Drillship Kythnos Shareholders Inc. Form F-3/A April 22, 2015 As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 22, 2015.

Registration Statement No. 333-202829

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO FORM F-3 **REGISTRATION STATEMENT** UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

OCEAN RIG UDW INC. (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

| Republic of the Marshall Islands<br>(State or other jurisdiction of | N/A<br>(I.R.S. Employer                      |
|---|--|
| incorporation or organization)                                      | Identification No.)                          |
| Ocean Rig UDW Inc.  | Seward & Kissel LLP                          |
| 10 Skopa Street, Tribune House                                      | Attention: Gary J. Wolfe, Esq.               |
| 2nd Floor, Office 202 CY 1075                                       | One Battery Park Plaza                       |
| Nicosia, Cyprus   | New York, New York 10004                     |
| 011 357 22767517  | (212) 574-1200                               |
| (Address and telephone number of Registrant's                       | (Name, address and telephone number of agent |
| principal executive offices)  | for service)                                 |

Copies to: Gary J. Wolfe, Esq. Seward & Kissel LLP One Battery Park Plaza New York, New York 10004 (212) 574-1200

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

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

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, check the following box.

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.

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.C. 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.C. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

| Title of Each Class of<br>Securities to be Registered | Amount to be<br>Registered | Proposed Maximum<br>Aggregate<br>Offering Price | Amount of<br>Registration<br>Fee |
|---|----------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Primary Offering                                      |                            | -   |                                  |
| Common Shares, par value \$0.01 per share             |                            |   |                                  |
| Preferred Share purchase rights(4)                    |                            |   |                                  |
| Preferred Shares                                      |                            |   |                                  |
| Debt Securities                                       |                            |   |                                  |
| Guarantees(5)   |                            |   |                                  |
| Warrants  |                            |   |                                  |
| Purchase Contracts                                    |                            |   |                                  |
| Rights  |                            |   |                                  |
| Units(6)  |                            |   |                                  |
| Primary Offering Total                                | \$2,000,000,000.00 (1)     | \$2,000,000,000(1)(2)                           | \$232,400.00(3)                  |
| Secondary Offering                                    |                            |   |                                  |
| Common Shares, par value \$0.01                       | 86,051,001 shares          | \$570,518,137 (7)                               | \$66,294.20                      |
| TOTAL   |                            | \$2,570,518,137                                 | \$298,694.20(8)                  |
|   |                            |   |                                  |

An indeterminate aggregate initial offering amount or number of common shares, preferred share purchase rights, preferred shares, debt securities, guarantees, warrants, purchase contracts, rights and units are being registered as may from time to time be issued in primary offerings at indeterminate prices in an aggregate amount not to exceed

1. \$2,000,000,000 or the equivalent thereof in foreign currencies. Also includes such indeterminate amount of debt securities and number of common shares and preferred shares as may be issued upon conversion or exchange for any other debt securities or shares of preferred stock that provide for conversion or exchange into other securities.

Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. Pursuant to General Instruction II.C of Form F-3, the table does not specify by each class information as to the amount to be registered or the proposed maximum aggregate

- 2. offering price. Any securities registered hereunder may be sold separately or as units with other securities registered hereunder. In no event will the aggregate offering price of all securities sold by Ocean Rig UDW Inc. pursuant to this registration statement exceed \$2,000,000,000.
- 3. Calculated in accordance with Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. Preferred share purchase rights are not currently separable from the common shares and are not currently
- 4. exercisable. The value attributable to the preferred share purchase rights, if any, will be reflected in the market price of the common shares.

The debt securities may be guaranteed pursuant to guarantees by the direct and indirect subsidiaries of Ocean Rig

- 5. UDW Inc. No separate compensation will be received for the guarantees. Pursuant to Rule 457(n), no separate fees for the guarantees will be payable.
- 6. Units may consist of any combination of the securities offered by Ocean Rig UDW Inc. registered hereunder. Estimated in connection with the unsold securities previously registered discussed below, solely for the purpose of
- 7. calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(c) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, based on the average of the high and low prices per share of the registrant's common shares as reported on the NASDAQ Global Select Market on April 1, 2015.

As discussed below, pursuant to Rule 415(a)(6) under the Securities Act, this Registration Statement includes unsold securities that had been previously registered and for which the registration fee of \$314,495.30 had

<sup>8</sup>. previously been paid. Accordingly, the amount of the registration fee to be paid is reduced to \$298,694.20, the amount of the registration fee applied to such unsold securities.

Pursuant to Rule 415(a)(6) under the Securities Act, the securities registered pursuant to this Registration Statement include unsold securities previously registered under the registration statement on Form F-3ASR/A with File No. 333-184450 dated March 9, 2015 (the "Prior Registration Statement"). In connection with the registration of the unsold securities on the Prior Registration Statement, the Registrant paid a registration fee of \$314,495.30, which continues to be applied to such securities. Due to a reduction in the offering size, of this amount, \$298,694.20 encompasses the total fee associated with this Registration Statement and a difference of \$15,801.10, which the Registrant intends to apply to offset the fees applicable to future registration statements pursuant to Rule 457(p) under the Securities Act. Pursuant to Rule 415(a)(6), the Prior Registration Statement will be deemed terminated as of the date of effectiveness of this Registration Statement.

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

# TABLE OF ADDITIONAL REGISTRANTS

| TABLE OF ADDITIONAL REGISTRANTS               |                      |          |                                    |
|---|----------------------|----------|------------------------------------|
| Exact Name of Registrant as                   | Jurisdiction of      |          | Primary Standard                   |
| Specified in its Charter                      | Incorporation        | I.D. No. | Industrial Classification Code No. |
| Drill Rigs Holdings Inc.                      | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig 1 Shareholders Inc.                 | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig 1 Inc.                              | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig 1 Greenland Operations Inc.         | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Falkland Operations Inc.            | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig West Africa Operations Inc.         | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig 2 Shareholders Inc                  | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig 2 Inc.                              | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Drill Rigs Operations Inc.                    | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig EG Operations Inc.                  | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Norway Operations Inc               | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Liberia Operations Inc.             | Marshall Islands     | N/A      | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Ireland Operations Inc.             | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Drillships Holdings Inc.                      | Marshall Islands     | N/A      | 1381                               |
| Drillship Hydra Shareholders Inc.             | Marshall Islands     | N/A      | 1381                               |
| Drillship Hydra Owners Inc.                   | Marshall Islands     | N/A      | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Corcovado Greenland Operations Inc. | Marshall Islands     | N/A      | 1381                               |
| Drillship Paros Shareholders Inc.             | Marshall Islands     | N/A      | 1381                               |
| Drillship Paros Owners Inc.                   | Marshall Islands     | N/A      | 1381                               |
| Drillships Holdings Operations Inc.           | Marshall Islands     | N/A      | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Angola Operations Inc.              | Marshall Islands     | N/A      | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Gabon Operations Inc.               | Marshall Islands     | N/A      | 1381                               |
| Drillships Investment Inc.                    | Marshall Islands     | N/A      | 1381                               |
| Kithira Shareholders Inc.                     | Marshall Islands     | N/A      | 1381                               |
| Drillship Kithira Owners Inc.                 | Marshall Islands     | N/A      | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Poseidon Operations Inc.            | Marshall Islands     | N/A      | 1381                               |
| Skopelos Shareholders Inc.                    | Marshall Islands     | N/A      | 1381                               |
| Drillship Skopelos Owners Inc.                | Marshall Islands     | N/A      | 1381                               |
| Drillships Investment Operations Inc.         | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Namibia Operations Inc.             | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Cuanza Operations Inc.              | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Drillships Ocean Ventures Inc.                | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Drillship Skiathos Shareholders Inc.          | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Drillship Skiathos Owners Inc.                | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Drillship Skyros Shareholders Inc.            | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Drillship Skyros Owners Inc.                  | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Drillship Kythnos Shareholders Inc.           | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Drillship Kythnos Owners Inc.                 | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Drillships Ocean Ventures Operations Inc.     | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Cunene Operations Inc.              | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Cubango Operations Inc.             | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Operations Inc.                     | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Ireland Drilling Crew Inc.                    | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Drillships Financing Holding Inc.             | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Alley Finance Co.                             | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Algarve Finance Ltd                           | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Global Chartering Inc.              | Marshall Islands     |          | 1381                               |
| occur ing biobur chartering inc.              | iviaisinaii isiailus | 1 1/ 2 1 | 1.001                              |

| Drillship Alonissos Shareholders Inc. | Marshall Islands N | /A 1381 |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|---------|
| Drillship Alonissos Owners Inc.       | Marshall Islands N | /A 1381 |
| Ocean Rig Management Inc.             | Marshall Islands N | /A 1381 |
| Eastern Med Consultants Inc.          | Marshall Islands N | /A 1381 |
| Ocean Rig Spares Inc.                 | Marshall Islands N | /A 1381 |
| Bluesky Shareholders Inc.             | Marshall Islands N | /A 1381 |
| Bluesky Owners Inc.                   | Marshall Islands N | /A 1381 |
| Ocean Rig Black Sea Cooperatief U.A.  | Netherlands N      | /A 1381 |
|                                       |                    |         |

| Exact Name of Registrant as                    | Jurisdiction of  | IRS Employer | Primary Standard                   |
|--|------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|
| Specified in its Charter                       | Incorporation    | I.D. No.     | Industrial Classification Code No. |
| Ocean Rig Black Sea Operations B.V.            | Netherlands      | N/A          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Drilling Operations Cooperatief U.A. | Netherlands      | N/A          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Drilling Operations B.V.             | Netherlands      | N/A          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Block 33 Brasil Cooperatief U.A.     | Netherlands      | N/A          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Block 33 Brasil B.V.                 | Netherlands      | N/A          | 1381                               |
| Primelead Limited                              | Cyprus           | N/A          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig UDW LLC                              | Delaware         | N/A          | 1381                               |
| Drillships Projects Inc.                       | Delaware         | N/A          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Canada Inc.                          | Canada           | N/A          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig North Sea AS                         | Norway           | N/A          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig AS                                   | Norway           | N/A          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig UK Limited                           | Scotland         | N/A          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Limited                              | Scotland         | N/A          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Offshore Management Limited          | Jersey           | N/A          | 1381                               |
| OR Crewing Limited                             | Jersey           | N/A          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Holdings Inc.                        | Marshall Islands | N/A          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig MLP Holdings Inc.                    | Marshall Islands | N/A          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Partners GP LLC                      | Marshall Islands | N/A          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Partners LP                          | Marshall Islands | N/A          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Operating Partners GP LLC            | Marshall Islands | N/A          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Operating LP                         | Marshall Islands | N/A          | 1381                               |
| Drillships Ocean Ventures II Inc.              | Marshall Islands | N/A          | 1381                               |
| Drillship Skiathos Shareholders II Inc.        | Marshall Islands | N/A          | 1381                               |
| Drillship Skiathos Owners II Inc.              | Marshall Islands | N/A          | 1381                               |
| Drillship Skyros Shareholders II Inc.          | Marshall Islands | N/A          | 1381                               |
| Drillship Skyros Owners II Inc.                | Marshall Islands |              | 1381                               |
| Drillship Kythnos Shareholders II Inc.         | Marshall Islands |              | 1381                               |
| Drillship Kythnos Owners II Inc.               | Marshall Islands | N/A          | 1381                               |
| OCR Falklands Drilling Inc.                    | Marshall Islands | N/A          | 1381                               |
| Drillships Ventures Projects Inc.              | Delaware         | N/A          | 1381                               |
| South Africa Drilling Crew Inc.                | Marshall Islands | N/A          | 1381                               |
| Ocean Rig Congo Operations Inc.                | Marshall Islands | N/A          | 1381                               |
| OR Global Block Operators Inc.                 | Marshall Islands |              | 1381                               |
| Drillship Santorini Shareholders Inc.          | Marshall Islands |              | 1381                               |
| Drillship Santorini Owners Inc.                | Marshall Islands |              | 1381                               |
| Drillship Crete Shareholders Inc.              | Marshall Islands |              | 1381                               |
| Drillship Crete Owners Inc.                    | Marshall Islands |              | 1381                               |
| Drillship Amorgos Shareholders Inc.            | Marshall Islands |              | 1381                               |
| Drillship Amorgos Owners Inc.                  | Marshall Islands | N/A          | 1381                               |
|  |                  |              |                                    |

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

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED APRIL 22, 2015

#### **Prospectus**

OCEAN RIG UDW INC. Common Shares, Preferred Share Purchase Rights, Preferred Shares, Debt Securities, Guarantees, Warrants, Purchase Contracts, Rights and Units

Through this prospectus, we may periodically offer:

- (1) our common shares (including preferred share purchase rights),
- (2) our preferred shares,
- (3) our debt securities, which may be guaranteed by one or more of our subsidiaries,
- (4) our warrants,
- (5) our purchase contracts
- (6) our rights, and
- (7) our units;

The aggregate offering price of all securities issued and sold by us under this prospectus may not exceed \$2,000,000,000. In addition, the selling shareholders, who will be named in a prospectus supplement, or their donees, pledgees, transferees or other successors in interest may sell in one or more offerings pursuant to this registration statement up to an aggregate of 86,051,001 of our common shares. The prices and terms of the securities that we or any selling shareholders or their donees, pledgees, transferees or other successors in interest will offer will be determined at the time of their offering and will be described in a supplement to this prospectus. We will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of securities by any selling shareholders or their donees, pledgees, transferees or other successors in interest.

Our common shares are currently listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "ORIG." An investment in these securities involves a high degree of risk. See the section entitled "Risk Factors" beginning on page 7 of this prospectus, and other risk factors contained in the applicable prospectus supplement and in the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein.

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 , 2015.

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Unless otherwise indicated, all references to "dollars" and "\$" in this prospectus are to U.S. Dollars, and the financial statements incorporated by reference herein are presented in U.S. dollars and have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States, or U.S. GAAP. We have a fiscal year end of December 31. As used throughout this prospectus, the term "selling shareholder" refers to any selling shareholders who are named in a prospectus supplement and their donees, pledgees, transferees and other successors in interest. This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, or the Commission, using a shelf registration process. Under the shelf registration process, we may sell our common shares (including related preferred share purchase rights), preferred shares, debt securities (and related guarantees), warrants, purchase contracts rights and units or any selling shareholder may sell our common shares that are described in this prospectus in one or more offerings. This prospectus only provides you with a general description of the securities we or any selling shareholder may offer. Each time we or a selling shareholder offer securities, we will provide you with a prospectus supplement that will describe the specific amounts, prices and terms of the offered securities. We may file a prospectus supplement in the future that may also add, update or change the information contained in this prospectus. If there is any inconsistency between the information in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, you should rely on the prospectus supplement. Before purchasing any securities, you should read carefully both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, together with the additional information described below.

This prospectus and any prospectus supplement are part of a registration statement we filed with the Commission and do not contain all the information in the registration statement. Forms of the indentures and other documents establishing the terms of the offered securities are filed as exhibits to the registration statement. Statements in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement about these documents are summaries and each statement is qualified in all respects by reference to the document to which it refers. You should refer to the actual documents for a more complete description of the relevant matters. For further information about us or the securities offered hereby, you should refer to the registration statement, which you can obtain from the Commission as described below under the section entitled "Where You Can Find Additional Information."

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and in any prospectus supplement. We, any selling shareholder, and any underwriters have not authorized any other person to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should

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not rely on it. You should assume that the information appearing in this prospectus and the applicable supplement to this prospectus is accurate as of the date on its respective cover, and that any information incorporated by reference is accurate only as of the date of the document incorporated by reference, unless we indicate otherwise. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

Other than in the United States, no action has been taken by us or any underwriters that would permit a public offering of the securities offered by this prospectus in any jurisdiction where action for that purpose is required. The securities offered by this prospectus may not be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, nor may this prospectus or any other offering material or advertisements in connection with the offer and sale of any such securities be distributed or published in any jurisdiction, except under circumstances that will result in compliance with the applicable rules and regulations of that jurisdiction. Persons into whose possession this prospectus comes are advised to inform themselves about and to observe any restrictions relating to the offering and the distribution of this prospectus. This prospectus does not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities offered by this prospectus in any jurisdiction is unlawful.

## PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary provides an overview of our company and our business. This summary is not complete and does not contain all of the information you should consider before purchasing our securities. You should carefully read all of the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement, including the sections titled "Risk Factors" and our financial statements and related notes contained herein and therein, before making an investment decision. As used throughout this prospectus, the terms "Company," "Ocean Rig UDW," "we," "our" and "us" refer to Ocean Rig UDW Inc. and its subsidiaries except where the context otherwise requires. "DryShips" refers to DryShips Inc. (NASDAQ: DRYS), a Marshall Islands corporation and our parent company. Unless otherwise indicated, all references to "dollars" and "\$" in this prospectus are to U.S. Dollars and the financial statements incorporated by reference herein are presented in U.S. dollars and have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States, or U.S. GAAP. References to "real" or "R\$" are to the official currency of Brazil, the real.

#### Our Company

We are an international offshore drilling contractor providing oilfield services for offshore oil and gas exploration, development and production drilling and specializing in the ultra-deepwater and harsh-environment segment of the offshore drilling industry. We seek to utilize our high-specification drilling units to the maximum extent of their technical capability and we believe that we have earned a reputation for operating performance excellence, customer service and safety.

We, through our wholly-owned subsidiaries, currently own and operate two modern, fifth generation ultra-deepwater semisubmersible offshore drilling rigs, the Leiv Eiriksson and the Eirik Raude, four sixth generation advanced capability ultra-deepwater drillships, the Ocean Rig Corcovado, the Ocean Rig Olympia, the Ocean Rig Poseidon and the Ocean Rig Mykonos, delivered in January 2011, March 2011, July 2011 and September 2011, respectively, and four seventh generation drillships, the Ocean Rig Mylos, the Ocean Rig Skyros, the Ocean Rig Athena, and the Ocean Rig Apollo delivered in August 2013, December 2013, March 2014 and March 2015, respectively, by Samsung Heavy Industries Co. Ltd., or Samsung. The Ocean Rig Corcovado, the Ocean Rig Olympia, the Ocean Rig Poseidon and the Ocean Rig Mykonos are "sister-ships" constructed by Samsung to the same high-quality vessel design and specifications and are capable of drilling in water depths of 10,000 feet. The design of our seventh generation drillships reflects additional enhancements that, with the purchase of additional equipment, will enable the drillships to drill in water depths of 12,000 feet. The Ocean Rig Mylos, the Ocean Rig Skyros, the Ocean Rig Athena, the Ocean Rig Apollo and the newbuilding drillship Ocean Rig Santorini, which is equipped with two blow out preventers, or BOPs are "sister ships" constructed by Samsung to the same high-quality drillship design and specifications, while the remaining two seventh generation newbuilding drillships are new integrated design and are equipped with two BOPs. We believe that owning and operating "sister-ships" helps us maintain our cost efficient operations on a global basis through the shared inventory and use of spare parts and the ability of our offshore maritime crews to work seamlessly across all of our drillships.

We have additional newbuilding contracts with Samsung for the construction of three seventh generation drillships, the Ocean Rig Santorini scheduled to be delivered in June 2016, will be "sister ship" to our operating drillships, and the other two are new integrated design drillships scheduled for delivery in February 2017 and June 2017, respectively. The design of our seventh generation drillships reflects additional enhancements that, with the purchase of additional equipment, will enable the drillships to drill in water depths of 12,000 feet. We currently have a team overseeing the construction of the newbuilding drillships at Samsung to help ensure that those drillships are built on time, to our exact drillship specifications and on budget, as was the case for our operating drillships. The estimated remaining total construction payments for these drillships, excluding financing costs, amounted to approximately \$1.8 billion in the aggregate as of December 31, 2014. To date, the construction of these three newbuilding drillships is on budget and no time delays on delivery are expected.

We employ our drilling units primarily on a dayrate basis for periods of between two months and three years to drill wells for our customers, typically major oil companies, integrated oil and gas companies, state-owned national oil companies and independent oil and gas companies.

We believe that our operating drillships, the Ocean Rig Corcovado, the Ocean Rig Olympia, the Ocean Rig Poseidon the Ocean Rig Mykonos, the Ocean Rig Mylos, the Ocean Rig Skyros, the Ocean Rig Athena and the Ocean Rig Apollo as well as our three seventh generation drillships under construction, are among the most technologically advanced drillships in the world. The S10000E design, used for our operating drillships, was originally introduced in 1998 and has been widely accepted by customers. Including our operating drillships, a total of 56 drillships have been ordered using this base design, of which 35 have been delivered, as of February 2013, including the Ocean Rig Corcovado, the Ocean Rig Olympia, the Ocean Rig Poseidon and the Ocean Rig Mykonos. Among other technological enhancements, our drillships are equipped with dual activity drilling technology, which involves two drilling systems using a single derrick that permits two drilling-related operations to take place simultaneously. We estimate this technology saves between 15% and 40% in drilling time, depending on the well parameters. Each of our operating drillships is capable of drilling 40,000 feet at water depths of 10,000 feet and our seventh generation drillships will have the capacity to drill 40,000 feet at water depths of 12,000 feet.

Set forth below is summary information concerning our offshore drilling units as of March 5, 2015.

| Drilling Unit<br>Operating<br>Drilling Rigs | Year Built<br>or<br>Scheduled<br>Delivery/<br>Generation | Depth to<br>the<br>Wellhead | Drilling<br>Depth to<br>the<br>Oil Field<br>(ft) | Customer   | Expected<br>Contract<br>Term(1) | Average<br>Maximum<br>Dayrate | Drilling<br>Location              |
|---|--|-----------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Leiv Eiriksson                              | 2001/5th   | 10,000                      | 30,000   | Rig Management<br>Norway AS(2)                       | Q2<br>2013–Q1<br>2016           | \$545,000                     | Norwegian<br>Continental<br>Shelf |
| Eirik Raude                                 | 2002/5th   | 10,000                      | 30,000   | Premier Oil<br>Exploration and<br>Production Ltd.(3) | Q1<br>2015–Q4<br>2015           | \$561,350                     | Falkland<br>Islands               |
| Operating<br>Drillships                     |  |                             |  |  |                                 |                               |                                   |
| Ocean Rig<br>Corcovado                      | 2011/6th   | 10,000                      | 40,000   | Petroleo Brasileiro<br>S.A.                          | Q2<br>2012–Q2<br>2015           | \$439,402(4)                  | Brazil                            |
|   |  |                             |  | Petroleo Brasileiro<br>S.A.                          | Q2<br>2015–Q2<br>2018           | \$523,306(5)                  | Brazil                            |
| Ocean Rig<br>Olympia                        | 2011/6th   | 10,000                      | 40,000   | Total E&P Angola                                     | 2015                            | \$585,437                     | Angola                            |
|   |  |                             |  | ENI Angola<br>S.p.A.(7)                              | Q4<br>2015-Q4<br>2015<br>Q2     | \$355,000                     | Angola                            |
| Ocean Rig<br>Poseidon                       | 2011/6th   | 10,000                      | 40,000   | ENI Angola S.p.A.                                    | 2013–Q2<br>2016                 | \$690,300(8)                  | Angola                            |
|   |  |                             |  | ENI Angola<br>S.p.A.(10)                             | Q2<br>2016-Q2<br>2017           | \$539,150                     | Angola                            |
| Ocean Rig<br>Mykonos                        | 2011/6th   | 10,000                      | 40,000   | Petroleo Brasileiro<br>S.A.                          | Q1<br>2012–Q1<br>2015           | \$433,044(4)                  | Brazil                            |
|   |  |                             |  | Petroleo Brasileiro<br>S.A.                          | Q1<br>2015–Q1                   | \$514,090(5)                  | Brazil                            |

|                           |                |        |        |                                      | 2018                  |               |                    |
|---------------------------|----------------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Ocean Rig<br>Mylos        | 2013/7th       | 12,000 | 40,000 | Repsol Sinopec<br>Brasil S.A.        | Q3<br>2013–Q3<br>2016 | \$637,270(9)  | Brazil             |
| Ocean Rig<br>Skyros       | 2013/7th       | 12,000 | 40,000 | ENI Angola<br>S.p.A.(7)              | Q2<br>2015-Q3<br>2015 | \$355,000     | Nigeria,<br>Angola |
|                           |                |        |        | Total E&P Angola                     | Q4<br>2015-Q4<br>2021 | \$592,834     | Angola             |
| Ocean Rig<br>Athena       | 2014/7th       | 12,000 | 40,000 | ConocoPhillips<br>Angola 36 & 37 Ltd | Q1<br>2014–Q2<br>2017 | \$662,523(10) | Angola             |
| Ocean Rig<br>Apollo       | Q1<br>2015/7th | 12,000 | 40,000 | Total E&P Congo                      | Q1<br>2015-Q2<br>2018 | \$594,646(11) | West Africa        |
| Newbuilding<br>Drillships |                |        |        |                                      |                       |               |                    |
| Ocean Rig<br>Santorini    | Q2<br>2016/7th | 12,000 | 40,000 |                                      |                       |               |                    |
| Ocean Rig<br>TBN#1        | Q1<br>2017/7th | 12,000 | 40,000 |                                      |                       |               |                    |
| Ocean Rig<br>TBN#2        | Q2<br>2017/7th | 12,000 | 40,000 |                                      |                       |               |                    |

(1) Not including the exercise of any applicable options to extend the term of the contract.

(2) Rig Management Norway is the coordinator for the consortium under the contract. The contract has a minimum duration of 1,070 days and includes three options of up to six wells each that must be exercised prior to the expiration of the firm contract period in the first quarter of 2016.

(3) The contract has a minimum duration of 260 days and includes two options of up to eight wells each, the first of which must be exercised prior to the commencement of the contract and the other one must be exercised before the expiration of the firm and option contract period.

(4) Approximately 20% of the maximum dayrates are service fees paid to us in Brazilian Real (R\$). The maximum dayrate disclosed in this table is based on the February 24, 2015 exchange rate of R\$2.87:\$1.00.

(5) We have been awarded extensions of the drilling contracts for the Ocean Rig Corcovado and the Ocean Rig Mykonos by Petrobras for drilling offshore Brazil. The term of each extension is for 1,095 excluding reimbursement by Petrobras for contract related equipment upgrades. The new contract for the Ocean Rig Mykonos commenced in March 2015, while for the Ocean Rig Corcovado the new contract will commence in direct continuation from the end of the current agreement with Petrobras, in the second quarter of 2015.

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(6) Total E&P Angola has redelivered the Ocean Rig Olympia on completion of its well on March 9, 2015 and ahead of the contractual redelivery date of August 2015. We are presently in discussions with Total EP Angola and intend to legally defend our rights should we fail to reach an amicable solution.

(7) On January 8, 2015, we, entered into an Omnibus Agreement with ENI Angola S.p.A pursuant to which pursuant to which ENI has exercised its option to extend the contract for the drillship Ocean Rig Poseidon for a further one year until the second quarter of 2017. As part of the contract extension for the Ocean Rig Poseidon, Ocean Rig has agreed to adjust the existing dayrate of the Ocean Rig Poseidon contract in exchange for ENI agreeing to enter into two contracts, or the EIN contracts, for the employment of one or more of Ocean Rig's available drillships in West Africa starting in the second quarter of 2015 for an aggregate period of approximately 8 months. The Agreement outlined above remains subject to customary closing conditions including the approval by national authorities which we expect will be obtained during the second quarter of 2015.

(8) The maximum dayrate of \$690,300 is the average maximum dayrate applicable during the initial three-year term of the contract. Under the contract, the initial maximum dayrate of \$670,000 will increase annually at a rate of 3%, beginning twelve months after the commencement date, during the term of the contract. ENI has the option to extend the term of the contract by two optional periods of one-year each.

(9) On November 4, 2013 the Ocean Rig Mylos commenced drilling operations with Repsol at an average maximum dayrate of approximately \$637,270 over the initial term of the contract. Under the contract, Repsol has options to extend the contract for up to two years beyond the initial three-year contract period.

(10) On June 7, 2014, the Ocean Rig Athena commenced drilling operations with ConocoPhillips at an average maximum dayrate of \$662,523 which is the average maximum dayrate applicable during the initial three-year term of the contract. Under the contract, the initial maximum dayrate is subject to a fixed annual escalation of approximately 6% during the contract period. Under the contract, ConocoPhillips has the option to extend the initial contract period by up to two years.

(11) The maximum dayrate of approximately \$594,646 is the average maximum dayrate applicable during the initial three-year term of the contract. Under the contract, the initial maximum dayrate of \$580,000 is subject to a fixed escalation of 2% during the contract period. Under the contract, the counterparty has the option to extend the initial contract period by up to two years.

Newbuilding Drillships

We have entered into contracts for the construction of three seventh generation drillships, two of which are new integrated design drillships and all are equipped with two blow-out preventers, scheduled for delivery in June 2016, February 2017 and June 2017, respectively, in connection with which we had made total payments of \$280.2 million to Samsung, as of December 31, 2014. The estimated total project cost for these drillships is approximately \$2.1 billion.

# Employment of Our Fleet

Employment of Our Drilling Rigs

The Leiv Eiriksson commenced a drilling contract in April 2013 with a consortium coordinated by Rig Management Norway, or Rig Management, for the drilling of 15 wells on the Norwegian Continental Shelf at a maximum dayrate of \$545,000. We received approximately \$83.0 million under the contract to cover mobilization and fuel costs as well as the cost of equipment upgrades to operate in the Norwegian Continental Shelf. The contract has a minimum duration of 1,070 days and includes three options of up to six wells each that must be exercised prior to the expiration of the firm contract period in the first quarter of 2016.

The Eirik Raude is currently undergoing the acceptance testing and it is expected to commence a six well drilling contract for drilling offshore Falkland Islands with Premier Oil Exploration and Production Ltd, or Premier, with a duration of approximately 260 days at a maximum dayrate of \$561,350 under the initial term of the contract, plus a mobilization fee of \$18.0 million. Under the contract, Premier has two options to extend the term of the contract by eight additional wells each.

Employment of Our Drillships

The Ocean Rig Corcovado is currently employed under a three-year drilling contract, plus a mobilization period with Petrobras Brazil for drilling operations offshore Brazil at a maximum dayrate of \$ 439,402 (including service fees of \$ 67,722 per day, based on the contracted rate in Real per day and the February 24, 2015 exchange rate of R\$2.87:USD \$1.00), plus a mobilization fee of \$30.0 million. The contract has been extended for 1,095 at an average dayrate of \$523,306, plus reimbursement by Petrobras for contract related equipment upgrades of \$30.0 million. The Ocean Rig Olympia commenced a three-year drilling contract with Total E&P Angola in July 2012 for drilling

The Ocean Rig Olympia commenced a three-year drilling contract with Total E&P Angola in July 2012 for drilling operations offshore West Africa at a maximum dayrate of \$ 585,437, plus mobilization and demobilization fees of \$9.0 million and \$3.5 million, respectively, plus the cost of fuel. Total E&P Angola has redelivered the Ocean Rig Olympia on completion of its well on March 9, 2015 and ahead of the contractual redelivery date of August 2015. We are presently in discussions with Total EP Angola and intend to legally defend our rights should we fail to reach an amicable solution. The Ocean Rig Olympia will be employed under the ENI contracts for drilling operations offshore Angola in November 2015 with an estimated backlog of approximately \$21.7 million.

The Ocean Rig Poseidon commenced a three-year drilling contract with ENI Angola S.p.A., or ENI, in May 2013 for drilling operations offshore Angola at a maximum dayrate of \$690,300, which is the average maximum dayrate applicable during the initial three-year term of the contract. During the term of the contract, the initial maximum dayrate of \$670,000 will increase annually at a rate of 3%, beginning twelve months after the commencement date. The contract also includes a mobilization rate of \$656,600 per day, plus reimbursement for the cost of fuel, and a demobilization fee of \$5.0 million. In January 2015, ENI had exercised its option to extend the contract for the drillship Ocean Rig Poseidon for a further one year until the second quarter of 2017 with an adjusted dayrate in exchange of the ENI contracts. The new average maximum dayrate, under the extension, will be \$539,750. The Ocean Rig Mykonos commenced a three-year drilling contract, plus a mobilization period, with Petrobras Brazil, on September 30, 2011, for drilling operations offshore Brazil at a maximum dayrate of \$65,404 per day, based on the contracted rate in Real and the February 24, 2015 exchange rate of R\$2.87: \$1.00), plus a mobilization fee of \$30.0 million. The contract has been extended for 1,095 at an average dayrate of \$514,090, plus reimbursement by Petrobras for contract related equipment upgrades of \$30.0 million.

The Ocean Rig Mylos commenced a three-year drilling contract with Repsol for drilling operations offshore Brazil in August 2013 at a maximum dayrate of \$ 637,270, which is the average maximum dayrate applicable during the initial three-year term of the contract, plus a mobilization fee of \$40.0 million. Under the contract, Repsol has options to extend the contract for one year beyond the initial three-year contract period.

The Ocean Rig Skyros, which is currently idle, will be employed under the ENI contracts for drilling operations offshore Nigeria and Angola in April 2015 with an estimated backlog of approximately \$68.6 million. In November 2015, the Ocean Rig Skyros will commence its six year contract with Total for drilling operations offshore Angola. Under the contract, we are entitled to a maximum dayrate of approximately \$592.834, which is the average maximum dayrate applicable during the initial six-year term of the contract, plus mobilization fees of \$20 million. Under the contract, the initial maximum dayrate is subject to a fixed annual escalation of 2% during the contract period. The Ocean Rig Athena commenced a three-year drilling contract with ConocoPhillips for drilling operations offshore Angola in March 2014 at a maximum dayrate of \$ 662,523, which is the average maximum dayrate applicable during the initial three-year term of the contract, plus a lump-sum mobilization fee of \$35.2 million, exclusive of fuel costs. Under the contract, the initial maximum dayrate is subject to a fixed annual escalation of approximately 2% during the contract period. In addition, ConocoPhillips has the option to extend the duration of the contract for two years. The Ocean Rig Apollo commenced a three-year contract with Total E&P Congo for drilling operations offshore West Africa in March 2015 with an estimated backlog of approximately \$692.6 million, including mobilization. In addition, Total has the option to extend the term of the contract for four periods of six months each, with the first option exercisable not less than one year before completion date. 4

The total contracted backlog under our drilling contracts for our drilling units, including our drilling rigs, as of February 24, 2015, was \$5.2 billion. We calculate our contract backlog by multiplying the contractual dayrate under all of our employment contracts for which we have firm commitments as of February 24, 2015, by the minimum expected number of days committed under such contracts (excluding any options to extend), assuming full utilization. There can be no assurance that the counterparties to such contracts will fulfill their obligations under the contracts. See the section contained herein entitled "Risk Factors—Risks Relating to Our Company—Our future contracted revenue for our fleet of drilling units may not be ultimately realized."

Unless otherwise stated, all references to maximum dayrates included in this prospectus are exclusive of any applicable annual contract revenue adjustments, which generally result in the escalation of the dayrates payable under the drilling contracts.

## Management of Our Fleet

Up to October 2013, our wholly owned subsidiary, Ocean Rig AS, provided supervisory management services including onshore management, to our operating drilling rigs and drillships pursuant to separate management agreements entered into with each of the drilling unit-owning subsidiaries. Ocean Rig AS also provided supervisory management services for our seventh generation drillships under construction.

As from October 2013, the above services are provided by our wholly owned subsidiary, Ocean Rig Management Inc., pursuant to separate management agreements entered/to be entered with each of the drilling unit–owning subsidiaries. Under the terms of these management agreements, Ocean Rig Management Inc, through its affiliates in Stavanger, Norway, Aberdeen, United Kingdom and Houston, Texas, is responsible for, among other things, (i) assisting in construction contract technical negotiations, (ii) securing contracts for the future employment of the drilling units, and (iii) providing commercial, technical and operational management for the drillships.

In addition, we have engaged Cardiff Drilling Inc, a company controlled by our Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. George Economou, to provide us with consulting and other services with respect to the arrangement of employment for, and relating to the purchase and sale of our drilling units. The Offshore Drilling Industry

In recent years, the international drilling market has seen an increasing trend towards deep and ultra-deepwater oil and gas exploration. As shallow water resources mature, deep and ultra-deepwater regions are expected to play an increasing role in offshore oil and gas exploration and production. According to industry sources, the industry-wide global ultra-deepwater market has seen rapid development over the last six years, with dayrates increasing from approximately \$180,000 in 2004 to above \$600,000 in 2008, and as of February 2015 the market level is approximately \$530,000. The ultra-deepwater market rig utilization rate has been stable, above 80% since 2000 and above 97% since 2006. The operating units capable of drilling in ultra-deepwater depths of greater than 7,500 feet consist mainly of fifth, sixth and seventh generation units, and also include certain older upgraded units. The in-service fleet as of February 2015 totaled 165 units, and is expected to grow to 228 units upon the scheduled delivery of the current newbuild orderbook by the end of 2020. Historically, an increase in supply has caused a decline in utilization and dayrates until drilling units are absorbed into the market. Accordingly, dayrates have been very cyclical. We believe that the largest undiscovered offshore reserves are mostly located in ultra-deepwater fields and primarily located in the "golden triangle" between West Africa, Brazil and the Gulf of Mexico, as well as in East Africa, Australia and Southeast Asia. The location of these large offshore reserves has resulted in more than 90% of the floating drilling unit, or floater, orderbook being represented by ultra-deepwater units. Furthermore, due to increased focus on technically challenging operations and the inherent risk of developing offshore fields in ultra-deepwater, particularly in light of the Deepwater Horizon accident in the Gulf of Mexico, in which we were not involved, oil companies have already begun to show a preference for modern units more capable of drilling in these challenging environments.

# Corporate Structure

Ocean Rig UDW Inc., a corporation organized under the laws of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, was formed on December 10, 2007 under the name Primelead Shareholders Inc. Primelead Shareholders Inc. was formed in December 2007 for the purpose of acquiring the shares of our predecessor, Ocean Rig ASA, which was incorporated in September 1996 under the laws of Norway. We acquired control of Ocean Rig ASA on May 14, 2008. Prior to the private offering of our common shares in December 2010, we were a wholly-owned subsidiary of DryShips. Our shares commenced trading on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "ORIG" on October 6, 2011. As of March 2, 2015, DryShips, our parent company, owned approximately 59.2% of our outstanding common shares. Each of our drilling units is owned by a separate wholly-owned vessel-owning subsidiary.

We maintain our principal executive offices at 10 Skopa Street, Tribune House, 2nd Floor, Office 202, CY 1075, Nicosia, Cyprus and our telephone number at that address is +357 22767517. Our website address is www.ocean-rig.com. Information contained on our website does not constitute part of this prospectus. Risk Factors

We face a number of risks associated with our business and industry and must overcome a variety of challenges to utilize our strengths and implement our business strategy. These risks include, among others, changes in the offshore drilling market, including supply and demand, utilization rates, dayrates, customer drilling programs, and commodity prices; increased costs of compliance with regulations affecting the offshore drilling industry; a downturn in the global economy; hazards inherent in the drilling industry and marine operations resulting in liability for personal injury or loss of life, damage to or destruction of property and equipment, pollution or environmental damage; inability to comply with loan covenants; inability to finance shipyard and other capital projects; and inability to successfully employ our drilling units.

This is not a comprehensive list of risks to which we are subject, and you should carefully consider all the information in this prospectus and in any prospectus supplement before investing in the securities offered by this prospectus. In particular, we urge you to carefully consider the risk factors set forth in the section of this prospectus entitled "Risk Factors" beginning on page 7.

# **RISK FACTORS**

An investment in our securities involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the risks set forth below and in any documents incorporated by reference. In addition, you should also consider carefully the risks set forth under the heading "Risk Factors" in any prospectus supplement before investing in the securities offered by this prospectus. You should also carefully consider the risks described in any future incorporated by reference herein, before making an investment in our securities. Please see the section of this prospectus entitled "Where You Can Find Additional Information—Information Incorporated by Reference." The occurrence of one or more of these risks could materially and adversely impact our business, financial condition or results of operations. Risks Relating to Our Industry

Our business depends on the level of activity in the offshore oil and gas industry, which is significantly affected by, among other things, volatile oil and gas prices and may be materially and adversely affected by a decline in the offshore oil and gas industry.

The offshore contract drilling industry is cyclical and volatile. Our business depends on the level of activity in oil and gas exploration, development and production in offshore areas worldwide. The availability of quality drilling prospects, exploration success, relative production costs, the stage of reservoir development and political and regulatory environments affect customers' drilling programs. Oil and gas prices and market expectations of potential changes in these prices also significantly affect this level of activity and demand for drilling units.

Oil and gas prices are extremely volatile and are affected by numerous factors beyond our control, including the following:

·worldwide production and demand for oil and gas and any geographical dislocations in supply and demand;

•the cost of exploring for, developing, producing and delivering oil and gas;

·expectations regarding future energy prices;

·advances in exploration, development and production technology;

•the ability of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, or OPEC, to set and maintain levels and pricing;

 $\cdot$  the level of production in non-OPEC countries;

·government regulations;

·local and international political, economic and weather conditions;

·domestic and foreign tax policies;

·development and exploitation of alternative fuels;

•the policies of various governments regarding exploration and development of their oil and gas reserves; and

the worldwide military and political environment, including uncertainty or instability resulting from an escalation or  $\cdot$  additional outbreak of armed hostilities, insurrection or other crises in the Middle East or other geographic areas or further acts of terrorism in the United States, or elsewhere.

Declines in oil and gas prices for an extended period of time, or market expectations of potential decreases in these prices, could negatively affect our business in the offshore drilling sector. Crude oil inventories remain at high levels compared to historical levels, which may place downward pressure on the price of crude oil and demand for offshore drilling units. Sustained periods of low oil prices typically result in reduced exploration and drilling because oil and gas companies' capital expenditure budgets are subject to cash flow from such activities and are therefore sensitive to changes in energy prices. These changes in commodity prices can have a dramatic effect on rig demand, and periods of low demand can cause excess drilling rig supply and intensify the competition in the industry which often results in drilling units, particularly lower specification drilling units, being idle for long periods of time. We cannot predict the future level of demand for our services or future conditions of the oil and gas industry. Any decrease in exploration, development or production expenditures by oil and gas companies could reduce our revenues and materially harm our business and results of operations.

In addition to oil and gas prices, the offshore drilling industry is influenced by additional factors, including: •the availability of competing offshore drilling vessels and the level of newbuilding activity for drilling vessels; •the level of costs for associated offshore oilfield and construction services;

•oil and gas transportation costs;

•the discovery of new oil and gas reserves;

·the cost of non-conventional hydrocarbons, such as the exploitation of oil sands; and

·regulatory restrictions on offshore drilling.

Any of these factors could reduce demand for our services and adversely affect our business and results of operations. Continuation of the recent worldwide economic downturn could have a material adverse effect on our revenue, profitability and financial position.

Although there are signs that the economic recession has abated in many countries, there is still considerable instability in the world economy, due in part to uncertainty related to continuing discussions in the United States regarding the federal debt ceiling and in the economies of Eurozone countries, such as Greece, Spain, Portugal, Ireland and Italy, where a new economic downturn has introduced further volatility in the global markets. Further decrease in global economic activity would likely reduce worldwide demand for energy and result in an extended period of lower crude oil and natural gas prices. In addition, continued hostilities and insurrections in the Middle East and North Africa and the occurrence or threat of terrorist attacks against the United States or other countries could adversely affect the economies of the United States and of other countries. Any prolonged reduction in crude oil and natural gas prices would depress the levels of exploration, development and production activity. Moreover, even during periods of high commodity prices, customers may cancel or curtail their drilling programs, or reduce their levels of capital expenditures for exploration and production for a variety of reasons, including their lack of success in exploration efforts. These factors could cause our revenues and margins to decline, decrease daily rates and utilization of our drilling units and limit our future growth prospects. Any significant decrease in daily rates or utilization of our drilling units could materially reduce our revenues and profitability. In addition, any instability in the financial and insurance markets, as experienced in the recent financial and credit crisis, could make it more difficult for us to access capital and to obtain insurance coverage that we consider adequate or is otherwise required by our drilling contracts.

The current state of global financial markets and current economic conditions may adversely impact our ability to obtain additional financing on acceptable terms, which may hinder or prevent us from expanding our business. Global financial markets and economic conditions have been, and continue to be, volatile. Recently, the debt and equity capital markets have been severely distressed. These issues, along with significant write-offs in the financial services sector, the re-pricing of credit risk and the current weak economic conditions, have made, and will likely continue to make, it difficult to obtain additional financing. The current state of global financial markets and current economic conditions might adversely impact our ability to issue additional equity at prices which will not be dilutive to our existing shareholders or preclude us from issuing equity at all.

Also, as a result of concerns about the stability of financial markets generally and the solvency of counterparties specifically, the cost of obtaining money from the credit markets has increased as many lenders have increased interest rates, enacted tighter lending standards, refused to refinance existing debt at all or on terms similar to current debt and reduced, and in some cases ceased, to provide funding to borrowers. Due to these factors, we cannot be certain that additional financing will be available if needed and to the extent required, on acceptable terms or at all. If additional financing is not available when needed, or is available only on unfavorable terms, we may be unable to meet our obligations as they come due or we may be unable to enhance our existing business, complete additional drilling unit acquisitions or otherwise take advantage of business opportunities as they arise.

The offshore drilling industry is highly competitive with intense price competition and, as a result, we may be unable to compete successfully with other providers of contract drilling services that have greater resources than we have. The offshore contract drilling industry is highly competitive with several industry participants, none of which has a dominant market share, and is characterized by high capital and maintenance requirements. Drilling contracts are traditionally awarded on a competitive bid basis. Price competition is often the primary factor in determining which qualified contractor is awarded the drilling contract, although drilling unit availability, location and suitability, the quality and technical capability of service and equipment, reputation and industry standing are key factors which are considered. Mergers among oil and natural gas exploration and production companies have reduced, and may from time to time further reduce, the number of available customers, which would increase the ability of potential customers to achieve pricing terms favorable to them.

Many of our competitors are significantly larger than we are and have more diverse drilling assets and significantly greater financial and other resources than we have. In addition, because of our relatively small fleet, we may be unable to take advantage of economies of scale to the same extent as some of our larger competitors. Given the high capital requirements that are inherent in the offshore drilling industry, we may also be unable to invest in new technologies or expand in the future as may be necessary for us to succeed in this industry, while our larger competitors with superior financial resources, and in many cases less leverage than we have, may be able to respond more rapidly to changing market demands and compete more efficiently on price for drillship and drilling rig employment. We may not be able to maintain our competitive position, and we believe that competition for contracts will continue to be intense in the future. Our inability to compete successfully may reduce our revenues and profitability.

An over-supply of drilling units may lead to a reduction in dayrates and therefore may materially impact our profitability.

During the recent period of high utilization and high dayrates, industry participants have increased the supply of drilling units by ordering the construction of new drilling units. Historically, this has resulted in an over-supply of drilling units and has caused a subsequent decline in utilization and dayrates when the drilling units enter the market, sometimes for extended periods of time until the units have been absorbed into the active fleet. According to industry sources, the worldwide fleet of ultra-deepwater drilling units as of February 2015 consisted of 165 units, comprised of 66 semi-submersible rigs and 99 drillships. An additional 13 semi-submersible rigs and 50 drillships were under construction or on order as of February 2015, which would bring the total fleet to 228 drilling units by the end of 2020. A relatively large number of the drilling units currently under construction have been contracted for future work, which may intensify price competition as scheduled delivery dates occur. The entry into service of these new, upgraded or reactivated drilling units will increase supply and has already led to a reduction in dayrates as drilling units are absorbed into the active fleet. In addition, the new construction of high-specification drilling units, as well as changes in our competitors' drilling unit fleets, could require us to make material additional capital investments to keep our fleet competitive. Lower utilization and dayrates could adversely affect our revenues and profitability.

Prolonged periods of low utilization and dayrates could also result in the recognition of impairment charges on our drilling units if future cash flow estimates, based upon information available to management at the time, indicate that the carrying value of these drilling units may not be recoverable.

Low crude oil prices worldwide may result in a decrease in our operating income and may have a material adverse effect on our business and operations.

Crude oil prices have decreased significantly during 2014 and have reached the lowest prices since 2009. A decrease in the price of crude oil, which can be influenced by general economic conditions, industry inventory levels, production quotas or other actions imposed by the OPEC, weather-related damage and disruptions, competing fuel prices, and geopolitical risks, can adversely affect our business and operations. An investment in our company carries significant exposure to fluctuations in global crude oil prices. During extended periods of historically low prices for crude oil, our earnings and cash flows may be negatively affected.

Consolidation of suppliers may increase the cost of obtaining supplies, which may have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

We rely on certain third parties to provide supplies and services necessary for our operations, including, but not limited to, drilling equipment suppliers and catering and machinery suppliers. Recent mergers have reduced the number of available suppliers, resulting in fewer alternatives for sourcing key supplies. Such consolidation, combined with a high volume of drilling units under construction, may result in a shortage of supplies and services, thereby increasing the cost of supplies and/or potentially inhibiting the ability of suppliers to deliver on time, or at all. These cost increases, delays or unavailability could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and result in drilling unit downtime and delays in the repair and maintenance of our drilling units.

Our international operations involve additional risks, which could adversely affect our business.

We operate in various regions throughout the world. Our drilling rigs, the Leiv Eiriksson, is currently drilling in the Norwegian Continental Shelf, while the Eirik Raude is currently undergoing the acceptance testing and it is expected to commence operations for drilling offshore Falkland Islands. Our drillships, the Ocean Rig Corcovado, the Ocean Rig Mylos and the Ocean Rig Mykonos, are operating offshore Brazil and our drillships, the Ocean Rig Poseidon and the Ocean Rig Athena, are operating offshore Angola. The Ocean Rig Skyros and the Ocean Rig Olympia are expected to commence drilling operations to offshore Angola, during 2015 while the Ocean Rig Apollo is expected to commence drilling operations to offshore West Africa, during 2015.

In the past, the Eirik Raude has operated in the Gulf of Mexico and offshore Canada, Norway, the United Kingdom, Ghana, West Africa and the Ivory Coast, while the Leiv Eiriksson has operated offshore Greenland, West Africa, Turkey, Ireland, west of the Shetland Islands, the Falkland Islands, Norway and in the North Sea, and the Ocean Rig Corcovado and the Ocean Rig Olympia have operated offshore Greenland and West Africa, respectively. As a result of our international operations, we may be exposed to political and other uncertainties, including risks of: • terrorist and environmental activist acts, armed hostilities, war and civil disturbances;

acts of piracy, which have historically affected ocean-going vessels trading in regions of the world such as the South •China Sea and in the Gulf of Aden off the coast of Somalia and which have generally increased significantly in frequency since 2008, particularly in the Gulf of Aden and off the west coast of Africa;

significant governmental influence over many aspects of local

economies;

·seizure, nationalization or expropriation of property or equipment;

·repudiation, nullification, modification or renegotiation of contracts;

·limitations on insurance coverage, such as war risk coverage, in certain areas;

·political unrest;

foreign and U.S. monetary policy, government debt downgrades and potential defaults and foreign currency fluctuations and devaluations;

•the inability to repatriate income or capital;

·complications associated with repairing and replacing equipment in remote locations;

·import-export quotas, wage and price controls, imposition of trade barriers;

·regulatory or financial requirements to comply with foreign bureaucratic actions;

·changing taxation policies, including confiscatory taxation;

 $\cdot$  other forms of government regulation and economic conditions that are beyond our control; and  $\cdot$  governmental corruption.

In addition, international contract drilling operations are subject to various laws and regulations in countries in which we operate, including laws and regulations relating to:

•the equipping and operation of drilling units;

·repatriation of foreign earnings;

•oil and gas exploration and development;

·taxation of offshore earnings and earnings of expatriate personnel; and

·use and compensation of local employees and suppliers by foreign contractors.

Some foreign governments favor or effectively require (i) the awarding of drilling contracts to local contractors or to drilling rigs owned by their own citizens, (ii) the use of a local agent or (iii) foreign contractors to employ citizens of, or purchase supplies from, a particular jurisdiction. These practices may adversely affect our ability to compete in those regions. It is difficult to predict what governmental regulations may be enacted in the future that could adversely affect the international drilling industry. The actions of foreign governments, including initiatives by OPEC, may adversely affect our ability to compete. Failure to comply with applicable laws and regulations, including those relating to sanctions and export restrictions, may subject us to criminal sanctions or civil remedies, including fines, denial of export privileges, injunctions or seizures of assets.

Our business and operations involve numerous operating hazards.

Our operations are subject to hazards inherent in the drilling industry, such as blowouts, reservoir damage, loss of production, loss of well control, lost or stuck drill strings, equipment defects, punch throughs, craterings, fires, explosions and pollution, including spills similar to the events on April 20, 2010 related to the Deepwater Horizon, in which we were not involved. Contract drilling and well servicing require the use of heavy equipment and exposure to hazardous conditions, which may subject us to liability claims by employees, customers and third parties. These hazards can cause personal injury or loss of life, severe damage to or destruction of property and equipment, pollution or environmental damage, claims by third parties or customers and suspension of operations. Our offshore fleet is also subject to hazards inherent in marine operations, either while on-site or during mobilization, such as capsizing, sinking, grounding, collision, damage from severe weather and marine life infestations. Operations may also be suspended because of machinery breakdowns, abnormal drilling conditions, personnel shortages or failure of subcontractors to perform or supply goods or services.

Damage to the environment could also result from our operations, particularly through spillage of fuel, lubricants or other chemicals and substances used in drilling operations, leaks and blowouts or extensive uncontrolled fires. We may also be subject to property, environmental and other damage claims by oil and gas companies. Our insurance policies and contractual indemnity rights with our customers may not adequately cover losses, and we do not have insurance coverage or rights to indemnity for all the risks to which we are exposed. Consistent with standard industry practice, our customers generally assume, and indemnify us against, well control and subsurface risks under dayrate drilling contracts, including pollution damage in connection with reservoir fluids stemming from operations under the contract, damage to the well or reservoir, loss of subsurface oil and gas and the cost of bringing the well under control. We generally indemnify our customers against pollution from substances in our control that originate from the drilling unit (e.g., diesel used onboard the unit or other fluids stored onboard the unit and above the water surface). However, our drilling contracts are individually negotiated, and the degree of indemnification we receive from the customer against the liabilities discussed above can vary from contract to contract, based on market conditions and customer requirements existing when the contract was negotiated. Notwithstanding a contractual indemnity from a customer, there can be no assurance that our customers will be financially able to indemnify us or will otherwise honor their contractual indemnity obligations. We maintain insurance coverage for property damage, occupational injury and illness, and general and marine third-party liabilities. However, pollution and environmental risks generally are not totally insurable. Furthermore, we have no insurance coverage for named storms in the Gulf of Mexico and while trading within war risks excluded areas.

The Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico may result in more stringent laws and regulations governing deepwater drilling, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results or financial condition.

On April 20, 2010, there was an explosion and a related fire on the Deepwater Horizon, an ultra-deepwater semi-submersible drilling unit that is not connected to us, while it was servicing the Macondo well in the Gulf of Mexico. This catastrophic event resulted in the death of 11 workers and the total loss of that drilling unit, as well as the release of large amounts of oil into the Gulf of Mexico, severely impacting the environment and the region's key industries. This event is being investigated by several federal agencies, including the U.S. Department of Justice, and by the U.S. Congress, and is also the subject of numerous lawsuits. On January 11, 2011, the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling released its final report, with recommendations for new regulations.

We do not currently operate our drilling units in these regions, but we may do so in the future. In any event, changes to leasing and drilling activity requirements as a result of the Deepwater Horizon incident could have a substantial impact on the offshore oil and gas industry worldwide. All drilling activity in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico must be in compliance with enhanced safety requirements contained in the Notice to Lessees 2015-N01. Effective October 22, 2012 all drilling in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico must also comply with the Final Drilling Safety Rule as adopted on August 15, 2012, which enhances safety measures for energy development on the outer continental shelf. All drilling must also comply with the Workplace Safety Rule on Safety and Environmental Management Systems. Also, on February 24, 2014, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, or BOEM, proposed a rule increasing the limits of liability of damages for offshore facilities under OPA based on inflation. We continue to evaluate these requirements to ensure that our rigs and equipment are in full compliance, where applicable. Additional requirements could be forthcoming based on further recommendations by regulatory agencies investigating the Macondo well incident. We are not able to predict the extent of future leasing plans or the likelihood, nature or extent of additional rulemaking. Nor are we able to predict when the BOEM will enter into leases with our customers or when the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, or BSEE, will issue drilling permits to our customers. We are not able to predict the future impact of these events on our operations. The current and future regulatory environment in the Gulf of Mexico could impact the demand for drilling units in the Gulf of Mexico in terms of overall number of rigs in operations and the technical specification required for offshore rigs to operate in the Gulf of Mexico. It is possible that short-term potential migration of rigs from the Gulf of Mexico could adversely impact dayrates levels and fleet utilization in other regions. In addition, insurance costs across the industry have increased as a result of the Macondo well incident and certain insurance coverage has become more costly, less available, and not available at all from certain insurance companies.

Our insurance coverage may not adequately protect us from certain operational risks inherent in the drilling industry. Our insurance is intended to cover normal risks in our current operations, including insurance against property damage, occupational injury and illness, loss of hire, certain war risks and third-party liability, including pollution liability. For example, the amount of risk we are subject to might increase regarding occupational injuries because on January 12, 2012, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the Longshore and Harbor Worker's Compensation Act, whose provisions are incorporated into the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act could cover occupational injuries. Insurance coverage may not, under certain circumstances, be available, and if available, may not provide sufficient funds to protect us from all losses and liabilities that could result from our operations. We have also obtained loss of hire insurance which becomes effective after 45 days of downtime with coverage that extends for approximately one year. This loss of hire insurance is recoverable only if there is physical damage to the rig or equipment which is caused by a peril against which we are insured. The principal risks which may not be insurable are various environmental liabilities and liabilities resulting from reservoir damage caused by our gross negligence. Moreover, our insurance provides for premium adjustments based on claims and is subject to deductibles and aggregate recovery limits. In the case of pollution liabilities, our deductible is \$10,000 per event and \$250,000 for protection and indemnity claims brought before any U.S. jurisdiction. Our aggregate recovery limit is \$500.0 million for all claims arising out of any event covered by our protection and indemnity insurance. Our deductible is \$1.5 million per hull and machinery insurance claim. In addition, insurance policies covering physical damage claims due to a named windstorm in the Gulf of Mexico generally impose strict recovery limits. Our insurance coverage may not protect

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fully against losses resulting from a required cessation of drilling unit operations for environmental or other reasons. Insurance may not be available to us at all or on terms acceptable to us, we may not maintain insurance or, if we are so insured, our policy may not be adequate to cover our loss or liability in all cases. The occurrence of a casualty, loss or liability against, which we may not be fully insured against, could significantly reduce our revenues, make it financially impossible for us to obtain a replacement drilling unit or to repair a damaged drilling unit, cause us to pay fines or damages which are generally not insurable and that may have priority over the payment obligations under our indebtedness or otherwise impair our ability to meet our obligations under our indebtedness and to operate profitably. 12

If we enter into drilling contracts or engage in certain other activities with countries or government-controlled entities or customers associated with countries that are subject to restrictions imposed by the U.S. government, or engage in certain other activities, including entering into drilling contracts with individuals or entities in such countries that are not controlled by their governments or engaging in operations associated with such countries or entities pursuant to contracts with third parties unrelated to those countries or entities, our ability to conduct our business and access U.S. capital markets and our reputation and the market for our securities could be adversely affected.

Although none of our drilling units have operated in countries subject to sanctions and embargoes imposed by the U.S. government and other authorities or countries identified by the U.S. government or other authorities as state sponsors of terrorism, including Cuba, Iran, Sudan and Syria, in the future our drilling units may operate in these countries from time to time on our customers' instructions. The U.S. sanctions and embargo laws and regulations vary in their application, as they do not all apply to the same covered persons or proscribe the same activities, and such sanctions and embargo laws and regulations may be amended or strengthened over time. In 2010, the U.S. enacted the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions Accountability and Divestment Act, or CISADA, which amended the Iran Sanctions Act. Among other things, CISADA introduced limits on the ability of companies and persons to do business or trade with Iran when such activities relate to the investment, supply or export of refined petroleum or petroleum products. In 2012, President Obama signed Executive Order 13608 which prohibits foreign persons from violating or attempting to violate, or causing a violation of any sanctions in effect against Iran or facilitating any deceptive transactions for or on behalf of any person subject to U.S. sanctions. Any persons found to be in violation of Executive Order 13608 will be deemed a foreign sanctions evader and will be banned from all contacts with the United States, including conducting business in U.S. dollars. Also in 2012, President Obama signed into law the Iran Threat Reduction and Syria Human Rights Act of 2012, or the Iran Threat Reduction Act, which created new sanctions and strengthened existing sanctions. Among other things, the Iran Threat Reduction Act intensifies existing sanctions regarding the provision of goods, services, infrastructure or technology to Iran's petroleum or petrochemical sector. The Iran Threat Reduction Act also includes a provision requiring the President of the United States to impose five or more sanctions from Section 6(a) of the Iran Sanctions Act, as amended, on a person the President determines is a controlling beneficial owner of, or otherwise owns, operates, or controls or insures a vessel that was used to transport crude oil from Iran to another country and (1) if the person is a controlling beneficial owner of the vessel, the person had actual knowledge the vessel was so used or (2) if the person otherwise owns, operates, or controls, or insures the vessel, the person knew or should have known the vessel was so used. Such a person could be subject to a variety of sanctions, including exclusion from U.S. capital markets, exclusion from financial transactions subject to U.S. jurisdiction, and exclusion of that person's vessels from U.S. ports for up to two years.

Although we believe that we are in compliance with all applicable sanctions and embargo laws and regulations, and intend to maintain such compliance, there can be no assurance that we will be in compliance in the future, particularly as the scope of certain laws may be unclear and may be subject to changing interpretations. Any such violation could result in fines, penalties or other sanctions that could severely impact our ability to access U.S. capital markets and conduct our business, and could result in some investors deciding, or being required, to divest their interest, or not to invest, in us. In addition, certain institutional investors may have investment policies or restrictions that prevent them from holding securities of companies that have contracts with countries identified by the U.S. government as state sponsors of terrorism. The determination by these investors not to invest in, or to divest from, our common stock may adversely affect the price at which our common stock trades. Moreover, our customers may violate applicable sanctions and embargo laws and regulations as a result of actions that do not involve us or our drilling units, and those violations could in turn negatively affect our reputation. In addition, our reputation and the market for our securities may be adversely affected if we engage in certain other activities, such as entering into drilling contracts with individuals or entities in countries subject to U.S. sanctions and embargo laws that are not controlled by the governments of those countries, or engaging in operations associated with those countries pursuant to contracts with third parties that are unrelated to those countries or entities controlled by their governments. Investor perception of the value of our common stock may be adversely affected by the consequences of war, the effects of terrorism, civil unrest and governmental actions in these and surrounding countries.

On November 24, 2013, the P5+1 (the United States, United Kingdom, Germany, France, Russia and China) entered into an interim agreement with Iran entitled the "Joint Plan of Action," or JPOA. Under the JPOA it was agreed that,

in exchange for Iran taking certain voluntary measures to ensure that its nuclear program is used only for peaceful purposes, the U.S. and EU would voluntarily suspend certain sanctions for a period of six months. 13

On January 20, 2014, the U.S. and E.U. indicated that they would begin implementing the temporary relief measures provided for under the JPOA. These measures include, among other things, the suspension of certain sanctions on the Iranian petrochemicals, precious metals, and automotive industries from January 20, 2014 until July 20, 2014. The U.S. initially extended the JPOA until November 24, 2014, and has since extended it until June 30, 2015. These regulations and U.S. sanctions may be amended over time, and the U.S. retains the authority to revoke the aforementioned relief if Iran fails to meet its commitments under the JPOA.

Although it is our intention to comply with the provisions of the JPOA, there can be no assurance that we will be in compliance in the future as such regulations and U.S. Sanctions may be amended over time, and the U.S. retains the authority to revoke the aforementioned relief if Iran fails to meet its commitments under the JPOA.

The instability of the euro or the inability of Eurozone countries to refinance their debts could have a material adverse effect on our ability to fund our future capital expenditures or refinance our debt.

As a result of the credit crisis in Europe, in particular in Greece, Italy, Ireland, Portugal and Spain, the European Commission created the European Financial Stability Facility, or the EFSF, and the European Financial Stability Mechanism, or the EFSM, to provide funding to Eurozone countries in financial difficulties that seek such support. In March 2011, the European Council agreed on the need for Eurozone countries to establish a permanent stability mechanism, the European Stability Mechanism, or the ESM, which was activated by mutual agreement in 2013, and assumed the role of the EFSF and the EFSM in providing external financial assistance to Eurozone countries. Despite these measures, concerns persist regarding the debt burden of certain Eurozone countries and their ability to meet future financial obligations and the overall stability of the euro. An extended period of adverse development in the outlook for European countries could make it difficult for current or potential lenders in the Eurozone to provide new loan facilities we may need to fund our future capital expenditures.

Governmental laws and regulations, including environmental laws and regulations, may add to our costs or limit our drilling activity.

Our business is affected by laws and regulations relating to the energy industry and the environment in the geographic areas where we operate. The offshore drilling industry is dependent on demand for services from the oil and gas exploration and production industry, and, accordingly, we are directly affected by the adoption of laws and regulations that, for economic, environmental or other policy reasons, curtail exploration and development drilling for oil and gas. We may be required to make significant capital expenditures to comply with governmental laws and regulations. It is also possible that these laws and regulations may, in the future, add significantly to our operating costs or significantly limit drilling activity. Our ability to compete in international contract drilling markets may be limited by foreign governmental regulations that favor or require the awarding of contracts to local contractors or by regulations requiring foreign contractors to employ citizens of, or purchase supplies from, a particular jurisdiction. Governments in some countries are increasingly active in regulating and controlling the ownership of concessions, the exploration for oil and gas, and other aspects of the oil and gas industries. Offshore drilling in certain areas has been curtailed and, in certain cases, prohibited because of concerns over protection of the environment. Operations in less developed countries, which can lead to greater uncertainty in legal matters and proceedings.

To the extent new laws are enacted or other governmental actions are taken that prohibit or restrict offshore drilling or impose additional environmental protection requirements that result in increased costs to the oil and gas industry, in general, or the offshore drilling industry, in particular, our business or prospects could be materially adversely affected. The operation of our drilling units will require certain governmental approvals, the number and prerequisites of which cannot be determined until we identify the jurisdictions in which we will operate on securing contracts for the drilling units. Depending on the jurisdiction, these governmental approvals may involve public hearings and conditions that result in costly undertakings on our part. We may not obtain such approvals or such approvals may not be obtained in a timely manner. If we fail to timely secure the necessary approvals or permits, our customers may have the right to terminate or seek to renegotiate their drilling contracts to our detriment. The amendment or modification of existing laws and regulations or the adoption of new laws and regulations curtailing or further regulating exploratory or development drilling and production of oil and gas could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results or financial condition. Future earnings may be negatively affected by compliance with any such new legislation or regulations.

We are subject to complex laws and regulations, including environmental laws and regulations that can adversely affect the cost, manner or feasibility of doing business.

Our operations are subject to numerous laws and regulations in the form of international conventions and treaties, national, state and local laws and national and international regulations in force in the jurisdictions in which our vessels operate or are registered, which can significantly affect the ownership and operation of our drilling units. These regulations include, but are not limited to, the International Maritime Organization, or IMO, International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships of 1973, as from time to time amended and generally referred to as MARPOL, including designation of Emission Control Areas, or ECAs, thereunder, the IMO International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage of 1969, as from time to time amended and generally referred to as CLC, the International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage, or Bunker Convention, the IMO International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea of 1974, as from time to time amended and generally referred to as SOLAS, the International Safety Management Code for the Safe Operation of Ships and for Pollution Prevention, or ISM Code, the IMO International Convention on Load Lines of 1966, as from time to time amended, the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments in February 2004, or the BWM Convention, the U.S. Oil Pollution Act of 1990, or OPA, requirements of the U.S. Coast Guard, or USCG, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, or EPA, the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, or CERCLA, the U.S. Clean Water Act, the U.S. Clean Air Act, the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, the U.S. Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002, or the MTSA, European Union regulations, and Brazil's National Environmental Policy Law (6938/81), Environmental Crimes Law (9605/98) and Law (9966/2000) relating to pollution in Brazilian waters.

Compliance with such laws, regulations and standards, where applicable, may require installation of costly equipment or operational changes and may affect the resale value or useful lives of our vessels. Moreover, the manner in which these laws are enforced and interpreted is constantly evolving. We may also incur additional costs in order to comply with other existing and future regulatory obligations, including, but not limited to, costs relating to air emissions, including greenhouse gases, the management of ballast waters, maintenance and inspection, development and implementation of emergency procedures and insurance coverage or other financial assurance of our ability to address pollution incidents. These costs could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, cash flows and financial condition. A failure to comply with applicable laws and regulations may result in administrative and civil penalties, criminal sanctions or the suspension or termination of our operations. Environmental laws often impose strict liability for remediation of spills and releases of oil and hazardous substances, which could subject us to liability without regard to whether we were negligent or at fault. Under OPA, for example, owners, operators and bareboat charterers are jointly and severally strictly liable for the discharge of oil in U.S. waters, including the 200-nautical mile exclusive economic zone around the United States. An oil spill could result in significant liability, including fines, penalties and criminal liability and remediation costs for natural resource damages under other international and U.S. federal, state and local laws, as well as third-party damages. We are required to satisfy insurance and financial responsibility requirements for potential oil (including marine fuel) spills and other pollution incidents and our insurance may not be sufficient to cover all such risks. As a result, claims against us could result in a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, cash flows and financial condition.

Although our drilling units are separately owned by our subsidiaries, under certain circumstances a parent company and all of the ship-owning affiliates in a group under common control engaged in a joint venture could be held liable for damages or debts owed by one of the affiliates, including liabilities for oil spills under OPA or other environmental laws. Therefore, it is possible that we could be subject to liability upon a judgment against us or any one of our subsidiaries.

Our drilling units could cause the release of oil or hazardous substances, especially as our drilling units age. Any releases may be large in quantity, above our permitted limits or occur in protected or sensitive areas where public interest groups or governmental authorities have special interests. Any releases of oil or hazardous substances could result in fines and other costs to us, such as costs to upgrade our drilling rigs, clean up the releases, and comply with more stringent requirements in our discharge permits. Moreover, these releases may result in our customers or governmental authorities suspending or terminating our operations in the affected area, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operation and financial condition.

If we are able to obtain from our customers some degree of contractual indemnification against pollution and environmental damages in our contracts, such indemnification may not be enforceable in all instances or the customer may not be financially able to comply with its indemnity obligations in all cases. In addition, we may not be able to obtain such indemnification agreements in the future.

Our insurance coverage may not be available in the future or we may not obtain certain insurance coverage. If it is available and we have the coverage, it may not be adequate to cover our liabilities. Any of these scenarios could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results and financial condition.

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Regulation of greenhouse gases and climate change could have a negative impact on our business. Currently, emissions of greenhouse gases from ships involved in international transport are not subject to the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which entered into force in 2005 and pursuant to which adopting countries have been required to implement national programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. As of January 1, 2013, all ships (including drilling rigs and drillships) must comply with mandatory requirements adopted by the MEPC in July 2011 relating to greenhouse gas emissions. Currently operating ships are now required to develop and implement the Ship Energy Efficiency Management Plans, or SEEMPs, and the new ships to be designed in compliance with minimum energy efficiency levels per capacity mile as defined by the Energy Efficiency Design Index, or EEDI. These requirements could cause us to incur additional compliance costs. The IMO is also considering the implementation of market-based mechanisms to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from ships. The European Parliament and Council of Ministers are expected to endorse regulations that would require the monitoring and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions from marine vessels in 2015. In the United States, the EPA has issued a finding that greenhouse gases endanger public health and safety and has adopted regulations to limit greenhouse gas emissions from certain mobile sources and large stationary sources. The EPA enforces both the CAA and the international standards found in Annex VI of MARPOL concerning marine diesel engines, their emissions, and the sulphur content in marine fuel. Any passage of climate control legislation or other regulatory initiatives by the IMO, European Union, the U.S. or other countries where we operate, or any treaty adopted at the international level to succeed the Kyoto Protocol, that restrict emissions of greenhouse gases could require us to make significant financial expenditures, including capital expenditures to upgrade our vessels, which we cannot predict with certainty at this time.

Because our business depends on the level of activity in the offshore oil and gas industry, existing or future laws, regulations, treaties or international agreements related to greenhouse gases and climate change, including incentives to conserve energy or use alternative energy sources, could have a negative impact on our business if such laws, regulations, treaties or international agreements reduce the worldwide demand for oil and gas. In addition, such laws, regulations, treaties or international agreements could result in increased compliance costs or additional operating restrictions, which may have a negative impact on our business.

Failure to comply with the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act could result in fines, criminal penalties, drilling contract terminations and an adverse effect on our business.

We currently operate, and historically have operated, our drilling units outside of the United States in a number of countries throughout the world, including some with developing economies. Also, the existence of state or government-owned shipbuilding enterprises puts us in contact with persons who may be considered "foreign officials" under the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977, or the FCPA. We are committed to doing business in accordance with applicable anti-corruption laws and have adopted a code of business conduct and ethics which is consistent and in full compliance with the FCPA. We are subject, however, to the risk that we, our affiliated entities or our or their respective officers, directors, employees and agents may take actions determined to be in violation of such anti-corruption laws, including the FCPA. Any such violation could result in substantial fines, sanctions, civil and/or criminal penalties, curtailment of operations in certain jurisdictions, and might adversely affect our business, results of operations or financial condition. In addition, actual or alleged violations could damage our reputation and ability to do business. Furthermore, detecting, investigating, and resolving actual or alleged violations is expensive and can consume significant time and attention of our senior management.

Acts of terrorism and political and social unrest could affect the markets for drilling services, which may have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

Acts of terrorism and political and social unrest, brought about by world political events or otherwise, have caused instability in the world's financial and insurance markets in the past and may occur in the future. Such acts could be directed against companies such as ours. In addition, acts of terrorism and social unrest could lead to increased volatility in prices for crude oil and natural gas and could affect the markets for drilling services and result in lower dayrates. Insurance premiums could increase and coverage may be unavailable in the future. U.S. government regulations may effectively preclude us from actively engaging in business activities in certain countries. These regulations could be amended to cover countries where we currently operate or where we may wish to operate in the future. Increased insurance costs or increased cost of compliance with applicable regulations may have a material

adverse effect on our results of operations.

Military action, other armed conflicts, or terrorist attacks have caused significant increases in political and economic instability in geographic regions where we operate and where our newbuilding drillships are being constructed. Military tension involving North and South Korea, the Middle East, Africa and other attacks, threats of attacks, terrorism and unrest, have caused instability or uncertainty in the world's financial and commercial markets and have significantly increased political and economic instability in some of the geographic areas where we operate and where we have contracted with Samsung, to build our three newbuilding drillships. Acts of terrorism and armed conflicts or threats of armed conflicts in these locations could limit or disrupt our operations, including disruptions resulting from the cancellation of contracts or the loss of personnel or assets. In addition, any possible reprisals as a consequence of ongoing military action in the Middle East, such as acts of terrorism in the United States or elsewhere, could materially and adversely affect us in ways we cannot predict at this time.

Acts of piracy have recently increased in frequency, which could adversely affect our business.

Acts of piracy have historically affected ocean-going vessels trading in regions of the world such as the South China Sea, the Indian Ocean, off the coast of West Africa and in the Gulf of Aden off the coast of Somalia. Although the frequency of sea piracy worldwide decreased during 2012 to its lowest level since 2009, sea piracy incidents continue to occur, particularly in the Gulf of Aden off the coast of Somalia and increasingly in the Gulf of Guinea. If these piracy attacks result in regions in which our drilling units are deployed being characterized as "war risk" zones by insurers, or Joint War Committee "war and strikes" listed areas, premiums payable for such coverage could increase significantly and such insurance coverage may be more difficult to obtain. In addition, crew costs, including due to employing onboard security guards, could increase in such circumstances. We may not be adequately insured to cover losses from these incidents, which could have a material adverse effect on us. In addition, any detention hijacking as a result of an act of piracy against our drilling units, or an increase in cost, or unavailability, of insurance for our vessels, could have a material adverse impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations. The U.S. government recently imposed legislation concerning the deteriorating situation in Somalia, including acts of piracy offshore Somalia. On April 13, 2010, the President of the United States issued an Executive Order, which we refer to as the Order, prohibiting, among other things, the payment of monies to or for the benefit of individuals and entities on the list of Specially Designated Nationals, or SDNs, published by U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control. Certain individuals associated with piracy offshore Somalia are currently designated persons under the SDN list. The Order is applicable only to payments by U.S. persons and not by foreign entities, such as Ocean Rig UDW Inc. Notwithstanding this fact, it is possible that the Order, and the regulations promulgated thereunder, may affect foreign private issuers to the extent that such foreign private issuers provide monies, such as ransom payments to secure the release of crews and ships in the event of detention hijackings, to any SDN for which they seek reimbursement from a U.S. insurance carrier. While additional regulations relating to the Order may be promulgated by the U.S. government in the future, we cannot predict what effect these regulations may have on our operations.

Hurricanes may impact our ability to operate our drilling units in the Gulf of Mexico or other U.S. coastal waters, which could reduce our revenues and profitability.

Hurricanes Ivan, Katrina, Rita, Gustav and Ike caused damage to a number of drilling units unaffiliated with us in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico. Drilling units that moved off their locations during the hurricanes damaged platforms, pipelines, wellheads and other drilling units. BOEM and the BSEE, the U.S. organizations that issue a significant number of relevant guidelines for the drilling units' activities, had guidelines for tie-downs on drilling units and permanent equipment and facilities attached to outer continental shelf production platforms, and moored drilling unit fitness during hurricane season. These guidelines effectively impose requirements on the offshore oil and natural gas industry in an attempt to increase the likelihood of survival of offshore drilling units during a hurricane. The guidelines also provide for enhanced information and data requirements from oil and natural gas companies that operate properties in the Gulf of Mexico region of the Outer Continental Shelf. BOEM and BSEE may issue similar guidelines for future hurricane seasons and may take other steps that could increase the cost of operations or reduce the area of operations for our ultra-deepwater drilling units, thereby reducing their marketability. Implementation of new guidelines or regulations that may apply to ultra-deepwater drilling units may subject us to increased costs and limit the operational capabilities of our drilling units. Our drilling units do not currently operate in the Gulf of Mexico or other U.S. coastal waters but may do so in the future.

Any failure to comply with the complex laws and regulations governing international trade could adversely affect our operations.

The shipment of goods, services and technology across international borders subjects us to extensive trade laws and regulations. Import activities are governed by unique customs laws and regulations in each of the countries of operation. Moreover, many countries, including the United States, control the export and re-export of certain goods, services and technology and impose related export recordkeeping and reporting obligations. Governments also may impose economic sanctions against certain countries, persons and other entities that may restrict or prohibit transactions involving such countries, persons and entities.

The laws and regulations concerning import activity, export recordkeeping and reporting, export control and economic sanctions are complex and constantly changing. These laws and regulations may be enacted, amended, enforced or interpreted in a manner materially impacting our operations. Shipments can be delayed and denied export or entry for a variety of reasons, some of which are outside our control and some of which may result from failure to comply with existing legal and regulatory regimes. Shipping delays or denials could cause unscheduled operational downtime. Any failure to comply with applicable legal and regulatory trading obligations also could result in criminal and civil penalties and sanctions, such as fines, imprisonment, debarment from government contracts, seizure of shipments and loss of import and export privileges.

New technologies may cause our current drilling methods to become obsolete, resulting in an adverse effect on our business.

The offshore contract drilling industry is subject to the introduction of new drilling techniques and services using new technologies, some of which may be subject to patent protection. As competitors and others use or develop new technologies, we may be placed at a competitive disadvantage and competitive pressures may force us to implement new technologies at substantial cost. In addition, competitors may have greater financial, technical and personnel resources that allow them to benefit from technological advantages and implement new technologies before we can. We may not be able to implement technologies on a timely basis or at a cost that is acceptable to us. Risks Relating to Our Company

We have substantial indebtedness, and may incur substantial additional indebtedness, which could adversely affect our financial health.

As of December 31, 2014, on a consolidated basis, we had \$4.5 billion in aggregate principal amount of indebtedness outstanding. In March 2014 we issued \$500.0 million aggregate principal amount of 7.25% senior unsecured notes due 2019, or the 7.25% Senior Unsecured Notes, offered in a private placement. In July 2014, our wholly owned subsidiary, Drillships Ocean Ventures Inc., entered into a \$1.3 billion Senior Secured Term Loan B with maturity in July 2021. In February 2014, we refinanced our then existing short-term Tranche B-2 Term Loans with a fungible add-on to its existing long-term Tranche B-1 Term Loans and as a result of this refinancing, the total \$1.9 billion of Tranche B-1 Term Loans will mature no earlier than the third quarter of 2020.

Our substantial indebtedness could have significant adverse consequences for an investment in us and on our business and future prospects, including the following:

we may not be able to satisfy our financial obligations under our indebtedness and our contractual and commercial commitments, which may result in possible defaults on and acceleration of such indebtedness;

we may not be able to obtain financing in the future for working capital, capital expenditures, acquisitions, debt service requirements or other purposes;

we may not be able to use operating cash flow in other areas of our business because we must dedicate a substantial portion of these funds to service the debt;

we could become more vulnerable to general adverse economic and industry conditions, including increases in interest rates, particularly given our substantial indebtedness, some of which bears interest at variable rates; • our ability to refinance indebtedness may be limited or the associated costs may increase;

less leveraged competitors could have a competitive advantage because they have lower debt service requirements and, as a result, we may not be better positioned to withstand economic downturns;

we may be less able to take advantage of significant business opportunities and to react to changes in market or industry conditions than our competitors and our management's discretion in operating our business may be limited; and

we may be unable to raise the funds necessary to repurchase the 6.50% senior secured notes due 2017, or our Senior Secured Notes, issued by Drill Rigs Holdings Inc., our wholly-owned subsidiary, or Drill Rigs Holdings, in September 2012 tendered to Drill Rigs Holdings if there is a change of control or event of loss or in connection with an asset sale offer, which would constitute a default under the indenture governing the Senior Secured Notes. Each of these factors may have a material and adverse effect on our financial condition and viability. Our ability to service our debt will depend upon, among other things, our future financial and operating performance, which will be affected by prevailing economic conditions and financial, business, regulatory and other factors, some of which are beyond our control. If our operating income is not sufficient to service our current or future indebtedness, we will be forced to take actions such as reducing or delaying our business activities, acquisitions, investments or capital expenditures, selling assets, restructuring or refinancing our debt or seeking additional equity capital. Any or all of these actions may be insufficient to allow us to service our debt obligations. Further, we may not be able to effect any of these remedies on satisfactory terms, or at all.

We may incur additional debt, which could exacerbate the risks associated with our substantial leverage.

Even with our existing level of debt, we and our subsidiaries may incur additional indebtedness in the future. In July 2014, we entered into a \$1.3 billion term loan B facility to repay in full the then outstanding balances of the \$1.35 billion senior secured facility. On February 13, 2015 we signed definitive loan documentation for an up to a \$475.0 million syndicated secured term loan to partially finance the construction costs of the Ocean Rig Apollo. and we may incur additional indebtedness in order to fund the estimated remaining contractual obligations for the construction of the remaining three unfinanced seventh generation drillships, excluding financing costs, of \$1.8 billion as of the day of this prospectus. Although the terms of our existing debt agreements, and any future debt agreements we enter into, will limit our ability to incur additional debt, these terms may not prohibit us from incurring substantial amounts of additional debt for specific purposes or under certain circumstances. If new debt is added to our and our subsidiaries' current debt levels, the related risks that we and they now face could intensify and could further exacerbate the risks associated with our substantial leverage.

The agreements and instruments governing our indebtedness contain restrictions and limitations that could significantly impact our ability to operate our business.

Our secured credit facilities, the bond agreement governing our unsecured senior notes and the indenture governing the Senior Secured Notes impose, and future financial obligations may impose, certain operating and financial restrictions on us. These restrictions may prohibit or otherwise limit our ability to, among other things: •enter into other financing arrangements;

·incur or guarantee additional indebtedness;

·create or permit liens on our assets;

·consummate a merger, consolidation or sale of our drilling units or the shares of our subsidiaries;

·make investments;

·change the general nature of our business;

·pay dividends, redeem capital stock or subordinated indebtedness or make other restricted payments;

incur dividend or other payment restrictions affecting our restricted subsidiaries under the indenture governing our Senior Secured Notes;

·change the management and/or ownership of our drilling units;

•enter into transactions with affiliates;

·transfer or sell assets;

·amend, modify or change our organizational documents;

•make capital expenditures; and

compete effectively to the extent our competitors are subject to less onerous

restrictions.

In addition, certain of our existing secured credit facilities require us to maintain specified financial ratios and satisfy various financial covenants, including covenants related to the market value of our drilling units, capital expenditures and maintenance of a minimum amount of total available cash. Any future credit agreement or amendment or debt instrument we enter into may contain similar or more restrictive covenants. Events beyond our control, including changes in the economic and business conditions in the deepwater offshore drilling market in which we operate, may affect our ability to comply with these ratios and covenants. Our ability to maintain compliance will also depend substantially on the value of our assets, our dayrates, our ability to obtain drilling contracts, our success at keeping our costs low and our ability to successfully implement our overall business strategy. We cannot guarantee that we would be able to obtain our lenders' waiver or consent with respect to any noncompliance with the specified financial ratios and financial covenants under our various credit facilities or future financial obligations or that we would be able to refinance any such indebtedness in the event of default.

These restrictions, ratios and financial covenants in our debt agreements could limit our ability to fund our operations or capital needs, make acquisitions or pursue available business opportunities, which in turn may adversely affect our financial condition. A violation of any of these provisions could result in a default under our existing and future debt agreements which could allow all amounts outstanding thereunder to be declared immediately due and payable. This would likely in turn trigger cross-acceleration and cross-default rights under the terms of our indebtedness outstanding at such time. If the amounts outstanding under our indebtedness were to be accelerated or were the subject of foreclosure actions, we cannot assure you that our assets would be sufficient to repay in full the money owed to the lenders or to our other debt holders.

We may not be able to generate sufficient cash flow to meet our debt service and other obligations due to events beyond our control.

Our ability to make scheduled payments on our outstanding indebtedness will depend on our ability to generate cash from operations in the future. Our future financial and operating performance will be affected by a range of economic, financial, competitive, regulatory, business and other factors that we cannot control, such as general economic and financial conditions in the offshore drilling industry or the economy generally. In particular, our ability to generate steady cash flow will depend on our ability to secure drilling contracts at acceptable rates. Assuming no exercise of any options to extend the terms of our existing drilling contracts, our operating drilling units are contracted from the second quarter of 2015 to the third quarter of 2021. In addition, we have been awarded extensions of the drilling contracts for the Ocean Rig Corcovado and the Ocean Rig Mykonos by Petrobras for drilling offshore Brazil. The term of each extension is for 1,095 days. We have also signed definite documentation for a six year contract for the Ocean Rog Skyros for drilling offshore Angola and we have entered into a six wells or a minimum of a 260 days contract for the Eirik Raude for drilling offshore Falkland Islands. We cannot guarantee that that we will be able to secure employment for the Ocean Rig Santorini, our seventh generation drillship scheduled for delivery in June 2016 and the two new integrated design drillships scheduled for delivery in February 2017 and June 2017.

Furthermore, our financial and operating performance, and our ability to service our indebtedness, is also dependent on our subsidiaries' ability to make distributions to us, whether in the form of dividends, loans or otherwise. The timing and amount of such distributions will depend on our earnings, financial condition, cash requirements and availability, fleet renewal and expansion, restrictions in our various debt agreements, the provisions of Marshall Islands law affecting the payment of dividends and other factors.

If our operating cash flows are insufficient to service our debt and to fund our other liquidity needs, we may be forced to take actions such as reducing or delaying capital expenditures, selling assets, restructuring or refinancing our indebtedness, seeking additional capital, or any combination of the foregoing. We cannot assure you that any of these actions could be effected on satisfactory terms, if at all, or that they would yield sufficient funds to make required payments on our outstanding indebtedness and to fund our other liquidity needs. Also, the terms of existing or future debt agreements may restrict us from pursuing any of these actions. Furthermore, reducing or delaying capital expenditures or selling assets could impair future cash flows and our ability to service our debt in the future. If for any reason we are unable to meet our debt service and repayment obligations, we would be in default under the terms of the agreements governing such indebtedness, which would allow creditors at that time to declare all such indebtedness then outstanding to be due and payable. This would likely in turn trigger cross-acceleration or cross-default rights among our other debt agreements. Under these circumstances, lenders could compel us to apply all of our available cash to repay borrowings or they could prevent us from making payments on the notes. If the amounts outstanding under our existing and future debt agreements were to be accelerated, or were the subject of foreclosure actions, we cannot assure you that our assets would be sufficient to repay in full the money owed to the lenders or to our other debt holders.

We will need to procure significant additional financing, which may be difficult to obtain on acceptable terms or at all, in order to complete the construction of our seventh generation drillships.

We have entered into contracts with Samsung for the construction of three seventh generation drillships two of which are new integrated design drillships and all are equipped with two blow-out preventers that are scheduled to be delivered to us in June 2016, February 2017 and June 2017, respectively. The estimated total project cost for our three seventh generation drillships, excluding financing costs, is approximately \$2.1 billion, of which an aggregate of approximately \$1.8 billion was outstanding as of December 31, 2014. We expect to finance the remaining delivery payments of these seventh generation drillships with cash on hand, operating cash flow, equity financing and additional bank debt. We may also incur additional costs and liability to the shipyards, which may pursue claims against us under our newbuilding construction contracts and retain and sell our seventh generation drillships to third parties.

We may be unable to secure ongoing drilling contracts, including for the Ocean Rig Santorini, our seventh generation drillship to be delivered in December 2015, due to strong competition, and the contracts that we enter into may not provide sufficient cash flow to meet our debt service obligations with respect to our indebtedness.

Assuming no exercise of any options to extend the terms of our existing drilling contracts, our operating drilling units are contracted from the second quarter of 2015 to the third quarter of 2021. In addition, we have been awarded extensions of the drilling contracts for the Ocean Rig Corcovado and the Ocean Rig Mykonos by Petrobras for drilling offshore Brazil. The term of each extension is for 1,095 days. We have also signed definite documentation for a six year contract for the Ocean Rog Skyros for drilling offshore Angola and we have entered into a six wells or a minimum of a 260 days contract for the Eirik Raude for drilling offshore Falkland Islands.

Our ability to renew our existing drilling contracts or obtain new drilling contracts for our drilling units, including our seventh generation drillship for which we have not yet secured employment, will depend on prevailing market conditions. We cannot guarantee we will be able to enter into new drilling contracts upon the expiration or termination of the contracts we have in place or at all or that there will not be a gap in employment between our current drilling contracts and subsequent contracts. In particular, if the price of crude oil is low, or it is expected that the price of crude oil will decrease in the future, at a time when we are seeking to arrange employment contracts for our drilling units, we may not be able to obtain employment contracts at attractive rates or at all.

If the rates we receive for the reemployment of our drilling units upon the expiration or termination of our existing drilling contracts are lower than the rates under our existing contracts, we will recognize less revenue from the operations of our drilling units. In addition, delays under existing drilling contracts could cause us to lose future contracts if a drilling unit is not available to start work at the agreed date. Our ability to meet our cash flow obligations will depend on our ability to consistently secure drilling contracts for our drilling units at sufficiently high dayrates. We cannot predict the future level of demand for our services or future conditions in the oil and gas industry. If the oil and gas companies do not continue to increase exploration, development and production expenditures, we may have difficulty securing drilling contracts, including for the seventh generation drillships under construction, or we may be forced to enter into drilling contracts at unattractive dayrates. Either of these events could impair our ability to generate sufficient cash flow to make principal and interest payments under our indebtedness and meet our capital expenditure and other obligations.

Construction of drillships is subject to risks, including delays and cost overruns, which could have an adverse impact on our available cash resources and results of operations.

We have entered into contracts with Samsung, for the construction of three seventh generation drillships two of which are new integrated design drillships and all are equipped with two blow-out preventers that are scheduled to be delivered to us in June 2016, February 2017 and June 2017, respectively. From time to time in the future, we may undertake additional new construction projects and conversion projects. In addition, we may make significant upgrade, refurbishment, conversion and repair expenditures for our fleet from time to time, particularly as our drilling units become older. Some of these expenditures are unplanned. These projects together with our existing construction projects and other efforts of this type are subject to risks of cost overruns or delays inherent in any large construction project as a result of numerous factors, including the following:

·shipyard unavailability;

·shortages of equipment, materials or skilled labor for completion of repairs or upgrades to our equipment;

·unscheduled delays in the delivery of ordered materials and equipment or shipyard construction;

·financial or operating difficulties experienced by equipment vendors or the shipyard;

·unanticipated actual or purported change orders;

·local customs strikes or related work slowdowns that could delay importation of equipment or materials;

•engineering problems, including those relating to the commissioning of newly designed equipment;

 $\cdot$  design or engineering changes;

latent damages or deterioration to the hull, equipment and machinery in excess of engineering estimates and assumptions;

·work stoppages;

·client acceptance delays;

·weather interference, storm damage or other events of force majeure;

·disputes with shipyards and suppliers;