Are Not Directors					
Joshua M. Bloomstein, 43	General Counsel, Vice President and Secretary	General Counsel since January 2010; Secretary since December 2010; Vice President since November 2006 (indefinite terms)	Since January 2010, Mr. Bloomstein has served as General Counsel of the Company, since December 2010, Mr. Bloomstein has served as Secretary of the Company, and since November 2006, Mr. Bloomstein has served as Vice President of the Company. Additionally he is Vice President and Assistant Secretary of ACSF and Vice President and Assistant Secretary of CION Ares Diversified Credit Fund ("CADEX"). He joined Ares in November 2006 and currently serves as a Partner and Co-General Counsel (Credit) and Deputy General Counsel (Corporate) of Ares Management. He is also a member of the Ares Enterprise Risk Committee.		
Mitchell Goldstein, 50	Co-President	Since July 2014 (indefinite term)	Since July 2014, Mr. Goldstein has served as a Co-President of the Company. Mr. Goldstein previously served as an Executive Vice President of the Company from May 2013 to July 2014. He joined Ares in May 2005 and currently serves as a Partner and Co-Head of the Ares Credit Group, Vice President of ACSF and Vice President of CADEX. He is a member of the Management Committee of Ares. Mr. Goldstein is a member of the Investment Committees of Ares Capital Management, select Ares Credit Group U.S. Direct Lending investment committees, the Ivy Hill Asset Management Investment Committee and the Ares Commercial Finance Investment Committee.		
Miriam Krieger, 41	Chief Compliance Officer	Since July 2011 (indefinite term)	Since July 2011, Ms. Krieger has served as Chief Compliance Officer of the Company. She also serves as Chief Compliance Officer of ACSF. She joined Ares in 2010 and is a Managing Director and Deputy Chief Compliance Officer within the Ares Compliance Group.		
Scott C. Lem, 39	Chief Accounting Officer, Vice President and Treasurer	Chief Accounting Officer since December 2013; Vice President and Treasurer since May 2013 (indefinite terms)	Since December 2013, Mr. Lem has served as Chief Accounting Officer of the Company and since May 2013, Mr. Lem has served as Vice President and Treasurer of the Company. Mr. Lem previously served as Assistant Treasurer of the Company from May 2009 to May 2013. He also serves as the Chief Accounting Officer of ACSF, Treasurer of Ares Dynamic Credit Allocation Fund, Inc. ("ARDC") and Treasurer of CADEX. Additionally, he is a Managing Director and Chief Accounting Officer, Credit (Direct Lending) in the Ares Finance Department.		
Michael McFerran, 45	Vice President and Assistant Treasurer	Since March 2015 (indefinite terms)	Since April 2015, Mr. McFerran has served as Vice President and Assistant Treasurer of the Company. He is Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Ares, a Partner in and Head of the Ares Finance Department and serves on the Management Committee of Ares Management. He serves as Vice President of ARDC. He additionally serves as a member of the Ares Operations Management Group and the Ares Enterprise Risk Committee. Prior to joining Ares in March 2015, Mr. McFerran was a		

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Managing Director at KKR where he was Chief
Financial Officer of KKR's credit business and Chief
Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer of KKR
Financial Holdings LLC.

150

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Name, Address and Age(1)	Position(s) Held with Fund	Term of Office and Length of Time Served	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Director	Other Directorships of Public or Registered Investment Companies Held by Director During Past 5 Years
Penni F. Roll, 51	Chief Financial Officer	Since December 2010 (indefinite term)	Since December 2010, Ms. Roll has served as Chief Financial Officer of the Company. Ms. Roll serves as the Chief Financial Officer of the Ares Credit Group, ARDC, ACSF and CADEX. She joined Ares in 2010 and now serves as Partner Chief Financial Officer of Ares Credit Group.		
Michael L. Smith, 46	Co-President	Since July 2014 (indefinite term)	Since July 2014, Mr. Smith has served as a Co-President of the Company. Mr. Smith previously served as an Executive Vice President of the Company from May 2013 to July 2014. Mr. Smith joined Ares in May 2004 and currently serves as a Partner and Co-Head of the Ares Credit Group and a member of the Management Committee of Ares Management. Mr. Smith is a member of the Investment Committees of Ares Capital Management, select Ares Credit Group U.S. Direct Lending investment committees, the Ivy Hill Asset Management Investment Committee and the Ares Commercial Finance Investment Committee.		
Michael D. Weiner, 64	Vice President	Since September 2006 (indefinite term)	Since September 2006, Mr. Weiner has been Vice President of the Company. He is Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer of Ares Management GP LLC, Ares' general partner, a Partner and General Counsel in the Ares Legal Group and a member of the Ares Management Committee. Mr. Weiner has also served as Vice President and General Counsel of Ares Commercial Real Estate Corporation since 2012, Vice President and Assistant Secretary of ARDC and Vice President and Assistant Secretary of CADEX. He additionally is a member of the Ares Operations Management Group and the Ares Enterprise Risk Committee.		

(1) The business address of Messrs. Arougheti, Bloomstein, deVeer, Goldstein, Rosen and Smith and Ms. Roll is c/o Ares Capital Corporation, 245 Park Avenue, 44th Floor, New York, New York 10167. The business address of Ms. Krieger is c/o Ares Capital Corporation, 2200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 400 East, Washington, DC 20037. The business address of each other director, executive officer and listed officer is c/o Ares Capital Corporation, 2000 Avenue of the Stars, 12th Floor, Los Angeles, California 90067.

(2) Including the Company.

(3) Mr. Arougheti is an interested director because he is an Executive Vice President of the Company, is on the Investment Committee of our investment adviser, is a Co-Founder and President of Ares and serves on the Board of Directors and Management Committee of Ares.

(4) Mr. Rosen is an interested director because he is a Partner of Ares.

(5) Mr. Rosenthal is an interested director because he is a Co-Founder and Partner of Ares and serves on the Board of Directors and Management Committee of Ares.

(6) Mr. deVeer is an interested director because he is the Chief Executive Officer of the Company, is an officer of and on the Investment Committee of our investment adviser, and serves on the Management Committee of Ares.

Biographical Information and Discussion of Experience and Qualifications, etc.

Directors

As described below under "Committees of the Board of Directors Nominating and Governance Committee," the board of directors has identified certain desired attributes for director nominees. Each of our directors has demonstrated high character and integrity, superior credentials and recognition in his or her respective field and the relevant expertise and experience upon which to be able to offer advice and guidance to our management. Each of our directors also has sufficient time available to devote to the affairs of the Company, is able to work with the other members of the board of directors and contribute to the success of the Company and can represent the long-term interests of the Company's stockholders as a whole. Our directors have been selected such that the board of directors represents a range of backgrounds and experience. Set forth below is biographical information of each director, including a discussion of such director's particular experience, qualifications, attributes

Table of Contents

or skills that lead us and our board of directors to conclude, as of the date of this prospectus, that such individual should serve as a director, in light of the Company's business and structure.

Independent Directors

Steve Bartlett, 69, has served as a director of the Company since 2012 and currently serves on the audit committee. Mr. Bartlett has been a consultant since 2012, providing strategic independent consulting services to several U.S. corporations. From 1999 to 2012, Mr. Bartlett served as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Financial Services Roundtable. Mr. Bartlett currently sits on the board of directors of the Homeownership Preservation Foundation (HPF). In 2001, Mr. Bartlett served on the President's Commission on Excellence in Special Education. Mr. Bartlett previously served as the Mayor of Dallas, Texas from 1991 to 1995, a member of the United States Congress from 1983 to 1991, and a member of the Dallas City Council from 1977 to 1981. Mr. Bartlett also founded Meridian Products Corporation, a manufacturer of injection molded plastics in 1976. Mr. Bartlett previously served on the Board of Governors of the National YMCA, the board of directors of BIPAC and Easter Seals of Greater Washington, D.C., and the board of directors for the following companies: Centene Corporation (NYSE), IMCO Recycling, Inc. (NYSE), KB Home Corporation (NYSE), Sun Coast Industries (NYSE), Intersections Inc. (NASDAQ), Dallas Can! and Grace Presbyterian Village. Mr. Bartlett also served as co-chair of Character Counts of Dallas and chair of the Trinity Trails. Mr. Bartlett also served on the Dallas Fort Worth International Airport Board. Mr. Bartlett graduated from the University of Texas at Austin in 1971, later serving as a guest lecturer at the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs. We believe that Mr. Bartlett's experience serving as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Financial Services Roundtable, his experience in politics (including serving as the Mayor of Dallas, Texas, a member of the United States Congress and a member of the Dallas City Council) and his service as a director of public and private companies provides the board of directors with key experience and insight to the Company, especially with respect to issues specific to boards of directors of public companies and companies in the financial services industry.

Ann Torre Bates, 59, has served as a director of the Company since 2010 and is currently the chairperson of the audit committee. Ms. Bates currently dedicates her time serving on the boards of directors of several companies primarily in the financial sector. From 1997 to 2012, Ms. Bates was a strategic and financial consultant, principally with respect to corporate finance matters. From 1995 to 1997, Ms. Bates served as Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of NHP, Inc., a national real estate services firm. From 1991 to 1995, Ms. Bates was Vice President and Treasurer of US Airways, and held various finance positions from 1988 to 1991. She currently serves on the board of directors of United Natural Foods, Inc. and is a director or trustee of 19 investment companies in the Franklin Templeton Group of Mutual Funds. She previously served as a director of Allied Capital Corporation from 2003 to 2010, SLM Corporation from 1997 to 2014 and Navient Corporation from 2014 to 2016. Ms. Bates holds a B.B.A. in Accountancy from the University of Notre Dame and an M.B.A. in Finance and Economics from Cornell University. We believe that Ms. Bates' experience serving as a director of other public companies in the financial sector, as well as her past experience as a chief financial officer, provides the board of directors and, specifically, the audit committee of the board of directors with valuable knowledge and insight in the financial services sector as well as experience in financial and accounting matters.

Daniel G. Kelly, Jr., 66, has served as a director of the Company since May 2016 and currently serves on the nominating and governance committee. Mr. Kelly was a Partner of Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, an international law firm, from 1999 to 2015, co-founding its Silicon Valley office in 1999. During his time at Davis Polk, Mr. Kelly had an extensive corporate practice representing companies, private equity funds and financial institutions in a broad array of complex transactions, and also acted as a senior advisor to boards and special committees on numerous sensitive matters. He currently serves on the board of directors of American Shared Hospital Services. Prior to joining Davis

Table of Contents

Polk, Mr. Kelly was a senior officer of a major investment banking firm, the chief legal officer of a New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") listed corporation and a partner involved in management of two other law firms. Mr. Kelly graduated magna cum laude with a B.A. in History from Yale University and received his J.D. from Columbia University School of Law where he served as Notes and Comments Editor of the Columbia Law Review. We believe that Mr. Kelly's experience practicing as a corporate lawyer, including his substantial experience in providing advice and counsel on corporate governance and securities law matters to numerous public company clients in a wide variety of industries, provides the board of directors with unique insight on its duties and responsibilities.

Steven B. McKeever, 57, has served as a director of the Company since 2012 and is currently the chairperson of the nominating and governance committee. Mr. McKeever is the CEO of Hidden Beach Recordings, an independent record label based in Los Angeles, California, which Mr. McKeever founded in 1997. From 1991 to 1995, Mr. McKeever was with Motown Records, where he served as Executive Vice President of Talent and Creative Affairs from 1993 to 1995 and Senior Vice President of Artists and Repertoire from 1991 to 1993. In 1992, Mr. McKeever created MoJAZZ Records, a subsidiary of Motown Records and served as its President. In 1993, he was instrumental in the sale of Motown Records to PolyGram Records. Mr. McKeever eventually left Motown Records in 1995 to work on his own entrepreneurial projects. Mr. McKeever began his career at the law firm of Irell & Manella LLP in Los Angeles as an entertainment lawyer. In 2011, Mr. McKeever served as the Executive Producer of Entertainment for the dedication of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial in Washington, D.C. Mr. McKeever currently serves as a director of several organizations, including College Bound (Chairman), African Ancestry.com and The Pacific Institute Spirit Board. He served as a Governor of the Los Angeles Chapter of The National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (a/k/a The GRAMMYs) from 2001 to 2003 and 2008 to 2010 and gives generous time to various charitable organizations such as The City of Hope. Mr. McKeever received his B.S. from the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign and received his J.D. from Harvard Law School. We believe that Mr. McKeever's diversity of experiences, in particular his small business and entrepreneurial experience, provides the board of directors with unique insight and expertise into the management of small and middle-market companies.

Eric B. Siegel, 59, has served as a director of the Company since 2004 and has been the lead independent director of the board of directors since 2010. Mr. Siegel currently serves on the audit committee and the nominating and governance committee. Since 2005, Mr. Siegel has served as Special Advisor to the Chairman of the Milwaukee Brewers Baseball Club and a member of the Club's Board of Advisors. Mr. Siegel is a director and Chairman of the Executive Committee and Nominating and Governance Committee and member of the Audit Committee and Security Committee of El Paso Electric Company, a NYSE publicly traded utility company. Mr. Siegel is also a past member of the boards of directors of a number of public and private companies, including Kerzner International Ltd. Mr. Siegel is a retired limited partner of Apollo Advisors, L.P. and Lion Advisors, L.P., private investment management firms. Mr. Siegel is a member of the board of directors of the Friends of the Los Angeles Saban Free Clinic and a past member of the Board of Trustees of the Marlborough School. Mr. Siegel holds his B.A. summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa and J.D. Order of the Coif from the University of California at Los Angeles. We believe that Mr. Siegel's experience practicing as a corporate lawyer provides valuable insight to the board of directors on regulatory and risk management issues and his experience as a partner in investment firms and over 20 years of experience serving as a director for both public and private companies provide industry-specific knowledge and expertise to the board of directors.

Table of Contents

Interested Directors

Michael J Arougheti, 44, has served as Co-Chairman of the board of directors since July 2014, as a director of the Company since 2009 and as an Executive Vice President of the Company since October 2014. Mr. Arougheti previously served as Chief Executive Officer of the Company from May 2013 to July 2014, and President of the Company from May 2004 to May 2013. Mr. Arougheti is a Co-Founder and President of Ares. He is a Partner of the Ares Credit Group and serves as a member of the Board of Directors and Management Committee of Ares. Mr. Arougheti also is a member of the Investment Committee of the investment adviser, and the Ares Credit Group's U.S. and European Direct Lending Investment Committees, the Ares Equity Income Opportunity Strategy Portfolio Review Committee and the Ares Operations Management Group. Mr. Arougheti may from time to time serve as an officer, director or principal of entities affiliated with Ares Management or of investment funds managed by Ares Management and its affiliates. From 2001 to 2004, Mr. Arougheti was employed by Royal Bank of Canada, where he was a Managing Partner of the Principal Finance Group of RBC Capital Partners and a member of the firm's Mezzanine Investment Committee. At RBC Capital Partners, Mr. Arougheti oversaw an investment team that originated, managed and monitored a diverse portfolio of middle-market leveraged loans, senior and junior subordinated debt, preferred equity and common stock and warrants on behalf of RBC and other third party institutional investors. Mr. Arougheti joined Royal Bank of Canada in October 2001 from Indosuez Capital, where he was a Principal, responsible for originating, structuring and executing leveraged transactions across a broad range of products and asset classes. Mr. Arougheti also sat on the firm's Investment Committee. Prior to joining Indosuez in 1994, Mr. Arougheti worked at Kidder, Peabody & Co., where he was a member of the firm's Mergers and Acquisitions Group. In addition to serving as chairman of the board of directors of Ares Commercial Real Estate Corporation, Mr. Arougheti also serves on the boards of directors of Investor Group Services, Riverspace Arts and Operation HOPE. Mr. Arougheti received a B.A. in Ethics, Politics and Economics, cum laude, from Yale University. We believe that Mr. Arougheti's depth of experience in investment management, leveraged finance and financial services, as well as his intimate knowledge of the Company's business and operations, not only gives the board of directors valuable industry-specific knowledge and expertise on these and other matters but also position him well to continue to serve as Co-Chairman of the board of directors. Mr. Arougheti is an interested director because he is an Executive Vice President of the Company, is on the Investment Committee of the investment adviser, is a Co-Founder and President of Ares and serves as a member of the Board of Directors and Management Committee of Ares.

R. Kipp deVeer, 44, has served as a director of the Company since 2015 and currently serves as Chief Executive Officer of the Company. Mr. deVeer previously served as President of the Company from May 2013 to July 2014. He joined Ares in May 2004 and currently serves as a Partner in and Head of the Ares Credit Group and a member of the Management Committee of Ares. Mr. deVeer may from time to time serve as an officer, director or principal of entities affiliated with Ares Management or of investment funds managed by Ares Management and its affiliates. Mr. deVeer is a member of the Investment Committees of the Company's investment adviser, the Ares Credit Group's U.S. and European Direct Lending Investment Committees and other select Ares Credit Group investment committees. Mr. deVeer is also a director of Ares Management Limited, a subsidiary of Ares Management overseeing the European activities of Ares. Prior to joining Ares, Mr. deVeer was a partner at RBC Capital Partners, a division of Royal Bank of Canada, which led the firm's middle-market financing and principal investment business. Mr. deVeer joined RBC in October 2001 from Indosuez Capital, where he was Vice President in the Merchant Banking Group. Previously, Mr. deVeer worked at J.P. Morgan and Co., both in the Special Investment Group of J.P. Morgan Investment Management, Inc. and the Investment Banking Division of J.P. Morgan Securities Inc. Mr. deVeer received a B.A. from Yale University and an M.B.A. from Stanford University's Graduate School of Business. We believe that Mr. deVeer's depth of experience in investment management, leveraged finance and financial services, as well as his intimate knowledge of the Company's business and

Table of Contents

operations, gives the board of directors valuable industry-specific knowledge and expertise on these and other matters. Mr. deVeer is an interested director because he is the Chief Executive Officer of the Company, is an officer of and on the Investment Committee of the investment adviser, and serves on the Management Committee of Ares.

Robert L. Rosen, 70, has served as a director of the Company since 2004 and is a Partner in the Ares Real Estate Group. Mr. Rosen additionally serves as Interim Co-Chief Executive Officer of and a director of Ares Commercial Real Estate Corporation. Mr. Rosen is the managing partner of RLR Capital Partners, which invests principally in the securities of publicly traded North American companies. From 2005 to 2008, Mr. Rosen was a Managing Partner of RLR Focus Fund LP, an "active value" hedge fund. From 1995 to 2001, Mr. Rosen served as an exclusive consultant to Apollo Management, L.P. In 1998, Mr. Rosen founded National Financial Partners (NYSE: NFP), an independent provider of financial services to high net worth individuals and small to medium sized corporations. He served as NFP's CEO from 1998 to 2000 and as its Chairman until January 2002. From 1987 to 1993, Mr. Rosen was a Managing Partner of Ballantrae Partners, L.P., an investment partnership. From 1989 to 1993, Mr. Rosen was Chairman and CEO of Damon Corporation, a leading healthcare and laboratory testing company that was ultimately sold to Quest Diagnostics. From 1983 to 1987, Mr. Rosen was Vice Chairman of Maxxam Group. Prior to that, Mr. Rosen spent 12 years at Shearson American Express in positions in research, investment banking and senior management, and for two years was Assistant to Sanford Weill, the then Chairman and CEO of Shearson. Mr. Rosen is a member of the board of directors of Ares Commercial Real Estate Corporation and previously served on the board of directors of Sapient Corporation. Mr. Rosen is a member of the NYU Stern School of Business Board of Overseers and a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. Mr. Rosen holds a B.A. from the City University of New York in Economics and an M.B.A. from the New York University Leonard N. Stern School of Business in Finance. We believe that Mr. Rosen's over 35 years of experience as a senior executive of financial services, healthcare services and private equity funds brings broad financial industry and specific investment management insight and experience to the board of directors and that his expertise in finance provides valuable knowledge to the board of directors. Mr. Rosen is an interested director because he is a Partner of Ares.

Bennett Rosenthal, 53, has served as Co-Chairman of the board of directors of directors since 2014, and previously as Chairman of the board of directors of directors since 2004. Mr. Rosenthal is a Co-Founder of Ares and a Partner of Ares Management GP LLC. He is Co-Head and a Partner in the Ares Private Equity Group and serves as a member of the Board of Directors and Management Committee of Ares. Mr. Rosenthal also is a member of the Investment Committees of certain funds managed by the Ares Private Equity Group. Mr. Rosenthal may from time to time serve as an officer, director or principal of entities affiliated with Ares Management or of investment funds managed by Ares Management and its affiliates. Mr. Rosenthal joined Ares in 1998 from Merrill Lynch & Co., where he served as a Managing Director in the Global Leveraged Finance Group. Mr. Rosenthal currently serves on the Board of Directors of City Ventures, LLC, Jacuzzi Brands Corporation, the parent entities of CHG Healthcare Holdings L.P., CPG International Inc., National Veterinary Associates, Inc., Serta International Holdco LLC and Simmons Bedding Company, Aspen Dental Management, Inc. and several other private companies. Mr. Rosenthal's previous board of directors experience includes Maidenform Brands, Inc., Hanger, Inc. and Nortek, Inc. Mr. Rosenthal also serves on the Board of Trustees of the Windward School in Los Angeles, and on the Graduate Executive Board of the Wharton School of Business. Mr. Rosenthal graduated summa cum laude with a B.S. in Economics from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business where he also received his M.B.A. with distinction. We believe that Mr. Rosenthal's intimate knowledge of the business and operations of Ares, extensive experience in the financial industry as well as the management of private equity and debt investments in particular and experience as a director of other public and private companies not only give the board of directors valuable insight but also position him well to continue to serve as Co-Chairman of the board of directors. Mr. Rosenthal is an interested director because he

Table of Contents

is a Co-Founder and Partner of Ares and serves on the Board of Directors and Management Committee of Ares.

Executive Officers and Certain Other Officers Who Are Not Directors

Joshua M. Bloomstein, 43, serves as the General Counsel, Vice President and Secretary of the Company. He joined Ares in November 2006 and currently serves as a Partner and Co-General Counsel (Credit) and Deputy General Counsel (Corporate) of Ares Management, and may from time to time serve as an officer, director or principal of entities affiliated with Ares Management or of investment funds managed by Ares Management and its affiliates. Mr. Bloomstein also currently serves as Vice President and Assistant Secretary of ACSF and Vice President and Assistant Secretary of CADEX. He is also a member of the Ares Enterprise Risk Committee. Prior to joining Ares, Mr. Bloomstein was an attorney with Latham & Watkins LLP specializing in leveraged buyouts and private equity investments as well as general partnership and corporate matters. Mr. Bloomstein graduated magna cum laude with a B.A. in Political Science from the State University of New York at Albany and received a J.D. degree, magna cum laude, from the University of Miami, where he was elected to the Order of the Coif.

Mitchell Goldstein, 50, serves as a Co-President of the Company. Mr. Goldstein previously served as an Executive Vice President of the Company from May 2013 to July 2014. He joined Ares in May 2005 and currently serves as a Partner and Co-Head of the Ares Credit Group, Vice President of ACSF and Vice President of CADEX. He is a member of the Management Committee of Ares Management, and may from time to time serve as an officer, director or principal of entities affiliated with Ares Management or of investment funds managed by Ares Management and its affiliates. Mr. Goldstein is a member of the Investment Committees of the investment adviser, select Ares Credit Group U.S. Direct Lending investment committees and the Ivy Hill Asset Management Investment Committee and the Ares Commercial Finance Investment Committee. Prior to joining Ares, Mr. Goldstein worked at Credit Suisse First Boston ("CSFB"), where he was a Managing Director in the Financial Sponsors Group. At CSFB, Mr. Goldstein was responsible for providing investment banking services to private equity funds and hedge funds with a focus on M&A and restructurings as well as capital raisings, including high yield, bank debt, mezzanine debt, and IPOs. Mr. Goldstein joined CSFB in 2000 at the completion of the merger with Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette. From 1998 to 2000, Mr. Goldstein was at Indosuez Capital, where he was a member of the Investment Committee and a Principal, responsible for originating, structuring and executing leveraged transactions across a broad range of products and asset classes. From 1993 to 1998, Mr. Goldstein worked at Bankers Trust. He also serves on the Board of Managers of Ivy Hill Asset Management GP, LLC and on the Board of Trustees of CADEX. Mr. Goldstein graduated summa cum laude from the State University of New York at Binghamton with a B.S. in Accounting, received an M.B.A. from Columbia University's Graduate School of Business and is a Certified Public Accountant.

Miriam Krieger, 40, serves as Chief Compliance Officer of the Company. Ms. Krieger also serves as the Chief Compliance Officer of ACSF She joined Ares in April 2010 and is a Managing Director and Deputy Chief Compliance Officer within the Ares Compliance Group. She may from time to time serve as an officer, director or principal of entities affiliated with Ares Management or of investment funds managed by Ares Management and its affiliates. From March 2008 until joining Ares, Ms. Krieger was Chief Compliance Officer and Corporate Secretary of Allied Capital Corporation, where she also served as Executive Vice President from August 2008 until April 2010 and as Senior Vice President from March 2008 to August 2008. Ms. Krieger also served as Senior Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer at MCG Capital Corporation, a publicly traded BDC, from 2006 to 2008 and Vice President and Assistant General Counsel from 2004 to 2006. From 2001 to 2004, Ms. Krieger was an associate in the Financial Services Group of the law firm of Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP.

Table of Contents

Ms. Krieger graduated with a B.A. in Economics and Political Science from Wellesley College and received a J.D. and an M.A. in Economics from Duke University.

Scott C. Lem, 39, serves as Chief Accounting Officer, Vice President and Treasurer of the Company. Mr. Lem previously served as Assistant Treasurer of the Company from May 2009 to May 2013. He also serves as Chief Accounting Officer of ACSF, Treasurer of Ares Dynamic Credit Allocation Fund, Inc. and Treasurer of CADEX. Additionally, he is a Managing Director and Chief Accounting Officer, Credit (Direct Lending) in the Ares Finance Department. He may from time to time serve as an officer, director or principal of entities affiliated with Ares Management or of investment funds managed by Ares Management and its affiliates. From July 2003 to December 2008, Mr. Lem served as Controller of Ares Management. Prior to joining Ares in July 2003, Mr. Lem was with Ernst & Young LLP and Arthur Andersen LLP, most recently as a Senior Associate conducting audits for clients across several industries including entertainment, hospitality and real estate. Mr. Lem graduated summa cum laude with a B.S. in Accounting from the University of Southern California's Leventhal School of Accounting and summa cum laude with a B.S. in Business Administration from the University of Southern California's Marshall School of Business. Mr. Lem has also received an M.B.A. in Finance from UCLA's Anderson School of Management. Mr. Lem is a Certified Public Accountant (Inactive).

Michael McFerran, 45, serves as a Vice President and Assistant Treasurer of the Company. He is Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Ares, a Partner in and Head of the Ares Finance Department and serves on the Management Committee of Ares Management. He serves as Vice President of Ares Dynamic Credit Allocation Fund, Inc. He additionally serves as a member of the Ares Operations Management Group and the Ares Enterprise Risk Committee. Prior to joining Ares in March 2015, Mr. McFerran was a Managing Director at KKR where he was Chief Financial Officer of KKR's credit business and Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer of KKR Financial Holdings LLC. Prior to joining KKR, Mr. McFerran spent the majority of his career at Ernst & Young LLP where he was a senior manager in their financial services industry practice. Mr. McFerran also held Vice President roles at XL Capital Ltd. and American Express. Mr. McFerran received an M.B.A. from the Haas School of Business at U.C. Berkeley and a B.S. in Business Administration from San Francisco State University.

Penni F. Roll, 51, serves as the Chief Financial Officer of the Company, the Ares Credit Group, Ares Dynamic Credit Allocation Fund, Inc., ACSF and CADEX. She joined Ares in April 2010 and now serves as Partner Chief Financial Officer of Ares Credit Group and may from time to time serve as an officer, director or principal of entities affiliated with Ares Management or of investment funds managed by Ares Management and its affiliates. Prior to joining Ares Management, Ms. Roll served as Chief Financial Officer of Allied Capital Corporation from 1998 until April 2010. Ms. Roll joined Allied Capital Corporation in 1995 as its Controller after serving as a Manager in KPMG LLP's financial services practice. Ms. Roll graduated magna cum laude with a B.S.B.A. in Accounting from West Virginia University.

Michael L. Smith, 46, serves as a Co-President of the Company. Mr. Smith previously served as an Executive Vice President of the Company from May 2013 to July 2014. Mr. Smith joined Ares in May 2004 and currently serves as a Partner and Co-Head of the Ares Credit Group and a member of the Management Committee of Ares Management. From time to time, he may serve as an officer, director or principal of entities affiliated with Ares Management or of investment funds managed by Ares Management and its affiliates. Mr. Smith is a member of the Investment Committees of the investment adviser, select Ares Credit Group U.S. Direct Lending investment committees, the Ivy Hill Asset Management Investment Committee and the Ares Commercial Finance Investment Committee. Prior to joining Ares, Mr. Smith was a Partner at RBC Capital Partners, a division of Royal Bank of Canada, which led the firm's middle-market financing and principal investment business. Mr. Smith joined RBC in October 2001 from Indosuez Capital, where he was a Vice President in the Merchant

Table of Contents

Banking Group. Previously, Mr. Smith worked at Kenter, Glastris & Company, and at Salomon Brothers Inc., in their Debt Capital Markets Group and Financial Institutions Group. Mr. Smith received a B.S. in Business Administration, cum laude, from the University of Notre Dame and a Masters in Management from Northwestern University's Kellogg Graduate School of Management.

Michael D. Weiner, 64, serves as a Vice President of the Company. He is Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer of Ares Management GP LLC, Ares' general partner, a Partner and General Counsel in the Ares Legal Group and a member of the Ares Management Committee. He may from time to time serve as an officer, director or principal of entities affiliated with Ares Management or of investment funds managed by Ares Management and its affiliates. Mr. Weiner has also served as Vice President and General Counsel of Ares Commercial Real Estate Corporation since 2012, Vice President and Assistant Secretary of Ares Dynamic Credit Allocation Fund, Inc. and Vice President and Assistant Secretary of CADEX. From September 2006 to January 2010, Mr. Weiner served as General Counsel of the Company. He additionally is a member of the Ares Operations Management Group and the Ares Enterprise Risk Committee. Mr. Weiner joined Ares in September 2006. Previously, Mr. Weiner served as General Counsel to Apollo Management, L.P. and had been an officer of the corporate general partners of Apollo since 1992. Prior to joining Apollo, Mr. Weiner was a partner in the law firm of Morgan, Lewis & Bockius specializing in corporate and alternative financing transactions, securities law as well as general partnership, corporate and regulatory matters. Mr. Weiner has served on the boards of directors of several corporations. Mr. Weiner currently serves on the Board of Governors of the Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. Mr. Weiner graduated with a B.S. in Business and Finance from the University of California at Berkeley and a J.D. from the University of Santa Clara.

BOARD LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE

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

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

Presently, Mr. Arougheti and Mr. Rosenthal serve as co-chairs of our board of directors. Mr. Arougheti is an interested director because he is an Executive Vice President of the Company, is on the Investment Committee of the investment adviser, is a Co-Founder and President of Ares, serves on the Board of Directors and is a member of the Management Committee of Ares. The Company believes that Mr. Arougheti's depth of experience in investment management, leveraged finance and financial services, as well as his intimate knowledge of the Company's business and operations, gives our board of directors valuable industry-specific knowledge and expertise on these and other matters. Mr. Rosenthal is an interested director because he is a Co-Founder and Partner of Ares and serves on the Board of Directors and the Management Committee of Ares. The Company believes that Mr. Rosenthal's history with the Company, familiarity with the Ares investment platform and extensive experience in the management of private equity and debt investments qualifies him to serve as co-chairman of our board of directors. Moreover, we believe that we are best served through our

Table of Contents

existing leadership structure with Mr. Arougheti and Mr. Rosenthal as co-chairs of our board of directors, as Mr. Arougheti and Mr. Rosenthal's relationships with our investment adviser provide an effective bridge between our board of directors and our investment adviser, thus ensuring an open dialogue between our board of directors and our investment adviser and that both groups act with a common purpose.

The independent directors have designated a lead independent director whose duties include, among other things, chairing executive sessions of the independent directors, acting as a liaison between the independent directors and the co-chairs of the board of directors and between the independent directors and officers of the Company and our investment adviser, facilitating communication among the independent directors and the Company's counsel, reviewing and commenting on board of director and committee meeting agendas and calling additional meetings of the independent directors as appropriate. In August 2010, the board of directors designated and appointed Mr. Siegel as the lead independent director and Mr. Siegel has served as lead independent director since that time.

We believe that board leadership structures must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and that our existing board leadership structure is appropriate. However, we continually re-examine our corporate governance policies on an ongoing basis to ensure that they continue to meet the Company's needs.

BOARD'S ROLE IN RISK OVERSIGHT

Our board of directors performs its risk oversight function and fulfills its risk oversight responsibilities primarily (1) through its three standing committees, which report to the entire board of directors and are comprised solely of independent directors and (2) by working with our Chief Compliance Officer to monitor risk in accordance with our compliance policies and procedures.

As described below in more detail under "Committees of the Board of Directors," the audit committee and the nominating and governance committee assist the board of directors in performing its risk oversight function and fulfilling its risk oversight responsibilities. The audit committee's risk oversight responsibilities include overseeing the Company's accounting and financial reporting processes, assisting the board of directors in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities relating to the Company's systems of internal controls over financial reporting, audits of the Company's financial statements and disclosure controls and procedures, assisting the board of directors in determining the fair value of securities that are not publicly traded or for which current market values are not readily available, and discussing with management the Company's major financial risk exposures and the steps management has taken to monitor and control such exposures, including the Company's risk assessment and risk management policies. The nominating and governance committee's risk oversight responsibilities include developing, reviewing and updating certain policies regarding the nomination of directors, identifying, evaluating and nominating directors to fill vacancies on the board of directors or to stand for election by our stockholders, reviewing the Company's policies relating to corporate governance, and overseeing the evaluation of our board of directors and its committees.

Our board of directors also performs its risk oversight function and fulfills its risk oversight responsibilities by working with our Chief Compliance Officer to monitor risk in accordance with the Company's policies and procedures. Our Chief Compliance Officer prepares a written report annually discussing the adequacy and effectiveness of the compliance policies and procedures of the Company and certain of its service providers. Our Chief Compliance Officer's report, which is reviewed by and discussed with our board of directors, addresses at a minimum (1) the operation of the compliance policies and procedures of the Company and certain of its service providers since the last report; (2) any material changes to such policies and procedures since the last report; (3) any recommendations for material changes to such policies and procedures as a result of our Chief

Table of Contents

Compliance Officer's annual review; and (4) any compliance matter that has occurred since the date of the last report about which our board of directors would reasonably need to know to oversee the Company's compliance activities and risks. In addition, our Chief Compliance Officer reports to our board of directors on a quarterly basis with respect to material compliance matters and meets separately in executive session with the independent directors periodically, but in no event less than once each year.

We believe that our board of directors' role in risk oversight is effective and appropriate given the extensive regulation to which we are already subject as a BDC. Specifically, as a BDC we must comply with certain regulatory requirements and restrictions that control the levels of risk in our business and operations. For example, our ability to incur indebtedness is limited such that our asset coverage must equal at least 200% immediately after each time we incur indebtedness, we generally have to invest at least 70% of our total assets in "qualifying assets" and, subject to certain exceptions, we are subject to restrictions on our ability to engage in transactions with Ares and its affiliates. See "Regulation." In addition, we have elected to be treated as a RIC under the Code. As a RIC we must, among other things, meet certain source of income and asset diversification requirements. See "Certain Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations."

We believe that the extent of our board of directors' (and its committees') role in risk oversight complements our board of directors' leadership structure because it allows our independent directors, through the two fully independent board committees, a lead independent director, executive sessions with each of our Chief Compliance Officer, our independent registered public accounting firm and independent valuation providers and otherwise, to exercise oversight of risk without any conflict that might discourage critical review.

We believe that our board of directors' role in risk oversight must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and that our board of directors' existing role in risk oversight is appropriate. However, our board of directors re-examines the manner in which it administers its risk oversight function on an ongoing basis to ensure that it continues to meet the Company's needs.

COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our board of directors has established an audit committee, a nominating and governance committee and a co-investment committee. We do not have a compensation committee because our executive officers do not receive any direct compensation from us. During 2016, the board of directors held 20 formal meetings, the audit committee held six formal meetings, the nominating and governance committee held five formal meetings, and the independent directors held four formal meetings. We encourage, but do not require, the directors to attend our annual meeting of stockholders in person.

Audit Committee

The members of the audit committee are Ms. Bates and Messrs. Bartlett and Siegel, each of whom is independent for purposes of the Investment Company Act and The NASDAQ Global Select Market's corporate governance regulations. Ms. Bates currently serves as chairperson of the audit committee.

The role of the audit committee is to assist our board of directors in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities by: (1) overseeing the Company's accounting and financial reporting processes and the audits of the Company's financial statements and internal control over financial reporting and (2) reviewing the financial reports and other financial information provided by the Company to the public. The audit committee is also responsible for approving our independent registered public accounting firm and recommending them to our board of directors (including a majority of the independent directors) for approval and submission to our stockholders for ratification, reviewing with our independent registered public accounting firm the plans and results of the audit engagement,

Table of Contents

approving professional services provided by our independent registered public accounting firm, reviewing the independence of our independent registered public accounting firm and reviewing the adequacy of our internal controls and procedures.

The audit committee also assists our board of directors in determining the fair value of debt and equity securities that are not publicly traded or for which current market values are not readily available, and in connection therewith recommends valuation policies to the board of directors, considers valuation issues with respect to liquid securities and reviews valuations of illiquid securities proposed by the investment adviser. The audit committee also receives input from independent valuation firms that have been engaged at the direction of the board of directors to value certain portfolio investments. In addition, the audit committee is responsible for discussing with the Company's officers and management of our investment adviser the Company's major financial risk exposures and the steps that the Company has taken to monitor and control such exposures, including the Company's risk assessment and risk management policies. The audit committee also reviews and approves all transactions with related persons of the Company that are brought to the audit committee's attention, including each annual renewal of our investment advisory and management agreement and our administration agreement.

This description of the audit committee's role and responsibilities is summary in nature, is not exhaustive and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the charter of the audit committee, which can be accessed via the Company's website at www.arescapitalcorp.com. The contents of the Company's website are not intended to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus or the accompanying prospectus supplement, and any references to the Company's website are intended to be inactive textual references only.

Our board of directors has determined that Ms. Bates is an "audit committee financial expert" within the meaning of the rules of the SEC.

Nominating and Governance Committee

The members of the nominating and governance committee are Messrs. Kelly, McKeever and Siegel, each of whom is independent for purposes of the Investment Company Act and The NASDAQ Global Select Market's corporate governance regulations. Mr. McKeever currently serves as chairman of the nominating and governance committee. The nominating and governance committee is responsible for (1) developing, reviewing and, as appropriate, updating certain policies regarding the nomination of directors and recommending such policies or any changes in such policies to the board of directors for approval, (2) identifying individuals qualified to become directors, (3) evaluating and recommending to the board of directors nominees to fill vacancies on the board of directors or committees thereof or to stand for election by the stockholders of the Company, (4) reviewing the Company's policies relating to corporate governance and recommending any changes in such policies to the board of directors, and (5) overseeing the evaluation of the board of directors (including its leadership structure) and its committees.

In considering possible candidates for election as a director, the nominating and governance committee takes into account, in addition to such other factors as it deems relevant, the desirability of selecting directors who:

are of high character and integrity;

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

have relevant expertise and experience upon which to be able to offer advice and guidance to the Company's officers and management of the investment adviser and the administrator;

Table of Contents

have sufficient time available to devote to the affairs of the Company;

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

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

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

The nominating and governance committee also considers all applicable legal and regulatory requirements that govern the composition of the board of directors.

The nominating and governance committee may consider recommendations for nomination of directors from our stockholders. Nominations made by stockholders must be delivered to or mailed (setting forth the information required by our bylaws) and received at our principal executive offices not earlier than the 150th day and not later than 5:00 p.m., New York time, on the 120th day prior to the first anniversary of the date on which we first mailed our proxy materials for the previous year's annual meeting of stockholders; *provided, however*, that if the date of the annual meeting has changed by more than 30 days from the prior year, the nomination must be received not earlier than the 150th day prior to the date of such annual meeting or later than 5:00 p.m., New York time, on the later of (1) the 120th day prior to the date of such annual meeting or (2) the 10th day following the day on which public announcement of such meeting date is first made.

This description of the nominating and governance committee's role and responsibilities is summary in nature, is not exhaustive and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the charter of the nominating and governance committee, which can be accessed via the Company's website at www.arescapitalcorp.com. The contents of the Company's website are not intended to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus or the accompanying prospectus supplement, and any references to the Company's website are intended to be inactive textual references only.

Compensation Committee

The role of the compensation committee is performed by the audit committee, which is comprised entirely of independent directors for purposes of the NASDAQ corporate governance requirements and rules and regulations of the SEC, including the compensation committee requirements of NASDAQ Marketplace Rule 5605(d) and Rule 5605(a)(2). The Company's executive officers do not receive any direct compensation from us. The audit committee charter contains all of the provisions that a compensation committee charter would be required to include under the NASDAQ corporate governance listing requirements and the rules and regulations of the SEC. In addition, pursuant to the audit committee charter, the amounts payable to our investment adviser and our administrator pursuant to our investment advisory and management agreement and administration agreement, respectively, are separately approved by the audit committee. The compensation payable to our investment adviser pursuant to the investment advisory and management agreement is also separately approved by a majority of our independent directors in accordance with Section 15(c) of the Investment Company Act.

The specific responsibilities of the audit committee, including those related to compensation, are set forth in the charter of the audit committee, which can be accessed via the Company's website at www.arescapitalcorp.com. The contents of the Company's website are not intended to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus or the accompanying prospectus supplement, and any references to the Company's website are intended to be inactive textual references only.

Table of Contents**Co-Investment Committee**

The members of the co-investment committee are Ms. Bates and Messrs. Bartlett, Kelly, McKeever and Siegel, each of whom is independent for purposes of the Investment Company Act and The NASDAQ Global Select Market's corporate governance regulations. The co-investment committee is responsible for reviewing and making certain findings in respect of co-investment transactions pursuant to the Order the Company received from the Commission on January 18, 2017.

BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF OUR DIRECTORS

The following table sets forth the dollar range of our equity securities based on the closing price of our common stock on July 27, 2017 and the number of shares beneficially owned by each of our directors as of December 31, 2016. We are not part of a "family of investment companies," as that term is defined in the Investment Company Act.

Name of Director	Dollar Range of Equity Securities in the Company(1)(2)
Independent Directors(3)	
Steve Bartlett(4)	Over \$100,000
Ann Torre Bates	Over \$100,000
Daniel G. Kelly, Jr.	Over \$100,000
Steven B. McKeever	Over \$100,000
Eric B. Siegel	Over \$100,000
Interested Directors	
Michael J Arougheti	Over \$100,000
R. Kipp deVeer(5)	Over \$100,000
Robert L. Rosen	Over \$100,000
Bennett Rosenthal	Over \$100,000

- (1) The dollar ranges are as follows: none, \$1-\$10,000, \$10,001-\$50,000, \$50,001-\$100,000 or over \$100,000.
- (2) Beneficial ownership determined in accordance with Rule 16a-1(a)(2) under the Exchange Act.
- (3) As of March 31, 2017, to the best of our knowledge, except as listed above, none of the independent directors, nor any of their immediate family members, had any interest in us, our investment adviser or any person or entity directly or indirectly controlling, controlled by or under common control with us or our investment adviser.
- (4) The shares of our common stock held by Mr. Bartlett have been pledged as security in connection with a line of credit with a third party financial institution unaffiliated with the Company.
- (5) The shares of the Company's common stock held by Mr. deVeer have been pledged as security in connection with a line of credit with a third party financial institution unaffiliated with the Company.

Table of Contents**COMPENSATION TABLE**

The following table shows information regarding the compensation earned or actually received by our directors, none of whom is our employee, for services as a director for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016. No compensation is paid by us to interested directors. No information has been provided with respect to our executive officers who are not directors since our executive officers do not receive any direct compensation from us.

Name	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash(1)	Total
Independent Directors		
Steve Bartlett	\$ 222,500	\$ 222,500
Ann Torre Bates	\$ 233,500	\$ 233,500
Daniel G. Kelly, Jr.(2)	\$ 131,978	\$ 131,978
Steven B. McKeever	\$ 222,000	\$ 222,000
Frank E. O'Bryan(3)	\$ 89,522	\$ 89,522
Eric B. Siegel	\$ 243,500	\$ 243,500
Interested Directors		
Michael J Arougheti	None	None
R. Kipp deVeer	None	None
Robert L. Rosen(4)	None	None
Bennett Rosenthal	None	None

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

(2) Mr. Kelly became a director in May 2016.

(3) Mr. O'Bryan's term expired at our 2016 annual meeting of stockholders.

(4) While Mr. Rosen did not receive any compensation from us for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, he did receive \$50,000 from Ares Management for his service as a director of the Company for such period in connection with his role as an Operating Advisor to Ares Management. In February 2016, Mr. Rosen became a Partner of Ares.

The independent directors receive an annual fee of \$160,000. They also receive \$2,500 plus reimbursement of reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with attending each board meeting and receive \$1,000 plus reimbursement of reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with attending each committee meeting. In addition, the chairperson of the audit committee receives an additional annual fee of \$10,000, the lead independent director receives an additional annual fee of \$15,000, and each chairperson of any other committee receives an additional annual fee of \$2,000 for his or her additional services in these capacities. In addition, we purchase directors' and officers' liability insurance on behalf of our directors and officers.

Table of Contents**PORTFOLIO MANAGERS**

We consider the members of the Investment Committee of Ares Capital Management to be our portfolio managers. The following individuals function as portfolio managers primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of our portfolio.

Name	Position	Length of Service with Ares (years)	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years
Mark Affolter	Partner and Portfolio Manager of the Ares Credit Group	9	Mr. Affolter is a Partner and Portfolio Manager in the Ares Credit Group, as well as the Central Region Head for U.S. Direct Lending. Additionally, Mr. Affolter serves as a member of the Investment Committee of Ares Capital Management and select Ares Credit Group U.S. Direct Lending investment committees, and is a member of the Management Committee of Ares.
Michael J Arougheti	Co-Chairman of the board of directors of the Company; Executive Vice President of the Company; Partner of the Ares Credit Group	13	Since October 2014, Mr. Arougheti has served as an Executive Vice President of the Company, since July 2014, he has served as Co-Chairman of the Company's board of directors and since February 2009, he has served as a director of the Company. Mr. Arougheti previously served as Chief Executive Officer of the Company from May 2013 to July 2014 and President of the Company from May 2004 to May 2013. Mr. Arougheti is a Co-Founder and President of Ares. He is a Partner of the Ares Credit Group and a member of the Ares Board of Directors and Management Committee. In addition, Mr. Arougheti serves as a member of the Investment Committee of Ares Capital Management, the Ares Credit Group's U.S. and European Investment Committees, the Ares Equity Income Opportunity Strategy Portfolio Review Committee and the Ares Operations Management Group.

Table of Contents

Name	Position	Length of Service with Ares (years)	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years
R. Kipp deVeer	Chief Executive Officer of the Company; Co-Head and Partner of the Ares Credit Group	13	Since July 2014, Mr. deVeer has served as Chief Executive Officer of the Company. Mr. deVeer previously served as President of the Company from May 2013 to July 2014. Mr. deVeer has served as an officer of Ares Capital Management since 2004. Mr. deVeer joined Ares in May 2004 and currently serves as Co-Head and a Partner of the Ares Credit Group and member of the Management Committee of Ares. Mr. deVeer is a member of the Investment Committees of Ares Capital Management and the Ares Credit Group's U.S. and European Investment Committees. Mr. deVeer is also a director of Ares Management Limited.
Mitchell Goldstein	Co-President of the Company; Partner of the Ares Credit Group	12	Since July 2014, Mr. Goldstein has served as a Co-President of the Company. Mr. Goldstein previously served as an Executive Vice President of the Company from May 2013 to July 2014. Mr. Goldstein has served as an officer of Ares Capital Management since 2005. Mr. Goldstein joined Ares in May 2005 and currently serves as a Partner of the Ares Credit Group. Mr. Goldstein also currently serves as a Vice President of ACSF, IHAM and IHAM GP. Mr. Goldstein is a member of the Investment Committees of Ares Capital Management, the Ares Credit Group's U.S. Direct Lending and Commercial Finance Investment Committees and the Ivy Hill Asset Management Investment Committee, and is a member of the Management Committee of Ares.
Jim Miller	Partner and Portfolio Manager of the Ares Credit Group	11	Mr. Miller is a Partner and Portfolio Manager in the Ares Credit Group, as well as the East Region Co-Head for U.S. Direct Lending. Additionally, Mr. Miller serves on the investment committee of Ares Capital Management, select Ares Credit Group U.S. Direct Lending investment committees and is a member of the Ares Commercial Finance Investment Committee and the Management Committee of Ares.

Table of Contents

Name	Position	Length of Service with Ares (years)	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years
Kort Schnabel	Partner and Portfolio Manager of the Ares Credit Group	16	Mr. Schnabel is a Partner and Portfolio Manager in the Ares Credit Group, as well as the West Region Head for U.S. Direct Lending. Additionally, Mr. Schnabel serves on the investment committee of Ares Capital Management and select Ares Credit Group U.S. Direct lending investment Committees, and is a member of the Management Committee of Ares.
David Schwartz	Partner and Portfolio Manager of the Ares Credit Group	13	Mr. Schwartz is a Partner and Portfolio Manager in the Ares Credit Group, as well as the East Region Co-Head for U.S. Direct Lending. He is actively involved in managing the Company's joint venture with Varagon, the SDLP. Additionally, Mr. Schwartz serves on the investment committee of Ares Capital Management and select Ares Credit Group U.S. Direct Lending investment committees, and is a member of the Management Committee of Ares.
Michael L. Smith	Co-President of the Company; Partner of the Ares Credit Group	13	Since July 2014, Mr. Smith has served as a Co-President of the Company. Mr. Smith previously served as an Executive Vice President of the Company from May 2013 to July 2014. Mr. Smith has served as an officer of Ares Capital Management since 2004. Mr. Smith joined Ares in May 2004 and currently serves as a Partner of the Ares Credit Group. Mr. Smith is a member of the Investment Committees of Ares Capital Management, the Ares Credit Group's U.S. Investment Committee the Ivy Hill Asset Management Investment Committee, and the Management Committee of Ares.

None of the individuals listed above is primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the portfolio of any other account, except that Messrs. Affolter, Arougheti, deVeer, Goldstein, Miller, Schnabel, Schwartz and Smith are each Partners of the Ares Credit Group. All such individuals have responsibilities with respect to certain funds and managed accounts, which as of March 31, 2017 had approximately \$65 billion (including the Company) of assets under management, a portion of which is used to calculate Ares' advisory fees related to such funds and managed accounts. See "Risk Factors Risks Relating to Our Business There are significant potential conflicts of interest that could impact our investment returns."

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Each of Messrs. Affolter, Arougheti, deVeer, Goldstein, Miller, Schnabel, Schwartz and Smith is responsible for deal origination, execution and portfolio management. In addition to their deal origination, execution and portfolio management responsibilities, (1) Mr. Arougheti also spends a portion of his time on corporate and administrative activities in his capacity as President of Ares Management and as a Partner of the Ares Credit Group, (2) Mr. deVeer also spends a portion of his time on corporate and administrative activities in his capacity as the Company's Chief Executive Officer and as a Partner of the Ares Credit Group, (3) Messrs. Goldstein and Smith also spend portions of their time on corporate and administrative activities in their capacities as Co-Presidents of the Company and as Partners of the Ares Credit Group and (4) Messrs. Affolter, Miller, Schnabel and Schwartz are each a Partner in the Ares Credit Group. Each of Messrs. Affolter, Arougheti, deVeer, Goldstein, Miller, Schnabel, Schwartz and Smith receives a compensation package that includes some combination of fixed draw and variable incentive compensation based on our performance. None of the portfolio managers receives any direct compensation from us.

The following table sets forth the dollar range of our equity securities based on the closing price of our common stock on July 27, 2017 and the number of shares beneficially owned by each of the portfolio managers described above as of December 31, 2016 unless otherwise indicated below.

Name	Aggregate Dollar Range of Equity Securities in Ares Capital(1)
Mark Affolter	None
Michael J Arougheti	Over \$1,000,000
R. Kipp deVeer	Over \$1,000,000
Mitchell Goldstein	Over \$1,000,000
Jim Miller	\$100,001 - \$500,000
Kort Schnabel	None
David Schwartz	Over \$1,000,000
Michael L. Smith	Over \$1,000,000

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

INVESTMENT ADVISORY AND MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

Management Services

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

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

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

closes and monitors the investments we make;

determines the investments and other assets that we purchase, retain or sell; and

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

Table of Contents

Ares Capital Management's services to us under the investment advisory and management agreement are not exclusive, and it is free to furnish similar services to other entities. Similarly, affiliates of our investment adviser may directly or indirectly manage funds or other investment vehicles with investment objectives similar to ours. Accordingly, we may compete with these Ares funds or other investment vehicles managed by our investment adviser and its affiliates for capital and investment opportunities. Ares Capital Management endeavors to allocate investment opportunities in a fair and equitable manner, and in any event consistent with any fiduciary duties owed to Ares Capital. Nevertheless, it is possible that we may not be given the opportunity to participate in certain investments made by investment funds or other investment vehicles managed by Ares Capital Management or its affiliates.

Base Management Fee

Pursuant to the investment advisory and management agreement and subject to the overall supervision of our board of directors, our investment adviser provides investment advisory and management services to us. For providing these services, our investment adviser receives fees from us consisting of a base management fee, an income based fee and a capital gains incentive fee.

The base management fee is calculated at an annual rate of 1.5% based on the average value of our total assets (other than cash or cash equivalents but including assets purchased with borrowed funds) at the end of the two most recently completed calendar quarters. The base management fee is payable quarterly in arrears.

Income Based Fee

The income based fee is calculated and payable quarterly in arrears based on our net investment income excluding income based fees and capital gains incentive fees ("pre-incentive fee net investment income") for the quarter. Pre-incentive fee net investment income means interest income, dividend income and any other income (including any other fees such as commitment, origination, structuring, diligence and consulting fees or other fees that we receive from portfolio companies but excluding fees for providing managerial assistance) accrued during the calendar quarter, minus operating expenses for the quarter (including the base management fee, any expenses payable under the administration agreement, and any interest expense and dividends paid on any outstanding preferred stock, but excluding the income based fee and capital gains incentive fee accrued under GAAP). Pre-incentive fee net investment income includes, in the case of investments with a deferred interest feature such as market discount, debt instruments with PIK interest, preferred stock with PIK dividends and zero coupon securities, accrued income that we have not yet received in cash. Our investment adviser is not under any obligation to reimburse us for any part of the income based fees it received that were based on accrued interest that we never actually received. See "Risk Factors Risks Relating to Our Business There are significant potential conflicts of interest that could impact our investment returns" and "Risk Factors Risks Relating to Our Business We may be obligated to pay our investment adviser certain fees even if we incur a loss."

Pre-incentive fee net investment income does not include any realized capital gains, realized capital losses, unrealized capital appreciation, unrealized capital depreciation or income tax expense related to realized gains and losses. Because of the structure of the income based fee, it is possible that we may pay such fees in a quarter where we incur a loss. For example, if we receive pre-incentive fee net investment income in excess of the hurdle rate (as defined below) for a quarter, we will pay the applicable income based fee even if we have incurred a loss in that quarter due to realized and/or unrealized capital losses.

Table of Contents

Pre-incentive fee net investment income, expressed as a rate of return on the value of our net assets (defined as total assets less indebtedness and before taking into account any income based fees and capital gains incentive fees payable during the period) at the end of the immediately preceding calendar quarter, is compared to a fixed "hurdle rate" of 1.75% per quarter. If market credit spreads rise, we may be able to invest in debt instruments that provide for a higher return, which may increase our pre-incentive fee net investment income and make it easier for our investment adviser to surpass the fixed hurdle rate and receive an income based fee based on such net investment income. To the extent we have retained pre-incentive fee net investment income that has been used to calculate the income based fee, it is also included in the amount of our total assets (other than cash and cash equivalents but including assets purchased with borrowed funds) used to calculate the 1.5% base management fee.

We pay our investment adviser an income based fee with respect to our pre-incentive fee net investment income in each calendar quarter as follows:

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

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

20% of the amount of our pre-incentive fee net investment income, if any, that exceeds 2.1875% in any calendar quarter.

The following is a graphical representation of the calculation of the income based fee:

Quarterly Income Based Fee Based on Net Investment Income

**Pre-incentive fee net investment income return
(expressed as a percentage of the value of net assets)**

**Percentage of pre-incentive fee net investment income
allocated to income based fee**

These calculations are adjusted for any share issuances or repurchases during the quarter.

In connection with the American Capital Acquisition, our investment adviser has agreed to waive, for each of the first ten calendar quarters beginning with the second calendar quarter of 2017, the lesser of (1) \$10 million of the income based fees and (2) the amount of income based fees for such quarter, in each case, to the extent earned and payable by us in such quarter pursuant to and as calculated under the investment advisory and management agreement.

Table of Contents

Capital Gains Incentive Fee

The capital gains incentive fee is determined and payable in arrears as of the end of each calendar year (or, upon termination of our investment advisory and management agreement, as of the termination date) and is calculated at the end of each applicable year by subtracting (1) the sum of our cumulative aggregate realized capital losses and aggregate unrealized capital depreciation from (2) our cumulative aggregate realized capital gains, in each case calculated from October 8, 2004 (the date we completed our initial public offering). Realized capital gains and losses include gains and losses on investments and foreign currencies, gains and losses on extinguishment of debt and other assets, as well as any income tax expense related to realized gains and losses. If such amount is positive at the end of such year, then the capital gains incentive fee for such year is equal to 20% of such amount, less the aggregate amount of capital gains incentive fees paid in all prior years. If such amount is negative, then there is no capital gains incentive fee for such year.

The cumulative aggregate realized capital gains are calculated as the sum of the differences, if positive, between (1) the net sales price of each investment in our portfolio when sold and (2) the accreted or amortized cost basis of such investment.

The cumulative aggregate realized capital losses are calculated as the sum of the amounts by which (1) the net sales price of each investment in our portfolio when sold is less than (2) the accreted or amortized cost basis of such investment.

The aggregate unrealized capital depreciation is calculated as the sum of the differences, if negative, between (1) the valuation of each investment in our portfolio as of the applicable capital gains incentive fee calculation date and (2) the accreted or amortized cost basis of such investment.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, as a result of an amendment to the capital gains incentive fee under the investment advisory and management agreement that was adopted on June 6, 2011, if we are required by GAAP to record an investment at its fair value as of the time of acquisition instead of at the actual amount paid for such investment by us (including, for example, as a result of the application of the acquisition method of accounting), then solely for the purposes of calculating the capital gains incentive fee, the "accreted or amortized cost basis" of an investment shall be the Contractual Cost Basis, which is an amount equal to (1) (A) the actual amount paid by us for such investment plus (B) any amounts recorded in our financial statements as required by GAAP that are attributable to the accretion of such investment plus (C) any other adjustments made to the cost basis included in our financial statements, including PIK interest or additional amounts funded (net of repayments) minus (2) any amounts recorded in our financial statements as required by GAAP that are attributable to the amortization of such investment, whether such calculated Contractual Cost Basis is higher or lower than the fair value of such investment (as determined in accordance with GAAP) at the time of acquisition.

We defer cash payment of any income based fee and the capital gains incentive fee otherwise earned by our investment adviser if during the most recent four full calendar quarter period ending on or prior to the date such payment is to be made the sum of (1) the aggregate distributions to our stockholders and (2) the change in net assets (defined as total assets less indebtedness and before taking into account any income based fees or capital gains incentive fees accrued during the period) is less than 7.0% of our net assets (defined as total assets less indebtedness) at the beginning of such period. Any such deferred fees are carried over for payment in subsequent calculation periods to the extent such payment is payable under our investment advisory and management agreement.

Table of Contents

Examples of Fee Calculation

Example 1 Income Based Fee(1):

Assumptions

Hurdle rate(2) = 1.75%
 Management fee(3) = 0.375%
 Other expenses (legal,
 accounting, custodian, transfer
 agent, etc.)(4) = 0.20%

- (1) The hypothetical amount of pre-incentive fee net investment income shown is based on a percentage of total net assets. In addition, the example assumes that during the most recent four full calendar quarter period ending on or prior to the date the payment set forth in the example is to be made, the sum of (1) our aggregate distributions to our stockholders and (2) our change in net assets (defined as total assets less indebtedness and before taking into account any income based fees or capital gains incentive fees accrued during the period) is at least 7% of our net assets (defined as total assets less indebtedness) at the beginning of such period (as adjusted for any share issuances or repurchases).
- (2) Represents a quarter of the 7.0% annualized hurdle rate.
- (3) Represents a quarter of the 1.5% annualized management fee.
- (4) Excludes offering expenses.

Alternative 1

Additional Assumptions

Investment income (including
 interest, dividends, fees, etc.) =
 1.25%
 Pre-incentive fee net
 investment income
 (investment income
 (management fee + other
 expenses)) = 0.675%
 Pre-incentive fee net investment
 income does not exceed the
 hurdle rate, therefore there is no
 income based fee.

Alternative 2

Additional Assumptions

Investment income (including interest, dividends, fees, etc.) = 2.70%
 Pre-incentive fee net investment income
 (investment income (management fee + other expenses)) = 2.125%
 Pre-incentive fee net investment income exceeds hurdle rate, therefore there is an income based fee.
 Income Based Fee = $100\% \times \text{"Catch-Up" + the greater of } 0\% \text{ AND } (20\% \times (\text{pre-incentive fee net investment income} - 2.1875\%))$
 = $(100\% \times (2.125\% - 1.75\%)) + 0\%$

$$\begin{aligned} &= 100\% \times 0.375\% \\ &= 0.375\% \end{aligned}$$

Alternative 3

Additional Assumptions

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Investment income (including interest, dividends, fees, etc.)} = 3.50\% \\ &\text{Pre-incentive fee net investment income} \\ &\quad (\text{investment income} - (\text{management fee} + \text{other expenses})) = 2.925\% \\ &\text{Pre-incentive fee net investment income exceeds hurdle rate, therefore there is an income based fee.} \\ \text{Income Based Fee} &= 100\% \times \text{"Catch-Up"} + \text{the greater of } 0\% \text{ AND } (20\% \times (\text{pre-incentive fee net investment} \\ &\quad \text{income} - 2.1875\%)) \\ &= (100\% \times (2.1875\% - 1.75\%)) + (20\% \times (2.925\% - 2.1875\%)) \\ &= 0.4375\% + (20\% \times 0.7375\%) \\ &= 0.4375\% + 0.1475\% \\ &= 0.585\% \end{aligned}$$

Table of Contents

Example 2 Capital Gains Incentive Fee:

Alternative 1:

Assumptions

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

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

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

Year 4: Investment B sold for \$31 million

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

Year 1: None (No sales transactions)

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

Year 3: None; \$5 million (20% multiplied by (\$30 million realized cumulative capital gains less \$5 million cumulative capital depreciation)) less \$6 million (previous capital gains incentive fee paid in Year 2)

Year 4: \$200,000; \$6.2 million (20% multiplied by \$31 million cumulative realized capital gains) less \$6 million (capital gains incentive fee paid in Year 2)

Alternative 2

Assumptions

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

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

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

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

Year 5: Investment B sold for \$20 million

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

Year 1: None (No sales transactions)

Year 2: \$5 million (20% multiplied by \$25 million (\$30 million realized capital gains on Investment A less \$5 million unrealized capital depreciation on Investment B))

Year 3: \$1.4 million (\$6.4 million (20% multiplied by \$32 million (\$35 million cumulative realized capital gains less \$3 million unrealized capital depreciation)) less \$5 million (capital gains incentive fee paid in Year 2))

Year 4: None (No sales transactions)

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Year 5: None (\$5 million (20% multiplied by \$25 million (cumulative realized capital gains of \$35 million less realized capital losses of \$10 million)) less \$6.4 million (cumulative capital gains incentive fee paid in Year 2 and Year 3))

For the three months ended March 31, 2017, we incurred \$39 million in base management fees and \$32 million in income based fees. There was no capital gains incentive fee earned by our investment adviser as calculated under the investment advisory and management agreement for the three months ended March 31, 2017. However, in accordance with GAAP, the Company had cumulatively accrued a capital gains incentive fee of \$54 million as of March 31, 2017, none of which was due and payable under the investment advisory and management agreement.

For the year ended December 31, 2016, we incurred \$137 million in base management fees, and \$123 million in income based fees. There was no capital gains incentive fee earned by our investment adviser as calculated under the investment advisory and management agreement for the year ended December 31, 2016. However, in accordance with GAAP, the Company has cumulatively

Table of Contents

accrued a capital gains incentive fee of \$38 million as of December 31, 2016, all of which was not due under the investment advisory and management agreement.

For the year ended December 31, 2015, we incurred \$134 million in base management fees and \$121 million in income based fees. There was no capital gains incentive fee earned by our investment adviser as calculated under the investment advisory and management agreement for the year ended December 31, 2015. However, in accordance with GAAP, the Company cumulatively accrued a capital gains incentive fee of \$42 million as of December 31, 2015, all of which was not due under the investment advisory and management agreement.

For the year ended December 31, 2014, we incurred \$128 million in base management fees and \$118 million in income based fees. The capital gains incentive fee as calculated and payable under the investment advisory and management agreement for the year ended December 31, 2014 was \$24 million. However, in accordance with GAAP, the Company cumulatively accrued a capital gains incentive fee of \$93 million as of December 31, 2014, of which \$69 million was not due under the investment advisory and management agreement.

GAAP requires that the capital gains incentive fee accrual consider the cumulative aggregate unrealized capital appreciation in the calculation, as a capital gains incentive fee would be payable if such unrealized capital appreciation were realized, even though such unrealized capital appreciation is not permitted to be considered in calculating the fee actually payable under the investment advisory and management agreement. This GAAP accrual is calculated using the aggregate cumulative realized capital gains and losses and aggregate cumulative unrealized capital depreciation included in the calculation of the capital gains incentive fee actually payable under the investment advisory and management agreement plus the aggregate cumulative unrealized capital appreciation. If such amount is positive at the end of a period, then GAAP requires the Company to record a capital gains incentive fee equal to 20% of such cumulative amount, less the aggregate amount of actual capital gains incentive fees paid or capital gains incentive fees accrued under GAAP in all prior periods. As of March 31, 2017, the Company has paid capital gains incentive fees since inception totaling \$57 million. The resulting accrual for any capital gains incentive fee under GAAP in a given period may result in an additional expense if such cumulative amount is greater than in the prior period or a reversal of previously recorded expense if such cumulative amount is less than in the prior period. If such cumulative amount is negative, then there is no accrual. There can be no assurance that such unrealized capital appreciation will be realized in the future.

Payment of Our Expenses

The services of all investment professionals and staff of our investment adviser, when and to the extent engaged in providing investment advisory and management services to us and routine overhead expenses of such personnel allocable to such services, are provided and paid for by our investment adviser. We bear all other costs and expenses of our operations and transactions, including, but not limited to, those relating to: rent; organization; calculation of our net asset value (including, but not limited to, the cost and expenses of any independent valuation firm); expenses incurred by our investment adviser payable to third parties, including agents, consultants or other advisers, in monitoring our financial and legal affairs and in monitoring our investments (including the cost of consultants hired to develop information technology systems designed to monitor our investments) and performing due diligence on our prospective portfolio companies; interest payable on indebtedness, if any, incurred to finance our investments (including payments to third party vendors for financial information services); offerings of our common stock and other securities; investment advisory and management fees; administration fees; fees payable to third parties, including agents, consultants or other advisers, relating to, or associated with, evaluating and making investments regardless of whether such transactions are ultimately consummated; transfer agent and custodial fees; registration fees; listing fees; taxes; independent directors' fees and expenses; costs of preparing and filing reports or

Table of Contents

other documents with the SEC; the costs of any reports, proxy statements or other notices to stockholders, including printing costs; to the extent we are covered by any joint insurance policies, our allocable portion of the insurance premiums for such policies; direct costs and expenses of administration, including auditor and legal costs; and all other expenses incurred by us or our administrator in connection with administering our business as described in more detail under " Administration Agreement" below.

Duration, Termination and Amendment

At an in-person meeting of our board of directors on March 16, 2011, the form of our current investment advisory and management agreement, including two proposed amendments to our then existing investment advisory and management agreement, was approved by our board of directors with the recommendation that our stockholders vote to approve the proposed amendments. On June 6, 2011, our stockholders approved the proposed amendments, and we entered into a restated investment advisory and management agreement, reflecting such amendments on June 6, 2011. At an in-person meeting of our board of directors on April 26, 2017, our board of directors, including a majority of the directors who are not "interested persons" of the Company as defined in the Investment Company Act, voted to approve the continuation of the investment advisory and management agreement to June 6, 2018. A discussion regarding the basis for our board of directors' approval of the 2011 adoption of the form of our current investment advisory and management agreement is available in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011.

Unless terminated earlier, the investment advisory and management agreement will automatically renew for successive annual periods if approved annually by our board of directors or by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of our outstanding voting securities, including, in either case, approval by a majority of our directors who are not "interested persons" of the Company (as defined in the Investment Company Act). The investment advisory and management agreement will automatically terminate in the event of its assignment. The investment advisory and management agreement may be terminated by either party without penalty upon 60 days' written notice to the other party.

Conflicts of interest may arise if our investment adviser seeks to change the terms of our investment advisory and management agreement, including, for example, the amount of the base management fee, the income based fee, the capital gains incentive fee or other compensation terms. Material amendments to our investment advisory and management agreement must be approved by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of our outstanding voting securities and by a majority of our independent directors, and we may from time to time decide it is appropriate to seek the requisite approval to change the terms of the agreement.

Indemnification

The investment advisory and management agreement provides that, absent willful misfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence in the performance of its duties or by reason of the reckless disregard of its duties and obligations, our investment adviser, its members and their respective officers, managers, partners, agents, employees, controlling persons and members and any other persons or entities affiliated with it are entitled to indemnification from us for any damages, liabilities, costs and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees and amounts reasonably paid in settlement) arising from the rendering of our investment adviser's services under the investment advisory and management agreement or otherwise as our investment adviser.

Table of Contents

Organization of our Investment Adviser

Our investment adviser is a Delaware limited liability company that is registered as an investment adviser under the Advisers Act. The principal executive offices of Ares Capital Management are located at 2000 Avenue of the Stars, 12th Floor, Los Angeles, California 90067.

ADMINISTRATION AGREEMENT

We are also party to an administration agreement with Ares Operations, an affiliate of our investment adviser and a subsidiary of Ares Management. Our board of directors approved the continuation of our administration agreement on April 26, 2017, which extended the term of the agreement until June 1, 2018. Pursuant to the administration agreement, Ares Operations furnishes us with office equipment and clerical, bookkeeping and record keeping services at our office facilities. Under the administration agreement, Ares Operations also performs, or oversees the performance of, our required administrative services, which include, among other things, providing assistance in accounting, legal, compliance, operations, investor relations and technology, being responsible for the financial records that we are required to maintain and preparing reports to our stockholders and reports filed with the SEC. In addition, Ares Operations assists us in determining and publishing our net asset value, assists us in providing managerial assistance to our portfolio companies, oversees the preparation and filing of our tax returns and the printing and dissemination of reports to our stockholders, and generally oversees the payment of our expenses and the performance of administrative and professional services rendered to us by others. Payments under the administration agreement are equal to an amount based upon our allocable portion of Ares Operations' overhead and other expenses (including travel expenses) incurred by Ares Operations in performing its obligations under the administration agreement, including our allocable portion of the compensation of certain of our officers (including our chief compliance officer, chief financial officer, chief accounting officer, general counsel, treasurer and assistant treasurer) and their respective staffs. The administration agreement may be terminated by either party without penalty upon 60 days' written notice to the other party.

For the three months ended March 31, 2017, the Company incurred \$3 million, in administrative fees. In addition, the Company incurred an additional \$3 million in administrative fees related to the integration of the American Capital Acquisition. As of March 31, 2017, \$6 million of these fees were unpaid and included in "accounts payable and other liabilities" in our March 31, 2017 consolidated balance sheet.

For each of the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014, the Company incurred \$14 million in administrative fees. As of December 31, 2016 and 2015, \$4 million and \$4 million of these fees were unpaid and included in "accounts payable and other liabilities" in our December 31, 2016 and 2015 consolidated balance sheets, respectively.

Indemnification

The administration agreement provides that, absent willful misfeasance, bad faith or negligence in the performance of its duties or by reason of the reckless disregard of its duties and obligations, Ares Operations, its members and their respective officers, managers, partners, agents, employees, controlling persons and members and any other persons or entities affiliated with it are entitled to indemnification from us for any damages, liabilities, costs and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees and amounts reasonably paid in settlement) arising from the rendering of Ares Operations' services under the administration agreement or otherwise as our administrator.

Table of Contents

CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS

We have procedures in place for the review, approval and monitoring of transactions involving us and certain persons related to us. For example, we have a code of conduct that generally prohibits any of our officers or directors from engaging in any transaction where there is a conflict between such individual's personal interest and our interests. Waivers to the code of conduct can generally only be obtained from the Chief Compliance Officer, the co-chairs of the board of directors or the chairperson of the audit committee and are publicly disclosed as required by applicable law and regulations. In addition, the audit committee is required to review and approve all related-party transactions (as defined in Item 404 of Regulation S-K).

As a BDC, we are also subject to certain regulatory requirements that restrict our ability to engage in certain related-party transactions. We have separate policies and procedures that have been adopted to ensure that we do not enter into any such prohibited transactions without seeking necessary approvals.

We are party to an investment advisory and management agreement with Ares Capital Management, a subsidiary of Ares Management, an entity in which certain of our directors and officers and members of the investment committee of our investment adviser may have indirect ownership and pecuniary interests. Certain of our directors and officers and members of the investment committee of our investment adviser also serve as officers or principals of other investment managers affiliated with Ares Management that currently, and may in the future, manage investment funds with investment objectives similar to our investment objective. In addition, certain of our directors and officers and members of the investment committee of our investment adviser serve or may serve as officers, directors or principals of entities that operate in the same or related line of business as we do or of investment funds managed by our affiliates. Accordingly, we may not be made aware of and/or be given the opportunity to participate in certain investments made by investment funds managed by advisers affiliated with Ares Management. However, our investment adviser intends to allocate investment opportunities in a fair and equitable manner in accordance with our investment adviser's investment allocation policy. See "Risk Factors Risks Relating to Our Business There are significant potential conflicts of interest that could impact our investment returns."

In connection with the American Capital Acquisition, our investment adviser has agreed to waive, for each of the first ten calendar quarters beginning with the second quarter of 2017, the lesser of (i) \$10 million of the income based fees and (ii) the amount of income based fees for such quarter, in each case to the extent earned and payable by us in such quarter pursuant to and as calculated under the investment advisory and management agreement.

Pursuant to the terms of the administration agreement between Ares Operations and us, Ares Operations, a subsidiary of Ares Management, currently provides us with certain administrative and other services necessary to conduct our day-to-day operations, and we reimburse Ares Operations, at cost, for our allocable portion of overhead and other expenses (including travel expenses) incurred by Ares Operations in performing its obligations under our administration agreement, including our allocable portion of the cost of certain of our officers (including our chief compliance officer, chief financial officer, chief accounting officer, general counsel, secretary and treasurer) and their respective staffs, but not investment professionals.

Our portfolio company, IHAM, is party to an administration agreement with Ares Operations, pursuant to which Ares Operations provides IHAM with, among other things, office facilities, equipment, clerical, bookkeeping and record keeping services, services relating to the marketing and sale of interests in vehicles managed by IHAM, services of, and oversight of, custodians, depositaries, accountants, attorneys, underwriters and such other persons in any other capacity deemed to be necessary. Under the IHAM administration agreement, IHAM reimburses Ares Operations for all of the actual costs associated with such services, including its allocable portion of Ares Operations'

Table of Contents

overhead and the cost of Ares Operations' officers and respective staff in performing its obligations under the IHAM administration agreement.

We are party to office leases pursuant to which we are leasing office facilities from third parties. For certain of these office leases, we have also entered into separate subleases with Ares Management LLC, the sole member of the investment adviser, and IHAM, pursuant to which Ares Management LLC and IHAM sublease a portion of these leases. For the year ended December 31, 2016, amounts payable by Ares Management LLC and IHAM to us under these subleases totaled \$6 million. Ares Management LLC has also entered into separate subleases with us, pursuant to which we sublease certain office leases from Ares Management LLC. For the year ended December 31, 2016, amounts payable to Ares Management LLC under these subleases totaled \$1 million.

We have entered into agreements with Ares Management LLC and IHAM, pursuant to which Ares Management LLC and IHAM are entitled to use our proprietary portfolio management software. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, amounts payable by Ares Management LLC and IHAM to us under these agreements totaled \$0 million.

We have also entered into a license agreement with Ares Management LLC pursuant to which Ares Management LLC has agreed to grant us a non-exclusive, royalty-free license to use the name "Ares." Under this agreement, we will have a right to use the Ares name for so long as Ares Capital Management remains our investment adviser. Other than with respect to this limited license, we have no legal right to the "Ares" name.

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

To our knowledge, as of July 27, 2017, there were no persons that owned 25% or more of our outstanding voting securities and no person would be deemed to control us, as such term is defined in the Investment Company Act.

The following table sets forth, as of July 27, 2017 (unless otherwise noted), the number of shares of our common stock beneficially owned by each of our current directors and named executive officers, all directors, executive officers and certain other officers as a group and certain beneficial owners, according to information furnished to us by such persons or publicly available filings.

Beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with the rules of the SEC and includes voting or investment power with respect to the securities. Ownership information for those persons who beneficially own 5% or more of the outstanding shares of our common stock is based upon Schedule 13D, Schedule 13G, Form 13F or other filings by such persons with the SEC and other information obtained from such persons. To our knowledge, as of July 27, 2017, there were no persons that owned 5% or more of the outstanding shares of our common stock. Except as otherwise noted below, each person named in the following table has sole voting and investment power with respect to all shares of our common stock that he or she beneficially owns.

The address for Messrs. Arougheti, deVeer, Goldstein, Rosen and Smith, Ms. Roll and certain other officers is c/o Ares Capital Corporation, 245 Park Avenue, 44th Floor, New York, New York 10167. The address for each of the other directors, executive officers and certain other officers is c/o Ares Capital Corporation, 2000 Avenue of the Stars, 12th Floor, Los Angeles, California 90067.

Name of Beneficial Owner	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership	Percent of Class(1)
<i>Directors and Named Executive Officers:</i>		
Interested Directors		
Michael J Arougheti	907,647	*
R. Kipp deVeer	175,000(2)	*
Robert L. Rosen	37,398	*
Bennett Rosenthal	255,138(3)	*
Independent Directors		
Steve Bartlett	7,800(4)	*
Ann Torre Bates	13,275(5)	*
Daniel G. Kelly, Jr.	16,472	*
Steven B. McKeever	12,512	*
Eric B. Siegel	37,781(6)	*
Named Executive Officers Who Are Not Directors		
Mitchell Goldstein	208,689(7)	*
Michael L. Smith	151,012	*
Penni F. Roll	70,452(8)	*
All Directors, Executive Officers and Certain Other Officers as a Group (17 persons)	1,967,141(9)	*

*

Represents less than 1%.

(1)

Based on 426,299,165 shares of common stock outstanding as of July 27, 2017.

(2)

The shares of our common stock held by Mr. deVeer have been pledged as security in connection with a line of credit with a third party financial institution unaffiliated with us.

Table of Contents

- (3) Consists of 255,138 shares of common stock indirectly beneficially owned by Mr. Rosenthal through BAR Holdings, LLC of which Mr. Rosenthal is the manager.
- (4) The shares of our common stock held by Mr. Bartlett have been pledged as security in connection with a line of credit with a third party financial institution unaffiliated with us.
- (5) Consists of (i) 11,000 shares of common stock owned directly; and (ii) 2,275 shares of common stock indirectly beneficially owned by Ms. Bates through her spouse.
- (6) Consists of (i) 28,533 shares of common stock owned directly; (ii) 8,166 shares of common stock indirectly beneficially owned by Mr. Siegel through his spouse; and (iii) 1,082 shares of common stock indirectly beneficially owned by Mr. Siegel as a custodian for the accounts of his children. Mr. Siegel has shared voting and investment authority with respect to shares held by his spouse.
- (7) 139,869 shares of our common stock held by Mr. Goldstein have been pledged as security in connection with margin trading accounts.
- (8) Consists of (i) 8,147 shares of common stock owned directly; and (ii) 62,305 shares of common stock indirectly beneficially owned by Ms. Roll through a trust for the benefit of Ms. Roll, her spouse and her children.
- (9) Includes shares owned by our officers that are not "Named Executive Officers," as defined in Item 402 of Regulation S-K, as promulgated under the Securities Act of 1933 ("Regulation S-K").

Table of Contents

DETERMINATION OF NET ASSET VALUE

The net asset value per share of our outstanding shares of common stock is determined quarterly by dividing the value of total assets minus liabilities by the total number of shares outstanding.

Investments for which market quotations are readily available are typically valued at such market quotations. In order to validate market quotations, we look at a number of factors to determine if the quotations are representative of fair value, including the source and nature of the quotations. Debt and equity securities that are not publicly traded or whose market prices are not readily available (*i.e.*, substantially all of our investments) are valued at fair value as determined in good faith by our board of directors, based on, among other things, the input of our investment adviser, audit committee and independent third-party valuation firms that have been engaged at the direction of our board of directors to assist in the valuation of each portfolio investment without a readily available market quotation at least once during a trailing 12-month period (with certain de minimis exceptions) and under a valuation policy and a consistently applied valuation process. We follow ASC 820-10, which expands the application of fair value accounting for investments (see Note 8 to the consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016, and Note 8 to the consolidated financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2017). ASC 820-10 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in accordance with GAAP and expands disclosure of fair value measurements. ASC 820-10 determines fair value to be the price that would be received for an investment in a current sale, which assumes an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. The valuation process is conducted at the end of each fiscal quarter, and a portion of the Company's investment portfolio at fair value is subject to review by an independent valuation firm each quarter. In addition, our independent registered public accounting firm obtains an understanding of, and performs select procedures relating to, our investment valuation process within the context of performing the integrated audit.

As part of the valuation process, we may take into account the following types of factors, if relevant, in determining the fair value of our investments: the enterprise value of a portfolio company (the entire value of the portfolio company to a market participant, including the sum of the values of debt and equity securities used to capitalize the enterprise at a point in time), the nature and realizable value of any collateral, the portfolio company's ability to make payments and its earnings and discounted cash flow, the markets in which the portfolio company does business, a comparison of the portfolio company's securities to similar publicly traded securities, changes in the interest rate environment and the credit markets, which may affect the price at which similar investments would trade in their principal markets and other relevant factors. When an external event such as a purchase transaction, public offering or subsequent equity sale occurs, we consider the pricing indicated by the external event to corroborate our valuation.

Because there is not a readily available market value for most of the investments in our portfolio, we value substantially all of our portfolio investments at fair value as determined in good faith by our board of directors, as described herein. Due to the inherent uncertainty of determining the fair value of investments that do not have a readily available market value, the fair value of our investments may fluctuate from period to period. Additionally, the fair value of our investments may differ significantly from the values that would have been used had a ready market existed for such investments and may differ materially from the values that we may ultimately realize. Further, such investments are generally subject to legal and other restrictions on resale or otherwise are less liquid than publicly traded securities. If we were required to liquidate a portfolio investment in a forced or liquidation sale, we may realize significantly less than the value at which we have previously recorded it.

Table of Contents

In addition, changes in the market environment and other events that may occur over the life of the investments may cause the gains or losses ultimately realized on these investments to be different than the unrealized gains or losses reflected in the valuations currently assigned.

Our board of directors undertakes a multi-step valuation process each quarter, as described below:

Our quarterly valuation process begins with each portfolio company or investment being initially valued by the investment professionals responsible for the portfolio investment in conjunction with our portfolio management team.

Preliminary valuations are reviewed and discussed with our investment adviser's management and investment professionals, and then valuation recommendations are presented to the board of directors.

The audit committee of our board of directors reviews these valuations, as well as the input of third parties, including independent third-party valuation firms who have reviewed a portion of the investments in the Company's portfolio at fair value.

The board of directors discusses valuations and ultimately determines the fair value of each investment in our portfolio without a readily available market quotation in good faith based on, among other things, the input of our investment adviser, audit committee and, where applicable, independent third-party valuation firms.

Table of Contents

DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT PLAN

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

No action is required on the part of a registered stockholder to have their cash dividend reinvested in shares of our common stock. A registered stockholder may elect to receive an entire cash dividend in cash by notifying Computershare Shareowner Services LLC ("Computershare"), the plan administrator and our transfer agent and registrar, in writing so that such notice is received by the plan administrator no later than the record date fixed by the board of directors for dividends to stockholders. The plan administrator will set up an account for shares acquired through the dividend reinvestment plan for each stockholder who has not elected to receive dividends in cash and hold such shares in non-certificated form. Upon request by a stockholder participating in the dividend reinvestment plan, received in writing no later than 10 days prior to the record date, the plan administrator will, instead of crediting fractional shares to the participant's account, issue a check for any fractional share.

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

We intend to use primarily newly issued shares to implement the dividend reinvestment plan (so long as our shares are trading at or at a premium to net asset value). If our shares are trading at a discount to net asset value and we are otherwise permitted under applicable law to purchase such shares, we intend to purchase shares in the open market in connection with our obligations under our dividend reinvestment plan. However, we reserve the right to issue new shares of our common stock in connection with our obligations under the dividend reinvestment plan even if our shares are trading below net asset value. If newly issued shares are used to implement the dividend reinvestment plan, the number of shares to be issued to a stockholder shall be determined by dividing the total dollar amount of the dividend payable to such stockholder by the market price per share of our common stock at the close of regular trading on The NASDAQ Global Select Market on the dividend payment date. Market price per share on that date shall be the closing price for such shares on The NASDAQ Global Select Market or, if no sale is reported for such day, at the average of their reported bid and asked prices. If shares are purchased in the open market to implement the dividend reinvestment plan, the number of shares to be issued to a stockholder shall be determined by dividing the dollar amount of the cash dividend payable to such stockholder by the weighted average price per share for all shares purchased by the plan administrator in the open market in connection with the dividend. The number of shares of our common stock to be outstanding after giving effect to payment of the dividend cannot be established until the value per share at which additional shares will be issued has been determined and elections of our stockholders have been tabulated.

There are no brokerage charges or other charges to stockholders who participate in the dividend reinvestment plan. The plan administrator's fees under the plan are paid by us. If a participant elects by notice to the plan administrator in advance of termination to have the plan administrator sell part or all of the shares held by the plan administrator in the participant's account and remit the proceeds to the participant, the plan administrator is authorized to deduct a transaction fee of up to \$15 plus a \$0.12 per share fee from the proceeds.

Stockholders whose cash dividends are reinvested in shares of our common stock are subject to the same U.S. federal, state and local tax consequences as are stockholders who elect to receive their dividends in cash. A stockholder's initial basis for determining gain or loss upon the sale of stock

Table of Contents

received in a dividend from us will be equal to the total dollar amount of the dividend payable to the stockholder. Any stock received on reinvestment of a cash dividend will have a new holding period for tax purposes commencing on the day following the day on which the shares are credited to the U.S. stockholder's account. See "Certain Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations."

Participants may terminate their accounts under the dividend reinvestment plan by notifying the plan administrator via its website at www.computershare.com/investor, by filling out the transaction request form located at bottom of their statement and sending it to the plan administrator at P.O. Box 30170, College Station, TX 77842-3170 or by calling the plan administrator's hotline at 1-866-365-2497.

The dividend reinvestment plan may be terminated by us upon notice in writing mailed to each participant at least 30 days prior to any record date for the payment of any dividend by us. All correspondence concerning the dividend reinvestment plan should be directed to the plan administrator via the Internet at www.computershare.com/investor, by mail at P.O. Box 30170, College Station, TX 77842-3170 or by telephone at 1-866-365- 2497.

Additional information about the dividend reinvestment plan may be obtained by contacting the plan administrator via the Internet at www.computershare.com/investor, by mail at P.O. Box 30170, College Station, TX 77842-3170 or by telephone at 1-866-365- 2497.

Table of Contents

CERTAIN MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

The following discussion is a general summary of certain material U.S. federal income tax considerations applicable to us and to an investment in shares of our preferred stock or our common stock and our qualification and taxation as a RIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes. This discussion does not purport to be a complete description of all of the tax considerations relating thereto. In particular, we have not described certain considerations that may be relevant to certain types of holders subject to special treatment under U.S. federal income tax laws, including stockholders subject to the alternative minimum tax, tax-exempt organizations, insurance companies, dealers in securities, traders in securities that elect to use a mark-to-market method of accounting for securities holdings, pension plans and trusts, financial institutions, persons who hold our preferred stock and our common stock as part of a straddle or a hedging or conversion transaction, and U.S. stockholders (as defined below) whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar. This discussion assumes that investors hold our preferred stock or common stock as capital assets (within the meaning of the Code). This discussion is based upon the Code, its legislative history, existing and proposed U.S. Treasury regulations, published rulings and court decisions, each as of the date of this prospectus and all of which are subject to change, possibly retroactively, which could affect the continuing validity of this discussion. We have not sought and will not seek any ruling from the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") regarding the offerings pursuant to this prospectus or pursuant to the accompanying prospectus supplement unless expressly stated therein. This discussion does not discuss any aspects of U.S. estate or gift tax or foreign, state or local tax. It does not discuss the special treatment under U.S. federal income tax laws that could result if we invested in tax-exempt securities or certain other investment assets. It also does not discuss the tax aspects of common or preferred stock sold in units with the other securities being registered.

If we issue preferred stock that may be convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for securities or other property or preferred stock with other terms that may have different U.S. federal income tax consequences than those described in this summary, the U.S. federal income tax consequences of such preferred stock will be described in the relevant prospectus supplement. This summary does not discuss the consequences of an investment in our subscription rights, debt securities or warrants representing rights to purchase shares of our preferred stock, common stock or debt securities or as units in combination with such securities. The U.S. federal income tax consequences of such an investment will be discussed in the relevant prospectus supplement.

A "U.S. stockholder" is a beneficial owner of shares of our preferred stock or common stock that is for U.S. federal income tax purposes:

a citizen or individual resident of the United States;

a corporation, or other entity treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, created or organized in or under the laws of the United States or any state thereof or the District of Columbia;

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

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

A "non-U.S. stockholder" is a beneficial owner of shares of our preferred stock or common stock that is neither a U.S. stockholder nor an entity treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Table of Contents

If a partnership (including an entity treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes) holds shares of our preferred stock or common stock, the tax treatment of a partner in the partnership will generally depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. Prospective beneficial owners of shares of our preferred or common stock that are partnerships or partners in such partnerships should consult their own tax advisers with respect to the purchase, ownership and disposition of shares of our preferred stock or common stock.

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

ELECTION TO BE TAXED AS A RIC

As a BDC, we have elected to be treated as a RIC under the Code. As a RIC, we generally will not pay corporate-level income taxes on our income and net capital gains that we distribute to our stockholders as dividends on a timely basis. We will be subject to U.S. federal corporate-level income tax on any undistributed income and/or gains. To continue to qualify as a RIC, we must, among other things, meet certain source of income and asset diversification requirements (as described below). In addition, we must distribute to our stockholders, for each taxable year, generally an amount equal to at least 90% of our "investment company taxable income," as defined by the Code. See "Risk Factors Risks Relating to Our Business We may be subject to additional corporate-level income taxes if we fail to maintain our status as a RIC."

TAXATION AS A RIC

If we:

qualify as a RIC; and

satisfy the Annual Distribution Requirement;

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

We will be subject to a 4% nondeductible U.S. federal excise tax on certain undistributed income unless we distribute in a timely manner an amount at least equal to the sum of (1) 98% of our ordinary income for each calendar year, (2) 98.2% of our capital gain net income for the one-year period ending October 31 in that calendar year and (3) any income recognized, but not distributed, in preceding years (collectively, the "Excise Tax Requirement"). We have paid in the past, and can be expected to pay in the future, such excise tax on a portion of our income.

Moreover, our ability to dispose of assets to meet our distribution requirements may be limited by (1) the illiquid nature of our portfolio and (2) other requirements relating to our status as a RIC, including the Diversification Tests (as defined below). If we dispose of assets to meet the Annual Distribution Requirement, the Diversification Tests, or the Excise Tax Requirement, we may make such dispositions at times that, from an investment standpoint, are not advantageous.

To qualify as a RIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes, we generally must, among other things:

qualify to be treated as a BDC at all times during each taxable year;

Table of Contents

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

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

at least 50% of the value of our assets consists of cash, cash equivalents, U.S. Government securities, securities of other RICs and other securities that, with respect to any issuer, do not represent more than 5% of the value of our assets or more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of that issuer; and

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

We may be required to recognize taxable income in circumstances in which we do not receive cash, such as income from hedging or foreign currency transactions. For example, if we hold debt obligations that are treated under applicable tax rules as having original issue discount (such as debt instruments with PIK interest or, in certain cases, that have increasing interest rates or that are issued with warrants), we must include in income each year a portion of the original issue discount that accrues over the life of the obligation, regardless of whether cash representing such income is received by us in the same taxable year. Because any original issue discount or other amounts accrued will be included in our investment company taxable income for the year of accrual, we may be required to make a distribution to our stockholders in order to satisfy the Annual Distribution Requirement and/or the Excise Tax Requirement, even though we will not have received any corresponding cash amount.

Furthermore, a portfolio company in which we invest may face financial difficulty that requires us to work-out, modify or otherwise restructure our investment in the portfolio company. Any such restructuring could, depending on the specific terms of the restructuring, result in unusable capital losses and future non-cash income.

In addition, certain of our investment practices may be subject to special and complex U.S. federal income tax provisions that may, among other things, (a) disallow, suspend or otherwise limit the allowance of certain losses or deductions, (b) convert long-term capital gain (currently taxed at lower rates for non-corporate taxpayers) into higher taxed short-term capital gain or ordinary income, (c) convert an ordinary loss or a deduction into a capital loss (the deductibility of which is more limited), (d) adversely affect the time when a purchase or sale of stock or securities is deemed to occur or (e) adversely alter the characterization of certain complex financial transactions. We will monitor our transactions and may make certain tax elections in order to mitigate the effects of these provisions; however, no assurance can be given that we will be eligible for any such tax elections or that any elections we make will fully mitigate the effects of these provisions.

Gain or loss recognized by us from warrants acquired by us as well as any loss attributable to the lapse of such warrants generally will be treated as capital gain or loss. Such gain or loss generally will be long-term or short-term, depending on how long we held a particular warrant.

Our investment in non-U.S. securities may be subject to non-U.S. income, withholding and other taxes. In that case, our yield on those securities would be decreased. Stockholders will generally not be entitled to claim a U.S. foreign tax credit or deduction with respect to non-U.S. taxes paid by us.

Table of Contents

If we purchase shares in a "passive foreign investment company" (a "PFIC"), we may be subject to U.S. federal income tax on a portion of any "excess distribution" or gain from the disposition of such shares, even if such income is distributed as a taxable dividend by us to our stockholders. Additional charges in the nature of interest may be imposed on us in respect of deferred taxes arising from such distributions or gains. If we invest in a PFIC and elect to treat the PFIC as a "qualified electing fund" under the Code (a "QEF"), in lieu of the foregoing requirements, we will be required to include in income each year a portion of the ordinary earnings and net capital gain of the QEF, even if such income is not distributed to us. Alternatively, we may elect to mark-to-market at the end of each taxable year our shares in such PFIC; in this case, we will recognize as ordinary income any increase in the value of such shares, and as ordinary loss any decrease in such value to the extent it does not exceed prior increases included in income. Our ability to make either election will depend on factors beyond our control, and we are subject to limitations which may limit the availability or benefit of these elections. Under either election, we may be required to recognize in any year income in excess of our distributions from PFICs and our proceeds from dispositions of PFIC stock during that year, and such income will nevertheless be subject to the Annual Distribution Requirement and will be taken into account for purposes of determining whether we satisfy the Excise Tax Requirement.

Our functional currency is the U.S. dollar for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Under Section 988 of the Code, gains or losses attributable to fluctuations in exchange rates between the time we accrue income, expenses or other liabilities denominated in a foreign currency and the time we actually collect such income or pay such expenses or liabilities may be treated as ordinary income or loss. Similarly, gains or losses on foreign currency forward contracts, the disposition of debt denominated in a foreign currency and other financial transactions denominated in foreign currency, to the extent attributable to fluctuations in exchange rates between the acquisition and disposition dates, may also be treated as ordinary income or loss.

If we borrow money, we may be prevented by loan covenants from declaring and paying dividends in certain circumstances. Even if we are authorized to borrow funds and to sell assets in order to satisfy distribution requirements, under the Investment Company Act, we generally are not permitted to make distributions to our stockholders while our debt obligations and senior securities are outstanding unless certain "asset coverage" tests or other financial covenants are met. Limits on our payment of dividends may prevent us from meeting the Annual Distribution Requirement, and may, therefore, jeopardize our qualification for taxation as a RIC, or subject us to the 4% excise tax on undistributed income.

Some of the income and fees that we recognize, such as management fees, may not satisfy the 90% Income Test. In order to ensure that such income and fees do not disqualify us as a RIC for a failure to satisfy the 90% Income Test, we may be required to recognize such income or fees through one or more entities treated as U.S. corporations for U.S. federal income tax purposes. While we expect that recognizing such income through such corporations will assist us in satisfying the 90% Income Test, no assurance can be given that this structure will be respected for U.S. federal income tax purposes, which could result in such income not being counted towards satisfying the 90% Income Test. If the amount of such income was too great and we were otherwise unable to mitigate this effect, it could result in our disqualification as a RIC. If, as we expect, the structure is respected, such corporations will be required to pay U.S. corporate income tax on their earnings, which ultimately will reduce the yield on such income and fees.

If we fail to satisfy the 90% Income Test or the Diversification Tests in any taxable year, we may be eligible for relief provisions if the failures are due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect and if a penalty tax is paid with respect to each failure to satisfy the applicable requirements. Additionally, relief is provided for certain *de minimis* failures of the diversification requirements where we correct the failure within a specified period. If the applicable relief provisions are not available or cannot be met, all of our income would be subject to corporate-level income tax as described below. We cannot provide assurance that we would qualify for any such relief should we fail the 90% Income Test or the Diversification Test.

Table of Contents

If we fail to satisfy the Annual Distribution Requirement or otherwise fail to qualify as a RIC in any taxable year, and are not eligible for relief as described above, we will be subject to tax in that year on all of our taxable income, regardless of whether we make any distributions to our stockholders. In that case, all of our income will be subject to corporate-level income tax, reducing the amount available to be distributed to our stockholders. In contrast, assuming we qualify as a RIC, our U.S. federal corporate-level income tax should be substantially reduced or eliminated. See "Election to Be Taxed as a RIC" above and "Risk Factors Risks Relating to Our Business We may be subject to additional corporate-level income taxes if we fail to maintain our status as a RIC."

Capital Loss Carryforwards and Unrealized Losses

As a RIC, we are permitted to carry forward a net capital loss realized in a taxable year beginning on or before January 1, 2011 to offset our capital gain, if any, realized during the eight years following the year of the loss. A capital loss carryforward realized in a taxable year beginning before January 1, 2011 is treated as a short-term capital loss in the year to which it is carried. We are permitted to carry forward a net capital loss realized in taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2011 to offset capital gain indefinitely. For net capital losses realized in taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2011, the excess of our net short-term capital loss over our net long-term capital gain is treated as a short-term capital loss arising on the first day of our next taxable year and the excess of our net long-term capital loss over our net short-term capital gain is treated as a long-term capital loss arising on the first day of our next taxable year. If future capital gain is offset by carried-forward capital losses, such future capital gain is not subject to fund-level U.S. federal income tax, regardless of whether distributed to stockholders. A RIC cannot carry back or carry forward any net operating losses.

It is believed that transactions we have undertaken, including the Allied Acquisition, have resulted in a limitation on our ability to use both our own and Allied Capital's capital loss carryforwards and, potentially, to use unrealized capital losses inherent in the tax basis of our own pre-acquisition assets and Allied Capital's assets we acquired. These limitations, imposed by Section 383 of the Code and based on the principles of Section 382 of the Code, are imposed on an annual basis. Losses in excess of the limitation may be carried forward, subject to the overall eight-year limitation. The Section 382 limitation applied to our and Allied Capital's losses generally will equal the product of the net asset value of each corporation immediately prior to the Allied Acquisition, respectively, and the "long-term tax-exempt rate," published by the IRS, in effect at such time. As of April 2010, the month during which the Allied Acquisition was consummated, the long-term tax-exempt rate was 4.03%. Additionally, under Section 384 of the Code, we may also be prohibited from using Allied Capital's loss carryforwards and unrealized losses against any of our unrealized gains at the time of the Allied Acquisition, to the extent such gains are realized within five years following the Allied Acquisition. While our ability to utilize losses in the future depends upon a variety of factors that cannot be known in advance, because capital loss carryforwards realized in taxable years beginning before January 1, 2011 generally expire eight taxable years following recognition, substantially all of our and Allied Capital's losses may become permanently unavailable. Future transactions we enter into may further limit our ability to utilize losses.

As of December 31, 2016, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, we had capital loss carryforwards of approximately \$0.1 billion and other losses limited under Sections 382 and 384 of the Code of approximately \$0.3 billion. These amounts are estimates and will not be finally determined until we file our 2016 income tax return in 2017.

TAXATION OF U.S. STOCKHOLDERS

Whether an investment in the shares of our preferred stock or common stock is appropriate for a U.S. stockholder will depend upon that person's particular circumstances. An investment in the shares of our preferred stock or common stock by a U.S. stockholder may have adverse tax

Table of Contents

consequences. The following summary generally describes certain U.S. federal income tax consequences of an investment in shares of our preferred stock and common stock by taxable U.S. stockholders and not by U.S. stockholders that generally are exempt from U.S. federal income taxation. U.S. stockholders should consult their own tax advisors before investing in shares of our preferred stock or common stock.

Distributions on Our Preferred Stock and Common Stock

Distributions by us generally are taxable to U.S. stockholders as ordinary income or long-term capital gain. Distributions of our investment company taxable income (which is, generally, our ordinary income excluding net capital gain) will be taxable as ordinary income to U.S. stockholders to the extent of our current and accumulated earnings and profits, whether paid in cash or reinvested in additional shares of our common stock. Distributions of our net capital gain (which generally is the excess of our net long-term capital gain over our net short-term capital loss) properly reported by us as "capital gain dividends" will be taxable to U.S. stockholders as long-term capital gains (which, under current law, are taxed at preferential rates in the case of individuals, trusts or estates). This is true regardless of U.S. stockholders' holding periods for their preferred stock or common stock and regardless of whether the dividend is paid in cash or reinvested in additional common stock. Distributions in excess of our earnings and profits first will reduce a U.S. stockholder's adjusted tax basis in such stockholder's preferred stock or common stock and, after the adjusted tax basis is reduced to zero, will constitute capital gain to such U.S. stockholder. We have made distributions in excess of our earnings and profits and may continue to do so in the future. As a result, a U.S. stockholder will need to consider the effect of our distributions on such U.S. stockholder's adjusted tax basis in our preferred stock or common stock in their individual circumstances.

A portion of our ordinary income dividends, but not capital gain dividends, paid to corporate U.S. stockholders may, if certain conditions are met, qualify for the 70% dividends-received deduction to the extent that we have received dividends from certain corporations during the taxable year, but only to the extent such ordinary income dividends are treated as paid out of our earnings and profits. We expect only a small portion of our dividends to qualify for this deduction. A corporate U.S. stockholder may be required to reduce its basis on its preferred stock with respect to certain "extraordinary dividends," as provided under Section 1059 of the Code. Corporate U.S. stockholders should consult their own tax advisors in determining the application of these rules in their particular circumstances.

In general, "qualified dividend income" realized by non-corporate U.S. stockholders is taxable at the same rate as net capital gain. Generally, qualified dividend income is dividend income attributable to certain U.S. and foreign corporations, as long as certain holding period requirements are met. As long as certain requirements are met, our dividends paid to non-corporate U.S. stockholders attributable to qualified dividend income may be treated by such U.S. stockholders as qualified dividend income, but only to the extent such ordinary income dividends are treated as paid out of our earnings and profits. We expect only a small portion of our dividends to qualify as qualified dividend income.

Although we currently intend to distribute any of our net capital gain for each taxable year on a timely basis, we may in the future decide to retain some or all of our net capital gain, and may designate the retained amount as a "deemed distribution." In that case, among other consequences, we will pay tax on the retained amount, each U.S. stockholder will be required to include such stockholder's share of the deemed distribution in income as if it had been actually distributed to the U.S. stockholder, and the U.S. stockholder will be entitled to claim a credit equal to such stockholder's allocable share of the tax paid thereon by us. The amount of the deemed distribution net of such tax will be added to the U.S. stockholder's adjusted tax basis for such stockholder's preferred stock or common stock.

Table of Contents

Because we expect to pay tax on any retained net capital gain at our regular corporate tax rate, and because that rate currently is in excess of the maximum rate currently payable by individuals on net capital gain, the amount of tax that individual stockholders will be treated as having paid and for which they will receive a credit would exceed the tax they owe on the retained net capital gain. Such excess generally may be claimed as a credit against a U.S. stockholder's other U.S. federal income tax obligations or may be refunded to the extent it exceeds the stockholder's liability for U.S. federal income tax. A U.S. stockholder that is not subject to U.S. federal income tax or otherwise is not required to file a U.S. federal income tax return would be required to file a U.S. federal income tax return on the appropriate form in order to claim a refund for the taxes we paid. In order to utilize the deemed distribution approach, we must provide a written statement to our stockholders reporting the deemed distribution after the close of the relevant taxable year. We cannot treat any of our investment company taxable income as a "deemed distribution."

We will be subject to the alternative minimum tax, also referred to as the "AMT," but any items that are treated differently for AMT purposes must be apportioned between us and our stockholders and this may affect U.S. stockholders' AMT liabilities. Although regulations explaining the precise method of apportionment have not yet been issued, such items generally will be apportioned in the same proportion that dividends paid to each stockholder bear to our taxable income (determined without regard to the dividends paid deduction), unless a different method for a particular item is warranted under the circumstances.

For purposes of determining (1) whether the Annual Distribution Requirement is satisfied for any year and (2) the amount of dividends paid for that year, we may, under certain circumstances, elect to treat a dividend that is paid during the following taxable year as if it had been paid during the taxable year in question. If we make such an election, the U.S. stockholder will still be treated as receiving the dividend in the taxable year in which the distribution is made. However, any dividend declared by us in October, November or December of any calendar year, payable to stockholders of record on a specified date in such a month and actually paid during January of the following year, will be treated as if it had been received by our U.S. stockholders on December 31 of the year in which the dividend was declared.

We have the ability to declare a large portion of a dividend in shares of our stock. As long as a portion of such dividend is paid in cash and certain requirements are met, the entire distribution will be treated as a dividend for U.S. federal income tax purposes. As a result, our stockholders will be taxed on 100% of the fair market value of the dividend on the date the dividend is received in the same manner as a cash dividend, even though most of the dividend was paid in shares of our stock, which may result in our U.S. stockholders having to pay tax on such dividends, even if no cash is received, and our non-U.S. stockholders may be subject to withholding tax in respect of amounts distributed in our common stock. In general, any dividend on shares of our preferred stock will be taxable as a dividend, regardless of whether any portion is paid in stock.

If investors purchase shares of our preferred stock or common stock shortly before the record date of a distribution, the price of the shares will include the value of the distribution and the investors will be subject to tax on the distribution even though it represents a return of their investment. We have built-up or have the potential to build up large amounts of unrealized gain which, when realized and distributed, could have the effect of a taxable return of capital to stockholders.

Sale or Other Disposition of Our Preferred Stock or Common Stock

A U.S. stockholder generally will recognize taxable gain or loss if the U.S. stockholder sells or otherwise disposes of such stockholder's shares of our preferred stock or common stock. The amount of gain or loss will be measured by the difference between such stockholder's adjusted tax basis in the stock sold and the amount of the proceeds received in exchange. Any gain arising from such sale or

Table of Contents

disposition generally will be treated as long-term capital gain or loss if the stockholder has held such stockholder's shares for more than one year. Otherwise, such gain or loss will be classified as short-term capital gain or loss. However, any capital loss arising from the sale or disposition of shares of our preferred stock or common stock held for six months or less will be treated as long-term capital loss to the extent of the amount of capital gain dividends received, or undistributed capital gain deemed received, with respect to such shares. In addition, all or a portion of any loss recognized upon a disposition of shares of our preferred stock or common stock may be disallowed if substantially identical stock or securities are purchased (whether through reinvestment of distributions or otherwise) within 30 days before or after the disposition.

In general, U.S. stockholders that are individuals, trusts or estates are taxed at preferential rates on their net capital gain (generally, the excess of net long-term capital gain over net short-term capital loss for a taxable year, including long-term capital gain derived from an investment in our shares). Such rate is lower than the maximum rate on ordinary income currently payable by individuals. Corporate U.S. stockholders currently are subject to U.S. federal income tax on net capital gain at the maximum rate that also applies to ordinary income. Non-corporate U.S. stockholders with net capital losses for a year (i.e., capital loss in excess of capital gain) generally may deduct up to \$3,000 of such losses against their ordinary income each year; any net capital losses of a non-corporate U.S. stockholder in excess of \$3,000 generally may be carried forward and used in subsequent years as provided in the Code. Corporate U.S. stockholders generally may not deduct any net capital losses for a year, but may carry back such losses for three years or carry forward such losses for five years.

Information Reporting and Backup Withholding

We will send to each of our U.S. stockholders, after the end of each calendar year, a notice providing, on a per share and per distribution basis, the amounts includible in such U.S. stockholder's taxable income for such year as ordinary income and as long-term capital gain. In addition, the U.S. federal tax status of each year's distributions generally will be reported to the IRS. Distributions may also be subject to additional state, local and foreign taxes depending on a U.S. stockholder's particular situation.

We may be required to withhold U.S. federal income tax ("backup withholding") from all taxable distributions to any non-corporate U.S. stockholder (1) who fails to furnish us with a correct taxpayer identification number or a certificate that such stockholder is exempt from backup withholding or (2) with respect to whom the IRS notifies us has failed to properly report certain interest and dividend income to the IRS and to respond to notices to that effect. An individual's taxpayer identification number is his or her social security number. Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amount withheld under backup withholding is allowed as a credit against the U.S. stockholder's U.S. federal income tax liability and may entitle such stockholder to a refund, provided that proper information is timely provided to the IRS.

Medicare Tax on Net Investment Income

An additional 3.8% tax is imposed on the "net investment income" of certain U.S. holders who are citizens and resident aliens, and on the undistributed "net investment income" of certain estates and trusts. Among other items, "net investment income" includes generally taxable distributions or deemed distributions of stock, such as our preferred stock and our common stock, as well as taxable gain on the disposition of stock, including our preferred stock or common stock.

Withholding and Information Reporting on Foreign Financial Accounts

Pursuant to Sections 1471 to 1474 of the Code and the U.S. Treasury regulations thereunder, the relevant withholding agent generally will be required to withhold 30% of any dividends on our

Table of Contents

preferred stock and common stock and, after December 31, 2018, 30% of the gross proceeds from a sale of our preferred stock and common stock to (i) a foreign financial institution (whether such financial institution is the beneficial owner or an intermediary) unless such foreign financial institution agrees to verify, report and disclose its U.S. accountholders and meets certain other specified requirements or (ii) a non-financial foreign entity (whether such entity is the beneficial owner or an intermediary) unless such entity certifies that it does not have any substantial U.S. owners or provides the name, address and taxpayer identification number of each substantial U.S. owner and such entity meets certain other specified requirements. In certain cases, the relevant foreign financial institution or non-financial foreign entity may qualify for an exemption from, or be deemed to be in compliance with, these rules. Certain jurisdictions have entered into agreements with the United States that may supplement or modify these rules. We will not pay any additional amounts in respect to any amounts withheld.

Reportable Transactions

Under U.S. Treasury regulations, if a stockholder recognizes a loss with respect to shares of \$2 million or more for a non-corporate stockholder or \$10 million or more for a corporate stockholder in any single taxable year (or a greater loss over a combination of years), the stockholder must file with the IRS a disclosure statement on Form 8886. Direct stockholders of certain portfolio securities in many cases are excepted from this reporting requirement, but under current guidance, stockholders of a RIC are not excepted. Future guidance may extend the current exception from this reporting requirement to stockholders of most or all RICs. The fact that a loss is reportable under these regulations does not affect the legal determination of whether the taxpayer's treatment of the loss is proper. Significant monetary penalties apply to a failure to comply with this reporting requirement. States may also have a similar reporting requirement. Stockholders should consult their own tax advisors to determine the applicability of these regulations in light of their individual circumstances.

TAXATION OF NON-U.S. STOCKHOLDERS

Whether an investment in shares of our preferred stock or common stock is appropriate for a non-U.S. stockholder will depend upon that person's particular circumstances. An investment in shares of our preferred stock or common stock by a non-U.S. stockholder may have adverse tax consequences and, accordingly, may not be appropriate for a non-U.S. stockholder. Non-U.S. stockholders should consult their own tax advisors before investing in our preferred stock or common stock.

Distributions on our Preferred Stock or Common Stock

Distributions of our investment company taxable income to non-U.S. stockholders will be subject to U.S. withholding tax (unless lowered or eliminated by an applicable income tax treaty) to the extent payable from our current and accumulated earnings and profits unless an exception applies.

If a non-U.S. stockholder receives distributions and such distributions are effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business of the non-U.S. stockholder and, if an income tax treaty applies, attributable to a permanent establishment in the United States of such non-U.S. stockholder, such distributions generally will be subject to U.S. federal income tax at the rates applicable to U.S. persons. In that case, we will not be required to withhold U.S. federal income tax if the non-U.S. stockholder complies with applicable certification and disclosure requirements. Special certification requirements apply to a non-U.S. stockholder that is a foreign trust and such entities are urged to consult their own tax advisors.

Actual or deemed distributions of our net capital gain (which generally is the excess of our net long-term capital gain over our net short-term capital loss) to a non-U.S. stockholder, and gains recognized by a non-U.S. stockholder upon the sale of our preferred stock or common stock, will not

Table of Contents

be subject to withholding of U.S. federal income tax and generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax unless (a) the distributions or gains, as the case may be, are effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business of the non-U.S. stockholder and, if an income tax treaty applies, are attributable to a permanent establishment maintained by the non-U.S. stockholder in the United States (as discussed above) or (b) the non-U.S. stockholder is an individual, has been present in the United States for 183 days or more during the taxable year, and certain other conditions are satisfied. For a corporate non-U.S. stockholder, distributions (both actual and deemed), and gains recognized upon the sale of our preferred stock or common stock that are effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business may, under certain circumstances, be subject to an additional "branch profits tax" (unless lowered or eliminated by an applicable income tax treaty). Non-U.S. stockholders of our preferred stock or common stock are encouraged to consult their own advisors as to the applicability of an income tax treaty in their individual circumstances.

In general, no U.S. source withholding taxes will be imposed on dividends paid by RICs to non-U.S. stockholders to the extent the dividends are designated as "interest-related dividends" or "short-term capital gain dividends." Under this exemption, interest-related dividends and short-term capital gain dividends generally represent distributions of interest or short-term capital gain that would not have been subject to U.S. withholding tax at the source if they had been received directly by a non-U.S. stockholder, and that satisfy certain other requirements. No assurance can be given that we will distribute any interest-related or short-term capital gain dividends.

If we distribute our net capital gain in the form of deemed rather than actual distributions (which we may do in the future), a non-U.S. stockholder will be entitled to a U.S. federal income tax credit or tax refund equal to the non-U.S. stockholder's allocable share of the tax we pay on the capital gain deemed to have been distributed. In order to obtain the refund, the non-U.S. stockholder must obtain a U.S. taxpayer identification number (if one has not been previously obtained) and file a U.S. federal income tax return even if the non-U.S. stockholder would not otherwise be required to obtain a U.S. taxpayer identification number or file a U.S. federal income tax return.

We have the ability to declare a large portion of a dividend in shares of our common stock. As long as a portion of such dividend is paid in cash (which portion could be as low as 20%) and certain requirements are met, the entire distribution will be treated as a dividend for U.S. federal income tax purposes. As a result, our non-U.S. stockholders will be taxed on 100% of the fair market value of the dividend on the date the dividend is received in the same manner as a cash dividend (including the application of withholding tax rules described above), even though most of the dividend was paid in shares of our common stock. In such a circumstance, we may be required to withhold all or substantially all of the cash we would otherwise distribute to a non-U.S. stockholder. In general, any dividend on shares of our preferred stock will be taxable as a dividend, regardless of whether any portion is paid in stock.

A non-U.S. stockholder who is otherwise subject to withholding of U.S. federal income tax may be subject to information reporting and backup withholding of U.S. federal income tax on dividends unless the non-U.S. stockholder provides us or the dividend paying agent with an IRS Form W-8BEN or W-8BEN-E (or an acceptable substitute form) or otherwise meets documentary evidence requirements for establishing that it is a non-U.S. stockholder or otherwise establishes an exemption from backup withholding.

Pursuant to Sections 1471 to 1474 of the Code and the U.S. Treasury regulations thereunder, the relevant withholding agent generally will be required to withhold 30% of any dividends paid on our preferred stock and common stock and, after December 31, 2018, 30% of the gross proceeds from a sale of our preferred stock and common stock to (i) a foreign financial institution unless such foreign financial institution agrees to verify, report and disclose its U.S. accountholders and meets certain other specified requirements or (ii) a non-financial foreign entity that is the beneficial owner of the payment

Table of Contents

unless such entity certifies that it does not have any substantial U.S. owners or provides the name, address and taxpayer identification number of each substantial U.S. owner and such entity meets certain other specified requirements. If payment of this withholding tax is made, non-U.S. stockholders that are otherwise eligible for an exemption from, or reduction of, U.S. federal withholding taxes with respect to such dividends or proceeds will be required to seek a credit or refund from the IRS to obtain the benefit of such exemption or reduction. In certain cases, the relevant foreign financial institution or non-financial foreign entity may qualify for an exemption from, or be deemed to be in compliance with, these rules. Certain jurisdictions have entered into agreements with the United States that may supplement or modify these rules. Non-U.S. stockholders should consult their own tax advisers regarding the particular consequences to them of this legislation and guidance. We will not pay any additional amounts in respect to any amounts withheld.

FAILURE TO QUALIFY AS A RIC

If we were unable to qualify for treatment as a RIC, and relief were not available as discussed above, we would be subject to tax on all of our taxable income at regular corporate rates. We would not be able to deduct distributions to stockholders and would not be required to make distributions for tax purposes. Distributions generally would be taxable to our stockholders as ordinary dividend income to the extent of our current and accumulated earnings and profits. Subject to certain limitations under the Code, corporate U.S. stockholders would be eligible for the dividends-received deduction. Distributions in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits would be treated first as a return of capital to the extent of the stockholder's tax basis, and any remaining distributions would be treated as a capital gain. If we were to fail to meet the RIC requirements for more than two consecutive years and then sought to requalify as a RIC, we would be subject to tax on any unrealized net built-in gains in the assets held by us during the period in which we failed to qualify as a RIC that are recognized within the subsequent 10 years, unless we make a special election to pay corporate-level tax on such built-in gains at the time of our requalification as a RIC.

POSSIBLE LEGISLATIVE OR OTHER ACTIONS AFFECTING TAX CONSIDERATIONS

Prospective investors should recognize that the present U.S. federal income tax treatment of an investment in shares of our preferred stock or common stock may be modified by legislative, judicial or administrative action at any time, and that any such action may affect investments and commitments previously made. The rules dealing with U.S. federal income taxation are constantly under review by persons involved in the legislative process and by the IRS and the U.S. Treasury Department, resulting in revisions of regulations and revised interpretations of established concepts as well as statutory changes. Revisions in U.S. federal tax laws and interpretations thereof could adversely affect the tax consequences of an investment in us.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES

This prospectus contains a summary of the common stock, preferred stock, subscription rights, debt securities, warrants and units. These summaries are not meant to be a complete description of each security. However, this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement will contain the material terms and conditions for each security.

Table of Contents**DESCRIPTION OF OUR CAPITAL STOCK**

The following description is based on relevant portions of the Maryland General Corporation Law and on our charter and bylaws. This summary is not necessarily complete, and we refer you to the Maryland General Corporation Law and our charter and bylaws for a more detailed description of the provisions summarized below.

STOCK

Our authorized stock consists of 600,000,000 shares of stock, par value \$0.001 per share, all of which are currently designated as common stock. Our common stock trades on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "ARCC." On July 27, 2017, the last reported sales price of our common stock on The NASDAQ Global Select Market was \$16.43 per share. There are no outstanding options or warrants to purchase our stock. No stock has been authorized for issuance under any equity compensation plans. Under Maryland law, our stockholders generally are not personally liable for our indebtedness or obligations.

Under our charter, our board of directors is authorized to classify any unissued shares of stock and reclassify any previously classified but unissued shares of stock into one or more classes or series of stock and authorize the issuance of shares of stock without obtaining stockholder approval. As permitted by the Maryland General Corporation Law, our charter provides that a majority of the entire board of directors, without any action by our stockholders, may amend the charter from time to time to increase or decrease the aggregate number of shares of stock or the number of shares of stock of any class or series that we have authority to issue.

Common Stock

All shares of our common stock have equal rights as to earnings, assets, dividends and voting and, when they are issued, will be duly authorized, validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable. Distributions may be paid to the holders of our common stock if, as and when authorized by our board of directors and declared by us out of funds legally available therefor. Shares of our common stock have no preemptive, exchange, conversion or redemption rights and are freely transferable, except where their transfer is restricted by federal and state securities laws or by contract.

In the event of our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, each share of our common stock would be entitled to share ratably in all of our assets that are legally available for distribution after we pay off all indebtedness and other liabilities and subject to any preferential rights of holders of our preferred stock, if any preferred stock is outstanding at such time.

Each share of our common stock is entitled to one vote on all matters submitted to a vote of stockholders, including the election of directors. Except as provided with respect to any other class or series of stock, the holders of our common stock will possess exclusive voting power. There is no cumulative voting in the election of directors, which means that holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of common stock can elect all of our directors, and holders of less than a majority of such shares will be unable to elect any director.

The following are our outstanding classes of capital stock as of July 27, 2017:

(1) Title of Class	(2) Amount Authorized	(3) Amount Held by Registrant or for its Account	(4) Amount Outstanding Exclusive of Amount Shown Under Column (3)
Common Stock	600,000,000		426,299,165

Table of Contents

Preferred Stock

Our charter authorizes our board of directors to classify any unissued shares of stock and reclassify any previously classified but unissued shares of stock into other classes or series of stock, including preferred stock. Prior to issuance of shares of each class or series, the board of directors is required by Maryland law and by our charter to set the terms, preferences, conversion or other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends or other distributions, qualifications and terms or conditions of redemption for each class or series. Thus, our board of directors could authorize the issuance of shares of our preferred stock with terms and conditions that could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a transaction or a change in control that might involve a premium price for holders of our common stock or otherwise be in their best interest.

You should note, however, that any issuance of preferred stock must comply with the requirements of the Investment Company Act. The Investment Company Act requires, among other things, that (a) immediately after issuance and before any dividend or other distribution is made with respect to our common stock and before any purchase of common stock is made, such preferred stock together with all other indebtedness and senior securities must not exceed an amount equal to 50% of our total assets after deducting the amount of such dividend, distribution or purchase price, as the case may be and (b) the holders of shares of preferred stock, if any are issued, must be entitled as a class to elect two directors at all times and to elect a majority of the directors if dividends on such preferred stock are in arrears by two years or more. Certain matters under the Investment Company Act require the separate vote of the holders of any issued and outstanding preferred stock. For example, holders of preferred stock would vote separately from the holders of common stock on a proposal to cease operations as a BDC. We believe that the availability for issuance of preferred stock may provide us with increased flexibility in structuring future financings and acquisitions.

LIMITATION ON LIABILITY OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS; INDEMNIFICATION AND ADVANCE OF EXPENSES

Maryland law permits a Maryland corporation to include in its charter a provision limiting the liability of its directors and officers to the corporation and its stockholders for money damages except for liability resulting from (a) actual receipt of an improper benefit or profit in money, property or services or (b) active and deliberate dishonesty established by a final adjudication as being material to the cause of action. Our charter contains such a provision, which eliminates directors' and officers' liability to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law, subject to the requirements of the Investment Company Act.

Our charter authorizes us to obligate ourselves, and our bylaws obligate us, to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law and subject to the requirements of the Investment Company Act, to indemnify any present or former director or officer or any individual who, while a director or officer and at our request, serves or has served another corporation, real estate investment trust, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other enterprise as a director, officer, partner or trustee, from and against any claim or liability to which that person may become subject or which that person may incur by reason of his or her service in that capacity and to pay or reimburse his or her reasonable expenses in advance of final disposition of a proceeding. The charter and bylaws also permit us to indemnify and advance expenses to any person who served a predecessor of us in any of the capacities described above and any of our employees or agents or any employees or agents of our predecessor. In accordance with the Investment Company Act, we will not indemnify any person for any liability to which such person would be subject by reason of such person's willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of his or her office.

In addition to the indemnification provided for in our bylaws, we have entered into indemnification agreements with each of our current directors and certain of our officers and with

Table of Contents

members of our investment adviser's investment committee and we intend to enter into indemnification agreements with each of our future directors, members of our investment committee and certain of our officers. The indemnification agreements attempt to provide these directors, officers and other persons the maximum indemnification permitted under Maryland law and the Investment Company Act. The agreements provide, among other things, for the advancement of expenses and indemnification for liabilities that such person may incur by reason of his or her status as a present or former director or officer or member of our investment adviser's investment committee in any action or proceeding arising out of the performance of such person's services as a present or former director or officer or member of our investment adviser's investment committee.

Maryland law requires a corporation (unless its charter provides otherwise, which our charter does not) to indemnify a director or officer who has been successful, on the merits or otherwise, in the defense of any proceeding to which he or she is made or threatened to be made a party by reason of his or her service in that capacity. Maryland law permits a corporation to indemnify its present and former directors and officers, among others, against judgments, penalties, fines, settlements and reasonable expenses actually incurred by them in connection with any proceeding to which they may be made or are threatened to be made a party by reason of their service in those or other capacities unless it is established that (a) the act or omission of the director or officer was material to the matter giving rise to the proceeding and (i) was committed in bad faith or (ii) was the result of active and deliberate dishonesty, (b) the director or officer actually received an improper personal benefit in money, property or services or (c) in the case of any criminal proceeding, the director or officer had reasonable cause to believe that the act or omission was unlawful. However, under Maryland law, a Maryland corporation may not indemnify for an adverse judgment in a suit by or in the right of the corporation or for a judgment of liability on the basis that a personal benefit was improperly received, unless in either case a court orders indemnification, and then only for expenses. In addition, Maryland law permits a corporation to advance reasonable expenses to a director or officer upon the corporation's receipt of (x) a written affirmation by the director or officer of his or her good faith belief that he or she has met the standard of conduct necessary for indemnification by the corporation and (y) a written undertaking by him or her or on his or her behalf to repay the amount paid or reimbursed by the corporation if it is ultimately determined that the standard of conduct was not met.

PROVISIONS OF THE MARYLAND GENERAL CORPORATION LAW AND OUR CHARTER AND BYLAWS

The Maryland General Corporation Law and our charter and bylaws contain provisions that could make it more difficult for a potential acquiror to acquire us by means of a tender offer, proxy contest or otherwise. These provisions are expected to discourage certain coercive takeover practices and inadequate takeover bids and to encourage persons seeking to acquire control of us to negotiate first with our board of directors. We believe that the benefits of these provisions outweigh the potential disadvantages of discouraging any such acquisition proposals because, among other things, the negotiation of such proposals may improve their terms.

Classified Board of Directors

Our board of directors is divided into three classes of directors serving staggered three-year terms, with the term of office of only one of the three classes expiring each year. A classified board may render a change in control of us or removal of our incumbent management more difficult. We believe, however, that the longer time required to elect a majority of a classified board of directors helps to ensure the continuity and stability of our management and policies.

Table of Contents

Election of Directors

Our charter and bylaws provide that the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of stock entitled to vote in the election of directors will be required to elect a director. Pursuant to the charter, our board of directors may amend the bylaws to alter the vote required to elect directors.

Number of Directors; Vacancies; Removal

Our charter provides that the number of directors will be set only by the board of directors in accordance with our bylaws. Our bylaws provide that a majority of our entire board of directors may at any time increase or decrease the number of directors. However, unless our bylaws are amended, the number of directors may never be less than four or more than eleven. Our charter sets forth our election, subject to certain requirements, to be subject to the provision of Subtitle 8 of Title 3 of the Maryland General Corporation Law regarding the filling of vacancies on the board of directors. Accordingly, except as may be provided by the board of directors in setting the terms of any class or series of preferred stock, any and all vacancies on the board of directors may be filled only by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining directors in office, even if the remaining directors do not constitute a quorum, and any director elected to fill a vacancy will serve for the remainder of the full term of the directorship in which the vacancy occurred and until a successor is elected and qualifies, subject to any applicable requirements of the Investment Company Act.

Our charter provides that a director may be removed only for cause, as defined in our charter, and then only by the affirmative vote of stockholders entitled to cast at least two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast generally in the election of directors.

Action by Stockholders

Under the Maryland General Corporation Law and our charter, stockholder action can be taken only at an annual or special meeting of stockholders or by unanimous written or electronically transmitted consent instead of a meeting. These provisions, combined with the requirements of our bylaws regarding the calling of a stockholder-requested special meeting of stockholders discussed below, may have the effect of delaying consideration of a stockholder proposal until the next annual meeting.

Advance Notice Provisions for Stockholder Nominations and Stockholder Proposals

Our bylaws provide that with respect to an annual meeting of stockholders, nominations of individuals for election to the board of directors and the proposal of business to be considered by stockholders may be made only (a) pursuant to our notice of the meeting, (b) by or at the direction of the board of directors or (c) by a stockholder who is a stockholder of record both at the time of giving the advance notice required by the bylaws and at the time of the meeting, who is entitled to vote at the meeting in the election of each individual so nominated or on any such other business and who has complied with the advance notice procedures of the bylaws. With respect to special meetings of stockholders, only the business specified in our notice of the meeting may be brought before the meeting. Nominations of individuals for election to the board of directors at a special meeting may be made only (a) by or at the direction of the board of directors or (b) provided that the special meeting has been called in accordance with the bylaws for the purpose of electing directors, by a stockholder who is a stockholder of record both at the time of giving the advance notice required by the bylaws and at the time of the meeting, who is entitled to vote at the meeting in the election of each individual so nominated and who has complied with the advance notice provisions of the bylaws.

The purpose of requiring stockholders to give us advance notice of nominations and other business is to afford our board of directors a meaningful opportunity to consider the qualifications of the proposed nominees and the advisability of any other proposed business and, to the extent deemed

Table of Contents

necessary or desirable by our board of directors, to inform stockholders and make recommendations about such qualifications or business, as well as to provide a more orderly procedure for conducting meetings of stockholders. Although our bylaws do not give our board of directors any power to disapprove stockholder nominations for the election of directors or proposals recommending certain action, they may have the effect of precluding a contest for the election of directors or the consideration of stockholder proposals if proper procedures are not followed and of discouraging or deterring a third party from conducting a solicitation of proxies to elect its own slate of directors or to approve its own proposal without regard to whether consideration of such nominees or proposals might be harmful or beneficial to us and our stockholders.

Calling of Special Meetings of Stockholders

Our bylaws provide that special meetings of stockholders may be called by our board of directors and certain of our officers. Additionally, our bylaws provide that, subject to the satisfaction of certain procedural and informational requirements by the stockholders requesting the meeting, a special meeting of stockholders must be called by the secretary of the corporation to act on any matter that may properly be considered at a meeting of stockholders upon the written request of stockholders entitled to cast not less than a majority of all the votes entitled to be cast at such meeting.

Approval of Extraordinary Corporate Action; Amendment of Charter and Bylaws

Under Maryland law, a Maryland corporation generally cannot dissolve, amend its charter, merge, convert, sell all or substantially all of its assets, engage in a share exchange or engage in similar transactions outside the ordinary course of business, unless approved by the affirmative vote of stockholders entitled to cast at least two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter. See "Risk Factors Risks Relating to Offerings Pursuant to this Prospectus Provisions of the Maryland General Corporation Law and of our charter and bylaws could deter takeover attempts and have an adverse effect on the price of our common stock." However, a Maryland corporation may provide in its charter for approval of these matters by a lesser percentage, but not less than a majority of all of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter. Our charter generally provides for approval of charter amendments and extraordinary transactions by the stockholders entitled to cast at least a majority of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter. Our charter also provides that certain charter amendments and any proposal for our conversion, whether by merger or otherwise, from a closed-end company to an open-end company or any proposal for our liquidation or dissolution requires the approval of the stockholders entitled to cast at least 80 percent of the votes entitled to be cast on such matter. However, if such amendment or proposal is approved by at least two-thirds of our continuing directors (as defined below) (in addition to approval by our board of directors), such amendment or proposal may be approved by a majority of the votes entitled to be cast on such a matter. The "continuing directors" are defined in our charter as our current directors as well as those directors whose nomination for election by the stockholders or whose election by the directors to fill vacancies is approved by a majority of the continuing directors then on the board of directors.

Our charter and bylaws provide that the board of directors will have the exclusive power to adopt, alter or repeal any provision of our bylaws and to make new bylaws.

No Appraisal Rights

Except with respect to appraisal rights arising in connection with the Control Share Acquisition Act discussed below, as permitted by the Maryland General Corporation Law, our charter provides that stockholders will not be entitled to exercise appraisal rights unless a majority of our board of directors determines that such rights will apply, with respect to all or any classes or series of stock, to one or more transactions occurring after the date of such determination in connection with which stockholders would otherwise be entitled to exercise appraisal rights.

Table of Contents

Control Share Acquisitions

The Control Share Acquisition Act provides that control shares of a Maryland corporation acquired in a control share acquisition have no voting rights except to the extent approved by a vote of at least two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter. Shares owned by the acquiror, by officers or by employees who are directors of the corporation are excluded from shares entitled to vote on the matter. Control shares are voting shares of stock that, if aggregated with all other shares of stock owned by the acquiror or in respect of which the acquiror is able to exercise or direct the exercise of voting power (except solely by virtue of a revocable proxy), would entitle the acquiror to exercise voting power in electing directors within one of the following ranges of voting power:

one-tenth or more but less than one-third;

one-third or more but less than a majority; or

a majority or more of all voting power.

The requisite stockholder approval must be obtained each time an acquiror crosses one of the thresholds of voting power set forth above. Control shares do not include shares the acquiring person is then entitled to vote as a result of having previously obtained stockholder approval. A control share acquisition means the acquisition of issued and outstanding control shares, subject to certain exceptions.

A person who has made or proposes to make a control share acquisition may compel the board of directors of the corporation to call a special meeting of stockholders to be held within 50 days of demand to consider the voting rights of the shares. The right to compel the calling of a special meeting is subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions, including an undertaking to pay the expenses of the meeting. If no request for a meeting is made, the corporation may itself present the question at any stockholders meeting.

If voting rights are not approved at the meeting or if the acquiring person does not deliver an acquiring person statement as required by the statute, then the corporation may redeem for fair value any or all of the control shares, except those for which voting rights have previously been approved. The right of the corporation to redeem control shares is subject to certain conditions and limitations, including, as provided in our bylaws, compliance with the Investment Company Act, which will prohibit any such redemption other than in limited circumstances. Fair value is determined, without regard to the absence of voting rights for the control shares, as of the date of any meeting of stockholders at which the voting rights of the shares are considered and not approved or, if no such meeting is held, as of the date of the last control share acquisition by the acquiror. If voting rights for control shares are approved at a stockholders meeting and the acquiror becomes entitled to vote a majority of the shares entitled to vote, all other stockholders may exercise appraisal rights. The fair value of the shares as determined for purposes of appraisal rights may not be less than the highest price per share paid by the acquiror in the control share acquisition.

The Control Share Acquisition Act does not apply (a) to shares acquired in a merger, consolidation or share exchange if the corporation is a party to the transaction or (b) to acquisitions approved or exempted by the charter or bylaws of the corporation.

Our bylaws contain a provision exempting from the Control Share Acquisition Act any and all acquisitions by any person of our shares of stock and, as a result, any control shares of the Company will have the same voting rights as all of the other shares of the Company's common stock. Such provision could be amended or eliminated at any time in the future. However, we will amend our bylaws to be subject to the Control Share Acquisition Act only if the board of directors determines that it would be in our best interests and we determine (after consultation with the SEC staff) that our being subject to the Control Share Acquisition Act does not conflict with the Investment Company Act.

Table of Contents

Business Combinations

Under Maryland law, "business combinations" between a Maryland corporation and an interested stockholder or an affiliate of an interested stockholder are prohibited for five years after the most recent date on which the interested stockholder becomes an interested stockholder. These business combinations include a merger, consolidation, share exchange or, in circumstances specified in the statute, an asset transfer or issuance or reclassification of equity securities. An interested stockholder is defined as:

any person who, directly or indirectly, beneficially owns 10% or more of the voting power of the corporation's outstanding voting stock; or

an affiliate or associate of the corporation who, at any time within the two-year period prior to the date in question, was the beneficial owner, directly or indirectly, of 10% or more of the voting power of the then outstanding stock of the corporation.

A person is not an interested stockholder under this statute if the board of directors approved in advance the transaction by which such person otherwise would have become an interested stockholder. However, in approving a transaction, the board of directors may provide that its approval is subject to compliance, at or after the time of approval, with any terms and conditions determined by the board.

After the five-year prohibition, any business combination between the corporation and an interested stockholder generally must be recommended by the board of directors of the corporation and approved by the affirmative vote of at least:

80% of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of outstanding shares of voting stock of the corporation; and

two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of voting stock of the corporation other than shares held by the interested stockholder with whom or with whose affiliate the business combination is to be effected or held by an affiliate or associate of the interested stockholder.

These super-majority vote requirements do not apply if the corporation's common stockholders receive a minimum price, as defined under Maryland law, for their shares in the form of cash or other consideration in the same form as previously paid by the interested stockholder for its shares.

The statute permits various exemptions from its provisions, including business combinations that are exempted by the board of directors before the time that the interested stockholder becomes an interested stockholder. Our board of directors has adopted a resolution that any business combination between us and any other person is exempted from the provisions of the Business Combination Act, provided that the business combination is first approved by the board of directors, including a majority of the independent directors. This resolution, however, may be altered or repealed in whole or in part at any time. If this resolution is repealed, or the board of directors does not otherwise approve a business combination, the statute may discourage others from trying to acquire control of us and increase the difficulty of consummating any offer.

Conflict with the Investment Company Act

Our bylaws provide that, if and to the extent that any provision of the Maryland General Corporation Law, including the Control Share Acquisition Act (if we amend our bylaws to be subject to such act) and the Business Combination Act, or any provision of our charter or bylaws conflicts with any provision of the Investment Company Act, the applicable provision of the Investment Company Act will control.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF OUR PREFERRED STOCK

In addition to shares of common stock, our charter authorizes the issuance of preferred stock. If we offer preferred stock under this prospectus, we will issue an appropriate prospectus supplement. We may issue preferred stock from time to time in one or more classes or series, without stockholder approval. Prior to issuance of shares of each class or series, our board of directors is required by Maryland law and by our charter to set, subject to the express terms of any of our then outstanding classes or series of stock, the preferences, conversion or other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends or other distributions, qualifications and terms or conditions of redemption for each class or series. Any such issuance must adhere to the requirements of the Investment Company Act, Maryland law and any other limitations imposed by law.

The Investment Company Act currently requires, among other things, that (a) immediately after issuance and before any distribution is made with respect to common stock, the liquidation preference of the preferred stock, together with all other senior securities, must not exceed an amount equal to 50% of our total assets (taking into account such distribution), (b) the holders of shares of preferred stock, if any are issued, must be entitled as a class to elect two directors at all times and to elect a majority of the directors if dividends on the preferred stock are in arrears by two years or more and (c) such class of stock have complete priority over any other class of stock as to distribution of assets and payment of dividends, which dividends shall be cumulative.

For any class or series of preferred stock that we may issue, our board of directors will determine and the articles supplementary and the prospectus supplement relating to such class or series will describe:

the designation and number of shares of such class or series;

the rate and time at which, and the preferences and conditions under which, any dividends will be paid on shares of such class or series, as well as whether such dividends are participating or non-participating;

any provisions relating to convertibility or exchangeability of the shares of such class or series, including adjustments to the conversion price of such class or series;

the rights and preferences, if any, of holders of shares of such class or series upon our liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our affairs;

the voting powers, if any, of the holders of shares of such class or series;

any provisions relating to the redemption of the shares of such class or series;

any limitations on our ability to pay dividends or make distributions on, or acquire or redeem, other securities while shares of such class or series are outstanding;

any conditions or restrictions on our ability to issue additional shares of such class or series or other securities;

if applicable, a discussion of certain U.S. federal income tax considerations; and

any other relative powers, preferences and participating, optional or special rights of shares of such class or series, and the qualifications, limitations or restrictions thereof.

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

All shares of preferred stock that we may issue will be identical and of equal rank except as to the particular terms thereof that may be fixed by our board of directors, and all shares of each class or series of preferred stock will be identical and of equal rank except as to the dates from which dividends, if any, thereon will be cumulative.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF OUR SUBSCRIPTION RIGHTS

GENERAL

We may issue subscription rights to our stockholders to purchase common stock. Subscription rights may be issued independently or together with any other offered security and may or may not be transferable by the person purchasing or receiving the subscription rights. In connection with a subscription rights offering to our stockholders, we would distribute certificates evidencing the subscription rights and a prospectus supplement to our stockholders on the record date that we set for receiving subscription rights in such subscription rights offering.

The applicable prospectus supplement would describe the following terms of subscription rights in respect of which this prospectus is being delivered:

the period of time the offering would remain open (which shall be open a minimum number of days such that all record holders would be eligible to participate in the offering and shall not be open longer than 120 days);

the title of such subscription rights;

the exercise price for such subscription rights (or method of calculation thereof);

the ratio of the offering (which, in the case of transferable rights, will require a minimum of three shares to be held of record before a person is entitled to purchase an additional share);

the number of such subscription rights issued to each stockholder;

the extent to which such subscription rights are transferable and the market on which they may be traded if they are transferable;

if applicable, a discussion of certain U.S. federal income tax considerations applicable to the issuance or exercise of such subscription rights;

the date on which the right to exercise such subscription rights shall commence, and the date on which such right shall expire (subject to any extension);

the extent to which such subscription rights include an over-subscription privilege with respect to unsubscribed securities and the terms of such over-subscription privilege;

any termination right we may have in connection with such subscription rights offering; and

any other terms of such subscription rights, including exercise, settlement and other procedures and limitations relating to the transfer and exercise of such subscription rights.

We will not offer any subscription rights to purchase shares of our common stock under this prospectus or an accompanying prospectus supplement without first filing a new post-effective amendment to the registration statement.

EXERCISE OF SUBSCRIPTION RIGHTS

Each subscription right would entitle the holder of the subscription right to purchase for cash such amount of shares of common stock at such exercise price as shall in each case be set forth in, or be determinable as set forth in, the prospectus supplement relating to the subscription rights offered thereby. Subscription rights may be exercised at any time up to the close of business on the expiration date for such subscription rights set forth in the prospectus supplement. After the close of business on the expiration date, all unexercised subscription rights would become void.

Table of Contents

Subscription rights may be exercised as set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to the subscription rights offered thereby. Upon receipt of payment and the subscription rights certificate properly completed and duly executed at the corporate trust office of the subscription rights agent or any other office indicated in the prospectus supplement we will forward, as soon as practicable, the shares of common stock purchasable upon such exercise. To the extent permissible under applicable law, we may determine to offer any unsubscribed offered securities directly to persons other than stockholders, to or through agents, underwriters or dealers or through a combination of such methods, as set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF OUR WARRANTS

The following is a general description of the terms of the warrants we may issue from time to time. Particular terms of any warrants we offer will be described in the prospectus supplement relating to such warrants.

We may issue warrants to purchase shares of our common stock, preferred stock or debt securities. Such warrants may be issued independently or together with shares of common stock, preferred stock or debt securities and may be attached or separate from such securities. We will issue each series of warrants under a separate warrant agreement to be entered into between us and a warrant agent. The warrant agent will act solely as our agent and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency for or with holders or beneficial owners of warrants.

A prospectus supplement will describe the particular terms of any series of warrants we may issue, including the following:

the title of such warrants;

the aggregate number of such warrants;

the price or prices at which such warrants will be issued;

the currency or currencies, including composite currencies, in which the price of such warrants may be payable;

if applicable, the designation and terms of the securities with which the warrants are issued and the number of warrants issued with each such security or each principal amount of such security;

in the case of warrants to purchase debt securities, the principal amount of debt securities purchasable upon exercise of one warrant and the price at which and the currency or currencies, including composite currencies, in which this principal amount of debt securities may be purchased upon such exercise;

in the case of warrants to purchase common stock or preferred stock, the number of shares of common stock or preferred stock, as the case may be, purchasable upon exercise of one warrant and the price at which and the currency or currencies, including composite currencies, in which these shares may be purchased upon such exercise;

the date on which the right to exercise such warrants shall commence and the date on which such right will expire;

whether such warrants will be issued in registered form or bearer form;

if applicable, the minimum or maximum amount of such warrants that may be exercised at any one time;

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;

the terms of the securities issuable upon exercise of the warrants;

if applicable, a discussion of certain U.S. federal income tax considerations; and

any other terms of such warrants, including terms, procedures and limitations relating to the exchange and exercise of such warrants.

Table of Contents

We and the warrant agent may amend or supplement the warrant agreement for a series of warrants without the consent of the holders of the warrants issued thereunder to effect changes that are not inconsistent with the provisions of the warrants and that do not materially and adversely affect the interests of the holders of the warrants.

Prior to exercising their warrants, holders of warrants will not have any of the rights of holders of the securities purchasable upon such exercise, including, in the case of warrants to purchase debt securities, the right to receive principal, premium, if any, or interest payments, on the debt securities purchasable upon exercise or to enforce covenants in the applicable indenture or, in the case of warrants to purchase common stock or preferred stock, the right to receive dividends, if any, or payments upon our liquidation, dissolution or winding up or to exercise any voting rights.

Under the Investment Company Act, we may generally only offer warrants provided that (a) the warrants expire by their terms within ten years, (b) the exercise or conversion price is not less than the current market value at the date of issuance, (c) our stockholders authorize the proposal to issue such warrants, and our board of directors approves such issuance on the basis that the issuance is in the best interests of Ares Capital and its stockholders and (d) if the warrants are accompanied by other securities, the warrants are not separately transferable unless no class of such warrants and the securities accompanying them has been publicly distributed. The Investment Company Act also provides that the amount of our voting securities that would result from the exercise of all outstanding warrants, as well as options and rights, at the time of issuance may not exceed 25% of our outstanding voting securities.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF OUR DEBT SECURITIES

We may issue debt securities in one or more series. The specific terms of each series of debt securities will be described in the particular prospectus supplement relating to that series. The prospectus supplement may or may not modify the general terms found in this prospectus and will be filed with the SEC. For a complete description of the terms of a particular series of debt securities, you should read both this prospectus and the prospectus supplement relating to that particular series.

As required by federal law for all bonds and notes of companies that are publicly offered, the debt securities are governed by a document called an "indenture." An indenture is a contract between us and U.S. Bank National Association, a financial institution acting as trustee on your behalf, and is subject to and governed by the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended. The trustee has two main roles. First, the trustee can enforce your rights against us if we default. There are some limitations on the extent to which the trustee acts on your behalf, described in the second paragraph under "Events of Default Remedies if an Event of Default Occurs." Second, the trustee performs certain administrative duties for us.

Because this section is a summary, it does not describe every aspect of the debt securities and the indenture. We urge you to read the indenture because it, and not this description, defines your rights as a holder of debt securities. For example, in this section, we use capitalized words to signify terms that are specifically defined in the indenture. Some of the definitions are repeated in this prospectus, but for the rest you will need to read the indenture. We have filed the form of the indenture with the SEC. See "Available Information" for information on how to obtain a copy of the indenture.

The prospectus supplement, which will accompany this prospectus, will describe the particular series of debt securities being offered, including, among other things:

the designation or title of the series of debt securities;

the total principal amount of the series of debt securities;

the percentage of the principal amount at which the series of debt securities will be offered;

the date or dates on which principal will be payable;

the rate or rates (which may be either fixed or variable) and/or the method of determining such rate or rates of interest, if any;

the date or dates from which any interest will accrue, or the method of determining such date or dates, and the date or dates on which any interest will be payable;

the terms for redemption, extension or early repayment, if any;

the currencies in which the series of debt securities are issued and payable;

whether the amount of payments of principal, premium or interest, if any, on a series of debt securities will be determined with reference to an index, formula or other method (which could be based on one or more currencies, commodities, equity indices or other indices) and how these amounts will be determined;

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

the place or places, if any, other than or in addition to the City of New York, of payment, transfer, conversion and/or exchange of the debt securities;

the denominations in which the offered debt securities will be issued;

the provision for any sinking fund;

Table of Contents

any restrictive covenants;

any Events of Default;

whether the series of debt securities is issuable in certificated form;

any provisions for defeasance or covenant defeasance;

if applicable, U.S. federal income tax considerations relating to original issue discount;

whether and under what circumstances we will pay additional amounts in respect of any tax, assessment or governmental charge and, if so, whether we will have the option to redeem the debt securities rather than pay the additional amounts (and the terms of this option);

any provisions for convertibility or exchangeability of the debt securities into or for any other securities;

whether the debt securities are subject to subordination and the terms of such subordination;

the listing, if any, on a securities exchange; and

any other terms.

The debt securities may be secured or unsecured obligations. Unless the prospectus supplement states otherwise, principal (and premium, if any) and interest, if any, will be paid by us in immediately available funds.

We are permitted, under specified conditions, to issue multiple classes of indebtedness if our asset coverage, calculated pursuant to the Investment Company Act, is at least equal to 200% immediately after each such issuance. In addition, while any indebtedness and senior securities remain outstanding, we must make provisions to prohibit the distribution to our stockholders or the repurchase of such securities or shares unless we meet the applicable asset coverage ratios at the time of the distribution or repurchase. Specifically, we may be precluded from declaring dividends or repurchasing shares of our common stock unless our asset coverage is at least 200%. We may also borrow amounts up to 5% of the value of our total assets for temporary or emergency purposes without regard to asset coverage. For a discussion of the risks associated with leverage, see "Risk Factors Risks Relating to Our Business Regulations governing our operation as a BDC affect our ability to, and the way in which we, raise additional capital."

GENERAL

The indenture provides that any debt securities proposed to be sold under this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement ("offered debt securities") and any debt securities issuable upon the exercise of warrants or upon conversion or exchange of other offered securities ("underlying debt securities") may be issued under the indenture in one or more series.

For purposes of this prospectus, any reference to the payment of principal of or premium or interest, if any, on debt securities will include additional amounts if required by the terms of the debt securities.

The indenture does not limit the amount of debt securities that may be issued thereunder from time to time. Debt securities issued under the indenture, when a single trustee is acting for all debt securities issued under the indenture, are called the "indenture securities." The indenture also provides that there may be more than one trustee thereunder, each with respect to one or more different series of indenture securities. See "Resignation of Trustee" below. At a time when two or more trustees are acting under the indenture, each with respect to only certain series, the

term "indenture securities"

Table of Contents

means the one or more series of debt securities with respect to which each respective trustee is acting. In the event that there is more than one trustee under the indenture, the powers and trust obligations of each trustee described in this prospectus will extend only to the one or more series of indenture securities for which it is trustee. If two or more trustees are acting under the indenture, then the indenture securities for which each trustee is acting would be treated as if issued under separate indentures.

The indenture does not contain any provisions that give you protection in the event we issue a large amount of debt or we are acquired by another entity.

We refer you to the prospectus supplement for information with respect to any deletions from, modifications of or additions to the Events of Default or our covenants that are described below, including any addition of a covenant or other provision providing event risk or similar protection.

We have the ability to issue indenture securities with terms different from those of indenture securities previously issued and, without the consent of the holders thereof, to reopen a previous issue of a series of indenture securities and issue additional indenture securities of that series unless the reopening was restricted when that series was created.

We expect that we will usually issue debt securities in book entry only form represented by global securities.

CONVERSION AND EXCHANGE

If any debt securities are convertible into or exchangeable for other securities, the prospectus supplement will explain the terms and conditions of the conversion or exchange, including the conversion price or exchange ratio (or the calculation method), the conversion or exchange period (or how the period will be determined), if conversion or exchange will be mandatory or at the option of the holder or us, provisions for adjusting the conversion price or the exchange ratio and provisions affecting conversion or exchange in the event of the redemption of the underlying debt securities. These terms may also include provisions under which the number or amount of other securities to be received by the holders of the debt securities upon conversion or exchange would be calculated according to the market price of the other securities as of a time stated in the prospectus supplement.

PAYMENT AND PAYING AGENTS

We will pay interest to the person listed in the applicable trustee's records as the owner of the debt security at the close of business on a particular day in advance of each due date for interest, even if that person no longer owns the debt security on the interest due date. That day, usually about two weeks in advance of the interest due date, is called the "record date." Because we will pay all the interest for an interest period to the holders on the record date, holders buying and selling debt securities must work out between themselves the appropriate purchase price. The most common manner is to adjust the sales price of the debt securities to prorate interest fairly between buyer and seller based on their respective ownership periods within the particular interest period. This prorated interest amount is called "accrued interest."

Payments on Global Securities

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

Table of Contents

Payments on Certificated Securities

We will make payments on a certificated debt security as follows. We will pay interest that is due on an interest payment date by check mailed on the interest payment date to the holder at his or her address shown on the trustee's records as of the close of business on the regular record date. We will make all payments of principal and premium, if any, by check at the office of the applicable trustee in New York, NY and/or at other offices that may be specified in the prospectus supplement or in a notice to holders against surrender of the debt security.

Alternatively, if the holder asks us to do so, we will pay any amount that becomes due on the debt security by wire transfer of immediately available funds to an account at a bank in New York City, on the due date. To request payment by wire, the holder must give the applicable trustee or other paying agent appropriate transfer instructions at least 15 business days before the requested wire payment is due. In the case of any interest payment due on an interest payment date, the instructions must be given by the person who is the holder on the relevant regular record date. Any wire instructions, once properly given, will remain in effect unless and until new instructions are given in the manner described above.

Payment When Offices Are Closed

If any payment is due on a debt security on a day that is not a business day, we will make the payment on the next day that is a business day. Payments made on the next business day in this situation will be treated under the indenture as if they were made on the original due date, except as otherwise indicated in the accompanying prospectus supplement. Such payment will not result in a default under any debt security or the indenture, and no interest will accrue on the payment amount from the original due date to the next day that is a business day.

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

EVENTS OF DEFAULT

You will have rights if an Event of Default occurs in respect of the debt securities of your series and is not cured, as described later in this subsection.

The term "Event of Default" in respect of the debt securities of your series means any of the following (unless the prospectus supplement relating to such debt securities states otherwise):

We do not pay the principal of, or any premium on, a debt security of the series on its due date, and do not cure this default within 5 days.

We do not pay interest on a debt security of the series when due, and such default is not cured within 30 days.

We do not deposit any sinking fund payment in respect of debt securities of the series on its due date, and do not cure this default within 5 days.

We remain in breach of a covenant in respect of debt securities of the series for 60 days after we receive a written notice of default stating we are in breach. The notice must be sent by either the trustee or holders of at least 25% of the principal amount of debt securities of the series.

We file for bankruptcy or certain other events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization occur and remain undischarged or unstayed for a period of 60 days.

On the last business day of each of twenty-four consecutive calendar months, we have an asset coverage of less than 100%.

Table of Contents

Any other Event of Default in respect of debt securities of the series described in the applicable prospectus supplement occurs.

An Event of Default for a particular series of debt securities does not necessarily constitute an Event of Default for any other series of debt securities issued under the same or any other indenture. The trustee may withhold notice to the holders of debt securities of any default, except in the payment of principal, premium or interest, if it considers the withholding of notice to be in the best interests of the holders.

Remedies if an Event of Default Occurs

If an Event of Default has occurred and has not been cured, the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the debt securities of the affected series may declare the entire principal amount of all the debt securities of that series to be due and immediately payable. This is called a declaration of acceleration of maturity. In certain circumstances, a declaration of acceleration of maturity may be canceled by the holders of a majority in principal amount of the debt securities of the affected series.

The trustee is not required to take any action under the indenture at the request of any holders unless the holders offer the trustee reasonable protection from expenses and liability (called an "indemnity") (Section 315 of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939). If reasonable indemnity is provided, the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of the relevant series may direct the time, method and place of conducting any lawsuit or other formal legal action seeking any remedy available to the trustee. The trustee may refuse to follow those directions in certain circumstances. No delay or omission in exercising any right or remedy will be treated as a waiver of that right, remedy or Event of Default.

Before you are allowed to bypass your trustee and bring your own lawsuit or other formal legal action or take other steps to enforce your rights or protect your interests relating to the debt securities, the following must occur:

You must give your trustee written notice that an Event of Default has occurred and remains uncured.

The holders of at least 25% in principal amount of all outstanding debt securities of the relevant series must make a written request that the trustee take action because of the default and must offer reasonable indemnity to the trustee against the cost and other liabilities of taking that action.

The trustee must not have taken action for 60 days after receipt of the above notice and offer of indemnity.

The holders of a majority in principal amount of the debt securities must not have given the trustee a direction inconsistent with the above notice during that 60 day period.

However, you are entitled at any time to bring a lawsuit for the payment of money due on your debt securities on or after the due date.

Holders of a majority in principal amount of the debt securities of the affected series may waive any past defaults other than:

the payment of principal, any premium or interest; or

in respect of a covenant that cannot be modified or amended without the consent of each holder.

Table of Contents

Book-entry and other indirect holders should consult their banks or brokers for information on how to give notice or direction to or make a request of the trustee and how to declare or cancel an acceleration of maturity.

Each year, we will furnish to each trustee a written statement of certain of our officers certifying that to their knowledge we are in compliance with the indenture and the debt securities, or else specifying any default.

MERGER OR CONSOLIDATION

Under the terms of the indenture, we are generally permitted to consolidate or merge with another entity. We are also permitted to sell all or substantially all of our assets to another entity. However, unless the prospectus supplement relating to certain debt securities states otherwise, we may not take any of these actions unless all the following conditions are met:

Where we merge out of existence or sell our assets, the resulting entity must agree to be legally responsible for our obligations under the debt securities.

Immediately after giving effect to such transaction, no Default or Event of Default shall have happened and be continuing.

Under the indenture, no merger or sale of assets may be made if as a result any of our property or assets or any property or assets of one of our subsidiaries, if any, would become subject to any mortgage, lien or other encumbrance unless either (a) the mortgage, lien or other encumbrance could be created pursuant to the limitation on liens covenant in the indenture without equally and ratably securing the indenture securities or (b) the indenture securities are secured equally and ratably with or prior to the debt secured by the mortgage, lien or other encumbrance.

We must deliver certain certificates and documents to the trustee.

We must satisfy any other requirements specified in the prospectus supplement relating to a particular series of debt securities.

MODIFICATION OR WAIVER

There are three types of changes we can make to the indenture and the debt securities issued thereunder.

Changes Requiring Your Approval

First, there are changes that we cannot make to your debt securities without your specific approval. The following is a list of those types of changes:

change the stated maturity of the principal of or interest on a debt security;

reduce any amounts due on a debt security;

reduce the amount of principal payable upon acceleration of the maturity of a security following a default;

adversely affect any right of repayment at the holder's option;

change the place (except as otherwise described in the prospectus or prospectus supplement) or currency of payment on a debt security;

impair your right to sue for payment;

Table of Contents

adversely affect any right to convert or exchange a debt security in accordance with its terms;

modify the subordination provisions in the indenture in a manner that is adverse to holders of the debt securities;

reduce the percentage of holders of debt securities whose consent is needed to modify or amend the indenture;

reduce the percentage of holders of debt securities whose consent is needed to waive compliance with certain provisions of the indenture or to waive certain defaults;

modify any other aspect of the provisions of the indenture dealing with supplemental indentures, modification and waiver of past defaults, changes to the quorum or voting requirements or the waiver of certain covenants; and

change any obligation we have to pay additional amounts.

Changes Not Requiring Approval

The second type of change does not require any vote by the holders of the debt securities. This type is limited to clarifications and certain other changes that would not adversely affect holders of the outstanding debt securities in any material respect. We also do not need any approval to make any change that affects only debt securities to be issued under the indenture after the change takes effect.

Changes Requiring Majority Approval

Any other change to the indenture and the debt securities would require the following approval:

If the change affects only one series of debt securities, it must be approved by the holders of a majority in principal amount of that series.

If the change affects more than one series of debt securities issued under the same indenture, it must be approved by the holders of a majority in principal amount of all of the series affected by the change, with all affected series voting together as one class for this purpose.

The holders of a majority in principal amount of all of the series of debt securities issued under an indenture, voting together as one class for this purpose, may waive our compliance with some of our covenants in that indenture. However, we cannot obtain a waiver of a payment default or of any of the matters covered by the bullet points included above under " Changes Requiring Your Approval."

Further Details Concerning Voting

When taking a vote, we will use the following rules to decide how much principal to attribute to a debt security:

For original issue discount securities, we will use the principal amount that would be due and payable on the voting date if the maturity of these debt securities were accelerated to that date because of a default.

For debt securities whose principal amount is not known (for example, because it is based on an index), we will use a special rule for that debt security described in the prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

For debt securities denominated in one or more foreign currencies, we will use the U.S. dollar equivalent.

Debt securities will not be considered outstanding, and therefore not eligible to vote, if we have deposited or set aside in trust money for their payment or redemption. Debt securities will also not be eligible to vote if they have been fully defeased as described later under "Defeasance Full Defeasance."

We will generally be entitled to set any day as a record date for the purpose of determining the holders of outstanding indenture securities that are entitled to vote or take other action under the indenture. If we set a record date for a vote or other action to be taken by holders of one or more series, that vote or action may be taken only by persons who are holders of outstanding indenture securities of those series on the record date and must be taken within eleven months following the record date.

Book-entry and other indirect holders should consult their banks or brokers for information on how approval may be granted or denied if we seek to change the indenture or the debt securities or request a waiver.

DEFEASANCE

The following provisions will be applicable to each series of debt securities unless we state in the applicable prospectus supplement that the provisions of covenant defeasance and full defeasance will not be applicable to that series.

Covenant Defeasance

If certain conditions are satisfied, we can make the deposit described below and be released from some of the restrictive covenants in the indenture under which the particular series was issued. This is called "covenant defeasance." In that event, you would lose the protection of those restrictive covenants but would gain the protection of having money and government securities set aside in trust to repay your debt securities. If applicable, you also would be released from the subordination provisions described under "Indenture Provisions Subordination" below. In order to achieve covenant defeasance, we must do the following:

If the debt securities of the particular series are denominated in U.S. dollars, we must deposit in trust for the benefit of all holders of such debt securities a combination of money and U.S. government or U.S. government agency notes or bonds that will generate enough cash to make interest, principal and any other payments on the debt securities on their various due dates.

We must deliver to the trustee a legal opinion of our counsel confirming that, under current U.S. federal income tax law, we may make the above deposit without causing you to be taxed on the debt securities any differently than if we did not make the deposit and just repaid the debt securities ourselves at maturity.

We must deliver to the trustee a legal opinion of our counsel stating that the above deposit does not require registration by us under the Investment Company Act and a legal opinion and officers' certificate stating that all conditions precedent to covenant defeasance have been complied with.

If we accomplish covenant defeasance, you can still look to us for repayment of the debt securities if there were a shortfall in the trust deposit or the trustee is prevented from making payment. For example, if one of the remaining Events of Default occurred (such as our bankruptcy) and the debt

Table of Contents

securities became immediately due and payable, there might be a shortfall. Depending on the event causing the default, you may not be able to obtain payment of the shortfall.

Full Defeasance

If there is a change in U.S. federal tax law, as described below, we can legally release ourselves from all payment and other obligations on the debt securities of a particular series (called "full defeasance") if we put in place the following other arrangements for you to be repaid:

If the debt securities of the particular series are denominated in U.S. dollars, we must deposit in trust for the benefit of all holders of such debt securities a combination of money and U.S. government or U.S. government agency notes or bonds that will generate enough cash to make interest, principal and any other payments on the debt securities on their various due dates.

We must deliver to the trustee a legal opinion confirming that there has been a change in current U.S. federal tax law or an IRS ruling that allows us to make the above deposit without causing you to be taxed on the debt securities any differently than if we did not make the deposit and just repaid the debt securities ourselves at maturity. Under current U.S. federal tax law, the deposit and our legal release from the debt securities would be treated as though we paid you your share of the cash and notes or bonds at the time the cash and notes or bonds were deposited in trust in exchange for your debt securities and you would recognize gain or loss on the debt securities at the time of the deposit.

We must deliver to the trustee a legal opinion of our counsel stating that the above deposit does not require registration by us under the Investment Company Act and a legal opinion and officers' certificate stating that all conditions precedent to defeasance have been complied with.

If we ever did accomplish full defeasance, as described above, you would have to rely solely on the trust deposit for repayment of the debt securities. You could not look to us for repayment in the unlikely event of any shortfall. Conversely, the trust deposit would most likely be protected from claims of our lenders and other creditors if we ever became bankrupt or insolvent. If applicable, you would also be released from the subordination provisions described later under "Indenture Provisions Subordination."

FORM, EXCHANGE AND TRANSFER OF CERTIFICATED REGISTERED SECURITIES

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

Holders may exchange or transfer their certificated securities, if any, at the office of their trustee. We have appointed the trustee to act as our agent for registering debt securities in the names of holders transferring debt securities. We may appoint another entity to perform these functions or perform them ourselves.

Holders will not be required to pay a service charge to transfer or exchange their certificated securities, if any, but they may be required to pay any tax or other governmental charge associated with the transfer or exchange. The transfer or exchange will be made only if our transfer agent is satisfied with the holder's proof of legal ownership.

If we have designated additional transfer agents for your debt security, they will be named in your prospectus supplement. We may appoint additional transfer agents or cancel the appointment of

Table of Contents

any particular transfer agent. We may also approve a change in the office through which any transfer agent acts.

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

RESIGNATION OF TRUSTEE

Each trustee may resign or be removed with respect to one or more series of indenture securities provided that a successor trustee is appointed to act with respect to these series. In the event that two or more persons are acting as trustee with respect to different series of indenture securities under the indenture, each of the trustees will be a trustee of a trust separate and apart from the trust administered by any other trustee.

INDENTURE PROVISIONS SUBORDINATION

Upon any distribution of our assets upon our dissolution, winding up, liquidation or reorganization, the payment of the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest, if any, on any indenture securities denominated as subordinated debt securities is to be subordinated to the extent provided in the indenture in right of payment to the prior payment in full of all Senior Indebtedness (as defined below), but our obligation to you to make payment of the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest, if any, on such subordinated debt securities will not otherwise be affected. In addition, no payment on account of principal (or premium, if any), sinking fund or interest, if any, may be made on such subordinated debt securities at any time unless full payment of all amounts due in respect of the principal (and premium, if any), sinking fund and interest on Senior Indebtedness has been made or duly provided for in money or money's worth.

In the event that, notwithstanding the foregoing, any payment by us is received by the trustee in respect of subordinated debt securities or by the holders of any of such subordinated debt securities before all Senior Indebtedness is paid in full, the payment or distribution must be paid over to the holders of the Senior Indebtedness or on their behalf for application to the payment of all the Senior Indebtedness remaining unpaid until all the Senior Indebtedness has been paid in full, after giving effect to any concurrent payment or distribution to the holders of the Senior Indebtedness. Subject to the payment in full of all Senior Indebtedness upon this distribution by us, the holders of such subordinated debt securities will be subrogated to the rights of the holders of the Senior Indebtedness to the extent of payments made to the holders of the Senior Indebtedness out of the distributive share of such subordinated debt securities.

By reason of this subordination, in the event of a distribution of our assets upon our insolvency, certain of our senior creditors may recover more, ratably, than holders of any subordinated debt securities. The indenture provides that these subordination provisions will not apply to money and securities held in trust under the defeasance provisions of the indenture. "Senior Indebtedness" is defined in the indenture as the principal of (and premium, if any) and unpaid interest on:

our indebtedness (including indebtedness of others guaranteed by us), whenever created, incurred, assumed or guaranteed, for money borrowed (other than indenture securities issued under the indenture and denominated as subordinated debt securities), unless in the instrument creating or evidencing the same or under which the same is outstanding it is

Table of Contents

provided that this indebtedness is not senior or prior in right of payment to the subordinated debt securities, and

renewals, extensions, modifications and refinancings of any of this indebtedness.

If this prospectus is being delivered in connection with the offering of a series of indenture securities denominated as subordinated debt securities, the accompanying prospectus supplement will set forth the approximate amount of our Senior Indebtedness outstanding as of a recent date.

THE TRUSTEE UNDER THE INDENTURE

U.S. Bank National Association will serve as the trustee under the indenture.

CERTAIN CONSIDERATIONS RELATING TO FOREIGN CURRENCIES

Debt securities denominated or payable in foreign currencies may entail significant risks. These risks include the possibility of significant fluctuations in the foreign currency markets, the imposition or modification of foreign exchange controls and potential illiquidity in the secondary market. These risks will vary depending upon the currency or currencies involved and will be more fully described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

BOOK-ENTRY DEBT SECURITIES

The Depository Trust Company ("DTC"), New York, NY, will act as securities depository for the debt securities. The debt securities will be issued as fully- registered securities registered in the name of Cede & Co. (DTC's partnership nominee) or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. One fully-registered certificate will be issued for the debt securities, in the aggregate principal amount of such issue, and will be deposited with DTC. If, however, the aggregate principal amount of any issue exceeds \$500 million, one certificate will be issued with respect to each \$500 million of principal amount, and an additional certificate will be issued with respect to any remaining principal amount of such issue.

DTC, the world's largest securities depository, is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a "banking organization" within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a "clearing corporation" within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a "clearing agency" registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Exchange Act. DTC holds and provides asset servicing for over 3.5 million issues of U.S. and non-U.S. equity, corporate and municipal debt issues, and money market instruments from over 100 countries that DTC's participants ("Direct Participants") deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the post-trade settlement among Direct Participants of sales and other securities transactions in deposited securities through electronic computerized book-entry transfers and pledges between Direct Participants' accounts. This eliminates the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct Participants include both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations, and certain other organizations. DTC is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation ("DTCC").

DTCC is the holding company for DTC, National Securities Clearing Corporation and Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, all of which are registered clearing agencies. DTCC is owned by the users of its regulated subsidiaries. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies and clearing corporations that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Direct Participant, either directly or indirectly ("Indirect Participants"). DTC has a Standard & Poor's rating of AA+. The DTC Rules applicable to its Participants are on file with the SEC. More information about DTC can be found at www.dtcc.com.

Table of Contents

Purchases of debt securities under the DTC system must be made by or through Direct Participants, which will receive a credit for the debt securities on DTC's records. The ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each security ("Beneficial Owner") is in turn to be recorded on the Direct and Indirect Participants' records. Beneficial Owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchase. Beneficial Owners are, however, expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transaction, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the Direct or Indirect Participant through which the Beneficial Owner entered into the transaction. Transfers of ownership interests in the debt securities are to be accomplished by entries made on the books of Direct and Indirect Participants acting on behalf of Beneficial Owners. Beneficial Owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in debt securities, except in the event that use of the book-entry system for the debt securities is discontinued.

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all debt securities deposited by Direct Participants with DTC are registered in the name of DTC's partnership nominee, Cede & Co., or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. The deposit of debt securities with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. or such other DTC nominee do not effect any change in beneficial ownership. DTC has no knowledge of the actual Beneficial Owners of the debt securities; DTC's records reflect only the identity of the Direct Participants to whose accounts such debt securities are credited, which may or may not be the Beneficial Owners. The Direct and Indirect Participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to Direct Participants, by Direct Participants to Indirect Participants, and by Direct Participants and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time.

Redemption notices shall be sent to DTC. If less than all of the debt securities within an issue are being redeemed, DTC's practice is to determine by lot the amount of the interest of each Direct Participant in such issue to be redeemed.

Neither DTC nor Cede & Co. (nor any other DTC nominee) will consent or vote with respect to the debt securities unless authorized by a Direct Participant in accordance with DTC's Procedures. Under its usual procedures, DTC mails an Omnibus Proxy to us as soon as possible after the record date. The Omnibus Proxy assigns Cede & Co.'s consenting or voting rights to those Direct Participants to whose accounts the debt securities are credited on the record date (identified in a listing attached to the Omnibus Proxy).

Redemption proceeds, distributions, and dividend payments on the debt securities will be made to Cede & Co., or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. DTC's practice is to credit Direct Participants' accounts upon DTC's receipt of funds and corresponding detail information from us or the trustee on the payment date in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC's records. Payments by Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name," and will be the responsibility of such Participant and not of DTC or its nominee, the trustee, or us, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payment of redemption proceeds, distributions, and dividend payments to Cede & Co. (or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC) is the responsibility of us or the trustee, but disbursement of such payments to Direct Participants will be the responsibility of DTC, and disbursement of such payments to the Beneficial Owners will be the responsibility of Direct and Indirect Participants.

DTC may discontinue providing its services as depository with respect to the debt securities at any time by giving reasonable notice to us or the trustee. Under such circumstances, in the event that a successor depository is not obtained, certificates are required to be printed and delivered. We may

Table of Contents

decide to discontinue use of the system of book-entry-only transfers through DTC (or a successor securities depository). In that event, certificates will be printed and delivered to DTC.

The information in this section concerning DTC and DTC's book-entry system has been obtained from sources that we believe to be reliable, but we take no responsibility for the accuracy thereof.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF OUR UNITS

The following is a general description of the terms of the units we may issue from time to time. Particular terms of any units we offer will be described in the prospectus supplement relating to such units. For a complete description of the terms of particular units, you should read both this prospectus and the prospectus supplement relating to those particular units.

We may issue units comprised of one or more of the other securities described in this prospectus in any combination. Each unit may also include debt obligations of third parties, such as U.S. Treasury securities. Each unit will be issued so that the holder of the unit is also the holder of each security included in the unit. Thus, the holder of a unit will have the rights and obligations of a holder of each included security.

A prospectus supplement will describe the particular terms of any series of units we may issue, including the following:

the designation and terms of the units and of the securities comprising the units, including whether and under what circumstances the securities comprising the units may be held or transferred separately;

a description of the terms of any unit agreement governing the units;

a description of the provisions for the payment, settlement, transfer or exchange of the units; and

whether the units will be issued in fully registered or global form.

We will not offer any units under this prospectus or an accompanying prospectus supplement without first filing a new post-effective amendment to the registration statement.

Table of Contents

SALES OF COMMON STOCK BELOW NET ASSET VALUE

Pursuant to approval granted at a special meeting of stockholders held on May 22, 2017, we currently are permitted to sell or otherwise issue shares of our common stock at a price below net asset value, subject to certain limitations and determinations that must be made by our board of directors. Such stockholder approval expires on May 22, 2018.

In order to sell shares of common stock pursuant to this authorization, no further authorization from our stockholders has to be solicited, but a majority of our directors who have no financial interest in the sale and a majority of our independent directors must (a) find that the sale is in our best interests and in the best interests of our stockholders and (b) in consultation with any underwriter or underwriters of the offering, make a good faith determination as of a time either immediately prior to the first solicitation by us or on our behalf of firm commitments to purchase such shares of common stock, or immediately prior to the issuance of such common stock, that the price at which such shares of common stock are to be sold is not less than a price that closely approximates the market value of those shares of common stock, less any distributing commission or discount.

In making a determination that an offering of common stock below its net asset value per share is in our and our stockholders' best interests, our board of directors will consider a variety of factors including:

the effect that an offering below net asset value per share would have on our stockholders, including the potential dilution to the net asset value per share of our common stock our stockholders would experience as a result of the offering;

the amount per share by which the offering price per share and the net proceeds per share are less than our most recently determined net asset value per share;

the relationship of recent market prices of par common stock to net asset value per share and the potential impact of the offering on the market price per share of our common stock;

whether the estimated offering price would closely approximate the market value of shares of our common stock;

the potential market impact of being able to raise capital during the current financial market difficulties;

the nature of any new investors anticipated to acquire shares of our common stock in the offering;

the anticipated rate of return on and quality, type and availability of investments; and

the leverage available to us.

Our board of directors will also consider the fact that sales of shares of common stock at a discount will benefit our investment adviser as our investment adviser will earn additional investment management fees on the proceeds of such offerings, as it would from the offering of any other of our securities or from the offering of common stock at premium to net asset value per share.

We will not sell shares of our common stock pursuant to stockholder approval (or any rights, warrants or units to purchase shares of our common stock) under this prospectus or an accompanying prospectus supplement without first filing a new post-effective amendment to the registration statement if the cumulative dilution to our net asset value per share from offerings under the registration statement, as amended by such post-effective amendment, exceeds 15%. This would be measured separately for each offering pursuant to the registration statement, as amended by this post-effective amendment, by calculating the percentage dilution or accretion to aggregate net asset value from that

Table of Contents

offering and then summing the percentage from each offering. For example, if our most recently determined net asset value per share at the time of the first offering is \$15.00 and we have 30 million shares of common stock outstanding, the sale of 6 million shares of common stock at net proceeds to us of \$7.50 per share (a 50% discount) would produce dilution of 8.33%. If we subsequently determined that our net asset value per share increased to \$15.75 on the then 36 million shares of common stock outstanding and then made an additional offering, we could, for example, sell approximately an additional 7.2 million shares of common stock at net proceeds to us of \$9.45 per share, which would produce dilution of 6.67%, before we would reach the aggregate 15% limit.

Sales by us of our common stock at a discount from net asset value per share pose potential risks for our existing stockholders whether or not they participate in the offering, as well as for new investors who participate in the offering. Any sale of common stock at a price below net asset value per share would result in an immediate dilution to existing common stockholders who do not participate in such sale on at least a pro rata basis. See "Risk Factors Risks Relating to Offerings Pursuant to this Prospectus The net asset value per share of our common stock may be diluted if we sell shares of our common stock in one or more offerings at prices below the then current net asset value per share of our common stock or securities to subscribe for or convertible into shares of our common stock."

The following three headings and accompanying tables explain and provide hypothetical examples on the impact of an offering of our common stock at a price less than net asset value per share on three different types of investors:

existing stockholders who do not purchase any shares in the offering;

existing stockholders who purchase a relatively small amount of shares in the offering or a relatively large amount of shares in the offering; and

new investors who become stockholders by purchasing shares in the offering.

Impact on Existing Stockholders Who Do Not Participate in the Offering

Our existing stockholders who do not participate in an offering below net asset value per share or who do not buy additional shares in the secondary market at the same or lower price as we obtain in the offering (after expenses and commissions) face the greatest potential risks. These stockholders will experience an immediate dilution in the net asset value of the shares of common stock they hold and their net asset value per share. These stockholders will also experience a disproportionately greater decrease in their participation in our earnings and assets and their voting power than the increase we will experience in our assets, potential earning power and voting interests due to such offering. These stockholders may also experience a decline in the market price of their shares, which often reflects to some degree announced or potential increases and decreases in net asset value per share. This decrease could be more pronounced as the size of the offering and level of discounts increases. Further, if current stockholders do not purchase any shares to maintain their percentage interest, regardless of whether such offering is above or below the then current net asset value, their voting power will be diluted.

The following chart illustrates the level of net asset value dilution that would be experienced by a nonparticipating stockholder in three different hypothetical offerings of different sizes and levels of discount from net asset value per share. It is not possible to predict the level of market price decline that may occur.

The examples assume that the issuer has 30 million shares outstanding, \$600 million in total assets and \$150 million in total liabilities. The current net asset value and net asset value per share are thus \$450 million and \$15.00. The chart illustrates the dilutive effect on Stockholder A of (a) an offering of 1.5 million shares of common stock (5% of the outstanding shares) at \$14.25 per share after offering expenses and commissions (a 5% discount from net asset value), (b) an offering of 3 million

Edgar Filing: ARES CAPITAL CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

shares of common stock (10% of the outstanding shares) at \$13.50 per share after offering expenses and commissions (a 10% discount from net asset value), (c) an offering of 6 million shares of common stock (20% of the outstanding shares) at \$12.00 per share after offering expenses and commissions (a 20% discount from net asset value) and (d) an offering of 7.5 million shares of common stock (25% of the outstanding shares) at \$11.25 per share after offering expenses and commissions (a 25% discount from net asset value). The prospectus supplement pursuant to which any discounted offering is made will include a chart based on the actual number of shares of common stock in such offering and the actual discount to the most recently determined net asset value. It is not possible to predict the level of market price decline that may occur.

	Prior to Sale Below NAV	Example 1 5% Offering at 5% Discount		Example 2 10% Offering at 10% Discount		Example 3 20% Offering at 20% Discount		Example 4 25% Offering at 25% Discount	
		Following Sale	% Change	Following Sale	% Change	Following Sale	% Change	Following Sale	% Change
Offering Price									
Price per Share to Public		\$ 15.00		\$ 14.21		\$ 12.63		\$ 11.84	
Net Proceeds per Share to Issuer		\$ 14.25		\$ 13.50		\$ 12.00		\$ 11.25	
Decrease to Net Asset Value									
Total Shares Outstanding	30,000,000	31,500,000	5.00%	33,000,000	10.00%	36,000,000	20.00%	37,500,000	25.00%
Net Asset Value per Share	\$ 15.00	\$ 14.96	(0.24)%	\$ 14.86	(0.91)%	\$ 14.50	(3.33)		