

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

Luxottica Group S.p.A.

(incorporated with limited liability in the Republic of Italy)

€2,000,000,000

Euro Medium Term Note Programme

unconditionally and irrevocably guaranteed by

Luxottica U.S. Holdings Corp.

(incorporated as a corporation under the laws of the State of Delaware)

and

Luxottica S.r.l.

(incorporated with limited liability in the Republic of Italy)

This prospectus supplement (this **Supplement**) is supplemental to and must be read in conjunction with the base prospectus dated 10 May 2013, as supplemented by the supplement dated 5 August 2013 (the **Base Prospectus**) and constitutes a supplement to a base prospectus for the purposes of article 16 of the Directive 2003/71/EC, as amended (which includes the amendments made by Directive 2010/73/EU) (the **Prospectus Directive**), as implemented by article 13 of Chapter I of Part II of the Luxembourg Law dated 10 July 2005 on prospectuses for securities, as amended (the **Prospectus Act 2005**) and is prepared in connection with the €2,000,000,000 Euro Medium Term Note Programme (the **Programme**) of Luxottica Group S.p.A. (the **Issuer**) unconditionally and irrevocably guaranteed on a joint and several basis by Luxottica U.S. Holdings Corp. and Luxottica S.r.l. (together the **Guarantors** and each a **Guarantor**). This document is supplemental to, and should be read in conjunction with, the Base Prospectus issued by the Issuer and the Guarantors. Terms defined in the Base Prospectus have the same meaning when used in this Supplement.

The Issuer accepts responsibility for all information contained in this Supplement and each of the Guarantors accepts responsibility for the information relating to itself contained in this Supplement. To the best of the knowledge of the Issuer and, in respect of the information relating to itself only, each of the Guarantors (each of the Issuer and the Guarantors having taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case), the information contained in this Supplement is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of such information.

This Supplement has been prepared for the purposes of (i) updating the rating of the Programme by S&P, amending the information provided on page 2 of the Base Prospectus and the paragraph "*Overview of the Programme - Rating*" on pages 10 to 11 of the Base Prospectus and (ii) updating the section of the Base Prospectus titled "*Taxation – Taxation in the Republic of Italy*" on pages 120 to 126 of the Base Prospectus. Copies of the Base Prospectus and this Supplement can be obtained from the registered office of the Issuer and from the specified office of the Paying Agent for the time being in Luxembourg and from the website of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange at www.bourse.lu.

Save as disclosed in this Supplement, there has been no other significant new factor, material mistake or inaccuracy relating to the information included in the Base Prospectus since the publication of the Base Prospectus.

To the extent that there is any inconsistency between (i) any statement in this Supplement and (ii) any other statement in or incorporated by reference into the Base Prospectus, the statements in this Supplement will prevail.

In accordance with article 13 paragraph 2 of the Prospectus Act 2005, investors who have already agreed to purchase or subscribe for securities to which the Base Prospectus relates before this Supplement is published have the right, exercisable before the end of the period of two working days beginning with the working day after the publication of this Supplement, to withdraw their acceptances, such period expiring at the close of business on 30 January 2014.

The date of this Supplement is 28 January 2014.

The last paragraph on page 2 of the Base Prospectus shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following paragraph:

"The Programme has been rated A- by Standard & Poor's Credit Market Services France SAS (**S&P**). S&P is established in the European Union and is registered under the Regulation (EC) No. 1060/2009 (as amended) (the **CRA Regulation**). As such S&P is included in the list of credit rating agencies published by the European Securities and Markets Authority on its website (at <http://www.esma.europa.eu/page/Listregistered-and-certified-CRAs>) in accordance with the CRA Regulation. Notes issued under the Programme may be rated or unrated by any one or more of the rating agencies referred to above. Where a Tranche of Notes is rated, such rating will be disclosed in the Final Terms and will not necessarily be the same as the rating assigned to the Programme by S&P. A security rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be subject to suspension, reduction or withdrawal at any time by the assigning rating agency."

The paragraph "*Overview of the Programme - Rating*" on pages 10 to 11 of the Base Prospectus shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following paragraph:

"The Programme has been rated A- by S&P. Series of Notes issued under the Programme may be rated or unrated. Where a Series of Notes is rated, such rating will be disclosed in the applicable Final Terms and will not necessarily be the same as the ratings assigned to the Programme. A security rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be subject to suspension, reduction or withdrawal at any time by the assigning rating agency."

The section titled "*Taxation – Taxation in the Republic of Italy*" on pages 120 to 126 (up to and including the paragraph titled "*Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act*") shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

"Taxation in the Republic of Italy

Tax treatment of the Notes

Legislative Decree No. 239 of 1 April 1996, as subsequently amended (**Decree 239**) provides for the applicable regime with respect to the tax treatment of interest, premium and other income (including the difference between repayment amount and the issue price) from notes falling within the category of bonds (*obbligazioni*) or debentures similar to bonds (*titoli similari alle obbligazioni*), issued, *inter alia*, by Italian listed companies with shares listed on a EU or EEA regulated market. For this purpose, bonds and debentures similar to bonds are securities that incorporate an unconditional obligation to pay, at redemption, an amount not lower than their nominal value and which do not grant the holder any direct or indirect right of participation to (or of control of) to management of the Issuer.

Italian resident Noteholders

Where the Italian resident Noteholder is (a) an individual not engaged in an entrepreneurial activity to which the relevant Notes are connected (unless he has opted for the application of the "*risparmio gestito*" regime — see under "*Capital gains tax*", below); (b) a non-commercial partnership; (c) a non-commercial private or public institution; or (d) an investor exempt from Italian corporate income taxation, interest, premium and other income relating to the Notes, accrued during the relevant holding period, are subject to a withholding tax, referred to as *imposta sostitutiva*, levied at the rate of 20 per cent. In the event that Noteholders described under (a) and (c) above are engaged in an entrepreneurial activity to which the Notes are connected, the *imposta sostitutiva* applies as a provisional tax.

Where an Italian resident Noteholder is a company or similar commercial entity or a permanent establishment in Italy of a foreign company to which the Notes are effectively connected and the Notes are deposited with an authorised intermediary, interest, premium and other income from the Notes will not be subject to *imposta sostitutiva*, but must be included in the relevant Noteholder's income tax return and are therefore subject to general Italian corporate income taxation (and, in certain circumstances, depending on the "status" of the Noteholder, also to the regional tax on productive activities (**IRAP**)).

Under the current regime provided by Law Decree No. 351 of 25 September 2001 converted into law with amendments by Law No. 410 of 23 November 2001 (**Decree 351**), as clarified by the Italian Revenue Agency (*Agenzia delle Entrate*) through Circular No. 47/E of 8 August 2003 and Circular No. 11/E of 28 March 2012, payments of interest, premiums or other proceeds in respect of the Notes made to Italian resident real estate investment funds established pursuant to Article 37 of Legislative Decree No. 58 of 24 February 1998, as amended and supplemented, and Article 14-bis of Law No. 86 of 25 January 1994 are subject neither to *imposta sostitutiva* nor to any other income tax in the hands of a real estate investment fund.

If the investor is resident in Italy and is an open-ended or closed-ended investment fund or a SICAV (an investment company with variable capital) established in Italy and either (i) the fund or SICAV or (ii) their manager is subject to the supervision of a regulatory authority

(the **Fund**), and the relevant Notes are held by an authorised intermediary, interest, premium and other income accrued during the holding period on the Notes will not be subject to *imposta sostitutiva*, but must be included in the management results of the Fund. The Fund will not be subject to taxation on such results but a substitute tax of 20 per cent. will apply, in certain circumstances, to distributions made in favour of unitholders or shareholders (the **Collective Investment Fund Substitute Tax**).

Where an Italian resident Noteholder is a pension fund (subject to the regime provided for by Article 17 of the Legislative Decree No. 252 of 5 December 2005) and the Notes are deposited with an authorised intermediary, interest, premium and other income relating to the Notes and accrued during the holding period will not be subject to *imposta sostitutiva*, but must be included in the result of the relevant portfolio accrued at the end of the tax period, to be subject to an 11 per cent. substitute tax.

Pursuant to Decree 239, *imposta sostitutiva* is applied by banks, SIMs, fiduciary companies, SGRs, stockbrokers and other entities identified by a decree of the Ministry of Economy and Finance (each an **Intermediary**).

An Intermediary must (a) be resident in Italy or be a permanent establishment in Italy of a non-Italian resident financial intermediary; and (b) intervene, in any way, in the collection of interest or in the transfer of the Notes. For the purpose of the application of the *imposta sostitutiva*, a transfer of Notes includes any assignment or other act, either with or without consideration, which results in a change of the ownership of the relevant Notes or in a change of the Intermediary with which the Notes are deposited.

Where the Notes are not deposited with an Intermediary, the *imposta sostitutiva* is applied and withheld by any entity paying interest to a Noteholder.

Non-Italian resident Noteholders

Where the Noteholder is a non-Italian resident, without a permanent establishment in Italy to which the Notes are connected, an exemption from the *imposta sostitutiva* applies provided that the non-Italian resident beneficial owner is either (a) resident, for tax purposes, in a country which allows for a satisfactory exchange of information with Italy; or (b) an international body or entity set up in accordance with international agreements which have entered into force in Italy; or (c) a Central bank or an entity which manages, *inter alia*, the official reserves of a foreign State; or (d) an institutional investor which is resident in a country which allows for a satisfactory exchange of information with Italy, even if it does not possess the status of a taxpayer in its own country of residence.

Please note that, according to the Law No. 244 of 24 December 2007 (**Budget Law 2008**), a Decree still to be issued will introduce a new "white list" replacing the current "black list" system, so as to identify those countries which allow for a satisfactory exchange of information.

In order to ensure gross payment, non-resident investors must be the beneficial owners of payments of interest, premium or other income and (a) deposit, directly or indirectly, the Notes or the coupons with a bank or a SIM or a permanent establishment in Italy of a non-resident bank or SIM or with a non-resident operator of a clearing system having appointed as its agent in Italy for the purposes of Decree 239 a resident bank or SIM or a permanent establishment in Italy or a non-resident bank or SIM which are in contact via computer with

the Ministry of Economy and Finance and (b) file with the relevant depository, prior to or concurrently with the deposit of the Notes, a statement of the relevant Noteholder, to be provided only once, until revoked or withdrawn, in which the Noteholder declares to be eligible to benefit from the applicable exemption from *imposta sostitutiva*. Such statement, which is not requested for international bodies or entities set up in accordance with international agreements which have entered into force in Italy or in the case of foreign Central Banks or entities which manage the official reserves of a foreign State, must comply with the requirements set forth by Ministerial Decree 12 December 2001.

Atypical Securities

Interest payments relating to Notes that are not deemed to be bonds (*obbligazioni*), debentures similar to bonds (*titoli similari alle obbligazioni*), shares or securities similar to shares pursuant to Article 44 of Presidential Decree No. 917 of 22 December 1986 may be subject to a withholding tax, levied at the rate of 20 per cent. For this purpose, debentures similar to bonds are securities that incorporate an unconditional obligation to pay, at maturity, an amount not lower than their nominal value.

Where the Noteholder is (a) an Italian individual engaged in an entrepreneurial activity to which the Notes are connected, (b) an Italian company or a similar Italian commercial entity, (c) a permanent establishment in Italy of a foreign entity, (d) an Italian commercial partnership or (e) an Italian commercial private or public institution, such withholding tax is a provisional withholding tax. In all other cases the withholding tax is a final withholding tax. For non-Italian resident Noteholders, the withholding tax rate may be reduced by any applicable tax treaty.

Payments made by a Guarantor

With respect to payments on the Notes made to certain Italian resident Noteholders by a Guarantor (whether resident or not in Italy), in accordance with one interpretation of Italian tax law, any such payment made by the Guarantor could be treated, in certain circumstances, as payments made by the relevant Issuer and would thus be subject to the tax regime of payments made by the Issuer described in the previous paragraphs of this section.

With respect to payments on the Notes made to certain Italian resident Noteholders by an Italian resident Guarantor, in accordance with another interpretation of Italian tax law, any payment of liabilities equal to interest and other proceeds from the Notes may be subject to a provisional or final withholding tax at a rate of 20 per cent. pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 600 of 29 September 1973, as subsequently amended. In case of payments to non-Italian resident Noteholders made by an Italian resident Guarantor, the withholding tax may be applied as a final tax. Double taxation treaties entered into by Italy may apply allowing for a lower (on, in certain cases, nil) rate of withholding tax.

Capital gains tax

Any gain obtained from the sale or redemption of the Notes would be treated as part of the taxable income (and, in certain circumstances, depending on the "status" of the Noteholder, also as part of the net value of production for IRAP purposes) if realised by an Italian company or a similar commercial entity (including the Italian permanent establishment of foreign entities to which the Notes are connected) or Italian resident individuals engaged in an entrepreneurial activity to which the Notes are connected.

Where an Italian resident Noteholder is (i) an individual not holding the Notes in connection with an entrepreneurial activity; (ii) a non-commercial partnership; (iii) a non commercial private or public institution, any capital gain realised by such Noteholder from the sale or redemption of the Notes would be subject to an *imposta sostitutiva*, levied at the current rate of 20 per cent. Noteholders may set off losses with gains.

In respect of the application of the *imposta sostitutiva*, taxpayers may opt for one of the three regimes described below.

Under the tax declaration regime (*regime della dichiarazione*), which is the default regime for Italian resident individuals not engaged in entrepreneurial activity to which the Notes are connected, the *imposta sostitutiva* on capital gains will be chargeable, on a cumulative basis, on all capital gains, net of any incurred capital loss, realised by the Italian resident individual Noteholder holding Notes not in connection with an entrepreneurial activity pursuant to all sales or redemptions of the Notes carried out during any given tax year. Italian resident individuals holding Notes not in connection with an entrepreneurial activity must indicate the overall capital gains realised in any tax year, net of any relevant incurred capital loss, in the annual tax return and pay *imposta sostitutiva* on such gains together with any balance of income tax due for such year. Capital losses in excess of capital gains may be carried forward against capital gains realised in any of the four succeeding tax years.

As an alternative to the tax declaration regime, Italian resident individual Noteholders holding Notes not in connection with an entrepreneurial activity may elect to pay the *imposta sostitutiva* separately on capital gains realised on each sale or redemption of the relevant Notes (the "*risparmio amministrato*" regime). Such separate taxation of capital gains is allowed subject to (i) Notes being deposited with Italian banks, SIMs or certain authorised financial intermediaries; and (ii) an express election for the *risparmio amministrato* regime being punctually made in writing by the relevant Noteholder. The depository is responsible for accounting for *imposta sostitutiva* in respect of capital gains realised on each sale or redemption of Notes (as well as in respect of capital gains realised upon the revocation of its mandate), net of any incurred capital loss, and is required to pay the relevant amount to the Italian tax authorities on behalf of the taxpayer, deducting a corresponding amount from the proceeds to be credited to the Noteholder or using funds provided by the Noteholder for this purpose. Under the *risparmio amministrato* regime, where a sale or redemption of Notes results in a capital loss, such loss may be deducted from capital gains subsequently realised, within the same securities management, in the same tax year or in the following tax years up to the fourth. Under the *risparmio amministrato* regime, the Noteholder is not required to declare the capital gains in its annual tax return.

Any capital gains realised by Italian resident individuals holding Notes not in connection with an entrepreneurial activity who have entrusted the management of their financial assets, including Notes, to an authorised intermediary and have opted for the so-called "*risparmio gestito*" regime will be included in the computation of the annual increase in value of the managed assets accrued, even if not realised, at year end, subject to a 20 per cent. substitute tax, to be paid by the managing authorised intermediary. Under the *risparmio gestito* regime, any depreciation of the managed assets accrued at year end may be carried forward against increase in value of the managed assets accrued in any of the four succeeding tax years. Under the *risparmio gestito* regime, the Noteholder is not required to declare the capital gains realised in its annual tax return.

Any capital gains realised by a Noteholder which is a Fund will not be subject to *imposta sostitutiva*, but will be included in the result of the relevant portfolio. Such result will not be taxed with the Fund, but subsequent distributions in favour of unitholders or shareholders may be subject to the Collective Investment Fund Substitute Tax.

Any capital gains realised by a Noteholder which is an Italian pension fund (subject to the regime provided for by Article 17 of the Legislative Decree No. 252 of 5 December 2005) will be included in the result of the relevant portfolio accrued at the end of the tax period, to be subject to the 11 per cent. substitute tax.

Any capital gains realised by Italian resident real estate fund to which the provisions of Decree 351, as subsequently amended, apply will be subject neither to *imposta sostitutiva* nor to any other income tax at the level of the real estate fund.

Capital gains realised by non-Italian-resident Noteholders from the sale, early redemption or redemption of Notes issued by an Italian resident Issuer are not subject to Italian taxation, provided that the Notes are traded on regulated markets.

Capital gains realised by non-Italian resident Noteholders from the sale, early redemption or redemption of Notes not traded on regulated markets are not subject to the *imposta sostitutiva*, provided that the effective beneficiary: (a) is resident in a country which allows for a satisfactory exchange of information with Italy; or (b) is an international entity or body set up in accordance with international agreements which have entered into force in Italy; or (c) is a Central Bank or an entity which manages, *inter alia*, the official reserves of a foreign State; or (d) is an institutional investor which is resident in a country which allows for a satisfactory exchange of information with Italy, even if it does not possess the status of a taxpayer in its own country of residence.

Please note that, according to the Budget Law 2008, a Decree still to be issued will introduce a new "white list" replacing the current "black list" system, so as to identify those countries which (a) allow for a satisfactory exchange of information and (b) do not have a more favourable tax regime.

If none of the conditions above are met, capital gains realised by non-Italian resident Noteholders from the sale or redemption of Notes issued by an Italian resident Issuer are subject to the *imposta sostitutiva* at the current rate of 20 per cent. In any event, non-Italian resident individuals or entities without a permanent establishment in Italy to which the Notes are connected, that may benefit from a double taxation treaty with Italy providing that capital gains realised upon the sale, early redemption or redemption of Notes are to be taxed only in the country of tax residence of the recipient, will not be subject to *imposta sostitutiva* in Italy on any capital gains realised upon the sale, early redemption or redemption of Notes.

Inheritance and gift taxes

Pursuant to Law Decree No. 262 of 3 October 2006, converted into Law No. 286 of 24 November 2006, the transfers of any valuable asset (including shares, bonds or other securities) as a result of death or donation are taxed as follows:

- a) transfers in favour of spouses and direct descendants or direct ancestors are subject to an inheritance and gift tax applied at a rate of 4 per cent. on the value of the inheritance or the gift exceeding, for each beneficiary, €1,000,000;

- b) transfers in favour of relatives to the fourth degree or relatives-in-law to the third degree, are subject to an inheritance and gift tax applied at a rate of 6 per cent. on the entire value of the inheritance or the gift. Transfers in favour of brothers/sisters are subject to the 6 per cent. inheritance and gift tax on the value of the inheritance or the gift exceeding, for each beneficiary, €100,000; and
- c) any other transfer is, in principle, subject to an inheritance and gift tax applied at a rate of 8 per cent. on the entire value of the inheritance or the gift.

If the transfer is made in favour of persons with severe disabilities, the tax is levied at the rate mentioned above in (a), (b) and (c) on the value exceeding, for each beneficiary, €1,500,000.

Transfer tax

Following the repeal of the Italian transfer tax, contracts relating to the transfer of securities are subject to the following registration tax: (i) public deeds and notarised deeds are subject to fixed registration tax at a rate of €200.00; (ii) private deeds are subject to registration tax only in case of use or voluntary registration.

Stamp duty

Pursuant to Article 19(1) of Decree No. 201 of 6 December 2011 (**Decree 201**), a proportional stamp duty applies on an annual basis to any periodic reporting communications which may be sent by a financial intermediary to a Noteholder in respect of any Notes which may be deposited with such financial intermediary. As of 1 January 2014, the stamp duty applies at a rate of 0.2 per cent. and, for taxpayers other than individuals, cannot exceed €14,000. This stamp duty is determined on the basis of the market value or – if no market value figure is available – the nominal value or redemption amount of the Notes held.

Based on the wording of the law and the implementing decree issued by the Italian Ministry of Economy on 24 May 2012, the stamp duty applies to any investor who is a client (as defined in the regulations issued by the Bank of Italy on 9 February 2011) of an entity that conducts in any form a banking, financial or insurance activity within Italian territory.

Wealth Tax on securities deposited abroad

Pursuant to Article 19(18) of Decree 201, Italian resident individuals holding the Notes outside the Italian territory are required to pay an additional tax at a rate of 0.2 per cent.

This tax is calculated on the market value of the Notes at the end of the relevant year or – if no market value figure is available – the nominal value or the redemption value of such financial assets held outside the Italian territory. Taxpayers are entitled to an Italian tax credit equivalent to the amount of wealth taxes paid in the State where the financial assets are held (up to an amount equal to the Italian wealth tax due).

EU Savings Directive

Under EC Council Directive 2003/48/EC on the taxation of savings income (the **Directive**), Member States are required to provide to the tax authorities of another Member State details of payments of interest (or similar income) paid by a person within its jurisdiction to, or collected by such a person for, an individual resident in that other Member State or to certain limited types of entities established in that other Member State. However, for a transitional

period, Luxembourg and Austria are instead required (unless during that period they elect otherwise) to operate a withholding system in relation to such payments (the ending of such transitional period being dependent upon the conclusion of certain other agreements relating to information exchange with certain other countries). A number of non-EU countries and territories including Switzerland have adopted similar measures (a withholding system in the case of Switzerland).

In April 2013, the Luxembourg Government announced its intention to abolish the withholding system with effect from 1 January 2015, in favour of automatic information exchange under the Directive.

The European Commission has proposed certain amendments to the Directive, which, if implemented, may amend or broaden the scope of the requirements described above.

Implementation in Italy of the EU Savings Directive

Italy has implemented the EU Savings Directive through Legislative Decree No. 84 of 18 April 2005 (**Decree 84**). Under Decree No. 84, subject to a number of important conditions being met, in the case of interest paid to individuals which qualify as beneficial owners of the interest payment and are resident for tax purposes in another Member State, Italian qualified paying agents shall report to the Italian tax authorities details of the relevant payments and personal information on the individual beneficial owner and shall not apply the withholding tax. Such information is transmitted by the Italian tax authorities to the competent foreign tax authorities of the State of residence of the beneficial owner.

Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act

Sections 1471 through 1474 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code (**FATCA**) impose a new reporting regime and potentially a 30% withholding tax with respect to certain payments to (i) any non-U.S. financial institution (a "foreign financial institution" or **FFI** (as defined by FATCA)) that does not become a **Participating FFI** by entering into an agreement with the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (**IRS**) to provide the IRS with certain information in respect of its account holders and investors or is not otherwise exempt from or in deemed compliance with FATCA and (ii) any investor (unless otherwise exempt from FATCA) that does not provide information sufficient to determine whether the investor is a U.S. person or should otherwise be treated as holding a "United States Account" of the Issuer (a **Recalcitrant Holder**). The Issuer may be classified as an FFI.

The new withholding regime will be phased in beginning 1 July 2014 for payments from sources within the United States and will apply to **foreign passthru payments** (a term not yet defined) made no earlier than 1 January 2017. This withholding would potentially apply to foreign passthru payments in respect of (i) any Notes characterized as debt (or which are not otherwise characterized as equity and have a fixed term) for U.S. federal tax purposes that are issued after the **grandfathering date**, which will be the date that is six months after the date on which final U.S. Treasury regulations defining the term foreign passthru payment are filed with the Federal Register, or which are materially modified after the grandfathering date and (ii) any Notes characterized as equity or which do not have a fixed term for U.S. federal tax purposes, whenever issued. If Notes are issued on or before the grandfathering date, and additional Notes of the same series are issued after that date, the additional Notes may not be treated as grandfathered, which may have negative consequences for the existing Notes, including a negative impact on market price.

The United States and a number of other jurisdictions have announced their intention to negotiate intergovernmental agreements to facilitate the implementation of FATCA (each, an **IGA**). Pursuant to FATCA and the "Model 1" and "Model 2" IGAs released by the United States, an FFI in an IGA signatory country could be treated as a **Reporting FI** not subject to withholding under FATCA on any payments it receives. Further, an FFI in a Model 1 IGA jurisdiction would not be required to withhold under FATCA or an IGA (or any law implementing an IGA) (any such withholding being **FATCA Withholding**) from payments it makes (unless it has agreed to do so under the U.S. "qualified intermediary," "withholding foreign partnership" or "withholding foreign trust" regimes). The Model 2 IGA leaves open the possibility that a Reporting FI might in the future be required to withhold as a Participating FFI on foreign passthru payments and payments that it makes to Recalcitrant Holders. Under each Model IGA, a Reporting FI would still be required to report certain information in respect of its account holders and investors to its home government or to the IRS. On 10 January 2014, the United States and Italy entered into an intergovernmental agreement (the **US-Italy IGA**) based largely on the Model 1 IGA.

If the Issuer is an FFI, the Issuer expects to be treated as a Reporting FI pursuant to the US-Italy IGA and does not anticipate being obligated to deduct any FATCA Withholding on the payments that it makes on the Notes. There can be no assurance, however, that the Issuer will be treated as a Reporting FI or that in the future it would not be required to deduct FATCA Withholding from the payments that it makes on the Notes. Accordingly, the Issuer and the financial institutions through which payments on the Notes are made may be required to withhold FATCA Withholding if (i) any FFI through or to which payment on such Notes is made is not a Participating FFI, a Reporting FI or otherwise exempt from or in deemed compliance with FATCA or (ii) an investor is a Recalcitrant Holder.

If an amount in respect of FATCA Withholding were to be deducted or withheld from interest, principal or other payments made in respect of the Notes, neither the Issuer nor a Guarantor nor any paying agent nor any other person would, pursuant to the conditions of the Notes, be required to pay additional amounts as a result of the deduction or withholding. As a result, investors may receive less interest or principal than expected.

FATCA is particularly complex and its application is uncertain at this time. The above description is based in part on regulations, official guidance and model IGAs, all of which are subject to change or may be implemented in a materially different form. Prospective investors should consult their own tax advisers on how these rules may apply to the Issuer and to the payments they may receive in connection with the Notes.

TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH IRS CIRCULAR 230, EACH TAXPAYER IS HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT: (A) ANY TAX DISCUSSION HEREIN IS NOT INTENDED OR WRITTEN TO BE USED, AND CANNOT BE USED BY THE TAXPAYER FOR THE PURPOSE OF AVOIDING U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX PENALTIES THAT MAY BE IMPOSED ON THE TAXPAYER; (B) ANY SUCH TAX DISCUSSION WAS WRITTEN TO SUPPORT THE PROMOTION OR MARKETING OF THE TRANSACTIONS OR MATTERS ADDRESSED HEREIN; AND (C) THE TAXPAYER SHOULD SEEK ADVICE BASED ON THE TAXPAYER'S PARTICULAR CIRCUMSTANCES FROM AN INDEPENDENT TAX ADVISER."