

INGERSOLL RAND CO LTD
Form DEF 14A
April 24, 2009
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UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A

(RULE 14a-101)

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

**Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

(Amendment No.)

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

**Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only
(as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))**

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material Under §240.14a-12

Ingersoll-Rand Company Limited

(Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

N/A

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- No fee required.
- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

(1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

(2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

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(1) Amount previously paid:

(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

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Dear Shareholder:

On Wednesday, June 3, 2009, at 3:30 p.m., local time, we will hold a special court-ordered meeting of the holders of our Class A common shares at Crowne Plaza Dublin Northwood located at Northwood Park, Santry Demesne, Santry, Dublin 9, Ireland.

Our board of directors has approved, and is submitting to the holders of our Class A common shares for their approval, a proposal that would result in your holding shares in an Irish company rather than a Bermuda company. The proposed scheme of arrangement under Bermuda law will effectively change the place of incorporation of the company whose shares you own from Bermuda to Ireland. Except for the effect of payment of cash in lieu of fractional shares held of record, if any, the number of shares you will own in Ingersoll-Rand plc, the Irish company, will be the same as the number of Class A common shares you held in Ingersoll-Rand Company Limited, the Bermuda company, immediately prior to the completion of the transaction, and your relative economic interest in Ingersoll Rand will remain unchanged. The special court-ordered meeting is being held in accordance with an order of the Supreme Court of Bermuda issued on April 23, 2009, which Bermuda law required us to obtain prior to holding the meeting. If the holders of our Class A common shares approve the scheme of arrangement at the meeting, we will be required to make a subsequent application to the Supreme Court of Bermuda seeking sanction or approval of the scheme of arrangement, which application is scheduled to be held on June 11, 2009.

After the completion of the transaction, the Irish company will continue to conduct the same business operations as conducted by the Bermuda company before the transaction. We expect the shares of the Irish company to be listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol IR, the same symbol under which your Class A common shares are currently listed. Upon completion of the transaction, we will remain subject to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission reporting requirements, the mandates of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and the applicable corporate governance rules of the New York Stock Exchange, and we will continue to report our consolidated financial results in U.S. dollars and in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

If the scheme of arrangement is approved, we will also ask you at the meeting to approve a proposal to create distributable reserves, which are required under Irish law in order to permit us to continue to pay quarterly dividends after the transaction.

Under U.S. federal income tax law, the holders of our Class A common shares generally will not recognize gain or loss in the transaction, except with respect to any cash received in lieu of fractional shares held of record, if any.

This proxy statement provides you with detailed information regarding the transaction. We encourage you to read this entire document carefully. **You should carefully consider *Risk Factors* beginning on page 24 for a discussion of risks before voting at the meeting.**

The transaction cannot be completed without (1) the affirmative vote of a majority in number of the holders of our Class A common shares present and voting on the proposal, whether in person or by proxy, representing 75% or more in value of the Class A common shares present and voting on the proposal, whether in person or by proxy, and (2) the approval of the Supreme Court of Bermuda. **Your board of directors unanimously recommends that you vote to approve all of the proposals on the agenda.**

Please mark, date, sign and return the enclosed proxy card in the enclosed, postage-paid envelope as promptly as possible, or appoint a proxy to vote your shares by using the Internet, as described in the attached proxy statement, so that your shares may be represented at the special court-ordered meeting and voted in accordance with your wishes.

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If you have any questions about the meeting, or if you require assistance, please call Georgeson Inc. at 1-866-313-3046 (toll-free in the U.S.) or 1-212-404-9800 (call collect).

Sincerely,

Herbert L. Henkel

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

Neither the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of the securities to be issued in the transaction or determined if this proxy statement is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The proxy statement is dated April 24, 2009 and is first being mailed to shareholders on or about April 28, 2009.

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NOTICE OF SPECIAL COURT-ORDERED MEETING OF CLASS A COMMON SHAREHOLDERS

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BERMUDA

CIVIL JURISDICTION

(COMMERCIAL COURT)

2009: NO. 85

IN THE MATTER OF INGERSOLL-RAND COMPANY LIMITED

AND IN THE MATTER OF SECTION 99 OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1981

NOTICE OF MEETING OF INGERSOLL-RAND COMPANY LIMITED

CLASS A COMMON SHAREHOLDERS TO BE HELD ON JUNE 3, 2009

To the holders of Class A common shares of Ingersoll-Rand Company Limited:

Ingersoll-Rand Company Limited, a company organized under the laws of Bermuda (IR-Bermuda), will hold a special court-ordered meeting of the holders of its Class A common shares at Crowne Plaza Dublin Northwood located at Northwood Park, Santry Demesne, Santry, Dublin 9, Ireland, commencing at 3:30 p.m., local time, on June 3, 2009 to vote:

1. to approve the Scheme of Arrangement attached as Annex A to the accompanying proxy statement (the Scheme of Arrangement). If the Scheme of Arrangement is approved and becomes effective, it will effect a transaction (the Transaction) pursuant to which each holder of IR-Bermuda Class A common shares immediately before the Transaction is effected will receive ordinary shares of an Irish company named Ingersoll-Rand plc (IR-Ireland) on a one-for-one basis in exchange for their IR-Bermuda Class A common shares (or, in the case of fractional interests in IR-Bermuda Class A common shares (which we refer to in the accompanying proxy statement as fractional shares) held of record, if any, cash for such fractional shares in lieu of fractional ordinary shares of IR-Ireland);
2. if the Scheme of Arrangement is approved, to approve the creation of distributable reserves of IR-Ireland (through the reduction of the share premium account of IR-Ireland) that was previously approved by IR-Bermuda and the other current shareholders of IR-Ireland (as described in the accompanying proxy statement). We refer to this proposal as the distributable reserves proposal ; and
3. to approve a motion to adjourn the meeting to a later date to solicit additional proxies if there are insufficient proxies to approve the Scheme of Arrangement at the time of the meeting.

If any other matters properly come before the meeting or any adjournments or postponements of the meeting, the persons named in the proxy card will vote the shares represented by all properly executed proxies in their discretion.

All registered holders of IR-Bermuda Class A common shares at the close of business on April 6, 2009 are entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the special court-ordered meeting and any adjournments or postponements thereof.

The accompanying proxy statement and the accompanying proxy card are first being sent to IR-Bermuda Class A common shareholders on or about April 28, 2009.

Either an admission ticket or proof of ownership of Class A common shares, as well as a form of personal identification, must be presented in order to be admitted to the meeting. If you are a shareholder of record, your admission ticket is attached to the accompanying proxy card. If you plan to attend the meeting, please vote your proxy, but keep the admission ticket and bring it to the meeting together with a form of personal

identification. **If your shares are held in the name of a bank, broker or other holder of record and you plan to attend the special court-ordered meeting of IR-Bermuda Class A common shareholders, you must present proof of your ownership of Class A common shares, such as a bank or brokerage account statement, together with a form of personal identification, to be admitted to the meeting. If you would rather have an admission ticket, you can obtain one by following the instructions in the accompanying proxy statement. No cameras, recording equipment, electronic devices, large bags, briefcases or packages will be permitted at the meeting.**

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The special court-ordered meeting of IR-Bermuda Class A common shareholders is being held in accordance with an order of the Supreme Court of Bermuda issued on April 23, 2009, which Bermuda law required us to obtain prior to holding the meeting. If IR-Bermuda Class A common shareholders approve the Scheme of Arrangement at the meeting, we will make a subsequent application to the Supreme Court of Bermuda seeking sanction or approval of the Scheme of Arrangement, which must be obtained as a condition to the Scheme of Arrangement becoming effective. We expect the sanction hearing to be held on June 11, 2009 at the Supreme Court in Hamilton, Bermuda. If you are an IR-Bermuda Class A common shareholder who wishes to appear in person or by counsel at the sanction hearing and present evidence or arguments in support of or opposition to the Scheme of Arrangement, you may do so. In addition, the Supreme Court has wide discretion to hear from interested parties. IR-Bermuda will not object to the participation in the sanction hearing by any IR-Bermuda Class A common shareholder who holds shares through a broker.

This notice incorporates the accompanying proxy statement.

By Order of the Board of Directors

BARBARA A. SANTORO
Vice President Corporate Governance and Secretary

Piscataway, New Jersey

Dated: April 24, 2009

YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT. WHETHER OR NOT YOU EXPECT TO ATTEND THE SPECIAL COURT-ORDERED MEETING, PLEASE PROMPTLY RETURN YOUR SIGNED PROXY IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE OR DIRECT THE VOTING OF YOUR CLASS A COMMON SHARES BY INTERNET AS DESCRIBED ON YOUR PROXY CARD.

The accompanying proxy statement incorporates documents by reference. Please see *Where You Can Find More Information* beginning on page 100 for a listing of documents incorporated by reference. These documents are available to any person, including any beneficial owner, upon request directed to Ingersoll-Rand Company Limited, c/o Ingersoll-Rand Company, One Centennial Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08855, Attention: Secretary. To ensure timely delivery of these documents, any request should be made by May 27, 2009. The exhibits to these documents will generally not be made available unless they are specifically incorporated by reference in the accompanying proxy statement.

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INGERSOLL-RAND COMPANY LIMITED

170/175 Lakeview Dr.

Airside Business Park

Swords, Co. Dublin

Ireland

PROXY STATEMENT

For the Special Court-Ordered Meeting of Class A Common Shareholders

to be held on June 3, 2009

This proxy statement is furnished to the Class A common shareholders of Ingersoll-Rand Company Limited (sometimes referred to herein as IR-Bermuda) in connection with the solicitation of proxies on behalf of the board of directors of IR-Bermuda to be voted at IR-Bermuda's special court-ordered meeting of Class A common shareholders (the meeting or special court-ordered meeting) to be held on June 3, 2009, and any adjournments or postponements thereof, at the times and places and for the purposes set forth in the accompanying Notice of Special Court-Ordered Meeting of Ingersoll-Rand Company Limited Class A Common Shareholders. This proxy statement and the accompanying proxy card are first being sent to Class A common shareholders on or about April 28, 2009. Please **mark, date, sign and return the enclosed proxy card** to ensure that all of your shares are represented at the special court-ordered meeting.

Shares represented by valid proxies will be voted in accordance with instructions contained therein or, in the absence of such instructions, at the proxy's discretion. You may revoke your proxy at any time before it is exercised at the special-court ordered meeting by timely delivery of a properly signed, later-dated proxy (including an Internet proxy) or by voting in person at the meeting. You may also notify our Secretary in writing before the special court-ordered meeting that you are revoking your proxy. If you hold your shares beneficially, please follow the procedures required by your broker to revoke a proxy. You should contact that firm directly for more information on these procedures.

The board of directors has fixed the close of business on April 6, 2009 as the record date for determination of Class A common shareholders entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the meeting and any adjournments or postponements thereof. As of the record date, there were 319,115,673 Class A common shares of IR-Bermuda issued and outstanding.

All shareholders are invited to attend the special court-ordered meeting of IR-Bermuda Class A common shareholders. Either an admission ticket or proof of ownership of Class A common shares, as well as a form of personal identification, must be presented in order to be admitted to the meeting. If you are a shareholder of record, your admission ticket is attached to the enclosed proxy card. If you plan to attend the meeting, please vote your proxy, but keep the admission ticket and bring it to the meeting together with a form of personal identification.

If your shares are held in the name of a bank, broker or other holder of record and you plan to attend the special court-ordered meeting of IR-Bermuda Class A common shareholders, you must present proof of your ownership of Class A common shares, such as a bank or

brokerage account statement, together with a form of personal identification, to be admitted to the meeting. If you would rather have an admission ticket, you can obtain one in advance by mailing a written request, *along with proof of your ownership of Class A common shares*, to:

Secretary

Ingersoll-Rand Company Limited

c/o Ingersoll-Rand Company

One Centennial Avenue

Piscataway, New Jersey 08855

No cameras, recording equipment, electronic devices, large bags, briefcases or packages will be permitted at the meeting.

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TRANSACTION STRUCTURE

We are seeking your approval at the special court-ordered meeting of a Scheme of Arrangement under Bermuda law that will effectively change the place of incorporation of the company whose shares you own from Bermuda to Ireland.

As explained in more detail below, the Scheme of Arrangement on which we are asking you to vote will effect the Transaction, which is part of a broader Reorganization. The first step in that Reorganization was the change of the tax residency of IR-Bermuda from Bermuda to Ireland, which occurred in March 2009.

The Transaction involves several steps. IR-Bermuda, the Bermuda company whose Class A common shares you currently own, formed a new Irish company, named Ingersoll-Rand plc (IR-Ireland), as a direct subsidiary. On April 20, 2009, we petitioned the Supreme Court of Bermuda to order the calling of the meeting of IR-Bermuda Class A common shareholders to approve the Scheme of Arrangement. On April 23, 2009, the Supreme Court of Bermuda ordered us to seek your approval of the Scheme of Arrangement. We will hold the special court-ordered meeting to approve the Scheme of Arrangement on June 3, 2009. If we obtain the necessary approval from IR-Bermuda's Class A common shareholders, the Supreme Court of Bermuda will hold a second hearing scheduled to be held on June 11, 2009 to sanction the Scheme of Arrangement (the Sanction Hearing). Assuming we receive the necessary approvals from IR-Bermuda's Class A common shareholders and the Supreme Court of Bermuda and the conditions to consummation of the Transaction are satisfied (and we do not abandon the Transaction), we will file the court order sanctioning the Scheme of Arrangement with the Bermuda Registrar of Companies, at which time the Scheme of Arrangement will become effective.

Various steps of the Transaction will effectively occur simultaneously at the Transaction Time, which we anticipate will be after the close of trading on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) on the day the Scheme of Arrangement becomes effective, and before the opening of trading on the NYSE on the next business day.

At the Transaction Time, the following steps will effectively occur simultaneously:

1. all fractional shares of IR-Bermuda held of record, if any, will be cancelled and IR-Bermuda will pay to each holder of fractional shares that have been cancelled an amount based on the average of the high and low trading prices of the IR-Bermuda Class A common shares on the NYSE on the business day immediately preceding the effective date of the Scheme of Arrangement;
2. all previously outstanding whole Class A common shares of IR-Bermuda will be cancelled;
3. IR-Bermuda will issue to IR-Ireland a number of Class A common shares that is equal to the number of IR-Ireland ordinary shares to be issued by IR-Ireland as described in paragraph 4 below;
4. IR-Ireland will issue ordinary shares on a one-for-one basis to the holders of whole IR-Bermuda Class A common shares that have been cancelled; and
5. all previously outstanding ordinary shares of IR-Ireland, which prior to the Transaction Time will be held by IR-Bermuda and its nominees, will be acquired by IR-Ireland and cancelled for no consideration, in accordance with a resolution passed by IR-Bermuda and such nominees.

As a result of the Transaction, the Class A common shareholders of IR-Bermuda will become ordinary shareholders of IR-Ireland and IR-Bermuda will become a wholly-owned subsidiary of IR-Ireland.

In connection with the completion of the Transaction, IR-Ireland will assume IR-Bermuda's existing obligations in connection with awards granted under IR-Bermuda's equity incentive plans and other similar employee awards. In addition, concurrently with the completion of the Transaction, IR-Bermuda will complete the transfer of all the outstanding shares of Ingersoll-Rand Global Holding Company Limited (IR-Global) to Ingersoll-Rand International Holding Limited, another wholly-owned indirect subsidiary of IR-Bermuda

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incorporated in Bermuda (IR-International), whereupon IR-International will assume the obligations of IR-Bermuda as an issuer or guarantor, as the case may be, under the indentures governing our outstanding notes, medium-term notes and debentures. IR-Ireland and IR-Bermuda will also fully and unconditionally guarantee the payment obligations of IR-International, IR-Global and Ingersoll-Rand Company, a wholly-owned indirect subsidiary of IR-Bermuda incorporated in New Jersey (IR-New Jersey), as the case may be, as the issuers of the debt securities under these indentures. Neither IR-Ireland nor IR-Bermuda intends to issue guarantees in respect of any indebtedness incurred by Trane. In addition, any securities issued by IR-Bermuda or its subsidiaries that are convertible, exchangeable or exercisable into Class A common shares of IR-Bermuda will become convertible, exchangeable or exercisable, as the case may be, into the ordinary shares of IR-Ireland. Please see Proposal Number One: The Reorganization Supplemental Indentures.

We refer to the foregoing transactions, together with the steps of the Transaction and the change in IR-Bermuda's tax residency from Bermuda to Ireland that was completed in March 2009, as the Reorganization.

At April 6, 2009, 319,115,673 Class A common shares were issued and outstanding and an additional 52,020,439 Class A common shares were held in treasury. IR-Bermuda also has 197,091,605 non-voting Class B common shares in issue. The holders of the Class B common shares are all direct and/or indirect wholly-owned subsidiaries of IR-Bermuda. Those subsidiaries will not participate in the Scheme of Arrangement and will not receive shares of IR-Ireland in exchange for the IR-Bermuda Class B common shares that they hold.

The following diagram depicts our organizational structure before and after the Reorganization. The diagram does not depict any of the legal entities owned by IR-Bermuda.

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE REORGANIZATION

Q: What am I being asked to vote on at the meeting?

A: You are being asked to vote on a Scheme of Arrangement under Bermuda law that will effect the Transaction, pursuant to which your Class A common shares of IR-Bermuda will be cancelled and you will receive, on a one-for-one basis with your IR-Bermuda Class A common shares that have been cancelled, new ordinary shares of IR-Ireland (or, in the case of fractional shares held of record, if any, cash) for the purpose of changing the place of incorporation of the company whose shares you own from Bermuda to Ireland. As a result of the Transaction, Class A common shareholders of IR-Bermuda will become ordinary shareholders of IR-Ireland. Many of the principal attributes of IR-Bermuda's Class A common shares and IR-Ireland's ordinary shares will be similar. However, there are differences between what your rights will be under Irish law and what they currently are under Bermuda law. In addition, there are differences between IR-Bermuda's memorandum of association and bye-laws and IR-Ireland's memorandum and articles of association as they will be in effect after the Transaction. We discuss these differences in detail under Description of Ingersoll-Rand plc Share Capital and Comparison of Rights of Shareholders and Powers of the Board of Directors. The forms of IR-Ireland's memorandum and articles of association as they will be in effect after the Transaction are attached to this proxy statement as Annex B.

If the Scheme of Arrangement is approved, you will also be asked at the special court-ordered meeting to vote on a proposal to approve the creation of distributable reserves of IR-Ireland (through the reduction of the share premium account of IR-Ireland) that was previously approved by IR-Bermuda and the other current shareholders of IR-Ireland (as described in this proxy statement). Approval of the distributable reserves proposal is not a condition to the Transaction.

You are also being asked to vote on a proposal to adjourn the meeting to a later date to solicit additional proxies if there are insufficient proxies to approve the Scheme of Arrangement at the time of the meeting. Approval of the adjournment proposal is not a condition to the Transaction or to the creation of distributable reserves.

Q: Why did IR-Bermuda move its tax residency to Ireland?

A: IR-Bermuda moved its tax residency to Ireland in March 2009 as the first step of the Reorganization.

As discussed below in the answer to the next question, our board of directors has determined that changing both the tax residency and the jurisdiction of incorporation of the parent company of Ingersoll Rand from Bermuda to Ireland is in the best interests of Ingersoll Rand and its shareholders. Having made this determination, it was considered desirable to move as quickly as possible.

Under Ireland's tax system, a company's tax residency is not determined solely based upon its place of incorporation there are companies that are incorporated outside Ireland but are tax resident in Ireland, and vice versa. Accordingly, a company incorporated outside of Ireland may establish tax residency in Ireland without changing its jurisdiction of incorporation. As discussed in this proxy statement, we are seeking your approval at the special court-ordered meeting of a Scheme of Arrangement under Bermuda law that will effectively change the place of incorporation of the company whose shares you own from Bermuda to Ireland. However, a substantial period of time is required to carry out the procedures for obtaining this shareholder approval, as well as those required for obtaining the requisite order of the Supreme Court of Bermuda sanctioning the Scheme of Arrangement. Because we were able to establish tax residency in Ireland without delay once our board of directors determined to change the domicile of the parent company of Ingersoll Rand to Ireland, it was a logical first step to do so.

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Q: Why did you decide to change Ingersoll Rand's tax residency, and why do you want to change Ingersoll Rand's place of incorporation from Bermuda to Ireland?

A: There continues to be negative publicity regarding, and criticism of, companies that conduct substantial business in the U.S. but are domiciled in countries like Bermuda. In addition, the U.S. federal government and various states and municipalities have enacted or may enact legislation intended to deny government contracts to U.S. companies that have reincorporated outside of the United States. Further, proposals have from time to time been made and/or legislation has been introduced to change the U.S. tax law that, if enacted, could increase our tax burden. For example, recent legislative proposals would broaden the circumstances under which we would be considered a U.S. resident. Other legislative proposals could override certain tax treaties and limit the treaty benefits on certain payments by our U.S. subsidiaries to our non-U.S. affiliates.

As a result of these factors, our board of directors determined that it was advisable to change both the tax residency and the jurisdiction of incorporation of the parent company of Ingersoll Rand from Bermuda to another country. Having made this determination, having reviewed the potential impact on Ingersoll Rand of changing the domicile of its parent company to a number of different countries and having also determined that changing the domicile of the parent company of Ingersoll Rand to the United States or certain other countries would adversely affect our effective tax rate and cash tax position, thereby resulting in potentially significant declines in net income and earnings per share and adversely affecting our liquidity, our board of directors determined that it is in the best interests of Ingersoll Rand and its shareholders to change the domicile of the parent company of Ingersoll Rand from Bermuda to Ireland.

Our board of directors' determination that Ireland is the best choice for the domicile of the Ingersoll Rand parent company followed a study by management and outside advisors, and was reached based on the following factors in addition to those described above:

As we continue to grow our business internationally, we believe that moving to Ireland will provide increased strategic flexibility and operational benefits. We already have significant manufacturing sites, sales and customer service operations in Ireland. In total, we currently have approximately 700 employees in the country.

Ireland has strong international relationships as a member of the EU and the eurozone, a long history of international investment and a robust network of tax treaties with the other EU member states and many other countries where we have major operations, including the United States. Ireland is also a member of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (the OECD). As a result, we believe Ireland offers a stable long-term legal and regulatory environment for Ingersoll Rand and that changing the tax residency and the jurisdiction of incorporation of the parent company of Ingersoll Rand to Ireland may:

improve our position with respect to various OECD and European Union withholding and other tax proposals that could adversely affect companies incorporated in certain jurisdictions outside the OECD or the European Union, respectively;

improve our position with respect to certain of the United States federal and state legislative and regulatory proposals described above; and

permit many favorable European Union tax directives to apply to us.

Ireland, like Bermuda, is an English-speaking common law jurisdiction, which we believe makes its legal system less prescriptive and more flexible than those of civil law jurisdictions and also more familiar to Ingersoll Rand and its shareholders.

Ingersoll Rand has a longstanding relationship with Ireland. Our manufacturing facility for our Thermo King operations, based in Galway in western Ireland, was established in 1976 and we have been performing research and development at our R&D center there for more than a decade. In 1979, we established a regional parts distribution operation in Shannon, Ireland, from which we export

products

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out of Ireland. Beginning in 2002, our employees in Dublin have been providing a full range of shared support services for our European business operations, including our non-Thermo King businesses.

Please see [Proposal Number One: The Reorganization Background and Reasons for the Reorganization](#) for more information. We cannot assure you that the anticipated benefits of the Reorganization will be realized. In addition to the potential benefits described above, the Reorganization will expose you and us to some risks. These risks include the following: your rights as a shareholder will change due to differences between Bermuda and Irish law and between the governing documents of IR-Bermuda and IR-Ireland; the market for IR-Ireland shares may differ from the market for IR-Bermuda shares and IR-Ireland's shares may be removed from the S&P 500 or other indices as a result of the Transaction; legislative and regulatory action could materially and adversely affect us regardless of whether we complete the Reorganization; our effective tax rate may increase notwithstanding the Reorganization; the Reorganization may result in additional costs even if it is not completed; we may choose to abandon the Reorganization; if the distributable reserves proposal is not approved, IR-Ireland may not be able to pay dividends or repurchase shares following the Transaction; increased shareholder voting requirements in Ireland will reduce our flexibility in some aspects of capital management; the transfer of IR-Ireland shares after the Transaction may be subject to Irish stamp duty; and dividends paid after the Transaction may be subject to Irish dividend withholding tax or Irish income tax. Please see the discussion under [Risk Factors](#). Our board of directors has considered both the potential advantages of the Reorganization and the associated risks and has approved the Scheme of Arrangement and unanimously recommends that the shareholders vote for the Scheme of Arrangement.

Q: Will the Reorganization affect Ingersoll Rand's current or future operations?

A: We believe that the Reorganization will have no material impact on how we conduct our day-to-day operations. The location of our future operations will depend on the needs of our business, independent of our legal domicile.

Q: How will the Reorganization affect Ingersoll Rand's presence in Ireland and around the world?

A: Except for our increased presence in Ireland (as noted below), there are no changes planned for our operations or workforce in the United States or elsewhere as a result of the Reorganization.

Q: What will be Ingersoll Rand's corporate presence in Ireland?

A: In addition to IR-Ireland being incorporated in Ireland and being governed by Irish law, we will expand our presence in Ireland with additional finance and regulatory professionals. In general, we will hold our Board of Directors meetings in Ireland. As noted above, we already have significant manufacturing sites, sales and customer service operations in Ireland. In total, we currently have approximately 700 employees in the country.

Q: Will the Transaction dilute my economic interest?

A: No, except for the effect of payment of cash for fractional shares held of record, if any, your relative economic ownership in Ingersoll Rand will not change as a result of the Transaction.

Q: How will the Reorganization affect Ingersoll Rand's financial reporting?

A: After the Reorganization, we will continue to prepare financial statements in accordance with U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (U.S. GAAP) and report in U.S. dollars, and will continue to file reports on Forms 10-K, 10-Q and 8-K with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), as we currently do. As required by Irish law, in connection with annual general meetings of IR-Ireland

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commencing with our 2010 annual general meeting, audited consolidated annual financial statements prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), which we refer to as the IFRS Financial Statements, will also be made available to shareholders in addition to the information they currently receive.

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Q: What impact will the Reorganization have on our current debt arrangements?

A: There will be no material impact on our outstanding notes, medium-term notes and debentures or our outstanding credit facilities. Concurrently with the completion of the Transaction, IR-Bermuda will complete the transfer of all the outstanding shares of IR-Global to IR-International, another wholly-owned indirect subsidiary of IR-Bermuda incorporated in Bermuda, whereupon IR-International will assume the obligations of IR-Bermuda as an issuer or guarantor, as the case may be, under the indentures governing our outstanding notes, medium-term notes and debentures. IR-Ireland and IR-Bermuda will also fully and unconditionally guarantee the payment obligations of IR-International, IR-Global and IR-New Jersey, as the case may be, as the issuers of debt securities under these indentures. Neither IR-Ireland nor IR-Bermuda intends to issue guarantees in respect of any indebtedness incurred by Trane. In addition, any securities issued by IR-Bermuda or its subsidiaries that are convertible, exchangeable or exercisable into Class A common shares of IR-Bermuda will become convertible, exchangeable or exercisable, as the case may be, into the ordinary shares of IR-Ireland. Please see Proposal Number One: The Reorganization Supplemental Indentures.

We have previously obtained amendments to our credit facilities that permit the Reorganization.

Q: Will the Reorganization impact Ingersoll Rand's ability to access the capital and bank markets in the future?

A: We do not expect that the Reorganization will have any significant effect on our ability to access the capital and bank markets. We expect to be able to access the capital and bank markets as efficiently and on similar terms as we can today.

Q: What effect would the failure to complete the Reorganization have on us?

A: IR-Bermuda will remain an Irish tax resident even if the Reorganization is not completed. In addition, we have incurred and will incur certain costs whether or not the Reorganization is completed. We will consider all possible alternatives in the event that the Reorganization is not completed. For more information, please see Risk Factors.

Q: What are the material tax consequences of the Transaction?

A: Please read the following questions and answers regarding some of the potential tax consequences of the Transaction. Please refer to Material Tax Considerations for a description of the material U.S. federal income tax, Irish tax and Bermuda tax consequences of the Transaction to IR-Bermuda Class A common shareholders. Determining the actual tax consequences of the Transaction to you may be complex and will depend on your specific situation. We urge you to consult your tax advisor for a full understanding of the tax consequences of the Transaction to you.

Q: Is the Transaction taxable to me?

A: Under U.S. federal income tax law, holders of Class A common shares of IR-Bermuda will not recognize gain or loss in the Transaction, except with respect to any cash received in lieu of fractional shares. Certain five percent or greater shareholders who are U.S. holders may, however, be required to timely enter into and maintain a gain recognition agreement to avoid recognizing gain in the Transaction. Under Irish tax law, no tax is due for IR-Bermuda's Class A common shareholders in the Transaction (including on the receipt of cash in respect of fractional shares in the Transaction) unless such shareholders have some connection with Ireland other than holding IR-Ireland shares. Please see Material Tax Considerations.

Q: Is the Transaction a taxable transaction for IR-Bermuda or IR-Ireland?

A: No. The Transaction will not be a taxable transaction for IR-Bermuda or IR-Ireland.

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Q: Will the Transaction impact Ingersoll Rand's effective tax rate in 2009 or expectations for later years?

A: The Reorganization is not anticipated to have any material impact on our effective tax rate.

Q: Does it matter, for tax or other reasons, whether I hold my shares beneficially or of record ?

A: Yes. In general, Ingersoll Rand shareholders hold their shares in one of two ways. Some shareholders are directly registered in their own names on Ingersoll Rand's shareholder records, as maintained by our transfer agent (currently BNY Mellon Shareowner Services). In this proxy statement, we generally refer to these shareholders as holding their shares directly or of record. Most of our shareholders hold their shares through banks, brokers, trustees, custodians or other nominees, which in turn hold those shares through The Depository Trust Company (DTC). We generally refer to these shareholders as holding their shares beneficially, and to these banks, brokers, trustees, custodians or other nominees as brokers.

Under Irish tax law, you may be treated differently depending on whether you hold your shares beneficially or of record. Please see Material Tax Considerations Irish Tax Considerations. In addition, there are different procedures for voting and attending the meeting, depending on how you hold your shares. Please see The Special Court-Ordered Meeting Record Date; Voting Rights; Vote Required for Approval and The Special Court-Ordered Meeting How You Can Vote.

Q: Will there be an Irish withholding tax on dividends on Ingersoll Rand shares?

A: For the majority of shareholders, there will not be any Irish withholding tax on dividends. Irish withholding tax (if any) arises in respect of dividends paid after IR-Bermuda's first quarter 2009 dividend. Whether Ingersoll Rand is required to deduct Irish dividend withholding tax from such dividends paid to a shareholder will depend largely on whether that shareholder is resident for tax purposes in a relevant territory. A list of the relevant territories is included as Annex C to this proxy statement.

Shares held by U.S. resident shareholders

Dividends paid on Ingersoll Rand shares that are owned by residents of the U.S. generally will not be subject to Irish withholding tax.

For shares held beneficially through DTC, dividends will not be subject to Irish withholding tax if the address of the relevant shareholder in his or her broker's records is in the U.S. For shares held directly, dividends will not be subject to Irish withholding tax if the shareholder has provided a valid Form W-9 showing a U.S. address or a valid U.S. taxpayer identification number to our transfer agent.

Shares held by residents of relevant territories other than the U.S.

Dividends paid to Ingersoll Rand shareholders who are residents of relevant territories other than the U.S. generally will not be subject to Irish withholding tax, but those shareholders will need to provide Irish tax forms in order to receive their dividends without any Irish withholding tax as summarized below.

Ingersoll Rand shareholders who are residents of relevant territories other than the U.S. who held shares on or before March 5, 2009 generally will receive dividends paid on or before February 28, 2010 without any Irish withholding tax. For shares held beneficially, dividends will be paid on or before February 28, 2010 without any Irish withholding tax if the address of the relevant shareholder in his or her broker's records is in a relevant territory other than the U.S. For shares held directly, dividends will be paid on or before February 28, 2010 without any Irish withholding tax if the shareholder has provided a valid U.S. tax form showing an address in a relevant territory other than the U.S. to our transfer agent.

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Shareholders who are residents of relevant territories other than the U.S. who acquire their shares after March 5, 2009 must complete the appropriate Irish dividend withholding tax forms in order to receive their dividends without withholding tax. Such shareholders must provide the appropriate Irish forms to their brokers before the record date for the first dividend payment to which they are entitled (in the case of shares held beneficially), or to our transfer agent at least 7 business days before such record date (in the case of shares held directly).

In addition, all shareholders who are residents of relevant territories other than the U.S. (regardless of when such shareholders acquired their shares) must complete the appropriate Irish dividend withholding tax forms in order to receive their dividends paid after February 28, 2010 without withholding tax. Such shareholders must provide the appropriate Irish forms to their brokers before the record date for the first dividend paid in 2010 (in the case of shares held beneficially), or to our transfer agent at least 7 business days before such record date (in the case of shares held directly).

Shares held by residents of countries that are not relevant territories

Ingersoll Rand shareholders who do not reside in relevant territories will be subject to Irish withholding tax (currently at the rate of 20%), but there are a number of other exemptions that could apply on a case-by-case basis. Such shareholders should seek their own advice as to whether and how they may claim such exemptions.

Important information for all shareholders about Irish withholding tax

We will rely on information received directly or indirectly from brokers and our transfer agent in determining where shareholders reside, whether they have provided the required U.S. tax information and whether they have provided the required Irish dividend withholding tax forms, as described above. We strongly recommend that shareholders who will need to complete Irish forms as described above do so and provide them to their brokers or our transfer agent, as the case may be, as soon as possible. Shareholders who do not need to complete Irish forms should ensure that their residence or required U.S. tax information has been properly recorded by their brokers or provided to our transfer agent, as the case may be, as described above. If any shareholder who is exempt from withholding receives a dividend subject to Irish dividend withholding tax, he or she may make an application for a refund from the Irish Revenue Commissioners on the prescribed form.

Links to the various Irish Revenue forms are available at <http://www.revenue.ie/en/tax/dwt/forms/index.html>. Please contact your broker or your tax advisor if you have any questions regarding Irish dividend withholding tax.

Please see **Material Tax Considerations** **Irish Tax Considerations** **Withholding Tax on Dividends** for a more detailed description of the Irish withholding tax on dividends.

Q: Will there be Irish income tax on dividends on Ingersoll Rand shares?

A: For the majority of shareholders, there will not be any Irish income tax on dividends.

Irish income tax (if any) generally arises for non-Irish residents only in respect of dividends paid after IR-Bermuda's establishment of tax residency in Ireland, which occurred after the dividend payment date in March 2009.

Dividends paid on Ingersoll Rand shares owned by residents of relevant territories or by other shareholders that are otherwise exempt from Irish dividend withholding tax will generally not be subject to Irish income tax unless they have some connection to Ireland other than holding Ingersoll Rand shares. Residents of relevant territories and other shareholders that are otherwise exempt from Irish dividend

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withholding tax who receive dividends subject to Irish withholding tax should be able to make a reclaim of the withholding tax from the Irish Revenue unless they have some connection to Ireland other than holding Ingersoll Rand shares. Ingersoll Rand shareholders who receive their dividends subject to Irish dividend withholding tax will have no further liability to Irish income tax on the dividend unless they have some other connection with Ireland.

This answer does not address shareholders that are resident or ordinarily resident in Ireland for Irish tax purposes. Such shareholders should seek their own advice.

Please see [Material Tax Considerations](#) [Irish Tax Considerations](#) [Income Tax on Dividends Paid on Ingersoll Rand Shares](#) for a more detailed description of the Irish income tax on dividends.

Q: Will there be an Irish stamp duty on the transfer of Ingersoll Rand shares?

A: For the majority of transfers of Ingersoll Rand shares, there will not be any Irish stamp duty. Irish stamp duty (if any) becomes payable in respect of transfers of IR-Ireland shares occurring after completion of the Transaction.

A transfer of IR-Ireland shares from a seller who holds shares beneficially to a buyer who holds the acquired shares beneficially will not be subject to Irish stamp duty (unless the transfer involves a change in the nominee that is the record holder of the transferred shares). A transfer of IR-Ireland shares by a seller who holds shares directly to any buyer, or by a seller who holds the shares beneficially to a buyer who holds the acquired shares directly, may be subject to Irish stamp duty (currently at the rate of 1% of the price paid or the market value of the shares acquired, if higher) payable by the buyer. A shareholder who directly holds shares may transfer those shares into his or her own broker account (or vice versa) without giving rise to Irish stamp duty provided there is no change in the ultimate beneficial ownership of the shares as a result of the transfer and the transfer is not made in contemplation of a sale of the shares.

Because of the potential Irish stamp duty on transfers of IR-Ireland shares, we strongly recommend that all directly registered shareholders open broker accounts so they can transfer their shares into a broker account as soon as possible, and in any event prior to completion of the Transaction. We also strongly recommend that any person who wishes to acquire IR-Ireland shares after completion of the Transaction acquire such shares beneficially.

We currently intend to pay (or cause one of our affiliates to pay) stamp duty in connection with share transfers made in the ordinary course of trading by a seller who holds shares directly to a buyer who holds the acquired shares beneficially. In other cases, IR-Ireland may, in its absolute discretion, pay (or cause one of its affiliates to pay) any stamp duty. IR-Ireland's articles of association as they will be in effect after the Transaction provide that, in the event of any such payment, IR-Ireland (i) may seek reimbursement from the transferor or transferee (at our discretion), (ii) may set-off the amount of the stamp duty against future dividends payable to the transferor or transferee (at our discretion), and (iii) will have a lien against the IR-Ireland shares on which we have paid stamp duty. Parties to a share transfer may assume that any stamp duty arising in respect of a transaction in IR-Ireland shares has been paid unless one or both of such parties is otherwise notified by us.

Please see [Material Tax Considerations](#) [Irish Tax Considerations](#) [Stamp Duty](#) for a more detailed description of the Irish stamp duty.

Q: Will the Reorganization have any impact on Ingersoll Rand's ability to pay dividends or buy back shares?

A: Under Irish law, dividends must be paid (and share repurchases must generally be funded) out of distributable reserves, which IR-Ireland will not have immediately following the Transaction Time. Please

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see Description of Ingersoll-Rand plc Share Capital Dividends and Description of Ingersoll-Rand plc Share Capital Share Repurchases, Redemptions and Conversions. If the Scheme of Arrangement is approved, Class A common shareholders of IR-Bermuda also will be asked at the special court-ordered meeting to approve the creation of distributable reserves of IR-Ireland (through the reduction of the share premium account of IR-Ireland), in order to permit us to continue to pay quarterly dividends (and repurchase shares) after the Transaction. The approval of the distributable reserves proposal is not a condition to the consummation of the Transaction. Accordingly, if the Class A common shareholders of IR-Bermuda approve the Scheme of Arrangement but do not approve the distributable reserves proposal, and the Transaction is consummated, IR-Ireland may not have sufficient distributable reserves to pay dividends (or to repurchase shares) following the Transaction.

In addition, the creation of distributable reserves requires the approval of the Irish High Court. Although we are not aware of any reason why the Irish High Court would not approve the creation of distributable reserves, the issuance of the required order is a matter for the discretion of the Irish High Court and there is no guarantee that such approval will be forthcoming. Please see Risk Factors and Proposal Number Two: Creation of Distributable Reserves.

Q: Will the Reorganization have any material impact on another company's ability to acquire Ingersoll Rand?

A: No, the Reorganization should not materially affect the ability of another company to acquire Ingersoll Rand. Please see Comparison of Rights of Shareholders and Powers of the Board of Directors Shareholder Approval of Business Combinations, Comparison of Rights of Shareholders and Powers of the Board of Directors Appraisal Rights, Comparison of Rights of Shareholders and Powers of the Board of Directors Business Combinations with Interested Shareholders, and Comparison of Rights of Shareholders and Powers of the Board of Directors Other Anti-Takeover Measures.

Q: When do you expect the Transaction to be completed?

A: We are working towards completing the Transaction as quickly as possible and, assuming the Scheme of Arrangement is approved by the requisite vote of IR-Bermuda's Class A common shareholders and by the Supreme Court of Bermuda and the other conditions to the consummation of the Transaction are satisfied (and we do not abandon the Transaction), we expect to do so as soon as practicable following the receipt of the necessary approvals. We currently expect to complete the Transaction within two to four weeks after receiving approval from IR-Bermuda's Class A common shareholders. Please see Annex E to this proxy statement for an expected timetable. However, the Transaction may be abandoned or delayed by our board of directors at any time prior to the Scheme of Arrangement becoming effective, without obtaining the approval of IR-Bermuda's Class A common shareholders, even though the Scheme of Arrangement may have been approved by IR-Bermuda's Class A common shareholders and sanctioned by the Supreme Court of Bermuda and all other conditions to the Transaction may have been satisfied. Please see Proposal Number One: The Reorganization Amendment, Termination or Delay.

Q: What will I receive for my IR-Bermuda Class A common shares?

A: You will receive one ordinary share of IR-Ireland for each whole Class A common share of IR-Bermuda you held immediately prior to the completion of the Transaction and cash for any fractional shares of IR-Bermuda you held of record immediately prior to completion of the Transaction.

Q: If the Scheme of Arrangement is approved, do I have to take any action to cancel my IR-Bermuda Class A common shares and receive IR-Ireland shares?

A: Assuming the Transaction becomes effective, your IR-Bermuda Class A common shares will be cancelled and IR-Ireland ordinary shares will be issued without any action on your part, regardless of whether you currently hold IR-Bermuda Class A common shares in certificated form or beneficially. All of IR-Ireland's

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shares will be issued in uncertificated book-entry form. Consequently, if you currently hold IR-Bermuda Class A common shares in certificated form, following the Transaction, your IR-Bermuda share certificates will cease to have effect as documents or evidence of title. The transfer agent will make an electronic book-entry in your name and will mail you a statement evidencing your ownership of IR-Ireland shares. Please see Proposal Number One: The Reorganization No Action Required to Cancel IR-Bermuda Shares and Receive IR-Ireland Shares.

Q: Can I trade IR-Bermuda Class A common shares between the date of this proxy statement and the effective time of the Transaction?

A: Yes. The IR-Bermuda Class A common shares will continue to trade during this period.

Q: How will the Transaction affect the stock exchange listing of Ingersoll Rand shares?

A: We expect that, immediately following the Transaction Time, the IR-Ireland ordinary shares will be listed on the NYSE under the symbol IR, the same symbol under which your Class A common shares are currently listed. We do not plan for IR-Ireland's ordinary shares to be listed on the Irish Stock Exchange at the present time. However, certain of our debt securities are currently listed on the Irish Stock Exchange.

Q: After the Transaction, will shares of IR-Ireland be included in the S&P 500 Index and other indices?

A: Our shares currently are a component of the Standard & Poor's 500 Index and other indices. While S&P is an independent body over which we have no control, we believe it is likely that S&P would remove our shares as a component of the S&P 500 upon completion of the Transaction. Our expectation is based on current S&P guidelines and the actions they have taken with other companies that have undergone similar changes in their jurisdiction of incorporation. Based on past S&P practices, we would not expect them to make a determination until after the special court-ordered meeting. Similar issues could arise with respect to whether our shares will continue to be included as a component in other indices or funds that may impose a variety of qualifications that could be affected by the Transaction. If our shares are removed as a component of the S&P 500 or other indices, or no longer meet the qualifications of such funds, institutional investors that are required to track the performance of the S&P 500 or such other indices or the funds that impose those qualifications would be required to sell their shares, which we expect could adversely affect the price of our shares. Any such adverse impact on the price of our shares could be magnified by the current heightened volatility in the financial markets. Please see Risk Factors.

Q: What vote of IR-Bermuda shareholders is required to approve the proposals?

A: The Scheme of Arrangement must be approved by a majority in number of the holders of the IR-Bermuda Class A common shares present and voting on the proposal, whether in person or by proxy, representing 75% or more in value of the IR-Bermuda Class A common shares present and voting on the proposal, whether in person or by proxy. The affirmative vote of holders of IR-Bermuda Class A common shares representing at least a majority of the IR-Bermuda Class A common shares present in person or by proxy at the meeting and voting on the proposal is required to approve the distributable reserves proposal. The affirmative vote of holders of IR-Bermuda Class A common shares representing at least a majority of the IR-Bermuda Class A common shares present in person or by proxy at the meeting and voting on the proposal is required to approve the adjournment proposal. Please see The Special Court-Ordered Meeting Record Date; Voting Rights; Vote Required for Approval.

Q: What quorum is required for action at the meeting?

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- A: The presence of two or more persons present in person and representing in person or by proxy a majority of the IR-Bermuda Class A common shares outstanding and entitled to vote at the meeting constitutes a quorum for the conduct of business. Abstentions and broker non-votes will be counted as present for purposes of determining whether there is a quorum in respect of the proposals. Please see The Special Court-Ordered Meeting Record Date; Voting Rights; Vote Required for Approval.

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Q: What vote does my board of directors recommend?

A: The IR-Bermuda board of directors unanimously recommends that IR-Bermuda's Class A common shareholders vote FOR the proposal to approve the Scheme of Arrangement, FOR the distributable reserves proposal and FOR the proposal to adjourn the meeting to a later date if there are insufficient proxies to approve the Scheme of Arrangement at the time of the meeting.

Q: How do I attend the special court-ordered meeting?

A: All Class A common shareholders of IR-Bermuda are invited to attend the meeting at Crowne Plaza Dublin Northwood located at Northwood Park, Santry Demesne, Santry, Dublin 9, Ireland, commencing at 3:30 p.m., local time, on June 3, 2009. **Either an admission ticket or proof of ownership of Class A common shares, as well as a form of personal identification, must be presented in order to be admitted to the meeting.** If you are a Class A common shareholder of record, your admission ticket is attached to the enclosed proxy card. If you plan to attend the meeting, please vote your proxy, but keep the admission ticket and bring it to the meeting together with a form of personal identification.

If your Class A common shares are held in the name of a bank, broker or other holder of record and you plan to attend the meeting, you must present proof of your ownership of Class A common shares, such as a bank or brokerage account statement, together with a form of personal identification to be admitted to the meeting. If you would rather have an admission ticket, you can obtain one in advance by mailing a written request, along with proof of your ownership of Class A common shares, to:

Secretary

Ingersoll-Rand Company Limited

c/o Ingersoll-Rand Company

One Centennial Avenue

Piscataway, New Jersey 08855

No cameras, recording equipment, electronic devices, large bags, briefcases or packages will be permitted at the meeting.

Q: How do I vote?

A: Class A common shareholders of record can cast their votes by proxy by:

using the internet to appoint proxies to cast your vote by following the instructions on the enclosed proxy card; or

completing, signing and returning the enclosed proxy card.

To vote your Class A common shares directly, you may attend the meeting and cast your vote in person.

Class A common shareholders who hold their shares through a broker must vote their shares in the manner prescribed by their broker. Brokers who hold shares on behalf of customers have the authority to vote on routine proposals when they have not received instructions from beneficial owners, but are precluded from exercising their voting discretion with respect to proposals for non-routine matters. Proxies submitted by brokers without instructions from customers for these non-routine matters are referred to as broker non-votes. We believe the proposal to approve the

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Scheme of Arrangement and the distributable reserves proposal are proposals for non-routine matters.

The internet appointment of proxy procedures are designed to authenticate the appointment of a proxy to cast your vote by use of a personal identification number. The procedures allow Class A common shareholders to appoint a proxy to vote their shares and to confirm that their instructions have been properly recorded. If you are a Class A common shareholder of record and you would like to appoint your proxy to

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vote by internet, please refer to the specific instructions contained on the enclosed proxy card. If you appoint your proxy to vote by internet, you do not need to return the enclosed proxy card. In order to be timely processed, an internet appointment must be received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on June 2, 2009. For more details about Internet proxies, please see [The Special Court-Ordered Meeting How You Can Vote](#).

Q: How may employees vote under our employee plans?

A: If you participate in the Ingersoll-Rand Company Employee Savings Plan, the Ingersoll-Rand Company Employee Savings Plan for Bargained Employees, the Ingersoll Rand/Thermo King de Puerto Rico Retirement Savings Plan, the Trane Employee Stock Ownership Plan, the Trane Savings Plan or the Trane 401(k) and Thrift Plan, then you may be receiving these materials because of IR-Bermuda Class A common shares held for you in those plans. In that case, you may use the enclosed proxy card to instruct the plan trustees of those plans how to vote your Class A common shares, or give those instructions over the internet. They will vote such shares in accordance with your instructions and the terms of the plan.

If you do not provide voting instructions for the Class A common shares held for you in any of these plans, the plan trustees will vote these shares in the same ratio as the shares for which voting instructions are provided.

Q: If my IR-Bermuda Class A common shares are held beneficially through my broker, will my broker vote my shares for me?

A: We recommend that you contact your broker. Your broker can give you directions on how to instruct the broker to vote your Class A common shares. Your broker may not be able to vote your Class A common shares unless the broker receives appropriate instructions from you.

Q: May I revoke my proxy?

A: You may revoke your proxy at any time before it is exercised at the special court-ordered meeting in any of the following ways:

by notifying IR-Bermuda's Secretary in writing at Ingersoll-Rand Company Limited, c/o Ingersoll-Rand Company, One Centennial Avenue, Piscataway, New Jersey 08855;

by submitting another properly signed proxy card with a later date or another internet proxy at a later date; or

by voting in person at the meeting.

You may not revoke a proxy merely by attending the meeting. To revoke a proxy, you must take one of the actions described above.

Q: How will my proxy get voted?

A: If you properly complete, sign and date the enclosed proxy card and send it to us or properly deliver your proxy over the internet, your proxy holder (one of the individuals named on the enclosed proxy card) will vote your Class A common shares as you have directed. If you do not wish to vote all of your Class A common shares in the same manner on any particular proposal(s), you may split your vote by clearly hand-marking the reverse side of the proxy card to indicate how you want to vote your Class A common shares. You may not split your

vote if you are voting by the Internet.

If you do not specify on the enclosed proxy card that is submitted (or when giving your proxy over the internet) how you want to vote your Class A common shares, the proxy holders will vote them FOR each of the proposals set forth in this proxy statement.

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Q: Whom should I call if I have questions about the meeting or the Reorganization?

A: You should contact either of the following:

IR-Bermuda:

Investor Relations

Ingersoll-Rand Company Limited

c/o Ingersoll-Rand Company

One Centennial Avenue

Piscataway, NJ 08855

Attention: Secretary

Phone: (732) 652-7000

the proxy solicitor:

Georgeson Inc.

199 Water Street

New York, NY 10038

1-866-313-3046 (toll-free in the U.S.)

1-212-404-9800 (call collect)

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SUMMARY

This summary highlights selected information from this proxy statement. It does not contain all of the information that is important to you. To understand the Reorganization more fully, and for a more complete legal description of the Transaction, you should read carefully the entire proxy statement, including the Annexes. The Scheme of Arrangement, attached as Annex A to this proxy statement, is the legal document that governs the Transaction. The memorandum and articles of association of IR-Ireland, substantially in the forms attached to this proxy statement as Annex B, will govern IR-Ireland after the completion of the Transaction. We encourage you to read those documents carefully.

Parties to the Transaction

IR-Bermuda. IR-Bermuda, together with its consolidated subsidiaries, is a diversified, global company that provides products, services and solutions to enhance the quality and comfort of air in homes and buildings, transport and protect food and perishables, secure homes and commercial properties, and increase industrial productivity and efficiency. Our business segments consist of Air Conditioning Systems and Services, Climate Control Technologies, Industrial Technologies and Security Technologies, each with strong brands and leading positions within their respective markets. We generate revenue and cash primarily through the design, manufacture, sale and service of a diverse portfolio of industrial and commercial products that include well-recognized, premium brand names such as Club Car®, Hussmann®, Ingersoll Rand®, Schlage®, Thermo King® and Trane®.

IR-Ireland. IR-Ireland is a newly formed Irish company and is currently wholly-owned by IR-Bermuda, except for six shares that are held in trust for IR-Bermuda by six nominees to satisfy Irish legal requirements with respect to the shareholding structure of an Irish public limited company. IR-Ireland has only nominal assets and capitalization and has not engaged in any business or other activities other than in connection with its formation and the Transaction. As a result of the Transaction, IR-Ireland will become the parent holding company of IR-Bermuda. The principal executive offices of IR-Ireland are located at 170/175 Lakeview Dr., Airside Business Park, Swords, Co. Dublin, Ireland, and the telephone number at that address is +(353) (0) 18707400.

The Reorganization

The Transaction will effectively change the place of incorporation of the company whose shares you own from Bermuda to Ireland.

The Transaction involves several steps. On April 1, 2009, IR-Bermuda, the Bermuda company whose Class A common shares you currently own, formed IR-Ireland, as a direct subsidiary. On April 20, 2009, we petitioned the Supreme Court of Bermuda to order the calling of a meeting of IR-Bermuda Class A common shareholders to approve the Scheme of Arrangement. On April 23, 2009, the Supreme Court of Bermuda ordered us to seek your approval of the Scheme of Arrangement. We will hold the special court-ordered meeting to approve the Scheme of Arrangement on June 3, 2009. If we obtain the necessary shareholder approval, the Supreme Court of Bermuda will hold the Sanction Hearing, which is scheduled to be held on June 11, 2009 to sanction the Scheme of Arrangement. Assuming we receive the necessary approvals from IR-Bermuda's Class A common shareholders and the Supreme Court of Bermuda and the conditions to consummate the Transaction are satisfied (and we do not abandon the Transaction), we will file the court order sanctioning the Scheme of Arrangement with the Bermuda Registrar of Companies, at which time the Scheme of Arrangement will be effective. Various steps of the Transaction will effectively occur simultaneously at the Transaction Time, which we anticipate will be after the close of trading on the NYSE on the day the Scheme of Arrangement becomes effective, and before the opening of trading on the NYSE on the next business day.

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At the Transaction Time, as part of the Transaction, the following steps will effectively occur simultaneously:

1. all fractional shares of IR-Bermuda held of record, if any, will be cancelled and IR-Bermuda will pay to each holder of fractional shares that have been cancelled an amount based on the average of the high and low trading prices of the IR-Bermuda Class A common shares on the NYSE on the business day immediately preceding the effective date of the Scheme of Arrangement;
2. all previously outstanding whole Class A common shares of IR-Bermuda will be cancelled;
3. IR-Bermuda will issue to IR-Ireland a number of Class A common shares that is equal to the number of IR-Ireland ordinary shares to be issued by IR-Ireland as described in paragraph 4 below;
4. IR-Ireland will issue ordinary shares on a one-for-one basis to the holders of whole IR-Bermuda Class A common shares that have been cancelled; and
5. all previously outstanding ordinary shares of IR-Ireland, which prior to the Transaction Time will be held by IR-Bermuda and its nominees, will be acquired by IR-Ireland and cancelled for no consideration, in accordance with a resolution passed by IR-Bermuda and such nominees.

As a result of the Transaction, the Class A common shareholders of IR-Bermuda will become ordinary shareholders of IR-Ireland and IR-Bermuda will become a wholly-owned subsidiary of IR-Ireland.

In connection with the completion of the Transaction, IR-Ireland will assume IR-Bermuda's existing obligations in connection with awards granted under IR-Bermuda's equity incentive plans and other similar employee awards. In addition, concurrently with the completion of the Transaction, IR-Bermuda will complete the transfer of all the outstanding shares of IR-Global to IR-International, another wholly-owned indirect subsidiary of IR-Bermuda incorporated in Bermuda, whereupon IR-International will assume the obligations of IR-Bermuda as an issuer or guarantor, as the case may be, under the indentures governing our outstanding notes, medium-term notes and debentures. IR-Ireland and IR-Bermuda will also fully and unconditionally guarantee the payment obligations of IR-International, IR-Global and IR-New Jersey, as the case may be, as the issuers of debt securities under these indentures. Neither IR-Ireland nor IR-Bermuda intends to issue guarantees in respect of any indebtedness incurred by Trane. Please see Proposal Number One: The Reorganization Supplemental Indentures.

We refer to the foregoing transactions, together with the steps of the Transaction and the change in IR-Bermuda's tax residency from Bermuda to Ireland that was completed in March 2009, as the Reorganization.

At April 6, 2009, 319,115,673 Class A common shares were issued and outstanding and an additional 52,020,439 Class A common shares were held in treasury. IR-Bermuda also has 197,091,605 non-voting Class B common shares in issue. The holders of the Class B common shares are all direct and/or indirect wholly-owned subsidiaries of IR-Bermuda. Those subsidiaries will not participate in the Scheme of Arrangement and will not receive shares of IR-Ireland in exchange for the IR-Bermuda Class B common shares that they hold.

After the Transaction, you will continue to own an interest in a parent company that will continue to conduct the same business operations as conducted by IR-Bermuda before the Transaction. Except for the effect of payment of cash in lieu of fractional shares held of record, if any, the number of ordinary shares you will own in IR-Ireland will be the same as the number of Class A common shares you owned in IR-Bermuda immediately prior to the Transaction, and your relative economic interest in Ingersoll Rand will remain unchanged.

The completion of the Reorganization will change the governing companies law that applies to us from Bermuda law to Irish law. There are differences between Bermuda law and Irish law and between IR-Bermuda's

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memorandum of association and bye-laws, on the one hand, and IR-Ireland's memorandum and articles of association, as they will be in effect after the Transaction, on the other hand. Please see "Comparison of Rights of Shareholders and Powers of the Board of Directors" for a summary of some of these differences.

Upon completion of the Reorganization, we will remain subject to SEC reporting requirements, the mandates of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and the applicable corporate governance rules of the NYSE, and we will continue to report our consolidated financial results in U.S. dollars and in accordance with U.S. GAAP. As required by Irish law, in connection with annual general meetings of IR-Ireland commencing with our 2010 annual general meeting, IFRS Financial Statements will also be made available to shareholders in addition to the information they currently receive.

Reasons for the Reorganization

There continues to be negative publicity regarding, and criticism of, companies that conduct substantial business in the U.S. but are domiciled in countries like Bermuda. In addition, the U.S. federal government and various states and municipalities have enacted or may enact legislation intended to deny government contracts to U.S. companies that have reincorporated outside of the United States. Further, proposals have from time to time been made and/or legislation has been introduced to change the U.S. tax law that, if enacted, could increase our tax burden. For example, recent legislative proposals would broaden the circumstances under which we would be considered a U.S. resident. Other legislative proposals could override certain tax treaties and limit the treaty benefits on certain payments by our U.S. subsidiaries to our non-U.S. affiliates.

As a result of these factors, our board of directors determined that it was advisable to change both the tax residency and the jurisdiction of incorporation of the parent company of Ingersoll Rand from Bermuda to another country. Having made this determination, having reviewed the potential impact on Ingersoll Rand of changing the domicile of its parent company to a number of different countries and having also determined that changing the domicile of the parent company of Ingersoll Rand to the United States or certain other countries would adversely affect our effective tax rate and cash tax position, thereby resulting in potentially significant declines in net income and earnings per share and adversely affecting our liquidity, our board of directors determined that it is in the best interests of Ingersoll Rand and its shareholders to change the domicile of the parent company of Ingersoll Rand from Bermuda to Ireland.

Our board of directors' determination that Ireland is the best choice for the domicile of the Ingersoll Rand parent company followed a study by management and outside advisors, and was reached based on the following factors in addition to those described above:

As we continue to grow our business internationally, we believe that moving to Ireland will provide increased strategic flexibility and operational benefits. We already have significant manufacturing sites, sales and customer service operations in Ireland. In total, we currently have approximately 700 employees in the country.

Ireland has strong international relationships as a member of the EU and the eurozone, a long history of international investment and a robust network of tax treaties with the other EU member states and many other countries where we have major operations, including the United States. Ireland is also a member of the OECD. As a result, we believe Ireland offers a stable long-term legal and regulatory environment for Ingersoll Rand and that changing the tax residency and the jurisdiction of incorporation of the parent company of Ingersoll Rand to Ireland may:

improve our position with respect to various OECD and European Union withholding and other tax proposals that could adversely affect companies incorporated in certain jurisdictions outside the OECD or the European Union, respectively;

improve our position with respect to certain of the United States federal and state legislative and regulatory proposals described above; and

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permit many favorable European Union tax directives to apply to us.

Ireland, like Bermuda, is an English-speaking common law jurisdiction, which we believe makes its legal system less prescriptive and more flexible than those of civil law jurisdictions and also more familiar to Ingersoll Rand and its shareholders.

Ingersoll Rand has a longstanding relationship with Ireland. Our manufacturing facility for our Thermo King operations, based in Galway in western Ireland, was established in 1976 and we have been performing research and development at our R&D center there for more than a decade. In 1979, we established a regional parts distribution operation in Shannon, Ireland, from which we export products out of Ireland. Beginning in 2002, our employees in Dublin have been providing a full range of shared support services for our European business operations, including our non-Thermo King businesses.

Please see [Proposal Number One: The Reorganization Background and Reasons for the Reorganization](#) for more information. We cannot assure you that the anticipated benefits of the Reorganization will be realized. In addition to the potential benefits described above, the Reorganization will expose you and us to some risks. These risks include the following: your rights as a shareholder will change due to differences between Bermuda and Irish law and between the governing documents of IR-Bermuda and IR-Ireland; the market for IR-Ireland shares may differ from the market for IR-Bermuda shares and IR-Ireland's shares may be removed from the S&P 500 or other indices as a result of the Transaction; legislative and regulatory action could materially and adversely affect us regardless of whether we complete the Reorganization; our effective tax rate may increase notwithstanding the Reorganization; the Reorganization may result in additional costs even if it is not completed; we may choose to abandon the Reorganization; if the distributable reserves proposal is not approved, IR-Ireland may not be able to pay dividends or repurchase shares following the Transaction; increased shareholder voting requirements in Ireland will reduce our flexibility in some aspects of capital management; the transfer of IR-Ireland shares after the Transaction may be subject to Irish stamp duty; and dividends paid after the Transaction may be subject to Irish dividend withholding tax or Irish income tax. Please see the discussion under [Risk Factors](#). Our board of directors has considered both the potential advantages of the Reorganization and the associated risks and has approved the Scheme of Arrangement and unanimously recommends that the shareholders vote for the Scheme of Arrangement.

Tax Considerations

Under U.S. federal income tax law, holders of Class A common shares of IR-Bermuda generally will not recognize gain or loss in the Transaction, except with respect to any cash received in lieu of fractional shares. Certain five percent or greater Class A common shareholders may, however, be required to timely enter into and maintain a gain recognition agreement to avoid recognizing a gain in the Transaction. Under Irish tax law, no tax is due for IR-Bermuda Class A common shareholders in the Transaction (including on the receipt of cash in respect of fractional shares in the Transaction) unless such shareholders have some connection with Ireland other than holding IR-Ireland shares. Please refer to [Material Tax Considerations](#) for a description of the material U.S. federal income tax and Irish tax consequences of the Transaction to IR-Bermuda Class A common shareholders. Determining the actual tax consequences of the Transaction to you may be complex and will depend on your specific situation. We urge you to consult your tax advisor for a full understanding of the tax consequences of the Transaction to you.

Rights of Shareholders

Many of the principal attributes of IR-Bermuda's Class A common shares and IR-Ireland's ordinary shares will be similar. However, there are differences between what your rights will be under Irish law and what they currently are under Bermuda law. In addition, there are differences between IR-Bermuda's memorandum of association and bye-laws and IR-Ireland's memorandum and articles of association as they will be in effect after the Transaction. We discuss these differences in detail under [Description of Ingersoll-Rand plc Share Capital](#)

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and Comparison of Rights of Shareholders and Powers of the Board of Directors. The forms of IR-Ireland's memorandum and articles of association as they will be in effect after the Transaction are attached to this proxy statement as Annex B.

Stock Exchange Listing

We expect that, immediately following the Transaction Time, the IR-Ireland ordinary shares will be listed on the NYSE under the symbol IR, the same symbol under which your Class A common shares are currently listed. We do not plan for IR-Ireland's ordinary shares to be listed on the Irish Stock Exchange at the present time. However, certain of our debt securities are currently listed on the Irish Stock Exchange.

Court Sanction of the Scheme of Arrangement

We cannot complete the Reorganization without the sanction of the Scheme of Arrangement by the Supreme Court of Bermuda. Subject to the Class A common shareholders of IR-Bermuda approving the Scheme of Arrangement, a Supreme Court of Bermuda hearing will be required to seek the sanction of the Scheme of Arrangement. At the Sanction Hearing, the Supreme Court of Bermuda may impose such conditions as it deems appropriate in relation to the Scheme of Arrangement but may not impose any material changes without the joint consent of IR-Bermuda and IR-Ireland. IR-Bermuda may, subject to U.S. securities law constraints, consent to any modification of the Scheme of Arrangement on behalf of the Class A common shareholders which the Supreme Court of Bermuda may think fit to approve or impose. In determining whether to exercise its discretion and sanction the Scheme of Arrangement, the Supreme Court of Bermuda will determine, among other things, whether the Scheme of Arrangement is fair to IR-Bermuda's Class A common shareholders.

Creation of Distributable Reserves

Under Irish law, IR-Ireland requires distributable reserves in its unconsolidated balance sheet prepared in accordance with the Irish Companies Acts 1963-2006 (the Irish Companies Acts) to enable it to make distributions (including the payment of cash dividends) to its shareholders, or to redeem or buy back shares. Please see Description of Ingersoll-Rand plc Share Capital Dividends and Description of Ingersoll-Rand plc Share Capital Share Repurchases, Redemptions and Conversions. Immediately following implementation of the Transaction, the unconsolidated balance sheet of IR-Ireland will not contain any distributable reserves. The current shareholders of IR-Ireland (which are IR-Bermuda and its nominees) have passed a resolution that would create distributable reserves following the Transaction by reducing the share premium account of IR-Ireland. If the Scheme of Arrangement is approved, Class A common shareholders of IR-Bermuda will also be asked at the special court-ordered meeting to approve the creation of distributable reserves of IR-Ireland that was previously approved by IR-Bermuda and the other current shareholders of IR-Ireland. If the Class A shareholders of IR-Bermuda approve the creation of distributable reserves and the Transaction is completed, we will seek to obtain the approval of the Irish High Court, which is required for the creation of distributable reserves to be effective, as soon as practicable following implementation of the Transaction. The approval of the Irish High Court is expected to be obtained within three to four weeks of the consummation of the Transaction. Please see Risk Factors.

Market Price and Dividend Information

On March 4, 2009, the last trading day before the public announcement of the Transaction, the closing price of the IR-Bermuda Class A common shares on the NYSE was \$13.31 per share. On April 22, 2009, the most recent practicable date before the date of this proxy statement, the closing price of the IR-Bermuda Class A common shares on the NYSE was \$19.35 per share. On March 30, 2009, we announced that our board of directors had authorized a reduction in our quarterly common stock dividend to \$0.07 per share from \$0.18 per share, effective with the September 2009 dividend payment.

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No Appraisal Rights

Under Bermuda law, the Class A common shareholders of IR-Bermuda do not have any right to an appraisal of the value of their shares or payment for them in connection with the Transaction.

Accounting Treatment of the Transaction

Under U.S. GAAP, the Transaction represents a transaction between entities under common control. Assets and liabilities transferred between entities under common control are accounted for at cost. Accordingly, the assets and liabilities of IR-Ireland will be reflected at their carrying amounts in the accounts of IR-Bermuda at the Transaction Time.

Special Court-Ordered Meeting

Time, Place, Date and Purpose. The special court-ordered meeting will be held on June 3, 2009 at 3:30 p.m., local time, at Crowne Plaza Dublin Northwood located at Northwood Park, Santry Demesne, Santry, Dublin 9, Ireland. At the meeting, IR-Bermuda's board of directors will ask the Class A common shareholders of IR-Bermuda to vote:

1. to approve the Scheme of Arrangement. If the Scheme of Arrangement is approved and becomes effective, it will effect the Transaction, pursuant to which each holder of IR-Bermuda Class A common shares immediately before the Transaction is effected will receive ordinary shares of IR-Ireland on a one-for-one basis in exchange for their IR-Bermuda Class A common shares (or, in the case of fractional shares of IR-Bermuda Class A common shares, if any, cash for such fractional shares in lieu of fractional ordinary shares of IR-Ireland);
2. if the Scheme of Arrangement is approved, to approve the creation of distributable reserves of IR-Ireland (through the reduction of the share premium account of IR-Ireland) that was previously approved by IR-Bermuda and the other current shareholders of IR-Ireland (as described in this proxy statement); and
3. to approve a motion to adjourn the meeting to a later date to solicit additional proxies if there are insufficient proxies to approve the Scheme of Arrangement at the time of the meeting.

If any other matters properly come before the meeting or any adjournments or postponements of the meeting, the persons named in the proxy card will vote the shares represented by all properly executed proxies in their discretion.

Record Date. Only holders of record of IR-Bermuda Class A common shares on April 6, 2009 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting or any adjournments or postponements of the meeting.

Quorum. The presence of two or more persons in person and representing in person or by proxy a majority of the IR-Bermuda Class A common shares outstanding and entitled to vote at the meeting constitutes a quorum for the conduct of business. Abstentions and broker non-votes will be counted as present for purposes of determining whether there is a quorum in respect of the proposals.

Recommendation of the Board of Directors

The IR-Bermuda board of directors unanimously recommends that IR-Bermuda's Class A common shareholders vote **FOR** the proposal to approve the Scheme of Arrangement, **FOR** the distributable reserves proposal and **FOR** the proposal to adjourn the meeting to a later date if there are insufficient proxies to approve the Scheme of Arrangement at the time of the meeting. Approval of the distributable reserves proposal is not a condition to the Transaction. Approval of the adjournment proposal is not a condition to the Transaction or the creation of distributable reserves.

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Required Vote

The Scheme of Arrangement must be approved by a majority in number of the holders of the IR-Bermuda Class A common shares present and voting on the proposal, whether in person or by proxy, representing 75% or more in value of the IR-Bermuda Class A common shares present and voting on the proposal, whether in person or by proxy. The affirmative vote of holders of at least a majority of the IR-Bermuda Class A common shares present in person or by proxy at the meeting and voting on the proposal is required to approve the distributable reserves proposal. The affirmative vote of holders of at least a majority of the IR-Bermuda Class A common shares present in person or by proxy at the meeting and voting on the proposal is required to approve the adjournment proposal. Please see The Special Court-Ordered Meeting Record Date; Voting Rights; Vote Required for Approval.

Proxies

General. A proxy card is being sent to each IR-Bermuda Class A common shareholder as of the record date. Class A common shareholders of record can cast their votes by proxy by:

using the internet to appoint proxies to cast your vote by following the instructions on the enclosed proxy card; or

completing, signing and returning the enclosed proxy card.

To vote your Class A common shares directly, you may attend the meeting and cast your vote in person. Class A common shareholders who hold their shares through a broker must vote their shares in the manner prescribed by their broker.

The internet appointment of proxy procedures are designed to authenticate the appointment of a proxy to cast your vote by use of a personal identification number. The procedures allow Class A common shareholders to appoint a proxy to vote their shares and to confirm that their instructions have been properly recorded. If you are a Class A common shareholder of record and you would like to appoint your proxy to vote by internet, please refer to the specific instructions contained on the enclosed proxy card. If you appoint your proxy to vote by internet, you do not need to return the enclosed proxy card. In order to be timely processed, an internet appointment must be received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on June 2, 2009. For more details about Internet proxies, please see The Special Court-Ordered Meeting How You Can Vote.

If you hold your IR-Bermuda Class A common shares in the name of a broker, the broker may generally vote your shares it holds in accordance with instructions received. Class A common shareholders who hold their shares through a broker must vote their shares in the manner prescribed by their broker. Therefore, please follow the instructions provided by your broker when voting your IR-Bermuda Class A common shares.

Revocation. You may revoke your proxy at any time **before it is exercised at the special court-ordered meeting** in any of the following ways:

by notifying IR-Bermuda's Secretary in writing at Ingersoll-Rand Company Limited, c/o Ingersoll-Rand Company, One Centennial Avenue, Piscataway, New Jersey 08855;

by submitting another properly signed proxy card with a later date or another internet proxy at a later date; or

by voting in person at the meeting.

You may not revoke a proxy merely by attending the meeting. To revoke a proxy, you must take one of the actions described above. If you hold your IR-Bermuda Class A common shares in the name of a broker, you should follow the instructions provided by your broker in revoking your previously granted instructions.

Table of Contents**Selected Historical Financial and Other Data**

The following table presents selected historical financial and other data for IR-Bermuda. The statement of income data for fiscal years 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005 and 2004 and the balance sheet data as of December 31, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005 and 2004 are derived from our consolidated financial statements. The selected historical financial and other data presented below should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and accompanying notes and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations included in IR-Bermuda's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008 and other financial information incorporated by reference in this proxy statement. Historical financial information may not be indicative of IR-Ireland's future performance.

We have included no data for IR-Ireland because this entity was not in existence during any of the periods shown below.

In millions, except per share amounts:

At and for the years ended December 31,	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004
Net revenues	\$ 13,227.4	\$ 8,763.1	\$ 8,033.7	\$ 7,263.7	\$ 6,663.2
Earnings (loss) from continuing operations	(2,567.4)	733.1	765.0	731.8	554.2
Earnings (loss) from discontinued operations	(57.4)	3,233.6	267.5	322.4	664.5
Total assets	20,924.5	14,376.2	12,145.9	11,756.4	11,414.6
Total debt	5,124.1	1,453.7	1,984.6	2,117.0	1,880.4
Shareholders' equity	6,661.4	7,907.9	5,404.8	5,761.9	5,733.8
Basic earnings (loss) per common share:					
Continuing operations	\$ (8.54)	\$ 2.52	\$ 2.39	\$ 2.17	\$ 1.60
Discontinued operations	(0.19)	11.12	0.84	0.95	1.92
Diluted earnings (loss) per common share:					
Continuing operations	\$ (8.54)	\$ 2.48	\$ 2.37	\$ 2.14	\$ 1.58
Discontinued operations	(0.19)	10.95	0.83	0.95	1.89
Dividends per common share	\$ 0.72	\$ 0.72	\$ 0.68	\$ 0.57	\$ 0.44

1. Earnings and dividends per common share amounts have been restated to reflect a two-for-one stock split that occurred in August 2005.
2. 2006-2004 amounts have been restated to reflect Compact Equipment and the Road Development business unit as discontinued operations.
3. 2008 amounts include the results of Trane since the acquisition (June 6, 2008 through December 31, 2008).
4. 2008 Earnings (loss) from continuing operations include an after-tax, non-cash asset impairment charge of \$3.4 billion that was recognized in the fourth quarter.

Unaudited Summary Pro Forma Financial Information

Pro forma financial statements for IR-Ireland are not presented in this proxy statement because no significant pro forma adjustments are required to be made to the historical statement of income and balance sheet of IR-Bermuda as of and for the year ended December 31, 2008. Those financial statements are included in IR-Bermuda's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008.

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RISK FACTORS

Before you decide how to vote, you should consider carefully the following risk factors, in addition to the other information contained in this proxy statement and the documents incorporated by reference, including, without limitation, our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008 and subsequent filings with the SEC.

Your rights as a shareholder will change as a result of the Transaction.

Because of differences between Irish law and Bermuda law and differences between the governing documents of IR-Ireland and IR-Bermuda, your rights as a shareholder will change if the Transaction is completed. For a description of these differences, please see Comparison of Rights of Shareholders and Powers of the Board of Directors.

The market for the IR-Ireland shares may differ from the market for the IR-Bermuda shares, and IR-Ireland's shares may be removed as a component of the Standard & Poor's 500 Index and other indices or certain other funds.

We intend to list the IR-Ireland shares on the NYSE under the symbol IR, the same trading symbol as the IR-Bermuda Class A common shares. The market price, trading volume or volatility of the IR-Ireland shares could be different than those of the IR-Bermuda shares.

Our shares currently are a component of the Standard & Poor's 500 Index and other indices. While S&P is an independent body over which we have no control, we believe it is likely that S&P would remove our shares as a component of the S&P 500 upon completion of the Transaction. Our expectation is based on current S&P guidelines and the actions they have taken with other companies that have undergone similar changes in their jurisdiction of incorporation. Based on past S&P practices, we would not expect them to make a determination until after the special court-ordered meeting. Similar issues could arise with respect to whether our shares will continue to be included as a component in other indices or funds that may impose a variety of qualifications that could be affected by the Transaction. If our shares are removed as a component of the S&P 500 or other indices, or no longer meet the qualifications of such funds, institutional investors that are required to track the performance of the S&P 500 or such other indices or the funds that impose those qualifications would be required to sell their shares, which we expect could adversely affect the price of our shares. Any such adverse impact on the price of our shares could be magnified by the current heightened volatility in the financial markets.

Legislative and regulatory action could materially and adversely affect us.

Our tax position could be adversely impacted by changes in tax laws, tax treaties or tax regulations or the interpretation or enforcement thereof by the U.S. tax authorities or any other tax authority. For example, legislative action may be taken by the U.S. Congress which, if ultimately enacted, could override tax treaties upon which we rely or could broaden the circumstances under which we would be considered a U.S. resident regardless of whether we complete the Reorganization, each of which could materially and adversely affect our effective tax rate and cash tax position. We cannot predict the outcome of any specific legislative proposals. However, if proposals were enacted that had the effect of disregarding the Reorganization or limiting our ability to take advantage of tax treaties between Ireland and other jurisdictions (including the United States), we could be subjected to increased taxation. In addition, any future amendments to the current income tax treaties between Ireland and other jurisdictions (including the United States) could subject us to increased taxation. Also, various U.S. federal and state legislative proposals have been introduced in recent years that deny government contracts to certain U.S. companies that reincorporate or have reincorporated outside the United States. The Reorganization may not eliminate the risk that these contract bans will apply to us.

In addition, there continues to be negative publicity regarding, and criticism of, companies that conduct business in the U.S. and in other countries but are domiciled in countries like Bermuda. We may become subject to similar criticism in connection with our announcement of the change in our tax residency and the Reorganization.

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Our effective tax rate may increase notwithstanding the Reorganization.

While the Reorganization is not anticipated to have any material impact on our effective tax rate, there is uncertainty regarding the tax policies of the jurisdictions where we operate (which include the potential legislative actions described above), and our effective tax rate may increase and any such increase may be material. Additionally, the tax laws of Ireland and other jurisdictions could change in the future, and such changes could cause a material change in our effective tax rate.

The Reorganization will result in additional direct and indirect costs, even if it is not completed.

Although we do not expect these costs to be material, we will incur additional direct costs as a result of the Reorganization. In addition to IR-Ireland being incorporated in Ireland and being governed by Irish law, we will expand our presence in Ireland with additional finance and regulatory professionals. In general, we will hold our board of directors meetings in Ireland. We also expect to incur costs and expenses, including professional fees, to comply with Irish corporate and tax laws and financial reporting requirements. In addition, we expect to incur attorneys' fees, accountants' fees, filing fees, mailing expenses and financial printing expenses in connection with the Reorganization, even if the Scheme of Arrangement is not approved or completed. The Reorganization also may negatively affect us by diverting attention of our management and employees from our operating business during the period of implementation and by increasing other administrative costs and expenses.

We may choose to abandon or delay the Reorganization.

We may abandon or delay the Reorganization at any time prior to the Scheme of Arrangement becoming effective by action of our board of directors, even after the special court-ordered meeting and the sanction of the Supreme Court of Bermuda. While we currently expect to complete the Reorganization as soon as practicable after obtaining shareholder approval of the Scheme of Arrangement at the meeting, our board of directors may delay the Reorganization for a significant time or may abandon the Reorganization after the meeting because, among other reasons, of an increase in our estimated cost of the Reorganization or a determination by the board of directors that completing the Reorganization is no longer in our best interest or the best interests of our shareholders or may not result in the benefits we expect. Additionally, we may not be able to obtain the requisite shareholder or court approvals.

Please see Proposal Number One: The Reorganization Amendment, Termination or Delay.

If the shareholders of IR-Bermuda do not approve the distributable reserves proposal, IR-Ireland may not have sufficient distributable reserves to pay dividends (or to repurchase shares) following the Transaction. In addition, there is no guarantee that Irish High Court approval of the creation of distributable reserves will be forthcoming.

Under Irish law, dividends must be paid (and share repurchases must generally be funded) out of distributable reserves, which IR-Ireland will not have immediately following the Transaction Time. Please see Description of Ingersoll-Rand plc Share Capital Dividends and Description of Ingersoll-Rand plc Share Capital Share Repurchases, Redemptions and Conversions. If the Scheme of Arrangement is approved, Class A common shareholders of IR-Ireland also will be asked at the special court-ordered meeting to approve the creation of distributable reserves of IR-Ireland (through the reduction of the share premium account of IR-Ireland), in order to permit us to continue to pay quarterly dividends (and repurchase shares) after the Transaction. The approval of the distributable reserves proposal is not a condition to the consummation of the Transaction. Accordingly, if the Class A common shareholders of IR-Bermuda approve the Scheme of Arrangement but do not approve the distributable reserves proposal, and the Transaction is consummated, IR-Ireland may not have sufficient distributable reserves to pay dividends (or to repurchase shares) following the Transaction.

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In addition, the creation of distributable reserves requires the approval of the Irish High Court. Although we are not aware of any reason why the Irish High Court would not approve the creation of distributable reserves, the issuance of the required order is a matter for the discretion of the Irish High Court and there is no guarantee that such approval will be forthcoming. Even if the Irish High Court does approve the creation of distributable reserves, it may take substantially longer than we anticipate. Please see Proposal Number Two: Creation of Distributable Reserves.

As a result of different shareholder voting requirements in Ireland relative to Bermuda, we will have less flexibility with respect to certain aspects of capital management than we now have.

Under Bermuda law, our directors may issue, without shareholder approval, any common shares authorized in our memorandum of association that are not already issued. Irish law allows shareholders to authorize share capital which then can be issued by a board of directors without shareholder approval. Additionally, subject to specified exceptions, Irish law grants statutory pre-emptive rights to existing shareholders to subscribe for new issuances of shares for cash, but allows shareholders to authorize the waiver of the statutory pre-emptive rights with respect to any particular allotment of shares. These authorizations must be renewed by the shareholders every five years and we cannot guarantee that these authorizations will always be approved, which could limit our ability to issue equity and thereby adversely affect the holders of our debt securities. While we do not believe that the differences between Bermuda law and Irish law relating to our capital management will have an adverse effect on us, situations may arise where the flexibility we now have in Bermuda would have provided benefits to our shareholders. Please see Comparison of Rights of Shareholders and Powers of the Board of Directors Capitalization, Comparison of Rights of Shareholders and Powers of the Board of Directors Pre-emption Rights, Share Warrants and Share Options and Comparison of Rights of Shareholders and Powers of the Board of Directors Distributions and Dividends; Repurchases and Redemptions.

After the Reorganization, a future transfer of your IR-Ireland shares may be subject to Irish stamp duty.

In certain circumstances, the transfer of shares in an Irish incorporated company will be subject to Irish stamp duty (currently at the rate of 1% of the higher of the price paid or the market value of the shares acquired) payable by the buyer. Although in the majority of transactions there will be no stamp duty because both the seller and buyer hold the shares beneficially, this additional risk for the buyer could adversely affect the price of our shares. Although we currently intend to pay (or cause one of our affiliates to pay) stamp duty in connection with share transfers made in the ordinary course of trading by a seller who holds shares directly to a buyer who holds the acquired shares beneficially, IR-Ireland's articles of association as they will be in effect after the Transaction provide that, in the event of any such payment, IR-Ireland (i) may seek reimbursement from the transferor or transferee (at our discretion), (ii) may set-off the amount of the stamp duty against future dividends payable to the transferor or transferee (at our discretion), and (iii) will have a lien against the IR-Ireland shares on which we have paid stamp duty and any dividends paid on such shares. Please see Material Tax Considerations Irish Tax Considerations Stamp Duty.

Dividends received by you may be subject to Irish dividend withholding tax.

In certain circumstances, as an Irish tax resident company, we are required to deduct Irish dividend withholding tax (currently at the rate of 20%) from dividends paid to our shareholders. In the majority of cases, shareholders resident in the U.S. will not be subject to Irish withholding tax, and shareholders resident in a number of other countries will not be subject to Irish withholding tax provided that they complete certain Irish dividend withholding tax forms. However, some shareholders may be subject to withholding tax, which could adversely affect the price of our shares. Please see Material Tax Considerations Irish Tax Considerations Withholding Tax on Dividends.

Dividends received by you could be subject to Irish income tax.

Dividends paid in respect of our shares will generally not be subject to Irish income tax where the beneficial owner of these dividends is exempt from dividend withholding tax, unless the beneficial owner of the dividend has some connection with Ireland other than his or her shareholding in Ingersoll Rand.

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Ingersoll Rand shareholders who receive their dividends subject to Irish dividend withholding tax will generally have no further liability to Irish income tax on the dividend unless the beneficial owner of the dividend has some connection with Ireland other than his or her shareholding in Ingersoll Rand. Please see [Material Tax Considerations](#) [Irish Tax Considerations](#) [Income Tax on Dividends Paid on Ingersoll Rand Shares](#).

Ingersoll Rand strongly recommends that each shareholder consult his or her own tax advisor as to the tax consequences of holding shares in and receiving dividends from Ingersoll Rand.

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FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements in this proxy statement and in the documents incorporated by reference in this proxy statement are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. These forward-looking statements generally are identified by the words believe, project, expect, anticipate, estimate, forecast, outlook, intend, strategy, plan, may, should, will, would, will be, will continue, or variations thereof or negative thereof or variations thereon or similar terminology generally intended to identify forward-looking statements.

Forward-looking statements involve risks, uncertainties and assumptions. Actual results may differ materially from those expressed in these forward-looking statements. You should not put undue reliance on any forward-looking statements.

The factors that could cause actual future results to differ materially from current expectations include, but are not limited to, our ability to obtain approval of the IR-Bermuda Class A common shareholders and the Supreme Court of Bermuda for and to satisfy the other conditions to the Reorganization on the expected timeframe or at all, our ability to realize the expected benefits from the Reorganization, the occurrence of difficulties in connection with the Reorganization, and any unanticipated costs in connection with the Reorganization.

The foregoing factors are in addition to those factors discussed under Risk Factors and Proposal Number One: The Reorganization Background and Reasons for the Reorganization and elsewhere in this proxy statement, as well as those in the documents that we incorporate by reference into this proxy statement (including, without limitation, the Risk Factors section of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008 and subsequent SEC filings). There may be other risks and uncertainties that we are unable to predict at this time or that we currently do not expect to have a material adverse effect on our business. We expressly disclaim any obligation to update these forward-looking statements other than as required by law.

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PROPOSAL NUMBER ONE: THE REORGANIZATION

The Transaction will effectively change the place of incorporation of the company whose shares you own from Bermuda to Ireland.

As explained in more detail below, the Scheme of Arrangement on which we are asking you to vote will effect the Transaction, which is part of a broader Reorganization. The first step in that Reorganization was the change of IR-Bermuda's tax residency from Bermuda to Ireland, which occurred in March 2009.

The Transaction involves several steps. On April 1, 2009, IR-Bermuda, the Bermuda company whose Class A common shares you currently own, formed IR-Ireland, as a direct subsidiary. On April 20, 2009, we petitioned the Supreme Court of Bermuda to order the calling of a meeting of IR-Bermuda Class A common shareholders to approve the Scheme of Arrangement. On April 23, 2009, the Supreme Court of Bermuda ordered us to seek your approval of the Scheme of Arrangement. We will hold the special court-ordered meeting to approve the Scheme of Arrangement on June 3, 2009. If we obtain the necessary shareholder approval, the Supreme Court of Bermuda will hold the Sanction Hearing, which is scheduled to be held on June 11, 2009 to sanction the Scheme of Arrangement. Assuming we receive the necessary approvals from IR-Bermuda's Class A common shareholders and the Supreme Court of Bermuda and the conditions to consummation of the Transaction are satisfied (and we do not abandon the Transaction), we will file the court order sanctioning the Scheme of Arrangement with the Bermuda Registrar of Companies, at which time the Scheme of Arrangement will be effective.

Various steps of the Transaction will effectively occur simultaneously at the Transaction Time, which we anticipate will be after the close of trading on the NYSE on the day the Scheme of Arrangement becomes effective, and before the opening of trading on the NYSE on the next business day.

At the Transaction Time the following steps will effectively occur simultaneously:

1. all fractional shares of IR-Bermuda held of record, if any, will be cancelled and IR-Bermuda will pay to each holder of fractional shares that have been cancelled an amount based on the average of the high and low trading prices of the IR-Bermuda Class A common shares on the NYSE on the business day immediately preceding the effective date of the Scheme of Arrangement;
2. all previously outstanding whole Class A common shares of IR-Bermuda will be cancelled;
3. IR-Bermuda will issue to IR-Ireland a number of Class A common shares that is equal to the number of IR-Ireland ordinary shares to be issued by IR-Ireland as described in paragraph 4 below;
4. IR-Ireland will issue ordinary shares on a one-for-one basis to the holders of whole IR-Bermuda Class A common shares that have been cancelled; and
5. all previously outstanding ordinary shares of IR-Ireland, which prior to the Transaction Time will be held by IR-Bermuda and its nominees, will be acquired by IR-Ireland and cancelled for no consideration, in accordance with a resolution passed by IR-Bermuda and such nominees.

As a result of the Transaction, the Class A common shareholders of IR-Bermuda will become ordinary shareholders of IR-Ireland and IR-Bermuda will become a wholly-owned subsidiary of IR-Ireland.

In connection with the completion of the Transaction, IR-Ireland will assume IR-Bermuda's existing obligations in connection with awards granted under IR-Bermuda's equity incentive plans and other similar employee awards. In addition, concurrently with the completion of the Transaction, IR-Bermuda will complete the transfer of all the outstanding shares of IR-Global to IR-International, another wholly-owned indirect subsidiary of IR-Bermuda incorporated in Bermuda, whereupon IR-International will assume the obligations of IR-Bermuda as an issuer or guarantor, as the case may be, under the indentures governing our outstanding notes,

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medium-term notes and debentures. IR-Ireland and IR-Bermuda will also fully and unconditionally guarantee the payment obligations of IR-International, IR-Global and IR-New Jersey, as the case may be, as the issuers of debt securities under these indentures. Neither IR-Ireland nor IR-Bermuda intends to issue guarantees in respect of any indebtedness incurred by Trane. In addition, any securities issued by IR-Bermuda or its subsidiaries that are convertible, exchangeable or exercisable into Class A common shares of IR-Bermuda will become convertible, exchangeable or exercisable, as the case may be, into the ordinary shares of IR-Ireland. Please see Proposal Number One: The Reorganization Supplemental Indentures.

We refer to the foregoing transactions, together with the steps of the Transaction and the change in IR-Bermuda's tax residency from Bermuda to Ireland that was completed in March 2009, as the Reorganization.

At April 6, 2009, 319,115,673 Class A common shares were issued and outstanding and an additional 52,020,439 Class A common shares were held in treasury. IR-Bermuda also has 197,091,605 non-voting Class B common shares in issue. The holders of the Class B common shares are all direct and/or indirect wholly-owned subsidiaries of IR-Bermuda. Those subsidiaries will not participate in the Scheme of Arrangement and will not receive shares of IR-Ireland in exchange for the IR-Bermuda Class B common shares that they hold.

Background and Reasons for the Reorganization

There continues to be negative publicity regarding, and criticism of, companies that conduct substantial business in the U.S. but are domiciled in countries like Bermuda. In addition, the U.S. federal government and various states and municipalities have enacted or may enact legislation intended to deny government contracts to U.S. companies that have reincorporated outside of the United States. Further, proposals have from time to time been made and/or legislation has been introduced to change the U.S. tax law that, if enacted, could increase our tax burden. For example, recent legislative proposals would broaden the circumstances under which we would be considered a U.S. resident. Other legislative proposals could override certain tax treaties and limit the treaty benefits on certain payments by our U.S. subsidiaries to our non-U.S. affiliates.

As a result of these factors, our board of directors determined that it was advisable to change both the tax residency and the jurisdiction of incorporation of the parent company of Ingersoll Rand from Bermuda to another country. Having made this determination, having reviewed the potential impact on Ingersoll Rand of changing the domicile of its parent company to a number of different countries and having also determined that changing the domicile of the parent company of Ingersoll Rand to the United States or certain other countries would adversely affect our effective tax rate and cash tax position, thereby resulting in potentially significant declines in net income and earnings per share and adversely affecting our liquidity, our board of directors determined that it is in the best interests of Ingersoll Rand and its shareholders to change the domicile of the parent company of Ingersoll Rand from Bermuda to Ireland.

Our board of directors' determination that Ireland is the best choice for the domicile of the Ingersoll Rand parent company followed a study by management and outside advisors, and was reached based on the following factors in addition to those described above:

As we continue to grow our business internationally, we believe that moving to Ireland will provide increased strategic flexibility and operational benefits. We already have significant manufacturing sites, sales and customer service operations in Ireland. In total, we currently have approximately 700 employees in the country.

Ireland has strong international relationships as a member of the EU and the eurozone, a long history of international investment and a robust network of tax treaties with the other EU member states and many other countries where we have major operations, including the United States. Ireland is also a member of the OECD. As a result, we believe Ireland offers a stable long-term legal and regulatory environment for Ingersoll Rand and that changing the tax residency and the jurisdiction of incorporation of the parent company of Ingersoll Rand to Ireland may:

improve our position with respect to various OECD and European Union withholding and other tax proposals that could adversely affect companies incorporated in certain jurisdictions outside the OECD or the European Union, respectively;

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improve our position with respect to certain of the United States federal and state legislative and regulatory proposals described above; and

permit many favorable European Union tax directives to apply to us.

Ireland, like Bermuda, is an English-speaking common law jurisdiction, which we believe makes its legal system less prescriptive and more flexible than those of civil law jurisdictions and also more familiar to Ingersoll Rand and its shareholders.

Ingersoll Rand has a longstanding relationship with Ireland. Our manufacturing facility for our Thermo King operations, based in Galway in western Ireland, was established in 1976 and we have been performing research and development at our R&D center there for more than a decade. In 1979, we established a regional parts distribution operation in Shannon, Ireland, from which we export products out of Ireland. Beginning in 2002, our employees in Dublin have been providing a full range of shared support services for our European business operations, including our non-Thermo King businesses.

Please see Proposal Number One: The Reorganization Background and Reasons for the Reorganization for more information. We cannot assure you that the anticipated benefits of the Reorganization will be realized. In addition to the potential benefits described above, the Reorganization will expose you and us to some risks. These risks include the following: your rights as a shareholder will change due to differences between Bermuda and Irish law and between the governing documents of IR-Bermuda and IR-Ireland; the market for IR-Ireland shares may differ from the market for IR-Bermuda shares and IR-Ireland's shares may be removed from the S&P 500 or other indices as a result of the Transaction; legislative and regulatory action could materially and adversely affect us regardless of whether we complete the Reorganization; our effective tax rate may increase notwithstanding the Reorganization; the Reorganization may result in additional costs even if it is not completed; we may choose to abandon the Reorganization; if the distributable reserves proposal is not approved, IR-Ireland may not be able to pay dividends or repurchase shares following the Transaction; increased shareholder voting requirements in Ireland will reduce our flexibility in some aspects of capital management; the transfer of IR-Ireland shares after the Transaction may be subject to Irish stamp duty; and dividends paid after the Transaction may be subject to Irish dividend withholding tax or Irish income tax. Please see the discussion under Risk Factors. Our board of directors has considered both the potential advantages of the Reorganization and the associated risks and has approved the Scheme of Arrangement and unanimously recommends that the shareholders vote for the Scheme of Arrangement.

Amendment, Termination or Delay

Subject to U.S. securities law constraints, the Scheme of Arrangement may be amended, modified or supplemented at any time before or after its adoption by the Class A common shareholders of IR-Bermuda at the special court-ordered meeting. However, after adoption, no amendment, modification or supplement may be made or effected that legally requires further approval by IR-Bermuda's Class A common shareholders without obtaining that approval.

At the Sanction Hearing, the Supreme Court of Bermuda may impose such conditions as it deems appropriate in relation to the Scheme of Arrangement but may not impose any material changes without the joint consent of IR-Bermuda and IR-Ireland. IR-Bermuda may, subject to U.S. securities law constraints, consent to any modification of the Scheme of Arrangement on behalf of the Class A common shareholders which the Supreme Court of Bermuda may think fit to approve or impose.

The board of directors of IR-Bermuda may terminate the Scheme of Arrangement and abandon the Transaction, or delay the Transaction, at any time prior to the effectiveness of the Scheme of Arrangement, without obtaining the approval of IR-Bermuda's Class A common shareholders, even though the Scheme of Arrangement may have been approved by such shareholders and sanctioned by the Supreme Court of Bermuda and all other conditions to the Transaction may have been satisfied.

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Unless the Scheme of Arrangement has become effective on or before January 1, 2010 or such later date, if any, as IR-Bermuda may agree and the Supreme Court of Bermuda may allow, the Scheme of Arrangement will lapse by its terms and not come into effect.

Conditions to Consummation of the Transaction

The Transaction will not be completed unless, among other things, the following conditions are satisfied or, if allowed by law, waived:

the Scheme of Arrangement is approved by the requisite vote of Class A common shareholders of IR-Bermuda;

the requisite court order sanctioning the Scheme of Arrangement is obtained from the Supreme Court of Bermuda;

there is no threatened, pending or effective decree, order, injunction or other legal restraint prohibiting the consummation of the Scheme of Arrangement or related transactions;

the IR-Ireland shares to be issued pursuant to the Transaction are authorized for listing on the NYSE, subject to official notice of issuance;

all consents and governmental authorizations that are necessary, desirable or appropriate in connection with the Scheme of Arrangement and related transactions are obtained on terms acceptable to IR-Bermuda and are in full force and effect;

IR-Bermuda receives an opinion from Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to it, confirming, as of the effective date of the Scheme of Arrangement, the matters discussed under Material Tax Considerations U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations ; and

IR-Bermuda receives an opinion from Arthur Cox, Solicitors, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to it, confirming, as of the effective date of the Scheme of Arrangement, the matters discussed under Material Tax Considerations Irish Tax Considerations.

Court Sanction of the Scheme of Arrangement

Pursuant to Section 99 of the Bermuda Companies Act 1981 (the Bermuda Companies Act), the Scheme of Arrangement must be sanctioned by the court in Bermuda. This requires IR-Bermuda to file a petition (the Petition) for the Scheme of Arrangement with the Supreme Court of Bermuda. Prior to the mailing of this proxy statement, IR-Bermuda obtained directions from the Supreme Court of Bermuda providing for the convening of a meeting of IR-Bermuda's Class A common shareholders and other procedural matters regarding the meeting and the Supreme Court of Bermuda proceeding, including a date upon which the Supreme Court of Bermuda will hear the Petition. A copy of the Supreme Court of Bermuda's directions is attached as Annex D to this proxy statement. Subject to Class A common shareholders of IR-Bermuda approving the Scheme of Arrangement with the vote required by the Bermuda Companies Act, a Sanction Hearing will be required to hear the Petition and sanction the Scheme of Arrangement. At the Sanction Hearing, the Supreme Court of Bermuda may impose such conditions as it deems appropriate in relation to the Scheme of Arrangement but may not impose any material changes without the joint consent of IR-Bermuda and IR-Ireland. IR-Bermuda may, subject to U.S. securities law constraints, consent to any modification of the Scheme of Arrangement on behalf of the Class A common shareholders which the Supreme Court of Bermuda may think fit to approve or impose. In determining whether to exercise its discretion and sanction the Scheme of Arrangement, the Supreme Court of Bermuda will determine, among other things, whether the Scheme of Arrangement is fair to IR-Bermuda's Class A common shareholders. We expect the Sanction Hearing to be held on June 11, 2009 at the Supreme Court of Bermuda in Hamilton, Bermuda. If you are a Class A common shareholder who wishes to appear in person or by counsel at the Sanction Hearing and present evidence or arguments in support of or opposition to the Scheme of Arrangement, you may do so. In addition, the Supreme Court of Bermuda has wide discretion to hear from interested parties. IR-Bermuda will not object to the participation in the Sanction Hearing by any Class A common shareholder who holds shares through a broker. In

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accordance with its terms, the Scheme of Arrangement will become effective as soon as a copy of the Order of the Supreme Court of Bermuda sanctioning the Scheme of Arrangement has been delivered to the Registrar of Companies of Bermuda for registration as required by Section 99 of the Bermuda Companies Act. Please see Proposal Number One: The Reorganization Conditions to Consummation of the Transaction for more information on the conditions to the Transaction.

The Scheme of Arrangement is attached as Annex A to this proxy statement. At the special court-ordered meeting, IR-Bermuda's Class A common shareholders will be asked to approve the Scheme of Arrangement. If the Class A common shareholders approve the Scheme of Arrangement, then IR-Bermuda will apply for sanction of the Scheme of Arrangement at the Sanction Hearing. We encourage you to read the Scheme of Arrangement in its entirety for a complete description of its terms and conditions.

Once the Scheme of Arrangement is effective, the Supreme Court of Bermuda will have exclusive jurisdiction to hear and determine any suit, action or proceeding and to settle any dispute which arises out of or is connected with the terms of the Scheme of Arrangement or its implementation or out of any action taken or omitted to be taken under the Scheme of Arrangement or in connection with the administration of the Scheme of Arrangement. A Class A common shareholder who wishes to enforce any rights under the Scheme of Arrangement after such time must notify IR-Bermuda in writing of its intention at least five business days prior to commencing a new proceeding. After the effective date of the Scheme of Arrangement, no shareholder may commence a proceeding against IR-Ireland or IR-Bermuda in respect of or arising from the Scheme of Arrangement except to enforce its rights under the Scheme of Arrangement where a party has failed to perform its obligations under the Scheme of Arrangement.

When under any provision of the Scheme of Arrangement a matter is to be determined by IR-Bermuda, then IR-Bermuda will have discretion to interpret those matters under the Scheme of Arrangement in a manner that it considers fair and reasonable, and its decisions will be binding on all concerned.

Federal Securities Law Consequences; Resale Restrictions

The issuance of IR-Ireland shares to IR-Bermuda's shareholders in connection with the Transaction will not be registered under the Securities Act of 1933 (the Securities Act). Section 3(a)(10) of the Securities Act exempts securities issued in exchange for one or more outstanding securities from the general requirement of registration where the terms and conditions of the issuance and exchange of such securities have been approved by any court of competent jurisdiction, after a hearing upon the fairness of the terms and conditions of the issuance and exchange at which all persons to whom such securities will be issued have a right to appear and to whom adequate notice of the hearing has been given. In determining whether it is appropriate to sanction the Scheme of Arrangement, the Supreme Court of Bermuda will consider at the Sanction Hearing whether the terms and conditions of the Scheme of Arrangement are fair to IR-Bermuda's Class A common shareholders. The Supreme Court of Bermuda has fixed the date and time for the Sanction Hearing, which is scheduled to be held at the Supreme Court of Bermuda in Hamilton, Bermuda, on June 11, 2009. The IR-Ireland shares issued to IR-Bermuda Class A common shareholders in connection with the Transaction will be freely transferable, except for restrictions applicable to certain affiliates of IR-Bermuda under the Securities Act, as follows:

Persons who were not affiliates of IR-Bermuda at the Transaction Time and have not been affiliates within 90 days prior to such time will be permitted to sell any IR-Ireland shares received in the Transaction without regard to Rule 144 under the Securities Act.

Persons who were affiliates of IR-Bermuda at the Transaction Time or were affiliates within 90 days prior to such time will be permitted to resell any IR-Ireland shares they receive pursuant to the Transaction in the manner permitted by Rule 144. In computing the holding period of the IR-Ireland shares for the purposes of Rule 144(d), such persons will be permitted to tack the holding period of their IR-Bermuda shares held prior to the Transaction Time.

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Persons whose shares of IR-Bermuda bear a legend restricting transfer will receive shares of IR-Ireland that are subject to the same restrictions.

Persons who may be deemed to be affiliates of IR-Bermuda and IR-Ireland for these purposes generally include individuals or entities that control, are controlled by, or are under common control with, IR-Bermuda and IR-Ireland, and would generally not be expected to include shareholders who are not executive officers, directors or significant shareholders of IR-Bermuda and IR-Ireland.

We have not filed a registration statement with the SEC covering any resales of the IR-Ireland shares to be received by IR-Bermuda's Class A common shareholders in connection with the Transaction. IR-Ireland intends to file certain post-effective amendments to existing effective registration statements of IR-Bermuda concurrently with the completion of the Transaction.

Upon consummation of the Transaction, the ordinary shares of IR-Ireland will be deemed to be registered under Section 12(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), by virtue of Rule 12g-3 under the Exchange Act, without the filing of any Exchange Act registration statement.

Effective Date and Transaction Time

If the Scheme of Arrangement is approved by the requisite shareholder vote and sanctioned by the Supreme Court of Bermuda and the other conditions to the consummation of the Transaction are satisfied (and we do not abandon the Transaction), the Scheme of Arrangement will become effective upon our filing of the court order sanctioning the Scheme of Arrangement with the Bermuda Registrar of Companies. Various steps of the Transaction will occur effectively simultaneously at the Transaction Time, which we anticipate will be after the close of trading on the NYSE on the day the Scheme of Arrangement becomes effective, and before the opening of trading on the NYSE on the next business day. The expected timetable for the Transaction is set forth in Annex E to this proxy statement.

In the event the conditions to the Transaction are not satisfied, the Transaction may be abandoned or delayed, even after approval by IR-Bermuda's Class A common shareholders and the sanction of the Supreme Court of Bermuda. In addition, the Transaction may be abandoned or delayed by our board of directors at any time prior to the Scheme of Arrangement becoming effective, without obtaining the approval of IR-Bermuda's Class A common shareholders, even though the Scheme of Arrangement may have been approved by IR-Bermuda's Class A common shareholders and sanctioned by the Supreme Court of Bermuda and all other conditions to the Transaction may have been satisfied. Please see Proposal Number One: The Reorganization Amendment, Termination or Delay.

Management of IR-Ireland

When the Transaction is completed, the executives and directors of IR-Bermuda immediately prior to the completion of the Transaction are expected to be the executives and directors of IR-Ireland. IR-Ireland's memorandum and articles of association, as they will be in effect after the Transaction, provide for a single class of directors, just as IR-Bermuda currently has, and IR-Ireland's directors will be subject to reelection at the 2010 annual general meeting of IR-Ireland.

Deeds of Indemnification

IR-Bermuda's bye-laws require it to indemnify any person who is, was or is threatened to be made a party to any proceeding because he or she is or was a director or officer of IR-Bermuda, or because he or she is or was serving at the request of IR-Bermuda as a director, officer, partner, venturer, proprietor, trustee, employee, agent or other similar functionary of another entity, organization, employee benefit plan or other enterprise, against any liability, including reasonable expenses and legal fees, incurred in the proceeding. Under the IR-Bermuda

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bye-laws, for the purpose of the indemnification provision, proceeding is broadly defined to include any threatened, pending or completed action, suit, claim or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, arbitrative or investigative, any appeal in such an action, suit, claim or proceeding, and any inquiry or investigation that could lead to such an action, suit, claim or proceeding. The IR-Bermuda bye-laws also provide that it may, but is not obligated to, indemnify its other employees or agents. The indemnification provisions also require IR-Bermuda to pay reasonable expenses incurred in a proceeding in advance of the final disposition of any such proceeding, provided that the indemnified person undertakes to repay IR-Bermuda if it is ultimately determined that such person was not entitled to indemnification.

IR-Ireland's articles of association contain similar indemnification and expense advancement provisions, although the scope of the indemnification provided to IR-Ireland's directors and Secretary is limited in accordance with Irish law. For information on the limitations on the ability of an Irish company to indemnify its directors or its Secretary, please see Comparison of Rights of Shareholders and Powers of the Board of Directors Indemnification of Directors and Officers; Insurance.

In addition, in connection with the Transaction, we expect that IR-Bermuda and IR-Ireland will enter into indemnification agreements (or deed poll indemnities) with or as to each of IR-Ireland's directors and officers, as well as with individuals serving as directors or officers of our subsidiaries, providing for the indemnification of, and advancement of expenses to, these persons. We expect that the indemnification and expense advancement provided under these indemnification agreements (or deed poll indemnities) will be substantially similar to that currently afforded by IR-Bermuda under its bye-laws to its directors and officers and those serving at its request in other capacities as described above, with the primary differences being such modifications as may be necessary to account for limitations on the ability of an Irish company to indemnify its directors or its Secretary.

Interests of Certain Persons in the Reorganization

Except for the indemnification arrangements described above, no person who has been a director or executive officer of IR-Bermuda at any time since the beginning of the last fiscal year, or any associate of any such person, has any substantial interest in the Reorganization, except for any interest arising from his or her ownership of securities of Ingersoll Rand. No such person is receiving any extra or special benefit not shared on a pro rata basis by all other holders of Class A common shares of IR-Bermuda.

Required Vote; Board Recommendation

The special court-ordered meeting will be conducted in accordance with the directions of the Supreme Court of Bermuda. The presence of two or more persons present in person and representing in person or by proxy a majority of the IR-Bermuda Class A common shares outstanding and entitled to vote at the meeting constitutes a quorum for the conduct of business. Abstentions and broker non-votes will be counted as present for purposes of determining whether there is a quorum in respect of the proposals. Assuming the presence of a quorum at the meeting, the Scheme of Arrangement must be approved by a majority in number of the holders of the IR-Bermuda Class A common shares present and voting on the proposal, whether in person or by proxy, representing 75% or more in value of the IR-Bermuda Class A common shares present and voting on the proposal, whether in person or by proxy. The distributable reserves proposal requires the affirmative vote of holders of at least a majority of the IR-Bermuda Class A common shares present in person or by proxy at the meeting and voting on the proposal. The adjournment proposal requires the affirmative vote of holders of at least a majority of the IR-Bermuda Class A common shares present in person or by proxy at the meeting and voting on the proposal. Please see The Special Court-Ordered Meeting Record Date; Voting Rights; Vote Required for Approval. Our board of directors has approved the Scheme of Arrangement and unanimously recommends that shareholders vote FOR approval of all of the proposals.

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Regulatory Matters

We are not aware of any other governmental approvals or actions that are required to complete the Transaction other than compliance with U.S. federal and state securities laws and Bermuda and Irish corporate law. We do not believe that any significant regulatory approvals will be required to effect the Transaction.

No Appraisal Rights

Under Bermuda law, none of the shareholders of IR-Bermuda has any right to an appraisal of the value of their shares or payment for them in connection with the Transaction.

No Action Required to Cancel IR-Bermuda Shares and Receive IR-Ireland Shares

Assuming the Transaction becomes effective, your IR-Bermuda Class A common shares will be cancelled and IR-Ireland ordinary shares will be issued without any action on your part, regardless of whether you currently hold IR-Bermuda Class A common shares in certificated form. All of IR-Ireland's shares will be issued in uncertificated book-entry form. Consequently, if you currently hold IR-Bermuda Class A common shares in certificated form, following the Reorganization, your share certificates will cease to have effect as documents or evidence of title. The transfer agent will make an electronic book-entry in your name and will mail you a statement evidencing your ownership of IR-Ireland shares.

Dividend Policy

IR-Bermuda paid dividends totalling \$0.72 per share on its Class A common shares in fiscal 2008. On March 30, 2009, we announced that our board of directors had authorized a reduction in our quarterly common stock dividend to \$0.07 per share from \$0.18 per share, effective with the September 2009 dividend payment. Please see [Market Price and Dividend Information](#). Future dividends, if any, on the IR-Bermuda Class A common shares and/or IR-Ireland ordinary shares will be at the discretion of our board of directors and will depend on, among other things, our results of operations, cash requirements and surplus, financial condition, contractual restrictions and other factors that the board of directors may deem relevant, as well as our ability to pay dividends in compliance with the Bermuda Companies Act or Irish law, as applicable.

Under Irish law, dividends must be paid out of distributable reserves, which IR-Ireland will not have immediately following the Transaction Time but which we are taking steps to create. Please see [Risk Factors](#), [Description of Ingersoll-Rand plc Share Capital](#) [Dividends](#) and [Proposal Number Two: Creation of Distributable Reserves](#). We may delay the Transaction to minimize any disruption to the timing of our quarterly dividend. Please see [Proposal Number One: The Reorganization Amendment, Termination or Delay](#).

For a description of the Irish tax rules relating to dividends, please see [Material Tax Considerations](#) [Irish Tax Considerations](#).

We intend to terminate our dividend reinvestment plan in connection with the Transaction.

Equity Plans

If the Transaction is completed, IR-Ireland will assume IR-Bermuda's existing obligations in connection with awards granted under IR-Bermuda's equity incentive plans and other similar employee awards. Those plans will be amended as necessary to give effect to the Transaction, including to provide (1) that ordinary shares of IR-Ireland will be issued, held, available or used to measure benefits as appropriate under the plans, in lieu of Class A common shares of IR-Bermuda, including upon exercise of any options or share appreciation rights or upon vesting of restricted stock units issued under those plans; and (2) for the appropriate substitution of IR-Ireland for IR-Bermuda in those plans.

Stock Exchange Listing

IR-Bermuda's Class A common shares are currently listed on the NYSE. There is currently no established public trading market for the ordinary shares of IR-Ireland. We intend to make application so that, immediately

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following the Transaction Time, the ordinary shares of IR-Ireland will be listed on the NYSE under the symbol IR, the same symbol under which the IR-Bermuda Class A common shares are currently listed. We do not plan for IR-Ireland's ordinary shares to be listed on the Irish Stock Exchange at the present time. However, certain of our debt securities are currently listed on the Irish Stock Exchange.

Accounting Treatment of the Transaction

Under U.S. GAAP, the Transaction represents a transaction between entities under common control. Assets and liabilities transferred between entities under common control are accounted for at cost. Accordingly, the assets and liabilities of IR-Ireland will be reflected at their carrying amounts in the accounts of IR-Bermuda at the Transaction Time.

Supplemental Indentures

Concurrently with the completion of the Transaction, IR-Bermuda will complete the transfer of all the outstanding shares of IR-Global to IR-International, another wholly-owned indirect subsidiary of IR-Bermuda incorporated in Bermuda, whereupon IR-International will assume the obligations of IR-Bermuda as an issuer or guarantor, as the case may be, under the indentures governing our outstanding notes, medium-term notes and debentures. IR-Ireland and IR-Bermuda will also fully and unconditionally guarantee the payment obligations of IR-International, IR-Global and IR-New Jersey, as the case may be, as the issuers of debt securities under these indentures. Neither IR-Ireland nor IR-Bermuda intends to issue guarantees in respect of any indebtedness incurred by Trane. Certain reporting covenants will also be amended to require financial and other information of IR-Ireland instead of IR-Bermuda.

We intend to make appropriate modifications to our commercial paper program to address the Transaction.

In addition, any securities issued by IR-Bermuda or its subsidiaries that are convertible, exchangeable or exercisable into Class A common shares of IR-Bermuda will become convertible, exchangeable or exercisable, as the case may be, into the ordinary shares of IR-Ireland.

Effect of the Reorganization on Potential Future Status as a Foreign Private Issuer

Upon completion of the Reorganization, we will remain subject to SEC reporting requirements, the mandates of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and the corporate governance rules of the NYSE, and we will continue to report our consolidated financial results in U.S. dollars and in accordance with U.S. GAAP.

IR-Bermuda currently is not a foreign private issuer within the meaning of the rules promulgated under the Exchange Act, and we do not currently believe that IR-Ireland will qualify as a foreign private issuer upon completion of the Reorganization. The definition of a foreign private issuer has two parts: one based on a company's percentage of U.S. resident shareholders and the other on its business contacts with the U.S. An organization incorporated under the laws of a foreign country qualifies as a foreign private issuer unless both parts of the definition are satisfied as of the last business day of its most recently completed second fiscal quarter. IR-Bermuda currently satisfies the shareholder test because more than 50% of our outstanding voting securities are held by U.S. residents, and we currently expect that IR-Ireland will meet the shareholder test upon the completion of the Reorganization. The business contacts test requires that any of the following be true with respect to the organization incorporated under the laws of a foreign country: (A) the majority of its executive officers or directors are U.S. citizens or residents, (B) more than 50% of its assets are located in the United States, or (C) its business is administered principally in the United States. IR-Bermuda currently meets the business contacts test, and we currently expect that IR-Ireland will meet the business contacts test upon the completion of the Reorganization. However, IR-Ireland may fail to satisfy the shareholder test and/or the business contacts test at some time in the future and, as a result, qualify for status as a foreign private issuer. If that occurs, IR-Ireland would be exempt from certain requirements applicable to U.S. public companies, including:

the rules requiring the filing of Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K with the SEC;

the SEC's rules regulating proxy solicitations;

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the provisions of Regulation FD;

the filing of reports of beneficial ownership under Section 16 of the Exchange Act (although beneficial ownership reports may be required under Section 13 of the Exchange Act); and

short-swing trading liability imposed on insiders who purchase and sell securities within a six-month period.

In addition, IR-Ireland would then be allowed to:

file annual reports within six months after the end of a fiscal year, and within four months after the end of a fiscal year beginning with fiscal years ending on or after December 15, 2011;

include more limited compensation disclosure in its filings with the SEC;

apply accounting principles other than U.S. GAAP to its financial statements, although reconciliation to U.S. GAAP would be required if IFRS is not used; and

choose which reporting currency to use in presenting its financial statements.

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PROPOSAL NUMBER TWO: CREATION OF DISTRIBUTABLE RESERVES

Under Irish law, IR-Ireland requires distributable reserves in its unconsolidated balance sheet prepared in accordance with the Irish Companies Acts to enable it to make distributions (including the payment of cash dividends) to its shareholders, or to buy back shares. Please see

Description of Ingersoll-Rand plc Share Capital Dividends and Description of Ingersoll-Rand plc Share Capital Share Repurchases, Redemptions and Conversions. Immediately following implementation of the Transaction, the unconsolidated balance sheet of IR-Ireland will not contain any distributable reserves, and shareholders equity in such balance sheet will be comprised entirely of share capital (equal to the aggregate par value of the IR-Ireland shares issued in the Transaction) and share premium (resulting from the issuance of IR-Ireland shares in the Transaction and equal to (a) the aggregate market value of the IR-Bermuda Class A common shares as of the close of trading on the NYSE on the day the Scheme of Arrangement becomes effective, less (b) the share capital). The current shareholders of IR-Ireland (which are IR-Bermuda and its nominees) have passed a resolution that would create distributable reserves following the Transaction by converting to distributable reserves all of the share premium of IR-Ireland. Based upon the closing sale price of IR-Bermuda's Class A common shares on the NYSE on April 6, 2009, the Record Date, if the Transaction Time were to have occurred after the close of trading on that date, distributable reserves of IR-Ireland created in this manner would have been approximately \$4.9 billion.

If the Scheme of Arrangement is approved, the Class A common shareholders of IR-Bermuda also will be asked at the special court-ordered meeting to approve the creation of distributable reserves of IR-Ireland (through the reduction of the share premium account of IR-Ireland) that was previously approved by IR-Bermuda and the other current shareholders of IR-Ireland. If the Class A common shareholders of IR-Bermuda approve the creation of distributable reserves and the Transaction is completed, we will seek to obtain the approval of the Irish High Court, which is required for the creation of distributable reserves to be effective, as soon as practicable following implementation of the Transaction. The approval of the Irish High Court is expected to be obtained within three to four weeks of the consummation of the Transaction, but may take substantially longer depending on the court's schedule. The Irish High Court is in summer recess during the months of August and September.

The approval of the distributable reserves proposal is not a condition to the consummation of the Transaction. Accordingly, if the Class A common shareholders of IR-Bermuda approve the Scheme of Arrangement but do not approve the distributable reserves proposal, and the Transaction is consummated, IR-Ireland may not have sufficient distributable reserves to pay dividends (or to repurchase shares) following the Transaction. In addition, although we are not aware of any reason why the Irish High Court would not approve the creation of distributable reserves, there is no guarantee that such approval will be forthcoming. Even if the Irish High Court does approve the creation of distributable reserves, it may take substantially longer than we anticipate. Please see Risk Factors.

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MATERIAL TAX CONSIDERATIONS

The information presented under the caption "U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations" below is a discussion of the material U.S. federal income tax consequences to U.S. holders and non-U.S. holders (as defined below) of the Transaction and of investing in the IR-Ireland shares received in the Transaction. The information presented under the caption "Irish Tax Considerations" is a discussion of the material Irish tax consequences of the Transaction and of investing in the IR-Ireland shares. The information presented under the caption "Bermuda Tax Considerations" is a discussion of the material Bermuda tax consequences of the Transaction.

You should consult your tax advisor regarding the applicable tax consequences to you of the Transaction and investing in the IR-Ireland shares under the laws of the United States (federal, state and local), Ireland, Bermuda and any other applicable foreign jurisdiction.

U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations

In General

The following discussion sets forth the material U.S. federal income tax consequences of the Transaction to IR-Bermuda shareholders as of the date hereof. This discussion does not address any tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, local or foreign jurisdiction, or under any United States federal laws other than those pertaining to income tax.

This discussion is based upon the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), the regulations promulgated thereunder and court and administrative rulings and decisions in effect on the date of this document. These laws may change, possibly retroactively, and any change could affect the continuing validity of this discussion.

This discussion addresses only those holders that hold their IR-Bermuda shares as a "capital asset" within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Code. Further, unless otherwise indicated, this discussion does not address all aspects of U.S. federal income taxation that may be relevant to you in light of your particular circumstances or that may be applicable to you if you are subject to special treatment under the U.S. federal income tax laws, including if you are:

a financial institution;

a tax-exempt organization;

an S corporation or other pass-through entity (or an investor in an S corporation or other pass-through entity);

an insurance company;

a mutual fund;

a dealer in stocks and securities, or foreign currencies;

a trader in securities who elects the mark-to-market method of accounting for your securities;

a holder of IR-Bermuda stock that is subject to the alternative minimum tax provisions of the Code;

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a holder of IR-Bermuda stock who received such stock through the exercise of employee stock options, through a tax-qualified retirement plan or otherwise as compensation;

a person who has been, but is no longer, a citizen or resident of the United States;

a U.S. holder (as defined below) that has a functional currency other than the U.S. dollar;

a holder of IR-Bermuda stock who holds such stock as part of a hedge, straddle, a constructive sale or conversion transaction; or

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a holder of IR-Ireland shares who, immediately after the Transaction, actually or constructively owns 10% or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock entitled to vote of IR-Ireland.

This discussion assumes that neither IR-Bermuda nor IR-Ireland is currently, or was in the years preceding the Transaction (or will become), a passive foreign investment company under the Code (a PFIC). Neither IR-Bermuda nor IR-Ireland will request a ruling from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as to the U.S. federal income tax consequences of the Transaction, post-Transaction ownership and disposition of IR-Ireland shares or any other matter. There can be no assurance that the IRS will not challenge any of the U.S. federal income tax consequences described below.

As used in the remainder of this discussion, the term U.S. holder means a beneficial owner of IR-Bermuda shares (or record owner that does not hold such shares on behalf of another person), or, after the completion of the Transaction, IR-Ireland shares, that is for U.S. federal income tax purposes:

a citizen or resident of the United States;

a corporation created or organized in or under the laws of the United States or any political subdivision thereof;

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

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

If a partnership (including any entity or arrangement treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes) holds the IR-Bermuda or IR-Ireland shares, the tax treatment of a partner will generally depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. If you are a partner of a partnership holding IR-Bermuda shares, you should consult your advisors. A non-U.S. holder is a holder (other than a partnership) that is not a U.S. holder.

All holders should consult their own tax advisors concerning the specific tax consequences of the Transaction in light of their particular circumstances. This summary is not intended to be, nor should it be construed to be, legal or tax advice to any particular investor.

Material Tax Consequences to U.S. Holders

The Transaction

The receipt by IR-Bermuda shareholders of IR-Ireland shares following the cancellation of their IR-Bermuda shares will constitute a tax-free exchange under Section 351 of the Code. The discussion below describes the material consequences to U.S. holders of the Transaction qualifying under Section 351 of the Code.

U.S. Holders Owning Less Than Five Percent of IR-Ireland. Under Section 367(a) of the Code and the Treasury Regulations thereunder, U.S. holders who own (applying ownership attribution rules) less than five percent of the shares of IR-Ireland immediately after the Transaction will not recognize gain or loss in the Transaction, except with respect to any cash received in lieu of fractional shares. The tax basis of the IR-Ireland shares received by U.S. holders in the Transaction will be equal to the tax basis of their IR-Bermuda shares held prior to the Transaction, decreased by the amount of any tax basis allocable to any fractional shares for which cash is received. The holding period of the IR-Ireland shares received by U.S. holders will include the period those holders held their IR-Bermuda shares. U.S. holders who hold their IR-Bermuda shares with differing tax bases or holding periods are urged to consult their tax advisors with regard to identifying the tax bases and holding periods of the particular IR-Ireland shares received in the Transaction.

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U.S. Holders Owning Five Percent or More of IR-Ireland. Under Section 367(a) of the Code and the Treasury Regulations thereunder, U.S. holders who own (applying ownership attribution rules) five percent or more of the shares of IR-Ireland immediately after the Transaction generally will be required to file and maintain with the IRS a gain recognition agreement and related materials, which we refer to as a GRA, in order to defer gain realized in the Transaction. Provided such holders timely file and maintain a GRA, (1) such holders will not recognize gain or loss in the Transaction, except with respect to any cash received in lieu of fractional shares, (2) the tax basis of the IR-Ireland shares received by such holders in the Transaction will be equal to the tax basis of their IR-Bermuda shares held prior to the Transaction, decreased by the amount of any tax basis allocable to any fractional shares for which cash is received and (3) the holding period of the IR-Ireland shares received by such holders will include the period those holders held their IR-Bermuda shares. Such U.S. holders will not be entitled to recognize a loss in the Transaction. Five percent or greater U.S. holders should consult their own tax advisor to determine whether and when to file a GRA and the tax implications thereof.

Cash Received In Lieu of Fractional Shares. A U.S. holder who receives cash in lieu of fractional shares of IR-Ireland stock will recognize capital gain or loss in an amount equal to the difference between the amount of cash received and the portion of the holder's tax basis in the IR-Bermuda shares that was allocable to the fractional share. The capital gain or loss will be long term capital gain or loss if the holding period for the fractional share is more than one year as of the date of the Transaction.

Ownership of IR-Ireland Shares

Distributions on IR-Ireland Shares. The gross amount of distributions on IR-Ireland shares (including any amounts withheld to reflect Irish withholding tax) will be taxable as dividends to the extent paid out of IR-Ireland's current and accumulated earnings and profits (as determined under U.S. federal income tax principles). Such income (including withheld taxes) will be includable in a U.S. holder's gross income as ordinary income on the day it is actually or constructively received. Such dividends will not be eligible for the dividends-received deduction allowed to corporations under the Code.

With respect to non-corporate U.S. holders, certain dividends received in taxable years beginning before January 1, 2011 from a qualified foreign corporation may be subject to reduced rates of taxation. A qualified foreign corporation includes a foreign corporation that is eligible for the benefits of a comprehensive income tax treaty with the United States which the United States Treasury Department determines to be satisfactory for these purposes and which includes an exchange of information provision. The United States Treasury Department has determined that the current income tax treaty between the United States and Ireland meets these requirements, and IR-Ireland believes it is eligible for the benefits of that treaty. A foreign corporation is also treated as a qualified foreign corporation with respect to dividends paid by that corporation on shares that are readily tradable on an established securities market in the United States. United States Treasury Department guidance indicates that IR-Ireland shares, which are expected to be listed on the New York Stock Exchange immediately following the Transaction, are readily tradable on an established securities market in the United States. There can be no assurance that IR-Ireland shares will be considered readily tradable on an established securities market in later years. Non-corporate holders that do not meet a minimum holding period requirement during which they are not protected from the risk of loss or that elect to treat the dividend income as investment income pursuant to Section 163(d)(4) of the Code will not be eligible for the reduced rates of taxation regardless of IR-Ireland's status as a qualified foreign corporation. In addition, the rate reduction will not apply to dividends if the recipient of a dividend is obligated to make related payments with respect to positions in substantially similar or related property. This disallowance applies even if the minimum holding period has been met.

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Subject to certain conditions and limitations, Irish withholding taxes on dividends may be treated as foreign taxes eligible for credit against a U.S. holder's U.S. federal income tax liability. For purposes of calculating the foreign tax credit, distributions paid on IR-Ireland shares that are treated as dividends for U.S. federal income tax purposes may be treated as income from sources outside the United States, in which case such income would generally constitute passive category income. Further, in certain circumstances, if a U.S. holder:

has held IR-Ireland shares for less than a specified minimum period during which such holder is not protected from risk of loss, or

is obligated to make payments related to the dividends, such U.S. holder will not be allowed a foreign tax credit for foreign taxes imposed on dividends paid on the IR-Ireland shares. The rules governing the foreign tax credit are complex. U.S. holders are urged to consult their tax advisors regarding the availability of the foreign tax credit under their particular circumstances.

To the extent that the amount of any distribution exceeds IR-Ireland's current and accumulated earnings and profits for a taxable year, as determined under U.S. federal income tax principles, the distribution will first be treated as a tax-free return of capital, causing a reduction in the adjusted basis of the IR-Ireland shares (thereby increasing the amount of gain, or decreasing the amount of loss, to be recognized on a subsequent disposition of the shares), and the balance in excess of adjusted basis will be taxed as capital gain recognized on a sale or exchange. Consequently, such distributions in excess of IR-Ireland's current and accumulated earnings and profits would generally not give rise to foreign source income and a U.S. holder would generally not be able to use the foreign tax credit arising from any Irish withholding tax imposed on such distributions unless such credit can be applied (subject to applicable limitations) against U.S. federal income tax due on other foreign source income in the appropriate category for foreign tax credit purposes.

Sale, Exchange or Other Taxable Disposition of IR-Ireland Shares. For U.S. federal income tax purposes, a U.S. holder will recognize taxable gain or loss on any sale or exchange of IR-Ireland shares in an amount equal to the difference between the amount realized for the shares and the U.S. holder's tax basis in the shares. Such gain or loss will generally be capital gain or loss. Capital gains of individuals derived with respect to capital assets held for more than one year are eligible for reduced rates of taxation. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations. Any gain or loss recognized will generally be treated as United States source gain or loss.

Treatment of Certain Irish Taxes

Any stamp duty or Irish capital acquisitions tax imposed on a U.S. holder as described below under the heading "Irish Tax Considerations" will not be creditable against U.S. federal income taxes, although a U.S. holder may be entitled to deduct such taxes, subject to applicable limitations under the Code. U.S. holders should consult their tax advisors regarding the tax treatment of these Irish taxes.

Material Tax Consequences to Non-U.S. Holders

The Transaction

In general, the receipt by non-U.S. holders of IR-Ireland shares following the cancellation of their IR-Bermuda shares in the Transaction will not be subject to U.S. federal income or withholding tax on any realized gain with respect to the Transaction.

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Ownership of IR-Ireland Shares

Non-U.S. holders of IR-Ireland shares generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income or withholding tax on dividend income from IR-Ireland and will not be subject to U.S. federal income or withholding tax on any gain recognized on a subsequent disposition of IR-Ireland shares, unless:

such gain or dividend income is effectively connected with the conduct by the non-U.S. holder of a trade or business within the United States or, if a treaty applies, is attributable to a permanent establishment or fixed place of business maintained by such holder in the United States; or

in the case of capital gain of a non-U.S. holder who is an individual, such holder is present in the United States for 183 days or more during the taxable year in which the capital gain is recognized and certain other conditions are met.

Information Reporting and Backup Withholding

U.S. holders that own at least five percent of IR-Ireland immediately after the Transaction will be required to file certain Section 351 statements.

In general, information reporting will apply to dividends in respect of IR-Ireland shares and the proceeds from the sale, exchange or redemption of such shares that are paid within the United States (and in certain cases, outside the United States), unless the holder is an exempt recipient such as a corporation. A backup withholding tax may apply to such payments if the holder fails to provide a taxpayer identification number or certification of other exempt status or fails to report in full dividend and interest income.

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

In order not to be subject to backup withholding tax on a subsequent disposition of IR-Ireland shares, or dividends paid on those shares, a non-U.S. holder may be required to provide a taxpayer identification number, certify the holder's foreign status or otherwise establish an exemption.

Irish Tax Considerations

Scope of Discussion

The following is a general summary of the main Irish tax considerations applicable to certain investors who are the beneficial owners of IR-Ireland shares. It is based on existing Irish law and practices in effect on the date of this proxy statement and on discussions and correspondence with the Irish Revenue Commissioners. Legislative, administrative or judicial changes may modify the tax consequences described below.

The statements do not constitute tax advice and are intended only as a general guide. Furthermore, this information applies only to IR-Ireland shares held as capital assets and does not apply to all categories of shareholders, such as dealers in securities, trustees, insurance companies, collective investment schemes and shareholders who have, or who are deemed to have, acquired their IR-Ireland shares by virtue of an office or employment. This summary is not exhaustive and shareholders should consult their own tax advisors as to the tax consequences in Ireland, or other relevant jurisdictions of the Transaction, including the acquisition, ownership and disposition of the IR-Ireland shares.

Irish Tax on Chargeable Gains

Neither the receipt by IR-Bermuda shareholders of IR-Ireland shares as consideration for the cancellation of their IR-Bermuda shares in the Transaction nor the receipt of cash by IR-Bermuda shareholders in lieu of fractional shares in the Transaction will give rise to a liability to Irish tax on chargeable gains for persons that are

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not resident or ordinarily resident in Ireland for Irish tax purposes and do not hold such shares in connection with a trade or business carried on by such holder in Ireland through a branch or agency.

The issuance, pursuant to the Transaction, of IR-Ireland shares to holders of IR-Bermuda shares who are resident or ordinarily resident for tax purposes in Ireland, or who hold their shares in connection with a trade or business carried on by such holder in Ireland through a branch or agency, should be treated as falling within the relief for a reorganization for the purposes of taxation of chargeable gains. Accordingly, the IR-Ireland shares issued to holders of IR-Bermuda shares in accordance with their entitlements as holders of IR-Bermuda shares should be treated as the same asset and as acquired at the same time as the IR-Bermuda shares. The receipt of cash in lieu of fractional shares may trigger a liability to Irish tax on chargeable gains for such shareholders. Shareholders should consult their own tax advisor if they believe they may be subject to Irish tax.

Withholding Tax on Dividends

Distributions made by Ingersoll Rand will generally be subject to dividend withholding tax (DWT) at the standard rate of income tax (currently 20 percent) unless one of the exemptions described below applies, which we believe will be the case for the majority of shareholders. DWT (if any) arises in respect of dividends paid after Ingersoll Rand's establishment of tax residency in Ireland, which occurred after the dividend payment date in March 2009. For DWT purposes, a dividend includes any distribution made by Ingersoll Rand to its shareholders, including cash dividends, non-cash dividends and additional stock or units taken in lieu of a cash dividend. Ingersoll Rand is responsible for withholding DWT at source and forwarding the relevant payment to the Irish Revenue Commissioners.

Certain shareholders (both individual and corporate) are also entitled to an exemption from DWT. In particular, a non-Irish resident shareholder is not subject to DWT on dividends received from Ingersoll Rand if the shareholder is:

an individual shareholder resident for tax purposes in a relevant territory, and the individual is neither resident nor ordinarily resident in Ireland;

a corporate shareholder that is not resident for tax purposes in Ireland and which is ultimately controlled, directly or indirectly, by persons resident in a relevant territory ;

a corporate shareholder resident for tax purposes in a relevant territory provided that the corporate shareholder is not under the control, whether directly or indirectly, of a person or persons who is or are resident in Ireland;

a corporate shareholder that is not resident for tax purposes in Ireland and whose principal class of shares (or those of its 75 percent parent) is substantially and regularly traded on a recognized stock exchange either in a relevant territory or on such other stock exchange approved by the Irish Minister for Finance; or

a corporate shareholder that is not resident for tax purposes in Ireland and is wholly owned, directly or indirectly, by two or more companies where the principal class of shares of each of such companies is substantially and regularly traded on a recognized stock exchange in a relevant territory or on such other stock exchange approved by the Irish Minister for Finance, and provided that, in all cases noted above but subject to the matters described below, the shareholder has provided the appropriate forms to his or her broker (and the relevant information is further transmitted to Ingersoll Rand's qualifying intermediary) before the record date for the dividend (in the case of shares held beneficially), or to Ingersoll Rand's transfer agent at least 7 business days before such record date (in the case of shares held directly).

Ingersoll Rand has an agreement in place with the Bank of New York Mellon (which is recognized by the Irish Revenue Commissioners as a qualifying intermediary) which satisfies one of the Irish requirements for dividends to be paid free of DWT to certain shareholders who hold their shares through DTC, as described

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below. The agreement generally provides for certain arrangements relating to cash distributions in respect of those shares of Ingersoll Rand (the Deposited Securities) that are held through DTC. The agreement provides that the qualifying intermediary shall distribute or otherwise make available to Cede & Co., as nominee for DTC, any cash dividend or other cash distribution to be made to holders of the Deposited Securities, after Ingersoll Rand delivers or causes to be delivered to the qualifying intermediary the cash to be distributed.

Ingersoll Rand will rely on information received directly or indirectly from brokers and its transfer agent in determining where shareholders reside, whether they have provided the required U.S. tax information and whether they have provided the required Irish dividend withholding tax forms, as described below. Shareholders who are required to file Irish forms in order to receive their dividends free of DWT should note that such forms are valid for five years and new forms must be filed before the expiration of that period in order to continue to enable them to receive dividends without DWT. Links to the various Irish Revenue forms are available at <http://www.revenue.ie/en/tax/dwt/forms/index.html>.

For a list of relevant territories as defined for the purposes of DWT, please see Annex C to this proxy statement.

Shares Held by U.S. Resident Shareholders

Dividends paid on Ingersoll Rand shares that are owned by residents of the U.S. and held beneficially will not be subject to DWT provided that the address of the beneficial owner of the shares in the records of the broker is in the U.S. Ingersoll Rand strongly recommends that such shareholders ensure that their information has been properly recorded by their brokers (so that such brokers can further transmit the relevant information to Ingersoll Rand's qualifying intermediary).

Dividends paid on Ingersoll Rand shares that are owned by residents of the U.S. and held directly will not be subject to DWT provided that the shareholder has provided a valid Form W-9 showing a U.S. address or a valid U.S. taxpayer identification number to Ingersoll Rand's transfer agent. Ingersoll Rand strongly recommends that such shareholders ensure that appropriate Form W-9 or taxpayer identification number has been provided to Ingersoll Rand's transfer agent.

If any shareholder who is resident in the U.S. receives a dividend subject to DWT, he or she should generally be able to make an application for a refund from the Irish Revenue Commissioners on the prescribed form.

Shares Held by Residents of Relevant Territories Other Than the U.S.

Shareholders who are residents of relevant territories other than the U.S. who acquired their shares on or before March 5, 2009 generally will receive dividends paid on or before February 28, 2010 without any DWT. For shares held beneficially, dividends will be paid on or before February 28, 2010 without any DWT if the address of the relevant shareholder in his or her broker's records is in a relevant territory other than the U.S. Ingersoll Rand strongly recommends that such shareholders ensure that their information has been properly recorded by their brokers (so that such brokers can further transmit the relevant information to Ingersoll Rand's qualifying intermediary). For shares held directly, dividends will be paid on or before February 28, 2010 without any DWT if the shareholder has provided a valid U.S. tax form showing an address in a relevant territory other than the U.S. to Ingersoll Rand's transfer agent. Ingersoll Rand strongly recommends that such shareholders ensure that appropriate tax form has been provided to Ingersoll Rand's transfer agent.

Shareholders who are residents of relevant territories other than the U.S. who acquire their shares after March 5, 2009 must complete the appropriate Irish dividend withholding tax forms in order to receive their dividends without DWT. Such shareholders must provide the appropriate Irish dividend withholding tax forms to their brokers (so that such brokers can further transmit the relevant information to Ingersoll Rand's qualifying

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intermediary) before the record date for the first dividend payment to which they are entitled (in the case of shares held beneficially), or to Ingersoll Rand's transfer agent at least 7 business days before such record date (in the case of shares held directly). Ingersoll Rand strongly recommends that such shareholders complete the appropriate Irish forms and provide them to their brokers or Ingersoll Rand's transfer agent, as the case may be, as soon as possible after acquiring their shares.

In addition, all shareholders who are residents of relevant territories other than the U.S. (regardless of when such shareholders acquired their shares) must complete the appropriate Irish dividend withholding tax forms in order to receive their dividends after February 28, 2010 without DWT. Such shareholders must provide the appropriate Irish forms to their brokers (so that such brokers can further transmit the relevant information to Ingersoll Rand's qualifying intermediary) before the record date for the first dividend paid after February 28, 2010 (in the case of shares held beneficially), or to Ingersoll Rand's transfer agent at least 7 business days before such record date (in the case of shares held directly). Ingersoll Rand strongly recommends that such shareholders complete the appropriate Irish forms and provide them to their brokers or Ingersoll Rand's transfer agent, as the case may be, as soon as possible.

If any shareholder who is resident in a relevant territory receives a dividend subject to DWT, he or she may make an application for a refund from the Irish Revenue Commissioners on the prescribed form.

Please note that this exemption from DWT does not apply to an Ingersoll Rand shareholder (other than a body corporate) that is resident or ordinarily resident in Ireland or to a body corporate that is under the control, whether directly or indirectly, of a person or persons who is or are resident in Ireland.

However, it may be possible for such a shareholder to rely on a double tax treaty to limit the applicable DWT.

Shares Held by Residents of Ireland

Most Irish tax resident or ordinarily resident shareholders will be subject to DWT in respect of dividend payments on their IR-Ireland shares.

Shareholders that are residents of Ireland but are entitled to receive dividends without DWT must complete the appropriate Irish forms and provide them to their brokers (so that such brokers can further transmit the relevant information to Ingersoll Rand's qualifying intermediary) before the record date for the first dividend to which they are entitled (in the case of shares held beneficially), or to Ingersoll Rand's transfer agent at least 7 business days before such record date (in the case of shares held directly). Shareholders who are resident or ordinarily resident in Ireland or are otherwise subject to Irish tax should consult their own tax advisor.

Shares Held by Other Persons

Ingersoll Rand shareholders who do not reside in relevant territories or in Ireland will be subject to DWT, but there are a number of other exemptions that could apply on a case-by-case basis. Dividends paid to such shareholders will be paid subject to DWT unless the relevant shareholder has provided the appropriate Irish dividend withholding tax form to his or her broker (so that such broker can further transmit the relevant information to Ingersoll Rand's qualifying intermediary) prior to the record date for the first dividend to which they are entitled (in the case of shares held beneficially), or to Ingersoll Rand's transfer agent at least 7 business days before such record date (in the case of shares held directly). Ingersoll Rand strongly recommends that such shareholders to whom an exemption applies complete the appropriate Irish forms and provide them to their brokers or Ingersoll Rand's transfer agent, as the case may be, as soon as possible.

If any shareholder who is not a resident of a relevant territory or Ireland but is exempt from withholding receives a dividend subject to DWT, he or she may make an application for a refund from the Irish Revenue Commissioners on the prescribed form.

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Income Tax on Dividends Paid on Ingersoll Rand Shares

Irish income tax (if any) arises in respect of dividends paid after Ingersoll Rand's establishment of tax residency in Ireland, which occurred on March 5, 2009.

A shareholder who is not resident or ordinarily resident in Ireland and who is entitled to an exemption from DWT, generally has no Irish income tax liability on a dividend from IR-Ireland unless he or she holds their Ingersoll Rand shares through a branch or agency in Ireland through which a trade is carried on. Ingersoll Rand shareholders that are not resident nor ordinarily resident in Ireland and do not hold their shares through a branch or agency in Ireland, are generally liable to Irish income tax on dividends received from Ingersoll Rand unless they are entitled to exemption from DWT. However, the DWT deducted by Ingersoll Rand discharges such liability to Irish income tax provided that the shareholder furnishes the statement of DWT imposed to the Irish Revenue.

Irish resident or ordinarily resident shareholders may be subject to Irish tax and/or levies on dividends received from IR-Ireland. Such shareholders should consult their own tax advisor.

Capital Acquisitions Tax

Irish capital acquisitions tax (CAT) comprises principally of gift tax and inheritance tax. CAT could apply to a gift or inheritance of IR-Ireland ordinary shares irrespective of the place of residence, ordinary residence or domicile of the parties. This is because IR-Ireland ordinary shares are regarded as property situated in Ireland as the share register of Ingersoll Rand must be held in Ireland. The person who receives the gift or inheritance has primary liability for CAT.

CAT is levied at a rate of 22 percent above certain tax-free thresholds. The appropriate tax-free threshold is dependent upon (1) the relationship between the donor and the donee and (2) the aggregation of the values of previous gifts and inheritances received by the donee from persons within the same group threshold. Gifts and inheritances passing between spouses are exempt from CAT.

Stamp Duty

Irish stamp duty (if any) becomes payable in respect of share transfers occurring after completion of the Transaction.

No stamp duty will be payable on the cancellation of the common shares of IR-Bermuda or the issue of IR-Ireland ordinary shares under the Transaction.

A transfer of IR-Ireland shares from a seller who holds shares beneficially to a buyer who holds the acquired shares beneficially will not be subject to Irish stamp duty (unless the transfer involves a change in the nominee that is the record holder of the transferred shares).

A transfer of IR-Ireland shares by a seller who holds shares directly to any buyer, or by a seller who holds the shares beneficially to a buyer who holds the acquired shares directly, may be subject to Irish stamp duty (currently at the rate of 1% of the price paid or the market value of the shares acquired, if higher). Stamp duty is a liability of the buyer or transferee. A shareholder who holds IR-Ireland shares directly may transfer those shares into his or her own broker account (or vice versa) without giving rise to Irish stamp duty provided there is no change in the ultimate beneficial ownership of the shares as a result of the transfer and the transfer is not made in contemplation of a sale of the shares. In order to benefit from this exemption from stamp duty, the seller must confirm to IR-Ireland that there is no change in the ultimate beneficial ownership of the shares as a result of the transfer and the transfer is not made in contemplation of a sale of the shares.

Because of the potential Irish stamp duty on transfers of IR-Ireland shares, Ingersoll Rand strongly recommends that all directly registered shareholders open broker accounts so they can transfer their shares into a

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broker account, so that their shares are held beneficially, as soon as possible, and in any event prior to completion of the Transaction. Ingersoll Rand also strongly recommends that any person who wishes to acquire IR-Ireland shares after completion of the Transaction acquire such shares beneficially.

We currently intend to pay (or cause one of our affiliates to pay) stamp duty in connection with share transfers made in the ordinary course of trading by a seller who holds shares directly to a buyer who holds the acquired shares beneficially. In other cases, IR-Ireland may, in its absolute discretion, pay (or cause one of its affiliates to pay) any stamp duty. IR-Ireland's articles of association as they will be in effect after the Transaction provide that, in the event of any such payment, IR-Ireland (i) may seek reimbursement from the transferor or transferee (at our discretion), (ii) may set-off the amount of the stamp duty against future dividends payable to the transferor or transferee (at our discretion), and (iii) will have a lien against the IR-Ireland shares on which we have paid stamp duty and any dividends paid on such shares. Parties to a share transfer may assume that any stamp duty arising in respect of a transaction in IR-Ireland shares has been paid unless one or both of such parties is otherwise notified by us.

Bermuda Tax Considerations

The Transaction will not result in any income tax consequences under Bermuda law to IR-Bermuda or IR-Ireland or their respective shareholders.

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DESCRIPTION OF INGERSOLL-RAND PLC SHARE CAPITAL

The following description of IR-Ireland's share capital is a summary. This summary is not complete and is subject to the complete text of IR-Ireland's forms of memorandum and articles of association attached as Annex B to this proxy statement and to the Irish Companies Acts. We encourage you to read those laws and documents carefully. There are differences between IR-Bermuda's memorandum of association and bye-laws and IR-Ireland's memorandum and articles of association as they will be in effect after the Transaction; however, there are no material differences between those documents, except for changes (i) that are required by Irish law (i.e., certain provisions of the IR-Bermuda bye-laws were not replicated in the IR-Ireland articles of association because Irish law would not permit such replication, and certain provisions were included in the IR-Ireland articles of association although they were not in the IR-Bermuda bye-laws because Irish law requires such provisions to be included in the articles of association of an Irish public limited company), or (ii) that are necessary in order to preserve the current rights of shareholders and powers of the board of directors of Ingersoll Rand following the Transaction. See Comparison of Rights of Shareholders and Powers of the Board of Directors. Except where otherwise indicated, the description below reflects IR-Ireland's memorandum and articles of association as those documents will be in effect upon completion of the Transaction.

Capital Structure

Authorized Share Capital. The authorized share capital of IR-Ireland is 40,000 and US\$1,175,010,000 divided into 40,000 ordinary shares with a nominal value of \$1 per share, 1,175,000,000 ordinary shares with a nominal value of US\$1.00 per share and 10,000,000 preferred shares with a nominal value of US\$0.001 per share. The authorized share capital includes 40,000 ordinary shares with a par value of \$1 per share in order to satisfy statutory requirements for all Irish public limited companies commencing operations.

IR-Ireland may issue shares subject to the maximum prescribed by its authorized share capital contained in its memorandum of association. In connection with the Transaction, IR-Ireland will also assume IR-Bermuda's existing obligations to deliver shares under our equity incentive plans and other similar employee awards pursuant to the terms thereof.

As a matter of Irish company law, the directors of a company may issue new ordinary or preferred shares without shareholder approval once authorized to do so by the articles of association of the company or by an ordinary resolution adopted by the shareholders at a general meeting. An ordinary resolution requires over 50% of the votes of a company's shareholders cast at a general meeting. The authority conferred can be granted for a maximum period of five years, at which point it must be renewed by the shareholders of the company by an ordinary resolution. Because of this requirement of Irish law, the articles of association of IR-Ireland authorize the board of directors of IR-Ireland to issue new ordinary or preferred shares without shareholder approval for a period of five years from the date of IR-Ireland's incorporation.

The authorized share capital may be increased or reduced by way of an ordinary resolution of IR-Ireland's shareholders. The shares comprising the authorized share capital of IR-Ireland may be divided into shares of such par value as the resolution shall prescribe.

The rights and restrictions to which the ordinary shares will be subject will be prescribed in IR-Ireland's articles of association. IR-Ireland's articles of association entitle the board of directors, without shareholder approval, to determine the terms of the preferred shares issued by IR-Ireland. The IR-Ireland board of directors is authorized, without obtaining any vote or consent of the holders of any class or series of shares unless expressly provided by the terms of that class or series or shares, to provide from time to time for the issuance of other classes or series of preferred shares and to establish the characteristics of each class or series, including the number of shares, designations, relative voting rights, dividend rights, liquidation and other rights, redemption, repurchase or exchange rights and any other preferences and relative, participating, optional or other rights and limitations not inconsistent with applicable law.

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Irish law does not recognize fractional shares held of record; accordingly, IR-Ireland's articles of association do not provide for the issuance of fractional shares of IR-Ireland, and the official Irish register of IR-Ireland will not reflect any fractional shares.

Issued Share Capital. Immediately prior to the Transaction, the issued share capital of IR-Ireland will be 40,000, comprised of 40,000 ordinary shares, with par value of 1 per share (the Euro Share Capital). In connection with the consummation of the Transaction, the Euro Share Capital will be acquired by IR-Ireland and will then be cancelled by IR-Ireland. We expect that IR-Ireland will then issue a number of ordinary shares with a par value of \$1.00 each that is equal to the number of whole IR-Bermuda Class A common shares that will be cancelled as part of the Transaction (including shares of IR-Ireland issued to IR-Bermuda in respect of any shares of IR-Bermuda held as treasury shares immediately prior to the Transaction Time). All shares issued on completion of the Transaction will be issued as fully paid up.

Pre-emption Rights, Share Warrants and Share Options

Certain statutory pre-emption rights apply automatically in favor of IR-Ireland's shareholders where shares in IR-Ireland are to be issued for cash. However, IR-Ireland has opted out of these pre-emption rights in its articles of association as permitted under Irish company law. Because Irish law requires this opt-out to be renewed every five years by a special resolution of the shareholders, IR-Ireland's articles of association provide that this opt-out must be so renewed. A special resolution requires not less than 75% of the votes of IR-Ireland's shareholders cast at a general meeting. If the opt-out is not renewed, shares issued for cash must be offered to pre-existing shareholders of IR-Ireland pro rata to their existing shareholding before the shares can be issued to any new shareholders. The statutory pre-emption rights do not apply where shares are issued for non-cash consideration and do not apply to the issue of non-equity shares (that is, shares that have the right to participate only up to a specified amount in any income or capital distribution).

The articles of association of IR-Ireland provide that, subject to any shareholder approval requirement under any laws, regulations or the rules of any stock exchange to which IR-Ireland is subject, the board is authorized, from time to time, in its discretion, to grant such persons, for such periods and upon such terms as the board deems advisable, options to purchase such number of shares of any class or classes or of any series of any class as the board may deem advisable, and to cause warrants or other appropriate instruments evidencing such options to be issued. The Irish Companies Acts provide that directors may issue share warrants or options without shareholder approval once authorized to do so by the articles of association or an ordinary resolution of shareholders. The board may issue shares upon exercise of warrants or options without shareholder approval or authorization.

IR-Ireland will be subject to the rules of the NYSE that require shareholder approval of certain share issuances.

Dividends

Under Irish law, dividends and distributions may only be made from distributable reserves. Distributable reserves, broadly, means the accumulated realized profits of IR-Ireland less accumulated realized losses of IR-Ireland. In addition, no distribution or dividend may be made unless the net assets of IR-Ireland are equal to, or in excess of, the aggregate of IR-Ireland's called up share capital plus undistributable reserves and the distribution does not reduce IR-Ireland's net assets below such aggregate. Undistributable reserves include the share premium account, the capital redemption reserve fund and the amount by which IR-Ireland's accumulated unrealized profits, so far as not previously utilized by any capitalization, exceed IR-Ireland's accumulated unrealized losses, so far as not previously written off in a reduction or reorganization of capital.

The determination as to whether or not IR-Ireland has sufficient distributable reserves to fund a dividend must be made by reference to relevant accounts of IR-Ireland. The relevant accounts will be either the last

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set of unconsolidated annual audited financial statements or unaudited financial statements prepared in accordance with the Irish Companies Acts, which give a true and fair view of IR-Ireland's unconsolidated financial position and accord with accepted accounting practice. The relevant accounts must be filed in the Companies Registration Office (the official public registry for companies in Ireland).

Although IR-Ireland will not have any distributable reserves immediately following the Transaction Time, we are taking steps to create such distributable reserves. Please see [Risk Factors](#) and [Proposal Number Two: Creation of Distributable Reserves](#).

The mechanism as to who declares a dividend and when a dividend shall become payable is governed by the articles of association of IR-Ireland. IR-Ireland's articles of association authorize the directors to declare such dividends as appear justified from the profits of IR-Ireland without the approval of the shareholders at a general meeting. The board of directors may also recommend a dividend to be approved and declared by the shareholders at a general meeting. Although the shareholders may direct that the payment be made by distribution of assets, shares or cash, no dividend issued may exceed the amount recommended by the directors. The dividends can be declared and paid in the form of cash or non-cash assets.

The directors of IR-Ireland may deduct from any dividend payable to any member all sums of money (if any) payable by such member to IR-Ireland in relation to the shares of IR-Ireland.

The directors of IR-Ireland are also entitled to issue shares with preferred rights to participate in dividends declared by IR-Ireland. The holders of such preferred shares may, depending on their terms, be entitled to claim arrears of a declared dividend out of subsequently declared dividends in priority to ordinary shareholders.

For information about the Irish tax issues relating to dividend payments, please see [Material Tax Considerations](#) [Irish Tax Considerations](#).

Share Repurchases, Redemptions and Conversions

Overview

Article 3(d) of IR-Ireland's articles of association provides that any ordinary share which IR-Ireland has acquired or agreed to acquire shall be deemed to be a redeemable share. Accordingly, for Irish company law purposes, the repurchase of ordinary shares by IR-Ireland will technically be effected as a redemption of those shares as described below under [Repurchases and Redemptions by IR-Ireland](#). If the articles of association of IR-Ireland did not contain Article 3(d), repurchases by IR-Ireland would be subject to many of the same rules that apply to purchases of IR-Ireland shares by subsidiaries described below under [Purchases by Subsidiaries of IR-Ireland](#), including the shareholder approval requirements described below and the requirement that any on-market purchases be effected on a recognized stock exchange. Except where otherwise noted, when we refer elsewhere in this proxy statement to repurchasing or buying back ordinary shares of IR-Ireland, we are referring to the redemption of ordinary shares by IR-Ireland pursuant to Article 3(d) of the articles of association or the purchase of ordinary shares of IR-Ireland by a subsidiary of IR-Ireland, in each case in accordance with the IR-Ireland articles of association and Irish company law as described below.

Repurchases and Redemptions by IR-Ireland

Under Irish law, a company can issue redeemable shares and redeem them out of distributable reserves (which are described above under [Dividends](#)) or the proceeds of a new issue of shares for that purpose. Although IR-Ireland will not have any distributable reserves immediately following the Transaction Time, we are taking steps to create such distributable reserves. Please see [Risk Factors](#) and [Proposal Number Two: Creation of Distributable Reserves](#). The issue of redeemable shares may only be made by IR-Ireland where the nominal value of the issued share capital that is not redeemable is not less than 10% of the nominal value of the total issued share capital of IR-Ireland. All redeemable shares must also be fully paid and the terms of redemption of the shares must provide for payment on redemption. Redeemable shares may, upon redemption, be cancelled or held in treasury. Shareholder approval will not be required to redeem IR-Ireland shares.

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The board of directors of IR-Ireland will also be entitled to issue preferred shares which may be redeemed at the option of either IR-Ireland or the shareholder, depending on the terms of such preferred shares. Please see Capital Structure Authorized Share Capital above for additional information on redeemable shares.

Repurchased and redeemed shares may be cancelled or held as treasury shares. The nominal value of treasury shares held by IR-Ireland at any time must not exceed 10% of the nominal value of the issued share capital of IR-Ireland. While IR-Ireland holds shares as treasury shares, it cannot exercise any voting rights in respect of those shares. Treasury shares may be cancelled by IR-Ireland or re-issued subject to certain conditions.

Purchases by Subsidiaries of IR-Ireland

Under Irish law, it may be permissible for an Irish or non-Irish subsidiary to purchase shares of IR-Ireland either on-market or off-market. A general authority of the shareholders of IR-Ireland is required to allow a subsidiary of IR-Ireland to make on-market purchases of IR-Ireland shares; however, as long as this general authority has been granted, no specific shareholder authority for a particular on-market purchase by a subsidiary of IR-Ireland shares is required. We expect that IR-Ireland will seek such general authority, which must expire no later than 18 months after the date on which it was granted, at the first annual general meeting of IR-Ireland in 2010 and at subsequent annual general meetings. In order for a subsidiary of IR-Ireland to make an on-market purchase of IR-Ireland's shares, such shares must be purchased on a recognized stock exchange. The NYSE, on which the shares of IR-Ireland will be listed following the Transaction, is not currently specified as a recognized stock exchange for this purpose by Irish company law. We understand, however, that it is likely that the Irish authorities will take appropriate steps in the near future to add the NYSE to the list of recognized stock exchanges. For an off-market purchase by a subsidiary of IR-Ireland, the proposed purchase contract must be authorized by special resolution of the shareholders of IR-Ireland before the contract is entered into. The person whose shares are to be bought back cannot vote in favor of the special resolution and, for at least 21 days prior to the special resolution, the purchase contract must be on display or must be available for inspection by shareholders at the registered office of IR-Ireland.

The number of shares held by the subsidiaries of IR-Ireland at any time will count as treasury shares and will be included in any calculation of the permitted treasury share threshold of 10% of the nominal value of the issued share capital of IR-Ireland. While a subsidiary holds shares of IR-Ireland, it cannot exercise any voting rights in respect of those shares. The acquisition of the shares of IR-Ireland by a subsidiary must be funded out of distributable reserves of the subsidiary.

Existing Share Repurchase Program

The board of directors of IR-Bermuda has previously authorized a program to repurchase up to \$4 billion of its Class A common shares. Prior to the consummation of the Transaction, we expect (a) the board of directors of IR-Ireland to authorize the repurchase of IR-Ireland shares by IR-Ireland and (b) IR-Bermuda and its nominee shareholders of IR-Ireland to authorize the purchase of IR-Ireland shares by subsidiaries of IR-Ireland, such that IR-Ireland and its subsidiaries will be authorized to purchase shares in an aggregate amount approximately equal to the then remaining authorization under the existing IR-Bermuda share repurchase program.

As noted above, because repurchases of IR-Ireland shares by IR-Ireland will technically be effected as a redemption of those shares pursuant to Article 3(d) of the articles of association, such repurchases may be made whether or not the NYSE is a recognized stock exchange and shareholder approval for such repurchases will not be required.

However, because purchases of IR-Ireland shares by subsidiaries of IR-Ireland may be made only on a recognized stock exchange and only if the required shareholder approval has been obtained, we expect that the shareholder authorization for purchases by subsidiaries of IR-Ireland described above will be effective as of the later of (i) the Transaction Time and (ii) the date on which the NYSE becomes a recognized stock exchange for this purpose. This authorization will lapse on the date of the 2010 annual general meeting of IR-Ireland, at which time we expect that we would seek shareholder approval to renew this authorization.

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Bonus Shares

Under IR-Ireland's articles of association, the board may resolve to capitalize any amount credited to any reserve or fund available for distribution or the share premium account of IR-Ireland for issuance and distribution to shareholders as fully paid up bonus shares on the same basis of entitlement as would apply in respect of a dividend distribution.

Consolidation and Division; Subdivision

Under its articles of association, IR-Ireland may by ordinary resolution consolidate and divide all or any of its share capital into shares of larger par value than its existing shares or subdivide its shares into smaller amounts than is fixed by its articles of association.

Reduction of Share Capital

IR-Ireland may, by ordinary resolution, reduce its authorized share capital in any way. IR-Ireland also may, by special resolution and subject to confirmation by the Irish High Court, reduce or cancel its issued share capital in any way. The distributable reserves proposal discussed above in

Proposal Number Two: Creation of Distributable Reserves involves a reduction of share capital, namely the share premium account of IR-Ireland, for purposes of Irish law.

General Meetings of Shareholders

IR-Ireland will be required to hold an annual general meeting within eighteen months of incorporation and at intervals of no more than fifteen months thereafter, provided that an annual general meeting is held in each calendar year following the first annual general meeting, no more than nine months after IR-Ireland's fiscal year-end. The first annual general meeting of IR-Ireland may be held outside Ireland. Thereafter, any annual general meeting may be held outside Ireland if a resolution so authorizing has been passed at the preceding annual general meeting. Because of the fifteen-month requirement described in this paragraph, IR-Ireland's articles of association include a provision reflecting this requirement of Irish law. At any annual general meeting only such business shall be conducted as shall have been brought before the meeting (a) by or at the direction of the board or (b) by any member entitled to vote at such meeting who complies with the procedures set forth in the articles of association. Please see Comparison of Rights of Shareholders and Powers of the Board of Directors Director Nominations; Proposals of Shareholders below.

Extraordinary general meetings of IR-Ireland may be convened by (i) the chairman of the board of directors, (ii) the board of directors, (iii) on requisition of the shareholders holding not less than 10% of the paid up share capital of IR-Ireland carrying voting rights or (iv) on requisition of IR-Ireland's auditors. Extraordinary general meetings are generally held for the purposes of approving shareholder resolutions of IR-Ireland as may be required from time to time. At any extraordinary general meeting only such business shall be conducted as is set forth in the notice thereof.

Notice of a general meeting must be given to all shareholders of IR-Ireland and to the auditors of IR-Ireland. The articles of association of IR-Ireland provide that the maximum notice period is 60 days. The minimum notice periods are 21 days' notice in writing for an annual general meeting or an extraordinary general meeting to approve a special resolution and 14 days' notice in writing for any other extraordinary general meeting. Because of the 21-day and 14-day requirements described in this paragraph, IR-Ireland's articles of association include provisions reflecting these requirements of Irish law.

In the case of an extraordinary general meeting convened by shareholders of IR-Ireland, the proposed purpose of the meeting must be set out in the requisition notice. The requisition notice can contain any resolution. Upon receipt of this requisition notice, the board of directors has 21 days to convene a meeting of IR-Ireland's

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shareholders to vote on the matters set out in the requisition notice. This meeting must be held within two months of the receipt of the requisition notice. If the board of directors does not convene the meeting within such 21-day period, the requisitioning shareholders, or any of them representing more than one half of the total voting rights of all of them, may themselves convene a meeting, which meeting must be held within three months of the receipt of the requisition notice.

The only matters which must, as a matter of Irish company law, be transacted at an annual general meeting are the presentation of the annual accounts, balance sheet and reports of the directors and auditors, the appointment of auditors and the fixing of the auditor's remuneration (or delegation of same). If no resolution is made in respect of the reappointment of an auditor at an annual general meeting, the previous auditor will be deemed to have continued in office.

Directors are elected by the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast by shareholders at an annual general meeting and serve for one year terms. Any nominee for director who does not receive a majority of the votes cast is not elected to the board. However, because Irish law requires a minimum of two directors at all times, in the event that an election results in no director being elected, each of the two nominees receiving the greatest number of votes in favor of his or her election shall hold office until his or her successor shall be elected. In the event that an election results in only one director being elected, that director shall be elected and shall serve for a one year term, and the nominee receiving the greatest number of votes in favor of their election shall hold office until his or her successor shall be elected.

If the directors become aware that the net assets of IR-Ireland are half or less of the amount of IR-Ireland's called-up share capital, the directors of IR-Ireland must convene an extraordinary general meeting of IR-Ireland's shareholders not later than 28 days from the date that they learn of this fact. This meeting must be convened for the purposes of considering whether any, and if so what, measures should be taken to address the situation.

Voting

Where a poll is demanded at a general meeting, every shareholder shall have one vote for each ordinary share that he or she holds as of the record date for the meeting. Voting rights on a poll may be exercised by shareholders registered in IR-Ireland's share register as of the record date for the meeting or by a duly appointed proxy of such a registered shareholder, which proxy need not be a shareholder. Where interests in shares are held by a nominee trust company this company may exercise the rights of the beneficial holders on their behalf as their proxy. All proxies must be appointed in the manner prescribed by IR-Ireland's articles of association. The articles of association of IR-Ireland permit the appointment of proxies by the shareholders to be notified to IR-Ireland electronically.

IR-Ireland's articles provide that all resolutions shall be decided by a show of hands unless a poll is demanded by the Chairman, by at least three shareholders as of the record date for the meeting or by any shareholder or shareholders holding not less than 10% of the total voting rights of IR-Ireland as of the record date for the meeting. Each IR-Ireland ordinary shareholder of record as of the record date for the meeting has one vote at a general meeting on a show of hands.

In accordance with the articles of association of IR-Ireland, the directors of IR-Ireland may from time to time cause IR-Ireland to issue preferred shares. These preferred shares may have such voting rights as may be specified in the terms of such preferred shares (e.g., they may carry more votes per share than ordinary shares or may entitle their holders to a class vote on such matters as may be specified in the terms of the preferred shares).

Treasury shares will not be entitled to vote at general meetings of shareholders.

Irish company law requires special resolutions of the shareholders at a general meeting to approve certain matters. A special resolution requires not less than 75% of the votes cast of IR-Ireland's shareholders at a general

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meeting. This may be contrasted with ordinary resolutions, which require a simple majority of the votes of IR-Ireland's shareholders cast at a general meeting. Examples of matters requiring special resolutions include:

Amending the objects of IR-Ireland;

Amending the articles of association of IR-Ireland;

Approving the change of name of IR-Ireland;

Authorizing the entering into of a guarantee or provision of security in connection with a loan, quasi-loan or credit transaction to a director or connected person;

Opting out of pre-emption rights on the issuance of new shares;

Re-registration of IR-Ireland from a public limited company as a private company;

Variation of class rights attaching to classes of shares;

Purchase of own shares off-market;

The reduction of share capital;

Resolving that IR-Ireland be wound up by the Irish courts;

Resolving in favor of a shareholders' voluntary winding-up;

Re-designation of shares into different share classes; and

Setting the re-issue price of treasury shares.

A scheme of arrangement with shareholders requires a court order from the Irish High Court and the approval of: (1) 75% of the voting shareholders by value; and (2) 50% in number of the voting shareholders, at a meeting called to approve the scheme.

Variation of Rights Attaching to a Class or Series of Shares

Variation of all or any special rights attached to any class or series of shares of IR-Ireland is addressed in the articles of association of IR-Ireland as well as the Irish Companies Acts. Any variation of class rights attaching to the issued shares of IR-Ireland must be approved by a special resolution of the shareholders of the class or series affected.

Quorum for General Meetings

The presence, in person or by proxy, of the holders of a majority of the IR-Ireland ordinary shares outstanding constitutes a quorum for the conduct of business. No business may take place at a general meeting of IR-Ireland if a quorum is not present in person or by proxy. The board of directors has no authority to waive quorum requirements stipulated in the articles of association of IR-Ireland. Abstentions and broker non-votes will be counted as present for purposes of determining whether there is a quorum in respect of the proposals.

Inspection of Books and Records

Under Irish law, shareholders have the right to: (i) receive a copy of the memorandum and articles of association of IR-Ireland and any act of the Irish Government which alters the memorandum of association of IR-Ireland; (ii) inspect and obtain copies of the minutes of general meetings and resolutions of IR-Ireland; (iii) inspect and receive a copy of the register of shareholders, register of directors and secretaries, register of directors' interests and other statutory registers maintained by IR-Ireland; (iv) receive copies of balance sheets and directors' and auditors' reports which have previously been sent to shareholders prior to an annual general meeting; and (v) receive balance sheets of a subsidiary company of IR-Ireland which have previously been sent

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to shareholders prior to an annual general meeting for the preceding ten years. The auditors of IR-Ireland will also have the right to inspect all books, records and vouchers of IR-Ireland. The auditors' report must be circulated to the shareholders with IR-Ireland's IFRS Financial Statements 21 days before the annual general meeting and must be read to the shareholders at IR-Ireland's annual general meeting.

Acquisitions

There are a number of mechanisms for acquiring an Irish public limited company, including:

- (a) a court-approved scheme of arrangement under the Irish Companies Acts. A scheme of arrangement with shareholders requires a court order from the Irish High Court and the approval of: (1) 75% of the voting shareholders by value; and (2) 50% in number of the voting shareholders, at a meeting called to approve the scheme;
- (b) through a tender offer by a third party for all of the shares of IR-Ireland. Where the holders of 80% or more of IR-Ireland's shares have accepted an offer for their shares in IR-Ireland, the remaining shareholders may be statutorily required to also transfer their shares. If the bidder does not exercise its squeeze out right, then the non-accepting shareholders also have a statutory right to require the bidder to acquire their shares on the same terms. If shares of IR-Ireland were listed on the Irish Stock Exchange or another regulated stock exchange in the EU, this threshold would be increased to 90%; and
- (c) it is also possible for IR-Ireland to be acquired by way of a merger with an EU-incorporated public company under the EU Cross Border Merger Directive 2005/56. Such a merger must be approved by a special resolution. If IR-Ireland is being merged with another EU public company under the EU Cross Border Merger Directive 2005/56 and the consideration payable to IR-Ireland's shareholders is not all in the form of cash, IR-Ireland's shareholders may be entitled to require their shares to be acquired at fair value.

Under Irish law, there is no requirement for a company's shareholders to approve a sale, lease or exchange of all or substantially all of a company's property and assets. However, IR-Ireland's articles of association provide that the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding voting shares on the relevant record date is required to approve a sale, lease or exchange of all or substantially all of its property or assets.

Appraisal Rights

Generally, under Irish law, shareholders of an Irish company do not have appraisal rights. Under the EC (Cross-Border Mergers) Regulations 2008 governing the merger of an Irish public limited company and a company incorporated in the European Economic Area, a shareholder (a) who voted against the special resolution approving the merger or (b) of a company in which 90% of the shares is held by the other company the party to the merger of the transferor company has the right to request that the company acquire its shares for cash.

Disclosure of Interests in Shares

Under the Irish Companies Acts, there is a notification requirement for shareholders who acquire or cease to be interested in 5% of the shares of an Irish public limited company. A shareholder of IR-Ireland must therefore make such a notification to IR-Ireland if as a result of a transaction the shareholder will be interested in 5% or more of the shares of IR-Ireland; or if as a result of a transaction a shareholder who was interested in more than 5% of the shares of IR-Ireland ceases to be so interested. Where a shareholder is interested in more than 5% of the shares of IR-Ireland, any alteration of his or her interest that brings his or her total holding through the nearest whole percentage number, whether an increase or a reduction, must be notified to IR-Ireland. The relevant percentage figure is calculated by reference to the aggregate par value of the shares in which the shareholder is interested as a proportion of the entire par value of IR-Ireland's share capital. Where the percentage level of the shareholder's interest does not amount to a whole percentage this figure may be rounded

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down to the next whole number. All such disclosures should be notified to IR-Ireland within 5 business days of the transaction or alteration of the shareholder's interests that gave rise to the requirement to notify. Where a person fails to comply with the notification requirements described above no right or interest of any kind whatsoever in respect of any shares in IR-Ireland concerned, held by such person, shall be enforceable by such person, whether directly or indirectly, by action or legal proceeding. However, such person may apply to the court to have the rights attaching to the shares concerned reinstated.

In addition to the above disclosure requirement, IR-Ireland, under the Irish Companies Acts, may by notice in writing require a person whom IR-Ireland knows or has reasonable cause to believe to be, or at any time during the three years immediately preceding the date on which such notice is issued, to have been interested in shares comprised in IR-Ireland's relevant share capital to: (a) indicate whether or not it is the case, and (b) where such person holds or has during that time held an interest in the shares of IR-Ireland, to give such further information as may be required by IR-Ireland including particulars of such person's own past or present interests in shares of IR-Ireland. Any information given in response to the notice is required to be given in writing within such reasonable time as may be specified in the notice.

Where such a notice is served by IR-Ireland on a person who is or was interested in shares of IR-Ireland and that person fails to give IR-Ireland any information required within the reasonable time specified, IR-Ireland may apply to court for an order directing that the affected shares be subject to certain restrictions. Under the Irish Companies Acts, the restrictions that may be placed on the shares by the court are as follows:

- (a) any transfer of those shares, or in the case of unissued shares any transfer of the right to be issued with shares and any issue of shares, shall be void;
- (b) no voting rights shall be exercisable in respect of those shares;
- (c) no further shares shall be issued in right of those shares or in pursuance of any offer made to the holder of those shares; and
- (d) no payment shall be made of any sums due from IR-Ireland on those shares, whether in respect of capital or otherwise.

Where the shares in IR-Ireland are subject to these restrictions, the court may order the shares to be sold and may also direct that the shares shall cease to be subject to these restrictions.

Anti-Takeover Provisions

Business Combinations with Interested Shareholders

IR-Ireland's articles of association include a provision governing business combinations with interested shareholders similar to the provision included in IR-Bermuda's bye-laws as described in Comparison of Rights of Shareholders and Powers of the Board of Directors. As provided in IR-Ireland's articles of association, the affirmative vote of the holders of 80% of the shares then in issue of all classes of shares entitled to vote considered for purposes of this provision as one class, is required for IR-Ireland to engage in any business combination with any interested shareholder (generally, a 10% or greater shareholder), provided that the above vote requirement does not apply to:

any business combination with an interested shareholder that has been approved by the board of directors; or

any agreement for the amalgamation, merger or consolidation of any of IR-Ireland's subsidiaries with IR-Ireland or with another of IR-Ireland's subsidiaries if (1) the relevant provisions of IR-Ireland's articles of association will not be changed or otherwise affected by or by virtue of the amalgamation, merger or consolidation and (2) the holders of greater than 50% of the voting power of IR-Ireland or the subsidiary, as appropriate, immediately prior to the amalgamation, merger or consolidation continue to hold greater than 50% of the voting power of the amalgamated company immediately following the amalgamation, merger or consolidation.

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IR-Ireland's articles of association provide that "business combination" means:

any amalgamation, merger or consolidation of IR-Ireland or one of IR-Ireland's subsidiaries with an interested shareholder or with any person that is, or would be after such amalgamation, merger or consolidation, an affiliate or associate of an interested shareholder;

any transfer or other disposition to or with an interested shareholder or any affiliate or associate of an interested shareholder of all or any material part of the assets of IR-Ireland or one of IR-Ireland's subsidiaries; and

any issuance or transfer of IR-Ireland's shares upon conversion of or in exchange for the securities or assets of any interested shareholder, or with any company that is, or would be after such merger or consolidation, an affiliate or associate of an interested shareholder.

Irish Takeover Rules and Substantial Acquisition Rules

A transaction by virtue of which a third party is seeking to acquire 30% or more of the voting rights of IR-Ireland will be governed by the Irish Takeover Panel Act 1997 and the Irish Takeover Rules made thereunder and will be regulated by the Irish Takeover Panel. The General Principles of the Irish Takeover Rules and certain important aspects of the Irish Takeover Rules are described below.

General Principles

The Irish Takeover Rules are built on the following General Principles which will apply to any transaction regulated by the Irish Takeover Panel:

in the event of an offer, all classes of shareholders of the target company should be afforded equivalent treatment and, if a person acquires control of a company, the other holders of securities must be protected;

the holders of securities in the target company must have sufficient time to allow them to make an informed decision regarding the offer;

the board of a company must act in the interests of the company as a whole. If the board of the target company advises the holders of securities as regards the offer it must advise on the effects of the implementation of the offer on employment, employment conditions and the locations of the target company's place of business;

false markets in the securities of the target company or any other company concerned by the offer must not be created;

a bidder can only announce an offer after ensuring that he or she can fulfill in full the consideration offered;

a target company may not be hindered longer than is reasonable by an offer for its securities. This is a recognition that an offer will disrupt the day-to-day running of a target company particularly if the offer is hostile and the board of the target company must divert its attention to resist the offer; and

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a substantial acquisition of securities (whether such acquisition is to be effected by one transaction or a series of transactions) will only be allowed to take place at an acceptable speed and shall be subject to adequate and timely disclosure.

Mandatory Bid

If an acquisition of shares were to increase the aggregate holding of an acquirer and its concert parties to shares carrying 30% or more of the voting rights in IR-Ireland, the acquirer and, depending on the circumstances, its concert parties would be required (except with the consent of the Irish Takeover Panel) to make a cash offer

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for the outstanding shares at a price not less than the highest price paid for the shares by the acquirer or its concert parties during the previous 12 months. This requirement would also be triggered by an acquisition of shares by a person holding (together with its concert parties) shares carrying between 30% and 50% of the voting rights in IR-Ireland if the effect of such acquisition were to increase the percentage of the voting rights held by that person (together with its concert parties) by 0.05% within a twelve-month period. A single holder (that is, a holder excluding any parties acting in concert with the holder) holding more than 50% of the voting rights of a company is not subject to this rule.

Voluntary Bid; Requirements to Make a Cash Offer and Minimum Price Requirements

A voluntary offer is an offer that is not a mandatory offer. If a bidder or any of its concert parties acquire ordinary shares of IR-Ireland within the period of three months prior to the commencement of the offer period, the offer price must be not less than the highest price paid for IR-Ireland ordinary shares by the bidder or its concert parties during that period. The Irish Takeover Panel has the power to extend the look back period to 12 months if the Irish Takeover Panel, having regard to the General Principles, believes it is appropriate to do so.

If the bidder or any of its concert parties has acquired ordinary shares of IR-Ireland (i) during the period of 12 months prior to the commencement of the offer period which represent more than 10% of the total ordinary shares of IR-Ireland or (ii) at any time after the commencement of the offer period, the offer shall be in cash (or accompanied by a full cash alternative) and the price per IR-Ireland ordinary share shall be not less than the highest price paid by the bidder or its concert parties during, in the case of (i), the period of 12 months prior to the commencement of the offer period and, in the case of (ii), the offer period. The Irish Takeover Panel may apply this rule to a bidder who, together with its concert parties, has acquired less than 10% of the total ordinary shares of IR-Ireland in the 12 month period prior to the commencement of the offer period if the Panel, having regard to the General Principles, considers it just and proper to do so.

An offer period will generally commence from the date of the first announcement of the offer or proposed offer.

Substantial Acquisition Rules

The Irish Takeover Rules also contain rules governing substantial acquisitions of shares which restrict the speed at which a person may increase his or her holding of shares and rights over shares to an aggregate of between 15% and 30% of the voting rights of IR-Ireland. Except in certain circumstances, an acquisition or series of acquisitions of shares or rights over shares representing 10% or more of the voting rights of IR-Ireland is prohibited, if such acquisition(s), when aggregated with shares or rights already held, would result in the acquirer holding 15% or more but less than 30% of the voting rights of IR-Ireland and such acquisitions are made within a period of seven days. These rules also require accelerated disclosure of acquisitions of shares or rights over shares relating to such holdings.

Frustrating Action

Under the Irish Takeover Rules, the board of directors of IR-Ireland is not permitted to take any action which might frustrate an offer for the shares of IR-Ireland once the board of directors has received an approach which may lead to an offer or has reason to believe an offer is imminent except as noted below. Potentially frustrating actions such as (i) the issue of shares, options or convertible securities, (ii) material disposals, (iii) entering into contracts other than in the ordinary course of business or (iv) any action, other than seeking alternative offers, which may result in frustration of an offer, are prohibited during the course of an offer or at any time during which the board has reason to believe an offer is imminent. Exceptions to this prohibition are available where:

- (a) the action is approved by IR-Ireland's shareholders at a general meeting; or

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- (b) with the consent of the Irish Takeover Panel where:
 - (i) the Irish Takeover Panel is satisfied the action would not constitute a frustrating action;
 - (ii) the holders of 50% of the voting rights state in writing that they approve the proposed action and would vote in favor of it at a general meeting;
 - (iii) in accordance with a contract entered into prior to the announcement of the offer; or
 - (iv) the decision to take such action was made before the announcement of the offer and either has been at least partially implemented or is in the ordinary course of business.

For other provisions that could be considered to have an anti-takeover effect, please see above at Pre-emption Rights, Share Warrants and Share Options and Disclosure of Interests in Shares, in addition to Corporate Governance, Comparison of Rights of Shareholders and Powers of the Board of Directors Election of Directors, Comparison of Rights of Shareholders and Powers of the Board of Directors Vacancies on Board of Directors, Comparison of Rights of Shareholders and Powers of the Board of Directors Removal of Directors, Comparison of Rights of Shareholders and Powers of the Board of Directors Shareholder Consent to Action Without Meeting, Comparison of Rights of Shareholders and Powers of the Board of Directors Amendment of Governing Documents and Comparison of Rights of Shareholders and Powers of the Board of Directors Director Nominations; Proposals of Shareholders below.

Corporate Governance

The articles of association of IR-Ireland allocate authority over the management of IR-Ireland to the board of directors. The board of directors may then delegate management of IR-Ireland to committees of the board, executives or to a management team, but regardless, the directors will remain responsible, as a matter of Irish law, for the proper management of the affairs of IR-Ireland. It is the intention of IR-Ireland to replicate the existing committees that are currently in place for IR-Bermuda which include an Audit Committee, a Compensation Committee, a Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee and a Finance Committee. It also is the intention of IR-Ireland to adopt IR-Bermuda's current Corporate Governance Guidelines.

Legal Name; Formation; Fiscal Year; Registered Office

The legal and commercial name of the newly formed Irish company is Ingersoll-Rand public limited company. IR-Ireland was incorporated in Ireland, as a public limited company on April 1, 2009 with company registration number 469272. IR-Ireland's fiscal year ends on December 31 and IR-Ireland's registered address is 170/175 Lakeview Dr., Airside Business Park, Swords, Co. Dublin, Ireland.

Duration; Dissolution; Rights upon Liquidation

IR-Ireland's duration will be unlimited. IR-Ireland may be dissolved at any time by way of either a shareholders' voluntary winding up or a creditors' voluntary winding up. In the case of a shareholders' voluntary winding up, the consent of not less than 75% of the shareholders of IR-Ireland is required. IR-Ireland may also be dissolved by way of court order on the application of a creditor, or by the Companies Registration Office as an enforcement measure where IR-Ireland has failed to file certain returns.

The rights of the shareholders to a return of IR-Ireland's assets on dissolution or winding up, following the settlement of all claims of creditors, may be prescribed in IR-Ireland's articles of association or the terms of any preferred shares issued by the directors of IR-Ireland from time to time. The holders of preferred shares in particular may have the right to priority in a dissolution or winding up of IR-Ireland. If the articles of association contain no specific provisions in respect of a dissolution or winding up then, subject to the priorities or any creditors, the assets will be distributed to shareholders in proportion to the paid-up par value of the shares held. IR-Ireland's articles provide that the ordinary shareholders of IR-Ireland are entitled to participate pro rata in a winding up, but their right to do so may be subject to the rights of any preferred shareholders to participate under the terms of any series or class of preferred shares.

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Uncertificated Shares

Holders of ordinary shares of IR-Ireland will not have the right to require IR-Ireland to issue certificates for their shares. IR-Ireland will only issue uncertificated ordinary shares.

Stock Exchange Listing

We intend to file an application with the NYSE to list the IR-Ireland ordinary shares that holders of IR-Bermuda Class A common shares will receive in the Transaction. We expect that, immediately following the Transaction Time, the IR-Ireland ordinary shares will be listed on the NYSE under the symbol IR, the same symbol under which your shares are currently listed. We do not plan for IR-Ireland's ordinary shares to be listed on the Irish Stock Exchange at the present time. However, certain of our debt securities are currently listed on the Irish Stock Exchange.

No Sinking Fund

The ordinary shares have no sinking fund provisions.

No Liability for Further Calls or Assessments

The shares to be issued in the Transaction will be duly and validly issued and fully paid.

Transfer and Registration of Shares

IR-Ireland's share register will be maintained by its transfer agent. Registration in this share register will be determinative of membership in IR-Ireland. A shareholder of IR-Ireland who holds shares beneficially will not be the holder of record of such shares. Instead, the depository (for example, Cede & Co., as nominee for DTC) or other nominee will be the holder of record of such shares. Accordingly, a transfer of shares from a person who holds such shares beneficially to a person who also holds such shares beneficially through a depository or other nominee will not be registered in IR-Ireland's official share register, as the depository or other nominee will remain the record holder of such shares.

A written instrument of transfer is required under Irish law in order to register on IR-Ireland's official share register any transfer of shares (i) from a person who holds such shares directly to any other person, (ii) from a person who holds such shares beneficially to a person who holds such shares directly, or (iii) from a person who holds such shares beneficially to another person who holds such shares beneficially where the transfer involves a change in the depository or other nominee that is the record owner of the transferred shares. An instrument of transfer also is required for a shareholder who directly holds shares to transfer those shares into his or her own broker account (or vice versa). Such instruments of transfer may give rise to Irish stamp duty, which must be paid prior to registration of the transfer on IR-Ireland's official Irish share register.

We currently intend to pay (or cause one of our affiliates to pay) stamp duty in connection with share transfers made in the ordinary course of trading by a seller who holds shares directly to a buyer who holds the acquired shares beneficially. In other cases IR-Ireland may, in its absolute discretion, pay (or cause one of its affiliates to pay) any stamp duty. IR-Ireland's articles of association as they will be in effect after the Transaction provide that, in the event of any such payment, IR-Ireland (i) may seek reimbursement from the transferor or transferee (at our discretion), (ii) may set-off the amount of the stamp duty against future dividends payable to the transferor or transferee (at our discretion), and (iii) will have a lien against the IR-Ireland shares on which we have paid stamp duty. Parties to a share transfer may assume that any stamp duty arising in respect of a transaction in IR-Ireland shares has been paid unless one or both of such parties is otherwise notified by us.

IR-Ireland's articles of association as they will be in effect after the Transaction delegate to IR-Ireland's Secretary the authority to execute an instrument of transfer on behalf of a transferring party. In order to help ensure that the official share register is regularly updated to reflect trading of IR-Ireland shares occurring through

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normal electronic systems, we intend to regularly produce any required instruments of transfer in connection with any transactions for which we pay stamp duty (subject to the reimbursement and set-off rights described above). In the event that we notify one or both of the parties to a share transfer that we believe stamp duty is required to be paid in connection with such transfer and that we will not pay such stamp duty, such parties may either themselves arrange for the execution of the required instrument of transfer (and may request a form of instrument of transfer from IR-Ireland for this purpose) or request that IR-Ireland execute an instrument of transfer on behalf of the transferring party in a form determined by IR-Ireland. In either event, if the parties to the share transfer have the instrument of transfer duly stamped (to the extent required) and then provide it to IR-Ireland's transfer agent, the transferee will be registered as the legal owner of the relevant shares on IR-Ireland's official Irish share register (subject to the matters described below).

The directors of IR-Ireland have general discretion to decline to register an instrument of transfer unless the transfer is in respect of one class of share only.

The registration of transfers may be suspended by the directors at such times and for such period, not exceeding in the whole 30 days in each year, as the directors may from time to time determine.

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**COMPARISON OF RIGHTS OF SHAREHOLDERS AND
POWERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Your rights as a Class A common shareholder of IR-Bermuda and the relative powers of IR-Bermuda's board of directors are governed by Bermuda law and IR-Bermuda's memorandum of association and bye-laws. After the Transaction, you will become a shareholder of IR-Ireland, and your rights and the relative powers of IR-Ireland's board of directors will be governed by Irish law and IR-Ireland's memorandum and articles of association as they will be in effect after the Transaction.

Many of the principal attributes of IR-Bermuda's Class A common shares and IR-Ireland's ordinary shares will be similar. However, there are differences between what your rights are under Bermuda law and what they will be after the Transaction under Irish law. In addition, there are differences between IR-Bermuda's memorandum of association and bye-laws and IR-Ireland's memorandum and articles of association as they will be in effect after the Transaction; however, there are no material differences between those documents, except for changes (i) that are required by Irish law (i.e., certain provisions of the IR-Bermuda bye-laws were not replicated in the IR-Ireland articles of association because Irish law would not permit such replication, and certain provisions were included in the IR-Ireland articles of association although they were not in the IR-Bermuda bye-laws because Irish law requires such provisions to be included in the articles of association of an Irish public limited company), or (ii) that are necessary in order to preserve the current rights of shareholders and powers of the board of directors of Ingersoll Rand following the Transaction. The following discussion is a summary of material changes in your rights resulting from the Transaction. This summary is not complete and does not cover all of the differences between Irish law and Bermuda law affecting companies and their shareholders or all the differences between IR-Bermuda's memorandum of association and bye-laws and IR-Ireland's memorandum and articles of association. We believe this summary is accurate. It is, however, subject to the complete text of the relevant provisions of the Irish Companies Acts, the Bermuda Companies Act, IR-Bermuda's memorandum of association and bye-laws and IR-Ireland's memorandum and articles of association as they will be in effect after the Transaction. We encourage you to read those laws and documents carefully. IR-Ireland's forms of memorandum and articles of association as they will be in effect after the Transaction are attached to this proxy statement as Annex B. For information as to how you can obtain IR-Bermuda's memorandum of association and bye-laws, please see [Where You Can Find More Information](#). Except where otherwise indicated, the discussion of IR-Ireland below reflects IR-Ireland's memorandum and articles of association as those documents will be in effect upon completion of the Transaction.

Capitalization***Authorized Share Capital***

IR-Bermuda. The authorized share capital of IR-Bermuda is US\$1,175,010,000, consisting of (1) 1,175,000,000 common shares, par value US\$1.00 per share, which common shares consist of 600,000,000 Class A common shares and 575,000,000 Class B common shares, and (2) 10,000,000 preference shares, par value US\$0.001 per share, which preference shares consist of 600,000 Series A preference shares and such other series of preference shares as may be designated from time to time with the respective rights and restrictions determined by our board of directors.

Under IR-Bermuda's bye-laws, the directors of IR-Bermuda may issue new common or preferred shares out of authorized but unissued share capital without shareholder approval.

In accordance with IR-Bermuda's bye-laws and the provisions of the Bermuda Companies Act, the authorized share capital may be increased, altered or reduced by way of a resolution of a majority of votes cast by IR-Bermuda's shareholders.

The IR-Bermuda board of directors is authorized, without obtaining any vote or consent of the holders of any class or series of shares unless expressly provided by the terms of the issue of that class or series or to the extent the rights attached to any existing class or series of shares are varied, to provide from time to time for the issuance of other classes or series of preference shares and to establish the characteristics of each class or series, including the number of shares, designations, relative voting rights, dividend rights, liquidation and other rights, redemption, repurchase or exchange rights and any other preferences and relative, participating, optional or other rights and limitations not inconsistent with applicable law.

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As permitted by Bermuda law, IR-Bermuda may issue fractional shares.

IR-Ireland. The authorized share capital of IR-Ireland is 40,000 and US\$1,175,010,000 divided into 40,000 ordinary shares with a nominal value of 1 per share, and 1,175,000,000 ordinary shares with a nominal value of US\$1.00 per share and 10,000,000 preferred shares with a nominal value of US\$0.001 per share. The authorized share capital includes 40,000 ordinary shares with a par value of 1 per share in order to satisfy statutory requirements for all Irish public limited companies commencing operations.

IR-Ireland may issue shares subject to the maximum prescribed by its authorized share capital contained in its memorandum of association. In connection with the Transaction, IR-Ireland will also assume IR-Bermuda's existing obligations to deliver shares under our equity incentive plans and other similar employee awards pursuant to the terms thereof.

As a matter of Irish company law, the directors of a company may issue new ordinary or preferred shares without shareholder approval once authorized to do so by the articles of association of the company or by an ordinary resolution adopted by the shareholders at a general meeting. An ordinary resolution requires over 50% of the votes of a company's shareholders cast at a general meeting. The authority conferred can be granted for a maximum period of five years, at which point it must be renewed by the shareholders of the company by an ordinary resolution. Because of this requirement of Irish law, which does not have an analog under Bermuda law, the articles of association of IR-Ireland authorize the board of directors of IR-Ireland to issue new ordinary or preferred shares without shareholder approval for a period of five years from the date of IR-Ireland's incorporation, even though the IR-Bermuda bye-laws do not include an analogous provision.

The authorized share capital may be increased or reduced by way of an ordinary resolution of IR-Ireland's shareholders. The shares comprising the authorized share capital of IR-Ireland may be divided into shares of such par value as the resolution shall prescribe.

The rights and restrictions to which the ordinary shares will be subject will be prescribed in IR-Ireland's articles of association. IR-Ireland's articles of association entitle the board of directors, without shareholder approval, to determine the terms of the preferred shares issued by IR-Ireland. The IR-Ireland board of directors is authorized, without obtaining any vote or consent of the holders of any class or series of shares unless expressly provided by the terms of that class or series of shares, to provide from time to time for the issuance of other classes or series of preferred shares and to establish the characteristics of each class or series, including the number of shares, designations, relative voting rights, dividend rights, liquidation and other rights, redemption, repurchase or exchange rights and any other preferences and relative, participating, optional or other rights and limitations not inconsistent with applicable law.

Unlike Bermuda law, Irish law does not recognize fractional shares held of record; accordingly, IR-Ireland's articles of association do not provide for the issuance of fractional shares of IR-Ireland, and the official Irish register of IR-Ireland will not reflect any fractional shares.

Issued Share Capital

IR-Bermuda. At April 6, 2009, 319,115,673 Class A common shares were issued and outstanding and an additional 52,020,439 Class A common shares were held in treasury. In addition, 197,091,605 Class B common shares were in issue, all of which are held by wholly owned subsidiaries of IR-Bermuda. No preference shares are currently issued or outstanding.

IR-Ireland. Immediately prior to the Transaction, the issued share capital of IR-Ireland will be 40,000, comprised of 40,000 ordinary shares, comprised of the Euro Share Capital. In connection with the consummation of the Transaction, the Euro Share Capital will be acquired by IR-Ireland and will then be cancelled by IR-Ireland. We expect that IR-Ireland will then issue a number of ordinary shares with a par value of \$1.00 each that is equal to the number of whole IR-Bermuda Class A common shares that will be cancelled as part of the Transaction (including shares of IR-Ireland issued to IR-Bermuda in respect of any shares of IR-Bermuda held as treasury shares immediately prior to the Transaction Time). All shares issued on completion of the Transaction will be issued as fully paid up.

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Reduction of Share Capital

IR-Bermuda. IR-Bermuda may, by resolution of a majority of votes cast by its shareholders, reduce its authorized share capital in any way.

IR-Ireland. IR-Ireland may, by ordinary resolution, reduce its authorized share capital in any way. IR-Ireland also may, by special resolution and subject to confirmation by the Irish High Court, reduce or cancel its issued share capital in any way. The distributable reserves proposal discussed above in Proposal Number Two: Creation of Distributable Reserves involves a reduction of share capital, namely the share premium account of IR-Ireland, for purposes of Irish law.

Pre-emption Rights, Share Warrants and Share Options

IR-Bermuda. Common shareholders do not have pre-emption rights under the Bermuda Companies Act or in IR-Bermuda's bye-laws over further issuances of shares of IR-Bermuda.

IR-Ireland. Certain statutory pre-emption rights apply automatically in favor of IR-Ireland's shareholders where shares in IR-Ireland are to be issued for cash. However, IR-Ireland has opted out of these pre-emption rights in its articles of association as permitted under Irish company law. Because Irish law requires this opt-out to be renewed every five years by a special resolution of the shareholders, and there is no analogous provision of Bermuda law, IR-Ireland's articles of association provide that this opt-out must be so renewed, even though IR-Bermuda's bye-laws do not include an analogous provision. A special resolution requires not less than 75% of the votes of IR-Ireland's shareholders cast at a general meeting. If the opt-out is not renewed, shares issued for cash must be offered to pre-existing shareholders of IR-Ireland pro rata to their existing shareholding before the shares can be issued to any new shareholders. The statutory pre-emption rights do not apply where shares are issued for non-cash consideration and do not apply to the issue of non-equity shares (that is, shares that have the right to participate only up to a specified amount in any income or capital distribution).

The articles of association of IR-Ireland provide that, subject to any shareholder approval requirement under any laws, regulations or the rules of any stock exchange to which IR-Ireland is subject, the board is authorized, from time to time, in its discretion, to grant such persons, for such periods and upon such terms as the board deems advisable, options to purchase such number of shares of any class or classes or of any series of any class as the board may deem advisable, and to cause warrants or other appropriate instruments evidencing such options to be issued. The Irish Companies Acts provide that directors may issue share warrants or options without shareholder approval once authorized to do so by the articles of association or an ordinary resolution of shareholders. The board may issue shares upon exercise of warrants or options without shareholder approval or authorization.

IR-Ireland will be subject to the rules of the NYSE that require shareholder approval of certain share issuances.

Distributions and Dividends; Repurchases and Redemptions

Distributions and Dividends

IR-Bermuda. Under Bermuda law, a company is not required to present proposed dividends or distributions from contributed surplus to its shareholders for approval or adoption. Under the Bermuda Companies Act, the board of directors of a company may not declare or pay dividends or make distributions from contributed surplus to the common shareholders if there are reasonable grounds for believing that (i) the company is or would after the payment be unable to pay its liabilities as they become due, or (ii) the realizable value of the company's assets would thereby be less than the aggregate of its liabilities and its issued share capital and share premium accounts.

Contributed surplus includes proceeds arising from donated shares, credits resulting from the redemption or conversion of shares at less than the amount set up as nominal capital and donations of cash and other assets of the company.

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Subject to the rights, if any, of holders of any preference shares in issue, IR-Bermuda may make distributions and pay dividends, to the extent not prohibited by applicable law, by action of the board of directors. If at any time a dividend or other distribution is declared or paid on Class A common shares, a like dividend or other distribution must also be declared and paid on Class B common shares in an equal amount per share.

The directors of IR-Bermuda are also entitled to issue shares with preferred rights to participate in dividends declared by IR-Bermuda. The holders of such preferred shares may, depending on their terms, be entitled to claim arrears of a declared dividend out of subsequently declared dividends in priority to common shareholders.

IR-Ireland. Under Irish law, dividends and distributions may only be made from distributable reserves. Distributable reserves, broadly, means the accumulated realized profits of IR-Ireland less accumulated realized losses of IR-Ireland. In addition, no distribution or dividend may be made unless the net assets of IR-Ireland are equal to, or in excess of, the aggregate of IR-Ireland's called up share capital plus undistributable reserves and the distribution does not reduce IR-Ireland's net assets below such aggregate. Undistributable reserves include the share premium account, the capital redemption reserve fund and the amount by which IR-Ireland's accumulated unrealized profits, so far as not previously utilized by any capitalization, exceed IR-Ireland's accumulated unrealized losses, so far as not previously written off in a reduction or reorganization of capital.

The determination as to whether or not IR-Ireland has sufficient distributable reserves to fund a dividend must be made by reference to relevant accounts of IR-Ireland. The relevant accounts will be either the last set of unconsolidated annual audited financial statements or unaudited financial statements prepared in accordance with the Irish Companies Acts, which give a true and fair view of IR-Ireland's unconsolidated financial position and accord with accepted accounting practice. The relevant accounts must be filed in the Companies Registration Office (the official public registry for companies in Ireland).

Although IR-Ireland will not have any distributable reserves immediately following the Transaction Time, we are taking steps to create such distributable reserves. Please see Risk Factors and Proposal Number Two: Creation of Distributable Reserves.

The mechanism as to who declares a dividend and when a dividend shall become payable is governed by the articles of association of IR-Ireland. IR-Ireland's articles of association authorize the directors to declare such dividends as appear justified from the profits of IR-Ireland without the approval of the shareholders at a general meeting. The board of directors may also recommend a dividend to be approved and declared by the shareholders at a general meeting. While the shareholders may direct that the payment be made by distribution of assets, shares or cash, no dividend issued may exceed the amount recommended by the directors. The dividends can be declared and paid in the form of cash or non-cash assets. Although the provisions of IR-Ireland's articles of association described in this paragraph are different from the analogous provisions of IR-Bermuda's bye-laws, these differences are required due to differences between Irish law and Bermuda law with respect to distributions and dividends.

The directors of IR-Ireland may deduct from any dividend payable to any member all sums of money (if any) payable by such member to IR-Ireland in relation to the shares of IR-Ireland.

The directors of IR-Ireland are also entitled to issue shares with preferred rights to participate in dividends declared by IR-Ireland. The holders of such preferred shares may, depending on their terms, be entitled to claim arrears of a declared dividend out of subsequently declared dividends in priority to ordinary shareholders.

For information about the Irish tax issues relating to dividend payments, please see Material Tax Considerations Irish Tax Considerations.

Share Repurchases, Redemptions and Conversions

IR-Bermuda. Under the Bermuda Companies Act, shares of a Bermuda company may be repurchased if so authorized by its bye-laws or memorandum of association, and preferred shares may be redeemed at the option of the company if so authorized by its bye-laws or, in the case of shares redeemable at the option of the holder, its memorandum of association, provided that: (i) no such shares shall be repurchased or redeemed except out of the capital paid thereon, the funds of the company available for dividend or distribution, or out of the proceeds of a new issue of shares made for the purposes of redemption; (ii) the premium, if any, payable on redemption, is

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provided out of the company's funds which would be otherwise available for dividend or distribution or out of the company's share premium account before the shares are repurchased or redeemed; and (iii) there are no reasonable grounds for believing that the company is, or after such redemption or repurchase would be, unable to pay its liabilities as they become due. IR-Bermuda's bye-laws provide that it may from time to time purchase its own shares in accordance with the provisions of the Bermuda Companies Act. Shareholder approval is not required for the purchase by IR-Bermuda (or any of its subsidiaries) of IR-Bermuda's shares. Bermuda law does not distinguish between on-market and off-market purchases of a company's own shares.

Class A common shares will not be convertible into shares of any other class or series or be subject to redemption either by IR-Bermuda or the holders of Class A common shares.

Class B common shares will be convertible by the holder thereof into Class A common shares on a one-for-one basis in the following circumstances:

to satisfy the obligations of IR-Bermuda or any of its subsidiaries or affiliated companies to issue Class A common shares with regard to the issuance of shares under any stock or deferred compensation plans of IR-Bermuda or any of its subsidiaries or affiliated companies; or

as consideration for any acquisition of stock or assets of a third party.

In addition, and subject to the Bermuda Companies Act, holders of Class B common shares will have the right at any time upon notice to IR-Bermuda to require IR-Bermuda to purchase for cancellation any or all of the Class B common shares for cash at the per share fair market value per Class A common share as of the date of such notice.

Under IR-Bermuda's bye-laws, the board of directors is authorized to provide for the issuance of preferred shares with such rights (including redemption rights) as the board of directors may adopt by resolution, as set out in the bye-laws. IR-Bermuda's memorandum of association authorizes IR-Bermuda to issue preferred shares redeemable at the option of the holder, subject to the provisions of the Bermuda Companies Act.

Repurchased and redeemed shares may be cancelled or held as treasury shares. While IR-Bermuda holds shares as treasury shares, it cannot exercise any voting rights in respect of those shares. Treasury shares may be cancelled by IR-Bermuda or re-issued subject to certain conditions.

Under Bermuda law, it is permissible for a Bermuda or non-Bermudian subsidiary to purchase shares of IR-Bermuda. While the subsidiary holds the shares of IR-Bermuda, there is no statutory prohibition with respect to such shareholder exercising voting rights in respect of those shares; however, there may be circumstances in which such shares could not be voted by the subsidiary.

IR-Ireland. Article 3(d) of IR-Ireland's articles of association provides that any ordinary share which IR-Ireland has acquired or agreed to acquire shall be deemed to be a redeemable share. Accordingly, for Irish company law purposes, the repurchase of ordinary shares by IR-Ireland will technically be effected as a redemption of those shares as described below under Repurchases and Redemptions by IR-Ireland. If the articles of association of IR-Ireland did not contain Article 3(d), repurchases by IR-Ireland would be subject to many of the same rules that apply to purchases of IR-Ireland shares by subsidiaries described below under Purchases by Subsidiaries of IR-Ireland, including the shareholder approval requirements described below and the requirement that any on-market purchases be effected on a recognized stock exchange. Because Bermuda law does not impose such requirements with respect to share repurchases by IR-Bermuda and we desired to preserve the status quo with respect to share repurchases to the greatest extent possible after the Transaction, Article 3(d) was included in the IR-Ireland articles of association, even though there is no analogous provision in the IR-Bermuda bye-laws. Except where otherwise noted, when we refer elsewhere in this proxy statement to repurchasing or buying back ordinary shares of IR-Ireland, we are referring to the redemption of ordinary shares by IR-Ireland pursuant to Article 3(d) of the articles of association or the purchase of ordinary shares of IR-Ireland by a subsidiary of IR-Ireland, in each case in accordance with the IR-Ireland articles of association and Irish company law as described below.

Table of Contents*Repurchases and Redemptions by IR-Ireland*

Under Irish law, a company can issue redeemable shares and redeem them out of distributable reserves (which are described above under Distributions and Dividends) or the proceeds of a new issue of shares for that purpose. Although IR-Ireland will not have any distributable reserves immediately following the Transaction Time, we are taking steps to create such distributable reserves. Please see Risk Factors and Proposal Number Two: Creation of Distributable Reserves. The issue of redeemable shares may only be made by IR-Ireland where the nominal value of the issued share capital that is not redeemable is not less than 10% of the nominal value of the total issued share capital of IR-Ireland. All redeemable shares must also be fully paid and the terms of redemption of the shares must provide for payment on redemption. Redeemable shares may, upon redemption, be cancelled or held in treasury. Shareholder approval will not be required to redeem IR-Ireland shares.

The board of directors of IR-Ireland will also be entitled to issue preferred shares which may be redeemed at the option of either IR-Ireland or the shareholder, depending on the terms of such preferred shares. Please see Capitalization Authorized Share Capital above for additional information on redeemable shares.

Repurchased and redeemed shares may be cancelled or held as treasury shares. The nominal value of treasury shares held by IR-Ireland at any time must not exceed 10% of the nominal value of the issued share capital of IR-Ireland. While IR-Ireland holds shares as treasury shares, it cannot exercise any voting rights in respect of those shares. Treasury shares may be cancelled by IR-Ireland or re-issued subject to certain conditions.

Purchases by Subsidiaries of IR-Ireland

Under Irish law, it may be permissible for an Irish or non-Irish subsidiary to purchase shares of IR-Ireland either on-market or off-market. A general authority of the shareholders of IR-Ireland is required to allow a subsidiary of IR-Ireland to make on-market purchases of IR-Ireland shares; however, as long as this general authority has been granted, no specific shareholder authority for a particular on-market purchase by a subsidiary of IR-Ireland shares is required. We expect that IR-Ireland will seek such general authority, which must expire no later than 18 months after the date on which it was granted, at the first annual general meeting of IR-Ireland in 2010 and at subsequent annual general meetings. In order for a subsidiary of IR-Ireland to make an on-market purchase of IR-Ireland s shares, such shares must be purchased on a recognized stock exchange. The NYSE, on which the shares of IR-Ireland will be listed following the Transaction, is not currently specified as a recognized stock exchange for this purpose by Irish company law. We understand, however, that it is likely that the Irish authorities will take appropriate steps in the near future to add the NYSE to the list of recognized stock exchanges. For an off-market purchase by a subsidiary of IR-Ireland, the proposed purchase contract must be authorized by special resolution of the shareholders of IR-Ireland before the contract is entered into. The person whose shares are to be bought back cannot vote in favor of the special resolution and, for at least 21 days prior to the special resolution, the purchase contract must be on display or must be available for inspection by shareholders at the registered office of IR-Ireland.

The number of shares held by the subsidiaries of IR-Ireland at any time will count as treasury shares and will be included in any calculation of the permitted treasury share threshold of 10% of the nominal value of the issued share capital of IR-Ireland. While a subsidiary holds shares of IR-Ireland, it cannot exercise any voting rights in respect of those shares. The acquisition of the shares of IR-Ireland by a subsidiary must be funded out of distributable reserves of the subsidiary.

Existing Share Repurchase Program

The board of directors of IR-Bermuda has previously authorized a program to repurchase up to \$4 billion of its Class A common shares. Prior to the consummation of the Transaction, we expect (a) the board of directors of IR-Ireland to authorize the repurchase of IR-Ireland shares by IR-Ireland and (b) IR-Bermuda and its nominee shareholders of IR-Ireland to authorize the purchase of IR-Ireland shares by subsidiaries of IR-Ireland, such that IR-Ireland and its subsidiaries will be authorized to purchase shares in an aggregate amount approximately equal to the then remaining authorization under the existing IR-Bermuda share repurchase program.

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As noted above, because repurchases of IR-Ireland shares by IR-Ireland will technically be effected as a redemption of those shares pursuant to Article 3(d) of the articles of association, such repurchases may be made whether or not the NYSE is a recognized stock exchange and shareholder approval for such repurchases will not be required.

However, because purchases of IR-Ireland shares by subsidiaries of IR-Ireland may be made only on a recognized stock exchange and only if the required shareholder approval has been obtained, we expect that the shareholder authorization for purchases by subsidiaries of IR-Ireland described above will be effective as of the later of (i) the Transaction Time and (ii) the date on which the NYSE becomes a recognized stock exchange for this purpose. This authorization will lapse on the date of the 2010 annual general meeting of IR-Ireland, at which time we expect that we would seek shareholder approval to renew this authorization.

Bonus Shares

IR-Bermuda. Under IR-Bermuda's bye-laws, the board may resolve to capitalize any part of the amount for the time being standing to the credit of any of IR Bermuda's share premium or other reserve accounts or to the credit of the profit and loss account or otherwise available for distribution by applying such sum in paying up unissued shares to be allotted as fully paid bonus shares pro rata to the shareholders.

IR-Ireland. Under IR-Ireland's articles of association, the board may resolve to capitalize any amount credited to any reserve or fund available for distribution or the share premium account of IR-Ireland for issuance and distribution to shareholders as fully paid up bonus shares on the same basis of entitlement as would apply in respect of a dividend distribution.

Shareholder Approval of Business Combinations

IR-Bermuda. There are a number of mechanisms for acquiring a Bermuda company, including:

- (a) a procedure under Section 99 of the Bermuda Companies Act known as a scheme of arrangement. A scheme of arrangement is a compromise or agreement made between us and our creditors or shareholders, which is made by obtaining (1) the consent for the arrangement of the holders of the Class A common shares and Class B common shares by a majority in number representing 75% in value of the shares voting at such meeting at which a quorum is present in person or by proxy and (2) the consent of the Bermuda Court. A scheme of arrangement is binding on all of our members or creditors;
- (b) a procedure under Section 102 of the Bermuda Companies Act for the compulsory acquisition of the shares of shareholders who dissent from a scheme or contract which involves the transfer of shares in us to another company. Where such a scheme or contract is approved by the holders of 90% in value of the shares to be transferred, the transferee company can, within 2 months of such approval, serve notice requiring those shareholders who dissent to transfer their shares to the transferee company. If no application is made by a dissenting shareholder to the Bermuda court within one month of receiving such notice, the dissenting shareholder is obliged to transfer his shares to the transferee on the terms of the scheme or contract. There are additional requirements which the transferee company has to satisfy in the event that it already holds more than 10% in value of the shares in us when proposing the scheme or contract;
- (c) a procedure under Section 103 of the Bermuda Companies Act, under which the holders of not less than 95% of the shares or a class of shares in us may give notice to the remaining shareholders or shareholders of the relevant class that they wish compulsorily to acquire their shares, on the terms set out in the notice. The shareholders receiving the notice can either accept it, or apply to the Bermuda court within one month of receiving such notice for the court to appraise the value of their shares. The shareholder who gave the notice to acquire has the option either to proceed to acquire the shares at the price fixed by the court, or to discontinue the purchase; and

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- (d) under the Bermuda Companies Act, two or more companies registered in Bermuda can amalgamate and continue as one amalgamated company. A Bermuda exempted company and a foreign corporation may amalgamate and continue either as a Bermuda exempted company or as a foreign corporation. The statutory threshold for approval of an amalgamation is 75% of shareholders voting at a special general meeting or such lower majority as is stipulated in the bye-laws of the company. IR-Bermuda's bye-laws provide that the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the votes cast is required to approve an amalgamation. For purposes of approval of an amalgamation, all shares, whether or not otherwise entitled to vote, carry the right to vote. A separate vote of a class of shares is required if the rights of that class would be altered by virtue of the amalgamation.

Under Bermuda law, there is no requirement for a company's shareholders to approve a sale, lease or exchange of all or substantially all of a company's property and assets. However, IR-Bermuda's bye-laws provide that the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the votes cast in general meeting is required to approve a sale, lease or exchange of all or substantially all of its property or assets.

IR-Ireland. There are a number of mechanisms for acquiring an Irish public limited company, including:

- (a) a court-approved scheme of arrangement under the Irish Companies Acts. A scheme of arrangement with shareholders requires a court order from the Irish High Court and the approval of: (1) 75% of the voting shareholders by value; and (2) 50% in number of the voting shareholders, at a meeting called to approve the scheme;
- (b) through a tender offer by a third party for all of the shares of IR-Ireland. Where the holders of 80% or more of IR-Ireland's shares have accepted an offer for their shares in IR-Ireland, the remaining shareholders may be statutorily required to also transfer their shares. If the bidder does not exercise its squeeze out right, then the non-accepting shareholders also have a statutory right to require the bidder to acquire their shares on the same terms. If shares of IR-Ireland were listed on the Irish Stock Exchange or another regulated stock exchange in the EU, this threshold would be increased to 90%; and
- (c) it is also possible for IR-Ireland to be acquired by way of a merger with an EU-incorporated public company under the EU Cross Border Merger Directive 2005/56. Such a merger must be approved by a special resolution. If IR-Ireland is being merged with another EU public company under the EU Cross Border Merger Directive 2005/56 and the consideration payable to IR-Ireland's shareholders is not all in the form of cash, IR-Ireland's shareholders may be entitled to require their shares to be acquired at fair value.

Under Irish law, there is no requirement for a company's shareholders to approve a sale, lease or exchange of all or substantially all of a company's property and assets. However, IR-Ireland's articles of association provide that the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding voting shares on the relevant record date is required to approve a sale, lease or exchange of all or substantially all of its property or assets.

Disclosure of Interests in Shares

IR-Bermuda. The Bermuda Companies Act does not include provisions related to disclosure of interests in shares analogous to the provisions of the Irish Companies Acts described below.

IR-Ireland. Under the Irish Companies Acts, there is a notification requirement for shareholders who acquire or cease to be interested in 5% of the shares of an Irish public limited company. A shareholder of IR-Ireland must therefore make such a notification to IR-Ireland if as a result of a transaction the shareholder will be interested in 5% or more of the shares of IR-Ireland; or if as a result of a transaction a shareholder who was interested in more than 5% of the shares of IR-Ireland ceases to be so interested. Where a shareholder is interested in more than 5% of the shares of IR-Ireland, any alteration of his or her interest that brings his or her total holding through the nearest whole percentage number, whether an increase or a reduction, must be notified

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to IR-Ireland. The relevant percentage figure is calculated by reference to the aggregate par value of the shares in which the shareholder is interested as a proportion of the entire par value of IR-Ireland's share capital. Where the percentage level of the shareholder's interest does not amount to a whole percentage this figure may be rounded down to the next whole number. All such disclosures should be notified to IR-Ireland within 5 business days of the transaction or alteration of the shareholder's interests that gave rise to the requirement to notify. Where a person fails to comply with the notification requirements described above no right or interest of any kind whatsoever in respect of any shares in IR-Ireland concerned, held by such person, shall be enforceable by such person, whether directly or indirectly, by action or legal proceeding. However, such person may apply to the court to have the rights attaching to the shares concerned reinstated.

In addition to the above disclosure requirement, IR-Ireland, under the Irish Companies Acts, may by notice in writing require a person whom IR-Ireland knows or has reasonable cause to believe to be, or at any time during the three years immediately preceding the date on which such notice is issued, to have been interested in shares comprised in IR-Ireland's relevant share capital to: (a) indicate whether or not it is the case, and (b) where such person holds or has during that time held an interest in the shares of IR-Ireland, to give such further information as may be required by IR-Ireland including particulars of such person's own past or present interests in shares of IR-Ireland. Any information given in response to the notice is required to be given in writing within such reasonable time as may be specified in the notice.

Where such a notice is served by IR-Ireland on a person who is or was interested in shares of IR-Ireland and that person fails to give IR-Ireland any information required within the reasonable time specified, IR-Ireland may apply to court for an order directing that the affected shares be subject to certain restrictions. Under the Irish Companies Acts, the restrictions that may be placed on the shares by the court are as follows:

- (a) any transfer of those shares, or in the case of unissued shares any transfer of the right to be issued with shares and any issue of shares, shall be void;
- (b) no voting rights shall be exercisable in respect of those shares;
- (c) no further shares shall be issued in right of those shares or in pursuance of any offer made to the holder of those shares; and
- (d) no payment shall be made of any sums due from IR-Ireland on those shares, whether in respect of capital or otherwise.

Where the shares in IR-Ireland are subject to these restrictions, the court may order the shares to be sold and may also direct that the shares shall cease to be subject to these restrictions.

Appraisal Rights

IR-Bermuda. Under the Bermuda Companies Act, a dissenting shareholder of a company participating in an amalgamation (other than an amalgamation between a company and its wholly-owned subsidiary or between two or more subsidiaries of the same company) may apply to the Bermuda courts to appraise the fair value of its shares.

IR-Ireland. Generally, under Irish law, shareholders of an Irish company do not have appraisal rights. Under the EC (Cross-Border Mergers) Regulations 2008 governing the merger of an Irish public limited company and a company incorporated in the European Economic Area, a shareholder (a) who voted against the special resolution approving the merger or (b) of a company in which 90% of the shares is held by the other company the party to the merger of the transferor company has the right to request that the company acquire its shares for cash.

Business Combinations with Interested Shareholders

IR-Bermuda. IR-Bermuda's bye-laws provide that IR-Bermuda may not engage in any business combination with any interested shareholder (generally, a 10% or greater shareholder) unless the business

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combination receives the affirmative vote of the holders of 80% of the shares then in issue of all classes of shares entitled to vote considered for the purposes of that provision of IR-Bermuda's bye-laws as one class, provided that the above vote requirement does not apply to:

any business combination with an interested shareholder that has been approved by IR-Bermuda's board of directors; or

any agreement for the amalgamation, merger or consolidation of any subsidiary of IR-Bermuda with IR-Bermuda or with another subsidiary of IR-Bermuda if (1) the relevant bye-law provisions will not be changed or otherwise affected by or by virtue of the amalgamation, merger or consolidation and (2) the holders of greater than 50% of the voting power of IR-Bermuda or the subsidiary, as appropriate, immediately prior to the amalgamation, merger or consolidation continue to hold greater than 50% of the voting power of the amalgamated company immediately following the amalgamation, merger or consolidation.

The bye-laws of IR-Bermuda provide that "business combination" means:

any amalgamation, merger or consolidation of IR-Bermuda or one of its subsidiaries with an interested shareholder or with any person that is, or would be after such amalgamation, merger or consolidation, an affiliate or associate of an interested shareholder;

any transfer or other disposition to or with an interested shareholder or any affiliate or associate of an interested shareholder of all or any material part of the assets of IR-Bermuda or one of its subsidiaries; and

any issuance or transfer of shares of IR-Bermuda upon conversion of or in exchange for the securities or assets of any interested shareholder, or with any person that is, or would be after such amalgamation, merger or consolidation, an affiliate or associate of an interested shareholder.

IR-Ireland. IR-Ireland's articles of association include a provision governing business combinations with interested shareholders similar to the provision described above included in IR-Bermuda's bye-laws.

Other Anti-Takeover Measures

IR-Bermuda. Bermuda law does not expressly prohibit companies from issuing share purchase rights or adopting a shareholder rights plan. However, there is little case law on the enforceability of such plans under Bermuda law. In the adoption of such a plan, the following principles should be observed: (1) the directors take bona fide actions in the best interests of the company as a whole, (2) the powers of the directors are used for a proper purpose, (3) the directors exercise their powers fairly between shareholders and (4) the plan does not penalize any existing shareholders.

The board also has power to issue any authorized and unissued shares of the company on such terms and conditions as it may determine and any such action should be taken in the best interests of IR-Bermuda. It is possible, however, that the terms and conditions of any issue of preferred shares could discourage a takeover or other transaction that holders of some or a majority of the common shares believe to be in their best interests or in which holders might receive a premium for their shares over the then market price of the shares.

IR-Ireland.

Shareholder Rights Plans and Share Issuances

Irish law does not expressly prohibit companies from issuing share purchase rights or adopting a shareholder rights plan as an anti-takeover measure. However, there is no directly relevant case law on the validity of such plans under Irish law. In any event, such a plan would be subject to the Irish Takeover Rules described below.

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Subject to the Irish Takeover Rules described below, the board also has power to issue any authorized and unissued shares of IR-Ireland on such terms and conditions as it may determine and any such action should be taken in the best interests of IR-Ireland. It is possible, however, that the terms and conditions of any issue of preferred shares could discourage a takeover or other transaction that holders of some or a majority of the ordinary shares believe to be in their best interests or in which holders might receive a premium for their shares over the then market price of the shares.

Irish Takeover Rules and Substantial Acquisition Rules

A transaction by virtue of which a third party is seeking to acquire 30% or more of the voting rights of IR-Ireland will be governed by the Irish Takeover Panel Act 1997 and the Irish Takeover Rules made thereunder and will be regulated by the Irish Takeover Panel. The General Principles of the Irish Takeover Rules and certain important aspects of the Irish Takeover Rules are described below.

General Principles

The Irish Takeover Rules are built on the following General Principles which will apply to any transaction regulated by the Irish Takeover Panel:

in the event of an offer, all classes of shareholders of the target company should be afforded equivalent treatment and, if a person acquires control of a company, the other holders of securities must be protected;

the holders of securities in the target company must have sufficient time to allow them to make an informed decision regarding the offer;

the board of a company must act in the interests of the company as a whole. If the board of the target company advises the holders of securities as regards the offer it must advise on the effects of the implementation of the offer on employment, employment conditions and the locations of the target company's place of business;

false markets in the securities of the target company or any other company concerned by the offer must not be created;

a bidder can only announce an offer after ensuring that he or she can fulfill in full the consideration offered;

a target company may not be hindered longer than is reasonable by an offer for its securities. This is a recognition that an offer will disrupt the day-to-day running of a target company particularly if the offer is hostile and the board of the target company must divert its attention to resist the offer; and

a substantial acquisition of securities (whether such acquisition is to be effected by one transaction or a series of transactions) will only be allowed to take place at an acceptable speed and shall be subject to adequate and timely disclosure.

Mandatory Bid

If an acquisition of shares were to increase the aggregate holding of an acquirer and its concert parties to shares carrying 30% or more of the voting rights in IR-Ireland, the acquirer and, depending on the circumstances, its concert parties would be required (except with the consent of the Irish Takeover Panel) to make a cash offer for the remaining outstanding shares at a price not less than the highest price paid for the shares by the acquirer or its concert parties during the previous 12 months. This requirement would also be triggered by an acquisition of shares by a person holding (together with its concert parties) shares carrying between 30% and 50% of the voting rights in IR-Ireland if the effect of such acquisition were to increase the percentage of the voting rights held by that person (together with its concert parties) by 0.05% within a twelve-month period. A single holder (that is, a holder excluding any parties acting in concert with the holder) holding more than 50% of the

voting rights of a company is not subject to this rule.

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Voluntary Bid; Requirements to Make a Cash Offer and Minimum Price Requirements

A voluntary offer is an offer that is not a mandatory offer. If a bidder or any of its concert parties acquire ordinary shares of IR-Ireland within the period of three months prior to the commencement of the offer period, the offer price must be not less than the highest price paid for IR-Ireland ordinary shares by the bidder or its concert parties during that period. The Irish Takeover Panel has the power to extend the look back period to 12 months if the Irish Takeover Panel, having regard to the General Principles, believes it is appropriate to do so.

If the bidder or any of its concert parties has acquired ordinary shares of IR-Ireland (i) during the period of 12 months prior to the commencement of the offer period which represent more than 10% of the total ordinary shares of IR-Ireland or (ii) at any time after the commencement of the offer period, the offer shall be in cash (or accompanied by a full cash alternative) and the price per IR-Ireland ordinary share shall be not less than the highest price paid by the bidder or its concert parties during, in the case of (i), the period of 12 months prior to the commencement of the offer period and, in the case of (ii), the offer period. The Irish Takeover Panel may apply this rule to a bidder who, together with its concert parties, has acquired less than 10% of the total ordinary shares of IR-Ireland in the 12 month period prior to the commencement of the offer period if the Panel, having regard to the General Principles, considers it just and proper to do so.

An offer period will generally commence from the date of the first announcement of the offer or proposed offer.

Substantial Acquisition Rules

The Irish Takeover Rules also contain rules governing substantial acquisitions of shares which restrict the speed at which a person may increase his or her holding of shares and rights over shares to an aggregate of between 15% and 30% of the voting rights of IR-Ireland. Except in certain circumstances, an acquisition or series of acquisitions of shares or rights over shares representing 10% or more of the voting rights of IR-Ireland is prohibited, if such acquisition(s), when aggregated with shares or rights already held, would result in the acquirer holding 15% or more but less than 30% of the voting rights of IR-Ireland and such acquisitions are made within a period of seven days. These rules also require accelerated disclosure of acquisitions of shares or rights over shares relating to such holdings.

Frustrating Action

Under the Irish Takeover Rules, the board of directors of IR-Ireland is not permitted to take any action which might frustrate an offer for the shares of IR-Ireland once the board of directors has received an approach which may lead to an offer or has reason to believe an offer is imminent except as noted below. Potentially frustrating actions such as (i) the issue of shares, options or convertible securities, (ii) material disposals, (iii) entering into contracts other than in the ordinary course of business or (iv) any action, other than seeking alternative offers, which may result in frustration of an offer, are prohibited during the course of an offer or at any time during which the board has reason to believe an offer is imminent. Exceptions to this prohibition are available where:

- (a) the action is approved by IR-Ireland's shareholders at a general meeting; or
- (b) with the consent of the Irish Takeover Panel where:
 - (i) the Irish Takeover Panel is satisfied the action would not constitute a frustrating action;
 - (ii) the holders of 50% of the voting rights state in writing that they approve the proposed action and would vote in favor of it at a general meeting;
 - (iii) in accordance with a contract entered into prior to the announcement of the offer; or
 - (iv)

the decision to take such action was made before the announcement of the offer and either has been at least partially implemented or is in the ordinary course of business.

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For other provisions that could be considered to have an anti-takeover effect, please see above at Pre-emption Rights, Share Warrants and Share Options, Disclosure of Interests in Shares, and Business Combinations with Interested Shareholders, in addition to Election of Directors, Vacancies on Board of Directors, Removal of Directors, Board and Committee Composition; Management, Shareholder Consent to Action Without Meeting, Amendment of Governing Documents and Director Nominations; Proposals of Shareholders below.

Election of Directors

IR-Bermuda. IR-Bermuda's bye-laws provide that the board of directors will consist of not less than three nor more than twenty persons (or such number in excess thereof as the shareholders may from time to time determine), with the exact number in that range to be set from time to time by the board of directors. Accordingly, the board of directors, and not the shareholders, has the authority to determine the number of directors within the stated range.

Directors are elected or appointed at the annual general meeting or at any special general meeting called for that purpose. Each director is elected by the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast with respect to such director at any meeting for the election of directors at which a quorum is present, provided that if the number of nominees exceeds the number of directors to be elected, the directors are elected by a plurality of votes cast. Directors hold office for a term determined by the shareholders or, in the absence of such determination, until the earliest of (i) the conclusion of the next annual general meeting, (ii) their successors are elected or appointed or (iii) their office is otherwise vacated in accordance with our bye-laws. Holders of Class A common shares are entitled to one vote per each such at all meetings at which directors are elected. Holders of Class B common shares are not entitled to vote for the election of directors.

IR-Ireland. The Irish Companies Acts provide for a minimum of two directors. IR-Ireland's articles of association provide for a minimum of two directors and a maximum of twenty directors. The shareholders of IR-Ireland may from time to time increase or reduce the maximum number, or increase the minimum number, of directors by a special resolution amending the articles of association. Although the IR-Bermuda bye-laws provide that the number of directors to be elected within the minimum and maximum provided in the bye-laws will be determined by the board, the IR-Ireland articles of association do not include analogous provisions because (a) Irish law does not expressly recognize a concept of board size within the minimum and maximum number of directors, and (b) it is unclear whether a provision in an Irish public limited company's articles of association permitting the board to set the maximum number of directors would be valid under Irish law.

Directors are elected by the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast by shareholders at an annual general meeting and serve for one year terms. Any nominee for director who does not receive a majority of the votes cast is not elected to the board. However, because Irish law requires a minimum of two directors at all times, in the event that an election results in no director being elected, each of the two nominees receiving the greatest number of votes in favor of his or her election shall hold office until his or her successor shall be elected. In the event that an election results in only one director being elected, that director shall be elected and shall serve for a one year term, and the nominee receiving the greatest number of votes in favor of their election shall hold office until his or her successor shall be elected.

Vacancies on Board of Directors

IR-Bermuda. IR-Bermuda's bye-laws provide that a vacancy occurring in the board of directors (including a vacancy resulting from an increase in the number of directors or the removal of a director) not filled by the shareholders in general meeting may be filled by the affirmative vote of a majority of the directors remaining in office, provided that a quorum is present.

Under IR-Bermuda's bye-laws, if the board of directors fills a vacancy, the director's term expires at the earliest of: the conclusion of the next annual general meeting, until his or her successor shall have been elected or appointed, or until his or her office is vacated in accordance with IR-Bermuda's bye-laws.

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A vacancy on the board created by the removal of a director may be filled by the shareholders at the meeting at which such director is removed and, in the absence of such election or appointment, the remaining directors may fill the vacancy.

IR-Ireland. IR-Ireland's articles of association provide that the directors shall have the authority to appoint one or more directors to IR-Ireland's board, subject to the maximum in the articles of association. A vacancy caused by the removal of a director may be filled at the meeting at which the director is removed by resolution of IR-Ireland's shareholders. If not, it may be filled by the board of directors.

Any director so appointed shall hold office until the next annual general meeting of IR-Ireland. During any vacancy in the board, the remaining directors shall have full power to act as the board.

Removal of Directors

IR-Bermuda. IR-Bermuda's bye-laws provide that directors may be removed without cause only upon the affirmative vote of the holders of at least 80% of the shares entitled to vote for the election of directors and for cause only upon the affirmative vote of the holders of at least 66²/₃% of the shares entitled to vote at the election of directors at any special general meeting convened in accordance with IR-Bermuda's bye-laws; provided that the notice of any such meeting convened for the purpose of removing a director contain a statement of the intention to do so and be served on such director not less than 14 days before the meeting and at such meeting such director shall be entitled to be heard on the motion for such director's removal.

IR-Ireland. The Irish Companies Acts provide that notwithstanding anything contained in the articles of association of a company or in any agreement between that company and a director, the shareholders may by an ordinary resolution remove a director from office before the expiration of his or her term. Because of this provision of the Irish Companies Acts, which does not have an analog under Bermuda law, the IR-Ireland articles of association do not deny the power of the shareholders to remove any director from office without cause, even though the IR-Bermuda bye-laws do deny such power as described above. The power of removal is without prejudice to any claim for damages for breach of contract (e.g., employment contract) which the director may have against IR-Ireland in respect of his or her removal.

Board and Committee Composition; Management

IR-Bermuda. IR-Bermuda's bye-laws provide that the board of directors may delegate any or all of its powers to a committee or committees appointed by the board which may consist partly or entirely of non-directors and every such committee shall conform to such directions as the board shall impose on them; provided that a committee appointed by the board shall not have the power to set its or its members' remuneration. The meetings and proceedings of any such committee shall be governed by the provisions of IR-Bermuda's bye-laws regulating the meetings and proceedings of the board, so far as the same are applicable and are not superseded by directions imposed by the board. The board, by the affirmative vote of a majority of the entire board, may appoint from their number an executive committee of which committee a majority of committee members shall constitute a quorum; and to such extent as shall be provided in IR-Bermuda's bye-laws and as may be permitted by law, such committee shall have and may exercise any or all of the powers of the board. The board, by the affirmative vote of a majority of the entire board, may appoint any other standing committees and such standing committees shall have and may exercise such powers as may be conferred and authorized by IR-Bermuda's bye-laws or by the board and as may be permitted by law. Each committee of the board shall keep complete, accurate minutes and records of all actions taken by such committee, prepare such minutes and records in a timely fashion and promptly make available all such minutes and records to each member of the board.

IR-Ireland. The articles of association of IR-Ireland allocate authority over the management of IR-Ireland to the board of directors. The board of directors may then delegate management of IR-Ireland to committees of the board, executives or to a management team, but regardless, the directors will remain responsible, as a matter of Irish law, for the proper management of the affairs of IR-Ireland. It is the intention of IR-Ireland to replicate the

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existing committees that are currently in place for IR-Bermuda which include an Audit Committee, a Compensation Committee, a Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee and a Finance Committee. It also is the intention of IR-Ireland to adopt IR-Bermuda's current Corporate Governance Guidelines.

Duties of the Board of Directors

IR-Bermuda. Bermuda law does not impose an all-embracing code of conduct on directors. Many of the duties and obligations of a director are statutory; others are found only in common law. The Bermuda Companies Act contains numerous provisions relating to the duties of directors and prescribes penalties for breach of such duties. At common law a director owes two types of duty to the company: a fiduciary duty and a duty of skill and care. An individual director must act in good faith in his or her dealings with or on behalf of the company and exercise the powers and fulfill the duties of the office honestly. A director has a duty to act in good faith in what he or she considers is the best interests of the company and not for any collateral purpose. Directors must act within the powers set out in the company's memorandum of association and bye-laws and exercise their powers in the company's interests and for the purposes for which those powers were conferred. Directors are responsible to the company and not, in the absence of special circumstances, to the shareholders as individuals. For these purposes, the company is generally defined with reference to the interest of both present and future shareholders of the company as a whole.

IR-Ireland. The directors of IR-Ireland have certain statutory and fiduciary duties. All of the directors have equal and overall responsibility for the management of IR-Ireland (although directors who also serve as employees will have additional responsibilities and duties arising under their employment agreements and will be expected to exercise a greater degree of skill and diligence than non-executive directors). The principal directors' duties include the common law fiduciary duties of good faith and exercising due care and skill. The statutory duties include ensuring the maintenance of proper books of account, having annual accounts prepared, having an annual audit performed, the duty to maintain certain registers and make certain filings as well as disclosure of personal interests. Particular duties also apply to directors of insolvent companies (for example, the directors could be liable to sanctions where they are deemed by the court to have carried on the business of IR-Ireland while insolvent, without due regard to the interests of creditors). For public limited companies like IR-Ireland, directors are under a specific duty to ensure that the Secretary is a person with the requisite knowledge and experience to discharge the role.

Indemnification of Directors and Officers; Insurance

IR-Bermuda. IR-Bermuda's bye-laws require it to indemnify any person who is, was or is threatened to be made a party to any proceeding because he or she is or was a director or officer of IR-Bermuda, or because he or she is or was serving at the request of IR-Bermuda as a director, officer, partner, venturer, proprietor, trustee, employee, agent or other similar functionary of another entity, organization, employee benefit plan or other enterprise, against any liability, including reasonable expenses and legal fees, incurred in the proceeding to the fullest extent permitted by Bermuda law. Under the IR-Bermuda bye-laws, for the purpose of the indemnification provision, proceeding is broadly defined to include any threatened, pending or completed action, suit, claim or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, arbitrative or investigative, any appeal in such an action, suit, claim or proceeding, and any inquiry or investigation that could lead to such an action, suit, claim or proceeding. The IR-Bermuda bye-laws also provide that it may, but is not obligated to, indemnify its other employees or agents. The indemnification provisions also require IR-Bermuda to pay reasonable expenses incurred in a proceeding in advance of the final disposition of any such proceeding, provided that the indemnified person undertakes to repay IR-Bermuda if it is ultimately determined that such person was not entitled to indemnification.

Bermuda companies may take out directors and officers liability insurance, as well as other types of insurance, for their directors and officers.

Under the Bermuda Companies Act, a company cannot indemnify any individual that is adjudged to be liable for fraud or dishonesty in the performance of his or her duties.

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IR-Ireland. IR-Ireland's articles of association confer an indemnity on its directors and Secretary that is more limited than the analogous indemnity in IR-Bermuda's bye-laws, because the Irish Companies Acts prescribe that such an indemnity only permits a company to pay the costs or discharge the liability of a director or the Secretary where judgment is given in any civil or criminal action in respect of such costs or liability, or where an Irish court grants relief because the director or Secretary acted honestly and reasonably and ought fairly to be excused. This restriction does not apply to executives who are not directors or the Secretary of IR-Ireland. Any provision which seeks to indemnify a director or secretary of an Irish company over and above this shall be void under Irish law, whether contained in its articles of association or any contract between the director and the company.

IR-Ireland's articles of association also contain indemnification and expense advancement provisions for persons who are not directors or Secretary of IR-Ireland that are substantially similar to those provided in IR-Bermuda's bye-laws.

Irish companies may take out directors and officers liability insurance, as well as other types of insurance, for their directors and officers.

In addition, in connection with the Transaction, we expect that IR-Bermuda and IR-Ireland will enter into indemnification agreements (or deed poll indemnities) with or as to each of IR-Ireland's directors and officers, as well as with individuals serving as directors or officers of our subsidiaries, providing for the indemnification of, and advancement of expenses to, these persons. We expect that the indemnification and expense advancement provided under these indemnification agreements (or deed poll indemnities) will be substantially similar to that currently afforded by IR-Bermuda under its bye-laws to its directors and officers and those serving at its request in other capacities as described above, with the primary differences being such modifications as may be necessary to account for limitations on the ability of an Irish company to indemnify its directors or its Secretary.

Limitation on Director Liability

IR-Bermuda. Under Bermuda law a company shall not indemnify any individual that is adjudged to be liable for fraud or dishonesty in the performance of his or her duties to such company.

IR-Bermuda's bye-laws provide that each shareholder agrees to exempt a director or officer from any claim or right of action such shareholder may have, whether individually or in the right of IR Bermuda, on account of any action taken or the failure to take any action in the performance of his duties for IR Bermuda. Such waiver does not cover any matter involving fraud or dishonesty.

IR-Ireland. Under Irish law, a company may not exempt its directors from liability for negligence or a breach of duty, and therefore IR-Ireland's articles of association do not include provisions exempting directors from liability analogous to the provisions of IR-Bermuda's bye-laws described above. However, where a breach of duty has been established, directors may be statutorily exempted by an Irish court from personal liability for negligence or breach of duty if, among other things, the court determines that they have acted honestly and reasonably, and that they may fairly be excused as a result.

Conflicts of Interest

IR-Bermuda. A director must not put himself or herself in a position where there is an actual or potential conflict between a personal interest or the duties owed to third parties and his or her duty to the company. Notwithstanding the duty to avoid a conflict of interest, a director may enter into a contract where a conflict of interest might arise if the bye-laws allow it or if the company gives its approval in a general meeting of shareholders.

Any contract or other transaction to which IR-Bermuda or any subsidiary of IR-Bermuda is a party and in which one or more directors has a direct or indirect interest that is material to such director or directors shall be

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authorized, approved, or ratified by affirmative vote of a majority of the disinterested directors, even if the disinterested directors constitute less than a quorum; provided that no such contract or other transaction will be void or voidable solely by reason of such interest, or solely because such director or directors are present at the meeting of the board or committee which authorizes or approves the contract or transaction, or solely because his or their votes are counted for such purpose, if any one of the following is true: (A) the contract or other transaction is fair and reasonable as to IR-Bermuda or the subsidiary of IR-Bermuda at the time it is authorized, approved or ratified; (B) the fact of the interest is disclosed or known to the board or committee and the board or committee authorizes, approves, or ratifies the contract or transaction by unanimous written consent, provided at least one director so consenting is disinterested, or by affirmative vote of a majority of the disinterested directors, even though the disinterested directors constitute less than a quorum; or (C) the fact of the interest is disclosed or known to the members, and they authorize, approve or ratify the contract or transaction.

IR-Ireland. As a matter of Irish law, a director is under a general fiduciary duty to avoid conflicts of interest. Under Irish law, directors who have a personal interest in a contract or a proposed contract with IR-Ireland are required to declare the nature of their interest at a meeting of the directors of IR-Ireland. IR-Ireland is required to maintain a register of such declared interests which must be available for inspection by the shareholders.

Shareholders Suits

IR-Bermuda. Under Bermuda law, a court will generally refuse to interfere with the management of a company on behalf of minority shareholders who are dissatisfied with the conduct of a company's affairs by its board of directors. However, each shareholder is entitled to have the affairs of the company properly conducted in accordance with law. Therefore, if those who control the company persistently disregard the requirements of law or of the company's memorandum of association or bye-laws, the court may grant relief. Bermuda courts ordinarily would be expected to follow English precedent, which would permit the court to intervene in any of the following circumstances: (i) where the act complained of is alleged to be beyond the corporate power of the company or illegal; (ii) where the act complained of is alleged to constitute a fraud against the minority shareholders by those controlling the company, provided that the majority shareholders have used their controlling position to prevent the company from taking action against the wrongdoers; (iii) where an act requires approval by a greater percentage of the company's shareholders than actually approved it; or (iv) where such an action is necessary in order that there not be a violation of the company's memorandum of association or bye-laws.

Under the Bermuda Companies Act, a shareholder is entitled to complain to the court that the affairs of the company are being conducted in a manner which is oppressive or unfairly prejudicial to the shareholders, or some of them, and seek a winding up of the company or an alternative remedy.

An individual shareholder may seek to bring an action on behalf of the company to enforce the company's rights, and judgment in such a case would be in favor of the company.

An individual shareholder may be permitted to bring an action on behalf of himself and his or her fellow shareholders to remedy a wrong done to the company or to compel the company to conduct its affairs in accordance with the rule governing it.

A shareholder also may be permitted to bring an action in his or her own name on his or her own behalf against a Bermuda company or another shareholder. In any such action, however, a loss suffered by the company will not be regarded as a direct loss suffered by the individual shareholder. Remedies for such an action are generally limited to declarations or injunctions.

IR-Ireland. In Ireland, the decision to institute proceedings is generally taken by a company's board of directors who will usually be empowered to manage the company's business. In certain limited circumstances, a shareholder may be entitled to bring a derivative action on behalf of IR-Ireland. The central question at issue in deciding whether a minority shareholder may be permitted to bring a derivative action is whether, unless the action is brought, a wrong committed against IR-Ireland would otherwise go un-redressed.

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The principal case law in Ireland indicates that to bring a derivative action a person must first establish a prima facie case (1) that the company is entitled to the relief claimed and (2) that the action falls within one of the five exceptions derived from case law, as follows:

Where an ultra vires or illegal act is perpetrated.

Where more than a bare majority is required to ratify the wrong complained of.

Where the shareholders' personal rights are infringed.

Where a fraud has been perpetrated upon a minority by those in control.

Where the justice of the case requires a minority to be permitted to institute proceedings.

The shareholders of IR-Ireland may also bring proceedings against IR-Ireland where the affairs of IR-Ireland are being conducted, or the powers of the directors are being exercised, in a manner oppressive to the shareholders or in disregard of their interests. Oppression connotes conduct which is burdensome, harsh or wrong. The conduct must relate to the internal management of IR-Ireland. This is an Irish statutory remedy and the court can grant any order it sees fit, usually providing for the purchase or transfer of the shares of any shareholder.

Shareholder Consent to Action Without Meeting

IR-Bermuda. IR-Bermuda's bye-laws provide that any action which may be taken by resolution of in a general meeting or a meeting of any class of shareholders may, without a meeting and without any previous notice, be done by resolution in writing signed by all the shareholders who at the date of the resolution would be entitled to attend the meeting and vote on the resolution.

IR-Ireland. The Irish Companies Acts provide for the ability of shareholders to consent to action without a meeting by way of a unanimous written resolution. IR-Ireland's articles of association provide that anything which may be done by resolution of IR-Ireland at a general meeting may be done by resolution in writing, but only if it is signed by or on behalf of all of the shareholders entitled to attend and vote on the relevant resolution.

Annual Meetings of Shareholders

IR-Bermuda. A general meeting of IR-Bermuda's shareholders shall be convened at least once in every calendar year, referred to as the annual general meeting. The directors may select the location/jurisdiction in which the annual general meeting will take place. At any annual general meeting only such business shall be conducted as shall have been brought before the meeting (a) by or at the direction of the board or (b) by any member entitled to vote at such meeting who complies with the procedures set forth in the bye-laws. Please see Director Nominations; Proposals of Shareholders below.

Notice of an annual general meeting must be given to all shareholders of IR-Bermuda. The Bermuda Companies Act provides that, notwithstanding any provisions in the bye-laws of a company, at least 5 days' notice shall be given of any meeting of a company, other than an adjourned meeting. The IR-Bermuda bye-laws provide that notice of an annual general meeting shall be given not less than 5 nor more than 60 days before the date of the meeting.

As a matter of Bermuda company law, the matters which must be transacted at an annual general meeting (unless waived in accordance with the Bermuda Companies Act) are the presentation of financial statements of IR-Bermuda and the appointment of an auditor to hold office until the close of the next annual general meeting (and, if no such appointment is made, the auditor in office shall continue until a successor is appointed).

IR-Ireland. IR-Ireland will be required to hold an annual general meeting within eighteen months of incorporation and at intervals of no more than fifteen months thereafter, provided that an annual general meeting is held in each calendar year following the first annual general meeting, no more than nine months after

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IR-Ireland's fiscal year-end. The first annual general meeting of IR-Ireland may be held outside Ireland. Thereafter, any annual general meeting may be held outside Ireland if a resolution so authorizing has been passed at the preceding annual general meeting. At any annual general meeting only such business shall be conducted as shall have been brought before the meeting (a) by or at the direction of the board or (b) by any member entitled to vote at such meeting who complies with the procedures set forth in the articles of association. Please see Director Nominations; Proposals of Shareholders below.

Notice of an annual general meeting must be given to all shareholders of IR-Ireland and to the auditors of IR-Ireland. The articles of association of IR-Ireland provide that the maximum notice period is 60 days. The minimum notice period is 21 days' notice in writing for an annual general meeting. Because of the fifteen-month requirement described in the previous paragraph and the 21-day requirement described in this paragraph, which are different from the analogous provisions of Bermuda law, IR-Ireland's articles of association include provisions reflecting these requirements of Irish law, even though the analogous provisions of IR-Bermuda's bye-laws differ in this respect.

The only matters which must, as a matter of Irish company law, be transacted at an annual general meeting are the presentation of the annual accounts, balance sheet and reports of the directors and auditors, the appointment of auditors and the fixing of the auditor's remuneration (or delegation of same). If no resolution is made in respect of the reappointment of an auditor at an annual general meeting, the previous auditor will be deemed to have continued in office.

Special Meetings of Shareholders

IR-Bermuda. Special general meetings of IR-Bermuda may be convened by (i) the chairman of the board of directors or president (if any), (ii) the board of directors or (iii) on requisition of the shareholders holding not less than 10% of the paid up share capital of IR-Bermuda carrying the right to vote in general meeting, provided that any matter to be voted upon at a meeting requisitioned by shareholders requires the affirmative vote of at least 66²/₃% of the shares entitled to vote. Special general meetings are generally held for the purposes of approving shareholder resolutions of IR-Bermuda as may be required from time to time. At any special general meeting only such business shall be conducted as is set forth in the notice thereof.

Notice of a special general meeting must be given to all shareholders of IR-Bermuda. The Bermuda Companies Act provides that, notwithstanding any provisions in the bye-laws of a company, at least 5 days' notice shall be given of any meeting of a company, other than an adjourned meeting. The IR-Bermuda bye-laws provide that notice of a special general meeting shall be given not less than 5 nor more than 60 days before the date of the meeting. Special general meetings may be called by shorter notice, but only with the consent of a majority in number of the shareholders having the right to attend and vote at the meeting, being a majority together holding not less than 95% in nominal value of the shares giving a right to attend and vote at the meeting.

IR-Ireland. Extraordinary general meetings of IR-Ireland may be convened by (i) the chairman of the board of directors, (ii) the board of directors, (iii) on requisition of the shareholders holding not less than 10% of the paid up share capital of IR-Ireland carrying voting rights or (iv) on requisition of IR-Ireland's auditors. Extraordinary general meetings are generally held for the purposes of approving shareholder resolutions of IR-Ireland as may be required from time to time. At any extraordinary general meeting only such business shall be conducted as is set forth in the notice thereof.

Notice of an extraordinary general meeting must be given to all shareholders of IR-Ireland and to the auditors of IR-Ireland. The articles of association of IR-Ireland provide that the maximum notice period is 60 days. The minimum notice periods are 21 days' notice in writing for an extraordinary general meeting to approve a special resolution and 14 days' notice in writing for any other extraordinary general meeting. Because of the 21-day and 14-day requirements described in this paragraph, which are different from the analogous provisions of Bermuda law, IR-Ireland's articles of association include provisions reflecting these requirements of Irish law, even though the analogous provisions of IR-Bermuda's bye-laws differ in this respect.

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In the case of an extraordinary general meeting convened by shareholders of IR-Ireland, the proposed purpose of the meeting must be set out in the requisition notice. The requisition notice can contain any resolution. Upon receipt of this requisition notice, the board of directors has 21 days to convene a meeting of IR-Ireland's shareholders to vote on the matters set out in the requisition notice. This meeting must be held within two months of the receipt of the requisition notice. If the board of directors does not convene the meeting within such 21-day period, the requisitioning shareholders, or any of them representing more than one half of the total voting rights of all of them, may themselves convene a meeting, which meeting must be held within three months of the receipt of the requisition notice.

If the directors become aware that the net assets of IR-Ireland are half or less of the amount of IR-Ireland's called-up share capital, the directors of IR-Ireland must convene an extraordinary general meeting of IR-Ireland's shareholders not later than 28 days from the date that they learn of this fact. This meeting must be convened for the purposes of considering whether any, and if so what, measures should be taken to address the situation.

Record Dates for Shareholder Meetings

IR-Bermuda. IR-Bermuda's bye-laws provide that the board may set the record date for any general shareholder meeting and the record date shall be at most 60 days prior to the general meeting.

IR-Ireland. IR-Ireland's articles of association provide that the board may set the record date for any general shareholder meeting and the record date shall be at most 60 days prior to the general meeting.

Director Nominations; Proposals of Shareholders

IR-Bermuda. The Bermuda Companies Act provides that shareholders may, as set forth below and at their own expense (unless a company otherwise resolves), require a company to give notice of any resolution that the shareholders can properly propose at the next annual general meeting or to circulate a statement prepared by the shareholders in respect of any matter referred to in a proposed resolution or any business to be conducted at a general meeting. The number of shareholders necessary for such a requisition of a resolution is either that number of shareholders representing at least 5% of the total voting rights of all shareholders having a right to vote at the meeting to which the requisition relates or not less than 100 shareholders.

IR-Bermuda's bye-laws provide that a shareholder entitled to vote at an annual general meeting may propose business to be included in the meeting's agenda only if written notice of such shareholder's intent is given to IR-Bermuda's Secretary not later than 90 days in advance of the anniversary of the immediately preceding annual general meeting or if the annual general meeting occurs more than 30 days before or 60 days after the anniversary of the preceding annual meeting, not later than the close of business on the seventh day following the date on which notice of such meeting is given to shareholders.

The notice must set forth:

a brief description of the business desired to be brought before the meeting and the reasons for conducting this business at the general meeting;

the name and address, as they appear on IR-Bermuda's books, of the shareholders proposing such business;

the class and number of shares which are beneficially owned by the shareholder; and

any material interest of the shareholder in such business.

IR-Bermuda's bye-laws provide that a shareholder entitled to vote for the election of directors may nominate a person or persons for election only if written notice of such shareholder's intent to make such nomination is given to the Secretary not later than (a) with respect to an election to be held an annual general

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meeting, 90 days in advance of the anniversary of the preceding annual general meeting or if the date of the annual general meeting occurs more than 30 days before or 60 days after the anniversary of such preceding annual general meeting, not later than the close of business on the seventh day after notice of such meeting is given to shareholders and (b) with respect to an election of a director pursuant to written consent by shareholders without a meeting, 60 days before materials soliciting such consents are first mailed to shareholders, or if no such materials are required to be mailed by applicable law, 60 days before the first written consent is executed.

The notice must set forth the following information:

the name and address of the shareholder who intends to make the nomination and of the person nominated for election;

a representation that the shareholder is a holder of record of the shares entitled to vote at such meeting or to express written consent and intends to appear in person or by proxy at the meeting to nominate the person specified in the notice or to execute a written consent to elect such person;

a description of all arrangements or understandings between the shareholder and the nominee and any other person (naming such person) pursuant to which the nomination for election are to be made;

such other information regarding each nominee proposed as would have been required to be included in a proxy statement filed pursuant to the proxy rules of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission if such nominee had been nominated by the board; and

the consent of each nominee to serve as a director if elected.

The board of directors of IR-Bermuda may refuse to acknowledge the nomination of any person not made in compliance with the foregoing procedures. If the facts so warrant, the person presiding at the annual general meeting may determine and declare that business was not properly brought before the meeting and, if such person makes such a determination, any such business not properly brought before the meeting will not be transacted.

IR-Ireland. The Irish Companies Acts provide that shareholders holding not less than 10% of the total voting rights may call an extraordinary general meeting for the purpose of considering director nominations or other proposals, as described above under Special Meetings of Shareholders. While the Bermuda Companies Act provides shareholders with statutory rights to propose business at annual and special general meetings in certain circumstances as described above, the Irish Companies Acts provide shareholders with analogous statutory rights with respect to extraordinary general meetings only.

IR-Ireland's articles of association contain advance notice requirements for shareholders to propose business or make nominations at annual general meetings that are similar to those contained in the bye-laws of IR-Bermuda.

Adjournment of Shareholder Meetings

IR-Bermuda. IR-Bermuda's bye-laws provide that the chairman of any shareholder meeting may, with the consent of a majority of votes cast by the shareholders present and voting on an adjournment proposal at a meeting at which a quorum is present, and shall, if so directed by the meeting, adjourn the meeting. Any meeting duly called at which a quorum is not present shall be adjourned and IR-Bermuda shall provide notice pursuant to IR-Bermuda's bye-laws.

IR-Ireland. IR-Ireland's articles provide that the chairman of any shareholder meeting may, with the consent of a majority of votes cast by the shareholders present and entitled to vote at the meeting, and shall, if so directed by the meeting, adjourn the meeting. Any meeting duly called at which a quorum is not present shall be adjourned and IR-Ireland shall provide notice pursuant to its articles of incorporation.

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Voting Rights

IR-Bermuda. Each outstanding Class A common share is entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the shareholders, including the election of directors. Subject to any required preference share class votes, the holders of Class A common shares will vote as a single class with the holders of preference shares and Class B common shares on any matter for which holders of Class B common shares are entitled to vote under the Companies Act and on any matter which the holders of preference shares are entitled to vote under the Companies Act or the applicable series of preference shares. Generally, the holders of Class B common shares will not be entitled to vote. However, under the Bermuda Companies Act, each share of IR-Bermuda carries the right to vote in respect of an amalgamation or merger, whether or not it otherwise carries the right to vote. IR-New Jersey and IR-Bermuda have entered into a voting agreement with respect to Class B common shares to ensure that, in the limited instances a vote is granted to the holders of Class B common shares, such vote will not dilute the voting power of Class A common shares.

In accordance with the bye-laws of IR-Bermuda, the directors of IR-Bermuda may from time to time cause IR-Bermuda to issue preferred shares. These preferred shares may have such voting rights as may be specified in the terms of such preferred shares (e.g., they may carry more votes per share than common shares or may entitle their holders to a class vote on such matters as may be specified in the terms of the preferred shares).

Treasury shares will not be entitled to vote at general meetings of shareholders.

Subject to voting with respect to business combinations with interested shareholders and the variation of share rights as provided for in IR-Bermuda's bye-laws, any matter submitted to shareholders at a general meeting at which a quorum is present requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast unless otherwise required by the Bermuda Companies Act or the bye-laws.

IR-Ireland. Where a poll is demanded at a general meeting, every shareholder shall have one vote for each ordinary share that he or she holds as of the record date for the meeting. Voting rights on a poll may be exercised by shareholders registered in IR-Ireland's share register as of the record date for the meeting or by a duly appointed proxy of such a registered shareholder, which proxy need not be a shareholder. Where interests in shares are held by a nominee trust company this company may exercise the rights of the beneficial holders on their behalf as their proxy. All proxies must be appointed in the manner prescribed by IR-Ireland's articles of association. The articles of association of IR-Ireland permit the appointment of proxies by the shareholders to be notified to IR-Ireland electronically.

IR-Ireland's articles provide that all resolutions shall be decided by a show of hands unless a poll is demanded by the Chairman, by at least three shareholders as of the record date for the meeting or by any shareholder or shareholders holding not less than 10% of the total voting rights of IR-Ireland as of the record date for the meeting. Each IR-Ireland ordinary shareholder of record as of the record date for the meeting has one vote at a general meeting on a show of hands.

In accordance with the articles of association of IR-Ireland, the directors of IR-Ireland may from time to time cause IR-Ireland to issue preferred shares. These preferred shares may have such voting rights as may be specified in the terms of such preferred shares (e.g., they may carry more votes per share than ordinary shares or may entitle their holders to a class vote on such matters as may be specified in the terms of the preferred shares).

Treasury shares will not be entitled to vote at general meetings of shareholders.

Irish company law requires special resolutions of the shareholders at a general meeting to approve certain matters. A special resolution requires not less than 75% of the votes cast of IR-Ireland's shareholders at a general meeting. This may be contrasted with ordinary resolutions, which require a simple majority of the votes of IR-Ireland's shareholders cast at a general meeting. Examples of matters requiring special resolutions include:

Amending the objects of IR-Ireland;

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Amending the articles of association of IR-Ireland;