

Guidewire Software, Inc.
 Form 424B5
 March 09, 2018
Table of Contents

Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5)

Registration No. 333-223487

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

| Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered | Amount To Be Registered | Maximum Offering Price per Unit | Maximum Aggregate Offering Price(2) | Amount of Registration Fee(2) |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| 1.25% Convertible Senior Notes due 2025 | \$400,000,000(1) | 100% | \$400,000,000 | \$49,800 |
| Common Stock, \$0.0001 par value per share | (3) | | (3) | (4) |

- (1) Includes 1.25% Convertible Senior Notes due 2025 that may be purchased by the underwriters pursuant to their over-allotment option.
- (2) Calculated in accordance with Rule 457(r) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act).
- (3) Includes an indeterminate number of shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of the convertible senior notes at the initial conversion price of approximately \$113.75 per share of common stock. Pursuant to Rule 416 under the Securities Act, such number of shares of common stock registered hereby shall include an indeterminate number of shares of common stock that may be issued in connection with a stock split, stock dividend, recapitalization or similar event.
- (4) Pursuant to Rule 457(i), there is no additional filing fee with respect to the shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of the convertible senior notes because no additional consideration will be received in connection with the exercise of the conversion privilege.

Table of Contents

Prospectus Supplement

(To prospectus dated March 7, 2018)

\$360,000,000

1.250% Convertible Senior Notes due 2025

We are offering \$360,000,000 principal amount of our 1.250% Convertible Senior Notes due 2025 (the "notes"). The notes will bear interest at a rate of 1.250% per year, payable semiannually in arrears on March 15 and September 15 of each year, beginning on September 15, 2018. The notes will mature on March 15, 2025, unless earlier repurchased, redeemed or converted.

Holder may convert their notes at their option at any time prior to the close of business on the business day immediately preceding October 15, 2024 only under the following circumstances: (1) during any fiscal quarter commencing after the fiscal quarter ending on July 31, 2018 (and only during such fiscal quarter), if the last reported sale price of our common stock for at least 20 trading days (whether or not consecutive) during a period of 30 consecutive trading days ending on, and including, the last trading day of the immediately preceding fiscal quarter is greater than or equal to 130% of the conversion price on each applicable trading day; (2) during the five business day period after any five consecutive trading day period (the "measurement period") in which the trading price (as defined herein) per \$1,000 principal amount of notes for each trading day of the measurement period was less than 98% of the product of the last reported sale price of our common stock and the conversion rate on each such trading day; (3) if we call any or all of the notes for redemption, at any time prior to the close of business on the second scheduled trading day immediately preceding the redemption date; or (4) upon the occurrence of specified corporate events. On or after October 15, 2024 until the close of business on the second scheduled trading day immediately preceding the maturity date, holders may convert their notes at any time, regardless of the foregoing circumstances. Upon conversion, we will pay or deliver, as the case may be, cash, shares of our common stock or a combination of cash and shares of our common stock, at our election, as described in this prospectus supplement.

The conversion rate will initially be 8.7912 shares of common stock per \$1,000 principal amount of notes (equivalent to an initial conversion price of approximately \$113.75 per share of common stock). The conversion rate will be subject to adjustment upon the occurrence of certain events but will not be adjusted for any accrued and unpaid interest. In addition, following certain corporate events that occur prior to the maturity date or if we deliver a notice of redemption, we will, in certain circumstances, increase the conversion rate for a holder who elects to convert its notes in connection with such a corporate event or notice of redemption, as the case may be.

We may not redeem the notes prior to March 20, 2022. We may redeem for cash all or any portion of the notes, at our option, on or after March 20, 2022 if the last reported sale price of our common stock has been at least 130% of the conversion price then in effect for at least 20 trading days (whether or not consecutive), including at least one of the

three trading days immediately preceding the date on which we provide notice of redemption, during any 30 consecutive trading day period ending on, and including, the trading day immediately preceding the date on which we provide notice of redemption, at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the notes to be redeemed, plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the redemption date. No sinking fund is provided for the notes.

If we undergo a fundamental change (as defined herein), holders may require us to repurchase for cash all or any portion of their notes at a fundamental change repurchase price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the notes to be repurchased, plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the fundamental change repurchase date.

The notes will be our senior unsecured obligations and will rank senior in right of payment to any of our indebtedness that is expressly subordinated in right of payment to the notes; equal in right of payment to any of our indebtedness that is not so subordinated; effectively junior in right of payment to any of our secured indebtedness to the extent of the value of the assets securing such indebtedness; and structurally junior to all indebtedness and other liabilities (including trade payables) of our subsidiaries.

Concurrently with this offering of notes, we are offering 2,285,714 shares of our common stock (or 2,628,571 shares of our common stock if the underwriters in that offering exercise their option to purchase additional shares in full) in an underwritten offering pursuant to a separate prospectus supplement. The closing of this offering of notes is not conditioned upon the closing of the concurrent offering of common stock and the closing of the concurrent offering of common stock is not conditioned upon the closing of this offering of notes. This prospectus supplement is not an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities being offered in the concurrent offering of common stock.

We do not intend to apply to list the notes on any securities exchange or any automated dealer quotation system. Our common stock is listed on The New York Stock Exchange under the symbol GWRE. The last reported sale price of our common stock on The New York Stock Exchange on March 8, 2018 was \$88.22 per share.

Investing in the notes involves a high degree of risk. See Risk Factors beginning on page S-10 of this prospectus supplement and the documents incorporated by reference herein for a discussion of certain risks that you should consider in connection with an investment in the notes.

| | Per Note | Total |
|---|---------------------|----------------|
| Public offering price(1) | \$ 1,000.00 | \$ 360,000,000 |
| Underwriting discounts and commissions(2) | \$ 30.00 | \$ 10,800,000 |
| Proceeds, before expenses, to us | \$ 970.00 | \$ 349,200,000 |

(1) Plus accrued interest, if any, from March 13, 2018

(2) See Underwriting beginning on page S-69 of this prospectus supplement for additional information regarding underwriting compensation.

We have granted the underwriters the right to purchase, exercisable within a 30-day period, up to an additional \$40,000,000 principal amount of notes, solely to cover over-allotments, if any.

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

We expect that delivery of the notes will be made to investors in book-entry form through The Depository Trust Company on or about March 13, 2018.

Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC

Citigroup

J.P. Morgan

BofA Merrill Lynch

Deutsche Bank Securities

Piper Jaffray

William Blair

**KeyBanc Capital Markets
March 8, 2018**

Stifel

JMP Securities

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Prospectus Supplement

| | |
|---|--------------|
| <u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT</u> | Page S-ii |
| <u>CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u> | S-ii |
| <u>SUMMARY</u> | S-1 |
| <u>RISK FACTORS</u> | S-10 |
| <u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u> | S-22 |
| <u>PRICE RANGE OF COMMON STOCK</u> | S-23 |
| <u>DIVIDEND POLICY</u> | S-23 |
| <u>CAPITALIZATION</u> | S-24 |
| <u>DESCRIPTION OF NOTES</u> | S-26 |
| <u>DESCRIPTION OF CAPPED CALL TRANSACTIONS</u> | S-60 |
| <u>MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS</u> | S-61 |
| <u>UNDERWRITING</u> | S-69 |
| <u>LEGAL MATTERS</u> | S-76 |
| <u>EXPERTS</u> | S-76 |
| <u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u> | S-76 |
| <u>INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE</u> | S-76 |

Prospectus

| | |
|--|-----------|
| <u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u> | Page 1 |
| <u>CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u> | 1 |
| <u>THE COMPANY</u> | 3 |
| <u>RISK FACTORS</u> | 4 |
| <u>RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES</u> | 5 |
| <u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u> | 6 |
| <u>DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK</u> | 7 |
| <u>DESCRIPTION OF SENIOR DEBT SECURITIES</u> | 11 |
| <u>DESCRIPTION OF OTHER SECURITIES</u> | 18 |
| <u>GLOBAL SECURITIES</u> | 19 |
| <u>SELLING SECURITYHOLDERS</u> | 22 |
| <u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u> | 23 |
| <u>LEGAL MATTERS</u> | 24 |
| <u>EXPERTS</u> | 24 |
| <u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u> | 24 |
| <u>INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE</u> | 24 |

All references in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus to **Guidewire, the Company, we, us, our** and similar terms refer to Guidewire Software, Inc. and its subsidiaries, unless we state otherwise or the context otherwise requires.

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This document is in two parts. The first part is this prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of this offering and also adds to and updates information contained in the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. The second part, the accompanying prospectus, gives more general information, some of which may not apply to this offering. You should read this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, including the information incorporated by reference herein and therein and any free writing prospectus we have authorized for use in connection with this offering, in their entirety before making an investment decision.

You should assume that the information in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus, any document incorporated by reference herein or therein and any free writing prospectus we have authorized for use in connection with this offering are accurate or complete only as of their respective dates, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and any authorized free writing prospectus. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

In this prospectus supplement, as permitted by law, we incorporate by reference information from other documents that we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC). This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be a part of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and should be read with the same care. When we update the information contained in documents that have been incorporated by reference by making future filings with the SEC, the information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement is considered to be automatically updated and superseded. In other words, in case of a conflict or inconsistency between information contained in this prospectus supplement and information in the accompanying prospectus or incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information contained in the document that was filed later. See Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference in this prospectus supplement.

We are not, and the underwriters are not, making an offer to sell the securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted or in which the person making such offer or solicitation is not qualified to do so or to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation.

You should not consider any information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus to be investment, legal or tax advice. You should consult your own counsel, accountants and other advisers for legal, tax, business, financial and related advice regarding the purchase of the notes offered by this prospectus supplement.

CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, including the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, and any free writing prospectus we authorize for use in connection with this offering may contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of 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), which are subject to risks and uncertainties. These forward-looking statements include statements concerning, among other things, our business strategy (including anticipated trends and developments in, and management plans for, our business and the markets in which we operate), financial results, results of operations, revenues, gross margins, operating expenses, products, projected costs and capital expenditures, research and development programs, sales and marketing initiatives and competition. In some cases, you can identify these statements by forward-looking words, such as will, may,

Table of Contents

might, should, could, estimate, expect, suggest, believe, anticipate, intend, plan and continue, these words and other comparable terminology. Examples of forward-looking statements include statements regarding:

growth prospects of the property and casualty (P&C) insurance industry and our company;

the developing market for subscription services and uncertainties attendant on emerging sales and delivery models;

trends in future sales, including the mix of licensing and subscription models and seasonality;

our competitive environment and changes thereto;

competitive attributes of our software applications and delivery models;

challenges to further increase sales outside of the United States;

our research and development investment and efforts;

expenses to be incurred, and benefits to be achieved from our acquisitions;

our gross and operating margins and factors that affect such margins;

our provision for tax liabilities and other critical accounting estimates;

the impact of new accounting standards and any contractual changes we have made in anticipation of such changes;

our concurrent offering of common stock;

our exposure to market risks, including geographical and political events that may negatively impact our customers; and

our ability to satisfy future liquidity requirements.

Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve risks and uncertainties. Such forward-looking statements included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or any applicable free writing prospectus are based on information available to us as of the date such statements were made and our then-current expectations about future events, which are inherently subject to change and involve risks and uncertainties. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. Actual events or results may differ materially from those expressed or implied by these statements due to various factors, including but not limited to the factors discussed under the heading **Item 1A. Risk Factors** in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended July 31, 2017 (the **2017 Form 10-K**) and our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended October 31, 2017 and January 31, 2018 and under the heading **Risk Factors** in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

We do not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statements included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus or any applicable free writing prospectus, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise, except as required by law. All such forward-looking statements should be read as of the time the statements were made and with the recognition that these forward-looking statements may not be complete or accurate at a later date.

S-iii

Table of Contents

SUMMARY

*This summary highlights information contained elsewhere in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein. This summary sets forth the material terms of this offering, but does not contain all of the information you should consider before investing in our notes. You should read carefully this entire prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, including the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, and any free writing prospectus we authorize for use in connection with this offering, before making an investment decision to purchase our notes, especially the risks of investing in our notes discussed in the section titled *Risk Factors* in this prospectus supplement, as well as the consolidated financial statements and notes to those consolidated financial statements incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. This prospectus supplement may add to, update or change information in the accompanying prospectus. In addition, any reference to or description of our concurrent Common Stock Offering herein is wholly subject to the other prospectus supplement pursuant to which shares of our common stock are being offered, and you should not rely on this prospectus supplement in making an investment decision to purchase shares of our common stock.*

Overview

We provide a technology platform which consists of three elements: core transaction processing, data management and analytics, and digital engagement. Our technology platform supports core insurance operations, including underwriting and policy administration, claim management and billing, enables new insights into data that can improve business decision making and supports digital sales, service and claims experiences for policyholders, agents, and other key stakeholders. Our customers are primarily insurance carriers for P&C insurance.

We began our principal business operations in 2001. To date, we have generated a substantial majority of our software license revenues through annual or quarterly license fees that recur during the term of a customer's contract and any subsequent renewal periods. We also generate perpetual license revenues and subscription revenues. We anticipate that subscription revenue will increase as a percentage of total revenue as we develop and bring to market more cloud-based solutions to meet increasing industry demand. Thus far, more than 100 customers have subscribed to or licensed one or more applications that are cloud-delivered by us or our partners. Services revenues are primarily derived from implementation and training services performed for our customers. Substantially all of our services revenues are currently billed on a time and materials basis.

Concurrent Common Stock Offering

Concurrently with this offering, pursuant to a separate prospectus supplement, we are offering 2,285,714 shares of our common stock (or 2,628,571 shares of our common stock if the underwriters in that offering exercise their option to purchase additional shares of common stock in full) in an underwritten public offering (the *Common Stock Offering*). The net proceeds of the concurrent Common Stock Offering, after deducting underwriting discounts and estimated expenses payable by us, is expected to be approximately \$191.8 million (or approximately \$220.7 million if the underwriters in the concurrent Common Stock Offering exercise their option to purchase additional shares of common stock in full). Neither the completion of this offering nor of the concurrent Common Stock Offering is contingent on the completion of the other, so it is possible that this offering occurs and the Common Stock Offering does not occur, and vice versa. We cannot assure you that the concurrent Common Stock Offering will be completed on the terms described above, or at all.

Corporate History and Information

Edgar Filing: Guidewire Software, Inc. - Form 424B5

We were incorporated in Delaware in 2001. Our principal executive offices are located at 1001 East Hillsdale Blvd., Suite 800, Foster City, California 94404, and our telephone number is (650) 357-9100. Our website

S-1

Table of Contents

address is www.guidewire.com. Information contained on our website is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement, and you should not consider any information contained on, or that can be accessed through, our website as part of this prospectus supplement or in deciding whether to purchase the notes offered hereby.

S-2

Table of Contents**THE OFFERING**

The summary below describes the principal terms of the notes. This summary does not contain all of the information that is important relating to an investment in the notes and any shares of our common stock issuable upon conversion thereof. Certain of the terms and conditions described below are subject to important limitations and exceptions. The Description of Senior Debt Securities section of the accompanying prospectus, as supplemented by the Description of Notes section of this prospectus supplement, contains a more detailed description of the terms and conditions of the notes. As used in this section, we, our and us refer only to Guidewire Software, Inc. and not to any of its subsidiaries.

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Issuer | Guidewire Software, Inc., a Delaware corporation. |
| Securities | \$360,000,000 principal amount of 1.250% Convertible Senior Notes due 2025 (plus an option to purchase up to an additional \$40,000,000 principal amount of notes solely to cover over-allotments, if any). |
| Maturity | March 15, 2025, unless earlier repurchased, redeemed or converted. |
| Interest | 1.250% per year. Interest will accrue from March 13, 2018 and will be payable semiannually in arrears on March 15 and September 15 of each year, beginning on September 15, 2018. We will pay additional interest, if any, at our election as the sole remedy relating to the failure to comply with our reporting obligations as described under Description of Notes Events of Default. |
| Conversion Rights | <p> Holders may convert all or any portion of their notes, in multiples of \$1,000 principal amount, at their option at any time prior to the close of business on the business day immediately preceding October 15, 2024 only under the following circumstances:</p> <p> during any fiscal quarter commencing after the fiscal quarter ending on July 31, 2018 (and only during such fiscal quarter), if the last reported sale price of our common stock for at least 20 trading days (whether or not consecutive) during a period of 30 consecutive trading days ending on, and including, the last trading day of the immediately preceding fiscal quarter is greater than or equal to 130% of the conversion price on each applicable trading day;</p> <p> during the five business day period after any five consecutive trading day period (the measurement period) in which the trading price (as</p> |

defined under Description of Notes Conversion Rights Conversion upon Satisfaction of Trading Price Condition) per \$1,000 principal amount of notes for each trading day of the measurement period was less than 98% of the product of the last reported sale price of our common stock and the conversion rate on each such trading day;

if we call any or all of the notes for redemption, at any time prior to the close of business on the second scheduled trading day immediately preceding the redemption date; or

S-3

Table of Contents

upon the occurrence of specified corporate events described under
Description of Notes Conversion Rights Conversion upon Specified
Corporate Events.

On or after October 15, 2024 until the close of business on the second scheduled trading day immediately preceding the maturity date, holders may convert all or any portion of their notes, in multiples of \$1,000 principal amount, at the option of the holder regardless of the foregoing circumstances.

The conversion rate for the notes is initially 8.7912 shares of common stock per \$1,000 principal amount of notes (equivalent to an initial conversion price of approximately \$113.75 per share of common stock), subject to adjustment as described in this prospectus supplement.

Upon conversion, we will satisfy our conversion obligation by paying and/or delivering, as the case may be, cash, shares of our common stock or a combination of cash and shares of our common stock, at our election. If we satisfy our conversion obligation solely in cash or through payment and delivery, as the case may be, of a combination of cash and shares of our common stock, the amount of cash and shares of common stock, if any, due upon conversion will be based on a daily conversion value (as described herein) calculated on a proportionate basis for each trading day (as described herein) in a 40 trading day observation period (as described herein). See Description of Notes Conversion Rights Settlement upon Conversion.

In addition, following certain corporate events that occur prior to the maturity date, we will increase the conversion rate for a holder who elects to convert its notes in connection with such a corporate event in certain circumstances as described under Description of Notes Conversion Rights Increase in Conversion Rate upon Conversion upon a Make-whole Fundamental Change or Notice of Redemption.

You will not receive any additional cash payment or additional shares representing accrued and unpaid interest, if any, upon conversion of a note, except in limited circumstances. Instead, interest will be deemed to be paid by the cash, shares of our common stock or a combination of cash and shares of our common stock paid or delivered, as the case may be, to you upon conversion of a note.

Redemption at Our Option

We may not redeem the notes prior to March 20, 2022. We may redeem for cash all or part of the notes, at our option, on or after March 20, 2022 if the last reported sale price of our common stock has been at least 130% of the conversion price then in effect for at least 20 trading days (whether or not consecutive), including at least one of the three trading days immediately preceding the date on which we provide notice of redemption, during any 30 consecutive trading day period ending on, and including, the trading day

S-4

Table of Contents

immediately preceding the date on which we provide notice of redemption at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the notes to be redeemed, *plus* accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the redemption date. No sinking fund is provided for the notes, which means that we are not required to redeem or retire the notes periodically.

Fundamental Change

If we undergo a fundamental change (as defined in this prospectus supplement under Description of Notes Fundamental Change Permits Holders to Require Us to Repurchase Notes), subject to certain conditions, holders may require us to repurchase for cash all or part of their notes in principal amounts of \$1,000 or an integral multiple thereof. The fundamental change repurchase price will be equal to 100% of the principal amount of the notes to be repurchased, *plus* accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the fundamental change repurchase date. See Description of Notes Fundamental Change Permits Holders to Require Us to Repurchase Notes.

Ranking

The notes will be our senior unsecured obligations and will rank:

senior in right of payment to any of our indebtedness that is expressly subordinated in right of payment to the notes;

equal in right of payment to any of our indebtedness that is not so subordinated;

effectively junior in right of payment to any of our secured indebtedness to the extent of the value of the assets securing such indebtedness; and

structurally junior to all indebtedness and other liabilities (including trade payables) of our subsidiaries.

As of January 31, 2018, we and our subsidiaries had no indebtedness. As of January 31, 2018, our subsidiaries had \$4.7 million of other liabilities (including trade payables, but excluding intercompany obligations and liabilities of a type not required to be reflected on a balance sheet of such subsidiaries in accordance with GAAP) to which the notes would have been structurally subordinated. After giving effect to the issuance of the notes (assuming no exercise of the underwriters' over-allotment option to purchase additional notes) and the use of proceeds therefrom, our total

consolidated indebtedness would have been \$360.0 million.

The indenture governing the notes will not limit the amount of debt that we or our subsidiaries may incur.

Use of Proceeds

We estimate that the net proceeds from this offering will be approximately \$348.5 million (or \$387.3 million if the underwriters exercise their over-allotment option to purchase additional notes in full), after deducting the underwriting discounts and commissions and our estimated expenses related to this offering.

Table of Contents

We entered into capped call transactions with one or more of the underwriters and/or their respective affiliates, which we refer to as the option counterparties, as described under Description of Capped Call Transactions. We intend to use approximately \$33.5 million of the net proceeds from this offering to pay the cost of the capped call transactions.

We intend to use the remaining net proceeds from this offering and the Common Stock Offering (as described above under Concurrent Common Stock Offering) for working capital and other general corporate purposes. We may also use a portion of the remaining net proceeds for acquisitions or strategic investments in complementary businesses or technologies, although we do not currently have any plans for any such acquisitions or investments. These expectations are subject to change. See Use of Proceeds for additional information.

If the underwriters exercise their over-allotment option to purchase additional notes, we expect to use a portion of the net proceeds from the sale of the additional notes to enter into additional capped call transactions with the option counterparties and the balance of the net proceeds for working capital and other general corporate purposes.

Risk Factors

See Risk Factors and the other information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus for a discussion of factors you should carefully consider before deciding to invest in the notes.

Book-entry Form

The notes will be issued in book-entry form and will be represented by permanent global certificates deposited with, or on behalf of, The Depository Trust Company (DTC) and registered in the name of a nominee of DTC. Beneficial interests in any of the notes will be shown on, and transfers will be effected only through, records maintained by DTC or its nominee and any such interest may not be exchanged for certificated securities, except in limited circumstances.

Absence of a Public Market for the Notes

The notes are new securities and there is currently no established market for the notes. Accordingly, we cannot assure you as to the development or liquidity of any market for the notes. The underwriters have advised us that they currently intend to make a market in the notes. However, they are not obligated to do so, and they may discontinue any market making with respect to the notes without notice. We do not intend to apply for a listing of the notes on any securities exchange or any automated dealer quotation system.

U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences For a discussion of certain material U.S. federal income tax considerations applicable to the holding, disposition and conversion of the notes, and the holding and disposition of shares of our common

S-6

Table of Contents

stock issuable upon conversion of the notes, see **Certain Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations**.

Capped Call Transactions

In connection with the pricing of the notes, we entered into capped call transactions with the option counterparties. The capped call transactions are expected generally to reduce potential dilution to our common stock upon any conversion of notes and/or offset any cash payments we are required to make in excess of the principal amount of converted notes, as the case may be, with such reduction and/or offset subject to a cap. If the underwriters exercise their over-allotment option to purchase additional notes, we expect to enter into additional capped call transactions with the option counterparties.

In connection with establishing their initial hedges of the capped call transactions, the option counterparties or their respective affiliates expect to enter into various derivative transactions with respect to our common stock concurrently with or shortly after the pricing of the notes. This activity could increase (or reduce the size of any decrease in) the market price of our common stock or the notes at that time.

In addition, the option counterparties or their respective affiliates may modify their hedge positions by entering into or unwinding various derivatives with respect to our common stock and/or purchasing or selling our common stock or other securities of ours in secondary market transactions following the pricing of the notes and prior to the maturity of the notes (and are likely to do so during any observation period related to a conversion of notes). This activity could also cause or avoid an increase or a decrease in the market price of our common stock or the notes, which could affect your ability to convert the notes and, to the extent the activity occurs during any observation period related to a conversion of notes, it could affect the number of shares and value of the consideration that you will receive upon conversion of the notes.

For a discussion of the potential impact of any market or other activity by the option counterparties or their respective affiliates in connection with these capped call transactions, see **Risk Factors Risks Related to the Notes**. The capped call transactions may affect the value of the notes and our common stock and **Underwriting Capped Call Transactions**.

New York Stock Exchange Symbol for Our Common Stock

Our common stock is listed on The New York Stock Exchange under the symbol **GWRE**.

Trustee, Paying Agent and Conversion Agent U.S. Bank National Association

Concurrent Common Stock Offering Concurrently with this offering of notes, we are offering 2,285,714 shares of our common stock (or 2,628,571 shares of our common stock if the underwriters in that offering exercise their option to

S-7

Table of Contents

purchase additional shares of common stock in full) in the concurrent Common Stock Offering, pursuant to a separate prospectus supplement. We expect to receive net proceeds from the concurrent Common Stock Offering of approximately \$191.8 million (or \$220.7 million if the underwriters in that offering exercise their option to purchase additional shares of common stock in full) after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us.

The offering of the notes pursuant to this prospectus supplement is not contingent upon the completion of the concurrent Common Stock Offering and the concurrent Common Stock Offering is not contingent upon the completion of this offering of the notes. We cannot assure you that either or both of the offerings will be completed on the terms described above or at all.

Except as otherwise noted, we have presented the information in this prospectus supplement assuming no exercise by the underwriters in this offering of their over-allotment option to purchase additional notes.

Table of Contents**SUMMARY CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL DATA**

The following tables set forth our summary consolidated financial data as of the dates and for the periods indicated. The summary consolidated financial data as of July 31, 2017 and 2016 and for the years ended July 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015 are derived from our audited consolidated financial statements included in our 2017 Form 10-K, which is incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement. The summary consolidated financial data as of January 31, 2018 and for the six months ended January 31, 2018 and 2017 are derived from our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements included in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended January 31, 2018, which is incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement. The unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements were prepared on a basis substantially consistent with our audited consolidated financial statements and, in the opinion of management, reflect all adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring adjustments, necessary to present fairly the financial position and results of operations for the interim periods presented. The operating results for any period should not be considered indicative of results for any future period and our interim results are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the full year. The following summary consolidated financial data should be read in conjunction with the section entitled "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and the consolidated financial statements and the related notes thereto included in our 2017 Form 10-K and our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended January 31, 2018, each of which is incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

| | Fiscal Year Ended July 31, | | | Six Months Ended January 31, | |
|---|----------------------------|------------|------------|------------------------------|------------|
| | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 | 2018 | 2017 |
| (in thousands, except share and per share data) | | | | | |
| Consolidated Statement of Operations Data: | | | | | |
| Total revenues | \$ 514,284 | \$ 424,446 | \$ 380,537 | \$ 271,959 | \$ 209,748 |
| Total cost of revenues | 191,559 | 151,834 | 147,184 | 130,663 | 82,830 |
| Total gross profit | 322,725 | 272,612 | 233,353 | 141,296 | 126,918 |
| Income (loss) from operations | 26,612 | 16,437 | 16,493 | (33,380) | (10,097) |
| Net income (loss) | \$ 21,224 | \$ 14,976 | \$ 9,885 | \$ (54,469) | \$ (3,884) |
| Net income (loss) per share: | | | | | |
| Basic | \$ 0.29 | \$ 0.21 | \$ 0.14 | \$ (0.72) | \$ (0.05) |
| Diluted | \$ 0.28 | \$ 0.20 | \$ 0.14 | \$ (0.72) | \$ (0.05) |
| Shares used in computing net income per share: | | | | | |
| Basic | 73,994,577 | 72,026,694 | 70,075,908 | 76,023,237 | 73,516,140 |
| Diluted | 75,328,343 | 73,765,960 | 72,314,433 | 76,023,237 | 73,516,140 |

| | As of July 31, | | As of |
|---|----------------|------------|------------------|
| | 2017 | 2016 | January 31, 2018 |
| (in thousands) | | | |
| Consolidated Balance Sheet Data: | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 263,176 | \$ 223,582 | \$ 205,287 |
| Short-term investments | 310,027 | 404,655 | 299,891 |

Edgar Filing: Guidewire Software, Inc. - Form 424B5

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| Working capital | 515,624 | 588,589 | 466,209 |
| Total assets | 1,078,901 | 916,178 | 1,283,694 |
| Total liabilities | 185,620 | 132,243 | 196,205 |
| Total stockholders equity | 893,281 | 783,935 | 1,087,489 |

S-9

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

*Investing in our notes involves a high degree of risk. In addition to the other information contained in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and in the documents that we incorporate by reference herein and therein, you should carefully consider the risks discussed below and under the heading **Item IA. Risk Factors** in our 2017 Form 10-K and Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended October 31, 2017 and January 31, 2018 before making a decision about investing in the notes. The risks and uncertainties discussed below and in our 2017 Form 10-K and the Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended October 31, 2017 and January 31, 2018 are not the only ones facing us. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us, or that we currently see as immaterial, may also harm our business. If any of these risks occur, our business, financial condition and operating results could be harmed, the trading price of the notes and our common stock could decline and you could lose part or all of your investment.*

Risks Related to the Notes

The notes are effectively subordinated to our secured debt and any liabilities of our subsidiaries.

The notes will rank senior in right of payment to any of our indebtedness that is expressly subordinated in right of payment to the notes; equal in right of payment to any of our liabilities that are not so subordinated; effectively junior in right of payment to any of our secured indebtedness to the extent of the value of the assets securing such indebtedness; and structurally junior to all indebtedness and other liabilities (including trade payables) of our subsidiaries. In the event of our bankruptcy, liquidation, reorganization or other winding up, our assets that secure debt ranking senior or equal in right of payment to the notes will be available to pay obligations on the notes only after the secured debt has been repaid in full from these assets. There may not be sufficient assets remaining to pay amounts due on any or all of the notes then outstanding. The indenture governing the notes will not prohibit us from incurring additional senior debt or secured debt, nor does it prohibit any of our subsidiaries from incurring additional liabilities.

As of January 31, 2018, we and our subsidiaries had no indebtedness. As of January 31, 2018, our subsidiaries had \$4.7 million of other liabilities (including trade payables, but excluding intercompany obligations and liabilities of a type not required to be reflected on a balance sheet of such subsidiaries in accordance with GAAP) to which the notes would have been structurally subordinated. After giving effect to the issuance of the notes (assuming no exercise of the underwriters' over-allotment option to purchase additional notes) and the use of proceeds therefrom, our total consolidated indebtedness would have been \$360.0 million.

The notes are our obligations only and a portion of our operations are conducted through, and a portion of our consolidated assets are held by, our subsidiaries.

The notes are our obligations exclusively and are not guaranteed by any of our operating subsidiaries. A portion of our operations are conducted through, and a portion of our consolidated assets are held by, our subsidiaries. Accordingly, our ability to service our debt, including the notes, depends, in part, on the results of operations of our subsidiaries and upon the ability of such subsidiaries to provide us with cash, whether in the form of dividends, loans or otherwise, to pay amounts due on our obligations, including the notes. Our subsidiaries are separate and distinct legal entities and have no obligation, contingent or otherwise, to make payments on the notes or to make any funds available for that purpose. In addition, dividends, loans or other distributions to us from such subsidiaries may be subject to contractual and other restrictions and are subject to other business considerations.

Table of Contents

Servicing our future indebtedness will require a significant amount of cash, and we may not have sufficient cash flow from our business to pay our substantial indebtedness.

Our ability to make scheduled payments of the principal of, to pay interest on or to refinance our future indebtedness, including the notes, depends on our future performance, which is subject to economic, financial, competitive and other factors beyond our control. Our business may not continue to generate cash flow from operations in the future sufficient to service our debt and make necessary capital expenditures. If we are unable to generate such cash flow, we may be required to adopt one or more alternatives, such as selling assets, restructuring debt or obtaining additional equity capital on terms that may be onerous or highly dilutive. Our ability to refinance our indebtedness will depend on the capital markets and our financial condition at such time. We may not be able to engage in any of these activities or engage in these activities on desirable terms, which could result in a default on our debt obligations. In addition, any of our future debt agreements may contain restrictive covenants that may prohibit us from adopting any of these alternatives. Our failure to comply with these covenants could result in an event of default which, if not cured or waived, could result in the acceleration of our debt.

Recent and future regulatory actions and other events may adversely affect the trading price and liquidity of the notes.

We expect that many investors in, and potential purchasers of, the notes will employ, or seek to employ, a convertible arbitrage strategy with respect to the notes. Investors would typically implement such a strategy by selling short the common stock underlying the notes and dynamically adjusting their short position while continuing to hold the notes. Investors may also implement this type of strategy by entering into swaps on our common stock in lieu of or in addition to short selling the common stock.

The SEC and other regulatory and self-regulatory authorities have implemented various rules and taken certain actions, and may in the future adopt additional rules and take other actions, that may impact those engaging in short selling activity involving equity securities (including our common stock) and securities convertible or exchangeable for equity securities (including the notes). Such rules and actions include Rule 201 of SEC Regulation SHO, the adoption by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. and the national securities exchanges of a Limit Up-Limit Down program, the imposition of market-wide circuit breakers that halt trading of securities for certain periods following specific market declines, and the implementation of certain regulatory reforms required by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010. Any governmental or regulatory action that restricts the ability of investors in, or potential purchasers of, the notes to effect short sales of our common stock, borrow our common stock or enter into swaps on our common stock could adversely affect the trading price and the liquidity of the notes.

Hedging or arbitrage trading or volatility in the market price and trading volume of our common stock could adversely impact the trading price of the notes.

The stock market in recent years has experienced significant price and volume fluctuations that have often been unrelated to the operating performance of companies. The market price of our common stock could fluctuate significantly for many reasons, including in response to the risks described in this section, elsewhere in this prospectus supplement or the documents we have incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or for reasons unrelated to our operations, such as reports by industry analysts, investor perceptions or negative announcements by our customers, competitors or suppliers regarding their own performance, as well as industry conditions and general financial, economic and political instability. A decrease in the market price of our common stock would likely adversely impact the trading price of the notes. The market price of our common stock could also be affected by possible sales of our common stock by investors who view the notes as a more attractive means of equity participation

in us and by hedging or arbitrage trading activity that we expect to develop involving our common stock. This hedging or arbitrage trading activity could, in turn, affect the trading price of the notes.

S-11

Table of Contents

We may still incur substantially more debt or take other actions which would intensify the risks discussed above.

We and our subsidiaries may be able to incur substantial additional debt in the future, subject to the restrictions contained in our future debt instruments, if any, some of which may be secured debt. We will not be restricted under the terms of the indenture governing the notes from incurring additional debt, including secured debt, recapitalizing our debt or taking a number of other actions that are not limited by the terms of the indenture governing the notes that could have the effect of diminishing our ability to make payments on the notes when due.

We may not have the ability to raise the funds necessary for cash settlement upon conversions of the notes or to repurchase the notes upon a fundamental change, and our future debt may contain limitations on our ability to pay cash upon conversion or repurchase of the notes.

Holders of the notes will have the right to require us to repurchase their notes upon the occurrence of a fundamental change at a fundamental change repurchase price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the notes to be repurchased, plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to, but excluding, the fundamental change repurchase date, as described under Description of Notes Fundamental Change Permits Holders to Require Us to Repurchase Notes. In addition, upon conversion of the notes, unless we elect to deliver solely shares of our common stock to settle such conversion (other than paying cash in lieu of delivering any fractional share), we will be required to make cash payments in respect of the notes being converted as described under Description of Notes Conversion Rights Settlement upon Conversion. However, we may not have enough available cash or be able to obtain financing at the time we are required to make repurchases of notes surrendered therefor or notes being converted.

In addition, our ability to repurchase the notes or to pay cash upon conversions of the notes may be limited by law, by regulatory authority or by agreements governing our future indebtedness. Our failure to repurchase notes at a time when the repurchase is required by the indenture governing the notes or to pay any cash payable on future conversions of the notes as required by the indenture would constitute a default under the indenture. A default under the indenture or the fundamental change itself could also lead to a default under agreements governing our future indebtedness. If the repayment of the related indebtedness were to be accelerated after any applicable notice or grace periods, we may not have sufficient funds to repay the indebtedness and repurchase the notes or make cash payments upon conversions thereof.

Redemption may adversely affect your return on the notes.

We may not redeem the notes prior to March 20, 2022. We may redeem for cash all or any portion of the notes, at our option, on or after March 20, 2022 if the last reported sale price of our common stock has been at least 130% of the conversion price then in effect for at least 20 trading days (whether or not consecutive) including at least one of the three trading days immediately preceding the date on which we provide notice of redemption during any 30 consecutive trading day period ending on, and including, the trading day immediately preceding the date on which we provide notice of redemption at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the notes to be redeemed, plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the redemption date. As a result, we may choose to redeem some or all of the notes, including at times when prevailing interest rates are relatively low. As a result, you may not be able to reinvest the proceeds you receive from the redemption in a comparable security at an effective interest rate as high as the interest rate on your notes being redeemed. See Description of Notes Optional Redemption.

The conditional conversion feature of the notes, if triggered, may adversely affect our financial condition and operating results.

In the event the conditional conversion feature of the notes is triggered, holders of notes will be entitled to convert the notes at any time during specified periods at their option. See Description of Notes Conversion

S-12

Table of Contents

Rights. If one or more holders elect to convert their notes, unless we elect to satisfy our conversion obligation by delivering solely shares of our common stock (other than paying cash in lieu of delivering any fractional share), we would be required to settle a portion or all of our conversion obligation through the payment of cash, which could adversely affect our liquidity. In addition, even if holders do not elect to convert their notes, we could be required under applicable accounting rules to reclassify all or a portion of the outstanding principal of the notes as a current rather than long-term liability, which would result in a material reduction of our net working capital.

The accounting method for convertible debt securities that may be settled in cash, such as the notes, could have a material effect on our reported financial results.

Under Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification 470-20, Debt with Conversion and Other Options, which we refer to as ASC 470-20, an entity must separately account for the liability and equity components of convertible debt instruments (such as the notes) that may be settled entirely or partially in cash upon conversion in a manner that reflects the issuer's economic interest cost. ASC 470-20 requires the value of the conversion option of the notes, representing the equity component, to be recorded as additional paid-in capital within stockholders' equity in our consolidated balance sheet and as an original issue discount to the notes, which reduces their initial carrying value. The carrying value of the notes, net of the discount recorded, will be accreted up to the principal amount of the notes from the issuance date until maturity, which will result in non-cash charges to interest expense in our consolidated statement of operations. Accordingly, we will report lower net income or higher net loss in our financial results because ASC 470-20 requires interest to include both the current period's accretion of the debt discount and the instrument's coupon interest, which could adversely affect our reported or future financial results, the trading price of our common stock and the trading price of the notes.

In addition, under certain circumstances, convertible debt instruments (such as the notes) that may be settled entirely or partly in cash are currently accounted for utilizing the treasury stock method, the effect of which is that the shares issuable upon conversion of the notes are not included in the calculation of diluted earnings per share except to the extent that the conversion value of the notes exceeds their principal amount. Under the treasury stock method, for diluted earnings per share purposes, the transaction is accounted for as if the number of shares of common stock that would be necessary to settle such excess, if we elected to settle such excess in shares, are issued. We cannot be sure that the accounting standards in the future will continue to permit the use of the treasury stock method. If we are unable to use the treasury stock method in accounting for the shares issuable upon conversion of the notes, then our diluted earnings per share would be adversely affected.

Future sales of our common stock or equity-linked securities in the public market, could lower the market price for our common stock and adversely impact the trading price of the notes.

In the future, we may sell additional shares of our common stock or equity-linked securities to raise capital. In addition, a substantial number of shares of our common stock are reserved for issuance upon the exercise of stock options, settlement of other equity incentive awards, and conversion of the notes. We cannot predict the size of future issuances or the effect, if any, that they may have on the market price for our common stock. The issuance and sale of substantial amounts of common stock or equity-linked securities, or the perception that such issuances and sales may occur, could adversely affect the trading price of the notes and the market price of our common stock and impair our ability to raise capital through the sale of additional equity or equity-linked securities.

Holders of notes will not be entitled to any rights with respect to our common stock, but they will be subject to all changes made with respect to them to the extent we settle our conversion obligation, in whole or in part, with shares of our common stock.

Holders of notes will not be entitled to any rights with respect to our common stock (including, without limitation, voting rights and rights to receive any dividends or other distributions on our common stock) prior to

S-13

Table of Contents

the conversion date relating to such notes (if we have elected to settle the relevant conversion by delivering solely shares of our common stock (other than paying cash in lieu of delivering any fractional share)) or the last trading day of the relevant observation period (if we elect to pay and deliver, as the case may be, a combination of cash and shares of our common stock in respect of the relevant conversion), but holders of notes will be subject to all changes affecting our common stock. For example, if an amendment is proposed to our certificate of incorporation or bylaws requiring stockholder approval and the record date for determining the stockholders of record entitled to vote on the amendment occurs prior to the conversion date related to a holder's conversion of its notes (if we have elected to settle the relevant conversion by delivering solely shares of our common stock (other than paying cash in lieu of delivering any fractional share)) or the last trading day of the relevant observation period (if we elect to pay and deliver, as the case may be, a combination of cash and shares of our common stock in respect of the relevant conversion), such holder will not be entitled to vote on the amendment, although such holder will nevertheless be subject to any changes affecting our common stock.

The conditional conversion feature of the notes could result in your receiving less than the value of our common stock into which the notes would otherwise be convertible.

Prior to the close of business on the business day immediately preceding October 15, 2024, you may convert your notes only if specified conditions are met. If the specific conditions for conversion are not met, you will not be able to convert your notes, and you may not be able to receive the value of the cash, common stock or a combination of cash and common stock, as applicable, into which the notes would otherwise be convertible.

Upon conversion of the notes, you may receive less valuable consideration than expected because the value of our common stock may decline after you exercise your conversion right but before we settle our conversion obligation.

Under the notes, a converting holder will be exposed to fluctuations in the value of our common stock during the period from the date such holder surrenders notes for conversion until the date we settle our conversion obligation.

Upon conversion of the notes, we have the option to pay or deliver, as the case may be, cash, shares of our common stock, or a combination of cash and shares of our common stock. If we elect to satisfy our conversion obligation in cash or a combination of cash and shares of our common stock, the amount of consideration that you will receive upon conversion of your notes will be determined by reference to the volume-weighted average price of our common stock for each trading day in a 40 trading day observation period. As described under **Description of Notes Conversion Rights Settlement Upon Conversion**, this period would be (i) subject to clause (ii), if the relevant conversion date occurs prior to October 15, 2024, the 40 consecutive trading day period beginning on, and including, the second trading day immediately succeeding such conversion date; (ii) if the relevant conversion date occurs on or after the date of our issuance of a notice of redemption with respect to the notes as described under **Description of Notes Optional Redemption** and prior to the relevant redemption date, the 40 consecutive trading days beginning on, and including, the 41st scheduled trading day immediately preceding such redemption date; and (iii) subject to clause (ii), if the relevant conversion date occurs on or after October 15, 2024, the 40 consecutive trading days beginning on, and including, the 41st scheduled trading day immediately preceding the maturity date. Accordingly, if the price of our common stock decreases during this period, the amount and/or value of consideration you receive will be adversely affected. In addition, if the market price of our common stock at the end of such period is below the average volume-weighted average price of our common stock during such period, the value of any shares of our common stock that you will receive in satisfaction of our conversion obligation will be less than the value used to determine the number of shares that you will receive.

If we elect to satisfy our conversion obligation solely in shares of our common stock upon conversion of the notes, we will be required to deliver the shares of our common stock, together with cash for any fractional share, on the second

business day following the relevant conversion date. Accordingly, if the price of our common

S-14

Table of Contents

stock decreases during this period, the value of the shares that you receive will be adversely affected and would be less than the conversion value of the notes on the conversion date.

The notes are not protected by restrictive covenants.

The indenture governing the notes will not contain any financial or operating covenants or restrictions on the payments of dividends, the incurrence of indebtedness or the issuance or repurchase of securities by us or any of our subsidiaries. The indenture will not contain any covenants or other provisions to afford protection to holders of the notes in the event of a fundamental change or other corporate transaction involving us except to the extent described under Description of Notes Fundamental Change Permits Holders to Require Us to Repurchase Notes, Description of Notes Conversion Rights Increase in Conversion Rate upon Conversion upon a Make-whole Fundamental Change or Notice of Redemption and Description of Notes Consolidation, Merger and Sale of Assets, and we have no obligation to consider the specific interests of the holders of the notes in engaging in any such offering or transaction.

The increase in the conversion rate for notes converted in connection with a make-whole fundamental change or redemption may not adequately compensate you for any lost value of your notes as a result of such transaction.

If a make-whole fundamental change or redemption occurs prior to the maturity date, under certain circumstances, we will increase the conversion rate by a number of additional shares of our common stock for notes converted in connection with such make-whole fundamental change or redemption. The increase in the conversion rate will be determined based on the date on which the specified corporate transaction becomes effective or the date of the redemption notice and the price paid (or deemed to be paid) per share of our common stock in such transaction, as described below under Description of Notes Conversion Rights Increase in Conversion Rate upon Conversion upon a Make-whole Fundamental Change or Notice of Redemption. The increase in the conversion rate for notes converted in connection with a make-whole fundamental change or redemption, as applicable, may not adequately compensate you for any lost value of your notes as a result of such transaction or in connection with the relevant redemption, as applicable. In addition, if the price per share of our common stock paid (or deemed paid) in the transaction or in connection with the relevant redemption, as applicable, is greater than \$325.00 per share or less than \$87.50 per share (in each case, subject to adjustment), no additional shares will be added to the conversion rate. Moreover, in no event will the conversion rate per \$1,000 principal amount of notes as a result of this adjustment exceed 11.4285 shares of common stock, subject to adjustment in the same manner as the conversion rate as set forth under Description of Notes Conversion Rights Conversion Rate Adjustments.

Our obligation to increase the conversion rate for notes converted in connection with a make-whole fundamental change or redemption could be considered a penalty, in which case the enforceability thereof would be subject to general principles of reasonableness and equitable remedies.

Upon any redemption of the notes on or after March 20, 2022 or any conversion of the notes in connection with a redemption notice, the cash comprising the redemption price, in the case of a redemption, or the applicable conversion rate, in the case of a conversion in connection with a redemption notice, as applicable, may not fully compensate you for future interest payments or lost time value of your notes.

On or after March 20, 2022, we may redeem for cash all or any portion of the notes, at our option, if the last reported sale price of our common stock has been at least 130% of the conversion price then in effect for at least 20 trading days (whether or not consecutive), including at least one of the three trading days immediately preceding the date on which we provide notice of redemption, during any 30 consecutive trading day period ending on, and including, the trading day immediately preceding the date on which we provide notice of redemption at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the notes to be redeemed, plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the

redemption date. If we call any or all of the notes for redemption, you may convert your notes at any time prior to the close of business on the second

S-15

Table of Contents

scheduled trading day immediately preceding the redemption date. Upon such redemption or conversion, the cash comprising the redemption price, in the case of a redemption, or the applicable conversion rate, in the case of a conversion in connection with a redemption notice, in either case, may not fully compensate you for any future interest payments that you would have otherwise received or any other lost time value of your notes. See Description of Notes Optional Redemption.

The conversion rate of the notes may not be adjusted for all dilutive events.

The conversion rate of the notes is subject to adjustment for certain events, including, but not limited to, the issuance of certain stock dividends on our common stock, the issuance of certain rights or warrants, subdivisions, combinations, distributions of capital stock, indebtedness, or assets, cash dividends and certain issuer tender or exchange offers as described under Description of Notes Conversion Rights Conversion Rate Adjustments. However, the conversion rate will not be adjusted for other events, such as a third-party tender or exchange offer or an issuance of common stock for cash, that may adversely affect the trading price of the notes or our common stock. An event that adversely affects the value of the notes may occur, and that event may not result in an adjustment to the conversion rate.

Some significant restructuring transactions may not constitute a fundamental change, in which case we would not be obligated to offer to repurchase the notes.

Upon the occurrence of a fundamental change, you have the right to require us to repurchase your notes. However, the fundamental change provisions will not afford protection to holders of notes in the event of other transactions that could adversely affect the notes. For example, transactions such as leveraged recapitalizations, refinancings, restructurings, or acquisitions initiated by us may not constitute a fundamental change requiring us to repurchase the notes. In the event of any such transaction, the holders would not have the right to require us to repurchase the notes, even though each of these transactions could increase the amount of our indebtedness, or otherwise adversely affect our capital structure or any credit ratings, thereby adversely affecting the holders of notes.

We cannot assure you that an active trading market will develop for the notes.

Prior to this offering, there has been no trading market for the notes, and we do not intend to apply to list the notes on any securities exchange or to arrange for quotation on any automated dealer quotation system. We have been informed by the underwriters that they intend to make a market in the notes after the offering is completed. However, the underwriters may cease their market-making at any time without notice. In addition, the liquidity of the trading market in the notes, and the market price quoted for the notes, may be adversely affected by changes in the overall market for this type of security and by changes in our financial performance or prospects or in the prospects for companies in our industry generally. As a result, we cannot assure you that an active trading market will develop for the notes. Historically, the market for non-investment grade debt has been subject to severe disruptions that have caused substantial volatility in the prices of securities similar to the notes. The market, if any, for the notes may experience similar disruptions and any such disruptions may adversely affect the liquidity in that market or the prices at which you may sell your notes. In addition, subsequent to their initial issuance, the notes may trade at a discount from their initial offering price, depending upon prevailing interest rates, the market for similar notes, our performance and other factors. If an active trading market does not develop or is not maintained, the market price and liquidity of the notes may be adversely affected. In that case you may not be able to sell your notes at a particular time or you may not be able to sell your notes at a favorable price.

Any adverse rating of the notes may cause their trading price to fall.

We do not intend to seek a rating on the notes. However, if a rating service were to rate the notes and if such rating service were to lower its rating on the notes below the rating initially assigned to the notes or otherwise announces its intention to put the notes on credit watch, the trading price of the notes could decline.

S-16

Table of Contents

You may be subject to tax if we make or fail to make certain adjustments to the conversion rate of the notes even though you do not receive a corresponding cash distribution.

The conversion rate of the notes is subject to adjustment in certain circumstances, including the payment of cash dividends and in connection with a make-whole fundamental change. Adjustments or failures to adjust (or to adjust adequately) that have the effect of increasing the proportionate interest of a holder of notes in our assets or earnings may give rise to a deemed distribution for U.S. federal income tax purposes if the adjustment or failure to adjust is made in connection with other shareholders receiving a distribution of money or other property. You may be deemed to have received a dividend from us, resulting in ordinary dividend income to you, as a result of such an adjustment or failure to adjust, even though you do not receive any cash related to that adjustment and even though you might not exercise your conversion right. It is unclear whether any such constructive dividend would be eligible for preferential tax treatment generally available for dividends paid by U.S. corporations to U.S. holders. If you are a non-U.S. holder (as defined in [Certain Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations](#)), any deemed dividend would be subject to U.S. federal withholding tax at a 30% rate or such lower rate as may be specified by an applicable treaty, which may be set off against subsequent payments on the notes. We do not currently expect to make distributions, although no assurance can be given in this regard. See [Certain Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations](#).

The capped call transactions may affect the value of the notes and our common stock.

In connection with the pricing of the notes, we entered into capped call transactions with the option counterparties. The capped call transactions are expected generally to reduce the potential dilution to our common stock upon any conversion of the notes and/or offset any cash payments we are required to make in excess of the principal amount of converted notes, as the case may be, with such reduction and/or offset subject to a cap. If the underwriters exercise their over-allotment option to purchase additional notes, we expect to enter into additional capped call transactions with the option counterparties.

In connection with establishing their initial hedges of the capped call transactions, the option counterparties or their respective affiliates expect to enter into various derivative transactions with respect to our common stock concurrently with or shortly after the pricing of the notes. This activity could increase (or reduce the size of any decrease in) the market price of our common stock or the notes at that time.

In addition, the option counterparties or their respective affiliates may modify their hedge positions by entering into or unwinding derivatives with respect to our common stock and/or purchasing or selling our common stock or other securities of ours in secondary market transactions following the pricing of the notes and prior to the maturity of the notes (and are likely to do so during any observation period related to a conversion of notes). This activity could also cause or avoid an increase or a decrease in the market price of our common stock or the notes, which could affect your ability to convert the notes and, to the extent the activity occurs during any observation period related to a conversion of notes, it could affect the number of shares and value of the consideration that you will receive upon conversion of the notes.

In addition, if any such capped call transactions fail to become effective, whether or not this offering of notes is completed, the option counterparties or their respective affiliates may unwind their hedge positions with respect to our common stock, which could adversely affect the value of our common stock and, if the notes have been issued, the value of the notes.

We are subject to counterparty risk with respect to the capped call transactions.

The option counterparties are financial institutions, and we will be subject to the risk that any or all of them might default under the capped call transactions. Our exposure to the credit risk of the option counterparties will not be secured by any collateral. Past global economic conditions have resulted in the actual or perceived failure or financial difficulties of many financial institutions. If an option counterparty becomes subject to insolvency

S-17

Table of Contents

proceedings, we will become an unsecured creditor in those proceedings with a claim equal to our exposure at that time under the capped call transactions with such option counterparty. Our exposure will depend on many factors but, generally, an increase in our exposure will be correlated to an increase in the market price and in the volatility of our common stock. In addition, upon a default by an option counterparty, we may suffer adverse tax consequences and more dilution than we currently anticipate with respect to our common stock. We can provide no assurances as to the financial stability or viability of the option counterparties.

Our management will have broad discretion over the use of the proceeds we receive in this offering and may not apply the proceeds in ways that increase the value of your investment.

Our management generally will have broad discretion to use the net proceeds to us from this offering, and you will be relying on the judgment of our management regarding the application of these proceeds. Our management might not apply the net proceeds from this offering in ways that increase the value of your investment. Other than the payments in respect of the capped call transactions, we have not allocated the net proceeds from this offering for any specific purposes. Until we use the net proceeds to us from this offering, we plan to invest them, and these investments may not yield a favorable rate of return. If we do not invest or apply the net proceeds from this offering in ways that enhance stockholder value, we may fail to achieve expected financial results, which could cause our stock price to decline, which would likely harm the trading price of the notes.

Because the notes will initially be held in book-entry form, holders must rely on DTC's procedures to receive communications relating to the notes and exercise their rights and remedies.

We will initially issue the notes in the form of one or more global notes registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee of DTC. Beneficial interests in global notes will be shown on, and transfers of global notes will be effected only through, the records maintained by DTC. Except in limited circumstances, we will not issue certificated notes. See Description of Notes Book-Entry, Settlement and Clearance. Accordingly, if you own a beneficial interest in a global note, then you will not be considered an owner or holder of the notes. Instead, DTC or its nominee will be the sole holder of the notes. Unlike persons who have certificated notes registered in their names, owners of beneficial interests in global notes will not have the direct right to act on our solicitations for consents or requests for waivers or other actions from holders. Instead, those beneficial owners will be permitted to act only to the extent that they have received appropriate proxies to do so from DTC or, if applicable, a DTC participant. The applicable procedures for the granting of these proxies may not be sufficient to enable owners of beneficial interests in global notes to vote on any requested actions on a timely basis. In addition, notices and other communications relating to the notes (including any notice of redemption) will be sent to DTC. We expect DTC to forward any such communications to DTC participants, which in turn would forward such communications to indirect DTC participants. But we can make no assurances that you timely receive any such communications.

Risks Related to Our Concurrent Common Stock Offering and Our Common Stock

We may not be able to obtain capital when desired on favorable terms, if at all, and we may not be able to obtain capital or complete acquisitions through the use of equity or without dilution to our stockholders.

We may need additional financing to execute on our current or future business strategies, including to develop new or enhance existing products and services, acquire businesses and technologies, or otherwise to respond to competitive pressures.

If we raise additional funds through the issuance of equity or convertible debt securities (including in the concurrent Common Stock Offering), the percentage ownership of our stockholders could be significantly diluted, and

newly-issued securities may have rights, preferences or privileges senior to those of existing stockholders. If we accumulate additional funds through debt financing, a substantial portion of our operating cash flow may be dedicated to the payment of principal and interest on such indebtedness, thus limiting funds

S-18

Table of Contents

available for our business activities. We cannot assure you that additional financing will be available on terms favorable to us, or at all. If adequate funds are not available or are not available on acceptable terms, when we desire them, our ability to fund our operations, take advantage of unanticipated opportunities, develop or enhance our products and services, or otherwise respond to competitive pressures would be significantly limited. Any of these factors could harm our results of operations.

Our stock price may be volatile, which could result in securities class action litigation against us.

The market price of our common stock could be subject to wide fluctuations in response to, among other things, the risk factors described in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein, and other factors beyond our control, such as fluctuations in the valuation of companies perceived by investors to be comparable to us and research analyst coverage about our business.

Furthermore, the stock markets have experienced price and volume fluctuations that have affected and continue to affect the market prices of equity securities of many companies. These fluctuations often have been unrelated or disproportionate to the operating performance of those companies. These broad market and industry fluctuations, as well as general economic, political and market conditions, such as recessions, interest rate changes or international currency fluctuations, have and may continue to affect the market price of our common stock.

In the past, many companies that have experienced volatility in the market price of their stock have been subject to securities class action litigation. We may become the target of this type of litigation in the future. Securities litigation against us could result in substantial costs and divert our management's attention from other business concerns, which could seriously harm our business. This offering is not conditioned on the consummation of any other financing, including the concurrent Common Stock Offering.

We intend to use the net proceeds of this offering, together with the proceeds from the concurrent Common Stock Offering, as described in "Use of proceeds" herein and in the prospectus supplement that pertains to the concurrent Common Stock Offering. However, neither the completion of this offering nor of the concurrent Common Stock Offering is contingent on the completion of the other, so it is possible that this offering occurs and the Common Stock Offering does not occur, and vice versa. We cannot assure you that the concurrent Common Stock Offering will be completed on the terms described above, or at all.

Sales of substantial amounts of our common stock in the public markets, or the perception that they might occur, could reduce the price that our common stock might otherwise attain and may dilute the voting power and ownership interest in us of our then-existing stockholders.

Concurrently with this offering of the notes, we are offering 2,285,714 shares of our common stock (or 2,628,571 shares of our common stock if the underwriters in that offering exercise their option to purchase additional shares of common stock in full) pursuant to a separate prospectus supplement in the concurrent Common Stock Offering. This offering is not contingent upon the completion of the concurrent Common Stock Offering and the concurrent Common Stock Offering is not contingent upon the completion of this notes offering. The sale of the shares of our common stock in the concurrent Common Stock Offering could lower the market price for our common stock.

Sales of substantial amounts of our common stock in the public market following this offering and the concurrent Common Stock Offering, or the perception that such sales could occur, could adversely affect the market price of our common stock and may make it more difficult for holders of our common stock to sell it at a time and price that deemed appropriate. The shares of our common stock being sold in the concurrent Common Stock Offering may be resold immediately in the public market unless they are held by affiliates, as that term is defined in Rule 144 of the

Securities Act.

S-19

Table of Contents

Subject to certain exceptions described under the caption "Underwriting," we and our directors and executive officers, have agreed not to offer, sell or agree to sell, directly or indirectly, any shares of common stock without the permission of Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC, Citigroup Global Markets Inc. and J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, as representatives of the Underwriters (the "Representatives"), for a period of 90 days from the date of this prospectus supplement. When the lock-up period expires, we and our directors and executive officers will be able to sell our shares in the public market. In addition, the Representatives may, in their sole discretion, release all or some portion of the shares subject to lock-up agreements prior to expiration of the lock-up period. Sales of a substantial number of such shares upon expiration, or the perception that such sales may occur, or early release, of the lock-up could cause our share price to decline or make it more difficult for holders of our common stock to sell such common stock at a time and price that deemed appropriate. Subject to certain limitations, we also may issue our shares of common stock or securities convertible into our common stock from time to time in connection with a financing, an acquisition, investments or otherwise. Any such issuance could result in substantial dilution to our existing stockholders and cause the trading price of our common stock to decline.

We currently do not intend to pay dividends on our common stock and, consequently, your only opportunity to achieve a return on your investment in our common stock is if the price of our common stock appreciates.

We currently do not plan to declare dividends on shares of our common stock in the foreseeable future. Consequently, the only opportunity to achieve a return on investment on our common stock will be if the market price of our common stock appreciates and shares are sold at a profit.

Certain provisions of our certificate of incorporation and bylaws and of Delaware law could prevent a takeover that stockholders consider favorable and could also reduce the market price of our stock.

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and our amended and restated bylaws contain provisions that could delay or prevent a merger, acquisition or other change in control that stockholders may consider favorable, including transactions in which stockholders might otherwise receive a premium for their shares. These provisions may also prevent or delay attempts by stockholders to replace or remove our current management or members of our board of directors. These provisions include:

providing for a classified board of directors with staggered three-year terms, which could delay the ability of stockholders to change the membership of a majority of our board of directors;

not providing for cumulative voting in the election of directors, which limits the ability of minority stockholders to elect director candidates;

authorizing our board of directors to issue, without stockholder approval, preferred stock rights senior to those of common stock, which could be used to significantly dilute the ownership of a hostile acquirer;

prohibiting stockholder action by written consent, which forces stockholder action to be taken at an annual or special meeting of our stockholders;

limiting the persons who may call special meetings of stockholders, which could delay the ability of our stockholders to force consideration of a proposal or to take action, including the removal of directors; and

requiring advance notification of stockholder nominations and proposals, which may discourage or deter a potential acquirer from conducting a solicitation of proxies to elect the acquirer's own slate of directors or otherwise attempting to obtain control of us.

The affirmative vote of the holders of at least 66 2/3% of our shares of capital stock entitled to vote is generally necessary to amend or repeal the above provisions that are contained in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation. Also, absent approval of our board of directors, our amended and restated bylaws may only be

Table of Contents

amended or repealed by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least 50% of our shares of capital stock entitled to vote.

In addition, we are subject to the provisions of Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law. These provisions may prohibit large stockholders, in particular those owning 15% or more of our outstanding common stock, from engaging in certain business combinations without approval of substantially all of our stockholders for a certain period of time.

These and other provisions in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, our amended and restated bylaws and under Delaware law could discourage potential takeover attempts, reduce the price that investors might be willing to pay for shares of our common stock in the future and result in the market price being lower than it would be without these provisions.

S-21

Table of Contents

USE OF PROCEEDS

We estimate that the net proceeds from the sale of the notes in this offering will be approximately \$348.5 million, after deducting underwriting discounts and estimated offering expenses payable by us. If the underwriters over-allotment option to purchase additional notes in this offering is exercised in full, we estimate that the net proceeds from this offering will be approximately \$387.3 million, after deducting underwriting discounts and estimated offering expenses payable by us. In addition, concurrently with this convertible notes offering, we are offering 2,285,714 shares of our common stock (or 2,628,571 of our common stock if the underwriters in that offering exercise their option to purchase additional shares of common stock in full) pursuant to a separate prospectus supplement in the concurrent Common Stock Offering. The net proceeds of the concurrent Common Stock Offering, after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated expenses payable by us, are expected to be approximately \$191.8 million (or approximately \$220.7 million if the underwriters in the concurrent Common Stock Offering exercise their option to purchase additional shares of common stock in full).

We entered into capped call transactions with one or more option counterparties, which may include some of the underwriters and/or their respective affiliates and/or other financial institutions, as described under Description of Capped Call Transactions. We intend to use approximately \$33.5 million of the net proceeds from this offering to pay the cost of the capped call transactions.

We intend to use the remaining net proceeds from this offering and the concurrent Common Stock Offering for working capital and other general corporate purposes. The amount and timing of these expenditures will vary depending on a number of factors, including competitive and technological developments and the rate of growth, if any, of our business. In addition, we may use a portion of the net proceeds to acquire or invest in complementary companies, product lines, products or technologies. However, we have no understandings or agreements with respect to any such acquisition or investment.

Pending their use, we plan to invest the net proceeds from this offering in cash, money market funds, commercial paper, corporate bonds, U.S. agency debt securities and U.S. government bonds.

If the underwriters exercise their over-allotment option to purchase additional notes, we expect to use a portion of the net proceeds from the sale of the additional notes to enter into additional capped call transactions with the option counterparties and the balance of the net proceeds for working capital and other general corporate purposes.

Neither the completion of this offering nor of the concurrent Common Stock Offering is contingent on the completion of the other, so it is possible that this offering occurs and the concurrent Common Stock Offering does not occur, and vice versa. We cannot assure you that the concurrent Common Stock Offering will be completed on the terms described above, or at all.

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

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol GWRE. The following table sets forth the high and low sales price per share of our common stock as reported on the New York Stock Exchange for the periods indicated:

| | High | Low |
|---|-------------|------------|
| Fiscal Year Ending July 31, 2018 | | |
| First Quarter | \$ 81.46 | \$ 67.89 |
| Second Quarter | \$ 83.52 | \$ 70.06 |
| Third Quarter (through March 8, 2018) | \$ 92.65 | \$ 72.51 |
| Fiscal Year Ended July 31, 2017 | | |
| First Quarter | \$ 63.98 | \$ 57.08 |
| Second Quarter | \$ 59.78 | \$ 49.18 |
| Third Quarter | \$ 62.68 | \$ 51.00 |
| Fourth Quarter | \$ 73.36 | \$ 60.15 |
| Fiscal Year Ended July 31, 2016 | | |
| First Quarter | \$ 60.00 | \$ 50.21 |
| Second Quarter | \$ 64.78 | \$ 50.26 |
| Third Quarter | \$ 58.86 | \$ 42.32 |
| Fourth Quarter. | \$ 64.00 | \$ 54.05 |

On March 8, 2018, the last reported sale price of our common stock on the New York Stock Exchange was \$88.22 per share. As of March 2, 2018, we had 58 holders of record of our common stock. The actual number of stockholders is greater than this number of record holders, and includes stockholders who are beneficial owners, but whose shares are held in street name by brokers and other nominees. This number of holders of record also does not include stockholders whose shares may be held in trust by other entities.

DIVIDEND POLICY

We have never declared or paid cash dividends on our common stock. We currently intend to retain all available funds and any future earnings for use in the operation of our business and do not anticipate paying any dividends on our common stock in the foreseeable future. Any future determination to declare dividends will be made at the discretion of our board of directors and will depend on our financial condition, results of operations, capital requirements, general business conditions and other factors that our board of directors may deem relevant.

Table of Contents**CAPITALIZATION**

The following table sets forth our consolidated cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments and capitalization as of January 31, 2018:

on an actual basis;

on an as adjusted basis to give effect to (1) this offering of notes (assuming the underwriters in this offering do not exercise their over-allotment option to purchase additional notes), after deducting underwriting discounts and estimated offering expenses payable by us, and (2) the use of approximately \$33.5 million of the net proceeds from this offering to pay the cost of the capped call transactions, and assuming the remaining net proceeds are held as cash or cash equivalents; and

on an as further adjusted basis to give effect to the sale of the shares in the concurrent Common Stock Offering (assuming the underwriters in the concurrent Common Stock Offering do not exercise their option to purchase additional shares of common stock), based on the public offering price of \$87.50 per share after deducting underwriting discounts and estimated offering expenses payable by us, and assuming such net proceeds are held as cash or cash equivalents.

You should read this table in conjunction with Use of Proceeds as well as our Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and our consolidated financial statements, including the related notes, included in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended January 31, 2018, which is incorporated by reference herein.

| | As of January 31, 2018 | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| | Actual | As Adjusted (unaudited) | As Further Adjusted for the Concurrent Common Stock Offering |
| | (in thousands, except per share data) | | |
| Cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments | \$ 505,178 | \$ 820,188 | \$ 1,011,998 |
| Debt: | | | |
| 1.250% convertible senior notes due 2025 offered hereby(1) | \$ | \$ 360,000 | \$ 360,000 |
| Total debt | | 360,000 | 360,000 |
| Stockholders' equity: | | | |

Edgar Filing: Guidewire Software, Inc. - Form 424B5

Preferred stock, \$0.0001 par value authorized, 25,000,000 shares; no shares issued and outstanding, actual, as adjusted and as further adjusted

| | | | |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Common stock, \$0.0001 par value authorized, 500,000,000 shares; issued and outstanding, 77,279,160, actual and as adjusted; issued and outstanding, 79,564,874, as further adjusted(2) | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| Additional paid-in capital(3) | 993,559 | 993,559 | 1,500,379 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss | (4,778) | (4,778) | (4,778) |
| Retained earnings | 98,700 | 98,700 | 98,700 |
| Total stockholders equity(3) | 1,087,489 | 1,087,489 | 1,594,309 |
| Total capitalization(3) | \$ 1,087,489 | \$ 1,447,489 | \$ 1,954,309 |

(1) In accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification 470-20, *Debt with Conversion and Other Options* (ASC 470-20), convertible debt that may be entirely or partially

S-24

Table of Contents

settled in cash (such as the notes) is required to be separated into a liability and an equity component, such that interest expense reflects the issuer's non-convertible debt interest cost. On the issuance date, the value of the conversion option of the notes, representing the equity component, will be recorded as additional paid-in capital within stockholders' equity and as an original issue discount to the notes, which reduces their initial carrying value. The carrying value of the notes, net of the discount recorded, will be accreted up to the principal amount of the notes from the issuance date until maturity. ASC 470-20 does not affect the actual amount that we are required to repay. The amount shown in the table above for the notes is the aggregate principal amount of the notes, without reflecting the debt discount for the value of the conversion option as well as the underwriters discounts and our estimated offering expenses related to this offering.

- (2) The number of shares of common stock issued and outstanding in the actual, as adjusted and as further adjusted columns in the table above excludes:

632,174 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of options outstanding as of January 31, 2018, with a weighted average exercise price of \$20.48 per share;

3,410,747 shares of common stock issuable upon the vesting of outstanding RSUs as of January 31, 2018;

21,728,177 shares of our common stock reserved for future issuance under our 2011 Stock Plan as of January 31, 2018 and any future increase in shares reserved for issuance under such plan; and

the shares of common stock reserved for issuance upon conversion of the notes offered hereby.

- (3) The issuance of the notes (after giving effect to the application of ASC 470-20 as described in note (1) above) will result in an increase to additional paid-in capital and, therefore, an increase in total stockholders' equity and total capitalization. However, amounts shown in the table above do not reflect the application of ASC 470-20 to the notes. Additionally, additional paid-in capital and, therefore, total stockholders' equity and total capitalization do not reflect the reduction from the cost of the capped call transactions that are expected to be accounted for as equity instruments and not as derivatives.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF NOTES

We will issue the 1.250% Convertible Senior Notes due 2025 (the notes) under a base indenture (the base indenture) and a supplemental indenture with respect to the notes (the supplemental indenture and, together with the base indenture, the indenture), each to be dated as of the date of initial issuance of the notes, and in each case between us and U.S Bank National Association, as trustee (the trustee). This description of the notes supplements and, to the extent it is inconsistent, replaces the description of the general provisions of the notes and the base indenture in the accompanying prospectus. The terms of the notes include those expressly set forth in the indenture and those made part of the indenture by reference to the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended (the Trust Indenture Act).

You may request a copy of the indenture from us as described under Where You Can Find More Information.

The following description is a summary of the material provisions of the notes and the indenture and does not purport to be complete. This summary is subject to and is qualified by reference to all of the provisions of the notes and the indenture, including the definitions of certain terms used in the notes and the indenture. We urge you to read these documents because they, and not this description, define your rights as a holder of the notes.

For purposes of this description, references to we, our and us refer only to Guidewire Software, Inc. and not to its subsidiaries.

General

The notes will:

be our general unsecured, senior obligations;

initially be limited to an aggregate principal amount of \$360.0 million (or \$400.0 million if the underwriters option to purchase additional notes solely to cover over-allotments is exercised in full);

bear cash interest at an annual rate of 1.250% from March 13, 2018, payable semiannually on March 15 and September 15 of each year, beginning on September 15, 2018;

be subject to redemption at our option, in whole or in part on or after March 20, 2022 if the last reported sale price of our common stock has been at least 130% of the conversion price then in effect for at least 20 trading days (whether or not consecutive), including at least one of the three trading days immediately preceding the date on which we provide notice of redemption, during any 30 consecutive trading day period ending on, and including, the trading day immediately preceding the date on which we provide written notice of redemption at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the notes to be redeemed, plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the redemption date as described under Optional Redemption;

mature on March 15, 2025 unless earlier converted, redeemed or repurchased in accordance with their terms;

be subject to repurchase by us at the option of the holders following a fundamental change (as defined below under Fundamental Change Permits Holders to Require Us to Repurchase Notes) occurring prior to the maturity date at a fundamental change repurchase price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the notes to be repurchased, plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the relevant fundamental change repurchase date;

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

be represented by one or more registered notes in global form, but in certain limited circumstances may be represented by notes in definitive form. See Book-Entry, Settlement and Clearance.

S-26

Table of Contents

Subject to satisfaction of certain conditions and during the periods described below under **Conversions**, the notes may be converted at an initial conversion rate of 8.7912 shares of common stock per \$1,000 principal amount of notes (equivalent to an initial conversion price of approximately \$113.75 per share of common stock). The conversion rate is subject to adjustment if certain events occur.

We will settle conversions of notes by paying or delivering, as the case may be, cash, shares of our common stock or a combination of cash and shares of our common stock, at our election, as described under **Conversion Rights Settlement upon Conversion**. You will not receive any separate cash payment for interest, if any, accrued and unpaid to the conversion date except under the limited circumstances described below.

The indenture will not limit the amount of debt, including secured debt, that may be issued by us or our subsidiaries under the indenture or otherwise. The indenture will not contain any financial covenants and will not restrict us from paying dividends or issuing or repurchasing our equity or debt securities or from repaying indebtedness. Other than restrictions described under **Fundamental Change Permits Holders to Require Us to Repurchase Notes** and **Consolidation, Merger and Sale of Assets** below and except for the provisions set forth under **Conversion Rights Increase in Conversion Rate upon Conversion upon a Make-Whole Fundamental Change or during a Redemption Period**, the indenture will not contain any covenants or other provisions designed to afford holders of the notes protection in the event of a highly leveraged transaction involving us or in the event of a decline in our credit rating as the result of a takeover, recapitalization, highly leveraged transaction or similar restructuring involving us that could adversely affect such holders.

We may, without the consent of, or notice to, the holders, reopen the indenture for the notes and issue additional notes under the indenture with the same terms as the notes offered hereby (other than differences in the issue date, the issue price and interest accrued prior to the issue date of such additional notes and, if applicable, restrictions on transfer in respect of such additional notes) in an unlimited aggregate principal amount; *provided* that if any such additional notes are not fungible with the notes initially offered hereby for U.S. federal income tax purposes, such additional notes will have one or more separate CUSIP numbers. The notes offered by this offering memorandum and any additional notes would rank equally and ratably and would be treated as a single series for all purposes under the indenture.

We do not intend to list the notes on any securities exchange or any automated dealer quotation system.

Except to the extent the context otherwise requires, we use the term **notes** in this prospectus supplement to refer to each \$1,000 principal amount of notes. We use the term **common stock** in this prospectus supplement to refer to our common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share. References in this prospectus supplement to a **holder** or **holders** of notes that are held through The Depository Trust Company (**DTC**) are references to owners of beneficial interests in such notes, unless the context otherwise requires. However, we and the trustee will treat the person in whose name the notes are registered (Cede & Co., in the case of notes held through DTC) as the owner of such notes for all purposes. References herein to the **close of business** refer to 5:00 p.m., New York City time, and to the **open of business** refer to 9:00 a.m., New York City time.

Purchase and Cancellation

We will cause all notes surrendered for payment, repurchase (including as described below), redemption, registration of transfer or exchange or conversion, if surrendered to any person that we control other than the trustee, to be delivered to the trustee for cancellation. All notes delivered to the trustee shall be cancelled promptly by the trustee. Except for notes surrendered for transfer or exchange, no notes shall be authenticated in exchange for any notes cancelled.

We may, to the extent permitted by law, and directly or indirectly (regardless of whether such notes are surrendered to us), repurchase notes in the open market or otherwise, whether by us or our subsidiaries or through a private or public tender or exchange offer or through counterparties to private agreements, including by cash-settled swaps or other derivatives, in each case, without prior written notice to or consent of the holders of

S-27

Table of Contents

the notes. We will cause any notes so repurchased (other than notes repurchased pursuant to cash-settled swaps or other derivatives) to be surrendered to the trustee for cancellation, and they will no longer be considered outstanding under the indenture upon their repurchase, and upon receipt of a written order from us, the trustee will cancel all notes so surrendered.

Payments on the Notes; Paying Agent and Registrar; Transfer and Exchange

We will pay or cause the paying agent to pay the principal of, and interest on, notes in global form registered in the name of or held by DTC or its nominee by wire transfer in immediately available funds to DTC or its nominee, as the case may be, as the registered holder of such global note.

We will pay or cause the paying agent to pay the principal of any certificated notes at the office or agency designated by us for that purpose. We have initially designated the trustee as our paying agent and registrar and its corporate trust office located in the United States of America as a place where notes may be presented for payment or for registration of transfer. We may, however, change the paying agent or registrar without prior notice to the holders of the notes, and we may act as paying agent or registrar. Interest on certificated notes will be payable (i) to holders having an aggregate principal amount of \$5,000,000 or less, by check mailed to the holders of these notes and (ii) to holders having an aggregate principal amount of more than \$5,000,000, either by check mailed to each holder or, upon application by such a holder to the registrar not later than the relevant regular record date, by wire transfer in immediately available funds to that holder's account within the United States if such holder has provided the trustee or paying agent with the requisite information necessary to make such wire transfer, which application shall remain in effect until the holder notifies, in writing, the registrar of the notes to the contrary.

A holder of notes may transfer or exchange notes at the office of the registrar in accordance with the indenture. The registrar and the trustee may require a holder, among other things, to furnish appropriate endorsements and transfer documents. No service charge will be imposed by us, the trustee or the registrar for any registration of transfer or exchange of notes, but we may require a holder to pay a sum sufficient to cover any transfer tax or other similar governmental charge required by law or permitted by the indenture. We are not required to transfer or exchange any note selected for redemption or surrendered for conversion or required repurchase upon a fundamental change. A holder of a beneficial interest in a note in global form may transfer or exchange such beneficial interest in accordance with the indenture and the applicable procedures of DTC. See Book-Entry, Settlement and Clearance.

The registered holder of a note will be treated as its owner for all purposes.

Interest

The notes will bear cash interest at a rate of 1.250% per year until maturity. Interest on the notes will accrue from March 13, 2018 or from the most recent date on which interest has been paid or duly provided for. Interest will be payable semiannually in arrears on March 15 and September 15 of each year, beginning on September 15, 2018.

Interest will be paid to the person in whose name a note is registered at the close of business on March 1 or September 1, as the case may be, immediately preceding the relevant interest payment date (each, a regular record date). Interest on the notes will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year composed of twelve 30-day months, and, for partial months, on the basis of the number of days actually elapsed in a 30-day month.

If any interest payment date, the maturity date or any earlier required fundamental change repurchase date of a note falls on a day that is not a business day, the required payment will be made on the next succeeding business day with the same force and effect as if made on the relevant scheduled payment date, and no interest on such payment will

accrue in respect of the delay. The term "business day" means any day other than a Saturday, a Sunday or a day on which the Federal Reserve Bank of New York is authorized or required by law or executive order to close or be closed.

Table of Contents

Unless the context otherwise requires, all references to interest in this prospectus supplement include additional interest, if any, payable at our election as the sole remedy relating to the failure to comply with our reporting obligations as described under Events of Default.

Ranking

The notes will be our senior unsecured obligations and will rank:

senior in right of payment to all of our indebtedness that is expressly subordinated in right of payment to the notes;

equal in right of payment with all of our unsecured indebtedness that is not so subordinated;

effectively junior in right of payment to any of our secured indebtedness to the extent of the value of the assets securing such indebtedness; and

structurally junior to all indebtedness and other liabilities of our current or future subsidiaries (including trade payables).

The indenture governing the notes will not limit our ability to incur additional indebtedness in the future, including secured indebtedness, and such indebtedness may be substantial. In the event of our bankruptcy, liquidation, reorganization or other winding up, our assets that secure secured debt will be available to pay obligations on the notes only after all indebtedness under such secured debt has been repaid in full from such assets. We advise you that there may not be sufficient assets remaining to pay amounts due on any or all the notes then outstanding.

The notes will be structurally subordinated to all indebtedness and other liabilities of our subsidiaries (including trade payables). A portion of our operations is conducted through our subsidiaries. The notes will not be guaranteed by any of our current or future subsidiaries. Our subsidiaries are separate and distinct legal entities and have no obligation, contingent or otherwise, to pay amounts due with respect to the notes or to make any funds available therefor, whether by dividends, loans or other payments. Our right to receive any assets of any of our subsidiaries upon such subsidiary's bankruptcy, liquidation or reorganization, and, therefore, the right of the holders of notes to participate in those assets, will be subject to prior claims of creditors of the subsidiary, including trade creditors, and such subsidiary may not have sufficient assets remaining to make any payments to us as a shareholder or otherwise. We advise holders of notes that there may not be sufficient assets remaining to pay amounts due on any or all the notes then outstanding.

As of January 31, 2018, we and our subsidiaries had no indebtedness, and our subsidiaries had approximately \$4.7 million of other liabilities (including trade payables, but excluding intercompany obligations and liabilities of a type not required to be reflected on a balance sheet of such subsidiaries in accordance with GAAP) to which the notes would have been structurally subordinated. After giving effect to the issuance of the notes (assuming no exercise of the underwriters' over-allotment option to purchase additional notes) and the use of proceeds therefrom our total consolidated indebtedness would have been \$360.0 million. The ability of our subsidiaries to pay dividends and make other payments to us may be restricted by, among other things, our future debt instruments, applicable corporate and other laws and regulations as well as agreements to which our subsidiaries may in the future become a party. We may not be able to pay the cash portion of any settlement amount upon conversion of the notes, or to pay cash for the

fundamental change repurchase price if a holder requires us to repurchase notes upon a fundamental change as described below. See Risk Factors Risks Related to the Notes We may not have the ability to raise the funds necessary to settle conversions of the notes in cash or to repurchase the notes upon a fundamental change, and our future debt may contain limitations on our ability to pay cash upon conversion of the notes or to repurchase the notes.

S-29

Table of Contents**Optional Redemption**

No sinking fund is provided for the notes, which means we are not required to redeem or retire the notes periodically. Prior to March 20, 2022, the notes will not be redeemable. On or after March 20, 2022, we may redeem all or part of the notes, at our option, if the last reported sale price (as defined under **Conversion Rights Settlement upon Conversion**) of our common stock has been at least 130% of the conversion price then in effect for at least 20 trading days (whether or not consecutive), including at least one of the three trading days immediately preceding the date on which we provide notice of redemption, during any 30 consecutive trading day period ending on, and including, the trading day immediately preceding the date on which we provide the holders written notice of redemption (a redemption notice date). In the case of any optional redemption, we will provide not less than 45 nor more than 60 scheduled trading days written notice before the redemption date (*provided* that if we elect physical settlement (as defined under **Settlement upon Conversion**) for conversions that occur during the related redemption period, we may provide not less than 15 no more than 45 calendar days written notice)) to the trustee, the conversion agent (if other than the trustee), the paying agent and each holder of notes, and we will redeem the notes at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of such notes to be redeemed, plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the redemption date. Any notes redeemed by us will be paid for in cash. The redemption date must be a business day.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if we set a redemption date between a regular record date and the corresponding interest payment date, we will not pay accrued interest to any holder of notes to be redeemed, and will instead pay the full amount of the relevant interest payment on such interest payment date to the holder of record on such regular record date, and the redemption price will be 100% of the principal amount of the notes to be redeemed.

With respect to any notes that are converted during a redemption period as described under **Conversion Rights General**, we will, under certain circumstances, increase the conversion rate for the notes so surrendered for conversion by a number of additional shares as described under **Conversion Rights Increase in Conversion Rate upon Conversion upon a Make-Whole Fundamental Change or during a Redemption Period**.

If we decide to redeem fewer than all of the outstanding notes, the notes to be redeemed will be selected according to DTC's applicable procedures, in the case of notes represented by a global note, or, in the case of notes in certificated form, the trustee shall select, pro rata or by lot or in such other manner as it shall deem appropriate and fair, notes to be redeemed in whole or in part.

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

In the event of any redemption in part, we will not be required to register the transfer of or exchange any note so selected for redemption, in whole or in part, except the unredeemed portion of any such note being redeemed in part.

No notes may be redeemed if the principal amount of the notes has been accelerated, and such acceleration has not been rescinded, on or prior to the redemption date (except in the case of an acceleration resulting from a default by us in the payment of the redemption price with respect to such notes).

Conversion Rights***General***

Prior to the close of business on the business day immediately preceding October 15, 2024, the notes will be convertible only upon satisfaction of one or more of the conditions described under the headings **Conversion upon**

Satisfaction of Sale Price Condition, Conversion upon Satisfaction of Trading Price Condition, Conversion upon Redemption and Conversion upon Specified Corporate Events. On or after

S-30

Table of Contents

October 15, 2024 to the close of business on the second scheduled trading day immediately preceding the maturity date, holders may convert all or any portion of their notes at the conversion rate at any time irrespective of the foregoing conditions.

The conversion rate for the notes will initially be 8.7912 shares of common stock per \$1,000 principal amount of notes (equivalent to an initial conversion price of approximately \$113.75 per share of common stock). The conversion rate is subject to adjustment if certain events occur. The conversion price at any given time will be computed by dividing \$1,000 by the applicable conversion rate at such time. Accordingly, an adjustment to the conversion rate will result in a corresponding (but inverse) adjustment to the conversion price.

Upon conversion of a note, we will satisfy our conversion obligation by paying or delivering, as the case may be, cash, shares of our common stock or a combination of cash and shares of our common stock, at our election, all as set forth below under Settlement upon Conversion. If we satisfy our conversion obligation solely in cash or through payment and delivery, as the case may be, of a combination of cash and shares of our common stock, the amount of cash and shares of common stock, if any, due upon conversion will be based on a daily conversion value (as defined below) calculated on a proportionate basis for each trading day in a 40 trading day observation period (as defined below under Settlement upon Conversion). The trustee will initially act as the conversion agent.

A holder may convert fewer than all of such holder's notes so long as the notes converted are in minimum denominations of \$1,000 or an integral multiple of \$1,000 principal amount thereof.

If we call notes for redemption, a holder of notes may convert all or any portion of its notes only until the close of business on the second scheduled trading day immediately preceding the redemption date unless we fail to pay the redemption price (in which case a holder of notes may convert such notes until the redemption price has been paid or duly provided for). If a holder elects to convert notes from, and including, the redemption notice date until the close of business on the second scheduled trading day immediately preceding the related redemption date (any such period, a redemption period), we will, under certain circumstances, increase the conversion rate for the notes as described under Increase in Conversion Rate upon Conversion upon a Make-Whole Fundamental Change or during a Redemption Period. If a holder of notes has submitted notes for repurchase upon a fundamental change, the holder may convert those notes only if that holder first validly withdraws its fundamental change repurchase notice.

Upon conversion, you will not receive any separate cash payment for accrued and unpaid interest, if any, except as described below, and we will not adjust the conversion rate for any accrued and unpaid interest on the notes. We will not issue fractional shares of our common stock upon conversion of notes. Instead, we will pay cash in lieu of delivering any fractional share as described under Settlement upon Conversion. Our payment and delivery, as the case may be, to you of the cash, shares of our common stock or a combination thereof, as the case may be, into which a note is convertible will be deemed to satisfy in full our obligation to pay:

the principal amount of the note; and

accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to, but excluding, the relevant conversion date.

As a result, accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to, but excluding, the relevant conversion date will be deemed to be paid in full rather than cancelled, extinguished or forfeited. Upon a conversion of notes into a combination of cash and shares of our common stock, accrued and unpaid interest will be deemed to be paid first out of the cash paid upon such conversion.

Notwithstanding the immediately preceding paragraph, if notes are converted after the close of business on a regular record date for the payment of interest and prior to the open of business on the corresponding interest payment date, holders of such notes at the close of business on such regular record date will receive the full amount of interest payable on such notes on the corresponding interest payment date notwithstanding the conversion. Notes surrendered for conversion during the period from the close of business on any regular record

S-31

Table of Contents

date to the open of business on the immediately following interest payment date, however, must be accompanied by funds equal to the amount of interest payable on the notes so converted on the corresponding interest payment date (regardless of whether the converting holder was the holder of record on such regular record date); provided that no such payment need be made:

for conversions following the close of business on the regular record date immediately preceding the maturity date;

if we have specified a fundamental change repurchase date that is after a regular record date and on or prior to the business day immediately succeeding the corresponding interest payment date;

if we have specified a redemption date that is after a regular record date and on or prior to the corresponding interest payment date; or

to the extent of any overdue interest, if any overdue interest exists at the time of conversion with respect to such note.

Therefore, for the avoidance of doubt, all record holders on the regular record date immediately preceding the maturity date, any redemption date and any fundamental change repurchase date described in the bullets in the preceding paragraph will receive and retain the full interest payment due on the maturity date or other applicable interest payment date regardless of whether their notes have been converted following such regular record date.

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

Holders may surrender their notes for conversion only under the following circumstances:

Conversion upon Satisfaction of Sale Price Condition

Prior to the close of business on the business day immediately preceding October 15, 2024, a holder may surrender all or any portion of its notes for conversion at any time during any fiscal quarter commencing after the fiscal quarter ending on July 31, 2018 (and only during such fiscal quarter), if the last reported sale price of our common stock for at least 20 trading days (whether or not consecutive) during the period of 30 consecutive trading days ending on, and including, the last trading day of the immediately preceding fiscal quarter is greater than or equal to 130% of the conversion price on each applicable trading day.

The last reported sale price of our common stock on any date means the closing sale price per share (or if no closing sale price is reported, the average of the bid and ask prices or, if more than one in either case, the average of the average bid and the average ask prices) on that date as reported in composite transactions for the principal U.S. national or regional securities exchange on which our common stock is traded. If our common stock is not listed for trading on a U.S. national or regional securities exchange on the relevant date, the last reported sale price will be the last quoted bid price per share for our common stock in the over-the-counter market on the relevant date as reported by OTC Markets Group Inc. or a similar organization. If our common stock is not so quoted, the last reported sale

price will be the average of the mid-point of the last bid and ask prices per share for our common stock on the relevant date from each of at least three nationally recognized independent investment banking firms selected by us for this purpose. The last reported sale price will be determined without regard to after-hours trading or any other trading outside of regular trading session hours.

Except for determining amounts due upon conversion, trading day means a day on which (i) trading in our common stock (or other security for which a closing sale price must be determined) generally occurs on The New York Stock Exchange or, if our common stock (or such other security) is not then listed on The New York Stock

Table of Contents

Exchange, on the principal other U.S. national or regional securities exchange on which our common stock (or such other security) is then listed or, if our common stock (or such other security) is not then listed on a U.S. national or regional securities exchange, on the principal other market on which our common stock (or such other security) is then traded and (ii) a last reported sale price for our common stock (or closing sale price for such other security) is available on such securities exchange or market. If our common stock (or such other security) is not so listed or traded, trading day means a business day.

Conversion upon Satisfaction of Trading Price Condition

Prior to the close of business on the business day immediately preceding October 15, 2024, a holder of notes may surrender all or any portion of its notes for conversion at any time during the five business day period after any five consecutive trading day period (the measurement period) in which the trading price per \$1,000 principal amount of notes, as determined following a request by a holder of notes in accordance with the procedures described below, for each trading day of the measurement period was less than 98% of the product of the last reported sale price of our common stock and the conversion rate on each such trading day (the trading price condition).

The trading price of the notes on any date of determination means the average of the secondary market bid quotations per \$1,000 principal amount of the notes obtained by the bid solicitation agent for \$2,000,000 principal amount of notes at approximately 3:30 p.m., New York City time, on such determination date from three independent nationally recognized securities dealers we select for this purpose; provided that if three such bids cannot reasonably be obtained by the bid solicitation agent but two such bids are obtained, then the average of the two bids shall be used, and if only one such bid can reasonably be obtained by the bid solicitation agent, that one bid shall be used. If the bid solicitation agent cannot reasonably obtain at least one bid for \$2,000,000 principal amount of notes from a nationally recognized securities dealer, then the trading price per \$1,000 principal amount of notes will be deemed to be less than 98% of the product of the last reported sale price of our common stock and the conversion rate. If (x) we are not acting as bid solicitation agent, and we do not, when we are required to, instruct the bid solicitation agent in writing to obtain bids, or if we give such written instruction to the bid solicitation agent, and the bid solicitation agent fails to obtain such bids, or (y) we are acting as bid solicitation agent and we fail to obtain such bids, then, in either case, the trading price per \$1,000 principal amount of notes will be deemed to be less than 98% of the product of the last reported sale price of our common stock and the conversion rate on each trading day of such failure.

The bid solicitation agent (if other than us) shall have no obligation to solicit bids as described above unless we have requested such solicitation in writing; and we will have no obligation to make such request (or, if we are acting as bid solicitation agent, we shall have no obligation to solicit such bids) unless a holder of at least \$2,000,000 aggregate principal amount of notes provides us with reasonable evidence that the trading price per \$1,000 principal amount of notes would be less than 98% of the product of the last reported sale price of our common stock and the conversion rate. At such time, we will instruct the bid solicitation agent (if other than us) to solicit, or if we are acting as bid solicitation agent, we shall solicit, such bids beginning on the next trading day and on each successive trading day until the trading price per \$1,000 principal amount of notes is greater than or equal to 98% of the product of the last reported sale price of our common stock and the conversion rate and we shall instruct the three independent nationally recognized securities dealers to deliver bids to the bid solicitation agent. We will determine the trading price per \$1,000 principal amount of the notes for each trading day in accordance with the bids so solicited. If the trading price condition has been met, we will so notify the holders, the trustee and the conversion agent (if other than the trustee) on or within one business day of such determination. If, at any time after the trading price condition has been met, the trading price per \$1,000 principal amount of notes is greater than or equal to 98% of the product of the last reported sale price of our common stock and the conversion rate for such trading day, we will so notify the holders, the trustee and the conversion agent (if other than the trustee) that the trading price condition is no longer met and thereafter neither we nor the bid solicitation agent (if other than us) shall be required to solicit bids again until another qualifying

request is made as provided above.

S-33

Table of Contents

We will initially act as the bid solicitation agent for the notes.

Conversion upon Notice of Redemption

If we call any or all of the notes for redemption prior to the close of business on the business day immediately preceding October 15, 2024, holders may convert all or any portion of their notes at any time prior to the close of business on the second scheduled trading day prior to the redemption date, even if the notes are not otherwise convertible at such time. After that time, the right to convert such notes on account of our delivery of a notice of redemption will expire, unless we default in the payment of the redemption price, in which case a holder of notes may convert all or any portion of its notes until the redemption price has been paid or duly provided for.

Conversion upon Specified Corporate Events

Certain Distributions

If, prior to the close of business on the business day immediately preceding October 15, 2024, we elect to:

issue to all or substantially all holders of our common stock any rights, options or warrants (other than in connection with a stockholder rights plan) entitling them, for a period of not more than 45 calendar days after the announcement date of such issuance, to subscribe for or purchase shares of our common stock at a price per share that is less than the average of the last reported sale prices of our common stock for the 10 consecutive trading day period ending on, and including, the trading day immediately preceding the date of announcement of such issuance; or

distribute to all or substantially all holders of our common stock our assets, securities or rights to purchase our securities (other than in connection with a stockholder rights plan prior to separation of such rights from our common stock), which distribution has a per share value, as reasonably determined by us, exceeding 10% of the last reported sale price of our common stock on the trading day preceding the date of announcement for such distribution,

then, in either case, we must notify the holders of the notes (with a copy to the trustee and the conversion agent (if other than the trustee) (such notification, the *Certain Distributions Notification*) (x) at least 50 scheduled trading days prior to or (y) if in the *Certain Distributions Notification* we elect physical settlement (as defined under *Settlement upon Conversion*) in respect of any conversions with conversion dates that occur after delivery to the holders of the *Certain Distributions Notification* until the *Certain Distributions Conversion Period End Date* (as defined below), at least 10 scheduled trading days prior to, in either case, the ex-dividend date for such issuance or distribution. Once we have given such notice, holders may surrender all or any portion of their notes for conversion at any time until the earlier of the close of business on the business day immediately preceding the ex-dividend date for such issuance or distribution and our announcement that such issuance or distribution will not take place, even if the notes are not otherwise convertible at such time (such earlier date and time, the *Certain Distributions Conversion Period End Date*).

Holders of the notes may not convert their notes pursuant to this provision if they participate (other than in the case of a share split or share combination), at the same time and upon the same terms as holders of our common stock and solely as a result of holding the notes, in any of the transactions described above without having to convert their notes as if they held a number of shares of common stock equal to the applicable conversion rate, multiplied by the principal amount (expressed in thousands) of notes held by such holder.

Certain Corporate Events

If a transaction or event that constitutes a fundamental change (as defined under Fundamental Change Permits Holders to Require Us to Repurchase Notes) or a make whole fundamental change (as defined under

S-34

Table of Contents

Increase in Conversion Rate upon Conversion upon a Make-whole Fundamental Change or during a Redemption Period) occurs prior to the close of business on the business day immediately preceding October 15, 2024, regardless of whether a holder has the right to require us to repurchase the notes as described under Fundamental Change Permits Holders to Require Us to Repurchase Notes, or if we are a party to a merger event (as defined under Recapitalizations, Reclassifications and Changes of Our Common Stock) (other than a merger event that is solely for the purpose of changing our jurisdiction of organization that (x) does not constitute a fundamental change or a make-whole fundamental change and (y) results in a reclassification, conversion or exchange of outstanding shares of our common stock solely into shares of common stock of the surviving entity and such common stock becomes reference property for the notes) that occurs prior to the close of business on the business day immediately preceding October 15, 2024 (each such fundamental change, make-whole fundamental change or merger event, a corporate event), all or any portion of a holder's notes may be surrendered for conversion at any time from or after the effective date of the corporate event until the earlier of (x) 35 trading days after the effective date of such corporate event or, if such corporate event also constitutes a fundamental change, until the close of business on the business day immediately preceding the related fundamental change repurchase date and (y) the second scheduled trading day immediately preceding the maturity date. We will notify holders, the trustee and the conversion agent (if other than the trustee) no later than the actual effective date of such corporate event.

Conversions During the Five Months Immediately Preceding the Maturity Date

On or after October 15, 2024, a holder may convert all or any portion of its notes at any time prior to the close of business on the second scheduled trading day immediately preceding the maturity date regardless of the foregoing conditions.

Conversion Procedures

If you hold a beneficial interest in a global note, to convert you must comply with DTC's procedures for converting a beneficial interest in a global note and, if required, pay funds equal to interest payable on the next interest payment date to which you are not entitled and, if required, pay all transfer or similar taxes, if any. As such, if you are a beneficial owner of the notes, you must allow for sufficient time to comply with DTC's procedures if you wish to exercise your conversion rights.

If you hold a certificated note, to convert you must:

complete and manually sign the conversion notice on the back of the note, or a facsimile of the conversion notice;

deliver the conversion notice, which is irrevocable, and the note to the conversion agent;

if required, furnish appropriate endorsements and transfer documents; and

if required, pay funds equal to the interest payable on the next interest payment date to which you are not entitled.

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

We refer to the date you comply with the relevant procedures for conversion described above as the conversion date.

If a holder has already delivered a repurchase notice as described under Fundamental Change Permits Holders to Require Us to Repurchase Notes with respect to a note, the holder may not surrender that note for conversion until the holder has withdrawn the repurchase notice in accordance with the relevant provisions of the indenture. If a holder submits its notes for required repurchase, the holder's right to withdraw the fundamental change repurchase notice and convert the notes that are subject to repurchase will terminate at the close of business on the business day immediately preceding the relevant fundamental change repurchase date.

Table of Contents
Settlement upon Conversion

Upon conversion, we may choose to pay or deliver, as the case may be, either cash (cash settlement), shares of our common stock (physical settlement) or a combination of cash and shares of our common stock (combination settlement), as described below. We refer to each of these settlement methods as a settlement method.

All conversions for which the relevant conversion date occurs on or after October 15, 2024 or during a redemption period, will be settled using the same settlement method. Except for any conversions for which the relevant conversion date occurs during a redemption period and any conversions for which the relevant conversion date occurs on or after October 15, 2024, we will use the same settlement method for all conversions occurring with the same conversion date, but we will not have any obligation to use the same settlement method with respect to conversions with different conversion dates. That is, we may choose for notes converted on one conversion date to settle conversions in physical settlement, and choose for notes converted on another conversion date cash settlement or combination settlement.

If we elect a settlement method, we will inform holders so converting, the trustee and the conversion agent (if other than the trustee) of the settlement method we have selected no later than the close of business on the trading day immediately following the related conversion date (or in the case of any conversions occurring (i) during a redemption period as described under Optional Redemption, in such notice of redemption or (ii) on or after October 15, 2024, no later than the close of business on October 15, 2024). If we do not timely elect a settlement method as described in the preceding sentence, we will no longer have the right to elect cash settlement or physical settlement for such conversion or during such period and we will be deemed to have elected combination settlement in respect of our conversion obligation, as described below, and the specified dollar amount (as defined below) per \$1,000 principal amount of notes will be equal to \$1,000. If we timely elect combination settlement, but we do not timely notify converting holders, the trustee and the conversion agent (if other than the trustee) of the specified dollar amount per \$1,000 principal amount of notes to be converted, such specified dollar amount will be deemed to be \$1,000. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the foregoing, we will be permitted to irrevocably elect physical settlement in any Certain Distributions Notification as described above under Conversion Rights Conversion upon Specified Corporate Events Certain Distributions and any such election would be applicable to conversions with conversion dates that occur after delivery to the holders of the Certain Distributions Notification until the Certain Distributions Conversion Period End Date.

Settlement amounts will be computed as follows:

if we elect physical settlement, we will deliver to the converting holder in respect of each \$1,000 principal amount of notes being converted a number of shares of common stock equal to the conversion rate;

if we elect cash settlement, we will pay to the converting holder in respect of each \$1,000 principal amount of notes being converted cash in an amount equal to the sum of the daily conversion values for each of the 40 consecutive trading days during the related observation period; and

if we elect (or are deemed to have elected) combination settlement, we will pay or deliver, as the case may be, to the converting holder in respect of each \$1,000 principal amount of notes being converted a settlement amount equal to the sum of the daily settlement amounts for each of the 40 consecutive trading days during

the related observation period.

The daily settlement amount, for each of the 40 consecutive trading days during the observation period, will consist of:

cash equal to the lesser of (i) the maximum cash amount per \$1,000 principal amount of notes to be received upon conversion as specified in the notice specifying our chosen settlement method (or deemed specified as set forth above) (the specified dollar amount), if any, divided by 40 (such quotient the daily measurement value) and (ii) the daily conversion value; and

S-36

Table of Contents

if the daily conversion value exceeds the daily measurement value, a number of shares equal to (i) the difference between the daily conversion value and the daily measurement value, divided by (ii) the daily VWAP for such trading day.

The daily conversion value means, for each of the 40 consecutive trading days during the observation period, 2.5% of the product of (1) the conversion rate on such trading day and (2) the daily VWAP on such trading day.

The daily VWAP means the per share volume-weighted average price as displayed under the heading Bloomberg VWAP on Bloomberg page GWRE <equity> AQR (or its equivalent successor if such page is not available) in respect of the period from the scheduled open of trading until the scheduled close of trading of the primary trading session on such trading day (or if such volume-weighted average price is unavailable, the market value of one share of our common stock on such trading day determined, using a volume-weighted average method, by a nationally recognized independent investment banking firm retained for this purpose by us). The daily VWAP will be determined without regard to after-hours trading or any other trading outside of the regular trading session trading hours.

The observation period with respect to any note surrendered for conversion means:

subject to the immediately succeeding bullet, if the relevant conversion date occurs prior to October 15, 2024, the 40 consecutive trading day period beginning on, and including, the second trading day immediately succeeding such conversion date;

if the relevant conversion date occurs during a redemption period with respect to the notes as described under Optional Redemption, the 40 consecutive trading days beginning on, and including, the 41st scheduled trading day immediately preceding the relevant redemption date; and

subject to the immediately preceding bullet, if the relevant conversion date occurs on or after October 15, 2024, the 40 consecutive trading days beginning on, and including, the 41st scheduled trading day immediately preceding the maturity date.

For the purposes of determining amounts due upon conversion only, trading day means a day on which (i) there is no market disruption event (as defined below) and (ii) trading in our common stock generally occurs on The New York Stock Exchange or, if our common stock is not then listed on The New York Stock Exchange, on the principal other U.S. national or regional securities exchange on which our common stock is then listed or, if our common stock is not then listed on a U.S. national or regional securities exchange, on the principal other market on which our common stock is then listed or admitted for trading. If our common stock is not so listed or admitted for trading, trading day means a business day.

Scheduled trading day means a day that is scheduled to be a trading day on the principal U.S. national or regional securities exchange or market on which our common stock is listed or admitted for trading. If our common stock is not so listed or admitted for trading, scheduled trading day means a business day.

For the purposes of determining amounts due upon conversion, market disruption event means (i) a failure by the primary U.S. national or regional securities exchange or market on which our common stock is listed or admitted for trading to open for trading during its regular trading session or (ii) the occurrence or existence prior to 1:00 p.m., New York City time, on any scheduled trading day for our common stock for more than one half-hour period in the aggregate during regular trading hours of any suspension or limitation imposed on trading (by reason of movements in

price exceeding limits permitted by the relevant stock exchange or otherwise) in our common stock or in any options contracts or futures contracts traded on any U.S. exchange relating to our common stock.

Except as described under Increase in Conversion Rate upon Conversion upon a Make-Whole Fundamental Change or during a Redemption Period and Recapitalizations, Reclassifications and Changes

S-37

Table of Contents

of Our Common Stock, we will deliver the consideration due in respect of conversion on the second business day immediately following the relevant conversion date, if we elect to satisfy our conversion obligation through physical settlement, or, in the case of any other settlement method, on the second business day immediately following the last trading day of the relevant observation period.

We will pay cash in lieu of delivering any fractional share of common stock issuable upon conversion based on the daily VWAP on the relevant conversion date (in the case of physical settlement) or based on the daily VWAP on the last trading day of the relevant observation period (in the case of combination settlement).

Each conversion will be deemed to have been effected as to any notes surrendered for conversion on the conversion date; provided, however, that the person in whose name any shares of our common stock shall be issuable upon such conversion will become the holder of record of such shares as of the close of business on the conversion date (in the case of physical settlement) or the last trading day of the relevant observation period (in the case of combination settlement).

Exchange in Lieu of Conversion

When a holder surrenders its notes for conversion, we may, at our election (an exchange election), direct the conversion agent to surrender, on or prior to the close of business on the trading day following the conversion date, such notes to a financial institution designated by us for exchange in lieu of conversion. In order to accept any notes surrendered for conversion, the designated financial institution must agree to timely deliver, in exchange for such notes, the cash, shares of our common stock or combination thereof due upon conversion as described above under Settlement upon Conversion. If we make an exchange election, we will, by the close of business on the trading day following the relevant conversion date, notify the holder surrendering its notes for conversion, the trustee and the conversion agent (if other than the trustee) that we have made the exchange election, and we will notify the designated financial institution of the settlement method we have elected with respect to such conversion and the relevant deadline for payment and/or delivery of cash, shares of our common stock or a combination thereof due upon conversion.

Any notes exchanged by the designated financial institution will remain outstanding. If the designated financial institution agrees to accept any notes for exchange but does not timely pay and/or deliver the required cash, shares of our common stock or a combination thereof due upon conversion, or if such designated financial institution does not accept the notes for exchange, we will pay and/or deliver the required cash, shares of our common stock or a combination thereof due upon conversion to the converting holder at the time and in the manner required under the indenture as if we had not made an exchange election.

Our designation of a financial institution to which the notes may be submitted for exchange does not require that financial institution to accept any notes (unless the financial institution has separately made an agreement with us). We may, but will not be obligated to, enter into a separate agreement with any designated financial institution that would compensate it for any such transaction.

Table of Contents***Conversion Rate Adjustments***

The conversion rate will be adjusted as described below, except that we will not make any adjustments to the conversion rate if holders of the notes participate (other than in the case of (x) a share split or share combination or (y) a tender or exchange offer), at the same time and upon the same terms as holders of our common stock and solely as a result of holding the notes, in any of the transactions described below without having to convert their notes as if they held a number of shares of common stock equal to the conversion rate, *multiplied* by the principal amount (expressed in thousands) of notes held by such holder.

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

$$CR_1 = CR_0 \times \frac{OS_1}{OS_0}$$

where,

CR_0 = the conversion rate in effect immediately prior to the open of business on the ex-dividend date of such dividend or distribution, or immediately prior to the open of business on the effective date of such share split or share combination, as applicable;

CR_1 = the conversion rate in effect immediately after the open of business on such ex-dividend date or effective date, as applicable;

OS_0 = the number of shares of our common stock outstanding immediately prior to the open of business on such ex-dividend date or effective date, as applicable, before giving effect to any such dividend, distribution, share split or share combination, as the case may be; and

OS_1 = the number of shares of our common stock outstanding immediately after giving effect to such dividend, distribution, share split or share combination, as the case may be.

Any adjustment made under this clause (1) shall become effective immediately after the open of business on the ex-dividend date for such dividend or distribution, or immediately after the open of business on the effective date for such share split or share combination, as applicable. If any dividend or distribution of the type described in this clause (1) is declared but not so paid or made, the conversion rate shall be immediately readjusted, effective as of the date our board of directors or a committee thereof determines not to pay such dividend or distribution, to the conversion rate that would then be in effect if such dividend or distribution had not been declared.

(2) If we issue to all or substantially all holders of our common stock any rights, options or warrants (other than in connection with a stockholder rights plan) entitling them, for a period of not more than 45 calendar days after the announcement date of such issuance, to subscribe for or purchase shares of our common stock at a price per share that is less than the average of the last reported sale prices of our common stock for the 10 consecutive trading day period ending on, and including, the trading day immediately preceding the date of announcement of such issuance, the conversion rate will be increased based on the following formula:

$$CR_1 = CR_0 \times \frac{OS_0 + X}{OS_0 + Y}$$

where,

CR_0 = the conversion rate in effect immediately prior to the open of business on the ex-dividend date for such issuance;

S-39

Table of Contents

CR_1 = the conversion rate in effect immediately after the open of business on such ex-dividend date;

OS_0 = the number of shares of our common stock outstanding immediately prior to the open of business on such ex-dividend date;

X = the total number of shares of our common stock issuable pursuant to such rights, options or warrants; and

Y = the number of shares of our common stock equal to the aggregate price payable to exercise such rights, options or warrants, divided by the average of the last reported sale prices of our common stock over the 10 consecutive trading day period ending on, and including, the trading day immediately preceding the date of announcement of the issuance of such rights, options or warrants.

Any increase made under this clause (2) will be made successively whenever any such rights, options or warrants are issued and shall become effective immediately after the open of business on the ex-dividend date for such issuance. To the extent that shares of common stock are not delivered after the expiration of such rights, options or warrants, the conversion rate shall be decreased to the conversion rate that would then be in effect had the increase with respect to the issuance of such rights, options or warrants been made on the basis of delivery of only the number of shares of common stock actually delivered. If such rights, options or warrants are not so issued, the conversion rate shall be decreased to the conversion rate that would then be in effect if such ex-dividend date for such issuance had not occurred.

For the purpose of this clause (2) and for the purpose of the first bullet point under Conversion upon Specified Corporate Events Certain Distributions, in determining whether any rights, options or warrants entitle the holders of our common stock to subscribe for or purchase shares of our common stock at a price per share that is less than such average of the last reported sale prices for the 10 consecutive trading day period ending on, and including, the trading day immediately preceding the date of announcement of such issuance, and in determining the aggregate offering price of such shares of common stock, there shall be taken into account any consideration received by us for such rights, options or warrants and any amount payable on exercise or conversion thereof, the value of such consideration, if other than cash, to be determined by us.

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

dividends, distributions or issuances (including share splits) as to which an adjustment was effected pursuant to clause (1) or (2) above;

dividends or distributions paid exclusively in cash as to which an adjustment was effected or will be so effected in accordance with the 1% provision (as defined below) pursuant to clause (4) below;

except as otherwise described below, rights issued pursuant to a stockholder rights plan of ours;

dividends or distributions of reference property in exchange for or upon conversion of our common stock in a transaction described in Recapitalizations, Reclassifications, and Changes of Our Common Stock; and

spin-offs as to which the provisions set forth below in this clause (3) shall apply; then the conversion rate will be increased based on the following formula:

$$CR_1 = CR_0 \times \frac{SP_0}{SP_0 + FMV}$$

where,

CR_0 = the conversion rate in effect immediately prior to the open of business on the ex-dividend date for such distribution;

S-40

Table of Contents

CR_1 = the conversion rate in effect immediately after the open of business on such ex-dividend date;

SP_0 = the average of the last reported sale prices of our common stock over the 10 consecutive trading day period ending on, and including, the trading day immediately preceding the ex-dividend date for such distribution; and

FMV = the fair market value (as determined by us) of the shares of capital stock, evidences of indebtedness, assets, property, rights, options or warrants distributed with respect to each outstanding share of our common stock on the ex-dividend date for such distribution.

Any increase made under the portion of this clause (3) above will become effective immediately after the open of business on the ex-dividend date for such distribution. If such distribution is not so paid or made, the conversion rate shall be decreased to be the conversion rate that would then be in effect if such distribution had not been declared. If we issue rights, options or warrants, we will readjust the conversion rate to the extent any of these rights, options or warrants are not exercised before they expire.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if FMV (as defined above) is equal to or greater than SP_0 (as defined above), in lieu of the foregoing increase, each holder of a note shall receive, in respect of each \$1,000 principal amount thereof, at the same time and upon the same terms as holders of our common stock, the amount and kind of our capital stock, evidences of our indebtedness, other assets or property of ours or rights, options or warrants to acquire our capital stock or other securities that such holder would have received if such holder owned a number of shares of common stock equal to the conversion rate in effect on the ex-dividend date for the distribution.

With respect to an adjustment pursuant to this clause (3) where there has been a payment of a dividend or other distribution on our common stock of shares of capital stock of any class or series, or similar equity interest, of or relating to any subsidiary of ours or other business units, that are, or, when issued, will be, listed or admitted for trading on a U.S. national securities exchange, which we refer to as a spin-off, the conversion rate will be increased based on the following formula:

$$CR_1 = CR_0 \times \frac{FMV_0 + MP_0}{MP_0}$$

where,

CR_0 = the conversion rate in effect immediately prior to the end of the valuation period (as defined below);

CR_1 = the conversion rate in effect immediately after the end of the valuation period;

FMV_0 = the average of the last reported sale prices of the capital stock or similar equity interest distributed to holders of our common stock applicable to one share of our common stock (determined by reference to the definition of last reported sale price set forth under Conversion upon Satisfaction of Sale Price Condition as if references therein to our common stock were to such capital stock or similar equity interest) over the first 10 consecutive trading day period after, and including, the ex-dividend date of the spin-off (the valuation period); provided that if there is no last reported sale price of the capital stock or similar equity interest distributed to holders of our common stock on such ex-dividend date, the valuation period shall be the first ten consecutive trading day period after, and including, the first date such last reported sale price is available; and

MP_0 = the average of the last reported sale prices of our common stock over the valuation period.
The increase to the conversion rate under the preceding paragraph will occur at the close of business on the last trading day of the valuation period; provided that (x) in respect of any conversion of notes for which physical

S-41

Table of Contents

settlement is applicable, if the relevant conversion date occurs during the valuation period, the reference to 10 in the preceding paragraph shall be deemed replaced with such lesser number of trading days as have elapsed between the ex-dividend date for such spin-off and such conversion date in determining the conversion rate and (y) in respect of any conversion of notes for which cash settlement or combination settlement is applicable, for any trading day that falls within the relevant observation period for such conversion and within the valuation period, the reference to 10 in the preceding paragraph shall be deemed replaced with such lesser number of trading days as have elapsed between the ex-dividend date for such spin-off and such trading day in determining the conversion rate as of such trading day. If any dividend or distribution that constitutes a spin-off is declared but not so paid or made, the conversion rate shall be immediately decreased, effective as of the date our board of directors or a committee thereof determines not to pay or make such dividend or distribution, to the conversion rate that would then be in effect if such dividend or distribution had not been declared or announced.

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

$$CR_1 = CR_0 \times \frac{SP_0}{SP_0 - C}$$

where,

CR_0 = the conversion rate in effect immediately prior to the open of business on the ex-dividend date for such dividend or distribution;

CR_1 = the conversion rate in effect immediately after the open of business on the ex-dividend date for such dividend or distribution;

SP_0 = the last reported sale price of our common stock on the trading day immediately preceding the ex-dividend date for such dividend or distribution; and

C = the amount in cash per share we distribute to all or substantially all holders of our common stock.

Any increase made under this clause (4) shall become effective immediately after the open of business on the ex-dividend date for such dividend or distribution. If such dividend or distribution is not so paid, the conversion rate shall be decreased, effective as of the date our board of directors or a committee thereof determines not to make or pay such dividend or distribution, to be the conversion rate that would then be in effect if such dividend or distribution had not been declared.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if C (as defined above) is equal to or greater than SP_0 (as defined above), in lieu of the foregoing increase, each holder of a note shall receive, for each \$1,000 principal amount of notes it holds, at the same time and upon the same terms as holders of shares of our common stock, the amount of cash that such holder would have received if such holder owned a number of shares of our common stock equal to the conversion rate in effect on the ex-dividend date for such cash dividend or distribution.

(5) If we or any of our subsidiaries make a payment in respect of a tender or exchange offer for our common stock that is subject to the then-applicable tender offer rules under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, other than any odd-lot tender offer, to the extent that the cash and value of any other consideration included in the payment per share of common stock exceeds the average of the last reported sale prices of our common stock over the 10

consecutive trading day period commencing on, and including, the trading day next succeeding the last date on which tenders or exchanges may be made pursuant to such tender or exchange offer, the conversion rate will be increased based on the following formula:

$$CR_1 = CR_0 \times \frac{AC + (SP_1 \times OS_1)}{OS_0 \times SP_1}$$

S-42

Table of Contents

where,

CR_0 = the conversion rate in effect immediately prior to the close of business on the 10th trading day immediately following, and including, the trading day next succeeding the date such tender or exchange offer expires (the expiration date);

CR_1 = the conversion rate in effect immediately after the close of business on the 10th trading day immediately following, and including, the trading day next succeeding the expiration date;

AC = the aggregate value of all cash and any other consideration (as determined by us) paid or payable for shares purchased in such tender or exchange offer;

OS_0 = the number of shares of our common stock outstanding immediately prior to the expiration date (prior to giving effect to the purchase of all shares accepted for purchase or exchange in such tender or exchange offer);

OS_1 = the number of shares of our common stock outstanding immediately after the expiration date (after giving effect to the purchase of all shares accepted for purchase or exchange in such tender or exchange offer); and

SP_1 = the average of the last reported sale prices of our common stock over the 10 consecutive trading day period commencing on, and including, the trading day next succeeding the expiration date.

The increase to the conversion rate under the preceding paragraph will occur at the close of business on the 10th trading day immediately following, and including, the trading day next succeeding the date such tender or exchange offer expires; *provided* that (x) in respect of any conversion of notes for which physical settlement is applicable, if the relevant conversion date occurs during the 10 trading days immediately following, and including, the trading day next succeeding the expiration date of any tender or exchange offer, references to 10 or 10th in the preceding paragraph shall be deemed replaced with such lesser number of trading days as have elapsed between the expiration date of such tender or exchange offer and such conversion date in determining the conversion rate and (y) in respect of any conversion of notes for which cash settlement or combination settlement is applicable, for any trading day that falls within the relevant observation period for such conversion and within the 10 trading days immediately following, and including, the trading day next succeeding the expiration date of any tender or exchange offer, references to 10 or 10th in the preceding paragraph shall be deemed replaced with such lesser number of trading days as have elapsed between the expiration date of such tender or exchange offer and such trading day in determining the conversion rate as of such trading day.

In the event that we or one of our subsidiaries is obligated to purchase shares of common stock pursuant to any such tender offer or exchange offer, but we are, or such subsidiary is, permanently prevented by applicable law from consummating any such purchases, or all such purchases are rescinded, then the conversion rate shall be decreased to be the conversion rate that would then be in effect if such tender offer or exchange offer had not been made or had been made only in respect of the purchases that have been consummated.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a conversion rate adjustment becomes effective on any ex-dividend date as described above, and a holder that has converted its notes on or after such ex-dividend date and on or prior to the related record date would be treated as the record holder of shares of our common stock as of the related conversion date as described under Settlement upon Conversion based on an adjusted conversion rate for such ex-dividend date, then, notwithstanding the foregoing conversion rate adjustment provisions, the conversion rate adjustment relating to such ex-dividend date will not be made for such converting holder. Instead, such holder will be treated as if such holder were the record owner of the shares of our common stock on an unadjusted basis and participate in the related

dividend, distribution or other event giving rise to such adjustment.

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

S-43

Table of Contents

As used in this section, **ex-dividend date** means the first date on which the shares of our common stock trade on the applicable exchange or in the applicable market, regular way, without the right to receive the issuance, dividend or distribution in question, from us or, if applicable, from the seller of our common stock on such exchange or market (in the form of due bills or otherwise) as determined by such exchange or market, and **effective date** means the first date on which the shares of our common stock trade on the applicable exchange or in the applicable market, regular way, reflecting the relevant share split or share combination, as applicable.

As used in this section, **record date** means, with respect to any dividend, distribution or other transaction or event in which the holders of our common stock (or other applicable security) have the right to receive any cash, securities or other property or in which our common stock (or such other security) is exchanged for or converted into any combination of cash, securities or other property, the date fixed for determination of holders of our common stock (or such other security) entitled to receive such cash, securities or other property (whether such date is fixed by our board of directors or a committee thereof, statute, contract or otherwise).

Subject to the applicable listing standards of The New York Stock Exchange, we are permitted to increase the conversion rate of the notes by any amount for a period of at least 20 business days if our board of directors or a committee thereof determines that such increase would be in our best interest. Subject to the applicable listing standards of The New York Stock Exchange, we may also (but are not required to) increase the applicable conversion rate to avoid or diminish income tax to holders of our common stock or rights to purchase shares of our common stock in connection with a dividend or distribution of shares (or rights to acquire shares) or similar event.

A holder may, in some circumstances, including a distribution of cash dividends to holders of our shares of common stock, be deemed to have received a distribution subject to U.S. federal income tax as a result of an adjustment or the nonoccurrence of an adjustment to the conversion rate. For a discussion of the U.S. federal income tax treatment of an adjustment to the conversion rate, see **Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations**.

If we have a rights plan in effect upon conversion of the notes into common stock, you will receive, in addition to any shares of common stock received in connection with such conversion, the rights under the rights plan. However, if, prior to any conversion, the rights have separated from the shares of common stock in accordance with the provisions of the applicable rights plan, the conversion rate will be adjusted at the time of separation as if we distributed to all or substantially all holders of our common stock, shares of our capital stock, evidences of indebtedness, assets, property, rights, options or warrants as described in clause (3) above, subject to readjustment in the event of the expiration, termination or redemption of such rights.

Except as stated herein, we will not adjust the conversion rate for the issuance of shares of our common stock or any securities convertible into or exchangeable for shares of our common stock or the right to purchase shares of our common stock or such convertible or exchangeable securities. For example, the conversion rate will not be adjusted: upon the issuance of any shares of our common stock pursuant to any present or future plan providing for the reinvestment of dividends or interest payable on our securities and the investment of additional optional amounts in shares of our common stock under any plan:

upon the issuance of any shares of our common stock or options or rights to purchase those shares pursuant to any present or future employee, director or consultant benefit plan or program of or assumed by us or any of our subsidiaries;

upon the issuance of any shares of our common stock pursuant to any option, warrant, right or exercisable, exchangeable or convertible security not described in the preceding bullet and outstanding as of the date the notes were first issued;

upon the repurchase of any shares of our common stock pursuant to an open-market share repurchase program or other buy-back transaction (including, without limitation, through any structured or derivative transactions such as accelerated share repurchase derivatives) that is not a tender offer or exchange offer of the nature described under clause (5) above;

S-44

Table of Contents

solely for a change in the par value of our common stock; or

for accrued and unpaid interest, if any.

If an adjustment to the conversion rate otherwise required by the provisions described above would result in a change of less than 1% to the conversion rate, then, notwithstanding the foregoing, we may, at our election, defer and carry forward such adjustment, except that all such deferred adjustments must be given effect immediately upon the earliest to occur of the following: (i) when all such deferred adjustments would result in an aggregate change of at least 1% to the conversion rate; (ii) the conversion date of (if physical settlement applies to such conversion), or each trading day of the applicable observation period for (if cash or combination settlement applies to such conversion), any note; (iii) the date a fundamental change or make-whole fundamental change occurs; and (iv) October 15, 2024. The provisions described in the preceding sentence are referred to herein as the 1% provision.

Adjustments to the applicable conversion rate will be calculated to the nearest 1/10,000th of a share.

Recapitalizations, Reclassifications and Changes of Our Common Stock

In the case of:

any recapitalization, reclassification or change of our common stock (other than changes in par value or resulting from a subdivision or combination);

any consolidation, merger or combination involving us;

any sale, lease or other transfer to a third party of all or substantially all of our and our subsidiaries consolidated assets, taken as a whole; or

any statutory share exchange,

in each case, as a result of which our common stock would be converted into, or exchanged for, stock, other securities, other property or assets (including cash or any combination thereof) (any such event, a merger event), then, at the effective time of the transaction, we or the successor or acquiring company, as the case may be, will execute with the trustee a supplemental indenture, without the consent of holders, providing that at and after the effective time of the merger event, the right to convert each \$1,000 principal amount of notes will be changed into a right to convert such principal amount of notes into the kind and amount of shares of stock, other securities or other property or assets (including cash or any combination thereof) that a holder of a number of shares of common stock equal to the conversion rate immediately prior to such merger event would have owned or been entitled to receive (the reference property) upon such merger event. However, at and after the effective time of the merger event, (i) we or the successor or acquiring company, as the case may be, will continue to have the right to determine the form of consideration to be paid or delivered, as the case may be, upon conversion of notes, as set forth under Settlement upon Conversion and (ii)(x) any amount payable in cash upon conversion of the notes as set forth under Settlement upon Conversion will continue to be payable in cash, (y) any shares of our common stock that we would have been required to deliver upon conversion of the notes as set forth under Settlement upon Conversion will instead be deliverable in the amount and type of reference property that a holder of that number of shares of our common stock would have received in such

merger event and (z) the daily VWAP will be calculated based on the value of a unit of reference property that a holder of one share of our common stock would have received in such merger event. If the merger event causes our common stock to be converted into, or exchanged for, the right to receive more than a single type of consideration (determined based in part upon any form of stockholder election), the reference property into which the notes will be convertible will be deemed to be (i) the weighted average of the types and amounts of consideration received by the holders of our common stock that affirmatively make such an election or (ii) if no holders of our common stock affirmatively make such an election, the types and amounts of consideration actually received by the holders of our common stock. If the holders of our common stock receive only cash in such merger event,

S-45

Table of Contents

then for all conversions that occur after the effective date of such merger event (i) the consideration due upon conversion of each \$1,000 principal amount of notes shall be solely cash in an amount equal to the conversion rate in effect on the conversion date (as may be increased as described under **Increase in Conversion Rate upon Conversion upon a Make-Whole Fundamental Change or during a Redemption Period**), multiplied by the price paid per share of common stock in such merger event and (ii) we will satisfy our conversion obligation by paying such cash amount to converting holders on the second business day immediately following the conversion date. We will notify holders, the trustee and the conversion agent (if other than the trustee) of the weighted average as soon as reasonably practicable after such determination is made.

If the reference property in respect of any merger event includes, in whole or in part, shares of common equity or securities convertible into or exchangeable for shares of common equity, the supplemental indenture providing that the notes will be convertible into reference property will also provide for anti-dilution and other adjustments that are as nearly equivalent as possible to the adjustments described under **Conversion Rate Adjustments** above with respect to the portion of reference property consisting of such common equity or securities convertible into or exchangeable for shares of common equity. If the reference property in respect of any such merger event includes shares of stock, securities or other property or assets (other than cash and/or cash equivalents) of a company other than us or the successor or purchasing company, as the case may be, in such merger event, such other company, if an affiliate of us or the successor or acquiring company, will also execute such supplemental indenture, and such supplemental indenture will contain such additional provisions to protect the interests of the holders, including the right of holders to require us to repurchase their notes upon a fundamental change as described under **Fundamental Change Permits Holders to Require Us to Repurchase Notes** below, as we reasonably consider necessary by reason of the foregoing. We will agree in the indenture not to become a party to any such transaction unless its terms are consistent with the foregoing.

Adjustments of Prices

Whenever any provision of the indenture requires us to calculate the last reported sale prices, the daily VWAPs, the daily conversion values or the daily settlement amounts over a span of multiple days (including, without limitation, an observation period and the period, if any, for determining the **stock price** for purposes of a make-whole fundamental change), we will make appropriate adjustments (without duplication in respect of any adjustment made pursuant to the provisions described under **Conversion Rate Adjustments** above) to each to account for any adjustment to the conversion rate that becomes effective, or any event requiring an adjustment to the conversion rate where the ex-dividend date, effective date or expiration date of the event occurs, at any time during the period when such last reported sale prices, daily VWAPs, daily conversion values or daily settlement amounts are to be calculated.

Increase in Conversion Rate upon Conversion upon a Make-Whole Fundamental Change or during a Redemption Period

If the **effective date** (as defined below) of a **fundamental change** (as defined below and determined after giving effect to any exceptions to or exclusions from such definition, but without regard to the proviso in clause (2) of the definition thereof, a **make-whole fundamental change**) occurs prior to the maturity date of the notes, and a holder elects to convert its notes in connection with such make-whole fundamental change, or if we issue a notice of redemption as set forth under **Optional Redemption** and a holder elects to convert notes during the related redemption period, we will, under certain circumstances, increase the conversion rate for the notes so surrendered for conversion by a number of additional shares of common stock (the **additional shares**), as described below. A conversion of notes will be deemed for these purposes to be in connection with such make-whole fundamental change if the relevant conversion date occurs during the period from, and including, the effective date of the make-whole fundamental change up to, and including, the close of business on the business day immediately prior to the related fundamental change repurchase

date (or, in the case of a make-whole fundamental change that would have been a fundamental change but for the proviso in clause (2) of the definition thereof, the 35th trading day immediately following the effective date of such make-whole fundamental change) (such period, the make-whole fundamental change period).

S-46

Table of Contents

Upon surrender of notes for conversion in connection with a make-whole fundamental change or during a redemption period, we will, at our option, satisfy our conversion obligation by physical settlement, cash settlement or combination settlement, based on the conversion rate as increased to reflect the additional shares pursuant to the table set forth below, as described under Settlement upon Conversion. However, if the consideration for our common stock in any make-whole fundamental change described in clause (2) of the definition of fundamental change is composed entirely of cash, for any conversion of notes following the effective date of such make-whole fundamental change, the conversion obligation will be calculated based solely on the stock price (as defined below) for the transaction and will be deemed to be an amount of cash per \$1,000 principal amount of converted notes equal to the conversion rate (including any increase to reflect the additional shares as described in this section), multiplied by such stock price. In such event, the conversion obligation will be determined and paid to holders in cash on the second business day following the conversion date. We will notify holders, the trustee and the conversion agent (if other than the trustee) of the effective date of any make-whole fundamental change no later than five business days after such effective date.

The number of additional shares, if any, by which the conversion rate will be increased will be determined by reference to the table below, based on the date on which the make-whole fundamental change occurs or becomes effective (the effective date) or the redemption notice date, as applicable, and the price (the stock price) paid (or deemed to be paid) per share of our common stock in the make-whole fundamental change or on the redemption notice date in the manner set forth in this paragraph. If the holders of our common stock receive in exchange for their common stock only cash in a make-whole fundamental change described in clause (2) of the definition of fundamental change, the stock price will be the cash amount paid per share. Otherwise, the stock price will be the average of the last reported sale prices of our common stock over the five consecutive trading day period ending on, and including, the trading day immediately preceding the effective date of the make-whole fundamental change or the redemption notice date, as the case may be. In the event that a conversion during a redemption period would also be deemed to be in connection with a make-whole fundamental change, a holder of the notes to be converted will be entitled to a single increase to the conversion rate with respect to the first to occur of the applicable redemption notice date or the effective date of the applicable make-whole fundamental change, and the later event will be deemed not to have occurred for purposes of this section.

The stock prices set forth in the column headings of the table below will be adjusted as of any date on which the conversion rate for the notes is otherwise adjusted. The adjusted stock prices will equal the stock prices immediately prior to such adjustment, multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which is the conversion rate immediately prior to the adjustment giving rise to the stock price adjustment and the denominator of which is the conversion rate as so adjusted. The number of additional shares as set forth in the table below will be adjusted in the same manner and at the same time as the conversion rate as set forth under Conversion Rate Adjustments.

The following table sets forth the number of additional shares by which the conversion rate will be increased per \$1,000 principal amount of notes for each stock price and effective date or redemption notice date, as applicable, set forth below:

| Effective Date/Redemption Notice Date | Stock Price | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | \$87.50 | \$95.00 | \$105.00 | \$113.75 | \$125.00 | \$135.00 | \$147.88 | \$175.00 | \$225.00 | \$275.00 | \$325.00 |
| March 13, 2018 | 2.6373 | 2.2267 | 1.8013 | 1.5135 | 1.2270 | 1.0302 | 0.8347 | 0.5604 | 0.3019 | 0.1773 | 0.1063 |
| March 15, 2019 | 2.6373 | 2.1839 | 1.7420 | 1.4462 | 1.1550 | 0.9578 | 0.7645 | 0.5002 | 0.2616 | 0.1519 | 0.0915 |
| March 15, 2020 | 2.6373 | 2.1468 | 1.6828 | 1.3757 | 1.0779 | 0.8795 | 0.6886 | 0.4355 | 0.2195 | 0.1262 | 0.0766 |
| March 15, 2021 | 2.6373 | 2.1022 | 1.6102 | 1.2895 | 0.9842 | 0.7853 | 0.5986 | 0.3616 | 0.1742 | 0.0994 | 0.0611 |

Edgar Filing: Guidewire Software, Inc. - Form 424B5

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| March 15, 2022 | 2.6373 | 2.0387 | 1.5110 | 1.1741 | 0.8617 | 0.6647 | 0.4869 | 0.2754 | 0.1261 | 0.0723 | 0.0454 |
| March 15, 2023 | 2.6373 | 1.9457 | 1.3670 | 1.0091 | 0.6922 | 0.5038 | 0.3451 | 0.1773 | 0.0782 | 0.0463 | 0.0302 |
| March 15, 2024 | 2.6373 | 1.8134 | 1.1395 | 0.7472 | 0.4369 | 0.2793 | 0.1680 | 0.0762 | 0.0354 | 0.0226 | 0.0154 |
| March 15, 2025 | 2.6373 | 1.7352 | 0.7326 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |

S-47

Table of Contents

The exact stock prices and effective dates or redemption notice dates may not be set forth in the table above, in which case

If the stock price is between two stock prices in the table or the effective date or redemption notice date, as the case may be, is between two effective dates or redemption notice dates, as applicable, in the table, the number of additional shares by which the conversion rate will be increased will be determined by a straight-line interpolation between the number of additional shares set forth for the higher and lower stock prices and the earlier and later effective dates or redemption notice dates, as applicable, based on a 365-day year.

If the stock price is greater than \$325.00 per share (subject to adjustment in the same manner as the stock prices set forth in the column headings of the table above), no additional shares will be added to the conversion rate.

If the stock price is less than \$87.50 per share (subject to adjustment in the same manner as the stock prices set forth in the column headings of the table above), no additional shares will be added to the conversion rate.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, in no event will the conversion rate per \$1,000 principal amount of notes exceed 11.4285 shares of common stock, subject to adjustment in the same manner as the conversion rate as set forth under Conversion Rate Adjustments.

Our obligation to increase the conversion rate for notes converted in connection with a make-whole fundamental change or during a redemption period could be considered a penalty, in which case the enforceability thereof would be subject to general principles of reasonableness and equitable remedies.

Fundamental Change Permits Holders to Require Us to Repurchase Notes

If a fundamental change (as defined below in this section) occurs at any time prior to the maturity date, holders will have the right, at their option, to require us to repurchase for cash all of their notes, or any portion of the principal amount thereof that is equal to \$1,000 or a multiple of \$1,000. The date of such repurchase (the fundamental change repurchase date) will be a date specified by us that is not less than 20 or more than 35 business days following the date of our fundamental change notice as described below. The fundamental change repurchase date shall be subject to postponement in order to allow us to comply with applicable law as a result of changes to such applicable law occurring after the date of the indenture.

The price for such repurchase (the fundamental change repurchase price) we are required to pay will be equal to 100% of the principal amount of the notes to be repurchased, plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the fundamental change repurchase date (unless the fundamental change repurchase date falls after a regular record date but on or prior to the interest payment date to which such regular record date relates, in which case we will instead pay the full amount of accrued and unpaid interest to the holder of record on such regular record date, and the fundamental change repurchase price will be equal to 100% of the principal amount of the notes to be repurchased).

A fundamental change will be deemed to have occurred at the time after the notes are originally issued if any of the following occurs prior to the maturity date:

(1) a person or group within the meaning of Section 13(d) of the Exchange Act, other than us, our direct or indirect wholly-owned subsidiaries and our and their employee benefit plans, files a Schedule TO (or any successor schedule, form or report) or any schedule, form or report under the Exchange Act disclosing that such person or group has become the direct or indirect beneficial owner, as defined in Rule 13d-3 under the Exchange Act, of our common stock representing more than 50% of the voting power of our common stock;

S-48

Table of Contents

(2) the consummation of (A) any recapitalization, reclassification or change of our common stock (other than changes resulting from a subdivision or combination or solely a change in par value) as a result of which our common stock would be converted into, or exchanged for, stock, other securities, other property or assets (other than a transaction described in clause (B) below); (B) any share exchange, consolidation or merger of us pursuant to which our common stock will be converted into cash, securities or other property or assets; or (C) any sale, lease or other transfer in one transaction or a series of transactions of all or substantially all of the consolidated assets of us and our subsidiaries, taken as a whole, to any person other than one of our direct or indirect wholly-owned subsidiaries; provided, however, that a transaction described in clause (A) or (B) in which the holders of all classes of our common equity immediately prior to such transaction own, directly or indirectly, more than 50% of all classes of common equity of the continuing or surviving corporation or transferee or the parent thereof immediately after such transaction in substantially the same proportions (relative to each other) as such ownership immediately prior to such transaction shall not be a fundamental change pursuant to this clause (2);

(3) our stockholders approve any plan or proposal for the liquidation or dissolution of us; or

(4) our common stock (or other common equity underlying the notes) ceases to be listed or quoted on any of The New York Stock Exchange, The NASDAQ Global Select Market or The NASDAQ Global Market (or any of their respective successors).

A transaction or transactions described in clauses (1) or (2) above will not constitute a fundamental change, however, if at least 90% of the consideration received or to be received by our common stockholders, excluding cash payments for fractional shares and cash payments made in respect of dissenters' statutory appraisal rights, in connection with such transaction or transactions consists of shares of common stock (or other common equity) that are listed or quoted on any of The New York Stock Exchange, The NASDAQ Global Select Market or The NASDAQ Global Market (or any of their respective successors) or will be so listed or quoted when issued or exchanged in connection with such transaction or transactions and as a result of such transaction or transactions such consideration, excluding cash payments for fractional shares and cash payments made in respect of dissenters' statutory appraisal rights (subject to the provisions set forth above under "Conversion Rights Settlement upon Conversion"), becomes reference property for the notes.

If any transaction in which our common stock is replaced by the securities of another entity occurs, following completion of any related make-whole fundamental change period (or, in the case of a transaction that would have been a fundamental change or a make-whole fundamental change but for the immediately preceding paragraph, following the effective date of such transaction), references to us in the definition of "fundamental change" above shall instead be references to such other entity.

For purposes of the definition of "fundamental change" above, any transaction that constitutes a fundamental change pursuant to both clause (1) and clause (2) of such definition (without giving effect to the proviso to clause (2)) shall be deemed a fundamental change solely under clause (2) of such definition (subject to the proviso to clause (2)).

On or before the 20th day after the occurrence of a fundamental change, we will provide to all holders of the notes and the trustee and paying agent a written notice of the occurrence of the fundamental change and of the resulting repurchase right. Such notice shall state, among other things:

the events causing a fundamental change;

the effective date of the fundamental change;

the last date on which a holder may exercise the repurchase right;

the fundamental change repurchase price;

the fundamental change repurchase date;

S-49

Table of Contents

the name and address of the paying agent and the conversion agent, if applicable;

if applicable, the conversion rate and any adjustments to the conversion rate as a result of the fundamental change (or related make-whole fundamental change);

that the notes with respect to which a fundamental change repurchase notice has been delivered by a holder may be converted only if the holder validly withdraws the fundamental change repurchase notice in accordance with the terms of the indenture; and

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

To exercise the fundamental change repurchase right, you must deliver, on or before the close of business on the business day immediately preceding the fundamental change repurchase date, the notes to be repurchased, duly endorsed for transfer, together with a written repurchase notice, to the paying agent. Each repurchase notice must state:

if certificated, the certificate numbers of your notes to be delivered for repurchase;

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

that the notes are to be repurchased by us pursuant to the applicable provisions of the notes and the indenture.

If the notes are not in certificated form, such repurchase notice must comply with appropriate DTC procedures.

Holders may withdraw any repurchase notice (in whole or in part) by a written notice of withdrawal received by the paying agent prior to the close of business on the business day immediately preceding the fundamental change repurchase date. The notice of withdrawal shall state:

the principal amount of the withdrawn notes, which must be \$1,000 or a multiple thereof;

if certificated notes have been issued, the certificate numbers of the withdrawn notes; and

the principal amount, if any, which remains subject to the repurchase notice, which must be \$1,000 or a multiple thereof.

If the notes are not in certificated form, such notice of withdrawal must comply with appropriate DTC procedures.

We will be required to repurchase the notes on the fundamental change repurchase date. Holders who have exercised the repurchase right will receive payment of the fundamental change repurchase price on the later of (i) the fundamental change repurchase date and (ii) the time of book-entry transfer or the delivery of the notes. If the paying agent holds money sufficient to pay the fundamental change repurchase price of the notes on the fundamental change repurchase date, then, with respect to the notes that have been properly surrendered for repurchase and have not been validly withdrawn:

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

all other rights of the holder will terminate (other than the right to receive the fundamental change repurchase price).

In connection with any repurchase offer pursuant to a fundamental change repurchase notice, we will, if required:

comply with the provisions of any tender offer rules under the Exchange Act that may then be applicable;

Table of Contents

file a Schedule TO or any other required schedule under the Exchange Act; and

otherwise comply in all material respects with all federal and state securities laws in connection with any offer by us to repurchase the notes,

in each case, so as to permit the rights and obligations under this Fundamental Change Permits Holders to Require Us to Repurchase Notes to be exercised in the time and in the manner specified in the indenture.

To the extent that, as a result of a change in law occurring after the first date on which the notes are issued, the provisions of any securities laws or regulations conflict with the provisions of the indenture relating to our obligations to purchase the notes upon a fundamental change, we will comply with the applicable securities laws and regulations and will not be deemed to have breached our obligations under such provisions of the indenture by virtue of such conflict.

No notes may be repurchased on any date at the option of holders upon a fundamental change if the principal amount of the notes has been accelerated, and such acceleration has not been rescinded, on or prior to such date (except in the case of an acceleration resulting from a default by us in the payment of the fundamental change repurchase price with respect to such notes).

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, we will not be required to repurchase, or to make an offer to repurchase, the notes upon a fundamental change if a third party makes such an offer in the same manner, at the same time and otherwise in compliance with the requirements for an offer made by us as set forth in the indenture, and such third party purchases all notes properly surrendered and not validly withdrawn under its offer in the same manner, at the same time and otherwise in compliance with the requirements for an offer made by us as set forth in the indenture.

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

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

Furthermore, holders may not be entitled to require us to repurchase their notes or be entitled to an increase in the conversion rate upon conversion as described under Increase in Conversion Rate upon Conversion upon a Make-Whole Fundamental Change or during a Redemption Period in circumstances involving a significant change in the composition of our board unless such change is in connection with a fundamental change or make-whole fundamental change as described herein.

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

If a fundamental change were to occur, we may not have enough funds to pay the fundamental change repurchase price. Our ability to repurchase the notes for cash may be limited by restrictions on our ability to obtain funds for such repurchase through dividends from our subsidiaries, the terms of our then existing borrowing arrangements or

otherwise. See Risk Factors Risks Related to the Notes We may not have the ability to raise the funds necessary to settle conversions of the notes in cash or to repurchase the notes upon a fundamental change, and our future debt may contain limitations on our ability to pay cash upon conversion or

S-51

Table of Contents

repurchase of the notes. If we fail to repurchase notes when required following a fundamental change, we will be in default under the indenture. In addition, we may in the future incur other indebtedness with similar change in control provisions permitting holders of such other indebtedness to accelerate the relevant indebtedness or require us to repurchase our indebtedness upon the occurrence of similar events or on some specific dates.

Consolidation, Merger and Sale of Assets

The indenture will provide that we will not consolidate with or merge with or into, or sell, convey, transfer or lease all or substantially all of our properties and assets to, another person, unless (i) the resulting, surviving or transferee person (if not us) is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the United States of America, any State thereof or the District of Columbia, and such corporation (if not us) expressly assumes by supplemental indenture all of our obligations under the notes and the indenture; and (ii) immediately after giving effect to such transaction, no default or event of default has occurred and is continuing under the indenture. Upon any such consolidation, merger or sale, conveyance, transfer or lease, the resulting, surviving or transferee person (if not us) shall succeed to, and may exercise every right and power of, ours under the indenture, and we will be discharged from our obligations under the notes and the indenture, except in the case of any such lease.

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

Events of Default

Each of the following is an event of default with respect to the notes:

- (1) default in any payment of interest on any note when due and payable and the default continues for a period of 30 days;
- (2) default in the payment of principal of any note when due and payable at its stated maturity, upon optional redemption, upon any required repurchase, upon declaration of acceleration or otherwise;
- (3) our failure to comply with our obligation to convert the notes in accordance with the indenture upon exercise of a holder's conversion right, and such failure continues for five business days;
- (4) our failure to give (i) a fundamental change notice as described under Fundamental Change Permits Holders to Require Us to Repurchase Notes when due, and such failure continues for five business days, or (ii) notice of a specified corporate transaction as described under Conversion Rights Conversion upon Specified Corporate Events, when due, and such failure continues for three business days;
- (5) our failure to comply with our obligations under Consolidation, Merger and Sale of Assets;
- (6) our failure for 60 days after written notice from the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the notes then outstanding has been received by us and the trustee to comply with any of our other agreements contained in the notes or the indenture;
- (7) default by us or any of our significant subsidiaries (as defined below) with respect to any mortgage, agreement or other instrument under which there may be outstanding, or by which there may be secured or evidenced, any indebtedness for money borrowed in excess of \$45.0 million (or its foreign currency equivalent) in the aggregate of us

and/or any such significant subsidiary, whether such indebtedness now exists or shall hereafter be created (i) resulting in such indebtedness becoming or being declared due and payable prior to its stated maturity or (ii) constituting a failure to pay the principal of any such indebtedness when due and payable (after the expiration of all applicable grace periods) at its stated maturity, upon required repurchase, upon declaration of acceleration or otherwise, in each case, after the expiration of any applicable grace period, if such acceleration shall not have been rescinded or annulled or

S-52

Table of Contents

such failure to pay or default shall not have been cured or waived, or such indebtedness shall not have been paid or discharged, as the case may be, within 30 days after written notice to us by the trustee or to us and the trustee by holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of notes then outstanding in accordance with the indenture; or

(8) certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency, or reorganization of us or any of our significant subsidiaries.

For purposes of clauses (7) and (8), the term *significant subsidiary* has the meaning set forth in Article 1, Rule 1-02 of Regulation S-X promulgated by the SEC provided that, in the case of a subsidiary that meets the criteria of clause (3) of the definition thereof but not clause (1) or (2) thereof, such subsidiary shall not be deemed to be a significant subsidiary unless the subsidiary's income or loss from continuing operations before income taxes, extraordinary items and cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle exclusive of amounts attributable to any noncontrolling interests for the last completed fiscal year prior to the date of such determination exceeds \$20 million.

If an event of default occurs and is continuing, the trustee by notice to us, or the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding notes by written notice to us and the trustee may declare 100% of the principal of and accrued and unpaid interest, if any, on all the notes to be due and payable. In case of certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization involving us, 100% of the principal of and accrued and unpaid interest on the notes will automatically become due and payable. Upon such a declaration of acceleration, such principal and accrued and unpaid interest, if any, will be due and payable immediately.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the indenture will provide that, to the extent we elect, the sole remedy for an event of default relating to (i) our failure to file with the trustee pursuant to Section 314(a)(1) of the Trust Indenture Act any documents or reports that we are required to file with the SEC pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act or (ii) our failure to comply with our obligations as set forth under *Reports* below, will after the occurrence of such an event of default consist exclusively of the right to receive additional interest on the notes at a rate equal to: (i) 0.25% per annum of the principal amount of the notes outstanding for each day during the period beginning on, and including, the date on which such event of default first occurs and ending on the earlier of (x) the date on which such event of default is cured or validly waived in accordance with the indenture and (y) the 135th day immediately following, and including, the date on which such event of default first occurs and (ii) if such event of default has not been cured or validly waived prior to the 136th day immediately following, and including, the date on which such event of default first occurs, 0.50% per annum of the principal amount of notes outstanding for each day during the period beginning on, and including, the 136th day immediately following, and including, the date on which such event of default first occurs and ending on the earlier of (x) the date on which the event of default is cured or validly waived in accordance with the indenture and (y) the 270th day immediately following, and including, the date on which such event of default first occurs. In no event will the additional interest described in this paragraph accrue at a rate in excess of 0.25% per annum during the initial 135-day period or 0.50% per annum during the subsequent 135-day period pursuant to the indenture, regardless of the number of events or circumstances giving rise to the requirement to pay such additional interest.

If we so elect, such additional interest will be payable in the same manner and on the same dates as the stated interest payable on the notes and will accrue on all outstanding notes from, and including, the date on which such event of default first occurs to, and including, the 270th day thereafter (or such earlier date on which such event of default is cured or validly waived in accordance with the indenture). On the 271st day after such event of default (if such event of default is not cured or validly waived in accordance with the indenture prior to such 271st day), such additional interest will cease to accrue and the notes will be subject to acceleration as provided above. The provisions of the indenture described in this paragraph will not affect the rights of holders of notes in the event of the occurrence of any other event of default. In the event we do not elect to pay the additional interest following an event of default in accordance with this paragraph or we have elected to make such payment but do not pay the additional interest when

due, the notes will be immediately subject to acceleration as provided above.

S-53

Table of Contents

In order to elect to pay the additional interest as the sole remedy during the first 270 days after the occurrence of an event of default relating to the failure to comply with the reporting obligations in accordance with the immediately preceding two paragraphs, we must notify all holders of notes, the trustee and the paying agent of such election prior to the beginning of such 270-day period. Upon our failure to timely give such notice, the notes will be immediately subject to acceleration as provided above.

If any portion of the amount payable on any note upon acceleration is considered by a court to be unearned interest (through the allocation of the value of the instrument to the embedded warrant or otherwise), the court could disallow recovery of any such portion.

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

Each holder shall have the right to receive payment or delivery, as the case may be, of:

the principal (including the redemption price and the fundamental change repurchase price, if applicable) of;

accrued and unpaid interest, if any, on; and

the consideration due upon conversion of, its notes, on or after the respective due dates expressed or provided for in the indenture, or to institute suit for the enforcement of any such payment or delivery, as the case may be, and such right to receive such payment or delivery, as the case may be, on or after such respective dates shall not be impaired or affected without the consent of such holder.

If an event of default occurs and is continuing, the trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any of the rights or powers under the indenture at the request or direction of any of the holders unless such holders have offered to the trustee indemnity or security satisfactory to it against any loss, liability or expense. Except to enforce the right to receive payment of principal or interest when due, or the right to receive payment or delivery of the consideration due upon conversion, no holder may pursue any remedy with respect to the indenture or the notes unless:

- (1) such holder has previously given the trustee written notice that an event of default is continuing;
- (2) holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding notes have requested the trustee to pursue the remedy;
- (3) such holders have offered the trustee security or indemnity satisfactory to it against any loss, liability or expense;
- (4) the trustee has not complied with such request within 60 days after the receipt of the request and the offer of such security or indemnity; and

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

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

S-54

Table of Contents

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

The indenture will provide that if a default occurs and is continuing and is actually known to the trustee, the trustee must deliver to each holder notice of the default within 90 days after it occurs. Except in the case of a default in the payment of principal of or interest on any note or a default in the payment or delivery of the consideration due upon conversion, the trustee may withhold notice if and so long as it in good faith determines that withholding notice is in the interests of the holders. In addition, we are required to deliver to the trustee, within 120 days after the end of each fiscal year, a certificate indicating whether the signers thereof know of any default that occurred during the previous year. We are also required to deliver to the trustee, within 30 days after a responsible officer of our company obtains knowledge of the occurrence thereof, written notice of any events which would constitute certain defaults under the indenture, their status and what action we are taking or proposing to take in respect thereof; provided that we are not required to deliver such notice if such default has been cured within the applicable grace period (if any) provided in the indenture.

Payments of the redemption price, the fundamental change repurchase price, principal and interest that are not made when due will accrue interest per annum at the then-applicable interest rate from the required payment date.

Modification and Amendment

Subject to certain exceptions, the indenture or the notes may be amended with the consent of the holders of at least a majority in principal amount of the notes then outstanding (including without limitation, consents obtained in connection with a repurchase of, or tender or exchange offer for, notes) and, subject to certain exceptions, any past default or compliance with any provisions may be waived with the consent of the holders of a majority in principal amount of the notes then outstanding (including, without limitation, consents obtained in connection with a repurchase of, or tender or exchange offer for, notes). However, without the consent of each holder of an outstanding note affected, no amendment may, among other things:

- (1) reduce the principal amount of notes whose holders must consent to an amendment;
- (2) reduce the rate of or extend the stated time for payment of interest on any note;
- (3) reduce the principal of or extend the stated maturity of any note;
- (4) make any change that adversely affects the conversion rights of any note other than as permitted or required by the indenture;
- (5) reduce the redemption price or the fundamental change repurchase price of any note or amend or modify in any manner adverse to the holders of notes our obligation to make such payments, whether through an amendment or waiver of provisions in the covenants, definitions or otherwise;
- (6) make any note payable in money, or at a place of payment, other than that stated in the note;

- (7) change the ranking of the notes;
- (8) impair the right of any holder to receive payment of principal and interest on such holder's notes on or after the due dates therefor or to institute suit for the enforcement of any payment on or with respect to such holder's notes; or
- (9) make any change in the amendment provisions that require each holder's consent or in the waiver provisions.

S-55

Table of Contents

We and the trustee may amend or supplement the indenture or the notes without notice to or the consent of any holder of the notes to:

- (1) cure any ambiguity, omission, defect or inconsistency;
- (2) provide for the assumption by a successor corporation of our obligations under the indenture;
- (3) add guarantees with respect to the notes;
- (4) secure the notes;
- (5) add to our covenants or events of default for the benefit of the holders or surrender any right or power conferred upon us under the indenture;
- (6) make any change that does not adversely affect the rights of any holder under the indenture or the notes;
- (7) increase the conversion rate as provided in the indenture;
- (8) provide for the acceptance of appointment by a successor trustee or facilitate the administration of the trusts under the indenture by more than one trustee;
- (9) irrevocably elect a settlement method or a specified dollar amount, or eliminate our right to elect a settlement method;
- (10) make provisions with respect to conversion rights of the holders of the notes as described under **Conversion Rights Recapitalizations, Reclassifications and Changes of Our Common Stock** and make certain related changes to the terms of the notes as required by the applicable provisions of the indenture;
- (11) comply with any requirement of the SEC in connection with the qualification of the indenture under the Trust Indenture Act; or
- (12) conform the provisions of the indenture to any provision of the **Description of Notes** in the preliminary prospectus supplement, as supplemented by the related pricing term sheet.

Holders do not need to approve the particular form of any proposed amendment. It will be sufficient if such holders approve the substance of the proposed amendment. After an amendment under the indenture becomes effective, we are required to deliver to the holders (with a copy to the trustee) a notice briefly describing such amendment. However, the failure to give such notice to all the holders, or any defect in the notice, will not impair or affect the validity of the amendment.

Discharge

We may satisfy and discharge our obligations under the indenture by delivering to the securities registrar for cancellation all outstanding notes or by depositing with the trustee or delivering to the holders, as applicable, after the notes have become due and payable, whether at maturity, at any redemption date, at any fundamental change repurchase date, upon conversion or otherwise, cash or cash and/or shares of common stock (solely to satisfy outstanding conversions, as applicable) sufficient to pay all of the outstanding notes and paying all other sums payable under the indenture by us. Such discharge is subject to terms contained in the indenture.

Calculations in Respect of the Notes

Except as otherwise provided above, we will be responsible for making all calculations called for under the notes. These calculations include, but are not limited to, determinations of the stock price, the last reported sale prices of our common stock, the trading price of the notes (for purposes of determining whether the notes are convertible as described herein), the daily VWAPs, the daily conversion values, the daily settlement amounts, accrued interest payable on the notes and the conversion rate of the notes. We will make all these calculations in good faith and, absent manifest error, our calculations will be final and binding on holders of notes. We will

Table of Contents

provide a schedule of our calculations to each of the trustee and the conversion agent, and each of the trustee and the conversion agent is entitled to rely conclusively upon the accuracy of our calculations without independent verification. The trustee will forward our calculations to any holder of notes upon the written request of that holder.

Reports

The indenture will provide that any documents or reports that we are required to file with the SEC pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act must be filed by us with the trustee within 15 days after the same are required to be filed with the SEC (giving effect to any grace period provided by Rule 12b-25 or any successor rule under the Exchange Act). Notwithstanding the foregoing, we shall in no event be required to file with, or otherwise provide or disclose to, the trustee or any holder any information for which we are requesting (assuming such request has not been denied), or have received, confidential treatment from the SEC, or any correspondence with the SEC. Documents filed by us with the SEC via the EDGAR (or any successor thereto) system will be deemed to be filed with the trustee as of the time such documents are filed via EDGAR (or any successor thereto), it being understood that the trustee shall not be responsible for determining whether such filings have been made. Delivery of reports, information and documents to the trustee under the indenture is for informational purposes only and the information and the trustee's receipt of the foregoing shall not constitute constructive notice of any information contained therein, or determinable from information contained therein including our compliance with any of its covenants thereunder (as to which the trustee is entitled to rely exclusively on an officer's certificate).

Trustee

U.S. Bank National Association is the initial trustee, security registrar, paying agent and conversion agent for the notes. U.S. Bank National Association, in each of its capacities, including without limitation as trustee, security registrar, paying agent and conversion agent, assumes no responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the information concerning us or our affiliates or any other party contained in this document or the related documents or for any failure by us or any other party to disclose events that may have occurred and may affect the significance or accuracy of such information.

Governing Law

The indenture will provide that it and the notes, and any claim, controversy or dispute arising under or related to the indenture or the notes, will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York.

Book-Entry, Settlement and Clearance

The Global Notes

The notes will be initially issued in the form of one or more registered notes in global form, without interest coupons (the global notes). Upon issuance, each of the global notes will be deposited with the trustee as custodian for DTC and registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee of DTC.

Ownership of beneficial interests in a global note will be limited to persons who have accounts with DTC (DTC participants) or persons who hold interests through DTC participants. We expect that under procedures established by DTC:

upon deposit of a global note with DTC's custodian, DTC will credit portions of the principal amount of the global note to the accounts of the DTC participants designated by the underwriters; and

ownership of beneficial interests in a global note will be shown on, and transfer of ownership of those interests will be effected only through, records maintained by DTC (with respect to interests of DTC participants) and the records of DTC participants (with respect to other owners of beneficial interests in the global note).

S-57

Table of Contents

Beneficial interests in global notes may not be exchanged for notes in physical, certificated form except in the limited circumstances described below.

Book-Entry Procedures for the Global Notes

All interests in the global notes will be subject to the operations and procedures of DTC and, therefore, you must allow for sufficient time in order to comply with these procedures if you wish to exercise any of your rights with respect to the notes. We provide the following summary of those operations and procedures solely for the convenience of investors. The operations and procedures of DTC are controlled by that settlement system and may be changed at any time. Neither we nor the underwriters or the trustee are responsible for those operations or procedures.

DTC has advised us that it is:

a limited purpose trust company organized under the laws of the State of New York;

a banking organization within the meaning of the New York State Banking Law;

a member of the Federal Reserve System;

a clearing corporation within the meaning of the Uniform Commercial Code; and

a clearing agency registered under Section 17A of the Exchange Act.

DTC was created to hold securities for its participants and to facilitate the clearance and settlement of securities transactions between its participants through electronic book-entry changes to the accounts of its participants. DTC's participants include securities brokers and dealers, including the underwriters; banks and trust companies; clearing corporations and other organizations. Indirect access to DTC's system is also available to others such as banks, brokers, dealers and trust companies; these indirect participants clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a DTC participant, either directly or indirectly. Investors who are not DTC participants may beneficially own securities held by or on behalf of DTC only through DTC participants or indirect participants in DTC.

So long as DTC's nominee is the registered owner of a global note, that nominee will be considered the sole owner or holder of the notes represented by that global note for all purposes under the indenture. Except as provided below, owners of beneficial interests in a global note:

will not be entitled to have notes represented by the global note registered in their names;

will not receive or be entitled to receive physical, certificated notes; and

will not be considered the owners or holders of the notes under the indenture for any purpose, including with respect to the giving of any direction, instruction or approval to the trustee under the indenture.

As a result, each investor who owns a beneficial interest in a global note must rely on the procedures of DTC to exercise any rights of a holder of notes under the indenture (and, if the investor is not a participant or an indirect participant in DTC, on the procedures of the DTC participant through which the investor owns its interest). Neither we nor the trustee, paying agent or conversion agent has any responsibility or liability for any act or omission of DTC.

Payments of principal and interest with respect to the notes represented by a global note will be made by the trustee to DTC's nominee as the registered holder of the global note. Neither we nor the trustee or the paying agent will have any responsibility or liability for the payment of amounts to owners of beneficial interests in a global note, for any aspect of the records relating to or payments made on account of those interests by DTC, or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records of DTC relating to those interests.

Table of Contents

Payments by participants and indirect participants in DTC to the owners of beneficial interests in a global note will be governed by standing instructions and customary industry practice and will be the responsibility of those participants or indirect participants and DTC.

Transfers between participants in DTC will be effected under DTC's procedures and will be settled in same-day funds.

Certificated Notes

Notes in physical, certificated form will be issued and delivered to each person that DTC identifies as a beneficial owner of the related notes only if:

DTC notifies us at any time that it is unwilling or unable to continue as depository for the global notes and a successor depository is not appointed within 90 days;

DTC ceases to be registered as a clearing agency under the Exchange Act and a successor depository is not appointed within 90 days; or

an event of default with respect to the notes has occurred and is continuing and such beneficial owner requests that its notes be issued in physical, certificated form.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF CAPPED CALL TRANSACTIONS

In connection with the pricing of the notes, we expect to enter into capped call transactions with the option counterparties. The capped call transactions will cover, subject to anti-dilution adjustments substantially similar to those applicable to the notes, the number of shares of our common stock underlying the notes.

We intend to use approximately \$33.5 million of the net proceeds from this offering to pay the cost of the capped call transactions. If the underwriters exercise their over-allotment option to purchase additional notes, we expect to use a portion of the net proceeds from the sale of the additional notes to enter into additional capped call transactions with the option counterparties.

The capped call transactions are expected generally to reduce the potential dilution to our common stock upon any conversion of the notes and/or offset any cash payments we are required to make in excess of the principal amount of converted notes, as the case may be, in the event that the market price per share of our common stock, as measured under the terms of the capped call transactions, is greater than the strike price of the capped call transactions, which initially corresponds to the conversion price of the notes and is subject to anti-dilution adjustments substantially similar to those applicable to the conversion rate of the notes. If, however, the market price per share of our common stock, as measured under the terms of the capped call transactions, exceeds the cap price of the capped call transactions, there would nevertheless be dilution and/or there would not be an offset of such potential cash payments, in each case, to the extent that such market price exceeds the cap price of the capped call transactions.

We will not be required to make any cash payments to the option counterparties or their respective affiliates upon the exercise of the options that are a part of the capped call transactions, but we will be entitled to receive from them a number of shares of our common stock, an amount of cash or a combination thereof generally based on the amount by which the market price per share of our common stock, as measured under the terms of the capped call transactions, is greater than the strike price of the capped call transactions during the relevant valuation period under the capped call transactions. However, if the market price per share of our common stock, as measured under the terms of the capped call transactions, exceeds the cap price of the capped call transactions during such valuation period, the number of shares of our common stock and/or the amount of cash we expect to receive upon exercise of the capped call transactions will be capped based on the amount by which the cap price exceeds the strike price of the capped call transactions.

The capped call transactions are separate transactions entered into by us with the option counterparties, are not part of the terms of the notes and will not change the holders' rights under the notes. As a holder of the notes, you will not have any rights with respect to the capped call transactions.

For a discussion of the potential impact of any market or other activity by the option counterparties or their respective affiliates in connection with these capped call transactions, see [Underwriting Capped Call Transactions](#) and [Risk Factors](#) [Risks Related to the Notes](#). The capped call transactions may affect the value of the notes and our common stock.

Table of Contents

CERTAIN MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

The following discussion is a summary of certain material U.S. federal income tax considerations relating to the purchase, ownership and disposition of the notes and any common stock received on conversion thereof, but does not purport to be a complete analysis of all potential tax effects and does not address the effects of any state, local, alternative minimum, estate, gift or non-U.S. tax laws. This discussion is based upon the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), Treasury regulations issued thereunder, and judicial and administrative interpretations thereof, each as in effect on the date hereof, and all of which are subject to change, possibly with retroactive effect and to differing interpretations, all of which could result in U.S. federal income tax considerations different from those described below. No rulings from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) have been or are expected to be sought with respect to the matters discussed below. The discussion below is not binding on the IRS or the courts. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that the IRS will not take a different position concerning the tax consequences of the purchase, ownership or disposition of the notes and any common stock received on conversion thereof or that any such position would not be sustained.

This discussion does not address all of the U.S. federal income tax considerations that might be relevant to a beneficial owner in light of such beneficial owner's particular circumstances or to beneficial owners subject to special treatment under the U.S. federal income tax laws, including:

a dealer in securities;

a financial institution;

a regulated investment company;

a real estate investment trust;

a tax-exempt organization;

an insurance company;

a person holding the notes as part of a hedging, integrated, or conversion transaction or a straddle, or a person deemed to sell notes or common stock under the constructive sale provisions of the Code;

a trader in securities that has elected the mark-to-market method of tax accounting for securities;

an entity that is treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes or any other pass-through entity;

a person who is a partner or investor in a partnership or other pass-through entity, in each case for U.S. federal income tax purposes, that holds the notes or common stock;

a U.S. person whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar;

a tax-deferred or other retirement account;

a person required under Section 451(b) of the Code to conform to the timing of income accruals with respect to the notes or any common stock received on conversion thereof to their financial statements;

a controlled foreign corporation;

a passive foreign investment company;

a qualified foreign pension fund; or

a U.S. expatriate.

In addition, this discussion is limited to persons who purchase the notes for cash at original issue and at their issue price (the first price at which a substantial amount of the notes is sold to the public for cash, excluding sales to bond houses, brokers or similar persons or organizations acting in the capacity of underwriters, placement agents or wholesalers) and who hold the notes as capital assets within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Code.

Table of Contents

For purposes of this discussion, a **U.S. holder** is a beneficial owner of a note or a share of common stock received upon conversion of the note that is, for U.S. federal income tax purposes:

an individual who is a citizen or resident of the United States;

a corporation (or any 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, any state thereof or the District of Columbia;

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

a trust if (1) it is subject to the primary supervision of a court within the United States and one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust or (2) it has a valid election in effect under applicable U.S. Treasury regulations to be treated as a U.S. person.

For purposes of this discussion, a **non-U.S. holder** is a beneficial owner of a note or share of common stock received upon conversion of the note that is (i) a foreign corporation, (ii) a nonresident alien individual, or (iii) a foreign estate or trust that in each case is not subject to U.S. federal income tax on a net-income basis on income or gain from a note or share of common stock.

If a partnership or other pass-through entity treated as a partnership, in each case, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, holds the notes or shares of common stock received on conversion thereof, the tax treatment of a partner will generally depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of such partnership or pass-through entity. A partnership holding the notes or shares of common stock or a partner therein should consult its own tax advisors as to the tax consequences of holding and disposing of the notes or shares of common stock received on conversion thereof.

Prospective investors considering the purchase of notes should consult their own tax advisors concerning the particular U.S. federal income tax consequences to them of the ownership of the notes or shares of common stock received on conversion thereof in light of their specific situation, as well as the consequences to them arising under the laws of any other taxing jurisdiction.

U.S. Holders

The following discussion is a summary of certain U.S. federal income tax considerations applicable to a U.S. holder of notes or shares of common stock received on conversion.

Payment of Interest. Payments of stated interest on the notes generally will be taxable to a U.S. holder as ordinary income at the time that such payments are received or accrued, in accordance with such U.S. holder's method of accounting for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

This discussion assumes that the notes will not be issued with more than a de minimis amount of original issue discount. If, however, the notes' principal amount exceeds the issue price by more than a de minimis amount, as determined under applicable Treasury regulations, a U.S. holder will be required to include such excess of principal amount over issue price in income as original issue discount, as it accrues, in accordance with a constant yield method based on a compounding of interest before the receipt of cash payments attributable to this income.

Additional Interest. As described under the heading Description of Notes Events of Default, we may be required to pay additional interest on the notes in certain circumstances. We intend to take the position that the notes should not be treated as contingent payment debt instruments because of the anticipated remote possibility of such additional payments. Our determination that the notes are not contingent payment debt instruments, while not binding on the IRS, is binding on U.S. holders unless they disclose their contrary position in the manner required by applicable Treasury Regulations. Assuming such position is respected by the IRS, any additional interest paid to a U.S. holder would be taxable as additional ordinary income when received or accrued, in

Table of Contents

accordance with the U.S. holder's method of accounting for U.S. federal income tax purposes. However, the IRS may take a position contrary to our position, which could materially and adversely affect the timing and character of income with respect to the notes. In particular, if the notes were treated as contingent payment debt instruments, U.S. holders would be required to accrue interest income at a higher rate on the notes and to treat any gain recognized on the sale or other disposition of a note (including any gain realized on the conversion of a note) as ordinary income rather than as capital gain. The remainder of the discussion assumes that the notes are not treated as contingent payment debt instruments.

Sale, Exchange, or Other Taxable Disposition of Notes, Including a Conversion of the Notes for Cash. A U.S. holder will generally recognize gain or loss upon the sale, exchange, or other taxable disposition of a note, including a conversion of the note into solely cash, equal to the difference between the amount realized upon the sale, exchange, or other taxable disposition (less an amount equal to any accrued but unpaid interest, which will be taxable as interest income as discussed above to the extent not previously included in income by the U.S. holder) and the U.S. holder's adjusted U.S. federal income tax basis in the note. A U.S. holder's adjusted tax basis in a note will generally be its cost for that note plus the amount, if any, included in income on an adjustment to the conversion rate of the notes. Any such gain or loss generally will be capital gain or loss. Capital gains of non-corporate U.S. holders (including individuals) derived in respect of capital assets held for more than one year currently are eligible for reduced rates of taxation. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations under the Code.

Conversion of Notes into Common Stock. A U.S. holder who receives solely stock and cash in lieu of a fractional share of common stock upon conversion will generally not recognize any gain or loss, except to the extent of cash received in lieu of a fractional share, which will be taxable as a gain or loss as described below, and except to the extent of the fair market value of common stock received with respect to accrued interest, which will be taxable as interest income as discussed above to the extent not previously included in income by the U.S. holder.

A U.S. holder's tax basis in the shares of common stock received upon a conversion (other than common stock attributable to accrued interest, the tax basis of which will equal its fair market value) will equal the tax basis in the note that was converted (excluding the portion of the tax basis that is allocable to any fractional share). A U.S. holder's holding period for shares of common stock will generally include the period during which the U.S. holder held the notes, except that the holding period of any common stock received with respect to accrued interest will commence on the day after the date of receipt.

The amount of gain or loss recognized on the receipt of cash in lieu of a fractional share will be equal to the difference between the amount of cash a U.S. holder receives in respect of the fractional share and the portion of the U.S. holder's tax basis in the note that is allocable to the fractional share. Any gain recognized on conversion generally will be capital gain and will be long-term capital gain if, at the time of the conversion, the note has been held for more than one year.

If a U.S. holder surrenders notes for conversion and such notes are exchanged with an entity other than us, including pursuant to the procedure described under *Description of Notes Exchange in Lieu of Conversion* the U.S. holder will be required to recognize gain or loss as described under *Sale, Exchange, or Other Taxable Disposition of Notes, Including a Conversion of the Notes for Cash*. In such case, the U.S. holder's adjusted tax basis in the common stock received will equal the fair market value of the stock on the date of the exchange, and the U.S. holder's holding period in the common stock received will begin on the day after the date of the exchange.

Conversion of Notes into a Combination of Common Stock and Cash. If a combination of cash and common stock is received in exchange for a U.S. holder's notes upon conversion, we intend to take the position that the conversion should be treated as a recapitalization. In this case, gain, but not loss, will be recognized in an amount equal to the

excess of the fair market value of the common stock and cash received (other than amounts attributable to accrued interest, which will be taxable as interest income as discussed above to the extent not

S-63

Table of Contents

previously included in income by the U.S. holder) over the U.S. holder's tax basis in the note, but such gain will only be recognized to the extent of such cash received (excluding cash attributable to accrued interest or received in lieu of a fractional share). Any gain recognized on conversion generally will be capital gain and will be long-term capital gain if, at the time of the conversion, the note has been held for more than one year.

The amount of gain or loss recognized on the receipt of cash in lieu of a fractional share will be equal to the difference between the amount of cash a U.S. holder receives in respect of the fractional share and the portion of the U.S. holder's tax basis in the note that is allocable to the fractional share.

The tax basis in the shares of common stock received upon a conversion (other than common stock attributable to accrued interest, the tax basis of which will equal its fair market value, but including a fractional share deemed received) will equal the tax basis in the note that was converted (excluding the portion of the tax basis that is allocable to any fractional share), reduced by the amount of any cash received (other than cash received in lieu of a fractional share and cash attributable to accrued interest), and increased by the amount of gain, if any, recognized (other than with respect to a fractional share). A U.S. holder's holding period for shares of common stock will include the period during which the U.S. holder held the notes except that the holding period of any common stock received with respect to accrued interest will commence on the day after the date of receipt.

Alternative treatments of the conversion of the notes into cash and common stock are possible. For example, the conversion of a note into cash and common stock may instead be treated for U. S. federal income tax purposes as in part a conversion into stock and in part a payment in redemption of a portion of the note. U.S. holders should consult their tax advisors regarding the tax treatment of the receipt of cash and stock in exchange for notes upon conversion, including any alternative treatments.

If a U.S. holder surrenders notes for conversion and such notes are exchanged with an entity other than us the U.S. holder will be required to recognize gain or loss as described under Sale, Exchange, or Other Taxable Disposition of Notes, Including a Conversion of the Notes for Cash. In such case, the U.S. holder's tax basis in the common stock received will equal the fair market value of the stock on the date of the exchange, and the U.S. holder's holding period in the common stock received will begin on the day after the date of the exchange.

Constructive Distribution. The conversion rate of the notes is subject to adjustment in certain circumstances. Under Section 305(c) of the Code, certain adjustments (or failures to make adjustments) in the conversion rate of the notes that have the effect of increasing a U.S. holder's proportionate interest in our assets or earnings may result in a constructive distribution for U.S. federal income tax purposes equal to the value of such increase even though it has not received any cash or property as a result of such adjustments. However, adjustments to the conversion rate made pursuant to a bona fide reasonable adjustment formula that has the effect of preventing the dilution of the interest of the holders of the notes will generally not be deemed to result in a constructive distribution. In addition, adjustments to the conversion rate of the Notes that are not made in connection with other shareholders of the Company receiving a distribution of money or other property generally will not give rise to a constructive distribution.

Certain of the possible conversion rate adjustments provided in the notes (including, without limitation, upon the payments of cash distributions to holders of common stock or in connection with a make-whole fundamental change) will not qualify as being pursuant to a bona fide reasonable adjustment formula. If such adjustments are made, depending on the facts at the time, including whether we have paid in the past or will pay in the future distributions on our stock or interest on other convertible debt, a U.S. holder may be deemed to have received a distribution even though it has not received any cash or property because of such adjustments. Any constructive distribution would be taxable as a dividend, return of capital, or capital gain in accordance with rules regarding distributions on stock described below. It is not clear whether a constructive dividend deemed paid would be eligible for the preferential

rates of U.S. federal income tax applicable to certain dividends paid to non-corporate beneficial owners. It is also not clear whether corporate beneficial owners would be entitled to claim the dividends-received deduction with respect to any such constructive dividends.

S-64

Table of Contents

Common Stock. Distributions, if any, made on our common stock generally will be included in a U.S. holder's income as ordinary dividend income to the extent of our current or accumulated earnings and profits. However, for individual U.S. holders, such dividends currently are generally taxed at the lower applicable long-term capital gains rates, provided certain holding period and other requirements are satisfied. Distributions in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits will be treated as a return of capital to the extent of a U.S. holder's tax basis in the common stock and thereafter as capital gain from the sale or exchange of such common stock. For corporate U.S. holders, dividends received may be eligible for the dividends-received deduction, subject to applicable limitations.

Upon the sale, exchange, or other taxable disposition of our common stock, a U.S. holder generally will recognize capital gain or loss equal to the difference between (i) the amount of cash and the fair market value of any property received upon such taxable disposition and (ii) the U.S. holder's tax basis in the common stock. Such capital gain or loss will be long-term capital gain or loss if a U.S. holder's holding period in the common stock is more than one year at the time of the taxable disposition. Long-term capital gains recognized by certain non-corporate U.S. holders (including individuals) are generally subject to a reduced rate of U.S. federal income tax. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to certain limits under the Code.

Unearned Income Medicare Contribution Tax. Certain U.S. holders who are individuals, estates or trusts will be required to pay an additional 3.8% tax on, among other things, interest, dividends and capital gains from the sale, exchange, redemption, retirement or other taxable disposition of notes and our common stock.

Information Reporting and Backup Withholding. Information reporting requirements generally will apply to payments of interest on the notes, distributions on shares of common stock (including constructive distributions deemed paid) and to the proceeds of a sale of a note or shares of common stock received on conversion thereof unless a U.S. holder is an exempt recipient, such as a corporation. Backup withholding will apply to those payments if a U.S. holder fails to provide its correct taxpayer identification number or certification of exempt status, or fails to report in full interest and dividend income. Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules will be allowed as a refund or a credit against U.S. federal income tax liability, provided the required information is timely furnished to IRS. We are generally required to report any basis effects on your notes of corporate actions we take, such as distributions to our common stockholders. Proposed Treasury regulations, on which we may rely prior to the issuance of final Treasury regulations, specify how the date and amount of constructive distributions are determined, and provide that our determination of those items will generally control the timing and amount of any constructive distributions (or portions thereof) you would be required to include your taxable income.

Non-U.S. Holders

The following is a summary of the U. S. federal income tax considerations applicable to a non-U.S. holder (as defined above) of notes or shares of common stock received on conversion thereof.

Payments of Interest. The gross amount of payments to a non-U.S. holder of interest that does not qualify for the portfolio interest exemption and that is not effectively connected with the conduct by such non-U.S. holder of a trade or business within the United States (or, if required by an applicable income tax treaty, is not attributable to a permanent establishment of such non-U.S. holder in the United States) will be subject to U.S. withholding tax at the rate of 30%, unless a U.S. income tax treaty applies to reduce or eliminate such withholding tax. The 30% U. S. federal withholding tax will not apply to any payment to a non-U.S. holder of interest on a note under the portfolio interest exemption provided the non-U.S. holder:

Edgar Filing: Guidewire Software, Inc. - Form 424B5

does not actually (or constructively) own 10% or more of the total combined voting power of all of our stock entitled to vote;

is not a controlled foreign corporation with respect to which we are a related person, in each case, within the meaning of the Code; and

S-65

Table of Contents

either (1) provides the non-U.S. holder's name and address on a properly completed and executed IRS Form W-8BEN or W-8BEN-E (or other applicable or successor form), and certifies under penalties of perjury that it is not a U.S. person or (2) owns through a securities clearing organization, bank or other financial institution that holds customers' securities in the ordinary course of its trade or business that certifies, under penalties of perjury, that such a form has been received from the non-U.S. holder by it or by a financial institution between it and the non-U.S. holder.

If a non-U.S. holder is engaged in a trade or business in the United States and interest paid on the note constitutes income that is effectively connected with the conduct of that trade or business (and, if required by an applicable income tax treaty, is attributable to a permanent establishment of that non-U.S. holder) (U.S. Trade or Business Income), such interest will be taxed on a net basis at regular graduated U.S. income tax rates rather than the 30% gross rate. In the case of a non-U.S. holder that is a corporation, such U.S. Trade or Business Income may also be subject to the branch profits tax at a 30% rate (or lower applicable income tax treaty rate).

To claim the benefit of a tax treaty exemption from or reduction in withholding, or to claim exemption from withholding because the income is U.S. Trade or Business Income, a non-U.S. holder must provide a properly completed and executed IRS Form W-8BEN, W-8BEN-E or W-8ECI (or such successor forms as the IRS designates), as applicable. The non-U.S. holder must provide the form to its withholding agent. These forms must be periodically updated. A non-U.S. holder who is claiming the benefits of a treaty may be required in certain instances to obtain a U.S. taxpayer identification number and to provide certain documentary evidence issued by foreign governmental authorities to prove residence in the foreign country.

Dividends and Constructive Dividends. Any dividends paid to a non-U.S. holder with respect to shares of our common stock received on conversion of a note (and any deemed dividends resulting from certain adjustments, or failure to make adjustments, to the conversion rate including, without limitation, for cash dividends paid to holders of our common stock, see U.S. Holders' Constructive Distribution above) will be subject to withholding tax at a 30% rate (or lower applicable treaty rate). Because any constructive dividend a non-U.S. holder is deemed to receive would not give rise to any cash from which any applicable withholding tax could be satisfied, this tax would be withheld from any amount owed to the non-U.S. holder, including, but not limited to, interest payments, cash or shares of common stock otherwise due on conversion, dividends or sales proceeds subsequently paid or credited to the non-U.S. holder. Dividends and constructive dividends that constitute U.S. Trade or Business Income are not subject to the withholding tax, but instead are subject to U.S. federal income tax on a net-income basis at applicable graduated individual or corporate rates. Certain certification requirements and disclosure requirements must be complied with in order for U.S. Trade or Business Income to be exempt from withholding. Any such U.S. Trade or Business Income received by a foreign corporation may, under certain circumstances, be subject to an additional branch profits tax at a 30% rate (or lower applicable income tax treaty rate).

A non-U.S. holder of shares of our common stock who wishes to claim the benefit of an applicable treaty rate is required to satisfy applicable certification and other requirements. Non-U.S. holders eligible for a reduced rate of U.S. withholding tax pursuant to an income tax treaty may obtain a refund of any excess amounts withheld by filing an appropriate claim for refund with the IRS.

Sale, Exchange, Conversion or Other Disposition of Notes or Shares of Common Stock. A non-U.S. holder will recognize gain on the sale, exchange, or other taxable disposition of notes or shares of common stock received on conversion thereof, including a conversion of notes into cash or into a combination of cash and stock. Nevertheless, such gain generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax unless:

such gain is U.S. Trade or Business Income (as defined above);

in the case of any gain recognized by an individual non-U.S. holder, such non-U.S. holder is present in the United States for 183 days or more in the taxable year of such sale, exchange, retirement, conversion, or other disposition and certain other conditions are met; or

S-66

Table of Contents

we are or have been a United States real property holding corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes during the shorter of the non-U.S. holder's holding period and the 5-year period ending on the date of such sale, exchange, retirement, conversion or other disposition.

An individual non-U.S. holder described in the first bullet point above will be subject to tax on the net gain derived from the sale, exchange, conversion or other taxable disposition under regular graduated U.S. federal income tax rates. An individual non-U.S. holder described in the second bullet point above will be subject to a flat 30% tax on the gain derived from the sale, exchange, conversion or other taxable disposition, which may be offset by U.S. source capital losses, even though such non-U.S. holder is not considered a resident of the United States. A corporate non-U.S. holder that falls under the first bullet point above will be subject to tax on any net gain in the same manner as if such non-U.S. holder was a United States person, as defined under the Code and, in addition, may be subject to the branch profits tax equal to 30% of such non-U.S. holder's U.S. Trade or Business Income or at such lower rate as may be specified by an applicable income tax treaty.

We believe that we are not and do not anticipate becoming a United States real property holding corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes. However, because the determination of whether we are a USRPHC depends on the fair market value of our U.S. real property relative to the fair market value of our other business assets, there can be no assurance that we will not become a USRPHC in the future. Even if we become a USRPHC, however, as long as our common stock is regularly traded on an established securities market (as determined under the Code), such common stock will be treated as a U.S. real property interest only if you actually or constructively hold more than five percent of such regularly traded common stock at any time during the applicable period that is specified in the Code.

Any stock that a non-U.S. holder receives on the sale, exchange, conversion or other disposition of a note that is attributable to accrued interest will not give rise to gain, as described above, but will instead generally be subject to the rules for taxation of interest described above under Payments of Interest.

Information Reporting and Backup Withholding. The amount of interest and distributions paid (including distributions deemed paid) and the amount of tax, if any, withheld with respect to those payments will be reported to the non-U.S. holder and the IRS. Copies of the information returns reporting such interest and distributions and any withholding may also be made available to the tax authorities in the country in which a non-U.S. holder resides, under the provisions of an applicable income tax treaty.

We generally are required to report any basis effects on your notes of corporate actions we take, such as certain distributions to our common stockholders. Recently proposed Treasury regulations, on which we may rely prior to the issuance of final Treasury regulations, specify how the date and amount of constructive distributions are determined, and provide that our determination of those items will generally control the timing and amount of any constructive distributions (or portions thereof) you would be required to include your taxable income.

In general, a non-U.S. holder will not be subject to backup withholding with respect to payments of interest or dividends, provided that the withholding agent does not have actual knowledge or reason to know that such non-U.S. holder is a United States person, as defined under the Code, and has received the statement described above in the third bullet point under Payments of Interest. In addition, information returns will not be filed with the IRS in connection with the payment of proceeds from a sale or other disposition of the notes or the shares of our common stock unless made within the United States or through certain U.S. related payors. In the case of a payment made within the United States, unless the withholding agent has received the statement described above in the third bullet point under Payments of Interest, a non-U.S. holder may also be subject to U.S. backup withholding on such proceeds.

Table of Contents

Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules will be allowed as a refund or a credit against a non-U.S. holder's U.S. federal income tax liability, provided the required information is timely furnished to the IRS.

Withholding on Foreign Accounts. Legislation known as the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act and guidance issued thereunder (FATCA) imposes withholding taxes on certain types of payments made to foreign financial institutions and certain other foreign entities (including financial intermediaries). FATCA generally imposes withholding at a rate of 30% on payments to certain foreign entities of interest on and the gross proceeds of dispositions of the notes and dividends on and the gross proceeds of dispositions of our common stock, unless various U.S. information reporting and due diligence requirements (generally relating to ownership by U.S. persons of interests in or accounts with those entities) have been satisfied or the entity otherwise qualifies for an exemption. An intergovernmental agreement between the United States and an applicable foreign country may modify these requirements. These withholding rules generally apply to payments of interest and constructive dividends on the notes and dividends on common stock, and to payments of gross proceeds from a sale or other disposition of the notes or common stock made on or after January 1, 2019. You should consult your tax advisor regarding the application of FATCA.

Table of Contents**UNDERWRITING**

We and Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC, Citigroup Global Markets Inc. and J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, as representatives of the several underwriters named below, intend to enter into an underwriting agreement with respect to the notes. Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the underwriting agreement, we have agreed to sell to each of the underwriters, and each underwriter has agreed, severally and not jointly, to purchase from us the aggregate principal amount of notes indicated in the following table:

| Underwriter | Principal amount of notes |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC. | 108,000,000 |
| Citigroup Global Markets Inc. | 90,000,000 |
| J.P. Morgan Securities LLC | 90,000,000 |
| Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated | 14,400,000 |
| Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. | 14,400,000 |
| Piper Jaffray & Co. | 9,000,000 |
| William Blair & Company, L.L.C. | 9,000,000 |
| KeyBanc Capital Markets Inc. | 9,000,000 |
| Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated | 9,000,000 |
| JMP Securities LLC | 7,200,000 |
| Total | \$ 360,000,000 |

The underwriting agreement will provide that the underwriters are committed to take and pay for all of the notes being offered, if any are taken, other than the notes covered by the over-allotment option described below unless and until this over-allotment option is exercised. The offering of the notes by the underwriters is subject to receipt and acceptance and subject to the underwriters' right to reject any order in whole or in part.

We have agreed to indemnify the several underwriters against certain liabilities in connection with this offering, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, or to contribute to payments the underwriters may be required to make in respect of those liabilities.

Option to Purchase Additional Notes

The underwriters have an option to buy up to an additional \$40,000,000 in aggregate principal amount of the notes, solely to cover over-allotments, if any. The underwriters may exercise that option for 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement. To the extent that the underwriters exercise this option, the underwriters will severally, but not jointly, purchase notes in approximately the same proportion as set forth in the table above.

Underwriting Discounts and Expenses

The initial public offering price is set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement. Any notes sold by the underwriters to securities dealers may be sold at a discount from the initial public offering price set forth on the cover of this prospectus supplement. Any such securities dealers may resell any notes purchased from the underwriters to

certain other brokers or dealers at a discount from the initial public offering price set forth on the cover of this prospectus supplement. If all the notes are not sold at the initial public offering price, the underwriters may change the offering price and the other selling terms

S-69

Table of Contents

The following table shows the underwriting discount to be received by the underwriters in connection with the sale of the notes, assuming both no exercise and full exercise of the over-allotment option to purchase additional notes.

| | Without exercise of option | With full exercise of option |
|----------|---|---|
| Per note | \$ 30.00 | \$ 30.00 |
| Total | \$ 10,800,000 | \$ 12,000,000 |

We estimate that our total expenses of the offering, excluding underwriting discounts, will be approximately \$710,000.

New Issue of Notes

The notes are a new issue of securities with no established trading market. We have been advised by the underwriters that the underwriters intend to make a market in the notes but are not obligated to do so and may discontinue market making at any time without notice. No assurance can be given as to the liquidity of the trading market for the notes. We do not intend to apply for listing of the notes on any securities exchange or for inclusion of the notes in any automated quotation system.

No Sale of Similar Securities

We and our directors and our executive officers have agreed with the underwriters, subject to certain exceptions, not to offer, sell, contract to sell, pledge, grant any option to purchase, make any short sale or otherwise dispose of any shares of common stock, options or warrants to purchase shares of common stock or securities convertible into, exchangeable for or that represent the right to receive shares of common stock or engage in any other transaction which is designed to or which reasonably could be expected to lead to or result in a sale or disposition of shares of our common stock, during the period from the date of this prospectus supplement continuing through the date 90 days after the date of this prospectus supplement, except with the prior written consent of the representatives.

With respect to issuances or sales by us, this agreement does not apply to (i) the offer and sale of the notes or shares of common stock upon conversion thereof; (ii) the entry into, or the consummation of the transactions contemplated by, the capped call transactions; (iii) the offer and sale of shares of common stock pursuant to the concurrent Common Stock Offering; (iv) any securities convertible into, or exercisable for, shares of common stock issued pursuant to any employee stock option plan, incentive plan, stock plan, dividend reinvestment plan or otherwise; (v) the grant of awards pursuant to employee equity-based compensation plans, incentive plans, stock plans, or other arrangements in place at the time of this prospectus supplement; (vi) the filing of a registration statement on Form S-8 in connection with the registration of shares of common stock issuable under any employee equity-based compensation plan, incentive plan, stock plan, dividend reinvestment plan adopted and approved by the Company's board of directors; or (vii) the issuance of shares of stock representing up to 10% of the outstanding shares of common stock as of the date hereof in connection with the acquisition of the assets of, or a majority or controlling portion of the equity of, or a joint venture with another entity in connection with its acquisition by the Company or any of its subsidiaries of such entity; provided that each recipient of any shares of common stock pledged, issued or sold pursuant to (vii) above executes and delivers to the Representatives prior to such issuance or sale (as the case may be) an agreement having substantially the same lock-up terms.

With respect to issuances or sales by our directors and executive officers, this agreement does not apply to transfers of our common stock (i) as a *bona fide* gift or gifts or by will or intestacy, provided that the donee or donees thereof agree to be bound in writing by the restrictions set forth above; (ii) to any trust for the direct or indirect benefit of the holder or the immediate family of the holder, or limited partnerships or limited liability

S-70

Table of Contents

companies, the partners or members of which are the holder and/or the family members of the holder, in each case, for estate planning purposes, provided that the trust, partnership or limited liability company, as applicable, agrees to be bound in writing by the restrictions set forth above and any such transfer shall not involve a disposition for value; (iii) if the holder is a corporation, limited liability company, partnership or other entity, to any members, stockholders, partners, subsidiaries or affiliates of the holder, or to any investment fund or other entity that controls or manages or is controlled or managed by the holder, provided that the distributee thereof agrees to be bound in writing by the restrictions set forth above; (iv) pursuant to domestic relations or court orders, provided that the distributee thereof agrees to be bound in writing by the restrictions set forth above; (v) (A) in connection with the vesting or settlement of restricted stock units or the net or cashless exercise of options or other rights to purchase shares of common stock for purposes of exercising such options or rights, including the payment of taxes due as a result of the vesting, settlement or exercise of such restricted stock units, options or rights, and (B) any transfer that would involve a sale of any shares of common stock in connection with such vesting, settlement, or exercise to generate the amount of cash needed to cover the applicable exercise price, tax withholdings, or remittance payments (including estimated amounts) due upon such event, in all such cases, pursuant to equity awards granted under a stock incentive plan or other equity award plan, which plan is described in the Company's filings with the SEC as of the date hereof; (vi) sales or transfers of shares of our common stock made pursuant to a 10b5-1 Plan that was entered into by the holder prior to the date of this prospectus supplement (an Existing Plan), provided that (x) if the holder reports any such sale or transfer on a Form 4 under Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act, the holder shall cause such Form 4 to include a statement that such transfer was effected pursuant to an Existing Plan that was in effect on the date of this prospectus supplement and (y) the holder shall not, without the prior written consent of the Representatives, amend any Existing Plan to permit sales or transfers of additional shares during the restricted period set forth above unless such transfer is otherwise permitted; (vii) to the Company in connection with the repurchase of shares of common stock pursuant to agreements under which the Company has the option to repurchase such shares or securities upon termination of service of the holder; (viii) pursuant to a *bona fide* third-party tender offer, merger, consolidation or other similar transaction made to all holders of the Company's capital stock involving a change of control of the Company, provided that in the event that such tender offer, merger, consolidation or other such transaction is not completed, the holders' securities shall remain subject to the restrictions set forth above; or (ix) with the prior written consent of the Representatives. In the case of each of (i), (ii) and (iii) in the foregoing sentence, no filing by any party (whether donor, donee, transferor or transferee) under Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act, or other public announcement, shall be required or made voluntarily in connection with such transfer (in each case, other than a Form 5 made after the expiration of the restricted period set forth above), and in the case of each of (iv), (v) and (vii) in the foregoing sentence, if the holder reports any such transfer under Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act, the holder shall cause such report to include a statement that such transfer was effected for the purpose stated in (iv), (v) or (vii), as the case may be. For purposes of this prospectus supplement, immediate family shall mean any relationship by blood, marriage or adoption, not more remote than first cousin.

Concurrent Common Stock Offering

Concurrently with this offering, pursuant to a separate prospectus supplement, we are offering 2,285,714 shares of our common stock (or 2,628,571 of our common stock if the underwriters in that offering exercise their option to purchase additional shares of common stock in full) in an underwritten public offering (the Common Stock Offering). The net proceeds of the concurrent Common Stock Offering, after deducting underwriting discounts and estimated expenses payable by us, is expected to be approximately \$191.8 million (or approximately \$220.7 million if the underwriters in the concurrent Common Stock Offering exercise their option to purchase additional shares of common stock in full). Neither the completion of this offering nor of the concurrent Common Stock Offering is contingent on the completion of the other, so it is possible that this offering occurs and the Common Stock Offering does not occur, and vice versa. We cannot assure you that the concurrent Common Stock Offering will be completed on the terms described above, or at all.

S-71

Table of Contents

Price Stabilization and Short Positions

In connection with the offering, the underwriters may purchase and sell notes and common stock in the open market. These transactions may include stabilizing transactions, short sales and purchases to cover positions created by short sales. Stabilizing transactions consist of certain bids or purchases made for the purpose of preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the notes while the offering is in progress. Short sales involve the sale by the underwriters of a greater number of notes than they are required to purchase in the offering. If the underwriters create a short position in the notes in connection with the offering, the underwriters may cover that short position by purchasing notes in the open market or by exercising all or a part of the over-allotment option to purchase additional notes described above.

The underwriters also may impose a penalty bid. This occurs when a particular underwriter repays to the underwriters a portion of the underwriting discount received by it because the representatives have repurchased notes sold by or for the account of such underwriter in stabilizing or short covering transactions.

Neither we nor any of the underwriters makes any representation or prediction as to the direction or magnitude of any effect that the transactions described above may have on the price of the notes. In addition, neither we nor any of the underwriters makes any representation that the underwriters will engage in these transactions or that these transactions, once commenced, will not be discontinued at any time without notice. These transactions may be effected in the over-the-counter market or otherwise.

Other Relationships

The underwriters and their respective affiliates are full service financial institutions engaged in various activities, which may include sales and trading, commercial and investment banking, advisory, investment management, investment research, principal investment, hedging, market making, brokerage and other financial and non-financial activities and services. Certain of the underwriters and their respective affiliates have provided, and may in the future provide, a variety of these services to us and to persons and entities with relationships with us, for which they received or will receive customary fees and expenses. The underwriters are also acting as underwriters in our Common Stock Offering for which they will receive customary underwriting discounts and commissions and such underwriters or their affiliates may be option counterparties to our capped call transactions.

In the ordinary course of their various business activities, the underwriters and their respective affiliates, officers, directors and employees may purchase, sell or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade securities, derivatives, loans, commodities, currencies, credit default swaps and other financial instruments for their own account and for the accounts of their customers, and such investment and trading activities may involve or relate to assets, securities and/or instruments of ours (directly, as collateral securing other obligations or otherwise) and/or persons and entities with relationships with us. The underwriters and their respective affiliates may also communicate independent investment recommendations, market color or trading ideas and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such assets, securities or instruments and may at any time hold, or recommend to clients that they should acquire, long and/or short positions in such assets, securities and instruments.

Capped Call Transactions

In connection with the pricing of the notes, we entered into capped call transactions with one or more of the underwriters and/or their respective affiliates, which we refer to as the option counterparties. The capped call transactions are expected generally to reduce the potential dilution to our common stock upon any conversion of the notes and/or offset any cash payments we are required to make in excess of the principal amount of converted notes,

as the case may be, with such reduction and/or offset subject to a cap.

S-72

Table of Contents

We intend to use approximately \$33.5 million of the net proceeds from this offering to pay the cost of the capped call transactions. If the underwriters exercise their over-allotment option to purchase additional notes, we expect to enter into additional capped call transactions with the option counterparties.

In connection with establishing their initial hedges of the capped call transactions, the option counterparties or their respective affiliates expect to enter into derivative transactions with respect to our common stock concurrently with or shortly after the pricing of the notes. This activity could increase (or reduce the size of any decrease in) the market price of our common stock or the notes at that time.

In addition, the option counterparties or their respective affiliates may modify their hedge positions by entering into or unwinding derivatives with respect to our common stock and/or purchasing or selling our common stock or other securities of ours in secondary market transactions following the pricing of the notes and prior to the maturity of the notes (and are likely to do so during any observation period related to a conversion of notes). This activity could also cause or avoid an increase or a decrease in the market price of our common stock or the notes, which could affect your ability to convert the notes and, to the extent the activity occurs during any observation period related to a conversion of notes, it could affect the number of shares and value of the consideration that you will receive upon conversion of the notes.

For a discussion of the potential impact of any market or other activity by the option counterparties or their respective affiliates in connection with the capped call transactions, see **Risk Factors** **Risks Related to the Notes**. The capped call transactions may affect the value of the notes and our common stock.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Canada

The notes may be sold only to purchasers purchasing, or deemed to be purchasing, as principal that are accredited investors, as defined in National Instrument 45-106 Prospectus Exemptions or subsection 73.3(1) of the Securities Act (Ontario), and are permitted clients, as defined in National Instrument 31-103 Registration Requirements, Exemptions and Ongoing Registrant Obligations. Any resale of the notes must be made in accordance with an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the prospectus requirements of applicable securities laws.

Securities legislation in certain provinces or territories of Canada may provide a purchaser with remedies for rescission or damages if this prospectus supplement (including any amendment thereto) contains a misrepresentation, provided that the remedies for rescission or damages are exercised by the purchaser within the time limit prescribed by the securities legislation of the purchaser's province or territory. The purchaser should refer to any applicable provisions of the securities legislation of the purchaser's province or territory for particulars of these rights or consult with a legal advisor.

Pursuant to section 3A.3 (or, in the case of securities issued or guaranteed by the government of a non-Canadian jurisdiction, section 3A.4) of National Instrument 33-105 Underwriting Conflicts (NI 33-105), the underwriters are not required to comply with the disclosure requirements of NI 33-105 regarding underwriter conflicts of interest in connection with this offering.

Notice to Prospective Investors in the European Economic Area

The notes are not intended to be offered, sold or otherwise made available to and should not be offered, sold or otherwise made available to any retail investor in the European Economic Area. For these purposes, a retail investor means a person who is one (or more) of: (i) a retail client as defined in point (11) of Article 4(1) of Directive 2014/65/EU (as amended, **MiFID II**); or (ii) a customer within the meaning of Directive 2002/92/EC (as amended, the

Insurance Mediation Directive), where that customer would not qualify as a professional client as defined in point (10) of Article 4(1) of MiFID II; or (iii) not a qualified investor as defined in Directive 2003/71/EC (as amended, the Prospectus Directive). Consequently no key information document required by

S-73

Table of Contents

Regulation (EU) No 1286/2014 (as amended, the PRIIPs Regulation) for offering or selling the notes or otherwise making them available to retail investors in the European Economic Area has been prepared and therefore offering or selling the notes or otherwise making them available to any retail investor in the European Economic Area may be unlawful under the PRIIPs Regulation.

Notice to Prospective Investors in the United Kingdom

Each underwriter has represented and agreed that:

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

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

Notice to Prospective Investors in Hong Kong

The notes may not be offered or sold by means of any document other than (i) in circumstances which do not constitute an offer to the public within the meaning of the Companies Ordinance (Cap.32, Laws of Hong Kong), or (ii) to professional investors within the meaning of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap.571, Laws of Hong Kong) and any rules made thereunder, or (iii) in other circumstances which do not result in the document being a prospectus within the meaning of the Companies Ordinance (Cap.32, Laws of Hong Kong), and no advertisement, invitation or document relating to the notes may be issued or may be in the possession of any person for the purpose of issue (in each case whether in Hong Kong or elsewhere), which is directed at, or the contents of which are likely to be accessed or read by, the public in Hong Kong (except if permitted to do so under the laws of Hong Kong) other than with respect to notes which are or are intended to be disposed of only to persons outside Hong Kong or only to professional investors within the meaning of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571, Laws of Hong Kong) and any rules made thereunder.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Japan

The securities have not been and will not be registered under the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law of Japan (the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law) and each underwriter has agreed that it will not offer or sell any securities, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to, or for the benefit of, any resident of Japan (which term as used herein means any person resident in Japan, including any corporation or other entity organized under the laws of Japan), or to others for re-offering or resale, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to a resident of Japan, except pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements of, and otherwise in compliance with, the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law and any other applicable laws, regulations and ministerial guidelines of Japan.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Singapore

This prospectus supplement has not been registered as a prospectus with the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Accordingly, this prospectus supplement and any other document or material in connection with the offer or sale, or invitation for subscription or purchase, of the notes may not be circulated or distributed, nor may the notes be offered or sold, or be made the subject of an invitation for subscription or purchase, whether directly or indirectly, to persons in Singapore other than (i) to an institutional investor under Section 274 of the Securities and Futures Act, Chapter

289 of Singapore (the SFA), (ii) to a relevant person, or any person pursuant to Section 275(1A), and in accordance with the conditions, specified in Section 275 of the SFA or (iii) otherwise pursuant to, and in accordance with the conditions of, any other applicable provision of the SFA.

S-74

Table of Contents

Where the notes are subscribed or purchased under Section 275 by a relevant person which is: (a) a corporation (which is not an accredited investor) the sole business of which is to hold investments and the entire share capital of which is owned by one or more individuals, each of whom is an accredited investor; or (b) a trust (where the trustee is not an accredited investor) whose sole purpose is to hold investments and each beneficiary is an accredited investor, shares, debentures and units of shares and debentures of that corporation or the beneficiaries' rights and interest in that trust shall not be transferable for 6 months after that corporation or that trust has acquired the notes under Section 275 except: (1) to an institutional investor under Section 274 of the SFA or to a relevant person, or any person pursuant to Section 275(1A), and in accordance with the conditions, specified in Section 275 of the SFA; (2) where no consideration is given for the transfer; or (3) by operation of law.

S-75

Table of Contents

LEGAL MATTERS

Certain legal matters relating to the notes offered hereby will be passed upon for us by Goodwin Procter LLP. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the underwriters by Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Guidewire Software, Inc. and subsidiaries as of July 31, 2017 and 2016, and for each of the years in the three-year period ended July 31, 2017, and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of July 31, 2017, have been incorporated by reference herein and in the registration statement in reliance upon the report of KPMG LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The consolidated financial statements of Cyence, Inc. as of January 31, 2017 and for the year then ended incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of BDO USA, LLP, independent auditors, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

The financial statements of ISCS, Inc. as of and for the year ended December 31, 2016 have been incorporated by reference herein in reliance upon the report of Armanino LLP, independent auditors, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-3 under the Securities Act with respect to the notes offered by this prospectus supplement. This prospectus supplement, filed as part of the registration statement, does not contain all the information set forth in the registration statement and its exhibits and schedules, portions of which have been omitted as permitted by the rules and regulations of the SEC. For further information about us, we refer you to the registration statement and to its exhibits and schedules.

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC under the Exchange Act. You may read and copy any reports, statements or other information on file at the SEC's public reference facility located at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information regarding its public facilities. Our SEC filings, including the complete registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, are available to the public from commercial document retrieval services and also available at the Internet website maintained by the SEC at <http://www.sec.gov>.

These documents are also available, free of charge, through the Investors section of our website, which is located at www.ir.guidewire.com. Information contained on, or that can be accessed through, our website is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus and you should not consider such information to be part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference into this prospectus supplement the information we file with them, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is an important part of this prospectus supplement, and information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information. We incorporate by reference

S-76

Table of Contents

the documents listed below and all documents we file pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14, or 15(d) of the Exchange Act on or after the date of this prospectus supplement and prior to the termination of the offering of notes (other than, in each case, documents or information deemed to have been furnished and not filed in accordance with SEC rules):

Our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended July 31, 2017, filed with the SEC on September 20, 2017;

Our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended October 31, 2017, filed with the SEC on November 30, 2017, and our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended January 31, 2018, filed with the SEC on March 7, 2018;

Our Current Reports on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on October 6, 2017, November 2, 2017, December 12, 2017, January 9, 2018 and March 7, 2018 and our Current Reports on Form 8-K/A filed on April 26, 2017 (solely with respect to Exhibit 99.1 therein) and January 9, 2018;

Our definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A, filed with the SEC on November 6, 2017 (as amended on November 30, 2017) (solely with respect to those portions incorporated by reference into our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended July 31, 2017); and

The description of our common stock contained in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed with the SEC on January 9, 2012, including any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description.

We are not incorporating by reference (i) any information furnished under items 2.02 or 7.01 (or corresponding information furnished under item 9.01 or included as an exhibit) in any past or future current report on Form 8-K or (ii) any Form S-D, that, in either case, we may file or furnish with the SEC, unless otherwise specified in such current report or in such form or in a particular prospectus supplement. The documents listed above or subsequently filed by us pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act in each year during which the offering made pursuant to this prospectus supplement is in effect prior to the filing with the SEC of our Annual Report on Form 10-K covering such year shall cease to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus from and after the filing of such Annual Reports.

Any statement contained herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus supplement to the extent that a statement contained in any subsequently filed incorporated document modifies or supersedes such statement. Any statement contained in an incorporated document shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus supplement to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed incorporated document modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus supplement.

This prospectus supplement is part of a registration statement on Form S-3 filed with the SEC under the Securities Act. This prospectus does not contain all of the information set forth in the registration statement. You should read the registration statement for further information about us.

Edgar Filing: Guidewire Software, Inc. - Form 424B5

Documents incorporated by reference herein are available from us, without charge, excluding all exhibits unless specifically incorporated by reference in the documents. You may obtain documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement by writing to us at the following address or by calling us at the telephone number listed below:

Guidewire Software, Inc.

1001 East Hillsdale Blvd., Suite 800

Foster City, California 94404

(650) 357-9100

Attn: General Counsel

S-77

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS

Common Stock

Preferred Stock

Senior Debt Securities

Warrants

Units

We may from time to time issue, in one or more series or classes, common stock, preferred stock, senior debt securities, warrants and/or units. We may offer these securities separately or together in units. We will specify in the accompanying prospectus supplement the terms of the securities being offered. We may sell these securities to or through underwriters and also to other purchasers or through agents. We will set forth the names of any underwriters or agents, and any fees, conversions or discount arrangements, in the accompanying prospectus supplement. We may not sell any securities under this prospectus without delivery of the applicable prospectus supplement.

In addition, certain selling securityholders to be identified in a prospectus supplement may use this prospectus from time to time to offer shares of common stock. Specific terms of these securities will be provided in supplements to this prospectus.

You should read this document and any prospectus supplement or amendment carefully before you invest in our securities.

Our common stock is listed on The New York Stock Exchange under the symbol GWRE.

Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. You should review carefully the risks and uncertainties referenced under the heading Risk Factors contained in this prospectus beginning on page 4 and any applicable prospectus supplement, and under similar headings in the other documents that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission (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.

The date of this prospectus is March 7, 2018

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | Page |
|--|-------------|
| <u>About this Prospectus</u> | 1 |
| <u>Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements</u> | 1 |
| <u>The Company</u> | 3 |
| <u>Risk Factors</u> | 4 |
| <u>Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges</u> | 5 |
| <u>Use of Proceeds</u> | 6 |
| <u>Description of Capital Stock</u> | 7 |
| <u>Description of Senior Debt Securities</u> | 11 |
| <u>Description of Other Securities</u> | 18 |
| <u>Global Securities</u> | 19 |
| <u>Selling Securityholders</u> | 22 |
| <u>Plan of Distribution</u> | 23 |
| <u>Legal Matters</u> | 24 |
| <u>Experts</u> | 24 |
| <u>Where You Can Find More Information</u> | 24 |
| <u>Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference</u> | 24 |
| All references in this prospectus to Guidewire, the Company, we, us, our and similar terms refer to Guidewire Software, Inc. and its subsidiaries, unless we state otherwise or the context otherwise requires. | |

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the SEC using a shelf registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we may from time to time sell any combination of the securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we sell securities, we will provide one or more prospectus supplements that will contain specific information about the terms of the offering. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should read both this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement together with the additional information described under the headings **Where You Can Find More Information** and **Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference**.

You should rely only on the information contained, or incorporated by reference, in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus, and any free writing prospectus we authorize for use in connection with the applicable offering. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. You should assume that the information in this prospectus, any accompanying prospectus supplement, any document incorporated by reference herein or therein or any free writing prospectus we have authorized for use in connection with the applicable offering is accurate or complete only as of their respective dates, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus, the accompanying prospectus supplement and any authorized free writing prospectus. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

In this prospectus, as permitted by law, we incorporate by reference information from other documents that we file with the SEC. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be a part of this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus and should be read with the same care. When we update the information contained in documents that have been incorporated by reference by making future filings with the SEC, the information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus is considered to be automatically updated and superseded. In other words, in case of a conflict or inconsistency between information contained in this prospectus and information in any accompanying prospectus supplement or incorporated by reference into this prospectus, you should rely on the information contained in the document that was filed later. See **Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference** in this prospectus.

This prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement do not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities other than the securities described in the accompanying prospectus supplement or an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy such securities in any circumstances in which such offer or solicitation is unlawful.

CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement, including the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement, and any free writing prospectus we authorize for use in connection with the applicable offering may contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of 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**), which are subject to risks and uncertainties. These forward-looking statements include statements concerning, among other things, our business strategy (including anticipated trends and developments in, and management plans for, our business and the markets in which we operate), financial results, results of operations, revenues, gross margins, operating expenses, products, projected costs and capital expenditures, research and development programs, sales and marketing initiatives and competition. In some cases, you can identify these statements by forward-looking words, such as **will**, **may**, **might**, **should**, **could**,

estimate, expect, suggest, believe, anticipate, intend, plan and continue, the negative or plural of these v
comparable terminology.

Table of Contents

Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve risks and uncertainties. Such forward-looking statements included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, any accompanying prospectus supplement or any applicable free writing prospectus are based on information available to us as of the date such statements were made and our then-current expectations about future events, which are inherently subject to change and involve risks and uncertainties. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. Actual events or results may differ materially from those expressed or implied by these statements due to various factors, including but not limited to the factors discussed under the heading **Item 1A. Risk Factors** in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended July 31, 2017 and our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended January 31, 2018 and October 31, 2017 and under the heading **Risk Factors** in this prospectus.

We do not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statements included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any accompanying prospectus supplement or any applicable free writing prospectus, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise, except as required by law. All such forward-looking statements should be read as of the time the statements were made and with the recognition that these forward-looking statements may not be complete or accurate at a later date.

Table of Contents

THE COMPANY

We provide a technology platform which consists of three elements: core transaction processing, data management and analytics, and digital engagement. Our technology platform supports core insurance operations, including underwriting and policy administration, claim management and billing, enables new insights into data that can improve business decision making and supports digital sales, service and claims experiences for policyholders, agents, and other key stakeholders. Our customers are primarily insurance carriers for property and casualty (P&C) insurance.

We began our principal business operations in 2001. To date, we have generated a substantial majority of our software license revenues through annual or quarterly license fees that recur during the term of a customer s contract and any subsequent renewal periods. We also generate perpetual license revenues and subscription revenues. We anticipate that subscription revenue will increase as a percentage of total revenue as we develop and bring to market more cloud-based solutions to meet increasing industry demand. Thus far, more than 100 customers have subscribed to or licensed one or more applications that are cloud-delivered by us or our partners. Services revenues are primarily derived from implementation and training services performed for our customers. Substantially all of our services revenues are currently billed on a time and materials basis.

Our principal executive offices are located in Foster City, California, and our principal website address is www.guidewire.com. Our office address is 1001 E. Hillsdale Blvd., Suite 800, Foster City, California 94404. Information on or accessible through our Internet website is not part of this prospectus.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the risks described in the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, as well as other information we include or incorporate by reference into this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement, before making an investment decision. Our business, financial condition or results of operations could be materially adversely affected by the materialization of any of these risks. The trading price of our securities could decline due to the materialization of any of these risks, and you may lose all or part of your investment. This prospectus and the documents incorporated herein by reference also contain forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements as a result of certain factors, including the risks described in any prospectus supplement and in the documents incorporated herein by reference, including (i) our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended July 31, 2017, which is on file with the SEC and is incorporated herein by reference, (ii) our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended January 31, 2018 and October 31, 2017, which are on file with the SEC and are incorporated by reference into this prospectus, and (iii) other documents we file with the SEC that are deemed incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

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

The following table sets forth our ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the periods shown. You should read this table in conjunction with the financial statements and notes incorporated by reference in this prospectus. For the periods indicated below, we had no outstanding shares of preferred stock with required dividend payments. Therefore, the ratios of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred dividends are the same as the ratios of earnings to fixed charges presented below.

| | Year Ended July 31, | | | | | Six Months Ended January 31, 2018 |
|---|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|
| | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | |
| Ratio of earnings to fixed charges ⁽¹⁾ | 21,517 | 1,167 | 55,801 | 51,956 | 2,621 | |

⁽¹⁾ Earnings were inadequate to cover fixed charges for the six months ended January 31, 2018, by \$28.49 million. For purposes of calculating the ratios in the table above, earnings consist of pre-tax income from continuing operations before adjustment for income or loss from equity investees and fixed charges. Fixed charges include interest expensed. See Exhibit 12.1 to our Registration Statement on Form S-3 of which this prospectus forms a part for additional detail regarding the computation of the ratio of earnings to fixed charges.

Table of Contents

USE OF PROCEEDS

We intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of the securities as set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. We will not receive any proceeds from sales of securities offered by any selling securityholders under this prospectus.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

Our authorized capital stock consists of 500,000,000 shares of common stock, \$0.0001 par value, and 25,000,000 shares of undesignated preferred stock, \$0.0001 par value. The following description of our capital stock does not purport to be complete and is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by, our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and bylaws, which are exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part.

Common Stock

As of February 28, 2018, 77,281,302 shares of our common stock were outstanding.

The holders of our common stock are entitled to one vote per share on all matters to be voted on by the stockholders. Subject to preferences that may be applicable to any outstanding shares of preferred stock, holders of common stock are entitled to receive ratably such dividends as may be declared by the board of directors out of funds legally available therefore. In the event we liquidate, dissolve or wind up, holders of common stock are entitled to share ratably in all assets remaining after payment of liabilities and the liquidation preferences of any outstanding shares of preferred stock. Holders of common stock have no preemptive, conversion or subscription rights. There are no redemption or sinking fund provisions applicable to the common stock. All outstanding shares of common stock are fully paid and nonassessable.

Preferred Stock

Our board of directors may, without further action by our stockholders, fix the rights, preferences, privileges and restrictions of up to an aggregate of 25,000,000 shares of preferred stock in one or more series and authorize their issuance. These rights, preferences and privileges could include dividend rights, conversion rights, voting rights, terms of redemption, liquidation preferences and the number of shares constituting any series or the designation of such series, any or all of which may be greater than the rights of our common stock. Any issuance of our preferred stock could adversely affect the voting power of holders of our common stock and the likelihood that such holders would receive dividend payments and payments upon liquidation. In addition, the issuance of preferred stock could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change of control or other corporate action.

Registration Rights

Investors Rights Agreement

Certain holders of our common stock, or their permitted transferees, are entitled to rights with respect to the registration of these shares under the Securities Act. These rights are provided under the terms of an investor rights agreement between us and the holders of these shares, and include demand registration rights, short-form registration rights and piggyback registration rights. All fees, costs and expenses of underwritten registrations will be borne by us and all selling expenses, including underwriting discounts and selling commissions, will be borne by the holders of the shares being registered.

Demand registration rights. Certain holders of our common stock, or their permitted transferees, are entitled to demand registration rights. Under the terms of the investors rights agreement, we will be required, upon the written request of holders of fifty percent (50%) or more of these shares, to use our best efforts to file a registration statement and use reasonable, diligent efforts to effect the registration of all or a portion of these shares for public resale. We are required to effect only two registrations pursuant to this provision of the investors rights agreement.

Short form registration rights. Certain holders of our common stock, or their permitted transferees, are also entitled to short form registration rights. If we are eligible to file a registration statement on Form S-3, upon the

Table of Contents

written request of any of these holders to sell registrable securities at an aggregate price of at least \$500,000, we will be required to use our best efforts to effect a registration of such shares. We are required to effect only two registrations pursuant to this provision of the investors' rights agreement.

Piggyback registration rights. Certain holders of our common stock, or their permitted transferees, are entitled to piggyback registration rights. If we register any of our securities either for our own account or for the account of other securityholders, the holders of these shares are entitled to include their shares in the registration. Subject to certain exceptions, we and the underwriters may limit the number of shares included in the underwritten offering if the underwriters believe that including these shares would adversely affect the offering.

Indemnification. Our investors' rights agreement contains customary cross-indemnification provisions, under which we are obligated to indemnify the selling stockholders in the event of material misstatements or omissions in the registration statement attributable to us, and they are obligated to indemnify us for material misstatements or omissions attributable to them.

Expiration of Registration Rights. The registration rights granted under the investors' rights agreement will terminate on the earlier of (i) the seventh anniversary of our initial public offering and (ii) with respect to any holder of registrable securities, the date on which all registrable securities held by such holder can be sold in any three month period without registration under Rule 144.

Registration Rights Agreement in Connection with Cyence Inc. Acquisition

In connection with our acquisition of Cyence Inc., a Delaware corporation ("Cyence"), certain pre-acquisition holders of Cyence capital stock and their affiliates are entitled to certain rights with respect to the registration of shares of our common stock under the Securities Act. These rights are provided under the terms of a registration rights agreement between us and the holders of these shares, and include the obligation that we use our reasonable best efforts to maintain an effective registration statement until the earlier of (i) May 1, 2018 and (ii) the date on which all registrable securities have been sold or otherwise disposed of pursuant to a registration statement.

Anti-Takeover Effects of Delaware Law and Our Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws

Certain provisions of Delaware law, our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and our amended and restated bylaws could have the effect of delaying, deferring or discouraging another party from acquiring control of us. These provisions, which are summarized below, may have the effect of discouraging coercive takeover practices and inadequate takeover bids. These provisions are also designed, in part, to encourage persons seeking to acquire control of us to first negotiate with our board of directors. We believe that the benefits of increased protection of our potential ability to negotiate with an unfriendly or unsolicited acquiror outweigh the disadvantages of discouraging a proposal to acquire us because negotiation of these proposals could result in an improvement of their terms.

Limits on ability of stockholders to call a special meeting. Our bylaws provide that special meetings of the stockholders may be called only by a majority of the board of directors then in office. These restrictions may delay the ability of our stockholders to force consideration of a proposal or for holders controlling a majority of our capital stock to take any action, including the removal of directors.

Requirements for advance notification of stockholder nominations and proposals. Our bylaws establish advance notice procedures with respect to stockholder proposals relating to the nomination of candidates for election as directors or new business to be brought before meetings of our stockholders. These procedures provide that notice of stockholder proposals must be timely given in writing to our corporate secretary prior to the meeting at which the

action is to be taken. Generally, to be timely, notice must be received at our principal executive office not less than 90 days nor more than 120 days prior to the first anniversary date of the annual meeting the

Table of Contents

preceding year. As a result, our bylaws may have the effect of precluding the conduct of certain business at a meeting if the proper procedures are not followed. These provisions may also discourage or deter a potential acquiror from conducting a solicitation of proxies to elect the acquirer's own slate of directors or otherwise attempting to obtain control of our company.

No cumulative voting. The Delaware General Corporation Law provides that stockholders are not entitled to the right to cumulate votes in the election of directors unless our amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides otherwise. Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws do not expressly provide for cumulative voting.

Board Composition and Filling Vacancies. Our certificate of incorporation provides for the division of our board of directors into three classes serving staggered three-year terms, with one class being elected each year. Our certificate of incorporation also provides that directors may be removed only for cause. Furthermore, any vacancy on our board of directors, however occurring, including a vacancy resulting from an increase in the size of our board, may only be filled by the affirmative vote of a majority of our directors then in office even if less than a quorum. The classification of directors, together with the limitations on removal of directors and treatment of vacancies, has the effect of making it more difficult for stockholders to change the composition of our board of directors.

No Written Consent of Stockholders. Our certificate of incorporation provides that all stockholder actions are required to be taken by a vote of the stockholders at an annual or special meeting, and that stockholders may not take any action by written consent in lieu of a meeting. This limit may lengthen the amount of time required to take stockholder actions and would prevent the amendment of our bylaws or removal of directors by our stockholders without holding a meeting of stockholders.

Amendment to Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws. Any amendment of our certificate of incorporation must first be approved by a majority of our board of directors, and if required by law or our certificate of incorporation, must thereafter be approved by a majority of the outstanding shares entitled to vote on the amendment and a majority of the outstanding shares of each class entitled to vote thereon as a class, except that the amendment of the provisions relating to stockholder action, board composition, limitation of liability and the amendment of our certificate of incorporation must be approved by not less than 66 2/3% of the outstanding shares entitled to vote on the amendment, and not less than 66 2/3% of the outstanding shares of each class entitled to vote thereon as a class. Our bylaws may be amended by the affirmative vote of a majority of the directors then in office, subject to any limitations set forth in the bylaws; and may also be amended by the affirmative vote of a majority of the outstanding shares entitled to vote on the amendment.

Undesignated Preferred Stock. Our certificate of incorporation provides for 25,000,000 authorized shares of preferred stock. The existence of authorized but unissued shares of preferred stock may enable our board of directors to render more difficult or to discourage an attempt to obtain control of us by means of a merger, tender offer, proxy contest or otherwise. For example, if in the due exercise of its fiduciary obligations, our board of directors were to determine that a takeover proposal is not in the best interests of our stockholders, our board of directors could cause shares of preferred stock to be issued without stockholder approval in one or more private offerings or other transactions that might dilute the voting or other rights of the proposed acquirer or insurgent stockholder or stockholder group. In this regard, our certificate of incorporation grants our board of directors broad power to establish the rights and preferences of authorized and unissued shares of preferred stock. The issuance of shares of preferred stock could decrease the amount of earnings and assets available for distribution to holders of shares of common stock. The issuance may also adversely affect the rights and powers, including voting rights, of these holders and may have the effect of delaying, deterring or preventing a change in control of us.

Table of Contents

Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law

We are subject to the provisions of Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law. In general, Section 203 prohibits a publicly held Delaware corporation from engaging in a business combination with an interested stockholder for a three-year period following the time that this stockholder becomes an interested stockholder, unless the business combination is approved in a prescribed manner. Under Section 203, a business combination between a corporation and an interested stockholder is prohibited unless it satisfies one of the following conditions:

before the stockholder became interested, the board of directors of the corporation approved either the business combination or the transaction which resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder;

upon consummation of the transaction which resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder, the interested stockholder owned at least 85% of the voting stock of the corporation outstanding at the time the transaction commenced, excluding for purposes of determining the voting stock outstanding, shares owned by persons who are directors and also officers, and employee stock plans, in some instances, but not the outstanding voting stock owned by the interested stockholder; or

at or after the time the stockholder became interested, the business combination was approved by the board of directors of the corporation and authorized at an annual or special meeting of the stockholders by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the outstanding voting stock which is not owned by the interested stockholder.

Section 203 defines a business combination to include:

any merger or consolidation involving the corporation and the interested stockholder;

any sale, transfer, lease, pledge or other disposition involving the interested stockholder of 10% or more of the assets of the corporation;

subject to exceptions, any transaction that results in the issuance of transfer by the corporation of any stock of the corporation to the interested stockholder;

subject to exceptions, any transaction involving the corporation that has the effect of increasing the proportionate share of the stock of any class or series of the corporation beneficially owned by the interested stockholder; and

the receipt by the interested stockholder of the benefit of any loans, advances, guarantees, pledges or other financial benefits provided by or through the corporation.

In general, Section 203 defines an interested stockholder as any entity or person beneficially owning 15% or more of the outstanding voting stock of the corporation and any entity or person affiliated with or controlling or controlled by the entity or person.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF SENIOR DEBT SECURITIES

We may issue senior debt securities, including senior convertible debt, in one or more series. While the terms we have summarized below will apply generally to any future senior debt securities we may offer under this prospectus, the applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus will describe the specific terms of any senior debt securities offered through that prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus. The terms of any senior debt securities we offer under a prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus may differ from the terms we describe below.

We will evidence each series of senior debt securities we will issue by a senior indenture that we enter into with a trustee. We will indicate the name and address of the trustee in the prospectus supplement relating to the particular series of senior debt securities being offered. We have filed a form of senior indenture as an exhibit to the registration statement, of which this prospectus is a part, and supplemental indentures and forms of senior debt securities containing the terms of the senior debt securities being offered will be filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part or will be incorporated by reference from reports that we file with the SEC. Unless the context requires otherwise, whenever we refer to the indenture, we also are referring to any supplemental indentures that specify the terms of a particular series of senior debt securities.

The senior indenture will be qualified under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, or the Trust Indenture Act. We use the term trustee to refer to the trustee under the senior indenture.

The following summaries of material provisions of the senior debt securities and the senior indenture are subject to, and qualified in their entirety by reference to, all of the provisions of the indenture applicable to a particular series of senior debt securities. We urge you to read the applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus and any related free writing prospectuses related to the senior debt securities that we may offer under this prospectus, as well as the complete applicable indenture that contains the terms of the senior debt securities.

General

We will describe in the applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus the terms of the series of senior debt securities being offered, including:

the title;

the principal amount being offered, and if a series, the total amount authorized and the total amount outstanding;

any limit on the amount that may be issued;

whether or not we will issue the series of senior debt securities in global form, and, if so, the terms and who the depository will be;

the maturity date;

whether and under what circumstances, if any, we will pay additional amounts on any senior debt securities held by a person who is not a United States person for tax purposes, and whether we can redeem the senior debt securities if we have to pay such additional amounts;

the annual interest rate, which may be fixed or variable, or the method for determining the rate and the date interest will begin to accrue, the dates interest will be payable and the regular record dates for interest payment dates or the method for determining such dates;

whether or not the debt securities will be secured or unsecured, and the terms of any secured debt;

the place where payments will be payable;

restrictions on transfer, sale or other assignment, if any;

Table of Contents

our right, if any, to defer payment of interest and the maximum length of any such deferral period;

the date, if any, after which, the conditions upon which, and the price at which, we may, at our option, redeem the series of senior debt securities pursuant to any optional or provisional redemption provisions and the terms of those redemption provisions;

the date, if any, on which, and the price at which we are obligated, pursuant to any mandatory sinking fund or analogous fund provisions or otherwise, to redeem, or at the holder's option, to purchase, the series of senior debt securities and the currency or currency unit in which the senior debt securities are payable;

whether the senior indenture will require us to maintain any interest coverage, fixed charge, cash flow-based, asset-based or other financial ratios;

a discussion of certain material or special United States federal income tax considerations applicable to the senior debt securities;

information describing any book-entry features;

provisions for a sinking fund purchase or other analogous fund, if any;

the applicability of the provisions in the indenture on discharge;

whether the senior debt securities are to be offered at a price such that they will be deemed to be offered at an original issue discount as defined in paragraph (a) of Section 1273 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended;

the denominations in which we will issue the series of senior debt securities, if other than denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiple thereof;

the currency of payment of senior debt securities if other than U.S. dollars and the manner of determining the equivalent amount in U.S. dollars; and

any other specific terms, preferences, rights or limitations of, or restrictions on, the senior debt securities, including any additional events of default or covenants provided with respect to the senior debt securities, and any terms that may be required by us or advisable under applicable laws or regulations or advisable in connection with the marketing of the senior debt securities.

Conversion or Exchange Rights

We will set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus the terms on which a series of senior debt securities may be convertible into or exchangeable for our common stock, our preferred stock or other securities (including securities of a third-party). We will include provisions as to whether conversion or exchange is mandatory, at the option of the holder or at our option. We may include provisions pursuant to which the number of shares of our common stock, our preferred stock or other securities (including securities of a third-party) that the holders of the series of senior debt securities receive would be subject to adjustment.

Consolidation, Merger or Sale

Unless we provide otherwise in the prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus applicable to a particular series of senior debt securities, the senior indenture will not contain any covenant that restricts our ability to merge or consolidate, or sell, convey, transfer or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of our assets. However, any successor to or acquirer of such assets must assume all of our obligations under the senior indenture or the senior debt securities, as appropriate. If the senior debt securities are convertible into or exchangeable for other securities of ours or securities of other entities, the person with whom we consolidate or merge or to whom we sell all of our property must make provisions for the conversion of the senior debt securities into securities that the holders of the senior debt securities would have received if they had converted the senior debt securities before the consolidation, merger or sale.

Table of Contents

Events of Default Under the Indenture

Unless we provide otherwise in the prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus applicable to a particular series of senior debt securities, the following are events of default under the senior indenture with respect to any series of senior debt securities that we may issue:

if we fail to pay interest when due and payable and our failure continues for 90 days and the time for payment has not been extended;

if we fail to pay the principal, premium or sinking fund payment, if any, when due and payable at maturity, upon redemption or repurchase or otherwise, and the time for payment has not been extended;

if we fail to observe or perform any other covenant contained in the senior debt securities or the senior indenture, other than a covenant specifically relating to another series of senior debt securities, and our failure continues for 90 days after we receive notice from the trustee or holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding senior debt securities of the applicable series; and

if specified events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization occur.

We will describe in each applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus any additional events of default relating to the relevant series of senior debt securities.

If an event of default with respect to senior debt securities of any series occurs and is continuing, other than an event of default specified in the last bullet point above, the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding senior debt securities of that series, by notice to us in writing, and to the trustee if notice is given by such holders, may declare the unpaid principal, premium, if any, and accrued interest, if any, due and payable immediately. If an event of default specified in the last bullet point above occurs with respect to us, the unpaid principal, premium, if any, and accrued interest, if any, of each issue of senior debt securities then outstanding shall be due and payable without any notice or other action on the part of the trustee or any holder.

The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding senior debt securities of an affected series may waive any default or event of default with respect to the series and its consequences, except defaults or events of default regarding payment of principal, premium, if any, or interest, unless we have cured the default or event of default in accordance with the indenture. Any waiver shall cure the default or event of default.

Subject to the terms of the senior indenture, if an event of default under the senior indenture shall occur and be continuing, the trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers under the senior indenture at the request or direction of any of the holders of the applicable series of senior debt securities, unless such holders have offered the trustee indemnity or security satisfactory to it against any loss, liability or expense. The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding senior debt securities of any series will have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee, or exercising any trust or power conferred on the trustee, with respect to the senior debt securities of that series, provided that:

the direction so given by the holder is not in conflict with any law or the senior indenture; and

the trustee need not take any action that might involve it in personal liability or might be unduly prejudicial to the holders not involved in the proceeding.

A holder of the senior debt securities of any series will have the right to institute a proceeding under the senior indenture or to appoint a receiver or trustee, or to seek other remedies if:

the holder has given written notice to the trustee of a continuing event of default with respect to that series;

Table of Contents

the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding senior debt securities of that series have made written request, and such holders have offered indemnity to the trustee or security reasonably satisfactory to it against any loss, liability or expense or to be incurred in compliance with instituting the proceeding as trustee; and

the trustee does not institute the proceeding, and does not receive from the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding senior debt securities of that series other conflicting directions within 90 days after the notice, request and offer.

These limitations do not apply to a suit instituted by a holder of senior debt securities if we default in the payment of the principal, premium, if any, or interest on, the senior debt securities, or other defaults that may be specified in the applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus.

We will periodically file statements with the trustee regarding our compliance with specified covenants in the senior indenture.

Modification of Indenture; Waiver

Subject to the terms of the indenture for any series of senior debt securities that we may issue, we and the trustee may change an indenture without the consent of any holders with respect to the following specific matters:

to fix any ambiguity, defect or inconsistency in the indenture;

to comply with the provisions described above under Description of Senior Debt Securities Consolidation, Merger or Sale;

to comply with any requirements of the SEC in connection with the qualification of any indenture under the Trust Indenture Act;

to add to, delete from or revise the conditions, limitations, and restrictions on the authorized amount, terms, or purposes of issue, authentication and delivery of senior debt securities, as set forth in the indenture;

to provide for the issuance of and establish the form and terms and conditions of the senior debt securities of any series as provided under Description of Senior Debt Securities General, to establish the form of any certifications required to be furnished pursuant to the terms of the indenture or any series of senior debt securities, or to add to the rights of the holders of any series of senior debt securities;

to evidence and provide for the acceptance of appointment hereunder by a successor trustee;

to provide for uncertificated senior debt securities and to make all appropriate changes for such purpose;

to add to our covenants such new covenants, restrictions, conditions or provisions for the benefit of the holders, to make the occurrence, or the occurrence and the continuance, of a default in any such additional covenants, restrictions, conditions or provisions an event of default or to surrender any right or power conferred to us in the indenture; or

to change anything that does not materially adversely affect the interests of any holder of senior debt securities of any series.

In addition, under the senior indenture, the rights of holders of a series of senior debt securities may be changed by us and the trustee with the written consent of the holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding senior debt securities of each series that is affected. However, subject to the terms of the indenture for any series of senior debt securities that we may issue or as otherwise provided in the prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus applicable to a particular series of senior debt securities, we and the trustee

Table of Contents

may make the following changes only with the consent of each holder of any outstanding senior debt securities affected:

extending the stated maturity of the series of senior debt securities;

reducing the principal amount, reducing the rate of or extending the time of payment of interest, or reducing any premium payable upon the redemption or repurchase of any senior debt securities; or

reducing the percentage of senior debt securities, the holders of which are required to consent to any amendment, supplement, modification or waiver.

Discharge

Each indenture provides that, subject to the terms of the indenture and any limitation otherwise provided in the prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus applicable to a particular series of senior debt securities, we can elect to be discharged from our obligations with respect to one or more series of senior debt securities, except for specified obligations, including obligations to:

register the transfer or exchange of senior debt securities of the series;

replace stolen, lost or mutilated senior debt securities of the series;

maintain paying agencies;

hold monies for payment in trust;

recover excess money held by the trustee;

compensate and indemnify the trustee; and

appoint any successor trustee.

In order to exercise our rights to be discharged, we must deposit with the trustee money or government obligations sufficient to pay all the principal of, any premium and interest on, the senior debt securities of the series on the dates payments are due.

Form, Exchange and Transfer

We will issue the senior debt securities of each series only in fully registered form without coupons and, unless we otherwise specify in the applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus, in denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiple thereof. The senior indenture provide that we may issue senior debt securities of a series in temporary or permanent global form and as book-entry securities that will be deposited with, or on behalf of, The Depository Trust Company or another depository named by us and identified in a prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus with respect to that series.

At the option of the holder, subject to the terms of the senior indenture and the limitations applicable to global securities described in the applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus, the holder of the senior debt securities of any series can exchange the senior debt securities for other senior debt securities of the same series, in any authorized denomination and of like tenor and aggregate principal amount.

Subject to the terms of the senior indenture and the limitations applicable to global securities set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus, holders of the senior debt securities may present the senior debt securities for exchange or for registration of transfer, duly endorsed or with the form of transfer endorsed thereon duly executed if so required by us or the security registrar, at the office of the security registrar or at the office of any transfer agent designated by us for this purpose. Unless otherwise provided in the senior debt securities that the holder presents for transfer or exchange, we will make no service charge for any registration of transfer or exchange, but we may require payment of any taxes or other governmental charges.

Table of Contents

We will name in the applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus the security registrar, and any transfer agent in addition to the security registrar, that we initially designate for any senior debt securities. We may at any time designate additional transfer agents or rescind the designation of any transfer agent or approve a change in the office through which any transfer agent acts, except that we will be required to maintain a transfer agent in each place of payment for the senior debt securities of each series.

If we elect to redeem the senior debt securities of any series, we will not be required to:

issue, register the transfer of, or exchange any senior debt securities of that series during a period beginning at the opening of business 15 days before the day of mailing of a notice of redemption of any senior debt securities that may be selected for redemption and ending at the close of business on the day of the mailing;
or

register the transfer of or exchange any senior debt securities so selected for redemption, in whole or in part, except the unredeemed portion of any senior debt securities we are redeeming in part.

Information Concerning the Trustee

The trustee, other than during the occurrence and continuance of an event of default under an indenture, undertakes to perform only those duties as are specifically set forth in the applicable indenture. Upon an event of default under an indenture, the trustee must use the same degree of care as a prudent person would exercise or use in the conduct of his or her own affairs.

Subject to this provision, the trustee is under no obligation to exercise any of the powers given it by the senior indenture at the request of any holder of senior debt securities unless it is offered security and indemnity satisfactory to it against the costs, expenses and liabilities that it might incur.

Payment and Paying Agents

Unless we otherwise indicate in the applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus, we will make payment of the interest on any senior debt securities on any interest payment date to the person in whose name the senior debt securities, or one or more predecessor securities, are registered at the close of business on the regular record date for the interest.

We will pay principal of and any premium and interest on the senior debt securities of a particular series at the office of the paying agents designated by us, except that unless we otherwise indicate in the applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus, we will make interest payments by check that we will mail to the holder or by wire transfer to certain holders. Unless we otherwise indicate in the applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus, we will designate the corporate trust office of the trustee as our sole paying agent for payments with respect to senior debt securities of each series. We will name in the applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus any other paying agents that we initially designate for the senior debt securities of a particular series. We will maintain a paying agent in each place of payment for the senior debt securities of a particular series.

All money we pay to a paying agent or the trustee for the payment of the principal of or any premium or interest on any senior debt securities that remains unclaimed at the end of two years after such principal, premium or interest has become due and payable will be repaid to us, and the holder of the debt security thereafter may look only to us for

payment thereof.

Governing Law

The senior indenture and the senior debt securities will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York, except to the extent that the Trust Indenture Act is applicable.

Table of Contents

Ranking of Senior Debt Securities

The senior debt securities will rank equally in right of payment to all our other senior debt. The senior indenture does not limit the amount of senior debt securities that we may issue. It also does not limit us from issuing any other secured or unsecured debt.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF OTHER SECURITIES

We will set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement a description of any warrants or units issued by us that may be offered and sold pursuant to this prospectus.

Table of Contents

GLOBAL SECURITIES

Book-Entry, Delivery and Form

Unless we indicate differently in a prospectus supplement, the securities initially will be issued in book-entry form and represented by one or more global securities. The global securities will be deposited with, or on behalf of, The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, as depository, or DTC, and registered in the name of Cede & Co., the nominee of DTC. Unless and until it is exchanged for individual certificates evidencing securities under the limited circumstances described below, a global security may not be transferred except as a whole by the depository to its nominee or by the nominee to the depository, or by the depository or its nominee to a successor depository or to a nominee of the successor depository.

DTC has advised us that it is:

a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law;

a banking organization within the meaning of the New York Banking Law;

a member of the Federal Reserve System;

a clearing corporation within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code; and

a clearing agency registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or Exchange Act.

DTC holds securities that its participants deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the settlement among its participants of securities transactions, such as transfers and pledges, in deposited securities through electronic computerized book-entry changes in participants' accounts, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct participants in DTC include securities brokers and dealers, including underwriters, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and other organizations. DTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation, or 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, which we sometimes refer to as indirect participants, that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a direct participant, either directly or indirectly. The rules applicable to DTC and its participants are on file with the SEC.

Purchases of securities under the DTC system must be made by or through direct participants, which will receive a credit for the securities on DTC's records. The ownership interest of the actual purchaser of a security, which we sometimes refer to as a beneficial owner, is in turn recorded on the direct and indirect participants' records. Beneficial owners of securities will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchases. However, beneficial owners are expected to receive written confirmations providing details of their transactions, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the direct or indirect participants through which they purchased securities. Transfers of ownership interests in global securities are to be accomplished by entries made on the books of participants acting on behalf of

beneficial owners. Beneficial owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in the global securities, except under the limited circumstances described below.

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all global securities deposited by direct participants with DTC will be 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 securities with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. or such other nominee will not change the beneficial ownership of the securities. DTC has no knowledge of the actual beneficial owners of the securities. DTC's records reflect only the identity of the direct participants to whose accounts the securities are credited, which may or may not be the beneficial owners. The participants are responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

Table of Contents

So long as the securities are in book-entry form, you will receive payments and may transfer securities only through the facilities of the depository and its direct and indirect participants. We will maintain an office or agency in the location specified in the prospectus supplement for the applicable securities, where notices and demands in respect of the securities and the indenture may be delivered to us and where certificated securities may be surrendered for payment, registration of transfer or exchange.

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 legal requirements in effect from time to time.

Redemption notices will be sent to DTC. If less than all of the securities of a particular series are being redeemed, DTC's practice is to determine by lot the amount of the interest of each direct participant in the securities of such series to be redeemed.

Neither DTC nor Cede & Co. (or such other DTC nominee) will consent or vote with respect to the securities. Under its usual procedures, DTC will mail an omnibus proxy to us as soon as possible after the record date. The omnibus proxy assigns the consenting or voting rights of Cede & Co. to those direct participants to whose accounts the securities of such series are credited on the record date, identified in a listing attached to the omnibus proxy.

So long as securities are in book-entry form, we will make payments on those securities to the depository or its nominee, as the registered owner of such securities, by wire transfer of immediately available funds. If securities are issued in definitive certificated form under the limited circumstances described below, we will have the option of making payments by check mailed to the addresses of the persons entitled to payment or by wire transfer to bank accounts in the United States designated in writing to the applicable trustee or other designated party at least 15 days before the applicable payment date by the persons entitled to payment, unless a shorter period is satisfactory to the applicable trustee or other designated party.

Redemption proceeds, distributions and dividend payments on the 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 on the payment date in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC 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 account of customers in bearer form or registered in street name. Those payments will be the responsibility of participants and not of DTC or us, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements 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 our responsibility, disbursement of payments to direct participants is the responsibility of DTC, and disbursement of payments to the beneficial owners is the responsibility of direct and indirect participants.

Except under the limited circumstances described below, purchasers of securities will not be entitled to have securities registered in their names and will not receive physical delivery of securities. Accordingly, each beneficial owner must rely on the procedures of DTC and its participants to exercise any rights under the securities and the indenture.

The laws of some jurisdictions may require that some purchasers of securities take physical delivery of securities in definitive form. Those laws may impair the ability to transfer or pledge beneficial interests in securities.

DTC may discontinue providing its services as securities depository with respect to the securities at any time by giving reasonable notice to us. Under such circumstances, in the event that a successor depository is not obtained,

securities certificates are required to be printed and delivered.

Table of Contents

As noted above, beneficial owners of a particular series of securities generally will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in those securities. However, if:

DTC notifies us that it is unwilling or unable to continue as a depository for the global security or securities representing such series of securities or if DTC ceases to be a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act at a time when it is required to be registered and a successor depository is not appointed within 90 days of the notification to us or of our becoming aware of DTC's ceasing to be so registered, as the case may be;

we determine, in our sole discretion, not to have such securities represented by one or more global securities; or

an Event of Default has occurred and is continuing with respect to such series of securities,

we will prepare and deliver certificates for such securities in exchange for beneficial interests in the global securities. Any beneficial interest in a global security that is exchangeable under the circumstances described in the preceding sentence will be exchangeable for securities in definitive certificated form registered in the names that the depository directs. It is expected that these directions will be based upon directions received by the depository from its participants with respect to ownership of beneficial interests in the global securities.

We have obtained the information in this section and elsewhere in this prospectus concerning DTC and DTC's book-entry system from sources that are believed to be reliable, but we take no responsibility for the accuracy of this information.

Table of Contents

SELLING SECURITYHOLDERS

Information about selling securityholders, where applicable, will be set forth in a prospectus supplement, in a post-effective amendment or in filings we make with the SEC under the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference.

Table of Contents

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We or any selling securityholders may offer and sell the securities being offered hereby in one or more of the following ways from time to time:

to or through underwriters;

on any national securities exchange or quotation service on which the securities may be listed or quoted at the time of sale;

in the over-the-counter market;

in transactions otherwise than on these exchanges or systems or in the over-the-counter market;

through the writing or settlement of options or other hedging transactions, whether through an options exchange or otherwise;

ordinary brokerage transactions and transactions in which the broker-dealer solicits purchasers;

block trades in which the broker-dealer will attempt to sell the shares as agent but may position and resell a portion of the block as principal to facilitate the transaction;

purchases by a broker-dealer as principal and resale by the broker-dealer for its account;

an exchange distribution in accordance with the rules of the applicable exchange;

privately negotiated transactions;

broker-dealers may agree with a selling securityholder to sell a specified number of securities at a stipulated price per security;

a combination of any such methods of sale; and

any other method permitted pursuant to applicable law.

We will identify the specific plan of distribution, including any underwriters, dealers, agents, or other purchasers, persons, or entities and any applicable compensation, in a prospectus supplement, in an amendment to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, or in other filings we make with the SEC under the Exchange Act, which are incorporated by reference.

Table of Contents

LEGAL MATTERS

Goodwin Procter LLP will pass upon certain legal matters relating to the issuance and sale of the securities offered hereby on behalf of Guidewire Software, Inc. Additional legal matters may be passed upon for us, the selling securityholders or any underwriters, dealers or agents, by counsel that we will name in the applicable prospectus supplement.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Guidewire Software, Inc. and subsidiaries as of July 31, 2017 and 2016, and for each of the years in the three-year period ended July 31, 2017, and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of July 31, 2017, have been incorporated by reference herein and in the registration statement in reliance upon the report of KPMG LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The consolidated financial statements of Cyence, Inc. as of January 31, 2017 and for the year then ended incorporated by reference in this Prospectus have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of BDO USA, LLP, independent auditors, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

The financial statements of ISCS, Inc. as of and for the year ended December 31, 2016 have been incorporated by reference herein in reliance upon the report of Armanino LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC under the Exchange Act. You may read and copy any reports, statements or other information on file at the SEC's public reference facility located at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information regarding its public facilities. Our SEC filings, including the complete registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, are available to the public from commercial document retrieval services and also available at the Internet website maintained by the SEC at <http://www.sec.gov>.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference into this prospectus the information we file with them, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is an important part of this prospectus, and information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and all documents we file pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14, or 15(d) of the Exchange Act on or after the date of this prospectus and prior to the termination of the offering under this prospectus (other than, in each case, documents or information deemed to have been furnished and not filed in accordance with SEC rules):

1. Our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended July 31, 2017, filed with the SEC on September 20, 2017;

2. Our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended October 31, 2017, filed with the SEC on November 30, 2017 and our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended January 31, 2018, filed with the SEC on March 7, 2018.

Table of Contents

3. Our Current Reports on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on October 6, 2017, November 2, 2017, December 12, 2017, January 9, 2018 and March 7, 2018 and our Current Reports on Form 8-K/A filed on April 26, 2017 (solely with respect to Exhibit 99.1 therein) and January 9, 2018.
4. Our definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A, filed with the SEC on November 6, 2017 (as amended on November 30, 2017) (solely with respect to those portions incorporated by reference into our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended July 31, 2017).
5. The description of our common stock contained in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed with the SEC on January 9, 2012, including any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description.

We are not incorporating by reference (i) any information furnished under items 2.02 or 7.01 (or corresponding information furnished under item 9.01 or included as an exhibit) in any past or future current report on Form 8-K or (ii) any Form S-D, that, in either case, we may file or furnish with the SEC, unless otherwise specified in such current report or in such form or in a particular prospectus supplement. The documents listed above or subsequently filed by us pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act in each year during which the offering made pursuant to this prospectus is in effect prior to the filing with the SEC of our Annual Report on Form 10-K covering such year shall cease to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus from and after the filing of such Annual Reports.

Any statement contained herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a statement contained in any subsequently filed incorporated document modifies or supersedes such statement. Any statement contained in an incorporated document shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed incorporated document modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus.

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form S-3 filed with the SEC under the Securities Act of 1933. This prospectus does not contain all of the information set forth in the registration statement. You should read the registration statement for further information about us.

Documents incorporated by reference herein are available from us, without charge, excluding all exhibits unless specifically incorporated by reference in the documents. You may obtain documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus by writing to us at the following address or by calling us at the telephone number listed below:

Guidewire Software, Inc.

1001 East Hillsdale Blvd., Suite 800

Foster City, California 94404

(650) 357-9100

Attn: General Counsel

You should rely only on the information incorporated by reference or provided in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement. We have not authorized anyone else to provide you with different information. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front page of those documents.

Table of Contents

\$360,000,000

1.250% Convertible Senior Notes due 2025

Prospectus Supplement

Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC

Citigroup

J.P. Morgan

BofA Merrill Lynch

Deutsche Bank Securities

Piper Jaffray

William Blair

KeyBanc Capital Markets

Stifel

JMP Securities

March 8, 2018