BANK OF NEW YORK CO INC Form 424B3 March 30, 2007 Table of Contents

Filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3). Based upon the registration of \$2 billion of Notes, \$1 billion of which has been offered and \$1 billion of which is to be offered by means of applicable pricing supplements, this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus under the Registration Statement (File Nos. 333-134738 and 333-134738-01 through 333-134738-05) filed on June 5, 2006, a filing fee of \$137,700 has been calculated in accordance with Rule 457(r), \$107,000 of which was previously paid in connection with the registration of \$1 billion of Notes and \$30,700 of which has been paid in connection with the registration of an additional \$1 billion of Notes, by wire transfer to the Securities and Exchange Commission. This paragraph shall be deemed to update the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in the registration statement referred to in the preceding sentence above.

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

(To prospectus dated June 5, 2006)

\$2,000,000,000

The Bank of New York Company, Inc.

Senior Medium-Term Notes Series G

Senior Subordinated Medium-Term Notes Series H

Due Nine Months or More from Date of Issue

Terms of Sale

We may offer from time to time up to an aggregate initial public offering price of \$2,000,000 (or the equivalent in one or more foreign currencies, including the Euro) of our medium-term notes as a class of our debt securities entitled either Senior Medium-Term Notes Series G (the Senior Notes) or Senior Subordinated Medium-Term Notes Series H (the Senior Subordinated Notes and, together with the Senior Notes, the Notes). Each Note will include the following terms, unless different terms are described in the applicable pricing supplement:

A stated maturity date from nine months or longer from the date of issue.

Payment of principal of and interest on the Senior Notes will be senior to the Senior Subordinated Notes.

Payment of principal of the Senior Subordinated Notes may be accelerated only in the case of our bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization, and there is no right of acceleration of this payment upon a payment default on these Notes or in the performance of any of our other covenants in the related indenture.

Interest payments on fixed rate Notes on the days during the term of the Notes specified in the applicable pricing supplement. Interest payments on floating rate Notes on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual basis.

Redemption or repayment provisions, whether mandatory, at our option, at the option of the holders or none at all.

Minimum denominations of \$1,000 or integral multiples of \$1,000.

Book-entry through The Depository Trust Company.

Interest at fixed or floating rates, or no interest at all. The floating interest rate may be based on one or more of the following indices plus or minus a spread or multiplied by a spread multiplier:

Commercial paper rate CD Rate LIBOR Federal funds rate Prime rate Treasury rate CMT rate Eleventh district cost of funds rate such other interest rate formula as may be specified in the applicable pricing supplement.

Whether a Floating Rate Note is a Regular Floating Rate Note, a Floating Rate/Fixed Rate Note or an Inverse Floating Rate Note.

See <u>Risk Factors</u> beginning on page S-4 to read about factors you should consider before investing in any Notes.

We will specify final terms for each Note in the applicable pricing supplement, which may be different from the terms described in this prospectus supplement. If the Notes are to be denominated in a foreign currency, then certain provisions with respect thereto will be set forth in a foreign currency supplement and the applicable pricing supplement.

The Notes are not deposits or other obligations of a bank and are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency.

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

We may sell the Notes to the Agents as principals for resale at varying or fixed offering prices or through the Agents as agents using their best efforts on our behalf. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, the price to the public for the Notes will be 100% of their principal amount. Commissions and discounts in respect of the Notes will be negotiated between the applicable Agent and us prior to the time of sale of such Notes and set forth in the applicable pricing supplement. We may also sell the Notes directly to investors and other purchasers on our own behalf where we are authorized to do so.

Banc of America Securities LLC

Citigroup

Credit Suisse

Barclays Capital Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc. Deutsche Bank Securities HSBC JPMorgan

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Goldman, Sachs & Co.

Wachovia Securities

Lehman Brothers

Merrill Lynch & Co.

Morgan Stanley

UBS Investment Bank

BNY Capital Markets, Inc.

The date of this prospectus supplement is March 30, 2007.

No dealer, salesperson or other person is authorized to give any information or to represent anything not contained in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. You must not rely on any unauthorized information or representations. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is an offer to sell only the Notes offered hereby, but only under circumstances and in jurisdictions where it is lawful to do so. The information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is current only as of their respective dates.

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ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT,

THE ACCOMPANYING PROSPECTUS AND PRICING SUPPLEMENTS

This prospectus supplement sets forth certain terms of the Notes that we may offer and supplements the prospectus that is attached to the back of this prospectus supplement. This prospectus supplement supersedes the accompanying prospectus to the extent it contains information that is different from or additional to the information in that prospectus.

Each time we offer and sell Notes, you will receive a pricing supplement with this prospectus supplement. The pricing supplement will contain the specific description of the Notes we are offering and the terms of the offering. The pricing supplement will supersede this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus to the extent it contains information that is different from or additional to the information contained in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

It is important for you to read and consider all information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, as well as in the applicable pricing supplement relating to the particular offering of Notes, in making your decision to invest in the Notes.

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and any pricing supplement. Neither we nor the Agents has authorized any other person to provide you with different or additional information. If anyone provides you with different or additional information, you should not rely on it. Neither we nor the Agents is making an offer to sell the Notes in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should assume that the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and any pricing supplement is accurate only as of its date.

References in this prospectus supplement to the Company, we, us or our are to The Bank of New York Company, Inc. and references in this prospectus supplement to the Agents are to the agents named under Plan of Distribution of Medium-Term Notes. In addition, references in this prospectus supplement to the Senior Notes shall mean Senior Medium-Term Notes Series G, references in this prospectus supplement to the Senior Subordinated Medium-Term Notes Series H, and references in this prospectus supplement to the Notes shall mean Senior Subordinated Notes.

PROPOSED BUSINESS COMBINATION WITH MELLON FINANCIAL CORPORATION

The Company and Mellon Financial Corporation (Mellon) are proposing to their shareholders a business combination transaction, referred to herein as the Mellon transaction, involving the mergers of each of the Company and Mellon with and into a newly formed holding company, The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation, referred to herein as Newco. No consent of holders of Notes is required for consummation of the Mellon transaction.

If the Mellon transaction is completed, the Notes will become obligations of Newco as described under Description of Senior Debt Securities and Senior Subordinated Debt Securities Consolidation, Merger and Sale of Assets in the accompanying prospectus. For U.S. federal income tax purposes, no gain or loss will be recognized by holders of the Notes as a result of the Mellon transaction, and a Note holder s aggregate tax basis and holding period in its Notes after the Mellon transaction will be equal to the holder s aggregate tax basis and holding period in the Notes prior to the transaction.

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Completion of the Mellon transaction is subject to various conditions precedent, including, among others, the approval of shareholders of the Company and Mellon and the approval and consent of regulatory authorities. We can provide no assurance that the Mellon transaction will be completed. For additional information regarding the Mellon transaction, see the Company s reports filed with the SEC under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, which are incorporated by reference into this document.

RISK FACTORS

Your investment in the Notes involves certain risks, not all of which are described in this prospectus supplement, some of which relate to the Notes and others of which relate to us. We include a discussion of risk factors relating to our business and an investment in the Notes in our Annual Reports on Form 10-K and Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q filed, from time to time by us, with the SEC. These reports are incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement. See Where You Can Find More Information in the accompanying prospectus for an explanation of how to get a copy of any of these reports. Additional risks related to the Notes are described below. In consultation with your own financial and legal advisers, you should carefully consider, among other matters, the following discussion of risks and the risk factors discussed in our periodic reports before deciding whether an investment in the Notes is suitable for you. The Notes are not an appropriate investment for you if you are unsophisticated with respect to their significant components and interrelationships. Although we try to discuss key risks in our risk factor descriptions, new risks may emerge in the future, which may prove to be important. We cannot predict future risks or estimate the extent to which they may affect our financial performance.

We are a holding company, and as a result we are dependent on dividends from our subsidiaries, including The Bank of New York, to meet our obligations, including with respect to the Notes.

We are a non-operating holding company, whose principal asset and source of income is our investment in the Bank. We are a legal entity separate and distinct from the Bank and our other subsidiaries and, therefore, rely primarily on dividends from these subsidiaries to meet our obligations, including with respect to the Notes, and to provide funds for payment of dividends to our shareholders, to the extent declared by our board of directors. There are various legal limitations on the extent to which the Bank and our other subsidiaries can finance or otherwise supply funds to us (by dividend or otherwise) and certain of our affiliates. At December 31, 2006, the Bank could pay dividends of approximately \$791 million to us. Although we maintain cash positions for liquidity at the holding company level, if the Bank or other of our subsidiaries were unable to supply us with cash over time, we could be unable to meet our obligations, including with respect to the Notes, or declare or pay dividends in respect of our capital stock. See Certain Regulatory Considerations Restrictions on Payment of Dividends in the accompanying prospectus.

Because we are a holding company, our rights and the rights of our creditors, including the holders of the Notes, to a share of the assets of any subsidiary upon the liquidation or recapitalization of the subsidiary will be subject to the prior claims of the subsidiary s creditors (including, in the case of the Bank and The Bank of New York (Delaware), their depositors), except to the extent that we may ourselves be a creditor with recognized claims against the subsidiary. Accordingly, the Notes will be effectively subordinated to all existing and future liabilities of our subsidiaries.

The Senior Subordinated Notes will be subordinated in right of payment to all of our Senior Indebtedness and noteholders will have limited acceleration rights under the Senior Subordinated Indenture.

The payment of the principal of and interest on the Senior Subordinated Notes will, to the extent set forth in the Senior Subordinated Indenture, be subordinated in right of payment to the prior payment in full of all Senior Indebtedness (as defined in the accompanying prospectus). If certain events of insolvency occur, the payment of the principal of and interest on the Senior Subordinated Notes will, to the extent set forth in the Senior Subordinated Indenture, also be effectively subordinated in right of payment to the prior payment in full of all Other Financial Obligations (as defined in the accompanying prospectus). Indebtedness that would have ranked senior to the Senior Subordinated Notes totaled approximately \$3.9 billion at December 31, 2006. The senior subordinated indenture does not limit or prohibit us from incurring additional senior indebtedness.

Payment of principal of the Senior Subordinated Notes may be accelerated only in the case of our bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization, and there is no right of acceleration of this payment upon a default in

the payment of principal of or interest on the Senior Subordinated Notes or in the performance of any of our other covenants in the Senior Subordinated Indenture.

There may not be any trading market for the Notes; many factors affect the trading market and value of the Notes.

Upon issuance, your Notes will not have an established trading market. We cannot assure you that a trading market for your Notes will ever develop or be maintained if developed. In addition to our creditworthiness, many factors affect the trading market for, and trading value of, your Notes. These factors include:

the time remaining to the maturity of your Notes,

the outstanding amount of Notes with terms identical to your Notes,

the redemption or repayment features, if any, of your Notes, and

the level, direction and volatility of market interest rates generally.

You should also be aware that there may be a limited number of buyers when you decide to sell your Notes. This may affect the price you receive for your Notes or your ability to sell your Notes at all.

Redemption may adversely affect your return on the Notes.

If your Notes are redeemable at our option, we may choose to redeem your Notes at times when prevailing interest rates are relatively low. In addition, if your Notes are subject to mandatory redemption, we may be required to redeem your Notes also at times when prevailing interest rates are relatively low. As a result, you generally will not be able to reinvest the redemption proceeds in a comparable security at an effective interest rate as high as your Notes being redeemed.

Our credit ratings may not reflect all risks of an investment in the Notes.

Our credit ratings are an assessment of our ability to pay our obligations. Consequently, real or anticipated changes in our credit ratings will generally affect the market value of your Notes. Our credit ratings, however, may not reflect the potential impact of risks related to market or other factors discussed above on the value of your Notes.

Changes in exchange rates and exchange controls could result in a substantial loss to you.

An investment in foreign currency Notes, which are Notes denominated in a currency other than U.S. dollars, entails significant risks that are not associated with a similar investment in a security denominated in U.S. dollars.

Such risks include, but are not limited to:

the possibility of significant market changes in rates of exchange between U.S. dollars and such specified currency;

the possibility of significant changes in rates of exchange between U.S. dollars and the specified currency resulting from official redenomination relating to such specified currency; and

the possibility of the imposition or modification of foreign exchange controls by either the United States or foreign governments.

Such risks generally depend on factors over which we have no control and that cannot be readily foreseen. These include:

economic events;

political events; and

the supply of, and demand for, the relevant currencies.

In recent years, rates of exchange between the U.S. dollar and some foreign currencies in which the Notes may be denominated, and between these foreign currencies and other foreign currencies, have been volatile. This volatility may be expected in the future. Fluctuations that have occurred in any particular exchange rate in the past are not necessarily indicative of fluctuations that may occur in the rate during the term of any foreign currency Note. Depreciation of the specified currency of a foreign currency Note against U.S. dollars would result in a decrease in the effective yield of such foreign currency Note below its coupon rate and could result in a substantial loss to the investor on a U.S. dollar basis.

Governments have imposed from time to time, and may in the future impose, exchange controls that could affect exchange rates as well as the availability of a specified currency other than U.S. dollars at the time of payment of principal, any premium or interest on a foreign currency Note. Such exchange controls may restrict or prohibit payments of principal, any premium or interest denominated in any such specified currency.

Even if there are no actual exchange controls, it is possible that such specified currency would not be available to us when payments on such Notes are due because of circumstances beyond our control. In this event, we will make required payments in U.S. dollars on the basis described in this prospectus supplement. You should consult your own financial and legal advisors as to the risks of an investment in Notes denominated in a currency other than U.S. dollars.

The information set forth in this prospectus supplement is directed to prospective purchasers of Notes who are United States residents. We disclaim any responsibility to advise prospective purchasers who are residents of other countries regarding any matters that may affect the purchase or holding of, or receipt of payments of principal, premium or interest on, Notes.

Such persons should consult their advisors with regard to these matters. Any pricing supplement relating to Notes having a specified currency other than U.S. dollars will contain a description of any material exchange controls affecting such currency and any other required information concerning such currency.

The unavailability of currencies could result in a substantial loss to you.

Except as set forth below, if payment on a Note is required to be made in a specified currency other than U.S. dollars and such currency is

unavailable due to the imposition of exchange controls or other circumstances beyond our control;

no longer used by the government of the country issuing such currency; or

no longer used for the settlement of transactions by public institutions of the international banking community

then all payments on such Note shall be made in U.S. dollars until such currency is again available or so used. The amounts so payable on any date in such currency shall be converted into U.S. dollars on the basis of the most recently available market exchange rate for such currency or as otherwise indicated in the applicable pricing supplement. Any payment on such Note made under such circumstances in U.S. dollars will not constitute an event of default under the indenture under which such Note shall have been issued.

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If the specified currency of a Note is officially redenominated, other than as a result of conversion to the Euro, such as by an official redenomination of any such specified currency that is a composite currency, then our payment obligations on such Note will be the amount of redenominated currency that represents the amount of our obligations immediately before the redenomination. The Notes will not provide for any adjustment to any amount payable under such Notes as a result of :

any change in the value of the specified currency of such Notes relative to any other currency due solely to fluctuations in exchange rates; or

any redenomination of any component currency of any composite currency, unless such composite currency is itself officially redenominated.

Currently, there are limited facilities in the United States for conversion of U.S. dollars into foreign currencies, and vice versa. In addition, banks do not generally offer non-U.S. dollar-denominated checking or savings account facilities in the United States. Accordingly, payments on Notes made in a currency other than U.S. dollars may be made from an account at a bank located outside the United States, unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement.

Judgments in a foreign currency could result in a substantial loss to you.

The Notes will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the law of New York State. Courts in the United States customarily have not rendered judgments for money damages denominated in any currency other than the U.S. dollar. A 1987 amendment to the Judiciary Law of New York State provides that a judgment or decree awarded in an action based upon an obligation denominated in a currency other than U.S. dollars will be rendered in the foreign currency of the underlying obligation. Any judgment or decree awarded in such an action will be converted into U.S. dollars at the rate of exchange prevailing on the date of the entry of the judgment or decree. There will be no provision for any further payments if exchange rates continue to change after the judgment is rendered.

We may fail to realize the cost savings we estimate for the Mellon transaction.

The success of the Mellon transaction will depend, in part, on our ability to realize the anticipated cost savings from combining the businesses of the Company and Mellon. To realize the anticipated benefits from the transaction, we must successfully combine the businesses of the Company and Mellon in a manner that permits those cost savings to be realized. If we are not able to achieve these objectives successfully, the anticipated benefits of the transaction may not be realized fully or at all or may take longer to realize than expected.

In addition, the Company and Mellon have operated and, until the completion of the transaction, will continue to operate, independently. It is possible that the integration process could result in the loss of key employees, the disruption of each company s ongoing businesses or inconsistencies in standards, controls, procedures and policies, any of which could adversely affect our ability to maintain relationships with clients and employees or our ability to achieve the anticipated benefits of the transaction or could reduce our earnings.

The market price of the Notes after the Mellon transaction may be affected by factors different from those affecting the Notes currently.

If the Mellon transaction is consummated, the Notes will become obligations of Newco as described under Description of Senior Debt Securities and Senior Subordinated Debt Securities - Consolidation, Merger and Sale of Assets . The businesses of the Company and Mellon differ and, accordingly, the results of operations of Newco and the market price of Notes may be affected by factors different from those currently affecting the independent results of operations of the Company. For a discussion of the businesses of the Company and Mellon and of factors to consider in connection with those businesses, see the documents incorporated by reference into this document as described under Where You Can Find More Information in the accompanying prospectus.

Newco may be subject to adverse regulatory conditions after completion of the Mellon transaction.

Before the Mellon transaction may be completed, various approvals or consents must be obtained from the Federal Reserve Board and various other bank regulatory, antitrust and other authorities in the United States and in foreign jurisdictions. The governmental entities from which these approvals are required, including the Federal Reserve Board, may impose conditions on the completion of the transaction or require changes to the terms of the transaction. These conditions or changes could have the effect of delaying completion of the transaction or imposing additional costs on or limiting the revenues of Newco following completion of the transaction, any of which might have a material adverse effect on Newco following the transaction.

Until the Mellon transaction is completed or the merger agreement is terminated in accordance with its terms, the Company and Mellon are prohibited from entering into certain business combination transactions.

The failure of either the Company or Mellon to obtain the shareholder vote required for the transaction will not by itself give either company the right to terminate the merger agreement. As long as no other termination event has occurred, both companies would remain obligated to continue to use their reasonable best efforts to complete the transaction until December 31, 2007, which, depending on the timing of any failure of obtain the vote, could include calling additional shareholder meetings.

During the period the merger agreement is in effect, neither the Company nor the Mellon board of directors may withdraw or adversely modify its respective recommendation of the transaction to its shareholders, recommend an acquisition proposal other than the transaction, or negotiate or authorize negotiations with a third party regarding an acquisition proposal other than the transaction, except as required by their fiduciary duties in the case of a superior proposal and subject to the other requirements of the merger agreement. The foregoing prohibitions could have the effect of delaying alternative strategic business combinations for a limited period of time.

In addition, the Company and Mellon have entered into reciprocal stock option agreements pursuant to which each has granted to the other an option to purchase up to 19.9 percent of the number of shares of the Company or Mellon common stock, as applicable, then issued and outstanding. In certain circumstances, these options could survive for 18 months after the termination of the merger agreement. These provisions might discourage a potential competing acquiror that might have an interest in acquiring all or a significant part of the Company or Mellon from considering or proposing that acquisition.

DESCRIPTION OF MEDIUM-TERM NOTES

General

The Company will issue the Senior Notes under an Indenture, dated as of July 18, 1991, as it may be supplemented from time to time (the Senior Indenture) between the Company and Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas (f/k/a Bankers Trust Company), as trustee (the Senior Trustee). The Company will issue the Senior Subordinated Notes under an Indenture, dated as of October 1, 1993, as it may be supplemented from time to time (the Senior Subordinated Indenture and, together with the Senior Indenture, the Indentures) between the Company and J.P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association (successor by merger to Chase Manhattan Trust Company, National Association), as trustee (the Senior Subordinated Trustee). The accompanying prospectus briefly outlines some of the provisions of the Indentures. If you would like more information about the Indentures, you should review them as filed with the SEC. See Where You Can Find More Information in the accompanying prospectus on how to locate the Indentures.

We provide information to you about the Notes in three separate documents. The first document is the accompanying prospectus, dated June 5, 2006, which provides general information concerning the Notes under Description of Senior Debt Securities and Senior Subordinated Debt Securities , some of which may not apply to a particular Note. The second document is this prospectus supplement, which also provides additional information about the Notes to supplement or replace, to the extent inconsistent, the description in the accompanying prospectus. The third document is the pricing supplement, which will provide final details about the terms of a specific Note and will be filed with the SEC about the time that the Note is sold.

This prospectus supplement includes (and the applicable pricing supplement will include) summaries of the Notes and the Indentures. If the information in this prospectus supplement or in the applicable pricing supplement differs from the terms and provisions of the Notes or the Indentures, you should in all cases rely on the terms and provisions of the Notes and the Indentures. The following description of the Notes will apply to each Note offered hereby unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement.

The Notes will be either Senior Notes or Senior Subordinated Notes (referred to in the accompanying prospectus as the Senior Debt Securities and the Senior Subordinated Debt Securities, respectively). The Senior Notes and the Senior Subordinated Notes are each a single series of debt securities under the Indenture pursuant to which they will be issued. The Notes are currently limited to up to \$2,000,000,000 aggregate initial public offering price (or the equivalent in one or more foreign currencies, including the Euro), of which \$1,000,000,000 has been issued prior to the date of this prospectus supplement. The Indentures do not limit the amount of additional debt securities that we may issue in the future under the Indentures.

Each Indenture provides that we may issue debt securities in one or more series up to the aggregate principal amount authorized by us from time to time. Each series of debt securities and each specific Note may differ as to its terms and each series of debt securities need not be issued at the same time. A series of debt securities, including the Senior Notes and the Senior Subordinated Notes, may be reopened or further reopened in order to issue additional debt securities of that series without the consent of the holders of the applicable series of Notes.

The Senior Notes will be unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of the Company and will rank equally with other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness of the Company. Indebtedness of the Company that would have ranked equally with the Senior Notes totaled approximately \$3.9 billion at December 31, 2006.

The Senior Subordinated Notes will be unsecured and subordinated to Senior Indebtedness of the Company as described in the accompanying prospectus under Description of Senior Debt Securities and Senior Subordinated Debt Securities Subordination of Senior Subordinated Debt Securities.

The Indentures do not limit or prohibit the incurrence of additional Senior Indebtedness. Indebtedness of the Company that would have ranked senior to the Senior Subordinated Notes totaled approximately \$3.9 billion

at December 31, 2006. Indebtedness of the Company which would have ranked equally with the Senior Subordinated Notes totaled approximately \$3.0 billion at December 31, 2006.

Because the Company is a holding company, its rights and the rights of its creditors, including the holders of any Notes, to a share of the assets of any subsidiary upon the liquidation or recapitalization of the subsidiary will be subject to the prior claims of the subsidiary s creditors (including, in the case of the Bank and The Bank of New York (Delaware), their depositors), except to the extent that the Company may itself be a creditor with recognized claims against the subsidiary. Accordingly, the Notes will be effectively subordinated to existing and future liabilities of the Company s subsidiaries, and holders of Notes should look only to our assets for payments on the Notes.

Payment of the principal of the Senior Subordinated Notes may be accelerated only in case of the bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization of the Company. As a holder of a Senior Subordinated Note, you do not have a right to accelerate the payment of principal on the Senior Subordinated Notes if there is a default in the payment of principal of or interest on such Senior Subordinated Notes or in our performance of any covenant contained in the Senior Subordinated Indenture. See Description of Senior Debt Securities and Senior Subordinated Debt Securities Defaults The Senior Subordinated Indenture in the accompanying prospectus.

The Notes will be offered on a continuous basis and will mature on any day nine months or longer from the date of issue, as agreed to by the purchaser and the Company. Each Note will also be due and payable (in whole or in part) on any earlier date on which the principal or an installment of principal of a Note becomes due and payable, whether by a declaration of acceleration, a call for redemption at our option, repayment at the option of a holder or otherwise as agreed to by the purchaser and the Company and specified in the applicable pricing supplement. The date upon which a Note is due and payable, whether the stated maturity or such earlier date, will be referred to in this prospectus supplement as the Maturity.

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable pricing supplement, each Note will bear interest from the date of original issuance (the Original Issue Date) at a fixed rate (a Fixed Rate Note), or at a floating rate (a Floating Rate Note) determined by reference to the Commercial Paper Rate, the Certificate of Deposit (CD) Rate, the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR), the Federal Funds Rate, the Prime Rate, the Treasury Rate, the CMT Rate or the Eleventh District Cost of Funds Rate, or another interest rate basis, plus or minus a Spread (as hereinafter defined) or multiplied by a Spread Multiplier (as hereinafter defined), which will be set forth in that pricing supplement. The Notes may also bear interest at any combination of fixed and floating rates until the principal thereof is paid or made available for payment. See Fixed Rates Notes and Floating Rate Notes below. We may also issue discounted securities (bearing no interest (Zero-Coupon Notes)) or interest at rates that at the time of issuance are below market rates), at a discount from the principal amount payable at its stated maturity (including other Notes that for United States federal income tax purposes would be considered to have original issue discount, OID Notes). Zero-Coupon Notes will provide that upon redemption or acceleration of the maturity thereof an amount that is less than the stated principal amounts shall become due and payable.

If the Notes are to be denominated in a foreign currency (including the Euro), then certain provisions with respect thereto will be set forth in the applicable pricing supplement. The foreign currencies in which Notes may be denominated or by which amounts due on the Notes may be calculated could be issued by member states of the European Union which have not yet replaced their currencies with the Euro but may do so in the future.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, if the principal of any OID Note is declared to be due and payable immediately as described in the accompanying prospectus under Description of Senior Debt Securities and Senior Subordinated Debt Securities Subordination of Senior Subordinated Debt Securities, the amount of principal due and payable with respect to such Note shall be its Amortized Face Amount (as hereinafter defined). See Optional Redemption and Optional Repayment below.

Interest, if any, will be payable as specified in this prospectus supplement. Interest payable and punctually paid or duly provided for on any date on which interest is payable (an Interest Payment Date) and on the stated maturity date (or New Maturity Date or Extended Maturity Date, each as hereinafter defined) or upon earlier redemption or repayment (such stated maturity date, New Maturity Date, Extended Maturity Date or date of redemption or repayment, as the case may be, being collectively hereinafter referred to as the Maturity Date), or on a later date on which payment may be made hereunder in respect of such Interest Payment Date, will be paid to the person in whose name a Note is registered at the close of business on the Regular Record Date (as hereinafter defined) next preceding such Interest Payment Date; *provided, however*, that the first payment of interest on any Note with an Original Issue Date (as set forth in the applicable pricing supplement) between a Regular Record Date and an Interest Payment Date or on an Interest Payment Date will be made on an Interest Payment Date following the next succeeding Regular Record Date to the registered holder on such next succeeding Regular Record Date; *provided, further*, that interest payable at maturity or upon earlier redemption or repayment will be payable to the person to whom principal shall be payable.

We will make payments of principal, premium, if any, and interest with respect to the Notes in U.S. dollars unless otherwise stated in the applicable pricing supplement. The Company will issue Notes in denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000.

Upon issuance, all Notes having the same issue price, Original Issue Date, Maturity Date, interest rate, redemption and repayment provisions, if any, and Interest Payment Dates will be represented by one global Note, which will be registered in the name of a nominee of The Depository Trust Company, as Depositary under the Indentures (DTC). See Book-Entry Issuance in the accompanying prospectus for more information. Beneficial interests in the Notes will be reflected on the records of DTC; transfers of interests in the Notes can only be effected through these records. We will only issue definitive certificates for the Notes in limited circumstances, which include DTC ceasing to be registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

We will pay any administrative costs incurred by banks in connection with transmitting payments of principal, interest or premium by wire transfer. However, any tax, assessment or governmental charge imposed upon payments will be borne by owners of beneficial interests in Notes.

All references herein to registered holders or holders will be to DTC or its nominee and not to owners of beneficial interests in Notes, except as otherwise provided. See Book-Entry Issuance in the accompanying prospectus.

Paying Agent, Registrar and Transfer Agent

The initial Paying Agent, Registrar and Transfer Agent for the Notes is the Bank, acting through its principal corporate trust offices in The City of New York. We may vary or terminate the appointment of the Paying Agent, Registrar and Transfer Agent and appoint additional Paying Agents, Registrars and Transfer Agents or approve any change in the office through which the Paying Agent, Registrar or Transfer Agent acts, provided that, so long as any Notes remain outstanding, there will at all times be a Paying Agent in The City of New York and we will maintain in The City of New York one or more offices or agencies where Notes may be presented for registration of transfer and exchange.

Optional Redemption and Optional Repayment

The Notes will be redeemable at our option prior to stated maturity only if a Redemption Commencement Date and an Initial Redemption Percentage are specified in the applicable pricing supplement. If so specified, the Notes will be subject to redemption at our option on any date and after the applicable Redemption Commencement Date in whole or from time to time in increments of \$1,000 or such other minimum

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denominations specified in the applicable pricing supplement (provided that any remaining principal amount thereof shall be at least \$1,000 or such other minimum denomination), at the applicable Redemption

Price (as defined below), together with unpaid interest accrued thereon to the date of redemption, on written notice given to the holders thereof not less than 30 nor more than 60 calendar days prior to the date of redemption and in accordance with the provisions of the applicable Indenture. Redemption Price with respect to a Note means an amount equal to the Initial Redemption Percentage specified in the applicable pricing supplement (as adjusted by the Annual Redemption Percentage Reduction, if applicable, specified in the applicable pricing supplement) multiplied by the unpaid principal amount to be redeemed. The Initial Redemption Percentage, if any, applicable to a Note shall decline at each anniversary of the Redemption Commencement Date by an amount equal to the Annual Redemption Percentage Reduction (if any) specified in the applicable pricing supplement, until the Redemption Price is equal to 100% of the unpaid principal amount to be redeemed. If any Note is redeemed in part, a new Note of like tenor for the unredeemed portion and otherwise having the same terms as the partially redeemed Note will be issued in the name of the holder upon presentation and surrender of the partially redeemed Note.

We will repay the Notes at the option of the holders thereof prior to their stated maturity only if one or more Optional Repayment Dates are specified in the applicable pricing supplement. If so specified, the Notes will be subject to repayment at the option of the holders thereof on any Optional Repayment Date in whole or from time to time in part in increments of \$1,000 or such other minimum denomination as is specified in the applicable pricing supplement (provided that any remaining principal amount thereof shall be at least \$1,000 or such other minimum denomination), at a repayment price equal to 100% of the unpaid principal amount to be repaid, together with unpaid interest accrued thereon to the Optional Repayment Date. For any Note to be repaid, such Note must be received, together with the notice of election form duly completed, by the Paying Agent at its office maintained for such purpose in the Borough of Manhattan in The City of New York, or in such other location as the Company selects in conformity with the applicable Indenture, not less than 30 nor more than 60 calendar days prior to the date of repayment. If any Note is repaid in part, a new Note of like tenor for the unpaid portion and otherwise having the same terms as the partially repaid Note will be issued in the name of the holder upon presentation and surrender of the partially repaid Note.

Only DTC may exercise a repayment option in respect of the global Note representing Notes issued in book-entry form. Accordingly, beneficial owners of Notes that desire to exercise their repayment option, if any, with respect to all or any portion of such Notes represented by the global Note, must instruct the participant through which they own their interest to direct DTC to exercise the repayment option on their behalf by delivering the global Note and duly completed election form to the applicable Trustee as aforesaid. In order to ensure that the global Note and election form are received by the applicable Trustee on a particular day, the applicable beneficial owner must so instruct the participant through which it owns its interest before such participant s deadline for accepting instructions for that day. Participants may have different deadlines for accepting instructions from their customers. Accordingly, a beneficial owner should consult the participant through which it owns its interest in the global Note for the participant s deadline for receiving payment instructions. In addition, at the time such instructions are given, each such beneficial owner will cause such participant to transfer such beneficial owner s interest in the global Note or securities representing Notes issued in book-entry form, on DTC s records, to the applicable Trustee.

If applicable, we will comply with the requirements of Section 14(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the rules promulgated thereunder, and any other securities laws or regulations, in connection with any such repayment.

We may at any time purchase Notes at any price or prices in the open market or otherwise. If we decide to purchase the Notes, they may be held or resold or, at our discretion, may be surrendered to the applicable Trustee for cancellation.

Notwithstanding anything in this prospectus supplement to the contrary, the amount payable on an OID Note in the event of redemption or repayment prior to the stated maturity date shall be the Amortized Face Amount of such OID Note as of the date of redemption or the date of repayment, as the case may be. The

Amortized Face Amount of an OID Note will be the amount equal to (i) the issue price set forth in the applicable pricing supplement plus (ii) that portion of the difference between the issue price and the principal amount of such Note that has accrued at the yield to maturity (computed in accordance with generally accepted United States bond yield computation principles) by such date of redemption or repayment, as calculated by the Calculation Agent (as hereinafter defined), but in no event shall the Amortized Face Amount of an OID Note exceed its principal amount.

Fixed Rate Notes

Interest on the Fixed Rate Notes will be payable on each Interest Payment Date therefor, which will be the days during the term of the Notes specified in the applicable pricing supplement, and on the Maturity Date with respect to the principal then maturing. Interest on Fixed Rate Notes will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, the Regular Record Date for any Fixed Rate Note will be the calendar day fifteen days preceding each Interest Payment Date whether or not such day is a Business Day (as hereinafter defined). If any Interest Payment Date or the Maturity Date on a Fixed Rate Note falls on a day that is not a Business Day, the applicable payments may be made on the next Business Day. In such case, no interest will accrue on the amount so payable for such period of delay.

Business Day means, with respect to Notes denominated in U.S. dollars, any day other than a Saturday, Sunday, legal holiday or other day on which banking institutions in The City of New York are authorized or required by law, regulation or executive order to close and, with respect to LIBOR Notes, is also a London Banking Day. As used herein, a London Banking Day is a day on which dealings in the applicable LIBOR currency are transacted in the London interbank market. For Notes having a specified currency other than U.S. dollars (other than Notes denominated in Euros), Business Day means any day that, in the Principal Financial Center (as defined below under heading Floating Rate Notes LIBOR Notes) of the country of the specified currency, is not a day on which banking institutions generally are authorized or obligated by law to close. For Notes denominated in Euros, Business Day means a day on which the Trans-European Automated Real-time Gross Settlement Express Transfer System is open.

Floating Rate Notes

Each Floating Rate Note will bear interest at a rate determined by reference to one or more interest rate bases (each a Base Rate), which may be adjusted by a Spread or Spread Multiplier (as described below). The applicable pricing supplement will designate one or more of the following Base Rates as applicable to each Floating Rate Note:

the Commercial Paper Rate (a Commercial Paper Rate Note)

the CD Rate (a CD Rate Note)

LIBOR (a LIBOR Note)

the Federal Funds Rate (a Federal Funds Rate Note)

the Prime Rate (a Prime Rate Note)

the Treasury Rate (a Treasury Rate Note)

the CMT Rate (a CMT Rate Note)

the Eleventh District Cost of Funds Rate (an Eleventh District Cost of Funds Rate Note)

such other Base Rate or Rates as may be set forth in the applicable pricing supplement

The interest rate with respect to each Base Rate will be determined in accordance with the applicable provisions below.

Unless otherwise stated, a Floating Rate Note will be designated as a Regular Floating Rate Note. Except as described below or in the applicable pricing supplement, such Regular Floating Rate Note will bear interest at the rate determined by reference to the applicable Base Rate or Rates (a) plus or minus the applicable Spread, if any, or (b) multiplied by the applicable Spread Multiplier, if any. Commencing on the initial Interest Reset Date (as hereinafter defined), the interest rate for a Regular Floating Rate Note will be reset as of each Interest Reset Date. However, for the period of time from the date of issue of a Regular Floating Rate Note until the initial Interest Reset Date, the interest rate on such Note will be the Initial Interest Rate specified in the applicable pricing supplement.

If the Note is designated as a Floating Rate/Fixed Rate Note, then, except as described below or in the applicable pricing supplement, the interest rate will be determined by reference to the applicable Base Rate or Rates (a) plus or minus the applicable Spread, if any, or (b) multiplied by the applicable Spread Multiplier, if any. The interest rate for a Floating Rate/Fixed Rate Note will be reset as of each Interest Reset Date. However, from the Original Issue Date of such Floating Rate/Fixed Rate Note until the initial Interest Reset Date, the interest rate on such Note will be the Initial Interest Rate specified in the applicable pricing supplement. The interest rate for the period of time between and including the Fixed Rate Commencement Date specified in the applicable pricing supplement and the stated maturity will be the Fixed Interest Rate specified in the applicable pricing supplement, unless no such rate is so specified, in which case the interest rate in effect on the date immediately preceding the Fixed Rate Commencement Date.

If the Note is designated as an Inverse Floating Rate Note, then, except as described below or in the applicable pricing supplement, the interest rate on the Inverse Floating Rate Note will be the Fixed Interest Rate minus the rate determined by reference to the applicable Base Rate or Rates (a) plus or minus the applicable Spread, if any, or (b) multiplied by the applicable Spread Multiplier, if any. Unless stated otherwise in the applicable pricing supplement, the interest rate on the Inverse Floating Rate Note will not be less than zero. The interest rate on such Inverse Floating Rate Note will be reset as of each Interest Reset Date. However, from the Original Issue Date of such Inverse Floating Rate Note until the Interest Reset Date, the interest rate on such Note will be the Initial Interest Rate specified in the applicable pricing supplement.

The Spread is the number of basis points (100 basis points equal one percentage point) to be added to or subtracted from the related Base Rate or

Rates applicable to such Floating Rate Note. The Spread Multiplier is the percentage of the related Base Rate or Rates applicable to such Floating Rate Note by which such Base Rate or Rates will be multiplied to determine the applicable interest rate on such Floating Rate Note. The Index Maturity is the period to maturity of the instrument or obligation with respect to which the related Base Rate or Rates will be calculated. We may change the Spread, the Spread Multiplier, the Index Maturity and other variable terms of the Floating Rate Notes from time to time, but, except as described below under Extendible Notes, no such change will affect any Floating Rate Note previously issued or any Floating Rate Note as to which an offer to purchase has been accepted by the Company.

The applicable pricing supplement will specify for each Floating Rate Note the following terms:

whether such Note is a Regular Floating Rate Note, a Floating Rate/Fixed Rate Note or an Inverse Floating Rate Note,

the Fixed Rate Commencement Date, if any; the Fixed Interest Rate, if any; the Original Issue Date; the Base Rate or Rates; the Initial Interest Rate; the Interest Payment Period (as hereinafter defined);

the Interest Reset Date; the Interest Reset Period (as hereinafter defined); the Interest Payment Dates, the Index Maturity, the Maturity Date, the Maximum Interest Rate or the Minimum Interest Rate (each as hereinafter defined), if any; the Spread or the Spread Multiplier, if any; the Renewal Date (as hereinafter defined), if any; if such note is a Renewable Note or an Extendible Note (each as hereinafter defined), the initial maturity date and the Final Maturity Date (as hereinafter defined); the Redemption Commencement Date, if any; the Initial Redemption Percentage, if any; the Annual Redemption Percentage Reduction, if any; defeasance provisions, if any; and Optional Repayment Dates, if any, and

if one or more of the applicable Base Rates is LIBOR or the CMT Rate, the designated LIBOR Page or the Designated CMT Maturity Index and the Designated CMT Reuters Page, respectively, will be specified

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, the Regular Record Date for Floating Rate Notes with respect to any Interest Payment Date will be the fifteenth calendar day, whether or not a Business Day, prior to such Interest Payment Date.

Maximum and Minimum Interest Rates. The applicable pricing supplement applicable to a Floating Rate Note may provide that such Note has either or both of (a) a maximum limitation, or ceiling, on the rate of interest that may accrue during any interest period (a Maximum Interest Rate) and (b) a minimum limitation, or floor, on the rate of interest that may accrue during any interest period (a Minimum Interest Rate). In addition to any Maximum Interest Rate that may be applicable to any Floating Rate Note pursuant to the above provisions, the interest rate on the Floating Rate Notes will in no event be higher than the maximum rate permitted by applicable law, as the same may be modified by United States law of general application. Under current New York law, the maximum rate of interest (for any loan in the amount of \$250,000 or more) is 25% per annum on a simple interest basis. This limit may not apply to Notes in which \$2,500,000 or more has been invested.

Interest Reset Dates. The rate of interest on each Floating Rate Note will be reset daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually (each, an Interest Reset Period and the first day of such Interest Reset Period, an Interest Reset Date), as specified in the applicable pricing supplement. The Interest Reset Date will be as follows:

Notes that reset daily Notes (other than Treasury Notes) that reset weekly Treasury Notes that reset weekly

Type of Floating Rate Note

Notes that reset monthly Notes that reset quarterly

Notes that reset annually

Interest Reset Date

Each Business Day Wednesday of each week Tuesday of each week

Interest Reset Date

The third Wednesday of each month

The third Wednesday of January, April, July and October of each year

The third Wednesday of the one month of each year specified in the applicable pricing supplement

The rate of interest on a Floating Rate/Fixed Rate Note will not reset after the Fixed Rate Commencement Date. An Interest Reset Date that does not fall on a Business Day will be postponed to the next Business Day. In the case of a LIBOR Note, however, if such succeeding Business Day falls in the next calendar month, the Interest Reset Date will be the preceding Business Day.

Interest Determination Dates. The Interest Determination Date for Floating Rate Notes pertaining to an Interest Reset Date will be as follows:

Type of Floating Rate Note	Interest Determination Date
CD Rate Note	Second Business Day preceding such Interest Reset Date
Commercial Paper Rate Note	Second Business Day preceding such Interest Reset Date
Federal Funds Rate Note	The Business Day preceding such Interest Reset Date
Prime Rate Note	The Business Day preceding such Interest Reset Date
CMT Rate Note	Second Business Day preceding such Interest Reset Date
LIBOR Note	Second London Banking Day preceding