

MEREDITH CORP
Form 425
September 08, 2015

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TO: All Meredith Employees

FROM: Steve Lacy and Mell Meredith

DATE: September 8, 2015

RE: Creation of the new Meredith Media General Company

We have some very exciting news to share with you today. We have signed an agreement to merge Meredith Corporation with Media General to form a new company known as Meredith Media General. A joint news release was issued this morning.

The combination will create a powerful multiplatform and diversified media company with over \$3 billion in revenues, about twice the size of our current company. Meredith Media General will be led by Steve Lacy as Chief Executive Officer. Joe Ceryanec will be the Chief Financial Officer. The balance of the senior management team will be a composition of the two existing executive teams. The company will maintain corporate and executive offices in Des Moines and Richmond. The Meredith family will continue to be a shareholder in the new company.

Meredith will maintain its significant business and community presence in Des Moines, as well as our other major locations around the country. We will continue our charitable giving, and supporting all the volunteer work done by our employees.

Why are we doing this? As discussed at our All Employee Meetings this year, the media landscape is increasingly competitive, and we need to increase our scale to continue as a leading media and marketing company and grow shareholder value.

We believe we've found a great partner in Media General, another powerful media company. Its primary business is local television, with 71 stations in 48 markets across the country. Media General also has a significant national digital business and a video content creation unit. For Media General, this combination increases its television footprint, and expands its national media reach across new platforms.

Together, Meredith Media General will:

• Be the 3rd-largest local television station owner with 88 stations in 54 markets reaching nearly 35 million - or 30 percent of - U.S. TV households

• Possess a leading multiplatform portfolio of national media brands with rich content-creation expertise and an unparalleled female reach of 100 million unduplicated American women, including over 60 percent of U.S. Millennial women

Operate an impressive digital business reaching over 200 million monthly unique visitors via a combination of leading national and local consumer sites and business-to-business capabilities in key growth sectors such as content, mobile, social, video, and native advertising

Feature a Top 3 global brand licensing program and leading marketing services agencies

Have the scale necessary to continue our industry consolidation strategy across platforms.

Since most of our employees are stockholders, let me quickly outline what this means for your Meredith stock. When the transaction closes, you will receive a cash payment of \$34.57 for every share of Meredith stock you own at that time, as well as 1.5214 shares in the new Meredith Media General. This equates to \$51.53 for your Meredith stock, based on last Friday's closing price of \$45.94.

We will be holding a conference call for the investment community today at 8:30 a.m. EDT, and I encourage you to listen in. Just go to the Investor Relations tab at www.meredith.com. A telephone replay of the call will be available later today by dialing (800) 475-6701 and using the access code 368441.

There is a tremendous amount of work to be done over the next few months in order to close this transaction, and some of you will be asked to play a role. To those, let me thank you in advance. For others, I ask you to remain very focused on your current work. More than ever, we have to excel at enhancing our connections with our valued audiences, and exceeding the expectations of our advertising and marketing clients.

We look forward to sharing more details as this process progresses. Thanks again for all you do for Meredith each and every day. Your creativity, hard work, and dedication is very much appreciated.

Attached is mandatory language that has to be included in any communication about the merger.

NO OFFER OR SOLICITATION

This communication is for informational purposes only and is neither an offer to purchase, nor a solicitation of an offer to sell, any securities or the solicitation of any vote in any jurisdiction pursuant to the proposed transactions or otherwise, nor shall there be any sale, issuance or transfer of securities in any jurisdiction in contravention of applicable law. No offer of securities shall be made except by means of a prospectus meeting the requirements of Section 10 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND WHERE TO FIND IT

This communication is not a solicitation of a proxy from any shareholder of Media General, Inc. ("Media General") or Meredith Corporation ("Meredith"). In connection with the Agreement and Plan of Merger by and among Media General, Montage New Holdco, Inc. (to be renamed Meredith Media General Corporation after closing) ("Meredith Media General"), Meredith and the other parties thereto (the "Merger"), Media General, Meredith Media General and Meredith intend to file relevant materials with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), including a Registration Statement on Form S-4 filed by Meredith Media General that will contain a joint proxy statement/prospectus. **INVESTORS AND SECURITY HOLDERS ARE URGED TO READ THESE MATERIALS WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE BECAUSE THEY WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT MEDIA GENERAL, MEREDITH, MEREDITH MEDIA GENERAL AND THE MERGER.** The Form S-4, including the joint proxy statement/prospectus, and other relevant materials (when they become available), and any other documents filed by Media General, Meredith and Meredith Media General with the SEC, may be obtained free of charge at the SEC's web site at www.sec.gov. The documents filed by Media General and Meredith Media General may also be obtained for free from Media General's Investor Relations web site (<http://www.mediageneral.com/investor/index.htm>) or by directing a request to Media General's Investor Relations contact, Courtney Guertin, Director of Marketing & Communications, at 401-457-9501. The documents filed by Meredith may also be obtained for free from Meredith's Investor Relations web site (<http://ir.meredith.com>) or by directing a request to Meredith's Shareholder/Financial Analyst contact, Mike Lovell, Director of Investor Relations, at 515-284-3622.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SOLICITATION

Media General and Meredith and their respective executive officers and directors may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies from the security holders of either Media General or Meredith in connection with the Merger. Information about Media General's directors and executive officers is available in Media General's definitive proxy statement, dated March 13, 2015, for its 2015 annual meeting of shareholders. Information about Meredith's directors and executive officers is available in Meredith's definitive proxy statement, dated September 26, 2014, for its 2014 annual meeting of shareholders. Other information regarding the participants and description of their direct and indirect interests, by security holdings or otherwise, will be contained in the Form S-4 and the joint proxy statement/prospectus regarding the Merger that Meredith Media General will file with the SEC when it becomes available.

Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This document contains forward-looking statements. You can generally identify forward-looking statements by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "anticipate," "believe," "continue," "could," "estimate," "expect," "explore," "evaluate," "intend," "may," "might," "plan," "potential," "predict," "project," "seek," "should," or "will," or the negative thereof or other thereon or comparable terminology. These forward-looking statements are only predictions and involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond Media General, Meredith and Meredith Media General's control.

Statements in this document regarding Media General, Meredith and the combined company that are forward-looking, including projections as to the anticipated benefits of the proposed transaction, the methods that will be used to finance the transaction, the impact of the transaction on anticipated financial results, the synergies from the proposed transaction, and the closing date for the proposed transaction, are based on management's estimates, assumptions and projections, and are subject to significant uncertainties and other factors, many of which are beyond the control of Media General and Meredith. In particular, projected financial information for the combined company is based on management's estimates, assumptions and projections and has not been prepared in conformance with the applicable

accounting requirements of Regulation S-X relating to pro forma financial information, and the required pro forma adjustments have not been applied and are not reflected therein. None of this information should be considered in isolation from, or as a substitute for, the historical financial statements of Media General or Meredith. Important risk factors could cause actual future results and other future events to differ materially from those currently estimated by management, including, but not limited to: the timing to consummate the proposed transaction; the risk that a condition to closing of the proposed transaction may not be satisfied and the transaction may not close; the risk that a regulatory approval that may be required for the proposed transaction is delayed, is not obtained or is obtained subject to conditions that are not anticipated; the combined company's ability to achieve the synergies and value creation contemplated by the proposed transaction; management's ability to promptly and effectively integrate the businesses of the two companies; the diversion of management time on transaction-related issues; change in national and regional economic conditions, the competitiveness of political races and voter initiatives, pricing fluctuations in local and national advertising, future regulatory actions and conditions in the television stations' operating areas, competition from others in the broadcast television markets served by Media General and Meredith, volatility in programming costs, the effects of governmental regulation of broadcasting, industry consolidation, technological developments and major world news events.

For more discussion of important risk factors that may materially affect Media General, Meredith and Meredith Media General, please see the risk factors contained in Media General's Annual Report on Form 10-K for its fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 and Meredith's Annual

Report on Form 10-K for its fiscal year ended June 30, 2015, both of which are on file with the SEC. You should also read Media General's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2015. Except as specifically noted, information on, or accessible from, any website to which this website contains a hyperlink is not incorporated by reference into this website and does not constitute a part of this website.

No assurances can be given that any of the events anticipated by the forward-looking statements will transpire or occur, or if any of them do occur, what impact they will have on the results of operations, financial condition or cash flows of Media General, Meredith or the combined company. None of Media General, Meredith nor Meredith Media General assumes any duty to update or revise forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, as of any future date.