CAPSTONE TURBINE Corp Form S-3/A July 16, 2018

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As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 16, 2018

Registration No. 333-225503

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

AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO FORM S-3 REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

CAPSTONE TURBINE CORPORATION

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

95-4180883

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

16640 Stagg Street Van Nuys, California 91406

(818) 734-5300 (Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Registrant's Principal Executive Offices)

Darren R. Jamison
President and Chief Executive Officer
Capstone Turbine Corporation
16640 Stagg Street
Van Nuys, California 91406
(818) 734-5300

(Name, Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Agent for Service)

Copies to: Jocelyn M. Arel, Esq. Goodwin Procter LLP 100 Northern Avenue

Boston, MA 02210 Phone: (617) 570-1000 Fax: (617) 523-1231

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: From time to time after the effective date of this registration statement

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

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

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

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

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

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

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company, or emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer o

Accelerated filer o

Non-accelerated filer o

Smaller reporting company ý

(Do not check if a

smaller reporting

company)

Emerging growth company o

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the Registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 7(a)(2)(B) of Securities Act. o

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class of Securities	Amount to be	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering	Amount of Registration
to be Registered	Registered	Share(1)	Price (1)(2)	Fee(3)
Common Stock, par value \$0.001 per share	(2)	(3)	(3)	N/A
Preferred Stock, par value \$0.001 per share	(2)	(3)	(3)	N/A
Warrants	(2)	(3)	(3)	N/A
Debt Securities	(2)	(3)	(3)	N/A
Units(4)	(2)	(3)	(3)	N/A
Series B Junior Participating Preferred Stock Purchase Rights(5)	(2)(5)	(3)(5)	(3)(5)	N/A

Total \$52,854,100 \$6,580.34(6)

- (1) Pursuant to Rule 415(a)(6) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), the securities registered pursuant to this Registration Statement include Unsold Securities previously registered by the Registrant on the Registrant's Registration Statement (File No. 333-203431), filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 15, 2015, and declared effective on June 23, 2015 (the "Prior Registration Statement"). The Prior Registration Statement registered the offer and sale of an indeterminate number of shares of common stock and preferred stock, an indeterminate number of warrants to purchase common stock and/or preferred stock and an indeterminate number of units, having an aggregate initial offering price of \$100,000,000, a portion of which remain unsold as the date of filing of this Registration Statement (the "Unsold Securities"). This Registration Statement includes the Unsold Securities under the Prior Registration Statement with an aggregate offering price of \$47,145,900. Pursuant to Rule 415(a)(6) under the Securities Act, the filing fee of \$5,478.35 relating to the Unsold Securities under the Prior Registration Statement will continue to be applied to the Unsold Securities registered pursuant to this Registration Statement. The Registrant is also registering new securities on this registration statement with an aggregate initial offering price of \$52,854,100 (the "New Securities"), which aggregate offering price is not specified as to each class of security (see footnote (3)). To the extent that, after the filing date hereof and prior to the effectiveness of this Registration Statement, the Registrant sells any Unsold Securities pursuant to the Prior Registration Statement, the Registrant will identify in a pre-effective amendment to this Registration Statement the updated amount of Unsold Securities from the Prior Registration Statement to be included in this Registration Statement pursuant to Rule 415(a)(6) and the updated amount of New Securities to be registered on this Registration Statement. Pursuant to Rule 415(a)(6) under the Securities Act, the offering of the Unsold Securities under the Prior Registration Statement will be deemed terminated as of the date of effectiveness of this Registration Statement.
- An indeterminate amount of the securities of each identified class is being registered as may from time to time be offered hereunder at indeterminate prices, which together with the Unsold Securities, shall have an aggregate initial offering price not to exceed \$100,000,000 (the "Shelf Securities"). The securities registered hereunder also include such indeterminate number of securities that may be issued upon exercise, settlement, exchange or conversion of securities offered or sold hereunder or pursuant to the anti-dilution provisions of any such securities. Separate consideration may or may not be received for securities that are issuable upon conversion, exercise or exchange of other securities. In addition, the proposed maximum aggregate offering price is estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act.
- The proposed maximum aggregate offering price per security will be determined from time to time by the Registrant in connection with the issuance by the Registrant of the securities registered hereunder and is not specified as to each class of security pursuant to General Instruction II.D. of Form S-3 under the Securities Act.
- Consisting of some or all of the securities listed above, in any combination, including common stock, preferred stock, debt securities and warrants.
- This registration statement also covers rights to purchase shares of the Registrant's Preferred Stock (the "Rights") which are issuable pursuant to the Registrant's Rights Agreement, dated as of May 6, 2016. Until the occurrence of certain prescribed events, the Rights are not exercisable and will be transferable along with and only with the Common Stock. The value attributable to the Rights, if any, is reflected in the value of the Common Stock.
- Calculated pursuant to Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act based on the proposed maximum aggregate offering price of all securities listed. The filing fee of \$5,478.35 relating to the Unsold Securities under the Prior Registration Statement was previously paid and will continue to be applied to such Unsold Securities. A filing fee of \$6,455.84 with respect to a portion of the New Securities was paid in connection with the initial filing of this Registration Statement on June 7, 2018. A filing fee of \$124.50 is being paid in connection with the filing of this Amendment No. 1 to this Registration Statement. See also footnote (1) above.

Pursuant to Rule 429 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the prospectus included in this registration statement is a combined prospectus relating also to the Prior Registration Statement. This registration statement, which is a new registration statement, also constitutes Post-Effective Amendment No. 1 to the Prior Registration Statement, and such Post-Effective Amendment No. 1 shall hereafter become effective concurrently with the effectiveness of this registration statement and in accordance with Section 8(c) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

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

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

This registration statement contains two prospectuses:

a base prospectus which covers the offering, issuance and sale of such indeterminate number of shares of common stock and preferred stock, such indeterminate principal amount of debt securities, and such indeterminate number of warrants to purchase common stock, preferred stock and/or debt securities, which together shall have an aggregate initial offering price not to exceed \$100,000,000; and

a sales agreement prospectus covering the offering, issuance and sale of up to \$25,000,000 of shares of the Registrant's common stock that may be issued and sold under the At The Market Offering Agreement, dated June 7, 2018 (the "Sales Agreement"), between the Registrant and H.C. Wainwright & Co., LLC.

The base prospectus immediately follows this explanatory note. The specific terms of any securities to be offered pursuant to the base prospectus will be specified in a prospectus supplement to the base prospectus. The sales agreement prospectus immediately follows the base prospectus. The common stock that may be offered, issued and sold under the sales agreement prospectus is included in the \$100,000,000 of securities that may be offered, issued and sold by the registrant under the base prospectus. Upon termination of the Sales Agreement, any portion of the \$25,000,000 included in the sales agreement prospectus that is not sold pursuant to the sales agreement will be available for sale in other offerings pursuant to the base prospectus.

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

Subject to Completion, Dated July 16, 2018

PROSPECTUS

\$100,000,000

Common Stock, Preferred Stock, Debt Securities, Warrants or Units

From time to time, we may offer up to \$100,000,000 of any combination of the securities described in this prospectus, either individually or in units. Each time we offer securities, we will provide the specific terms of the securities offered in one or more supplements to this prospectus. We may also authorize one or more free writing prospectuses to be provided to you in connection with these offerings. The prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should carefully read this prospectus, the applicable prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus, as well as any documents incorporated by reference, before buying any of the securities being offered.

The securities offered by this prospectus may be sold directly by us to investors, through agents designated from time to time or to or through underwriters or dealers. We will set forth the names of any underwriters or agents and any applicable fees, commissions, discounts and over-allotments in an accompanying prospectus supplement. For additional information on the methods of sale, you should refer to the section entitled "Plan of Distribution" in this prospectus and in the applicable prospectus supplement. The price to the public of such securities and the net proceeds we expect to receive from such sale will also be set forth in a prospectus supplement.

Our common stock is traded on the Nasdaq Capital Market under the symbol "CPST." On July 13, 2018, the closing sales price of our common stock on the Nasdaq Capital Market was \$1.58 per share. The applicable prospectus supplement will contain information, where applicable, as to any other listing, if any, on the Nasdaq Capital Market or any securities market or other exchange of the securities covered by the applicable prospectus supplement.

Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. You should review carefully the risks and uncertainties referenced under the heading "Risk Factors" on page 5 of this prospectus as well as those contained in the applicable prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus, and in the other documents that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

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

The date of this prospectus is July , 2018.

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ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form S-3 that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, utilizing a "shelf" registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we may offer shares of our common stock and preferred stock, various series of warrants to purchase common stock or preferred stock and debt securities, either individually or in units, in one or more offerings, up to a total dollar amount of \$100,000,000. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we offer a type or series of securities under this prospectus, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain more specific information about the specific terms of the offering. We may also authorize one or more free writing prospectuses to be provided to you that may contain material information relating to these offerings. Each such prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus that we may authorize to be provided to you may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus or in documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus. We urge you to carefully read this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus, together with the information incorporated herein by reference as described under the headings "Where You Can Find Additional Information" and "Incorporation of Certain Information by Reference," including the risks referred to under the heading "Risk Factors" in this prospectus, in the applicable prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus, and in the other documents that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus, before buying any of the securities being offered.

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information in addition to or different from that contained in this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus. No dealer, salesperson or other person is authorized to give any information or to represent anything not contained in this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement or any related free writing prospectus that we may authorize to be provided to you. You must not rely on any unauthorized information or representation. This prospectus is an offer to sell only the securities offered hereby, but only under circumstances and in jurisdictions where it is lawful to do so. You should assume that the information in this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement or any related free writing prospectus is accurate only as of the date on the front of the document and that any information incorporated by reference is accurate only as of the date of the document incorporated by reference, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement or any related free writing prospectus, or any sale of a security. Our business, financial condition, results of operating and prospects may have changed materially since those dates.

This prospectus contains summaries of certain provisions contained in some of the documents described herein, but reference is made to the actual documents for complete information. All of the summaries are qualified in their entirety by the actual documents. Copies of some of the documents referred to herein have been filed, will be filed or will be incorporated by reference as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, and you may obtain copies of those documents as described below under the heading "Where You Can Find Additional Information."

WHERE YOU CAN FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We post on our public website (http://www.capstoneturbine.com) our Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the SEC. Our website and the information contained on that site, or connected to that site, are not incorporated into and are not a part of this prospectus.

You can find, copy and inspect information we file with the SEC at the SEC's public reference room, which is located at 100 F Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for more information about the operation of the SEC's public reference room. You can also review our electronically filed reports and other information that we file with the SEC on the SEC's website at http://www.sec.gov.

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the SEC. The registration statement contained more information than this prospectus regarding us and the securities, including exhibits and schedules. You can obtain a copy of the registration statement from the SEC at any address listed above or from the SEC's website. You should review the information and exhibits in the registration statement for further information on us and our consolidated subsidiary and the securities we are offering. Statements in this prospectus concerning any document we filed as an exhibit to the registration statement or that we otherwise filed with the SEC are not intended to be comprehensive and are qualified by reference to these filings. You should review the complete document to evaluate these statements.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to "incorporate by reference" the information we file with it, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents instead of having to repeat the information in this prospectus. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus, and later information that we file with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below that we have filed with the SEC:

description of our common stock contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A, filed with the SEC on June 21, 2000 (including any further amendment or reports filed with the SEC for the purpose of updating such description) and the description of our Series B Junior Participating Preferred Stock Purchase Rights contained in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A, filed with the SEC on May 9, 2016, including any subsequent amendment or report filed for the purpose of amending such description;

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2018, filed with the SEC on June 7, 2018, which contains our audited financial statements for the latest fiscal year for which such statements have been filed;

Our definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A relating to our annual meeting of stockholders, filed with the SEC on July 13, 2018 (solely with respect to those portions incorporated by reference into our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2018); and

Our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on April 4, 2018, April 23, 2018, June 7, 2018 and June 11, 2018 (except that, with respect to each of the foregoing Current Reports, any portions thereof which are furnished and not filed shall not be deemed incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement).

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We also incorporate by reference into this prospectus all documents (other than current reports furnished under Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of Form 8-K and exhibits filed on such form that are related to such items) that are filed by us with the SEC pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act (i) after the date of the initial filing of the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part and prior to effectiveness of the registration statement, or (ii) after the date of this prospectus until we sell all of the shares covered by this prospectus or the sale of shares by us pursuant to this prospectus is terminated.

A statement contained in a document incorporated by reference into this prospectus shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement or in any other subsequently filed document which is also incorporated in this prospectus modifies or replaces such statement. Any statements so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus or in the documents incorporated by reference is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of this prospectus or those documents.

You may request a copy of these documents, orally or in writing, which will be provided to you at no cost by contacting:

Darren R. Jamison
President and Chief Executive Officer
Capstone Turbine Corporation
16640 Stagg Street
Van Nuys, California 91406
(818) 734-5300

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our results of operations.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus, including the documents that we incorporate by reference, contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, and Section 21E of the Exchange Act, that are based on our management's belief and assumptions and on information currently available to our management. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in these forward-looking statements are reasonable, these statements relate to future events or our future financial performance, and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause our actual results, levels of activity, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements.

In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as "may," "will," "should," "expects," "intends," "plans," "anticipates," "believes," "estimates," "predicts," "potential," "continue" or the negative of these terms or other comparable terminology. These statements are only predictions. You should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements because they involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, which are, in some cases, beyond our control and which could materially affect our results. Factors that may cause actual results to differ materially from current expectations include, among other things, those listed under the heading "Risk Factors" in this prospectus and in any applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus and any documents incorporated by reference herein or therein. If one or more of these risks or uncertainties occur, or if our underlying assumptions prove to be incorrect, actual events or results may vary significantly from those implied or projected by the forward-looking statements. No forward-looking statement is a guarantee of future performance. You should read this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement and any free writing prospectus, including the documents that we incorporate by reference herein and therein and have filed as exhibits to the registration statement, of which this prospectus is part, completely and with the understanding that our actual future results may be materially different from any future results expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. In particular, forward-looking statements in this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus and the documents that we incorporate by reference herein and therein include statements about:

comits of operations,
profits and losses;
our ability to raise additional capital;
R&D activities;
sales expectations;
our ability to develop markets for our products;
sources for parts;
federal, state and local government regulations;
our relationship with our distributors;
industry and economic conditions applicable to us;
the efficiency, reliability and environmental advantages of our products and their need for maintenance;

our ability to be cost-competitive and to outperform competition;

customer satisfaction;

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the value of using our products;
our ability to achieve economies of scale;
market advantage;
return on investments;
issues with suppliers;
anticipation of product supply requirements;
listing requirements;
our microturbine technology;
the utilization of our products;
competition;
the introduction of new technologies;
our production capacity;
international markets;
protection of intellectual property;
cybersecurity threats;
the adequacy of our facilities;
dividends;
business strategy;
product development;
capital resources;

capital expenditures;
liquidity;
amortization expense of intangibles;
cost of warranties;
stock-based compensation;
our NOL rights plan;
purchase and lease commitments;
current liabilities;
recently issued accounting standards;
market risk;
international sanctions risk;
the strength of the U.S. dollar;
the effect of cost reductions on future business initiatives;
interest rate sensitivity;
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the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act; and

growth of the shale gas market.

Forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus or in the documents that we reference herein and therein represents our views only as of the respective dates on which such statements were made. We anticipate that subsequent events and developments may cause our views to change. However, while we may elect to update these forward-looking statements at some point in the future, we have no current intention of doing so except to the extent required by applicable law. Therefore, these forward-looking statements do not represent our views as of any date other than the date on which they were made.

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SUMMARY

This summary highlights selected information from this prospectus or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, and does not contain all of the information that you need to consider in making your investment decision. You should carefully read the entire prospectus, the applicable prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus, including the risks of investing in our securities referred to under the heading "Risk Factors" in this prospectus and contained in the applicable prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus, and in the other documents that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus. You should also carefully read the information incorporated by reference into this prospectus, including our financial statements, and the exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

Unless otherwise mentioned or unless the context requires otherwise, throughout this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus, the words "Capstone Turbine Corporation," "Capstone," "the Company," "we," "us," and "our company" or similar references refer to Capstone Turbine Corporation; and the term "securities" refers collectively to our common stock, preferred stock, warrants to purchase common stock or preferred stock, debt securities, or any combination of the foregoing securities.

This prospectus, and the information incorporated herein by reference, includes trademarks, service marks and trade names owned by us or other companies. All trademarks, service marks and trade names included or incorporated by reference into this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement or any related free writing prospectus are the property of their respective owners.

Our Company

We develop, manufacture, market and service microturbine technology solutions for use in stationary distributed power generation and distribution networks applications, including cogeneration (combined heat and power, integrated combined heat and power, and combined cooling, heat and power, renewable energy, natural resources and critical power supply. In addition, our microturbines have been used as battery charging generators for hybrid electric vehicles and to provide power to a vessel's electrical loads in marine applications. Microturbines allow customers to produce power on-site in parallel with the electric grid or stand-alone when no utility grid is available. Several technologies are used to provide "on-site power generation" (also called "distributed generation") such as reciprocating engines, solar power, wind turbine systems and fuel cells. Our microturbines can be interconnected to other distributed energy resources to form "microgrids" (also called "distribution networks") located within a specific geographic area and provide power to a group of buildings. For customers who do not have access to the electric utility grid, microturbines provide clean, on site power with fewer scheduled maintenance intervals and greater fuel flexibility than competing technologies. For customers with access to the electric grid, microturbines provide an additional source of continuous duty power, thereby providing additional reliability and potential cost savings. With our stand alone feature, customers can produce their own energy in the event of a power outage and can use microturbines as their primary source of power for extended periods. Because our microturbines also produce clean, usable heat energy, they provide economic advantages to customers who can benefit from the use of hot water, chilled water, air conditioning and heating. Our microturbines are sold, installed and serviced primarily through our global distribution network. Together with our distributors, we offer new and remanufactured parts as well a

We offer microturbines designed for commercial, industrial and utility users with product offerings ranging from 30 kilowatts to one megawatt in electric power output. Our microturbines combine patented air bearing technology, advanced combustion technology and sophisticated power electronics to form efficient and ultra-low emission electricity and cooling and heat production systems. Because of our air bearing technology, our microturbines do not require lube oil or coolant. This means they do

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not require routine maintenance to change and dispose of oil or other liquid lubricants, as do the most common reciprocating engines. Our microturbines can be fueled by various sources, including natural gas, propane, sour gas, renewable fuels such as landfill or digester gas, kerosene, butane, diesel and biodiesel. Our microturbines are available with integrated heat exchangers, making them easy to engineer and install in applications where hot water, chilled water, air conditioning and heating is used.

We sell complete microturbine units, components and accessories. We also remanufacture microturbine engines and provide aftermarket parts and services. Our microturbines are sold primarily through distributors and Original Equipment Manufacturers ("OEMs"). Distributors purchase our products for sale to end users and also provide service, application engineering and installation support. Distributors also provide a variety of additional services, including engineering the applications in which the microturbines will be used, installation support of the products at the end users' sites, commissioning the installed applications and providing post commissioning service, including a comprehensive FPP. Our distributors perform as independent value added resellers. OEMs integrate our products into their own product solutions.

The address of our principal executive offices is 16640 Stagg Street in Van Nuys, California 91406 and our telephone number is (818) 734-5300. Our website address is http://www.capstoneturbine.com. We do not incorporate the information on or accessible through our website into this prospectus, and you should not consider any information on, or that can be accessed through, our website as part of this prospectus.

The Securities We May Offer

We may offer shares of our common stock and preferred stock, various series of warrants to purchase common stock or preferred stock and debt securities, in one or more series, as either senior or subordinated debt or as senior or subordinated convertible debt, either individually or in units, with a total value of up to \$100,000,000 from time to time under this prospectus at prices and on terms to be determined at the time of any offering. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we offer a type or series of securities under this prospectus, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will describe the specific amounts, prices and other important terms of the securities.

The prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus that we may authorize to be provided to you may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus or in documents we have incorporated by reference. However, no prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus will offer a security that is not registered and described in this prospectus at the time of the effectiveness of the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

We may sell the securities directly to investors or to or through agents, underwriters or dealers. We, and our agents or underwriters, reserve the right to accept or reject all or part of any proposed purchase of securities. If we do offer securities to or through agents or underwriters, we will include in the applicable prospectus supplement:

the names of those agents or underwriters;
applicable fees, discounts and commissions to be paid to them;
details regarding over-allotment options, if any; and
the net proceeds to us.

Common Stock. We may issue shares of our common stock from time to time. Holders of our common stock are entitled to one vote per share on all matters to be voted upon by the stockholders. Holders of our common stock do not have cumulative voting rights in the election of directors. Subject to the preferences that may be applicable to any then outstanding preferred stock, holders of common

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stock are entitled to receive ratably such dividends, if any, as may be declared by our Board of Directors (the "Board") out of funds legally available therefor. Upon the liquidation, dissolution, or winding up of our company, holders of common stock are entitled to share ratably in all of our assets which are legally available for distribution after payment of all debts and other liabilities and liquidation preference of any outstanding preferred stock.

Preferred Stock. We may issue shares of our preferred stock from time to time, in one or more series. Our Board of Directors will determine the rights, preferences and privileges of the shares of each wholly unissued series, and any qualifications, limitations or restrictions thereon, including dividend rights, conversion rights, preemptive rights, terms of redemption or repurchase, liquidation preferences, sinking fund terms and the number of shares constituting any series or the designation of any series.

If we sell any series of preferred stock under this prospectus, we will fix the rights, preferences and privileges of the preferred stock of such series, as well as any qualifications, limitations or restrictions thereon, in the certificate of designation relating to that series. We will file as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, or will incorporate by reference from reports that we file with the SEC, the form of any certificate of designation that describes the terms of the series of preferred stock we are offering before the issuance of that series of preferred stock. We urge you to read the applicable prospectus supplement and any free writing prospectus that we may authorize to be provided to you related to the series of preferred stock being offered, as well as the complete certificate of designation that contains the terms of the applicable series of preferred stock.

Debt Securities. We may issue debt securities from time to time, in one or more series, as either senior or subordinated debt or as senior or subordinated convertible debt. In this prospectus, we have summarized certain general features of the debt securities. We urge you, however, to read the applicable prospectus supplement and any free writing prospectus that we may authorize to be provided to you related to the particular series of debt securities being offered, as well as the complete indenture that contains the terms of the debt securities. We will file as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, the form of indenture and any supplemental agreements that describe the terms of the series of debt securities we are offering before the issuance of the related series of debt securities.

We may evidence each series of debt securities by indentures we will issue. Debt securities may be issued under an indenture that we enter into with a trustee. We will indicate the name and address of the trustee, if applicable, in the prospectus supplement relating to the particular series of debt securities being offered.

Warrants. We may issue warrants from time to time, in one or more series, for the purchase of common stock and/or preferred stock. We may issue warrants independently or together with common stock and/or preferred stock and/or debt securities, and the warrants may be attached to or separate from these securities. In this prospectus, we have summarized certain general features of the warrants. We urge you, however, to read the applicable prospectus supplement and any free writing prospectus that we may authorize to be provided to you related to the particular series of warrants being offered, as well as the complete warrant agreements and warrant certificates that contain the terms of the warrants. Forms of the warrant agreements and forms of warrant certificates containing the terms of the warrants 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.

We will evidence each series of warrants by warrant certificates that we will issue. Warrants may be issued under an applicable warrant agreement that we enter into with a warrant agent. We will indicate the name and address of the warrant agent, if applicable, in the prospectus supplement relating to the particular series of warrants being offered.

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Units. We may issue units from time to time, in one or more series, consisting of common stock, preferred stock, debt securities and/or warrants for the purchase of common stock and/or preferred stock in any combination. In this prospectus, we have summarized certain general features of the units. We urge you, however, to read the applicable prospectus supplement (and any free writing prospectus that we may authorize to be provided to you) related to the series of units being offered, as well as the complete unit agreement that contains the terms of the units. We will file as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, or will incorporate by reference from reports that we file with the SEC, the form of unit agreement and any supplemental agreements that describe the terms of the series of units we are offering before the issuance of the related series of units.

We will evidence each series of units by unit certificates that we will issue. Units may be issued under a unit agreement that we enter into with a unit agent. We will indicate the name and address of the unit agent, if applicable, in the prospectus supplement relating to the particular series of units being offered.

RISK FACTORS

An investment in our securities involves a high degree of risk. In addition to the other information included in, or incorporated by reference into, this prospectus, the applicable prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus, you should carefully consider the following risk factor and the risks and uncertainties set forth under the heading "risk factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended March 31, 2018 filed with the SEC on June 7, 2018 which is incorporated by reference in this prospectus, as the same may be updated from time to time by our future filings under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act (including by the filing of Current Reports on Form 8-K), when determining whether or not to purchase the securities offered under this prospectus and the prospectus supplement. If any of these risks were to occur, our business, financial condition or results of operations would likely suffer. In that event, the value of our securities could decline, and you could lose all or part of your investment. The risks and uncertainties we describe are not the only ones we face. Additional risks not presently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial may also impair our business operations and trading price of our common stock.

We have effected reductions in our operating costs and, as a result, our ability to cut costs further and sustain our business initiatives may be limited.

Beginning in April 2015, we have implemented various initiatives to reduce operating costs across all functions of the Company and focus our business efforts on our most promising near-term product opportunities. As a result of these cost-cutting initiatives, we may have a more limited ability to further reduce costs to increase our liquidity should such measures become necessary. Any further reductions may have a materially negative impact on our business.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Except as described in any prospectus supplement or in any related free writing prospectus that we may authorize to be provided to you, the net proceeds received by us from our sale of the securities described in this prospectus will be used for general corporate purposes, which may include, but are not limited to, working capital, capital expenditures, acquisitions and repurchases or redemptions of securities. When particular securities are offered, a prospectus supplement related to that offering will set forth our intended use of the net proceeds received from the sale of those securities. We will have significant discretion in the use of any net proceeds. The net proceeds may be invested temporarily in short-term marketable securities, applied to repay indebtedness outstanding at that time, or used for other general corporate purposes until they are used for their stated purpose.

DILUTION

If there is a material dilution of the purchasers' equity interest from the sale of common equity securities offered under this prospectus, we will set forth in any prospectus supplement the following information regarding any such material dilution of the equity interests of purchasers' securities in an offering under this prospectus:

the net tangible book value per share of our equity securities before and after the offering;

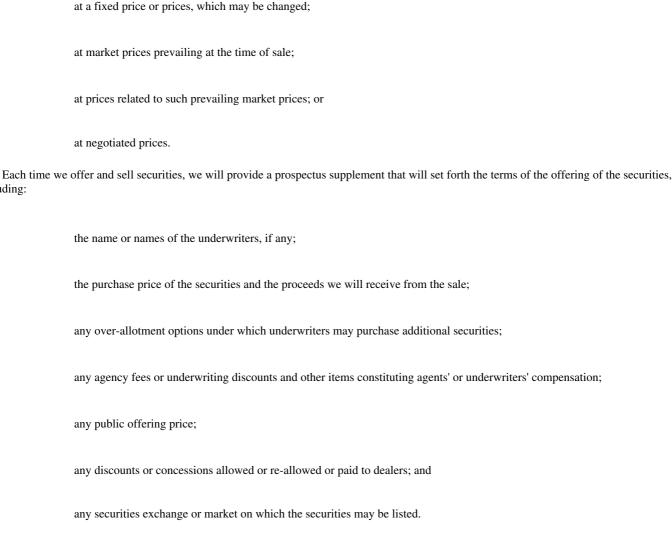
the amount of the increase in such net tangible book value per share attributable to the cash payments made by the purchasers in the offering; and

the amount of the immediate dilution from the public offering price which will be absorbed by such purchasers.

including:

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the securities from time to time pursuant to underwritten public offerings, negotiated transactions, block trades or a combination of these methods. We may sell the securities to or through underwriters or dealers, through agents, or directly to one or more purchasers. We may distribute securities from time to time in one or more transactions:



If underwriters are used in the sale, they will acquire the securities for their own account and may resell the securities from time to time in one or more transactions at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. The obligations of the underwriters to purchase the securities will be subject to the conditions set forth in the applicable underwriting agreement. We may offer the securities to the public through underwriting syndicates represented by managing underwriters or by underwriters without a syndicate. Subject to certain conditions, the underwriters will be obligated to purchase all of the securities offered by the prospectus supplement, other than securities covered by any over-allotment option. Any public offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or re-allowed or paid to dealers may change from time to time. We may use underwriters with whom we or they have a material relationship. The prospectus supplement, naming the underwriter, will describe the nature of any such relationship.

We may sell securities directly or through agents we or they designate from time to time. The prospectus supplement will name any agent involved in the offering and sale of securities and any commissions we will pay to them. Unless the prospectus supplement states otherwise, any agent will be acting on a best-efforts basis for the period of its appointment.

We may authorize agents or underwriters to solicit offers by certain purchasers to purchase securities from us or them at the public offering price set forth in the prospectus supplement pursuant to delayed delivery contracts providing for payment and delivery on a specified date in the future. The prospectus supplement will set forth the conditions to these contracts and any commissions we must pay for solicitation of these contracts.

We may engage in at the market offerings into an existing trading market in accordance with Rule 415(a)(4) under the Securities Act.

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We may provide agents and underwriters with indemnification against civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or contribution with respect to payments that the agents or underwriters may make with respect to these liabilities. Agents and underwriters may engage in transactions with, or perform services for, us in the ordinary course of business.

All securities we may offer, other than common stock, will be new issues of securities with no established trading market. Any underwriters may make a market in these securities, but will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. We cannot guarantee the liquidity of the trading markets for any securities.

Any underwriter may engage in over-allotment, stabilizing transactions, short-covering transactions and penalty bids in accordance with Regulation M under the Exchange Act. Over-allotment involves sales in excess of the offering size, which create a short position. Stabilizing transactions permit bids to purchase the underlying security so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum price. Syndicate-covering or other short-covering transactions involve purchases of the securities, either through exercise of the over-allotment option or in the open market after the distribution is completed, to cover short positions. Penalty bids permit the underwriters to reclaim a selling concession from a dealer when the securities originally sold by the dealer are purchased in a stabilizing or covering transaction to cover short positions. Those activities may cause the price of the securities to be higher than it would otherwise be. If commenced, the underwriters may discontinue any of the activities at any time.

Any underwriters that are qualified market makers on the Nasdaq Capital Market, may engage in passive market making transactions in the common stock on the Nasdaq Capital Market in accordance with Regulation M under the Exchange Act, during the business day prior to the pricing of the offering, before the commencement of offers or sales of the common stock. Passive market makers must comply with applicable volume and price limitations and must be identified as passive market makers. In general, a passive market maker must display its bid at a price not in excess of the highest independent bid for such security; if all independent bids are lowered below the passive market maker's bid, however, the passive market maker's bid must then be lowered when certain purchase limits are exceeded. Passive market making may stabilize the market price of the securities at a level above that which might otherwise prevail in the open market and, if commenced, may be discontinued at any time.

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

General

Our authorized capital stock consists of 515,000,000 shares of common stock, \$0.001 par value per share, and 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, \$0.001 par value per share. As of July 13, 2018, there were 64,193,808 shares of our common stock outstanding, no shares of our preferred stock outstanding, and 2,718,750 Series A warrants outstanding.

The following summary description of our capital stock is based on the provisions of our second amended and restated certificate of incorporation, as amended, fourth amended and restated bylaws, and the applicable provisions of the Delaware General Corporation Law. This summary does not purport to be complete and is qualified entirely by reference to the applicable provisions of our second amended and restated certificate of incorporation, fourth amended and restated bylaws, and the Delaware General Corporation Law ("DGCL"). For information on how to obtain copies of our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and fourth amended and restated bylaws, which are exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, see "Where You Can Find Additional Information" and "Incorporation of Certain Information by Reference."

Common Stock

The holders of our Common Stock are entitled to receive ratably, from funds legally available for the payment thereof, dividends when and as declared by resolution of our Board, subject to any preferential dividend rights granted to the holders of any outstanding series of Preferred Stock. We currently intend to retain any earnings for use in our business and, therefore, we do not anticipate paying any cash dividends in the foreseeable future. We have never declared or paid any cash dividends on our capital stock. In the future, the decision to pay any cash dividends will depend upon our results of operations, financial condition and capital expenditure plans, as well as such other factors as our Board, in its sole discretion, may consider relevant. In the event of our liquidation or dissolution, holders of our Common Stock are entitled to share equally in all assets remaining after payment of liabilities and the liquidation preference of any outstanding series of Preferred Stock. The holders of our Common Stock are entitled to one vote for each share held of record on all matters submitted to a vote of the stockholders. Cumulative voting for directors is not permitted, which means the holder or holders of more than one-half of the shares voting for the election of directors can elect all of the directors then being elected. Our Board is not divided into classes. Our second amended and restated certificate of incorporation and fourth amended and restated bylaws contain no provisions that would require greater than a majority of stockholders to approve mergers, consolidations, sales of a substantial amount of assets, or other similar transactions. Holders of our Common Stock do not have preemptive rights to purchase shares of our Common Stock. The issued and outstanding shares of our Common Stock are not subject to any redemption provisions and are not convertible into any other shares of our capital stock. All outstanding shares of our Common Stock are, and any shares of Common Stock issued will be, upon payment therefor, fully paid and nonassessable, which means that holders of our Common Stock will have paid their purchase price in full and we may not require them to pay additional funds. The rights, preferences and privileges of holders of our Common Stock are subject to those of the holders of any Preferred Stock that we may issue in the future.

Anti-Takeover Considerations and Special Provisions of Delaware Law, our Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and our Amended and Second Restated Bylaws

Rights Agreement

On May 6, 2016, the Company entered into a rights agreement (the "NOL Rights Agreement") with Broadridge Corporate Issuer Solutions, Inc., successor-in-interest to Computershare Inc., as rights agent. In connection with the NOL Rights Agreement, the Company's Board authorized and declared a

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dividend distribution of one preferred stock purchase right (a "New Right") for each share of the Company's common stock authorized and outstanding. Each New Right entitles the registered holder to purchase from the Company a unit consisting of one one-thousandth of a share of Series B Junior Participating Preferred Stock, par value \$0.001 per share, at a purchase price of \$8.76 per unit, subject to adjustment. The description and terms of the New Rights are set forth in the NOL Rights Agreement.

The purpose of the NOL Rights Agreement is to diminish the risk that the Company's ability to use its net operating losses and certain other tax assets (collectively, "Tax Benefits") to reduce potential future federal income tax obligations would become subject to limitations by reason of the Company's experiencing an "ownership change," as defined in Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. A company generally experiences such an ownership change if the percentage of its stock owned by its "5-percent shareholders," as defined in Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, increases by more than 50 percentage points over a rolling three-year period. The NOL Rights Agreement is designed to reduce the likelihood that the Company will experience an ownership change under Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 by (i) discouraging any person or group from becoming a 4.99% shareholder and (ii) discouraging any existing 4.99% shareholder from acquiring additional shares of the Company's stock.

The New Rights will not be exercisable until the earlier to occur of (i) the close of business on the tenth business day after a public announcement or filing that a person has, or group of affiliated or associated persons or persons acting in concert have, become an "Acquiring Person," which is defined as a person or group of affiliated or associated persons or persons acting in concert who, at any time after the date of the NOL Rights Agreement, have acquired, or obtained the right to acquire, beneficial ownership of 4.99% or more of the Company's outstanding shares of common stock, subject to certain exceptions or (ii) the close of business on the tenth business day after the commencement of, or announcement of an intention to commence, a tender offer or exchange offer the consummation of which would result in any person becoming an Acquiring Person (the earlier of such dates being called the "Distribution Date"). Certain synthetic interests in securities created by derivative positions, whether or not such interests are considered to be ownership of the underlying common stock or are reportable for purposes of Regulation 13D of the Exchange Act, are treated as beneficial ownership of the number of shares of common stock equivalent to the economic exposure created by the derivative position, to the extent actual shares of the common stock are directly or indirectly held by counterparties to the derivatives contracts.

The New Rights, which are not exercisable until the Distribution Date, will expire prior to the earliest of (i) May 6, 2019 or such later day as may be established by the Board prior to the expiration of the New Rights, provided that the extension is submitted to the Company's stockholders for ratification at the next annual meeting of stockholders of the Company succeeding such extension; (ii) the time at which the New Rights are redeemed pursuant to the NOL Rights Agreement; (iii) the time at which the New Rights are exchanged pursuant to the NOL Rights Agreement; (iv) the time at which the New Rights are terminated upon the occurrence of certain transactions; (v) the close of business on the first day after the 2017 Annual Meeting of stockholders, if approval by the stockholders of the Company of the NOL Rights Agreement has not been obtained on or prior to the close of business on the first day after the 2017 Annual Meeting of stockholders; (vi) the close of business on the effective date of the repeal of Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, if the Board determines that the NOL Rights Agreement is no longer necessary or desirable for the preservation of Tax Benefits; and (vii) the close of business on the first day of a taxable year of the Company to which the Board determines that no Tax Benefits are available to be carried forward.

Each share of Series B Junior Participating Preferred Stock will be entitled, when, as and if declared, to a preferential per share quarterly dividend payment equal to the greater of (i) \$1.00 per share or (ii) an amount equal to 1,000 times the dividend declared per share of common stock. Each