

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20549

## FORM S-4

## REGISTRATION STATEMENT

UNDER  
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933**Meritage Corporation**

Co-registrants are listed on the following page

*(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)*

**Maryland**  
*(State or Other Jurisdiction of  
Incorporation or Organization)*

**1531**  
*(Primary Standard Industrial  
Classification Code Number)*

**86-0611231**  
*(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification Number)*

8501 East Princess Drive, Suite 290

Scottsdale, Arizona 85255  
(480) 609-3330  
*(Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number,  
Including Area Code, of Registrant's Principal Executive Offices)*

Larry W. Seay  
Chief Financial Officer and  
Vice President — Finance  
8501 East Princess Drive, Suite 290  
Scottsdale, Arizona 85255  
(480) 609-3330  
*(Name, Address, Including Zip Code,  
and Telephone Number,  
Including Area Code, of Agent For Service)*

*Copies to:*  
Steven D. Pidgeon  
Jeffrey E. Beck  
Snell & Wilmer L.L.P.  
One Arizona Center  
400 East Van Buren Street  
Phoenix, Arizona 85004  
(602) 382-6000

**Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public:** As soon as practicable after this registration statement becomes effective and all other conditions to the exchange offer pursuant to the registration rights agreement described in the enclosed prospectus have been satisfied or waived.

If the securities being registered on this form are being offered in connection with the formation of a holding company and there is compliance with General Instruction G, check the following box.

If this form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(d) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

## CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class of Securities To Be Registered	Amount To Be Registered	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Note(1)	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price(1)	Amount of Registration Fee
7% Senior Notes due 2014	\$130,000,000	100%	\$130,000,000	\$16,471
Guarantees of 7% Senior Notes due 2014	\$130,000,000	(2)	(2)	(2)

(1) Estimated solely for purposes of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(f) under the Securities Act of 1933.

(2) In accordance with Rule 457(m), no separate fee for the registration of the guarantees is required

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

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**Table of Co-Registrants(1)**

Name of Each Co-Registrant as Specified in Its Charter	State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization	I.R.S. Employer Identification No.
Monterey Homes Arizona, Inc.	Arizona	86-0861526
Meritage Paseo Crossing, LLC	Arizona	86-1006497
Monterey Homes Construction, Inc.	Arizona	86-0863537
Meritage Paseo Construction, LLC	Arizona	86-0863537
Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc.	Arizona	86-1013006
Meritage Homes Construction, Inc.	Arizona	86-1021464
MTH-Texas GP, Inc.	Arizona	86-0875148
MTH-Texas LP, Inc.	Arizona	86-0875147
Legacy/ Monterey Homes L.P.	Arizona	91-1832213
Meritage Homes of California, Inc.	California	86-0917765
Hancock-MTH Builders, Inc.	Arizona	86-1028847
Hancock-MTH Communities, Inc.	Arizona	86-1028848
Legacy Operating Company, L.P.	Texas	75-2929259
MTH-Texas GP II, Inc.	Arizona	04-3685852
MTH-Texas LP II, Inc.	Arizona	01-0716144
MTH-Homes Nevada, Inc.	Arizona	43-1976353
Meritage Holdings, L.L.C.	Texas	91-1832213
Hulen Park Venture, LLC	Texas	75-2771799
MTH Homes-Texas, L.P.	Texas	02-0618083
MTH-Cavalier, LLC	Arizona	86-0863537
MTH Golf, LLC	Arizona	56-2379206
Legacy-Hammonds Materials, L.P.	Texas	20-0145900
Meritage Homes of Colorado, Inc.	Arizona	20-1091787

(1) The address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of each co-registrant is 8501 East Princess Drive, Suite 290, Scottsdale, Arizona 85255, (480) 609-3330.

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

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED MAY 18, 2004

**PROSPECTUS**

Filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3)

Registration Nos. 333-109933

MERITAGE  CORPORATION

OFFER TO EXCHANGE

\$130,000,000

Meritage Corporation

7% Senior Notes due 2014

which have been registered under the Securities Act and guaranteed fully and unconditionally by all of our existing subsidiaries (other than our two mortgage broker subsidiaries) for any and all of the outstanding Meritage Corporation unregistered 7% Senior Notes due 2014

THE EXCHANGE OFFER AND WITHDRAWAL RIGHTS WILL EXPIRE AT 5:00 P.M.,

NEW YORK CITY TIME, ON \_\_\_\_\_, 2004, UNLESS EXTENDED.

We are offering to exchange up to \$130 million of our 7% senior notes due 2014 (the "exchange notes"), which have been registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, for the identical principal amount of our outstanding unregistered 7% senior notes due 2014 (the "outstanding notes"). The aggregate principal amount at maturity of the outstanding notes, and therefore, the principal amount at maturity of exchange notes which would be issued if all the outstanding notes were exchanged, is \$130 million. The terms of the exchange notes will be identical with the terms of the outstanding notes, except that the issuance of the exchange notes is being registered under the Securities Act of 1933, and therefore the exchange notes will not be subject to the restrictions on transfer which apply to the outstanding notes.

The notes are our unsecured senior obligations. The notes rank equally with all of our other unsecured senior indebtedness.

Prior to the exchange offer, there has been no public market for the exchange notes. We do not currently intend to list the exchange notes on a securities exchange or seek approval for quotation of the exchange notes on an automated quotation system. Therefore, it is unlikely that an active trading market for the exchange notes will develop.

The exchange agent for the exchange offer is Wells Fargo Bank, National Association.

See "Risk Factors," which begin on page 12, for a discussion of certain factors that should be considered in evaluating the exchange offer.

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

The date of this prospectus is \_\_\_\_\_, 2004.

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### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This prospectus incorporates important business and financial information about us that is not included in or delivered with the document. This information is available without charge to security holders upon written or oral request. You may request a copy of this information, at no cost, by calling us or by writing to us at our principal executive offices in Arizona at the following address: Meritage Corporation, 8501 East Princess Drive, Suite 290, Scottsdale, Arizona 85255, Attention: Investor Relations. Our telephone number is (480) 609-3330. **In order to obtain timely delivery, you must make your request no later than five business days before the expiration of the exchange offer.** The exchange offer will expire on \_\_\_\_\_, 2004, unless extended.

Our obligations under the Exchange Act to file periodic reports and other information with the SEC may be suspended, under certain circumstances, if our common stock and exchange notes are each held by fewer than 300 holders of record at the beginning of any fiscal year and are not listed on a national securities exchange. We have agreed that, whether or not we are required to do so by the rules and regulations of the SEC, for so long as any of the exchange notes remain outstanding we will furnish to the holders of the exchange notes, and if required by the Exchange Act, file with the SEC, all annual, quarterly and current reports that we are or would be required to file with the SEC pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act. In addition, we have agreed that, as long as any of the outstanding notes remain outstanding, we will make the information required by Rule 144A(d)(4) under the Securities Act available to any prospective purchaser of outstanding notes or beneficial owner of outstanding notes in connection with a sale of them.

**No person has been authorized to give any information or to make any representations, other than those contained in this prospectus. If given or made, that information or those representations may not be relied upon as having been authorized by us. This prospectus does not constitute an offer to or solicitation of any person in any jurisdiction in which such an offer or solicitation would be unlawful.**

### MARKET DATA

Market data and other statistical information used throughout this prospectus are based on independent industry publications, government publications, reports by market research firms or other published independent sources. Some data are also based on our good faith estimates, which are derived from our review of internal surveys, as well as the independent sources listed above.

## PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

*The following summary highlights selected information contained elsewhere in this prospectus and may not contain all of the information that is important to you. For a more complete understanding of this exchange offer, we encourage you to read this entire document (including the documents incorporated herein by reference) and the documents to which we have referred you. Unless otherwise indicated in this prospectus, the terms "Meritage," the "Company", "we", "our" and "us" refer to Meritage Corporation and its subsidiaries and predecessors as a combined entity. Our results for the three months ended March 31, 2004 and all EBITDA, operating data and other operating ratios are unaudited.*

### THE COMPANY

We are a leading designer and builder of single-family homes in the rapidly growing Sunbelt states of Texas, Arizona, California and Nevada based on the number of home closings. We focus on providing a broad range of first-time, move-up and luxury homes to our targeted customer base. We and our predecessors have operated in Arizona since 1985, in Texas since 1987, in Northern California since 1989 and in Nevada since 1993. We entered the Inland Empire market of Southern California in January 2004 with our acquisition of Citation Homes of Southern California. In addition, we recently announced our expansion into the Denver market.

We believe that the relatively strong population, job and income growth as well as the favorable migration characteristics of our markets will continue to provide significant growth opportunities for us. According to U.S. Housing Markets, a leading real estate and homebuilding publication of the Meyers Group, five of our ten markets, Los Angeles, California, Phoenix/Scottsdale, Arizona, Dallas/Ft. Worth and Houston, Texas and Las Vegas, Nevada, are among or part of the top 10 national housing markets based on annual single-family housing permits issued in 2003, with Dallas/Ft. Worth, Houston, Phoenix/Scottsdale and Los Angeles comprising four of the top six single-family housing markets. The other three markets that we operate in are Austin and San Antonio, Texas and Tucson, Arizona.

At March 31, 2004, we were actively selling homes in 129 communities, with base prices ranging from \$98,000 to \$730,000. We develop a design and marketing concept tailored to each community, which includes determination of the size, style and price range of homes, street layout, size and layout of individual lots and overall community design. The home designs offered in a particular community also depend upon such factors as the housing generally available in the area, the consumer demands of a particular market and our lot costs for the project.

In general, we focus on minimizing land risk by purchasing property only after full entitlements have been obtained and typically begin development or construction immediately after close. We acquire land primarily through rolling option contracts, allowing us to purchase individual lots as our building needs dictate. These arrangements allow us to control lot inventory typically on a non-recourse basis without incurring the risks of land ownership or financial commitments other than relatively small non-refundable deposits. At March 31, 2004, we owned or had options to acquire approximately 35,200 housing lots, of which more than eighty-five percent were under rolling option and land purchase contracts. We believe that the lots we own or have the right to acquire represent approximately a five year supply.

### Issuance of the Outstanding Notes

The outstanding \$130 million principal amount senior notes due 2014 were sold by us to Citigroup Global Markets Inc., as initial purchaser, on April 21, 2004 pursuant to a purchase agreement dated April 14, 2004, between the initial purchaser and us. The initial purchaser subsequently resold the outstanding notes in reliance on Rule 144A and Regulation S under the Securities Act. We and the initial purchaser also entered into a registration rights agreement pursuant to which we agreed to offer to exchange the exchange notes registered under the Securities Act for the outstanding notes and also granted holders of outstanding notes rights under some circumstances to have resales of outstanding notes

registered under the Securities Act. The exchange offer is intended to satisfy certain of our obligations under the registration rights agreement. See “The Exchange Offer — Purposes and Effects.”

The outstanding notes were issued under an indenture dated as of April 21, 2004, between Meritage Corporation, its subsidiary guarantors and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as trustee. The exchange notes also are being issued under the indenture and are entitled to the benefits of the indenture. The form and terms of the exchange notes will be identical in all material respects with the form and terms of the outstanding notes, except that (1) the exchange notes will have been registered under the Securities Act and, therefore, will not bear legends describing restrictions on transferring them, and (2) holders of exchange notes will not be, and upon the completion of the exchange offer, holders of outstanding notes will no longer be, entitled to certain rights under the registration rights agreement intended for the holders of unregistered securities. The exchange offer will be deemed completed upon the delivery by us to the exchange agent under the indenture of exchange notes in the same aggregate principal amount as the aggregate principal amount of outstanding notes that are validly tendered and not withdrawn by holders of them in response to the exchange offer. See “The Exchange Offer — Termination of Certain Rights” and “— Procedures for Tendering” and “Description of the Exchange Notes.”

The proceeds we received from the issuance of the outstanding notes were used to repay our senior unsecured credit facility and invest in short-term investments. We will receive no proceeds from completion of the exchange offer.

Our principal executive office in Arizona is located at 8501 East Princess Drive, Suite 290, Scottsdale, Arizona 85255, and our telephone number there is (480) 609-3330. Our principal executive office in Texas is located at 4050 West Park Boulevard, Plano, Texas 75093, and our telephone number there is (800) 210-6004. Information about our company and communities is provided through our website [www.meritagehomes.com](http://www.meritagehomes.com). Information on this website is not incorporated by reference in or otherwise part of this prospectus.

### The Exchange Offer

The Exchange Offer	We are offering to exchange \$130 million of our 7% senior registered notes due 2014 for identical principal amounts of our outstanding unregistered 7% senior notes due 2014. At the date of this prospectus, \$130 million principal amount at maturity of outstanding notes are outstanding. See “The Exchange Offer — Terms of the Exchange Offer.”
Expiration of the Exchange Offer	5:00 p.m., New York, time, on _____ 2004, unless the exchange offer is extended (the day on which the exchange offer expires being the expiration date). See “The Exchange Offer — Expiration Date; Extension; Termination; Amendments.”
Conditions of the Exchange Offer	The exchange offer is not conditioned upon any minimum principal amount of outstanding notes being tendered for exchange. However, the exchange offer is subject to certain customary conditions, which we may waive. See “The Exchange Offer — Conditions of the Exchange Offer.”
Accrued Interest on the Outstanding Notes	The exchange notes will bear interest at the rate of 7% per annum from and including their date of issuance. When the first interest payment is made with regard to the exchange notes, we will also pay interest on the outstanding notes which are exchanged, from the date they were issued or the most recent interest date on which interest had been paid (if applicable) to, but not including, the day the exchange notes are issued. Interest

on the outstanding notes which are exchanged will cease to accrue on the day prior to the day on which the exchange notes are issued. The interest rate on the outstanding notes may increase under certain circumstances if we are not in compliance with our obligations under the registration rights agreement. See “Description of the Exchange Notes.”

Procedures for Tendering the Outstanding Notes	A holder of outstanding notes who wishes to accept the exchange offer must complete, sign and date a letter of transmittal, or a facsimile of one, in accordance with the instructions contained under the “The Exchange Offer — Procedures for Tendering” and in the letter of transmittal, and deliver the letter of transmittal, or facsimile, together with the outstanding notes and any other required documentation to the exchange agent at the address set forth in “The Exchange Offer — Exchange Agent.” Outstanding notes may be delivered physically or by confirmation of book-entry delivery of the outstanding notes to the exchange agent’s account at The Depository Trust Company. By executing a letter of transmittal, a holder will represent to us that, among other things, the person acquiring the outstanding notes will be doing so in the ordinary course of the person’s business, whether or not the person is the holder, that neither the holder nor any other person is engaged in, or intends to engage in, or has an arrangement or understanding with any person to participate in, the distribution of the exchange notes and that neither the holder nor any such other person is an “affiliate,” as defined under Rule 405 of the Securities Act, of ours. Each broker or dealer that receives exchange notes for its own account in exchange for outstanding notes which were acquired by the broker or dealer as a result of market-making activities or other trade activities, must acknowledge that it will deliver a prospectus in connection with any resale of the exchange notes. See “The Exchange Offer — Procedures for Tendering.”
Guaranteed Delivery Procedures	Eligible holders of outstanding notes who wish to tender their outstanding notes and (1) whose outstanding notes are not immediately available or (2) who cannot deliver their outstanding notes or any other documents required by the letter of transmittal to the exchange agent prior to the expiration date (or complete the procedure for book-entry transfer on a timely basis), may tender their outstanding notes according to the guaranteed delivery procedures described in the letter of transmittal. See “The Exchange Offer — Guaranteed Delivery Procedures.”
Acceptance of the Outstanding Notes and Delivery of the Exchange Notes	Upon satisfaction or waiver of all conditions to the exchange offer, we will accept any and all outstanding notes that are properly tendered in response to the exchange offer prior to 5:00 p.m., New York Time, on the expiration date. The exchange notes issued pursuant to the exchange offer will be delivered promptly after expiration of the exchange offer. See “The Exchange Offer — Procedures for Tendering.”



Withdrawal Rights	Tenders of outstanding notes may be withdrawn at any time prior to 5:00 p.m., New York Time, on the expiration date. See “The Exchange Offer — Withdrawal of Tenders.”
The Exchange Agent	Wells Fargo Bank, National Association is the exchange agent. The address and telephone number of the exchange agent are set forth in “The Exchange Offer — Exchange Agent.”
Fees and Expenses	We will bear all expenses incident to our consummation of the exchange offer and compliance with the registration rights agreement. We will also pay any transfer taxes which are applicable to the exchange offer (but not transfer taxes due to transfers of outstanding notes or exchange notes by the holder). See “The Exchange Offer — Fees and Expenses.”
Resales of the Exchange Notes	Based on interpretations by the staff of the SEC set forth in no-action letters issued to persons unrelated to us, we believe exchange notes issued pursuant to the exchange offer in exchange for outstanding notes may be offered for resale, resold and otherwise transferred by the holder (other than (1) a broker-dealer who purchased the outstanding notes directly from us for resale pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act or another exemption under the Securities Act or (2) a person that is an affiliate of ours, as that term is defined in Rule 405 under the Securities Act), without registration or the need to deliver a prospectus under the Securities Act, provided that the holder is acquiring the exchange notes in the ordinary course of business and is not participating, and has no arrangement or understanding with any person to participate, in a distribution of the exchange notes. Each broker-dealer that receives exchange notes for its own account in exchange for outstanding notes which outstanding notes were acquired by the broker as a result of market-making or other trading activities, must acknowledge that it will deliver a prospectus in connection with any resale of the exchange notes. See “The Exchange Offer — Purposes and Effects.”
Federal Income Tax Consequences	The exchange offer will not be treated as a taxable event for United States federal income tax purposes. See “United States Federal Income Tax Considerations.”

## The Exchange Notes

The exchange notes will evidence the same debt as the outstanding notes and will be entitled to the benefits of the indenture under which both the outstanding notes were, and the exchange notes will be, issued. The following summary is not intended to be complete. For a more detailed description of the notes, see "Description of the Exchange Notes."

<b>Issuer</b>	Meritage Corporation.
<b>Securities Offered</b>	\$130 million aggregate principal amount of 7% Senior Notes due 2014 that have been registered under the Securities Act. The form and term of the exchange notes are identical in all material respects to the form and terms of the outstanding notes for which they may be exchanged pursuant to the exchange offer, except for certain transfer restrictions and registrations rights relating to the outstanding notes and except for certain provisions providing for an increase in the interest rate on the outstanding notes under circumstances relating to the exchange offer. Unless the context otherwise requires, the outstanding notes and the exchange notes are sometimes referred to in this prospectus as the "notes."
<b>Maturity Date</b>	May 1, 2014.
<b>Interest</b>	<p>The notes will accrue interest from the date of their issuance at the rate of 7% per year. Interest on the exchange notes will be payable semi-annually in arrears on each May 1 and November 1 commencing on November 1, 2004.</p> <p>In connection with the issuance of the outstanding notes on April 21, 2004, we and the guarantors agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• file a registration statement to enable holders of the notes to exchange the notes for registered notes within 75 days of the original issue date of the outstanding notes, or by July 5, 2004;</li><li>• use our respective reasonable best efforts to cause the registration statement to become effective under the Securities Act within 150 days following the original issue date of the outstanding notes, or by September 18, 2004; and</li><li>• use our respective reasonable best efforts to complete the exchange offer within 180 days after the original issue date of the outstanding notes, or by October 18, 2004.</li></ul> <p>If we do not comply with these obligations (a "registration default"), we will be required to pay liquidated damages to the holders of the notes in the form of higher interest rates. Upon the occurrence of a registration default, the interest rate borne by the</p>

notes will be increased by 0.25% per annum and will continue to increase by 0.25% each 90 day period that the liquidated damages continue to accrue, up to a maximum of 1.00% per annum. After we cure the registration default, the accrual of liquidated damages will stop and the interest rate will revert to the original rate.

**Sinking Fund**

None.

**Optional Redemption**

We may redeem the notes, in whole or in part, at any time on or after May 1, 2009, at a redemption price equal to the principal amount plus a premium declining ratably to par, plus accrued interest.

In addition, at any time prior to May 1, 2007, we may redeem up to 35% of the aggregate principal amount of the notes issued under the indenture with the net cash proceeds of one or more qualified equity offerings at a redemption price equal to 107% of the principal amount thereof, plus accrued interest, *provided* that:

- at least 65% of the aggregate principal amount of the notes issued under the indenture remains outstanding immediately after the occurrence of such redemption; and
- such redemption occurs within 90 days of the date of the closing of any such equity offering.

**Change of Control**

If we experience a change of control, we may be required to offer to purchase the notes offered by this prospectus and the outstanding notes at a purchase price equal to 101% of the principal amount, plus accrued interest.

**Ranking and Guarantees**

The notes are our senior unsecured obligations. All of our existing subsidiaries (other than our two mortgage broker subsidiaries) and certain of our future subsidiaries guarantee the notes on a senior unsecured basis.

The notes rank equally with all of our and our guarantors' existing and future senior unsecured debt.

The notes rank senior to all of our and our guarantors' debt that is expressly subordinated to the notes, but is effectively subordinated to all of our and our guarantors' senior secured indebtedness to the extent of the value of the assets securing that indebtedness.

**Consolidated Tangible Net Worth**

If our consolidated tangible net worth falls below \$60.0 million for any two consecutive fiscal quarters, we will be required to make an offer to purchase up to 10% of the notes then outstanding at a purchase

price equal to 100% of the principal amount, plus accrued interest.

**Restrictive Covenants**

The indenture governing the notes contains covenants that, among other things, limit our ability and the ability of our subsidiaries to:

- incur additional indebtedness or liens;
- pay dividends or make other distributions or repurchase or redeem our stock;
- make investments;
- sell assets;
- enter into agreements restricting our subsidiaries' ability to pay dividends;
- enter into transactions with affiliates; and
- consolidate, merge or sell all or substantially all of our assets.

These covenants are subject to important exceptions and qualifications, which are described under the heading "Description of the Exchange Notes" in this prospectus.

**Absence of a Public Market**

The exchange notes will be a new issue of securities and there is currently no established market for them. Accordingly, there can be no assurance as to the development or liquidity of any market for the notes or, if issued, the exchange notes. The notes outstanding are eligible for trading in The Portal Market.

**Use of Proceeds**

We will receive no proceeds from the exchange of the exchange notes for the outstanding notes pursuant to the exchange offer. The proceeds we received from the outstanding notes were used to repay our senior unsecured credit facility and invest in short-term investments. See "Use of Proceeds."

**Trustee**

Wells Fargo Bank, National Association.

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**RISK FACTORS**

You should consider carefully the information set forth in the section of this prospectus entitled "Risk Factors" beginning on page 12 and all the other information provided to you in this prospectus in deciding whether to invest in the notes.

## SUMMARY HISTORICAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The financial information below should be read in conjunction with the historical consolidated financial statements and related notes contained in the annual, quarterly and other reports filed by us with the SEC, which we have incorporated herein by reference. The data below includes the operations of Hancock Communities, Hammonds Homes, Perma-Bilt Homes and Citation Homes of Southern California since their dates of acquisition, May 2001, July 2002, October 2002 and January 2004, respectively.

	Years Ended December 31,			Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2003	2002	2001	2004	2003
(dollars in thousands)					
<b>Statement of Earnings Data:</b>					
Total closing revenue	\$ 1,471,001	\$1,119,817	\$ 744,174	\$ 423,502	\$ 283,410
Total cost of closings	(1,178,484)	(904,921)	(586,914)	(340,339)	(227,056)
Gross profit	292,517	214,896	157,260	83,163	56,354
Other income, net	5,776	5,435	2,884	2,189	1,209
Commissions and other sales costs	(92,904)	(65,291)	(41,085)	(25,833)	(19,745)
General and administrative expenses(1)	(53,929)	(41,496)	(36,105)	(16,056)	(12,212)
Earnings before income taxes	151,460	113,544	82,954	43,463	25,606
Income taxes(1)	(57,054)	(43,607)	(32,295)	(16,544)	(9,833)
Net earnings	\$ 94,406	\$ 69,937	\$ 50,659	\$ 26,919	\$ 15,773
<b>Other Data:</b>					
Gross profit margin(6)	19.9%	19.2%	21.1%	19.6%	19.9%
Interest amortized to cost of sales and interest expense	\$ 22,287	\$ 19,259	\$ 13,303	\$ 6,682	\$ 4,031
Depreciation and amortization	8,536	6,780	5,741	2,747	1,717
Interest incurred(2)	26,580	19,294	16,623	8,191	5,662
Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities	(56,894)	1,050	(16,411)	8,662	(29,436)
Net cash (used in) investing activities	(29,220)	(149,691)	(76,465)	(33,421)	(3,247)
Net cash provided by financing activities	84,313	151,858	91,862	31,650	48,045
EBITDA(3)(6)	182,283	139,583	101,998	52,892	31,354
EBITDA margin(4)(6)	12.4%	12.5%	13.7%	12.5%	11.1%
Ratio of EBITDA to interest incurred(6)	6.86x	7.23x	6.14x	(7)	(7)
Ratio of total debt to EBITDA(6)	1.93x	1.90x	1.74x	(7)	(7)
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges(5)(6)	5.63x	5.82x	5.37x	5.35x	4.50x

	At December 31,			At March 31,
	2003	2002	2001	2004
(dollars in thousands)				
<b>Balance Sheet Data:</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,799	\$ 6,600	\$ 3,383	\$ 11,690
Real estate	678,011	484,970	330,238	696,375
Total assets	954,539	691,788	436,715	1,020,412
Total debt	351,491	264,927	177,561	381,721
Stockholders' equity	411,895	317,308	176,587	440,868

- (1) 2001 earnings include a \$383 loss related to the net effect of early extinguishments of long-term debt. Previously this amount, net of the tax effect of \$149 was reported as an extraordinary item. We have reclassified this loss as general and administrative expense and income tax benefit, respectively, to conform to the requirements of SFAS No. 145, which was effective for fiscal years beginning after May 15, 2002.

- (2) Interest incurred is the amount of interest paid and accrued (whether expensed or capitalized) during such period, including debt-related fees and amortization of deferred financing costs.
- (3) EBITDA represents earnings before interest expense, interest amortized to cost of sales, income taxes, depreciation, amortization and extraordinary items. EBITDA is presented here because it is a widely accepted financial indicator used by investors and analysts to analyze and compare homebuilding companies on the basis of operating performance. EBITDA as presented may not be comparable to similarly titled measures reported by other companies because not all companies necessarily calculate EBITDA in an identical manner and, therefore, is not necessarily an accurate means of comparison between companies. EBITDA is not intended to represent cash flows for the period or funds available for management's discretionary use nor has it been presented as an alternative to operating income or as an indicator of operating performance and it should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for measures of performance prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The reconciliation of EBITDA to net earnings for each of the respective periods shown is as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,			Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2003	2002	2001	2004	2003
	(unaudited) (dollars in thousands)				
Net Earnings	\$ 94,406	\$ 69,937	\$ 50,659	\$26,919	\$15,773
Plus:					
Income taxes	57,054	43,607	32,295	16,544	9,833
Interest	22,287	19,259	13,303	6,682	4,031
Depreciation and amortization	8,536	6,780	5,741	2,747	1,717
EBITDA	\$182,283	\$139,583	\$101,998	\$52,892	\$31,354

- (4) EBITDA margin is calculated by dividing EBITDA by total sales revenue.
- (5) For purposes of computing the ratio of earnings to fixed charges, "earnings" consist of income before income taxes and extraordinary items plus fixed charges less capitalized interest. "Fixed charges" consist of interest expense including amortization of deferred financing costs, one-half of rent expense, which is deemed to be representative of an interest factor, and capitalized interest.
- (6) EBITDA and operating ratios are unaudited.
- (7) On a quarterly basis, this is not a meaningful calculation.

## HOME CLOSING REVENUE, HOME ORDERS AND ORDER BACKLOG

The tables provided below show operating and financial data regarding our homebuilding activities.

	Years Ended December 31,			Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2003	2002	2001	2004	2003
	(unaudited, except total home sales revenue dollar amounts)			(unaudited)	
	(dollars in thousands)				
<b>Home Closing Revenue</b>					
<b>Total</b>					
Dollars	\$1,461,981	\$1,112,439	\$742,576	\$423,502	\$283,410
Homes closed	5,642	4,574	3,270	1,569	1,136
Average sales price	\$ 259.1	\$ 243.2	\$ 227.1	\$ 269.9	\$ 249.5
<b>Texas</b>					
Dollars	\$ 577,330	\$ 387,264	\$259,725	\$157,272	\$121,503
Homes closed	2,828	2,090	1,518	730	606
Average sales price	\$ 204.1	\$ 185.3	\$ 171.1	\$ 215.4	\$ 200.5
<b>Arizona</b>					
Dollars	\$ 415,709	\$ 445,275	\$325,918	\$ 97,932	\$ 67,125
Homes closed	1,515	1,735	1,343	381	250
Average sales price	\$ 274.4	\$ 256.6	\$ 242.7	\$ 257.0	\$ 268.5
<b>California</b>					
Dollars	\$ 334,677	\$ 245,640	\$156,933	\$130,870	\$ 67,303
Homes closed	735	594	409	307	158
Average sales price	\$ 455.3	\$ 413.5	\$ 383.7	\$ 426.3	\$ 426.0
<b>Nevada</b>					
Dollars	\$ 134,265	\$ 34,260	\$ —	\$ 37,428	\$ 27,479
Homes closed	564	155	—	151	122
Average sales price	\$ 238.1	\$ 221.0	\$ —	\$ 247.9	\$ 225.2

	Years Ended December 31,			Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2003	2002	2001	2004	2003
	(unaudited)			(unaudited)	
	(dollars in thousands)				
<b>Home Orders</b>					
<b>Total</b>					
Dollars	\$1,634,988	\$1,161,899	\$700,104	\$591,999	\$412,864
Homes ordered	6,152	4,504	3,016	2,193	1,582
Average sales price	\$ 265.8	\$ 258.0	\$ 232.1	\$ 269.9	\$ 261.0
<b>Texas</b>					
Dollars	\$ 599,850	\$ 417,158	\$255,811	\$199,857	\$161,135
Homes ordered	2,862	2,134	1,516	947	791
Average sales price	\$ 209.6	\$ 195.5	\$ 168.7	\$ 211.0	\$ 203.7

	Years Ended December 31,			Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2003	2002	2001	2004	2003
(unaudited) (dollars in thousands)					
<b>Arizona</b>					
Dollars	\$509,913	\$383,445	\$309,170	\$208,388	\$123,653
Homes ordered	1,881	1,425	1,165	807	447
Average sales price	\$ 271.1	\$ 269.1	\$ 265.4	\$ 258.2	\$ 276.6
<b>California</b>					
Dollars	\$375,105	\$329,252	\$135,123	\$159,831	\$ 89,775
Homes ordered	807	794	335	365	180
Average sales price	\$ 464.8	\$ 414.7	\$ 403.4	\$ 437.9	\$ 498.8
<b>Nevada</b>					
Dollars	\$150,120	\$ 32,044	\$ —	\$ 23,923	\$ 38,301
Homes ordered	602	151	—	74	164
Average sales price	\$ 249.4	\$ 212.2	\$ —	\$ 323.3	\$ 233.5
At December 31,					
(unaudited) (dollars in thousands)					
<b>Order Backlog</b>					
<b>Total</b>					
Dollars	\$710,771	\$537,764	\$374,951	\$900,242	\$667,218
Homes in backlog	2,580	2,070	1,602	3,279	2,516
Average sales price	\$ 275.5	\$ 259.8	\$ 234.1	\$ 274.5	\$ 265.2
<b>Texas</b>					
Dollars	\$241,419	\$218,899	\$115,651	\$284,004	\$258,531
Homes in backlog	1,119	1,085	693	1,336	1,270
Average sales price	\$ 215.7	\$ 201.8	\$ 166.9	\$ 212.6	\$ 203.6
<b>Arizona</b>					
Dollars	\$238,359	\$144,155	\$205,985	\$348,815	\$200,683
Homes in backlog	832	466	776	1,258	663
Average sales price	\$ 286.5	\$ 309.3	\$ 265.4	\$ 277.3	\$ 302.7
<b>California</b>					
Dollars	\$177,355	\$136,927	\$ 53,315	\$227,290	\$159,399
Homes in backlog	405	333	133	538	355
Average sales price	\$ 437.9	\$ 411.2	\$ 400.9	\$ 422.5	\$ 449.0
<b>Nevada</b>					
Dollars	\$ 53,638	\$ 37,783	\$ —	\$ 40,133	\$ 48,605
Homes in backlog	224	186	—	147	228
Average sales price	\$ 239.5	\$ 203.1	\$ —	\$ 273.0	\$ 213.2



## RISK FACTORS

*You should consider carefully the information set forth in this section along with all the other information provided to you or incorporated by reference in this prospectus in deciding whether to invest in the notes.*

### **Risks Relating to Meritage**

***As a participant in the homebuilding industry we are subject to its fluctuating cycles and other risks that can negatively affect the demand for, cost of, and pricing of our homes.***

The homebuilding industry is cyclical and is significantly affected by changes in economic and other conditions, such as employment levels, availability of financing, interest rates, and consumer confidence. These factors can negatively affect the demand for and cost of our homes. The occurrence or continuation of any of the above items and the items described below could have a negative impact on our business and adversely affect the value of the notes. We are also subject to various risks, many of which are outside of our control, including delays in construction schedules, cost overruns, changes in governmental regulations (such as no- or slow-growth initiatives), increases in real estate taxes and other local government fees, and raw materials and labor costs.

We are also subject to the potential for significant variability and fluctuations in the cost and availability of real estate. Although historically we have generally developed parcels ranging from 100 to 300 lots, in order to achieve and maintain an adequate inventory of lots, we are beginning to purchase larger parcels, in some cases with a joint venture partner. Write-downs of our real estate could occur if market conditions deteriorate and these write-downs could be material in amount. Write-downs may also occur if we purchase land at higher prices during stronger economic periods and the value of that land subsequently declines during slower economic periods.

***We are subject to construction defect and home warranty claims arising in the ordinary course of business which could lead to additional reserves or expenses that may adversely affect our business.***

Construction defect and home warranty claims are common in the homebuilding industry and can be costly. While we maintain product liability insurance and generally require our subcontractors and design professionals to indemnify us for liabilities arising from their work, we cannot assure you that these insurance rights and indemnities will be adequate to cover all construction defect and warranty claims for which we may be liable. For example, we may be responsible for applicable self-insured retentions, which have increased recently, and certain claims may not be covered by insurance or may exceed applicable coverage limits.

***We face reduced coverages and increased costs of insurance.***

Recently, lawsuits have been filed against builders asserting claims of personal injury and property damage caused by the presence of mold in residential dwellings. Some of these lawsuits have resulted in substantial monetary judgments or settlements. We believe that we have maintained adequate insurance coverage to insure against these types of claims for homes completed before October 1, 2003. Insurance carriers have begun excluding claims arising from the presence of mold from policies for many builders and, as of October 1, 2003, our insurance policy began excluding mold coverage. If our retentions are not sufficient to protect against these types of claims or if we are unable to obtain adequate insurance coverage, a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations could result if we are exposed to claims arising from the presence of mold in the homes that we sell.

Partially as a result of the September 11 terrorist attacks, the cost of insurance has risen, deductibles or retentions have increased significantly and the availability of insurance has diminished. Significant increases in our cost of insurance coverage or retentions could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

*We experience fluctuations and variability in our operating results on a quarterly basis and, as a result, our historical performance may not be a meaningful indicator of future results.*

We historically have experienced, and expect to continue to experience, variability in home sales and net earnings on a quarterly basis. As a result of such variability, our historical performance may not be a meaningful indicator of future results. Fluctuations in our results could cause the value of the notes to decline. Factors that contribute to this variability include:

- timing of home deliveries and land sales;
- our ability to acquire additional land or options for additional land on acceptable terms;
- conditions of the real estate market in areas where we operate and of the general economy;
- the cyclical nature of the homebuilding industry, changes in prevailing interest rates and the availability of mortgage financing;
- costs and availability of materials and labor; and
- delays in construction schedules due to strikes, adverse weather, acts of God, reduced subcontractor availability and governmental restrictions.

***Increases in interest rates and the unavailability of mortgage financing can adversely affect housing demand.***

In general, housing demand is adversely affected by increases in interest rates and housing costs and the unavailability of mortgage financing. Most of our buyers finance their home purchases through third-party lenders providing mortgage financing. If mortgage interest rates increase and, consequently, the ability of prospective buyers to finance home purchases is adversely affected, home sales, gross margins and cash flow may also be adversely affected and the impact may be material. Although interest rates are currently near historically low levels, they have recently begun to rise and it is impossible to predict future increases or decreases in market interest rates. In addition, homebuilding activities depend upon the availability and costs of mortgage financing for buyers of homes owned by potential customers, as those customers (move-up buyers) often need to sell their residences before they purchase our homes. Any reduction of financing availability could adversely affect home sales.

***If we are unable to successfully compete in the highly competitive homebuilding industry, our financial results and growth could suffer.***

The homebuilding industry is highly competitive. We compete for sales in each of our markets with national, regional and local developers and homebuilders, existing home resales and, to a lesser extent, condominiums and available rental housing. If we are unable to successfully compete, our financial results and growth could suffer and the value of, or our ability to service, the notes could be adversely affected. Some of our competitors have significantly greater financial resources or lower costs than we do. Competition among both small and large residential homebuilders is based on a number of interrelated factors, including location, reputation, amenities, design, quality and price. Competition is expected to continue and become more intense, and there may be new entrants in the markets in which we currently operate and in markets we may enter in the future.

***Our lack of geographic diversification could adversely affect us if the homebuilding industry in our current markets should decline.***

We have operations in Texas, Arizona, California and Nevada. Our lack of geographic diversification could adversely impact us if the homebuilding business in our current markets should decline, since there may not be a balancing opportunity in a stronger market in other geographic regions.

***We are subject to extensive government regulation that could cause us to incur significant liabilities or restrict our business activities.***

Regulatory requirements could cause us to incur significant liabilities and costs and could restrict our business activities. We are subject to local, state, and federal statutes and rules regulating certain development matters, as well as building and site design. We are subject to various fees and charges of government authorities designed to defray the cost of providing certain governmental services and improvements. We may be subject to additional costs and delays or may be precluded entirely from building projects because of “no-growth” or “slow-growth” initiatives, building permit ordinances, building moratoriums, or similar government regulations that could be imposed in the future due to health, safety, welfare, or environmental concerns. We must also obtain licenses, permits, and approvals from government agencies to engage in certain activities, the granting or receipt of which are beyond our control, and could cause delays in our homebuilding projects.

We are also subject to a variety of local, state, and federal statutes, ordinances, rules and regulations concerning the protection of health and the environment. Environmental laws or permit restrictions may result in project delays, may cause substantial compliance and other costs and may prohibit or severely restrict development in certain environmentally sensitive regions or geographic areas. Environmental regulations can also have an adverse impact on the availability and price of certain raw materials, such as lumber.

***We continue to consider growth or expansion of our operations which could have a material adverse effect on our cash flows or profitability.***

We may continue to consider growth or expansion of our operations in our current markets or in other areas of the country. Our expansion into new or existing markets could have a material adverse effect on our cash flows or profitability. The magnitude, timing and nature of any future expansion will depend on a number of factors, including suitable acquisition candidates, the negotiation of acceptable terms, our financial capabilities and general economic and business conditions. New acquisitions may result in the incurrence of additional debt, some of which could be secured, and therefore, structurally senior to the notes. Acquisitions also involve numerous risks, including difficulties in the assimilation of the acquired company’s operations, the incurrence of unanticipated liabilities or expenses, the diversion of management’s attention from other business concerns, risks of entering markets in which we have limited or no direct experience, and the potential loss of key employees of the acquired company.

***We are dependent on the services of certain key employees and the loss of their services could harm our business.***

Our success largely depends on the continuing services of certain key employees, including our Co-Chief Executive Officers, Steven J. Hilton and John R. Landon, and our continued favorable development depends on our ability to attract and retain qualified personnel. We have employment agreements with Messrs. Hilton and Landon, but we do not have an employment agreement with certain other key employees. We believe that Steven J. Hilton and John R. Landon each possess valuable industry knowledge and experience and leadership abilities that would be difficult in the short term to replicate. The loss of key employees could harm our operations and business plans.

***We depend on the continued availability and satisfactory performance of our subcontractors which, if unavailable, could have a material adverse effect on our business.***

We conduct our construction operations only as a general contractor. Virtually all architectural and construction work is performed by unaffiliated third-party subcontractors. As a consequence, we depend on the continued availability of and satisfactory performance by these subcontractors for the design and construction of our homes. We cannot assure you that there will be sufficient availability of and satisfactory performance by these unaffiliated third-party subcontractors. In addition, inadequate subcontractor resources could have a material adverse affect on our business.

***Our future operating results may be adversely impacted by high inflation.***

We, like other homebuilders, may be adversely affected during periods of high inflation, mainly because of higher land and construction costs. Also, higher mortgage interest rates may significantly affect the affordability of mortgage financing to prospective buyers. Inflation also increases our cost of financing, materials and labor and could cause our financial results or growth to decline, which could impact the value of the notes and the cash flow available to service the notes. We attempt to pass cost increases on to our customers through higher sales prices. To date, inflation has not had a material adverse effect on our results of operations; however, inflation could impact our future operating results.

***Our business and operating results could be adversely affected by natural disasters.***

We have significant homebuilding operations in Texas and California. Some of our markets in Texas occasionally experience severe weather conditions, such as tornadoes or hurricanes. California has experienced a significant number of earthquakes, flooding, landslides and other natural disasters in recent years. We do not insure against some of these risks. These occurrences could damage or destroy some of our homes under construction or our building lots, which may result in losses that exceed our insurance coverage. We could also suffer significant construction delays or substantial fluctuations in the pricing or availability of building materials. Any of these events could cause a decrease in our revenue, cash flow and earnings.

***Recent accounting pronouncements could affect our accounting practices.***

The Financial Accounting Standards Board, or FASB, recently issued FIN 46R, which governs “variable interest entities” in a way that impacts our ability to use rolling option contracts and even long-term purchase agreements to control land for future development. In order to maintain these interests as “off-balance sheet”, as we have historically done, we may need to structure our transactions differently than we have in the past, and will need to limit transactions to sellers that meet certain requirements, some of which could impact our ability to buy land. In addition, we may need to record more land and corresponding liabilities on our balance sheet, which may negatively affect how lenders and investors perceive our financial condition.

***Acts of war may seriously harm our business.***

Acts of war or any outbreak or escalation of hostilities between the United States and any foreign power, including the armed conflict with Iraq, may cause disruption to the economy, our company, our employees and our customers, which could impact our revenue, cost and expenses, and financial condition.

***This prospectus includes forward-looking statements and there are a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause our actual results to differ materially from these forward-looking statements.***

This prospectus includes forward looking statements encouraged by the Private Security Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements include statements concerning our plans, objectives, goals, strategies, future events, future revenue or performance, capital expenditures, financing needs, plans or intentions relating to acquisitions, business trends and other information that is not historical information. When used in this prospectus, the words “estimates,” “expects,” “anticipates,” “projects,” “plans,” “intends,” “believes,” “forecasts” and variations of such words or similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements are based upon our current expectations and various assumptions. Our expectations, beliefs and projections are expressed in good faith and we believe there is a reasonable basis for them. However, there can be no assurance that management’s expectations, beliefs and projections will result or be achieved.

There are a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause our actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus. Important factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements we make in this prospectus are set forth in this Risk Factors section.

## Risks Associated with the Notes

*Our substantial level of indebtedness could adversely affect our financial condition and prevent us from fulfilling our obligations on the notes.*

As of April 30, 2004, we had approximately \$418.3 million (including unamortized premium of approximately \$8 million) of indebtedness. In addition, subject to restrictions in the indenture for the notes, the indenture for our 9 3/4% senior notes due 2011 and our senior unsecured credit facility, we may incur additional indebtedness. The high level of our indebtedness could have important consequences to you, including the following:

- our ability to obtain additional financing for working capital, capital expenditures, acquisitions or general corporate purposes may be impaired;
- we must use a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to pay interest and principal on the notes and other indebtedness, which will reduce the funds available to us for other purposes such as capital expenditures;
- we have a higher level of indebtedness than some of our competitors, which may put us at a competitive disadvantage and reduce our flexibility in planning for, or responding to, changing conditions in our industry, including increased competition; and
- we are more vulnerable to economic downturns and adverse developments in our business.

We expect to obtain the money to pay our expenses and to pay the principal and interest on our senior debt from cash flow from our operations. Our annual debt service requirements for our 9 3/4% senior notes due 2011 and the exchange notes offered hereby is approximately \$36.4 million. Because these notes carry a fixed rate of interest, we are not subject to interest rate risk for these obligations. Our annual debt service requirements for our senior unsecured credit facility depends on a number of factors, including the level of borrowings under the facility and interest rates. The scheduled maturity for the credit facility is May 2007. As of April 30, 2004, no borrowings were outstanding under our unsecured credit facility. Our ability to meet our expenses thus depends on our future performance, which will be affected by financial, business, economic and other factors. We will not be able to control many of these factors, such as economic conditions in the markets where we operate and pressure from competitors.

We cannot be certain that our cash flow will be sufficient to allow us to pay principal and interest on our debt, including the notes, and meet our other obligations. If we do not have sufficient funds, we may be required to refinance all or part of our existing debt, including the notes, sell assets or borrow more money. We cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so on terms acceptable to us, if at all. In addition, the terms of our existing or future debt agreements may restrict us from pursuing any of these alternatives.

*The indenture for the notes, the indenture for our 9 3/4% senior notes due 2011 and our senior unsecured credit facility impose significant operating and financial restrictions, which may prevent us from capitalizing on business opportunities and taking some corporate actions.*

The indenture for the notes, the indenture for our 9 3/4% senior notes due 2011 and our senior unsecured credit facility impose significant operating and financial restrictions on us. These restrictions limit the ability of us and our subsidiaries, among other things, to:

- incur additional indebtedness or liens;
- pay dividends or make other distributions;

- repurchase our stock;
- make investments;
- sell assets;
- enter into agreements restricting our subsidiaries' ability to pay dividends;
- enter into transactions with affiliates; and
- consolidate, merge or sell all or substantially all of our assets.

In addition, the indenture for the notes and the indenture for our 9 3/4% senior notes due 2011 require us to maintain a minimum consolidated tangible net worth and our senior unsecured credit facility requires us to maintain other specified financial ratios. We cannot assure you that these covenants will not adversely affect our ability to finance our future operations or capital needs or to pursue available business opportunities. A breach of any of these covenants or our inability to maintain the required financial ratios could result in a default in respect of the related indebtedness. If a default occurs, the relevant lenders could elect to declare the indebtedness, together with accrued interest and other fees, to be immediately due and payable.

***We may not be able to satisfy our obligations to holders of the notes upon a change of control or a decline in our consolidated tangible net worth.***

Upon the occurrence of a "change of control," as defined in the indenture for the notes, each holder of the notes offered by this prospectus will have the right to require us to purchase the notes at a price equal to 101% of the principal amount, together with any accrued interest and liquidated damages, if any, to the date of purchase. Our failure to purchase, or give notice of purchase of, the notes would be a default under our other debt agreements. In addition, a change of control may constitute an event of default under our senior unsecured credit facility. A default under our senior unsecured credit facility could result in an event of default under the indenture if the lenders accelerate the debt under our credit facility.

In addition, if our consolidated tangible net worth falls below \$60.0 million for any two consecutive fiscal quarters, we are required to make an offer to purchase up to 10% of the notes then outstanding at a price equal to 100% of the principal amount, together with any accrued interest and liquidated damages, if any, to the date of purchase. As of March 31, 2004 our consolidated tangible net worth was approximately \$345.5 million.

If either event occurs, we may not have enough assets to satisfy all obligations under our debt agreements. In order to satisfy our obligations we could seek to refinance the indebtedness under these agreements or obtain a waiver from the lenders or you as a holder of the notes. We cannot assure you that we would be able to obtain a waiver or refinance our indebtedness on terms acceptable to us, if at all.

***There is uncertainty about the meaning of the phrase "all or substantially all" under applicable laws in connection with determining whether a change of control has occurred.***

One of the events that triggers our obligation to repurchase the notes upon a change in control is the sale of all or substantially all of our assets. The phrase "all or substantially all" as used in the indenture varies according to the facts and circumstances of the subject transaction, has no clearly established meaning under the law that governs the indenture and is subject to judicial interpretation. In certain circumstances, there may be a degree of uncertainty in ascertaining whether a particular transaction would involve a disposition of "all or substantially all" of our assets, and therefore, it may be unclear as to whether a change of control has occurred and whether you have the right to require us to repurchase the notes.

*We could enter into transactions that would not constitute a change of control giving rise to an obligation to repurchase the notes, but that could increase the amount of our indebtedness outstanding.*

The indenture for the notes, the indenture for our 9 3/4% senior notes due 2011 and the agreement for our senior unsecured credit facility impose significant restrictions on our ability to incur additional indebtedness or liens, make investments, and sell assets, among others. In addition, the indenture for the notes imposes obligations on us to offer to repurchase the notes if we enter into a transaction that constitutes a change of control. Nevertheless, we could, in the future, enter into transactions such as acquisitions, refinancings or other recapitalizations or highly leveraged transactions that would not constitute a change of control giving rise to an obligation by us to repurchase the notes, but that could increase the amount of indebtedness outstanding. Such transactions could affect our capital structure or credit ratings or otherwise affect the holders of the notes.

***The guarantees may be voided under specific legal circumstances.***

The notes are guaranteed by all of our existing subsidiaries (other than our two mortgage broker subsidiaries) and certain future subsidiaries. The guarantees may be subject to review under U.S. federal bankruptcy law and comparable provisions of state fraudulent conveyance laws if a bankruptcy or reorganization case or lawsuit is commenced by or on behalf of our or one of a guarantor's unpaid creditors. Under these laws, if a court were to find in such a bankruptcy or reorganization case or lawsuit that, at the time any guarantor issued a guarantee of the notes:

- it issued the guarantee to delay, hinder or defraud present or future creditors; or
- it received less than reasonably equivalent value or fair consideration for issuing the guarantee at the time it issued the guarantee and:
  - it was insolvent or rendered insolvent by reason of issuing the guarantee; or
  - it was engaged, or about to engage, in a business or transaction for which its remaining unencumbered assets constituted unreasonably small capital to carry on its business; or
  - it intended to incur, or believed that it would incur, debts beyond its ability to pay as they mature;

then the court could void the obligations under the guarantee, subordinate the guarantee of the notes to that guarantor's other debt or take other action detrimental to holders of the notes and the guarantees of the notes.

The measures of insolvency for purposes of fraudulent transfer laws vary depending upon the law of the jurisdiction that is being applied in any proceeding to determine whether a fraudulent transfer had occurred. Generally, however, a person would be considered insolvent if, at the time it incurred the debt:

- the present fair saleable value of its assets was less than the amount that would be required to pay its probable liability on its existing debts, including contingent liabilities, as they become absolute and mature; or
- it could not pay its debts as they become due.

We cannot be sure as to the standard that a court would use to determine whether or not a guarantor was solvent at the relevant time, or, regardless of the standard that the court uses, that the issuance of the guarantees would not be voided or the guarantees would not be subordinated to the guarantors' other debt. If such a case were to occur, the guarantee could also be subject to the claim that, since the guarantee was incurred for our benefit, and only indirectly for the benefit of the guarantor, the obligations of the applicable guarantor were incurred for less than fair consideration.

Based upon financial and other information currently available to us, we believe that the debt evidenced by the guarantees was incurred for proper purposes and in good faith. We believe that the guarantors:

- are solvent and will continue to be solvent after issuing the guarantees;
- will have sufficient capital for carrying on the business we intend to conduct after this exchange offer is completed; and
- will be able to service their debts as they come due.

***There is no established trading market for the exchange notes and you may not be able to sell the notes quickly or at the price that you paid.***

We expect that there will be a limited trading market for the exchange notes, if any. Although the exchange notes will be registered, we do not intend to list the exchange notes on any securities exchange or to arrange for quotation on any automated dealer quotation systems. The initial purchaser has advised us that it intends to make a market in the outstanding notes and the exchange notes, but it is not obligated to do so. The initial purchaser may discontinue any market making in the outstanding notes or exchange notes at any time, in its sole discretion. As a result, we cannot assure you as to the liquidity of any trading market for the exchange notes.

We also cannot assure you that you will be able to sell your exchange notes at a particular time or that the prices that you receive when you sell will be favorable. We also cannot assure you as to the level of liquidity of the trading market for the exchange notes or, in the case of any holders of outstanding notes that do not exchange them, the trading market for the notes following the offer to exchange the outstanding notes for exchange notes. Future trading prices of the outstanding notes and exchange notes will depend on many factors, including:

- our operating performance and financial condition;
- our ability to complete the offer to exchange the notes for the exchange notes;
- the interest of securities dealers in making a market; and
- the market for similar securities.

Historically, the market for non-investment grade debt has been subject to disruptions that have caused volatility in prices. It is possible that the market for the outstanding notes and, if issued, the exchange notes, will be subject to disruptions. Any disruptions may have a negative effect on noteholders, regardless of our prospects and financial performance.

***There may be adverse consequences to holders of outstanding notes that do not tender their outstanding notes pursuant to the exchange offer.***

If you fail to properly exchange your outstanding notes for exchange notes, you will continue to hold outstanding notes subject to transfer restrictions, and the liquidity of the trading market for any untendered outstanding notes may be substantially limited.

We will only issue exchange notes in exchange for outstanding notes that you timely and properly tender. You should allow sufficient time to ensure timely delivery of the outstanding notes, and you should carefully follow the instructions on how to tender your outstanding notes set forth under the “The Exchange Offer — Procedures for Tendering” and in the letter of transmittal that accompanies this prospectus. Neither we nor the exchange agent are required to notify you of any defects or irregularities relating to your tender of notes.



The holders of outstanding notes that do not exchange them pursuant to this exchange offer will continue to be subject to restrictions on the transfer of the outstanding notes because the issuance of the outstanding notes was not registered under the Securities Act or registered or qualified under any state securities laws. We do not currently anticipate that, except in certain limited circumstances, we will register the outstanding notes under the Securities Act. To the extent that we exchange outstanding notes a result of this exchange offer, the ability to trade untendered outstanding notes may be adversely affected.

#### **USE OF PROCEEDS**

We will receive no proceeds from the exchange of the exchange notes for the outstanding notes pursuant to the exchange offer. We used the proceeds from the sale of the outstanding notes to repay our senior unsecured credit facility and to invest in short-term investments, of which approximately \$129.4 million was used to pay down our senior unsecured credit facility. See “Description of Certain Indebtedness” for information regarding our existing debt.

**SELECTED HISTORICAL FINANCIAL DATA**

The following table presents selected historical consolidated financial and operating data of Meritage Corporation and subsidiaries as of and for each of the last five years ended December 31, 2003 and the three months ended March 31 for each of the last two years. The financial data has been derived from our audited and unaudited consolidated financial statements and related notes. You should read this data in conjunction with "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and our consolidated financial statements and related notes contained in the annual, quarterly and other reports filed by us with the SEC, which we have incorporated by reference into this prospectus. The data below includes the operations of Hancock Communities, Hammonds Homes, Perma-Bilt Homes and Citation Homes of Southern California since their respective dates of acquisition, June 1, 2001, July 1, 2002, October 1, 2002 and January 1, 2004, respectively.

	Years Ended December 31,					Three Months Ended March 31,		
	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	2004	2003	
	(dollars in thousands)						(unaudited)	
<b>Statement of Earnings Data:</b>								
Total closing revenue	\$ 1,471,001	\$1,119,817	\$ 744,174	\$ 520,467	\$ 341,786	\$ 423,502	\$ 283,410	
Total cost of closings	(1,178,484)	(904,921)	(586,914)	(415,649)	(277,287)	(340,339)	(227,056)	
Gross profit	292,517	214,896	157,260	104,818	64,499	83,163	56,354	
Other income, net	5,776	5,435	2,884	1,847	2,064	2,189	1,209	
Commissions and other sales costs	(92,904)	(65,291)	(41,085)	(28,680)	(19,243)	(25,833)	(19,745)	
General and administrative expenses(1)	(53,929)	(41,496)	(36,105)	(21,215)	(15,100)	(16,056)	(12,212)	
Interest expense	—	—	—	(8)	(6)	—	—	
Earnings before income taxes	151,460	113,544	82,954	56,762	32,214	43,463	25,606	
Income taxes(1)	(57,054)	(43,607)	(32,295)	(21,000)	(13,269)	(16,544)	(9,833)	
Net earnings	\$ 94,406	\$ 69,937	\$ 50,659	\$ 35,762	\$ 18,945	\$ 26,919	\$ 15,773	
<b>Other Financial Data:</b>								
Gross profit margin(6)	19.9%	19.2%	21.1%	20.1%	18.9%	19.6%	19.9%	
Interest amortized to cost of sales and interest expense	\$ 22,287	\$ 19,259	\$ 13,303	\$ 9,179	\$ 5,042	\$ 6,682	\$ 4,031	
Depreciation and amortization	8,536	6,780	5,741	3,407	2,528	2,747	1,717	
Interest incurred(2)	26,580	19,294	16,623	10,634	7,031	8,191	5,662	
Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities	(56,894)	1,050	(16,411)	6,252	(36,337)	8,662	(29,436)	
Net cash (used in) investing activities	(29,220)	(149,691)	(76,465)	(8,175)	(9,952)	(33,421)	(3,247)	
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	84,313	151,858	91,862	(7,102)	47,324	31,650	48,045	
EBITDA(3)(6)	182,283	139,583	101,998	69,348	39,784	52,892	31,354	
EBITDA margin(4)(6)	12.4%	12.5%	13.7%	13.3%	11.6%	12.5%	11.1%	
Ratio of EBITDA to interest incurred(6)	6.86x	7.23x	6.14x	6.52x	5.66x	(7)	(7)	
Ratio of total debt to EBITDA(6)	1.93x	1.90x	1.74x	1.24x	2.16x	(7)	(7)	
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges(5)(6)	5.63x	5.82x	5.37x	5.80x	4.94x	5.35x	4.50x	

	Years Ended December 31,					Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	2004	2003
	(dollars in thousands)					(unaudited)	
<b>Operating Data(6):</b>							
Homes closed	5,642	4,574	3,270	2,227	1,643	1,569	1,136
Homes ordered	6,152	4,504	3,016	2,480	1,840	2,193	1,582
Average sales price of homes closed	\$ 259	\$ 243	\$ 227	\$ 231	\$ 203	\$ 270	\$ 250
Average sales price of homes ordered	\$ 266	\$ 258	\$ 232	\$ 244	\$ 211	\$ 270	\$ 261
Backlog at end of period	\$710,771	\$537,764	\$374,951	\$309,901	\$199,445	\$900,242	\$667,218
Backlog at end of period (homes)	2,580	2,070	1,602	1,246	885	3,279	2,516

	At December 31,					At March 31,
	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	2004
	(dollars in thousands)					(unaudited)
<b>Balance Sheet Data:</b>						
Real estate	\$678,011	\$484,970	\$330,238	\$211,307	\$171,012	\$ 696,375
Total assets	954,539	691,788	436,715	267,075	226,559	1,020,412
Total debt	351,491	264,927	177,561	86,152	85,937	381,721
Stockholders' equity	411,895	317,308	176,587	121,099	90,411	440,868

- (1) 2001 earnings include a \$383 loss related to the net effect of early extinguishments of long-term debt. Previously this amount, net of the tax effect of \$149 was reported as an extraordinary item. We have reclassified this loss as general and administrative expense and income tax benefit, respectively, to conform to the requirements of SFAS 145, which was effective for fiscal years beginning after May 15, 2002.
- (2) Interest incurred is the amount of interest paid and accrued (whether expensed or capitalized) during such period, including debt-related fees and amortization of deferred financing costs.
- (3) EBITDA represents earnings before interest expense, interest amortized to cost of sales, income taxes, depreciation, amortization and extraordinary items. EBITDA is presented here because it is a widely accepted financial indicator used by investors and analysts to analyze and compare homebuilding companies on the basis of operating performance. EBITDA as presented may not be comparable to similarly titled measures reported by other companies because not all companies necessarily calculate EBITDA in an identical manner and, therefore, is not necessarily an accurate means of comparison between companies. EBITDA is not intended to represent cash flows for the period or funds available for management's discretionary use nor has it been presented as an alternative to operating income or as an indicator of operating performance and it should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for measures of performance prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in

the United States of America. The reconciliation of EBITDA to net earnings for each of the respective periods shown is as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,					Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	2004	2003
	(unaudited) (dollars in thousands)						
Net earnings	\$ 94,406	\$ 69,937	\$ 50,659	\$35,762	\$18,945	\$26,919	\$15,773
Plus:							
Income taxes	57,054	43,607	32,295	21,000	13,269	16,544	9,833
Interest	22,287	19,259	13,303	9,179	5,042	6,682	4,031
Depreciation and amortization	8,536	6,780	5,741	3,407	2,528	2,747	1,717
EBITDA	\$182,283	\$139,583	\$101,998	\$69,348	\$39,784	\$52,892	\$31,354

- (4) EBITDA margin is calculated by dividing EBITDA by total sales revenue.
- (5) For purposes of computing the ratio of earnings to fixed charges, "earnings" consist of income before income taxes and extraordinary items plus fixed charges less capitalized interest. "Fixed charges" consist of interest expense including amortization of deferred financing costs, one-half of rent expense, which is deemed to be representative of an interest factor, and capitalized interest.
- (6) EBITDA, operating data and operating ratios are unaudited.
- (7) On a quarterly basis, this is not a meaningful calculation.

## DESCRIPTION OF CERTAIN INDEBTEDNESS

The following is a summary of certain of our and our subsidiaries' indebtedness.

### Senior Unsecured Credit Facility

We have a credit agreement which provides for a \$400 million senior unsecured revolving credit facility. Guaranty Bank is the administrative agent for the facility, which matures in May 2007, subject to extension provisions.

At March 31, 2004, there was a balance of approximately \$93.4 million outstanding under our senior unsecured revolving credit facility and approximately \$41.5 million was outstanding in letters of credit and guarantees that collateralize our obligations under various land purchase and other contracts. After considering our most restrictive bank covenants, our borrowing availability under the bank credit facility was approximately \$137 million at March 31, 2004, as determined by borrowing base limitations defined by our agreement with the lending banks.

The interest rate on this credit facility is based upon either the agent bank's quoted base rate or the eurodollar rate, plus an applicable margin that is determined by the level of a predefined financial leverage ratio. In addition, we incur commitment fees on the unused portion of the revolver that range from 0.275% to 0.50% per annum. The interest rate for outstanding balances under the bank credit facility at March 31, 2004 was at prime (4.0%) or at LIBOR (approximately 1.12%) plus two percent.

This credit facility contains certain financial and other covenants, including covenants:

- requiring us to maintain tangible net worth of at least \$225 million plus 50% of net income earned since January 1, 2004 plus 75% of the aggregate net increase in tangible net worth resulting from the sale of capital stock and other equity interests (as defined);
- prohibiting our ratio of indebtedness (including accrued expenses) to tangible net worth from being greater than 2.25 to 1;
- requiring us to maintain a ratio of EBITDA (including interest amortized to cost of sales) to interest incurred (as defined) of at least 2.00 to 1;
- prohibiting the net book value of our land and lots where construction of a home has not commenced to exceed 125% of tangible net worth and prohibiting the net book value of our raw land where grading or infrastructure improvements have not begun to exceed 20% of tangible net worth;
- limiting the number of unsold housing units and model units that we may have in our inventory at the end of any fiscal quarter as follows:
  - (i) unsold homes cannot exceed 25% of the number of home closings within the four fiscal quarters ending on such date; and
  - (ii) model homes cannot exceed 10% of the number of home closings within the four fiscal quarters ending on such date; and
- prohibiting us from entering into any sale and leaseback transaction, excluding the sale and leaseback of model homes and prohibiting us from creating or incurring any off-balance sheet liability. For purposes of our credit facility, off-balance sheet liabilities include:
  - certain liabilities arising under asset securitization transactions;

- monetary obligations under synthetic leases, tax retention or off-balance sheet lease transactions that upon the application of any debtor relief law to us would be characterized as indebtedness;
- any other monetary obligation with respect to any transaction which upon the application of any debtor relief law to us would be characterized as indebtedness or which is the functional equivalent of or takes the place of borrowing but which does not constitute a liability on our consolidated balance sheet.

Notwithstanding the above, our credit facility specifically provides that liabilities (i) under rolling options and similar contracts for the acquisition of real property and (ii) arising under model home leases shall not be deemed off-balance sheet liabilities.

#### **Senior Notes Due 2011**

In May 2001, we issued \$165 million in principal amount of 9 3/4% senior notes due 2011. In September 2001, we purchased and retired \$10 million in principal amount of our outstanding 9 3/4% senior notes. The purchases were made at 93.25% of par at a gain of approximately \$348,000, which net of related income tax effect of \$136,000, resulted in a net gain of \$212,000.

Through add-on financings, in February 2003 we increased the aggregate principal amount of our 9 3/4% senior notes due 2011 by approximately \$51.6 million (including premium of \$1.6 million) and in September 2003 we increased the aggregate principal amount of our senior notes by approximately \$81.8 million (including premium of \$6.8 million), the proceeds of which were used to pay down our senior unsecured revolving credit facility.

The indenture for our 9 3/4% our senior notes due 2011, which is substantially similar to the indenture for the notes offered hereby, requires us to comply with a number of covenants that restrict certain transactions, including covenants:

- limiting the amount of additional indebtedness we can incur unless after giving effect to such additional indebtedness, either (i) our fixed charge coverage ratio would be at least 2.0 to 1.0 or (ii) our ratio of consolidated debt to consolidated tangible net worth would be less than 3.0 to 1.0, provided, however, this limitation does not apply to most types of inter-company indebtedness, purchase money indebtedness up to \$15 million, non-recourse indebtedness and other indebtedness up to \$15 million;
- generally limiting the amount of dividends, redemptions of equity interests and certain investments we can make to \$10 million plus (i) 50% of our net income since May 30, 2001 plus (ii) 100% of the net cash proceeds from the sale of qualified equity interests, plus other items and subject to other exceptions;
- requiring us to maintain tangible net worth of at least \$60 million;
- limiting our ability to incur or create certain liens; and
- placing limitations on the sale of assets, mergers and consolidations and transactions with affiliates.

#### **Other Debt**

We have other land acquisition seller carryback financing totaling \$600,000 at March 31, 2004, which is secured by first deeds of trust on real estate. Interest on this facility is at a fixed rate of 7% per annum. Principal and interest payments are due at July 3, 2004.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE EXCHANGE NOTES

As used below in this “Description of the Exchange Notes” section, the “**Issuer**” means Meritage Corporation, a Maryland corporation, and its successors, but not any of its subsidiaries. The Issuer will issue the exchange notes described in this prospectus under an indenture, dated as of April 21, 2004, among the Issuer, the Guarantors and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as trustee. The terms of the exchange notes include those set forth in the indenture and those made part of the indenture by reference to the Trust Indenture Act. You may obtain a copy of the indenture from the Issuer at its address set forth elsewhere in this prospectus.

The following is a summary of the material terms and provisions of the exchange notes. As used in this “Description of the Exchange Notes”, the terms “Notes” and “notes” mean the series of the Issuer’s senior debt securities issued under the indenture designated as its 7% Senior Notes due 2014, in each case except as otherwise expressly provided or as the context otherwise requires. The following summary does not purport to be a complete description of the Notes and is subject to the detailed provisions of the indenture. You can find definitions of certain terms used in this description under the heading “— Certain Definitions.”

### **Principal, Maturity and Interest**

The Notes will mature on May 1, 2014. The Notes will bear interest at the rate shown on the cover page of this prospectus, payable on May 1 and November 1 of each year, commencing on November 1, 2004, to holders of record at the close of business on April 15 or October 15, as the case may be, immediately preceding the relevant interest payment date. Interest on the Notes will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months.

The Notes will be issued in registered form, without coupons, and in denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000.

The aggregate principal amount of the Notes is \$130 million. The Issuer may issue an unlimited amount of notes having identical terms and conditions to the Notes being issued in this offering (“**Additional Notes**”), subject to compliance with the “Limitations on Additional Indebtedness” covenant described below. Any Additional Notes will be part of the same issue as the notes being offered in the exchange offer and will vote on all matters as one class with the Notes being offered in the exchange offer, including, without limitation, waivers, amendments, redemptions and offers to purchase. For purposes of the “Description of Notes,” except for the covenant described under “— Certain Covenants — Limitations on Additional Indebtedness,” references to the Notes include Additional Notes, if any.

### **Methods of Receiving Payments on the Notes**

If a holder has given wire transfer instructions to the Issuer at least ten business days prior to the applicable payment date, the Issuer will make all payments on such holder’s Notes in accordance with those instructions. Otherwise, payments on the Notes will be made at the office or agency of the paying agent and registrar for the Notes within the City and State of New York unless the Issuer elects to make interest payments by check mailed to the holders at their addresses set forth in the register of holders.

### **Ranking**

The Notes are general unsecured obligations of the Issuer. The Notes rank senior in right of payment to all future obligations of the Issuer that are, by their terms, expressly subordinated in right of payment to the Notes and *pari passu* in right of payment with all existing and future unsecured obligations of the Issuer that are not so subordinated. Each note guarantee is a general unsecured obligation of the Guarantor thereof and ranks senior in right of payment to all future obligations of such Guarantor that are, by their terms, expressly subordinated in right of payment to such note guarantee and *pari passu* in right

of payment with all existing and future unsecured obligations of such Guarantor that are not so subordinated.

The Notes and each note guarantee are effectively subordinated to secured Indebtedness of the Issuer and the applicable Guarantor to the extent of the value of the assets securing such Indebtedness. Although the indenture contains limitations on the amount of additional secured Indebtedness that the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries may incur, under certain circumstances, the amount of this Indebtedness could be substantial. See “— Certain Covenants — Limitations on Additional Indebtedness” and “— Limitations on Liens.”

The Notes are also effectively subordinated to all existing and future obligations, including Indebtedness, of any Unrestricted Subsidiaries. Claims of creditors of Unrestricted Subsidiaries, including trade creditors, will generally have priority as to the assets of these Subsidiaries over the claims of the Issuer and the holders of the Issuer’s Indebtedness, including the Notes.

#### **Note Guarantees**

The Issuer’s obligations under the Notes and the indenture are jointly and severally guaranteed by each Restricted Subsidiary.

Not all of our Subsidiaries will guarantee the Notes. Unrestricted Subsidiaries will not be Guarantors. In the event of a bankruptcy, liquidation or reorganization of any of these non-guarantor Subsidiaries, these non-guarantor Subsidiaries will pay the holders of their debts and their trade creditors before they will be able to distribute any of their assets to us.

As of the date of this prospectus, all of our Subsidiaries, other than MTH Mortgage, LLC and Texas Home Mortgage Corporation, which conduct our mortgage broker business, are “Restricted Subsidiaries,” and all of our Restricted Subsidiaries are Guarantors. However, under the circumstances described below under the subheading “— Certain Covenants — Limitations on Designation of Unrestricted Subsidiaries,” the Issuer will be permitted to designate some of our other Subsidiaries as “Unrestricted Subsidiaries.” The effect of designating a Subsidiary as an “Unrestricted Subsidiary” will be:

- an Unrestricted Subsidiary will not be subject to many of the restrictive covenants in the indenture;
- a Subsidiary that has previously been a Guarantor and that is designated an Unrestricted Subsidiary will be released from its note guarantee; and
- the assets, income, cash flow and other financial results of an Unrestricted Subsidiary will not be consolidated with those of the Issuer for purposes of calculating compliance with the restrictive covenants contained in the Indenture.

The obligations of each Guarantor under its note guarantee will be limited to the maximum amount as will, after giving effect to all other contingent and fixed liabilities of such Guarantor (including, without limitation, any guarantees under the Credit Facilities permitted under clause (1) of “— Certain Covenants — Limitations on Additional Indebtedness”) and after giving effect to any collections from or payments made by or on behalf of any other Guarantor in respect of the obligations of such other Guarantor under its note guarantee or pursuant to its contribution obligations under the indenture, result in the obligations of such Guarantor under its note guarantee not constituting a fraudulent conveyance or fraudulent transfer under federal or state law. Each Guarantor that makes a payment for distribution under its note guarantee is entitled to a contribution from each other Guarantor in a *pro rata* amount based on adjusted net assets of each Guarantor.

In the event of a sale or other disposition of all of the assets of any Guarantor, by way of merger, consolidation or otherwise, or a sale or other disposition of all of the Equity Interests of any Guarantor then held by the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries, then that Guarantor will be released and relieved of any obligations under its note guarantee; *provided* that the Net Available Proceeds of such sale or other disposition shall be applied in accordance with the applicable provisions of the indenture, to the extent



required thereby. See “— Certain Covenants — Limitations on Asset Sales.” In addition, the indenture provides that any Guarantor that is designated as an Unrestricted Subsidiary or that otherwise ceases to be a Guarantor, in each case in accordance with the provisions of the indenture, will be released from its note guarantee upon effectiveness of such designation or when it first ceases to be a Restricted Subsidiary, as the case may be.

### Optional Redemption

Except as set forth below, the Notes may not be redeemed prior to May 1, 2009. At any time on or after May 1, 2009, the Issuer, at its option, may redeem the Notes, in whole or in part, at the redemption prices (expressed as percentages of principal amount) set forth below, together with accrued and unpaid interest thereon, if any, to the redemption date, if redeemed during the 12-month period beginning May 1 of the years indicated:

Year	Optional Redemption Price
2009	103.500%
2010	102.333%
2011	101.167%
2012 and thereafter	100.000%

At any time prior to May 1, 2007, the Issuer may redeem up to 35% of the aggregate principal amount of the Notes with the net cash proceeds of one or more Qualified Equity Offerings at a redemption price equal to 107% of the principal amount of the Notes to be redeemed, plus accrued and unpaid interest thereon, if any, to the date of redemption; *provided* that (1) at least 65% of the aggregate principal amount of Notes issued under the indenture remains outstanding immediately after the occurrence of such redemption and (2) the redemption occurs within 90 days of the date of the closing of any such Qualified Equity Offering.

The Issuer may acquire Notes by means other than a redemption, whether pursuant to an issuer tender offer, open market purchase or otherwise, so long as the acquisition does not otherwise violate the terms of the indenture.

### Selection and Notice of Redemption

In the event that less than all of the Notes are to be redeemed at any time pursuant to an optional redemption, selection of the Notes for redemption will be made by the trustee in compliance with the requirements of the principal national securities exchange, if any, on which the Notes are listed or, if the Notes are not then listed on a national security exchange, on a *pro rata* basis, by lot or by such method as the trustee shall deem fair and appropriate; *provided, however*, that no Notes of a principal amount of \$1,000 or less shall be redeemed in part. In addition, if a partial redemption is made pursuant to the provisions described in the second paragraph under “— Optional Redemption,” selection of the Notes or portions thereof for redemption shall be made by the trustee only on a *pro rata* basis or on as nearly a *pro rata* basis as is practicable (subject to the procedures of The Depository Trust Company), unless that method is otherwise prohibited.

Notice of redemption will be mailed by first-class mail at least 30 but not more than 60 days before the date of redemption to each holder of Notes to be redeemed at its registered address. If any Note is to be redeemed in part only, the notice of redemption that relates to that Note will state the portion of the principal amount of the Note to be redeemed. A new Note in a principal amount equal to the unredeemed portion of the Note will be issued in the name of the holder of the Note upon cancellation of the original Note. On and after the date of redemption, interest will cease to accrue on Notes or portions thereof called for redemption so long as the Issuer has deposited with the paying agent for the Notes funds in satisfaction of the redemption price (including accrued and unpaid interest on the Notes to be redeemed) pursuant to the indenture.

## Change of Control

Upon the occurrence of any Change of Control, each holder will have the right to require that the Issuer purchase that holder's Notes for a cash price (the "Change of Control Purchase Price") equal to 101% of the principal amount of the Notes to be purchased, plus accrued and unpaid interest thereon, if any, to the date of purchase.

Within 30 days following any Change of Control, the Issuer will mail, or caused to be mailed, to the holders a notice:

- (1) describing the transaction or transactions that constitute the Change of Control;
- (2) offering to purchase, pursuant to the procedures required by the indenture and described in the notice, on a date specified in the notice (which shall be a business day not earlier than 30 days nor later than 60 days from the date the notice is mailed) and for the Change of Control Purchase Price, all Notes properly tendered by such holder pursuant to such change of control offer; and
- (3) describing the procedures that holders must follow to accept the change of control offer. The change of control offer is required to remain open for at least 20 business days or for such longer period as is required by law.

The Issuer will publicly announce the results of the change of control offer on or as soon as practicable after the date of purchase.

If a change of control offer is made, there can be no assurance that the Issuer will have available funds sufficient to pay for all or any of the Notes that might be delivered by holders seeking to accept the change of control offer. In addition, we cannot assure you that in the event of a Change of Control the Issuer will be able to obtain the consents necessary to consummate a change of control offer from the lenders under agreements governing outstanding Indebtedness which may prohibit the offer.

The provisions described above that require us to make a change of control offer following a Change of Control will be applicable regardless of whether any other provisions of the indenture are applicable. Except as described above with respect to a Change of Control, the indenture does not contain provisions that permit the holders of the Notes to require that the Issuer purchase or redeem the Notes in the event of a takeover, recapitalization or similar transaction.

The Issuer's obligation to make a change of control offer will be satisfied if a third party makes the change of control offer in the manner and at the times and otherwise in compliance with the requirements applicable to a change of control offer made by the Issuer and purchases all Notes properly tendered and not withdrawn under the change of control offer.

A "Change of Control" includes certain sales of all or substantially all of the assets of the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries. The phrase "all or substantially all" as used in the indenture (including as set forth under "— Certain Covenants — Limitations on Mergers, Consolidations, Etc." below) varies according to the facts and circumstances of the subject transaction, has no clearly established meaning under New York law (which governs the indenture) and is subject to judicial interpretation. Accordingly, in certain circumstances there may be a degree of uncertainty in ascertaining whether a particular transaction would involve a disposition of "all or substantially all" of the assets of the Issuer, and therefore it may be unclear as to whether a Change of Control has occurred and whether the holders have the right to require the Issuer to purchase Notes.

The Issuer will comply with applicable tender offer rules, including the requirements of Rule 14e-1 under the Exchange Act and any other applicable laws and regulations in connection with the purchase of Notes pursuant to a change of control offer. To the extent that the provisions of any securities laws or regulations conflict with the "Change of Control" provisions of the indenture, the Issuer shall comply with the applicable securities laws and regulations and will not be deemed to have breached its obligations under the "Change of Control" provisions of the indenture by virtue of this compliance.

## Certain Covenants

The indenture contains, among others, the following covenants:

### *Limitations on Additional Indebtedness*

The Issuer will not, and will not permit any Restricted Subsidiary to, directly or indirectly, incur any Indebtedness; *provided* that the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary may incur additional Indebtedness (including Acquired Indebtedness) if no Default shall have occurred and be continuing at the time of or as a consequence of the incurrence of the Indebtedness and if, after giving effect thereto, either (a) the Consolidated Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio would be at least 2.00 to 1.00 or (b) the ratio of Consolidated Indebtedness to Consolidated Tangible Net Worth would be less than 3.00 to 1.00 (either (a) or (b), the **"Ratio Exception"**).

Notwithstanding the above, so long as no Default shall have occurred and be continuing at the time of or as a consequence of the incurrence of the following Indebtedness, each of the following shall be permitted (the **"Permitted Indebtedness"**):

- (1) Indebtedness of the Issuer and any Restricted Subsidiary under the Credit Facilities in an aggregate amount at any time outstanding (whether incurred under the Ratio Exception or as Permitted Indebtedness) not to exceed the greater of (x) \$165.0 million and (y) the amount of the Borrowing Base as of the date of such incurrence;
- (2) the Notes and the note guarantees issued on the Issue Date;
- (3) Indebtedness of the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries to the extent outstanding on the Issue Date (other than Indebtedness referred to in clauses (1) and (2) above, and after giving effect to the intended use of proceeds of the Notes);
- (4) Indebtedness of the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries under Hedging Obligations; *provided* that (a) such Hedging Obligations relate to payment obligations on Indebtedness otherwise permitted to be incurred by this covenant, and (b) the notional principal amount of such Hedging Obligations at the time incurred does not exceed the principal amount of the Indebtedness to which such Hedging Obligations relate;
- (5) Indebtedness of the Issuer owed to a Restricted Subsidiary and Indebtedness of any Restricted Subsidiary owed to the Issuer or any other Restricted Subsidiary; *provided, however*, that (a) any Indebtedness of the Issuer owed to a Restricted Subsidiary is unsecured and subordinated, pursuant to a written agreement, to the Issuer's obligation, under the indenture and the Notes and (b) upon any such Restricted Subsidiary ceasing to be a Restricted Subsidiary or such Indebtedness being owed to any person other than the Issuer or a Restricted Subsidiary, the Issuer or such Restricted Subsidiary, as applicable, shall be deemed to have incurred Indebtedness not permitted by this clause (5);
- (6) Indebtedness in respect of bid, performance or surety bonds issued for the account of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary in the ordinary course of business, including guarantees or obligations of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary with respect to letters of credit supporting such bid, performance or surety obligations (in each case other than for an obligation for money borrowed);
- (7) Purchase Money Indebtedness incurred by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary, in an aggregate amount not to exceed at any time outstanding \$15.0 million;
- (8) Non-Recourse Indebtedness of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary incurred for the acquisition, development and/or improvement of real property and secured by Liens only on such real property;
- (9) Indebtedness arising from the honoring by a bank or other financial institution of a check, draft or similar instrument inadvertently (except in the case of daylight overdrafts) drawn

against insufficient funds in the ordinary course of business; *provided, however*, that such Indebtedness is extinguished within five business days of incurrence;

- (10) Indebtedness arising in connection with endorsement of instruments for deposit in the ordinary course of business;
- (11) Refinancing Indebtedness with respect to Indebtedness incurred pursuant to the Ratio Exception or clause (2) or (3) above; and
- (12) Indebtedness of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$15.0 million at any time outstanding.

For purposes of determining compliance with this covenant, in the event that an item of Indebtedness meets the criteria of more than one of the categories of Permitted Indebtedness described in clauses (1) through (12) above or is entitled to be incurred pursuant to the Ratio Exception, the Issuer shall, in its sole discretion, classify such item of Indebtedness and may divide and classify such Indebtedness in more than one of the types of Indebtedness described, except that Indebtedness outstanding under the Credit Facilities on the Issue Date shall be deemed to have been incurred under clause (1) above.

#### ***Limitations on Layering Indebtedness***

The Issuer will not, and will not permit any Restricted Subsidiary to, directly or indirectly, incur any Indebtedness that is or purports to be by its terms (or by the terms of any agreement governing such Indebtedness) contractually subordinated to any other Indebtedness of the Issuer or of such Restricted Subsidiary, as the case may be, unless such Indebtedness is also by its terms (or by the terms of any agreement governing such Indebtedness) contractually made expressly subordinate to the Notes or the note guarantee of such Restricted Subsidiary, to the same extent and in the same manner as such Indebtedness is contractually subordinated to such other Indebtedness of the Issuer or such Restricted Subsidiary, as the case may be.

#### ***Limitations on Restricted Payments***

The Issuer will not, and will not permit any Restricted Subsidiary to, directly or indirectly, make any Restricted Payment if at the time of such Restricted Payment:

- (1) a Default shall have occurred and be continuing or shall occur as a consequence thereof;
- (2) the Issuer cannot incur \$1.00 of additional Indebtedness pursuant to the Ratio Exception; or
- (3) the amount of such Restricted Payment, when added to the aggregate amount of all other Restricted Payments made after the Measurement Date (other than Restricted Payments made pursuant to clause (2), (3) or (5) of the next paragraph), exceeds the sum (the “**Restricted Payments Basket**”) of (without duplication):
  - (a) 50% of Consolidated Net Income for the period (taken as one accounting period) commencing on the first day of the first full fiscal quarter commencing after the Measurement Date to and including the last day of the fiscal quarter ended immediately prior to the date of such calculation for which consolidated financial statements are available (or, if such Consolidated Net Income shall be a deficit, minus 100% of such aggregate deficit), *plus*
  - (b) 100% of the aggregate net cash proceeds or the fair market value of any assets to be used in a Permitted Business (other than securities) received by the Issuer either (x) as contributions to the common equity of the Issuer after the Measurement Date or (y) from the issuance and sale of Qualified Equity Interests after the Measurement Date, other than to the extent any such proceeds are used to redeem Notes in accordance with the second paragraph under “— Optional Redemption,” *plus*

(c) the aggregate amount by which Indebtedness of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary is reduced on the Issuer's balance sheet upon the conversion or exchange (other than by a Subsidiary of the Issuer) subsequent to the Measurement Date into Qualified Equity Interests (less the amount of any cash, or the fair value of assets, distributed by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary upon such conversion or exchange), *plus*

(d) in the case of the disposition or repayment of or return on any Investment that was treated as a Restricted Payment made after the Measurement Date, an amount (to the extent not included in the computation of Consolidated Net Income) equal to the lesser of (i) the return of capital with respect to such Investment and (ii) the amount of such Investment that was treated as a Restricted Payment, in either case, less the cost of the disposition of such Investment and net of taxes, *plus*

(e) upon a redesignation of an Unrestricted Subsidiary as a Restricted Subsidiary, the lesser of (i) the fair market value of the Issuer's proportionate interest in such Subsidiary immediately following such redesignation, and (ii) the aggregate amount of the Issuer's Investments in such Subsidiary to the extent such Investments reduced the amount available for subsequent Restricted Payments under this clause (3) and were not previously repaid or otherwise reduced, *plus*

(f) \$10.0 million.

The foregoing provisions will not prohibit:

(1) the payment by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary of any dividend within 60 days after the date of declaration thereof, if on the date of declaration the payment would have complied with the provisions of the indenture;

(2) so long as no Default shall have occurred and be continuing at the time of or as a consequence of such redemption, the redemption of any Equity Interests of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary in exchange for, or out of the proceeds of the substantially concurrent issuance and sale of, Qualified Equity Interests;

(3) so long as no Default shall have occurred and be continuing at the time of or as a consequence of such redemption, the redemption of Subordinated Indebtedness of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary (a) in exchange for, or out of the proceeds of the substantially concurrent issuance and sale of, Qualified Equity Interests or (b) in exchange for, or out of the proceeds of the substantially concurrent incurrence of, Refinancing Indebtedness permitted to be incurred under the "Limitations on Additional Indebtedness" covenant and the other terms of the Indenture;

(4) so long as no Default shall have occurred and be continuing at the time of or as a consequence of such redemption, the redemption of Equity Interests of the Issuer held by officers, directors or employees or former officers, directors or employees (or their transferees, estates or beneficiaries under their estates), upon their death, disability, retirement, severance or termination of employment or service; *provided* that the aggregate cash consideration paid for all such redemptions shall not exceed \$2.0 million during any calendar year (with unused amounts in any calendar year being carried over to succeeding calendar years subject to a maximum of \$4.0 million in any calendar year); or

(5) repurchases of Equity Interests deemed to occur upon the exercise of stock options if the Equity Interests represents a portion of the exercise price thereof;

*provided* that no issuance and sale of Qualified Equity Interests pursuant to clause (2) or (3) above shall increase the Restricted Payments Basket, except to the extent the proceeds thereof exceed the amounts used to effect the transactions described therein.

### **Maintenance of Consolidated Tangible Net Worth**

If the Issuer's Consolidated Tangible Net Worth declines below \$60.0 million at the end of any fiscal quarter, the Company must deliver an officers' certificate to the trustee within 55 days after the end of that fiscal quarter (110 days after the end of any fiscal year) to notify the trustee. If, on the last day of each of any two consecutive fiscal quarters (the last day of the second fiscal quarter being referred to as a "**Deficiency Date**"), the Issuer's Consolidated Tangible Net Worth is less than \$60.0 million, then the Issuer must make an offer to all holders of Notes to purchase 10% of the aggregate principal amount of the Notes originally issued (the "**Net Worth Offer Amount**") at a purchase price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the Notes, plus accrued and unpaid interest thereon, if any, to the date of purchase; *provided, however*, that no such net worth offer shall be required if, after the Deficiency Date but prior to the date the Issuer is required to make the net worth offer, capital in cash or Cash Equivalents is contributed for Qualified Equity Interests of the Issuer sufficient to increase the Issuer's Consolidated Tangible Net Worth after giving effect to such contribution to an amount equal to or above \$60.0 million.

The Issuer must make the net worth offer no later than 65 days after each Deficiency Date (120 days if such Deficiency Date is the last day of the Issuer's fiscal year). The net worth offer is required to remain open for a period of 20 business days following its commencement or for such longer period as required by law. The Issuer is required to purchase the Net Worth Offer Amount of the Notes on a designated date no later than five business days after the termination of the net worth offer, or if less than the Net Worth Offer Amount of Notes shall have been tendered, all Notes then tendered.

If the aggregate principal amount of Notes tendered exceeds the Net Worth Offer Amount, the Issuer is required to purchase the Notes tendered to *ipso rata* among the Notes tendered (with such adjustments as may be appropriate so that only Notes in denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples thereof shall be purchased).

In no event will the failure of the Issuer's Consolidated Tangible Net Worth to equal or exceed \$60.0 million at the end of any fiscal quarter be counted toward the requirement to make more than one net worth offer. The Issuer may reduce the principal amount of Notes to be purchased pursuant to the net worth offer by subtracting 100% of the principal amount (excluding premium) of the Notes redeemed by the Issuer prior to the purchase (otherwise than under this provision). The Issuer, however, may not credit Notes that have been previously used as a credit against any obligation to repurchase Notes pursuant to this provision.

The Issuer will comply with applicable tender offer rules, including the requirements of Rule 14e-1 under the Exchange Act and any other applicable laws and regulations in connection with the purchase of Notes pursuant to a net worth offer. To the extent that the provisions of any securities laws or regulations conflict with the "Net Worth Offer" provisions of the indenture, the Issuer shall comply with the applicable securities laws and regulations and will not be deemed to have breached its obligations under the "Net Worth Offer" provisions of the Indenture by virtue of this compliance.

If a net worth offer is made, there can be no assurance that the Issuer will have available funds sufficient to pay for all or any of the Notes that might be delivered by holders seeking to accept the net worth offer. In addition, we cannot assure you that the Issuer will be able to obtain the consents necessary to consummate a net worth offer from the lenders under agreements governing outstanding Indebtedness which may prohibit the offer.

The Issuer's Consolidated Tangible Net Worth was approximately \$345.5 million as of March 31, 2004.

### ***Limitations on Dividend and Other Restrictions Affecting Restricted Subsidiaries***

The Issuer will not, and will not permit any Restricted Subsidiary to, directly or indirectly, create or otherwise cause or permit to exist or become effective any consensual encumbrance or consensual restriction on the ability of any Restricted Subsidiary to:

- (a) pay dividends or make any other distributions on or in respect of its Equity Interests;
- (b) make loans or advances or pay any Indebtedness or other obligation owed to the Issuer or any other Restricted Subsidiary; or
- (c) transfer any of its assets to the Issuer or any other Restricted Subsidiary; except for:
  - (1) encumbrances or restrictions existing under or by reason of applicable law;
  - (2) encumbrances or restrictions existing under the indenture, the Notes and the note guarantees;
  - (3) non-assignment provisions of any contract or any lease entered into in the ordinary course of business;
  - (4) encumbrances or restrictions existing under agreements existing on the date of the indenture (including, without limitation, the Credit Facilities) as in effect on that date;
  - (5) restrictions on the transfer of assets subject to any Lien permitted under the indenture imposed by the holder of such Lien;
  - (6) restrictions on the transfer of assets imposed under any agreement to sell such assets permitted under the indenture to any person pending the closing of such sale;
  - (7) any instrument governing Acquired Indebtedness, which encumbrance or restriction is not applicable to any person, or the assets of any person, other than the person or the assets so acquired;
  - (8) encumbrances or restrictions arising in connection with Refinancing Indebtedness; *provided, however*, that any such encumbrances and restrictions are not materially more restrictive with respect to any Restricted Subsidiary than those in effect on the Issue Date with respect to that Restricted Subsidiary pursuant to the agreements creating or evidencing the Indebtedness being refinanced;
  - (9) customary provisions in leases, partnership agreements, limited liability company organizational governance documents, joint venture agreements and other similar agreements entered into in the ordinary course of business that restrict the transfer of leasehold interests or ownership interests in such partnership, limited liability company, joint venture or similar person;
  - (10) Purchase Money Indebtedness incurred in compliance with the covenant described under “— Limitations on Additional Indebtedness” that impose restrictions of the nature described in clause (c) above on the assets acquired; and
  - (11) any encumbrances or restrictions imposed by any amendments or refinancings of the contracts, instruments or obligations referred to in clauses (1) through (10) above; *provided* that such amendments or refinancings are, in the good faith judgment of the Issuer’s board of directors, no more materially restrictive with respect to such encumbrances and restrictions than those prior to such amendment or refinancing.

### ***Limitations on Transactions with Affiliates***

The Issuer will not, and will not permit any Restricted Subsidiary to, directly or indirectly, in one transaction or a series of related transactions, sell, lease, transfer or otherwise dispose of any of its assets to, or purchase any assets from, or enter into any contract, agreement, understanding, loan, advance or

guarantee with, or for the benefit of, any Affiliate involving aggregate consideration in excess of \$60,000 (an“**Affiliate Transaction**”), unless:

(1) such Affiliate Transaction is on terms that are no less favorable to the Issuer or the relevant Restricted Subsidiary than those that may have been obtained in a comparable transaction at such time on an arm’s-length basis by the Issuer or that Restricted Subsidiary from a person that is not an Affiliate of the Issuer or that Restricted Subsidiary; and

(2) the Issuer delivers to the trustee:

(a) with respect to any Affiliate Transaction involving aggregate value of \$1.0 million or more, an officers’ certificate certifying that such Affiliate Transaction complies with clause (1) above;

(b) with respect to any Affiliate Transaction involving aggregate value in excess of \$2.0 million, an officers’ certificate certifying that such Affiliate Transaction complies with clause (1) above and a secretary’s certificate which sets forth and authenticates a resolution that has been adopted by the Independent Directors approving such Affiliate Transaction; and

(c) with respect to any Affiliate Transaction involving aggregate value of \$10.0 million or more, the certificates described in the preceding clause (b) and (x) a written opinion as to the fairness of such Affiliate Transaction to the Issuer or such Restricted Subsidiary from a financial point of view or (y) a written appraisal supporting the value of such Affiliate Transaction, in either case, issued by an Independent Financial Advisor.

The foregoing restrictions shall not apply to:

(1) transactions exclusively between or among (a) the Issuer and one or more Restricted Subsidiaries or (b) Restricted Subsidiaries; *provided*, in each case, that no Affiliate of the Issuer (other than another Restricted Subsidiary) owns Equity Interests of any such Restricted Subsidiary;

(2) reasonable director, officer, employee and consultant compensation (including bonuses) and other benefits (including retirement, health, stock and other benefit plans) and indemnification arrangements;

(3) loans and advances permitted by clause (3) of the definition of “Permitted Investments”;

(4) any agreement as in effect as of the Issue Date or any extension, amendment or modification thereto (so long as any such extension, amendment or modification satisfies the requirements set forth in clause (1) of the first paragraph of this covenant) or any transaction contemplated thereby;

(5) Restricted Payments of the type described in clause (1), (2) or (4) of the definition of “Restricted Payment” and which are made in accordance with the covenant described under “— Limitations on Restricted Payments”; or

(6) sales of Qualified Equity Interests for cash by the Issuer to an Affiliate.

#### ***Limitations on Liens***

The Issuer shall not, and shall not permit any Restricted Subsidiary to, directly or indirectly, create, incur, assume or permit or suffer to exist any Lien of any nature whatsoever against (other than Permitted Liens) any assets of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary (including Equity Interests of a Restricted Subsidiary), whether owned at the Issue Date or thereafter acquired, or any proceeds therefrom, or assign or otherwise convey any right to receive income or profits therefrom, which Lien secures Indebtedness or trade payables, unless contemporaneously therewith:

(1) in the case of any Lien securing an obligation that ranks *pari passu* with the Notes or a note guarantee, effective provision is made to secure the Notes or such note guarantee, as the case



may be, at least equally and ratably with or prior to such obligation with a Lien on the same collateral; and

(2) in the case of any Lien securing an obligation that is subordinated in right of payment to the Notes or a note guarantee, effective provision is made to secure the Notes or such note guarantee, as the case may be, with a Lien on the same collateral that is prior to the Lien securing such subordinated obligation,

in each case, for so long as such obligation is secured by such Lien.

***Limitations on Asset Sales***

The Issuer will not, and will not permit any Restricted Subsidiary to, directly or indirectly, consummate any Asset Sale unless:

(1) the Issuer or such Restricted Subsidiary receives consideration at the time of such Asset Sale at least equal to the fair market value of the assets included in such Asset Sale; and

(2) at least 75% of the total consideration received in such Asset Sale or series of related Asset Sales consists of cash or Cash Equivalents.

For purposes of clause (2), the following shall be deemed to be cash:

(a) the amount (without duplication) of any Indebtedness (other than Subordinated Indebtedness) of the Issuer or such Restricted Subsidiary that is expressly assumed by the transferee in such Asset Sale and with respect to which the Issuer or such Restricted Subsidiary, as the case may be, is unconditionally released by the holder of such Indebtedness,

(b) the amount of any obligations received from such transferee that are within 30 days converted by the Issuer or such Restricted Subsidiary to cash (to the extent of the cash actually so received), and

(c) the fair market value of any assets (other than securities, unless such securities represent Equity Interests in an entity engaged solely in a Permitted Business, such entity becomes a Restricted Subsidiary and the Issuer or a Restricted Subsidiary acquires voting and management control of such entity) received by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary to be used by it in the Permitted Business.

If at any time any non-cash consideration received by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary of the Issuer, as the case may be, in connection with any Asset Sale is repaid or converted into or sold or otherwise disposed of for cash (other than interest received with respect to any such non-cash consideration), then the date of such repayment, conversion or disposition shall be deemed to constitute the date of an Asset Sale hereunder and the Net Available Proceeds thereof shall be applied in accordance with this covenant.

If the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary engages in an Asset Sale, the Issuer or such Restricted Subsidiary shall, no later than one year following the consummation thereof, apply all or any of the Net Available Proceeds therefrom to:

(1) repay any Indebtedness under the Credit Facilities;

(2) repay any Indebtedness which was secured by the assets sold in such Asset Sale; and/or

(3) invest all or any part of the Net Available Proceeds thereof in the purchase of assets (other than securities, unless such securities represent Equity Interests in an entity engaged solely in a Permitted Business, such entity becomes a Restricted Subsidiary and the Issuer or a Restricted Subsidiary acquires voting and management control of such entity) to be used by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary in the Permitted Business.

The amount of Net Available Proceeds not applied or invested as provided in this paragraph will constitute “**Excess Proceeds.**”

When the aggregate amount of Excess Proceeds equals or exceeds \$10.0 million, the Issuer will be required to make an offer to purchase from all holders and, if applicable, redeem (or make an offer to do so) any Pari Passu Indebtedness of the Issuer the provisions of which require the Issuer to redeem such Indebtedness with the proceeds from any Asset Sales (or offer to do so), in an aggregate principal amount of Notes and such Pari Passu Indebtedness equal to the amount of such Excess Proceeds as follows:

(1) the Issuer will (a) make an offer to purchase (a “**Net Proceeds Offer**”) to all holders in accordance with the procedures set forth in the indenture, and (b) redeem (or make an offer to do so) any such other Pari Passu Indebtedness, pro rata in proportion to the respective principal amounts of the Notes and such other Indebtedness required to be redeemed, the maximum principal amount of Notes and Pari Passu Indebtedness that may be redeemed out of the amount (the “**Payment Amount**”) of such Excess Proceeds;

(2) the offer price for the Notes will be payable in cash in an amount equal to 100% of the principal amount of the Notes tendered pursuant to a Net Proceeds Offer, plus accrued and unpaid interest thereon, if any, to the date such Net Proceeds Offer is consummated (the “**Offered Price**”), in accordance with the procedures set forth in the indenture and the redemption price for such Pari Passu Indebtedness (the “**Pari Passu Indebtedness Price**”) shall be as set forth in the related documentation governing such Indebtedness;

(3) if the aggregate Offered Price of Notes validly tendered and not withdrawn by holders thereof exceeds the *pro rata* portion of the Payment Amount allocable to the Notes, Notes to be purchased will be selected on a *pro rata* basis; and

(4) upon completion of such Net Proceeds Offer in accordance with the foregoing provisions, the amount of Excess Proceeds with respect to which such Net Proceeds Offer was made shall be deemed to be zero.

To the extent that the sum of the aggregate Offered Price of Notes tendered pursuant to a Net Proceeds Offer and the aggregate Pari Passu Indebtedness Price paid to the holders of such Pari Passu Indebtedness is less than the Payment Amount relating thereto, the Issuer may use such shortfall or a portion thereof, for general corporate purposes, subject to the provisions of the indenture.

In the event of the transfer of substantially all (but not all) of the assets of the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries as an entirety to a person in a transaction covered by and effected in accordance with the covenant described under “—Limitations on Mergers, Consolidations, Etc.,” the successor corporation shall be deemed to have sold for cash at fair market value the assets of the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries not so transferred for purposes of this covenant, and shall comply with the provisions of this covenant with respect to such deemed sale as if it were an Asset Sale (with such fair market value being deemed to be Net Available Proceeds for such purpose).

The Issuer will comply with applicable tender offer rules, including the requirements of Rule 14e-1 under the Exchange Act and any other applicable laws and regulations in connection with the purchase of Notes pursuant to a Net Proceeds Offer. To the extent that the provisions of any securities laws or regulations conflict with the “Limitations on Asset Sales” provisions of the indenture, the Issuer shall comply with the applicable securities laws and regulations and will not be deemed to have breached its obligations under the “Limitations on Asset Sales” provisions of the indenture by virtue of this compliance.

***Limitations on Designation of Unrestricted Subsidiaries***

The Issuer may designate any Subsidiary of the Issuer as an “Unrestricted Subsidiary” under the indenture (a “**Designation**”) only if:

(1) no Default shall have occurred and be continuing at the time of or after giving effect to such designation; and

(2) the Issuer would be permitted to make, at the time of such designation, (a) a Permitted Investment or (b) an Investment pursuant to the first paragraph of “— Limitations on Restricted Payments” above, in either case, in an amount (the “**Designation Amount**”) equal to the fair market value of the Issuer’s proportionate interest in such Subsidiary on such date.

No Subsidiary shall be Designated as an “Unrestricted Subsidiary” unless such Subsidiary:

(1) has no Indebtedness other than Permitted Unrestricted Subsidiary Debt;

(2) is not party to any agreement, contract, arrangement or understanding with the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary unless the terms of the agreement, contract, arrangement or understanding are no less favorable to the Issuer or the Restricted Subsidiary than those that might be obtained at the time from persons who are not Affiliates of the Issuer or such Restricted Subsidiary;

(3) is a person with respect to which neither the Issuer nor any Restricted Subsidiary has any direct or indirect obligation (a) to subscribe for additional Equity Interests or (b) to maintain or preserve the person’s financial condition or to cause the person to achieve any specified levels of operating results; and

(4) has not guaranteed or otherwise directly or indirectly provided credit support for any Indebtedness of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary, except for any guarantee given solely to support the pledge by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary of the Equity Interests of such Unrestricted Subsidiary, which guarantee is not recourse to the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary, and except to the extent the amount thereof constitutes a Restricted Payment permitted pursuant to the covenant described under “— Limitations on Restricted Payments.”

If, at any time, any Unrestricted Subsidiary fails to meet the preceding requirements as an Unrestricted Subsidiary, it shall thereafter cease to be an Unrestricted Subsidiary for purposes of the indenture and any indebtedness of the Subsidiary and any Liens on assets of such Subsidiary shall be deemed to be incurred by a Restricted Subsidiary as of the date and, if the Indebtedness is not permitted to be incurred under the covenant described under “— Limitations on Additional Indebtedness” or the Lien is not permitted under the covenant described under “— Limitations on Liens,” the Issuer shall be in default of the applicable covenant.

As of the date this prospectus, the Issuer has designated MTH Mortgage, LLC and Texas Home Mortgage Company as Unrestricted Subsidiaries.

The Issuer may redesignate an Unrestricted Subsidiary as a Restricted Subsidiary only if:

(1) no Default shall have occurred and be continuing at the time of and after giving effect to such redesignation; and

(2) all Liens, Indebtedness and Investments of such Unrestricted Subsidiary outstanding immediately following such redesignation would, if incurred or made at such time, have been permitted to be incurred or made for all purposes of the indenture.

All designations and redesignations must be evidenced by resolutions of the board of directors of the Issuer, delivered to the Trustee certifying compliance with the foregoing provisions.

**Limitations on Mergers, Consolidations, Etc.**

The Issuer will not, directly or indirectly, in a single transaction or a series of related transactions, (a) consolidate or merge with or into (other than a merger that satisfies the requirements of clause (1) below with a Wholly-Owned Restricted Subsidiary solely for the purpose of changing the Issuer's jurisdiction of incorporation to another State of the United States), or sell, lease, transfer, convey or otherwise dispose of or assign all or substantially all of the assets of the Issuer or the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries (taken as a whole) or (b) adopt a plan of liquidation unless, in either case:

(1) either:

(a) the Issuer will be the surviving or continuing person; or

(b) the person formed by or surviving such consolidation or merger or to which such sale, lease, conveyance or other disposition shall be made (or, in the case of a plan of liquidation, any person to which assets are transferred) (collectively, the "Successor") is a corporation or limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of any State of the United States of America or the District of Columbia, and the Successor expressly assumes, by supplemental indenture in form and substance satisfactory to the trustee, all of the obligations of the Issuer under the Notes, the indenture and the Registration Rights Agreement; *provided that* at any time the Successor is a limited liability company, there shall be a co-issuer of the Notes that is a corporation;

(2) immediately prior to and immediately after giving effect to such transaction and the assumption of the obligations as set forth in clause (1)(b) above and the incurrence of any Indebtedness to be incurred in connection therewith, no Default shall have occurred and be continuing; and

(3) immediately after and giving effect to such transaction and the assumption of the obligations set forth in clause (1)(b) above and the incurrence of any Indebtedness to be incurred in connection therewith, and the use of any net proceeds therefrom on a pro forma basis, (a) the Consolidated Net Worth of the Issuer or the Successor, as the case may be, would be at least equal to the Consolidated Net Worth of the Issuer immediately prior to such transaction and (b) the Issuer or the Successor, as the case may be, could incur \$1.00 of additional Indebtedness pursuant to the Ratio Exception.

For purposes of this covenant, any Indebtedness of the Successor which was not Indebtedness of the Issuer immediately prior to the transaction shall be deemed to have been incurred in connection with such transaction.

Except as provided under the caption "— Note Guarantees," no Guarantor may consolidate with or merge with or into (whether or not such Guarantor is the surviving person) another person, whether or not affiliated with such Guarantor, unless:

(1) either:

(a) such Guarantor will be the surviving or continuing person; or

(b) the person formed by or surviving any such consolidation or merger assumes, by supplemental indenture in form and substance satisfactory to the trustee, all of the obligations of such Guarantor under the note guarantee of such Guarantor, the indenture and the Registration Rights Agreement; and

(2) immediately after giving effect to such transaction, no Default shall have occurred and be continuing.

For purposes of the foregoing, the transfer (by lease, assignment, sale or otherwise, in a single transaction or series of transactions) of all or substantially all of the assets of one or more Restricted

Subsidiaries, the Equity Interests of which constitute all or substantially all of the assets of the Issuer, will be deemed to be the transfer of all or substantially all of the assets of the Issuer.

Upon any consolidation, combination or merger of the Issuer or a Guarantor, or any transfer of all or substantially all of the assets of the Issuer in accordance with the foregoing, in which the Issuer or such Guarantor is not the continuing obligor under the Notes or its note guarantee, the surviving entity formed by such consolidation or into which the Issuer or such Guarantor is merged or to which the conveyance, lease or transfer is made will succeed to, and be substituted for, and may exercise every right and power of, the Issuer or such Guarantor under the indenture, the Notes and the note guarantees with the same effect as if such surviving entity had been named therein as the Issuer or such Guarantor and, except in the case of a conveyance, transfer or lease, the Issuer or such Guarantor, as the case may be, will be released from the obligation to pay the principal of and interest on the Notes or in respect of its note guarantee, as the case may be, and all of the Issuer's or such Guarantor's other obligations and covenants under the Notes, the indenture and its note guarantee, if applicable.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, any Restricted Subsidiary may merge into the Issuer or another Restricted Subsidiary.

#### ***Additional Note Guarantees***

If, after the Issue Date, (a) the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary shall acquire or create another Subsidiary (other than a Subsidiary that has been designated an Unrestricted Subsidiary) or (b) any Unrestricted Subsidiary is redesignated a Restricted Subsidiary, then, in each such case, the Issuer shall cause such Restricted Subsidiary to:

- (1) execute and deliver to the trustee (a) a supplemental indenture in form and substance satisfactory to the trustee pursuant to which such Restricted Subsidiary shall unconditionally guarantee all of the Issuer's obligations under the Notes and the indenture and (b) a notation of guarantee in respect of its note guarantee; and
- (2) deliver to the trustee one or more opinions of counsel that such supplemental indenture (a) has been duly authorized, executed and delivered by such Restricted Subsidiary and (b) constitutes a valid and legally binding obligation of such Restricted Subsidiary in accordance with its terms.

#### ***Conduct of Business***

The Issuer will not, and will not permit any Restricted Subsidiary to, engage in any business other than the Permitted Business.

#### ***Reports***

Whether or not required by the SEC, so long as any Notes are outstanding, the Issuer will furnish to the holders of Notes, within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and regulations (including any grace periods or extensions permitted by the SEC):

- (1) all quarterly and annual financial information that would be required to be contained in a filing with the SEC on Forms 10-Q and 10-K if the Issuer were required to file these Forms, including a "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and, with respect to the annual information only, a report on the annual financial statements by the Issuer's certified independent accountants; and
- (2) all current reports that would be required to be filed with the SEC on Form 8-K if the Issuer were required to file these reports.

In addition, whether or not required by the SEC, the Issuer will file a copy of all of the information and reports referred to in clauses (1) and (2) above with the SEC for public availability within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and regulations (unless the SEC will not accept the filing) and make

the information available to securities analysts and prospective investors upon request. The Issuer and the Guarantors have agreed that, for so long as any Notes remain outstanding, the Issuer will furnish to the holders and to securities analysts and prospective investors, upon their request, the information required to be delivered pursuant to Rule 144A(d)(4) under the Securities Act.

#### Events of Default

Each of the following is an “Event of Default”:

- (1) failure by the Issuer to pay interest on any of the Notes when it becomes due and payable and the continuance of any such failure for 30 days;
- (2) failure by the Issuer to pay the principal on any of the Notes when it becomes due and payable, whether at stated maturity, upon redemption, upon purchase, upon acceleration or otherwise;
- (3) failure by the Issuer to comply with any of its agreements or covenants described above under “— Certain Covenants — Limitations on Mergers, Consolidations, Etc.,” or in respect of its obligations to make a change of control offer as described above under “— Change of Control”;
- (4) failure by the Issuer to comply with any other agreement or covenant in the indenture and continuance of this failure for 30 days after notice of the failure has been given to the Issuer by the trustee or by the holders of at least 25% of the aggregate principal amount of the Notes then outstanding;
- (5) default under any mortgage, indenture or other instrument or agreement under which there may be issued or by which there may be secured or evidenced Indebtedness of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary, whether such Indebtedness now exists or is incurred after the Issue Date, which default:
  - (a) is caused by a failure to pay when due principal on such Indebtedness within the applicable express grace period,
  - (b) results in the acceleration of such Indebtedness prior to its express final maturity or
  - (c) results in the commencement of judicial proceedings to foreclose upon, or to exercise remedies under applicable law or applicable security documents to take ownership of, the assets securing such Indebtedness, and

in each case, the principal amount of such Indebtedness, together with any other Indebtedness with respect to which an event described in clause (a), (b) or (c) has occurred and is continuing, aggregates \$10.0 million or more;

- (6) one or more judgments or orders that exceed \$10.0 million in the aggregate (net of amounts covered by insurance or bonded) for the payment of money have been entered by a court or courts of competent jurisdiction against the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary and such judgment or judgments have not been satisfied, stayed, annulled or rescinded within 60 days of being entered;
- (7) the Issuer or any Significant Subsidiary pursuant to or within the meaning of any bankruptcy law:
  - (a) commences a voluntary case,
  - (b) consents to the entry of an order for relief against it in an involuntary case,
  - (c) consents to the appointment of a custodian of it or for all or substantially all of its assets, or
  - (d) makes a general assignment for the benefit of its creditors;

(8) a court of competent jurisdiction enters an order or decree under any bankruptcy law that:

(a) is for relief against the Issuer or any Significant Subsidiary as debtor in an involuntary case,

(b) appoints a custodian of the Issuer or any Significant Subsidiary or a custodian for all or substantially all of the assets of the Issuer or any Significant Subsidiary, or

(c) orders the liquidation of the Issuer or any Significant Subsidiary,

and the order or decree remains unstayed and in effect for 60 days; or

(9) any note guarantee of any Significant Subsidiary ceases to be in full force and effect (other than in accordance with the terms of such note guarantee and the indenture) or is declared null and void and unenforceable or found to be invalid or any Guarantor denies its liability under its note guarantee (other than by reason of release of a Guarantor from its note guarantee in accordance with the terms of the indenture and the note guarantee).

If an Event of Default (other than an Event of Default specified in clause (7) or (8) above with respect to the Issuer), shall have occurred and be continuing under the indenture, the trustee, by written notice to the Issuer, or the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the Notes then outstanding by written notice to the Issuer and the trustee, may declare all amounts owing under the Notes to be due and payable immediately. Upon such declaration of acceleration, the aggregate principal of and accrued and unpaid interest on the outstanding Notes shall immediately become due and payable; *provided, however*, that after such acceleration, but before a judgment or decree based on acceleration, the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of such outstanding Notes may, under certain circumstances, rescind and annul such acceleration if all Events of Default, other than the nonpayment of accelerated principal and interest, have been cured or waived as provided in the indenture. If an Event of Default specified in clause (7) or (8) with respect to the Issuer occurs, all outstanding Notes shall become due and payable without any further action or notice.

The trustee shall, within 30 days after the occurrence of any Default with respect to the Notes, give the holders notice of all uncured Defaults thereunder known to it; *provided, however*, that, except in the case of an Event of Default in payment with respect to the Notes or a Default in complying with “— Certain Covenants — Limitations on Mergers, Consolidations, Etc.,” the trustee shall be protected in withholding such notice if and so long as a committee of its trust officers in good faith determines that the withholding of such notice is in the interest of the holders.

No holder will have any right to institute any proceeding with respect to the indenture or for any remedy thereunder, unless the trustee:

(1) has failed to act for a period of 60 days after receiving written notice of a continuing Event of Default by such holder and a request to act by holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of Notes outstanding;

(2) has been offered indemnity satisfactory to it in its reasonable judgment; and

(3) has not received from the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Notes a direction inconsistent with such request.

However, such limitations do not apply to a suit instituted by a holder of any Note for enforcement of payment of the principal of or interest on such Note on or after the due date therefor (after giving effect to the grace period specified in clause (1) of the first paragraph of this “— Events of Default” section).

The Issuer is required to deliver to the trustee annually a statement regarding compliance with the indenture and, upon any officer of the Issuer becoming aware of any Default, a statement specifying such Default and what action the Issuer is taking or proposes to take with respect thereto.

## Legal Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance

The Issuer may, at its option and at any time, elect to have its obligations and the obligations of the Guarantors discharged with respect to the outstanding Notes. Legal defeasance means that the Issuer and the Guarantors shall be deemed to have paid and discharged the entire indebtedness represented by the Notes and the note guarantees, and the Indenture shall cease to be of further effect as to all outstanding Notes and note guarantees, except as to

- (1) rights of holders to receive payments in respect of the principal of and interest on the Notes when such payments are due from the trust funds referred to below,
- (2) the Issuer's obligations with respect to the Notes concerning issuing temporary Notes, registration of Notes, mutilated, destroyed, lost or stolen Notes, and the maintenance of an office or agency for payment and money for security payments held in trust,
- (3) the rights, powers, trust, duties, and immunities of the trustee, and the Issuer's obligation in connection therewith, and
- (4) the legal defeasance provisions of the Indenture.

In addition, the Issuer may, at its option and at any time, elect to have its obligations and the obligations of the Guarantors released with respect to most of the covenants under the indenture, except as described otherwise in the indenture, and thereafter any omission to comply with such obligations shall not constitute a Default. In the event covenant defeasance occurs, certain Events of Default (not including non-payment and, solely for a period of 91 days following the deposit referred to in clause (1) of the next paragraph, bankruptcy, receivership, rehabilitation and insolvency events) will no longer apply. Covenant defeasance will not be effective until such bankruptcy, receivership, rehabilitation and insolvency events no longer apply. The Issuer may exercise its legal defeasance option regardless of whether it previously exercised covenant defeasance.

In order to exercise either legal defeasance or covenant defeasance:

- (1) the Issuer must irrevocably deposit with the trustee, in trust, for the benefit of the holders, U.S. legal tender, U.S. Government obligations or a combination thereof, in such amounts as will be sufficient (without reinvestment) in the opinion of a nationally recognized firm of independent public accountants selected by the Issuer, to pay the principal of and interest on the Notes on the stated date for payment or on the redemption date of the principal or installment of principal of or interest on the Notes, and the trustee must have a valid, perfected, exclusive security interest in such trust,
- (2) in the case of legal defeasance, the Issuer shall have delivered to the trustee an opinion of counsel in the United States reasonably acceptable to the trustee confirming that:
  - (a) the Issuer has received from, or there has been published by the Internal Revenue Service, a ruling, or
  - (b) since the date of the indenture, there has been a change in the applicable U.S. federal income tax law,

in either case to the effect that, and based thereon this opinion of counsel shall confirm that, the holders will not recognize income, gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a result of the legal defeasance and will be subject to U.S. federal income tax on the same amounts, in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if such legal defeasance had not occurred,

- (3) in the case of covenant defeasance, the Issuer shall have delivered to the trustee an opinion of counsel in the United States reasonably acceptable to the trustee confirming that the holders will not recognize income, gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a result of such covenant defeasance and will be subject to U.S. federal income tax on the same amounts, in



the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if the covenant defeasance had not occurred,

(4) no Default shall have occurred and be continuing on the date of such deposit (other than a Default resulting from the borrowing of funds to be applied to such deposit and the grant of any Lien securing such borrowing),

(5) the legal defeasance or covenant defeasance shall not result in a breach or violation of, or constitute a default under the Indenture or any other material agreement or instrument to which the Issuer or any of its Subsidiaries is a party or by which the Issuer or any of its Subsidiaries is bound,

(6) the Issuer shall have delivered to the trustee an officers' certificate stating that the deposit was not made by it with the intent of preferring the holders over any other of its creditors or with the intent of defeating, hindering, delaying or defrauding any other of its creditors or others, and

(7) the Issuer shall have delivered to the trustee an officers' certificate and an opinion of counsel, each stating that the conditions provided for in, in the case of the officers' certificate, clauses (1) through (6) and, in the case of the opinion of counsel, clauses (1) (with respect to the validity and perfection of the security interest), (2) and/or (3) and (5) of this paragraph have been complied with.

If the funds deposited with the trustee to effect covenant defeasance are insufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the Notes when due, then our obligations and the obligations of Guarantors under the indenture will be revived and no such defeasance will be deemed to have occurred.

#### **Satisfaction and Discharge**

The Indenture will be discharged and will cease to be of further effect (except as to rights of registration of transfer or exchange of Notes which shall survive until all Notes have been canceled) as to all outstanding Notes when either

(1) all the Notes that have been authenticated and delivered (except lost, stolen or destroyed Notes which have been replaced or paid and Notes for whose payment money has been deposited in trust or segregated and held in trust by the Issuer and thereafter repaid to the Issuer or discharged from this trust) have been delivered to the trustee for cancellation, or

(2) (a) all Notes not delivered to the trustee for cancellation otherwise have become due and payable or have been called for redemption pursuant to the provisions described under "— Optional Redemption," and the Issuer has irrevocably deposited or caused to be deposited with the trustee trust funds in trust in an amount of money sufficient to pay and discharge the entire Indebtedness (including all principal and accrued interest) on the Notes not theretofore delivered to the trustee for cancellation,

(b) the Issuer has paid all sums payable by it under the indenture,

(c) the Issuer has delivered irrevocable instructions to the trustee to apply the deposited money toward the payment of the Notes at maturity or on the date of redemption, as the case may be, and

(d) the trustee, for the benefit of the holders, has a valid, perfected, exclusive security interest in this trust.

In addition, the Issuer must deliver an officers' certificate and an opinion of counsel (as to legal matters) stating that all conditions precedent to satisfaction and discharge have been complied with.

## Transfer and Exchange

A holder will be able to register the transfer of or exchange notes only in accordance with the provisions of the indenture. The registrar may require a holder, among other things, to furnish appropriate endorsements and transfer documents and to pay any taxes and fees required by law or permitted by the indenture. Without the prior consent of the Issuer, the registrar is not required (1) to register the transfer of or exchange any Note selected for redemption, (2) to register the transfer of or exchange any Note for a period of 15 days before a selection of Notes to be redeemed or (3) to register the transfer or exchange of a Note between a record date and the next succeeding interest payment date.

The Notes will be issued in registered form and the registered holder will be treated as the owner of such Note for all purposes.

## Amendment, Supplement and Waiver

Subject to certain exceptions, the indenture or the Notes may be amended with the consent (which may include consents obtained in connection with a tender offer or exchange offer for Notes) of the holders of at least a majority in principal amount of the Notes then outstanding, and any existing Default under, or compliance with any provision of, the Indenture may be waived (other than any continuing Default in the payment of the principal or interest on the Notes) with the consent (which may include consents obtained in connection with a tender offer or exchange offer for Notes) of the holders of a majority in principal amount of the Notes then outstanding; *provided that*:

(a) no such amendment may, without the consent of the holders of two-thirds in aggregate principal amount of Notes then outstanding, amend the obligation of the Issuer under the heading “— Change of Control” or the related definitions that could adversely affect the rights of any holder; and

(b) without the consent of each holder affected, the Issuer and the trustee may not:

- (1) change the maturity of any Note;
- (2) reduce the amount, extend the due date or otherwise affect the terms of any scheduled payment of interest on or principal of the Notes;
- (3) reduce any premium payable upon optional redemption of the Notes, change the date on which any Notes are subject to redemption or otherwise alter the provisions with respect to the redemption of the Notes;
- (4) make any Note payable in money or currency other than that stated in the Notes;
- (5) modify or change any provision of the indenture or the related definitions to affect the ranking of the Notes or any note guarantee in a manner that adversely affects the holders;
- (6) reduce the percentage of holders necessary to consent to an amendment or waiver to the indenture or the Notes;
- (7) impair the rights of holders to receive payments of principal of or interest on the Notes;
- (8) release any Guarantor from any of its obligations under its note guarantee or the indenture, except as permitted by the indenture; or
- (9) make any change in these amendment and waiver provisions.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Issuer and the trustee may amend the indenture, the note guarantees or the Notes without the consent of any holder, to cure any ambiguity, defect or inconsistency, to provide for uncertificated Notes in addition to or in place of certificated Notes, to provide for the assumption of the Issuer’s obligations to the holders in the case of a merger or acquisition, to release any Guarantor from any of its obligations under its note guarantee or the indenture (to the extent permitted by

the indenture), to make any change that does not materially adversely affect the rights of any holder or, in the case of the indenture, to maintain the qualification of the indenture under the Trust Indenture Act.

#### **No Personal Liability of Directors, Officers, Employees and Stockholders**

No director, officer, employee, incorporator or stockholder of the Issuer will have any liability for any obligations of the Issuer under the Notes or the indenture or of any Guarantor under its note guarantee or for any claim based on, in respect of, or by reason of, such obligations or their creation. Each holder by accepting a Note waives and releases all such liability. The waiver and release are part of the consideration for issuance of the Notes and the note guarantees.

#### **Concerning the Trustee**

Wells Fargo Bank, National Association is the trustee under the indenture and has been appointed by the Issuer as registrar and paying agent with regard to the Notes. The indenture contains certain limitations on the rights of the trustee, should it become a creditor of the Issuer, to obtain payment of claims in certain cases, or to realize on certain assets received in respect of any such claim as security or otherwise. The trustee will be permitted to engage in other transactions; however, if it acquires any conflicting interest (as defined in the indenture), it must eliminate such conflict or resign.

The holders of a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes will have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for exercising any remedy available to the trustee, subject to certain exceptions. The indenture provides that, in case an Event of Default occurs and is not cured, the trustee will be required, in the exercise of its power, to use the degree of care of a prudent person in similar circumstances in the conduct of his or her own affairs. Subject to such provisions, the trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers under the indenture at the request of any holder, unless such holder shall have offered to the trustee security and indemnity satisfactory to the trustee.

#### **Governing Law**

The indenture, the Notes and the note guarantees are governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York.

#### **Certain Definitions**

Set forth below is a summary of certain of the defined terms used in the indenture. Reference is made to the indenture for the full definition of all such terms.

**“Acquired Indebtedness”** means (1) with respect to any person that becomes a Restricted Subsidiary after the Issue Date, Indebtedness of such person and its Subsidiaries existing at the time such person becomes a Restricted Subsidiary that was not incurred in connection with, or in contemplation of, such person becoming a Restricted Subsidiary and (2) with respect to the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary, any Indebtedness of a person (other than the Issuer or a Restricted Subsidiary) existing at the time such person is merged with or into the Issuer or a Restricted Subsidiary, or Indebtedness expressly assumed by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary in connection with the acquisition of an asset or assets from another person, which Indebtedness was not, in any case, incurred by such other person in connection with, or in contemplation of, such merger or acquisition.

**“Affiliate”** of any person means any other person which directly or indirectly controls or is controlled by, or is under direct or indirect common control with, the referent person. For purposes of the covenant described under “— Certain Covenants — Limitations on Transactions with Affiliates,” Affiliates shall be deemed to include, with respect to any person, any other person (1) which beneficially owns or holds, directly or indirectly, 10% or more of any class of the voting stock of the referent person, (2) of which 10% or more of the voting stock is beneficially owned or held, directly or indirectly, by the referenced person or (3) with respect to an individual, any immediate family member of such person. For purposes of

this definition, **“control”** of a person shall mean the power to direct the management and policies of such person, directly or indirectly, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by contract or otherwise.

**“Asset Acquisition”** means

(1) an Investment by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary of the Issuer in any other person if, as a result of such Investment, such person shall become a Restricted Subsidiary of the Issuer, or shall be merged with or into the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary of the Issuer, or

(2) the acquisition by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary of the Issuer of all or substantially all of the assets of any other person or any division or line of business of any other person.

**“Asset Sale”** means any sale, issuance, conveyance, transfer, lease, assignment or other disposition by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary to any person other than the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary (including by means of a Sale and Leaseback Transaction or a merger or consolidation), in one transaction or a series of related transactions, of any assets (including Equity Interests) of the Issuer or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries other than in the ordinary course of business. For purposes of this definition, the term **“Asset Sale”** shall not include:

(1) transfers of cash or Cash Equivalents;

(2) transfers of assets (including Equity Interests) that are governed by, and made in accordance with, the provisions described under **“— Certain Covenants — Limitations on Mergers, Consolidations, Etc.”**;

(3) Permitted Investments and Restricted Payments permitted under the covenant described under **“— Certain Covenants — Limitations on Restricted Payments”**;

(4) the creation or realization of any Permitted Lien;

(5) transactions in the ordinary course of business, including, without limitation, sales (directly or indirectly), dedications and other donations to governmental authorities, leases and sales and leasebacks of (A) homes, improved land and unimproved land and (B) real estate (including related amenities and improvements);

(6) dispositions of mortgage loans and related assets and mortgage-backed securities in the ordinary course of a mortgage lending business; and

(7) any transfer or series of related transfers that, but for this clause, would be Asset Sales, if after giving effect to such transfers, the aggregate fair market value of the assets transferred in such transaction or any such series of related transactions does not exceed \$1.0 million.

**“Attributable Indebtedness”**, when used with respect to any Sale and Leaseback Transaction, means, as at the time of determination, the present value (discounted at a rate equivalent to the Issuer’s then-current weighted average cost of funds for borrowed money as at the time of determination, compounded on a semi-annual basis) of the total obligations of the lessee for rental payments during the remaining term of any Capitalized Lease included in any such Sale and Leaseback Transaction.

**“Borrowing Base”** means, at any time of determination, the sum of the following without duplication:

(1) 100% of all cash and Cash Equivalents held by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary;

(2) 75% of the book value of Developed Land for which no construction has occurred;

(3) 95% of the cost of the land and construction costs including capitalized interest (as reasonably allocated by the Issuer) for all Units for which there is an executed purchase contract with a buyer not Affiliated with the Issuer, less any deposits, down payments or earnest money;

(4) 80% of the cost of the land and construction costs including capitalized interest (as reasonably allocated by the Issuer) for all Units for which construction has begun and for which there is not an executed purchase agreement with a buyer not Affiliated with the Company; and

(5) 50% of the costs of Entitled Land (other than Developed Land) on which improvements have not commenced, less mortgage Indebtedness (other than under a Credit Facility) applicable to such land.

**“Capitalized Lease”** means a lease required to be capitalized for financial reporting purposes in accordance with GAAP.

**“Capitalized Lease Obligations”** of any person means the obligations of such person to pay rent or other amounts under a Capitalized Lease, and the amount of such obligation shall be the capitalized amount thereof determined in accordance with GAAP.

**“Cash Equivalents”** means:

(1) marketable obligations with a maturity of 360 days or less issued or directly and fully guaranteed or insured by the United States of America or any agency or instrumentality thereof;

(2) demand and time deposits and certificates of deposit or acceptances with a maturity of 180 days or less of any financial institution that is a member of the Federal Reserve System having combined capital and surplus and undivided profits of not less than \$500 million and is assigned at least a “B” rating by Thomson Financial BankWatch;

(3) commercial paper maturing no more than 180 days from the date of creation thereof issued by a corporation that is not the Issuer or an Affiliate of the Issuer, and is organized under the laws of any State of the United States of America or the District of Columbia and rated at least A-1 by S&P or at least P-1 by Moody’s;

(4) repurchase obligations with a term of not more than ten days for underlying securities of the types described in clause (1) above entered into with any commercial bank meeting the specifications of clause (2) above; and

(5) investments in money market or other mutual funds substantially all of whose assets comprise securities of the types described in clauses (1) through (4) above.

**“Change of Control”** means the occurrence of any of the following events:

(1) any “person” or “group” (as such terms are used in Sections 13(d) and 14(d) of the Exchange Act), other than one or more Permitted Holders, is or becomes the beneficial owner (as defined in Rules 13d-3 and 13d-5 under the Exchange Act, except that for purposes of this clause that person or group shall be deemed to have “beneficial ownership” of all securities that any such person or group has the right to acquire, whether such right is exercisable immediately or only after the passage of time), directly or indirectly, of voting stock representing more than 50% of the voting power of the total outstanding voting stock of the Issuer;

(2) during any period of two consecutive years, individuals who at the beginning of such period constituted the board of directors (together with any new directors whose election to such board of directors or whose nomination for election by the stockholders of the Issuer was approved by a vote of the majority of the directors of the Issuer then still in office who were either directors at the beginning of such period or whose election or nomination for election was previously so approved) cease for any reason to constitute a majority of the board of directors of the Issuer;

(3) (a) all or substantially all of the assets of the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries are sold or otherwise transferred to any person other than a Wholly-Owned Restricted Subsidiary or one or more Permitted Holders or (b) the Issuer consolidates or merges with or into another person other than a Permitted Holder or any person other than a Permitted Holder consolidates or merges with or into the Issuer, in either case under this clause (3), in one transaction or a series of related

transactions in which immediately after the consummation thereof persons owning voting stock representing in the aggregate 100% of the total voting power of the voting stock of the Issuer immediately prior to such consummation do not own voting stock representing a majority of the total voting power of the voting stock of the Issuer or the surviving or transferee person; or

(4) the Issuer shall adopt a plan of liquidation or dissolution or any such plan shall be approved by the stockholders of the Issuer.

**“Consolidated Amortization Expense”** for any period means the amortization expense of the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries for such period, determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP.

**“Consolidated Cash Flow Available for Fixed Charges”** for any period means, without duplication, the sum of the amounts for such period of

(1) Consolidated Net Income, *plus*

(2) in each case only to the extent (and in the same proportion) deducted in determining Consolidated Net Income and with respect to the portion of Consolidated Net Income attributable to any Restricted Subsidiary only if a corresponding amount would be permitted at the date of determination to be distributed to the Issuer by such Restricted Subsidiary without prior approval (that has not been obtained), pursuant to the terms of its charter and all agreements, instruments, judgments, decrees, orders, statutes, rules and governmental regulations applicable to such Restricted Subsidiary or its stockholders,

(a) Consolidated Income Tax Expense,

(b) Consolidated Amortization Expense (but only to the extent not included in Consolidated Interest Expense),

(c) Consolidated Depreciation Expense,

(d) Consolidated Interest Expense and interest and other charges amortized to cost of home sales and cost of land sales, and

(e) all other non-cash items reducing the Consolidated Net Income (excluding any non-cash charge that results in an accrual of a reserve for cash charges in any future period) for such period,

in each case determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP, *minus*

(3) the aggregate amount of all non-cash items, determined on a consolidated basis, to the extent such items increased Consolidated Net Income for such period.

**“Consolidated Depreciation Expense”** for any period means the depreciation expense of the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries for such period, determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP.

**“Consolidated Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio”** means the ratio of Consolidated Cash Flow Available for Fixed Charges during the most recent four consecutive full fiscal quarters for which financial statements are available (the **“Four-Quarter Period”**) ending on or prior to the date of the transaction giving rise to the need to calculate the Consolidated Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio (the **“Transaction Date”**) to Consolidated Interest Incurred for the Four-Quarter Period. For purposes of this definition, Consolidated Cash Flow Available for Fixed Charges and Consolidated Interest Incurred shall be calculated after giving effect on a pro forma basis for the period of such calculation to:

(1) the incurrence of any Indebtedness or the issuance of any preferred stock of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary (and the application of the proceeds thereof) and any repayment of other Indebtedness or redemption of other preferred stock (and the application of the proceeds therefrom) (other than the incurrence or repayment of Indebtedness in the ordinary course of

business for working capital purposes pursuant to any revolving credit arrangement) occurring during the Four-Quarter Period or at any time subsequent to the last day of the Four-Quarter Period and on or prior to the Transaction Date, as if such incurrence, repayment, issuance or redemption, as the case may be (and the application of the proceeds thereof), occurred on the first day of the Four-Quarter Period; and

(2) any Asset Sale or Asset Acquisition (including, without limitation, any Asset Acquisition giving rise to the need to make such calculation as a result of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary (including any person who becomes a Restricted Subsidiary as a result of such Asset Acquisition) incurring Acquired Indebtedness and also including any Consolidated Cash Flow Available for Fixed Charges (including any pro forma expense and cost reductions calculated on a basis consistent with Regulation S-X under the Exchange Act) associated with any such Asset Acquisition) occurring during the Four-Quarter Period or at any time subsequent to the last day of the Four-Quarter Period and on or prior to the Transaction Date, as if such Asset Sale or Asset Acquisition or other disposition (including the incurrence of, or assumption or liability for, any such Indebtedness or Acquired Indebtedness) occurred on the first day of the Four-Quarter Period.

If the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary directly or indirectly guarantees Indebtedness of a third person, the preceding sentence shall give effect to the incurrence of such guaranteed Indebtedness as if the Issuer or such Restricted Subsidiary had directly incurred or otherwise assumed such guaranteed Indebtedness.

In calculating Consolidated Interest Incurred for purposes of determining the denominator (but not the numerator) of the Consolidated Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio:

(1) interest on outstanding Indebtedness determined on a fluctuating basis as of the Transaction Date and which will continue to be so determined thereafter shall be deemed to have accrued at a fixed rate per annum equal to the rate of interest on this Indebtedness in effect on the Transaction Date;

(2) if interest on any Indebtedness actually incurred on the Transaction Date may optionally be determined at an interest rate based upon a factor of a prime or similar rate, a eurocurrency interbank offered rate, or other rates, then the interest rate in effect on the Transaction Date will be deemed to have been in effect during the Four-Quarter Period; and

(3) notwithstanding clause (1) or (2) above, interest on Indebtedness determined on a fluctuating basis, to the extent such interest is covered by agreements with a term of at least one year after the Transaction Date relating to Hedging Obligations, shall be deemed to accrue at the rate per annum resulting after giving effect to the operation of these agreements.

**“Consolidated Income Tax Expense”** for any period means the provision for taxes of the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries, determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP.

**“Consolidated Indebtedness”** means, as of any date, the total Indebtedness of the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries as of such date, determined on a consolidated basis.

**“Consolidated Interest Expense”** for any period means the sum, without duplication, of the total interest expense (other than interest and other charges amortized to cost of home sales and cost of land sales) of the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries for such period, determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP and including without duplication,

(1) imputed interest on Capitalized Lease Obligations and Attributable Indebtedness,

(2) commissions, discounts and other fees and charges owed with respect to letters of credit securing financial obligations, bankers' acceptance financing and receivables financings,

(3) the net costs associated with Hedging Obligations,

(4) amortization of debt issuance costs, debt discount or premium and other financing fees and expenses,

(5) the interest portion of any deferred payment obligations,

(6) all other non-cash interest expense,

(7) the product of (a) all dividend payments on any series of Disqualified Equity Interests of the Issuer or any preferred stock of any Restricted Subsidiary (other than any such Disqualified Equity Interests or any preferred stock held by the Issuer or a Wholly-Owned Restricted Subsidiary), *multiplied by* (b) a fraction, the numerator of which is one and the denominator of which is one *minus* the then current combined federal, state and local statutory tax rate of the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries, expressed as a decimal,

(8) all interest payable with respect to discontinued operations, and

(9) all interest on any Indebtedness of any other person guaranteed by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary.

**“Consolidated Interest Incurred”** for any period means the sum, without duplication, of (1) Consolidated Interest Expense and (2) interest capitalized for such period (including interest capitalized with respect to discontinued operations but not including interest or other charges amortized to cost of home sales and cost of land sales).

**“Consolidated Net Income”** for any period means the net income (or loss) of the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries for such period determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP; *provided* that there shall be excluded from such net income (to the extent otherwise included therein), without duplication:

(1) the net income (or loss) of any person (other than a Restricted Subsidiary) in which any person other than the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries has an ownership interest, except to the extent that cash in an amount equal to any such income has actually been received by the Issuer or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries during such period;

(2) except to the extent includible in the consolidated net income of the Issuer pursuant to the foregoing clause (1), the net income (or loss) of any person that accrued prior to the date that (a) such person becomes a Restricted Subsidiary or is merged into or consolidated with the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary or (b) the assets of such person are acquired by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary;

(3) the net income of any Restricted Subsidiary during such period to the extent that the declaration or payment of dividends or similar distributions by such Restricted Subsidiary of that income is not permitted by operation of the terms of its charter or any agreement, instrument, judgment, decree, order, statute, rule or governmental regulation applicable to that Subsidiary during such period;

(4) for the purposes of calculating the Restricted Payments Basket only, in the case of a successor to the Issuer by consolidation, merger or transfer of its assets, any income (or loss) of the successor prior to such merger, consolidation or transfer of assets;

(5) other than for purposes of calculating the Restricted Payments Basket, any gain (or loss), together with any related provisions for taxes on any such gain (or the tax effect of any such loss), realized during such period by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary upon (a) the acquisition of any securities, or the extinguishment of any Indebtedness, of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary or (b) any Asset Sale by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary; and

(6) other than for purposes of calculating the Restricted Payments Basket, any extraordinary gain (or extraordinary loss), together with any related provision for taxes on any such extraordinary



gain (or the tax effect of any such extraordinary loss), realized by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary during such period.

In addition, any return of capital with respect to an Investment that increased the Restricted Payments Basket pursuant to clause (3)(d) of the first paragraph under “— Certain Covenants — Limitations on Restricted Payments” or decreased the amount of Investments outstanding pursuant to clause (14) of the definition of “Permitted Investments” shall be excluded from Consolidated Net Income for purposes of calculating the Restricted Payments Basket.

“**Consolidated Net Worth**” means, with respect to any person as of any date, the consolidated stockholders’ equity of such person, determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP, less (without duplication) (1) any amounts thereof attributable to Disqualified Equity Interests of such person or its Subsidiaries or any amount attributable to Unrestricted Subsidiaries and (2) all write-ups (other than write-ups resulting from foreign currency translations and write-ups of tangible assets of a going concern business made within twelve months after the acquisition of such business) subsequent to the Issue Date in the book value of any asset owned by such person or a Subsidiary of such person.

“**Consolidated Tangible Assets**” means, as of any date, the total amount of assets of the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries on a consolidated basis at the end of the fiscal quarter immediately preceding such date, as determined in accordance with GAAP, less (1) Intangible Assets and (2) any assets securing Non-Recourse Indebtedness.

“**Consolidated Tangible Net Worth**” means, with respect to any person as of any date, the Consolidated Net Worth of such person as of such date less (without duplication) all Intangible Assets of such person as of such date.

“**Credit Facilities**” means the Credit Agreement dated as of December 12, 2002, as amended, among the Issuer, Guaranty Bank, as administrative agent and swing line lender, Bank One, NA, as syndication agent, Fleet National Bank and the other lenders party thereto, as documentation agent, including any notes, guarantees, collateral and security documents, instruments and agreements executed in connection therewith (including Hedging Obligations related to the Indebtedness incurred thereunder), and in each case as amended or refinanced from time to time, including any agreement extending the maturity of, refinancing, replacing or otherwise restructuring (including increasing the amount of borrowings or other Indebtedness outstanding or available to be borrowed thereunder) all or any portion of the Indebtedness under such agreements, and any successor or replacement agreement or agreements with the same or any other agents, creditor, lender or group of creditors or lenders.

“**Default**” means (1) any Event of Default or (2) any event, act or condition that, after notice or the passage of time or both, would be an Event of Default.

“**Developed Land**” means all Entitled Land of the Issuer and its Restricted Subsidiaries which is undergoing active development or is ready for vertical construction.

“**Disqualified Equity Interests**” of any person means any Equity Interests of such person that, by their terms, or by the terms of any related agreement or of any security into which they are convertible, puttable or exchangeable, are, or upon the happening of any event or the passage of time would be, required to be redeemed by such person, whether or not at the option of the holder thereof, or mature or are mandatorily redeemable, pursuant to a sinking fund obligation or otherwise, in whole or in part, on or prior to the date which is 91 days after the final maturity date of the Notes; *provided, however*, that any class of Equity Interests of such person that, by its terms, authorizes such person to satisfy in full its obligations with respect to the payment of dividends or upon maturity, redemption (pursuant to a sinking fund or otherwise) or repurchase thereof or otherwise by the delivery of Equity Interests that are not Disqualified Equity Interests, and that are not convertible, puttable or exchangeable for Disqualified Equity Interests or Indebtedness, will not be deemed to be Disqualified Equity Interests so long as such person satisfies its obligations with respect thereto solely by the delivery of Equity Interests that are not Disqualified Equity Interests; *provided, further, however*, that any Equity Interests that would not constitute Disqualified Equity Interests but for provisions thereof giving holders thereof (or the holders of any security into or for

which such Equity Interests are convertible, exchangeable or exercisable) the right to require the Issuer to redeem such Equity Interests upon the occurrence of a change in control occurring prior to the final maturity date of the Notes shall not constitute Disqualified Equity Interests if the change in control provisions applicable to such Equity Interests are no more favorable to such holders than the provisions described under the caption “— Change of Control” and such Equity Interests specifically provide that the Issuer will not redeem any such Equity Interests pursuant to such provisions prior to the Issuer’s purchase of the Notes as required pursuant to the provisions described under the caption “— Change of Control.”

“**Entitled Land**” means all land of the Issuer and its Restricted Subsidiaries (a) on which Units may be constructed or which may be utilized for commercial, retail or industrial uses, in each case, under applicable laws and regulations and (b) the intended use by the Issuer for which is permissible under the applicable regional plan, development agreement or applicable zoning ordinance.

“**Equity Interests**” of any person means (1) any and all shares or other equity interests (including common stock, preferred stock, limited liability company interests and partnership interests) in such person and (2) all rights to purchase, warrants or options (whether or not currently exercisable), participations or other equivalents of or interests in (however designated) such shares or other interests in such person.

“**GAAP**” means generally accepted accounting principles set forth in the opinions and pronouncements of the Accounting Principles Board of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and statements and pronouncements of the Financial Accounting Standards Board or in such other statements by such other entity as may be approved by a significant segment of the accounting profession of the United States, as in effect on the Measurement Date.

“**Guarantors**” means each Restricted Subsidiary of the Issuer on the Issue Date, and each other person that is required to become a Guarantor by the terms of the Indenture after the Issue Date, in each case, until such person is released from its note guarantee.

“**Hedging Obligations**” of any person means the obligations of such person pursuant to (1) any interest rate swap agreement, interest rate collar agreement or other similar agreement or arrangement designed to protect such person against fluctuations in interest rates, (2) agreements or arrangements designed to protect such person against fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates in the conduct of its operations, or (3) any forward contract, commodity swap agreement, commodity option agreement or other similar agreement or arrangement designed to protect such person against fluctuations in commodity prices, in each case entered into in the ordinary course of business for bona fide hedging purposes and not for the purpose of speculation.

“**Indebtedness**” of any person at any date means, without duplication:

- (1) all liabilities, contingent or otherwise, of such person for borrowed money (whether or not the recourse of the lender is to the whole of the assets of such person or only to a portion thereof);
- (2) all obligations of such person evidenced by bonds, debentures, notes or other similar instruments;
- (3) all obligations of such person in respect of letters of credit or other similar instruments (or reimbursement obligations with respect thereto);
- (4) all obligations of such person to pay the deferred and unpaid purchase price of property or services, except trade payables and accrued expenses incurred by such person in the ordinary course of business in connection with obtaining goods, materials or services;
- (5) the maximum fixed redemption or repurchase price of all Disqualified Equity Interests of such person;
- (6) all Capitalized Lease Obligations of such person;

(7) all Indebtedness of others secured by a Lien on any asset of such person, whether or not such Indebtedness is assumed by such person;

(8) all Indebtedness of others guaranteed by such person to the extent of such guarantee; *provided* that Indebtedness of the Issuer or its Subsidiaries that is guaranteed by the Issuer or the Issuer's Subsidiaries shall be counted only once in the calculation of the amount of Indebtedness of the Issuer and its Subsidiaries on a consolidated basis;

(9) all Attributable Indebtedness;

(10) to the extent not otherwise included in this definition, Hedging Obligations of such person;

(11) all obligations of such person under conditional sale or other title retention agreements relating to assets purchased by such person; and

(12) the liquidation value of preferred stock of a Subsidiary of such person issued and outstanding and held by any person other than such person (or one of its Wholly-Owned Restricted Subsidiaries).

Notwithstanding the foregoing, (a) earn-outs or similar profit sharing arrangements provided for in acquisition agreements which are determined on the basis of future operating earnings or other similar performance criteria (which are not determinable at the time of acquisition) of the acquired assets or entities and (b) accrued expenses, trade payables, customer deposits or deferred income taxes arising in the ordinary course of business shall not be considered Indebtedness. Any Indebtedness which is incurred at a discount to the principal amount at maturity thereof shall be deemed to have been incurred in the amount of the full principal amount at maturity thereof. The amount of Indebtedness of any person at any date shall be the outstanding balance at such date of all unconditional obligations as described above, the maximum liability of such person for any such contingent obligations at such date and, in the case of clause (7), the lesser of (a) the fair market value of any asset subject to a Lien securing the Indebtedness of others on the date that the Lien attaches and (b) the amount of the Indebtedness secured. For purposes of clause (5), the "maximum fixed redemption or repurchase price" of any Disqualified Equity Interests that do not have a fixed redemption or repurchase price shall be calculated in accordance with the terms of such Disqualified Equity Interests as if such Disqualified Equity Interests were redeemed on any date on which an amount of Indebtedness outstanding shall be required to be determined pursuant to the indenture.

The indenture will not restrict any Unrestricted Subsidiary from incurring Indebtedness nor will Indebtedness of any Unrestricted Subsidiaries be included in the Consolidated Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio or the ratio of Consolidated Indebtedness to Consolidated Tangible Net Worth hereunder, as long as the Unrestricted Subsidiary incurring such Indebtedness remains an Unrestricted Subsidiary.

**"Independent Director"** means a director of the Issuer who

(1) is independent with respect to the transaction at issue;

(2) does not have any material financial interest in the Issuer or any of its Affiliates (other than as a result of holding securities of the Issuer); and

(3) has not and whose Affiliates or affiliated firm has not, at any time during the twelve months prior to the taking of any action hereunder, directly or indirectly, received, or entered into any understanding or agreement to receive, compensation, payment or other benefit, of any type or form, from the Issuer or any of its Affiliates in excess of \$60,000, other than customary directors' fees for serving on the board of directors of the Issuer or any Affiliate and reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses for attendance at the Issuer's or Affiliate's board and board committee meetings.

**"Independent Financial Advisor"** means an accounting, appraisal or investment banking firm of nationally recognized standing that is, in the reasonable judgment of the Issuer's board of directors, qualified to perform the task for which it has been engaged and disinterested and independent with respect

to the Issuer and its Affiliates; *provided, however*, that the prior rendering of service to the Issuer or an Affiliate of the Issuer shall not, by itself, disqualify the advisor.

**“Intangible Assets”** means, with respect to any person, all unamortized debt discount and expense, unamortized deferred charges, goodwill, patents, trademarks, service marks, trade names, copyrights, write-ups of assets over their carrying value (other than write-ups which occurred prior to the Measurement Date and other than, in connection with the acquisition of an asset, the write-up of the value of such asset to its fair market value in accordance with GAAP on the date of acquisition) and all other items which would be treated as intangibles on the consolidated balance sheet of such person prepared in accordance with GAAP.

**“Investments”** of any Person means:

- (1) all direct or indirect investments by such person in any other person in the form of loans, advances or capital contributions or other credit extensions constituting Indebtedness of such other person, and any guarantee of Indebtedness of any other person;
- (2) all purchases (or other acquisitions for consideration) by such person of Indebtedness, Equity Interests or other securities of any other person;
- (3) all other items that would be classified as investments on a balance sheet of such person prepared in accordance with GAAP; and
- (4) the designation of any Subsidiary as an Unrestricted Subsidiary.

Except as otherwise expressly specified in this definition, the amount of any Investment (other than an Investment made in cash) shall be the fair market value thereof on the date such Investment is made. The amount of Investment pursuant to clause (4) shall be the Designation Amount determined in accordance with the covenant described under “— Certain Covenants — Limitations on Designation of Unrestricted Subsidiaries.” If the Issuer or any Subsidiary sells or otherwise disposes of any Equity Interests of any direct or indirect Subsidiary such that, after giving effect to any such sale or disposition, such person is no longer a Subsidiary, the Issuer shall be deemed to have made an Investment on the date of any such sale or other disposition equal to the fair market value of the Equity Interests of and all other Investments in such Subsidiary not sold or disposed of, which amount shall be determined by the board of directors of the Issuer. Notwithstanding the foregoing, redemptions of Equity Interests of the Issuer shall be deemed not to be Investments.

**“Issue Date”** means April 21, 2004.

**“Lien”** means, with respect to any asset, any mortgage, deed of trust, lien (statutory or other), pledge, lease, easement, restriction, covenant, charge, security interest or other encumbrance of any kind or nature in respect of such asset, whether or not filed, recorded or otherwise perfected under applicable law, including any conditional sale or other title retention agreement, and any lease in the nature thereof, any option or other agreement to sell, and any filing of, or agreement to give, any financing statement under the Uniform Commercial Code (or equivalent statutes) of any jurisdiction (other than cautionary filings in respect of operating leases).

**“Measurement Date”** means May 30, 2001.

**“Moody’s”** means Moody’s Investors Service, Inc., and its successors.

**“Net Available Proceeds”** means, with respect to any Asset Sale, the proceeds thereof in the form of cash or Cash Equivalents, net of

- (1) brokerage commissions and other fees and expenses (including fees and expenses of legal counsel, accountants and investment banks) of such Asset Sale;
- (2) provisions for taxes payable as a result of such Asset Sale (after taking into account any available tax credits or deductions and any tax sharing arrangements);

(3) amounts required to be paid to any person (other than the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary) owning a beneficial interest in the assets subject to the Asset Sale or having a Lien thereon;

(4) payments of unassumed liabilities (not constituting Indebtedness) relating to the assets sold at the time of, or within 30 days after the date of, such Asset Sale; and

(5) appropriate amounts to be provided by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary, as the case may be, as a reserve required in accordance with GAAP against any liabilities associated with such Asset Sale and retained by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary, as the case may be, after such Asset Sale, including pensions and other postemployment benefit liabilities, liabilities related to environmental matters and liabilities under any indemnification obligations associated with such Asset Sale, all as reflected in an officers' certificate delivered to the trustee; *provided, however*, that any amounts remaining after adjustments, revaluations or liquidations of such reserves shall constitute Net Available Proceeds.

**"Non-Recourse Indebtedness"** with respect to any person means Indebtedness of such person for which (1) the sole legal recourse for collection of principal and interest on such Indebtedness is against the specific property identified in the instruments evidencing or securing such Indebtedness and such property was acquired with the proceeds of such Indebtedness or such Indebtedness was incurred within 90 days after the acquisition of such property and (2) no other assets of such person may be realized upon in collection of principal or interest on such Indebtedness.

**"Pari Passu Indebtedness"** means any Indebtedness of the Issuer or any Guarantor that ranks pari passu as to payment with the Notes or the note guarantees, as applicable.

**"Permitted Business"** means the businesses engaged in by the Issuer and its Subsidiaries on the Issue Date as described in this prospectus and businesses that are reasonably related thereto or reasonable extensions thereof (including, without limitation, land development, home alarm, pest control, title and other ancillary businesses).

**"Permitted Holders"** means Steven J. Hilton and John R. Landon, their respective wives and children, any corporation, limited liability company or partnership in which either of them has voting control and is the direct and beneficial owner of a majority of the Equity Interests and any trust for the benefit of either of them or their wives or children.

**"Permitted Investment"** means:

(1) Investments by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary in (a) any Restricted Subsidiary or (b) in any person that is or will become immediately after such Investment a Restricted Subsidiary or that will merge or consolidate into the Issuer or a Restricted Subsidiary;

(2) Investments in the Issuer by any Restricted Subsidiary;

(3) loans and advances to directors, employees and officers of the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries for bona fide business purposes and to purchase Equity Interests of the Issuer not in excess of \$2.0 million at any one time outstanding;

(4) Hedging Obligations incurred pursuant to clause (4) of the second paragraph under the covenant described under "— Certain Covenants — Limitations on Additional Indebtedness";

(5) Cash Equivalents;

(6) receivables owing to the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary if created or acquired in the ordinary course of business and payable or dischargeable in accordance with customary trade terms; *provided, however*, that such trade terms may include such concessionary trade terms as the Issuer or any such Restricted Subsidiary deems reasonable under the circumstances;

(7) Investments in securities of trade creditors or customers received pursuant to any plan of reorganization or similar arrangement upon the bankruptcy or insolvency of such trade creditors or customers;

(8) Investments made by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary as a result of consideration received in connection with an Asset Sale made in compliance with the covenant described under “— Certain Covenants — Limitations on Asset Sales”;

(9) lease, utility and other similar deposits in the ordinary course of business;

(10) Investments made by the Issuer or a Restricted Subsidiary for consideration consisting only of Qualified Equity Interests of the Issuer;

(11) stock, obligations or securities received in settlement of debts created in the ordinary course of business and owing to the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary or in satisfaction of judgments;

(12) Investments in existence on the Issue Date;

(13) Investments made by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary in joint ventures in a Permitted Business with unaffiliated third parties in an aggregate amount at any one time outstanding not to exceed 10% of the Issuer’s Consolidated Tangible Net Worth at such time (with each Investment being valued as of the date made and without regard to subsequent changes in value); and

(14) other Investments in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$5.0 million at any one time outstanding (with each Investment being valued as of the date made and without regard to subsequent changes in value).

The amount of Investments outstanding at any time pursuant to clause (14) above shall be deemed to be reduced:

(a) upon the disposition or repayment of or return on any Investment made pursuant to clause (14) above, by an amount equal to the return of capital with respect to such Investment to the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary (to the extent not included in the computation of Consolidated Net Income), less the cost of the disposition of such Investment and net of taxes; and

(b) upon a redesignation of an Unrestricted Subsidiary as a Restricted Subsidiary, by an amount equal to the lesser of (x) the fair market value of the Issuer’s proportionate interest in such Subsidiary immediately following such redesignation, and (y) the aggregate amount of Investments in such Subsidiary that increased (and did not previously decrease) the amount of Investments outstanding pursuant to clause (14) above.

“Permitted Liens” means the following types of Liens:

(1) (a) statutory Liens of landlords and Liens of carriers, warehousemen, mechanics, suppliers, materialmen, repairmen and other Liens imposed by law incurred in the ordinary course of business and (b) Liens for taxes, assessments or governmental charges or claims, in either case, for sums not yet delinquent or being contested in good faith, if such reserve or other appropriate provision, if any, as shall be required by GAAP shall have been made in respect thereof;

(2) Liens incurred or deposits made in the ordinary course of business in connection with workers’ compensation, unemployment insurance and other types of social security, or to secure the performance of tenders, statutory obligations, surety and appeal bonds, bids, leases, government contracts, performance and return-of-money bonds and other similar obligations (exclusive of obligations for the payment of borrowed money);

(3) Liens upon specific items of inventory or other goods and proceeds of any person securing such person’s obligations in respect of bankers’ acceptances issued or created for the

account of such person to facilitate the purchase, shipment or storage of such inventory or other goods;

(4) Liens securing reimbursement obligations with respect to commercial letters of credit which encumber documents and other assets relating to such letters of credit and products and proceeds thereof;

(5) Liens encumbering deposits made to secure obligations arising from statutory, regulatory, contractual or warranty requirements of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary, including rights of offset and setoff;

(6) bankers' Liens, rights of setoff and other similar Liens existing solely with respect to cash and Cash Equivalents on deposit in one or more accounts maintained by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary, in each case granted in the ordinary course of business in favor of the bank or banks with which such accounts are maintained, securing amounts owing to such bank with respect to cash management and operating account arrangements, including those involving pooled accounts and netting arrangements; *provided* that in no case shall any such Liens secure (either directly or indirectly) the repayment of any Indebtedness;

(7) leases or subleases (or any Liens related thereto) granted to others that do not materially interfere with the ordinary course of business of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary;

(8) Liens arising from filing Uniform Commercial Code financing statements regarding leases;

(9) Liens securing all of the Notes and Liens securing any note guarantee;

(10) Liens existing on the Issue Date securing Indebtedness outstanding on the Issue Date and Liens securing Refinancing Indebtedness with respect to Indebtedness incurred pursuant to clause (2) of the definition of "Permitted Indebtedness;"

(11) Liens in favor of the Issuer or a Guarantor;

(12) Liens securing Indebtedness under the Credit Facilities incurred pursuant to clause (1) of "— Limitations on Additional Indebtedness;"

(13) without limiting any other clause in this definition of "Permitted Liens," Liens securing Indebtedness of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary permitted to be incurred under the indenture; *provided*, that the aggregate amount of all consolidated Indebtedness of the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries secured by Liens (including all Indebtedness permitted to be secured by the other provisions of this definition, but excluding Non-Recourse Indebtedness) shall not exceed 40% of Consolidated Tangible Assets at any one time outstanding (after giving effect to the incurrence of such Indebtedness and the use of the proceeds thereof);

(14) Liens securing Non-Recourse Indebtedness of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary permitted to be incurred under the indenture; *provided*, that such Liens apply only to the property financed out of the net proceeds of such Non-Recourse Indebtedness within 90 days after the incurrence of such Non-Recourse Indebtedness;

(15) Liens securing Purchase Money Indebtedness permitted to be incurred under the indenture; *provided* that such Liens apply only to the property acquired, constructed or improved with the proceeds of such Purchase Money Indebtedness within 90 days after the incurrence of such Purchase Money Indebtedness;

(16) Liens securing Acquired Indebtedness permitted to be incurred under the indenture; *provided* that the Liens do not extend to assets not subject to such Lien at the time of acquisition (other than improvements thereon) and are no more favorable to the lienholders than those securing such Acquired Indebtedness prior to the incurrence of such Acquired Indebtedness by the Issuer or a Restricted Subsidiary;

(17) Liens on assets of a person existing at the time such person is acquired or merged with or into or consolidated with the Issuer or any such Restricted Subsidiary (and not created in anticipation or contemplation thereof);

(18) Liens to secure Attributable Indebtedness permitted to be incurred under the indenture; *provided* that any such Lien shall not extend to or cover any assets of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary other than the assets which are the subject of the Sale and Leaseback Transaction in which the Attributable Indebtedness is incurred;

(19) attachment or judgment Liens not giving rise to a Default and which are being contested in good faith by appropriate proceedings;

(20) easements, rights-of-way, restrictions and other similar charges or encumbrances not materially interfering with the ordinary course of business of the Issuer and its Subsidiaries;

(21) zoning restrictions, licenses, restrictions on the use of real property or minor irregularities in title thereto, which do not materially impair the use of such real property in the ordinary course of business of the Issuer and its Subsidiaries or the value of such real property for the purpose of such business; and

(22) any option, contract or other agreement to sell an asset; *provided* such sale is not otherwise prohibited under the indenture.

**“Permitted Unrestricted Subsidiary Debt”** means Indebtedness of an Unrestricted Subsidiary:

(1) as to which neither the Issuer nor any Restricted Subsidiary (a) provides credit support of any kind (including any undertaking, agreement or instrument that would constitute Indebtedness), (b) is directly or indirectly liable as a guarantor or otherwise, or (c) constitutes the lender;

(2) no default with respect to which (including any rights that the holders thereof may have to take enforcement action against an Unrestricted Subsidiary) would permit upon notice, lapse of time or both any holder of any other Indebtedness (other than the Notes) of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary to declare a default on the other Indebtedness or cause the payment thereof to be accelerated or payable prior to its stated maturity; and

(3) as to which the lenders have been notified in writing that they will not have any recourse to the Equity Interests or assets of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary.

**“Purchase Money Indebtedness”** means Indebtedness, including Capitalized Lease Obligations, of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary incurred for the purpose of financing all or any part of the purchase price of property, plant or equipment used in the business of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary or the cost of installation, construction or improvement thereof; *provided, however*, that (1) the amount of such Indebtedness shall not exceed such purchase price or cost, (2) such Indebtedness shall not be secured by any asset other than the specified asset being financed or, in the case of real property or fixtures, including additions and improvements, the real property to which such asset is attached and (3) such Indebtedness shall be incurred within 90 days after such acquisition of such asset by the Issuer or such Restricted Subsidiary or such installation, construction or improvement.

**“Qualified Equity Interests”** means Equity Interests of the Issuer other than Disqualified Equity Interests; *provided* that such Equity Interests shall not be deemed Qualified Equity Interests to the extent sold or owed to a Subsidiary of the Issuer or financed, directly or indirectly, using funds (1) borrowed from the Issuer or any Subsidiary of the Issuer until and to the extent such borrowing is repaid or (2) contributed, extended, guaranteed or advanced by the Issuer or any Subsidiary of the Issuer (including, without limitation, in respect of any employee stock ownership or benefit plan).

**“Qualified Equity Offering”** means the issuance and sale of Qualified Equity Interests of the Issuer to persons other than any Permitted Holder or any other person who is not, prior to such issuance and sale, an Affiliate of the Issuer.



“**Ratio Exception**” has the meaning set forth in the proviso in the first paragraph of the covenant described under “— Certain Covenants — Limitations on Additional Indebtedness.”

“**Receivables**” means an amount owed with respect to completed sales of housing units, lots and parcels sold to an unaffiliated purchaser.

“**Refinancing Indebtedness**” means Indebtedness of the Issuer or a Restricted Subsidiary issued in exchange for, or the proceeds from the issuance and sale or disbursement of which are used substantially concurrently to redeem or refinance in whole or in part, or constituting an amendment of, any Indebtedness of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary (the “**Refinanced Indebtedness**”) in a principal amount not in excess of the principal amount of the Refinanced Indebtedness so repaid or amended (plus the amount of any premium paid and the amount of reasonable expenses incurred by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary in connection with such repayment or amendment) (or, if such Refinancing Indebtedness refinances Indebtedness under a revolving credit facility or other agreement providing a commitment for subsequent borrowings, with a maximum commitment not to exceed the maximum commitment under such revolving credit facility or other agreement); *provided that*:

(1) if the Refinanced Indebtedness was subordinated to or *pari passu* with the Notes or the note guarantees, as the case may be, then such Refinancing Indebtedness, by its terms, is expressly *pari passu* with (in the case of Refinanced Indebtedness that was *pari passu* with) or subordinate in right of payment to (in the case of Refinanced Indebtedness that was subordinated to) the Notes or the note guarantees, as the case may be, at least to the same extent as the Refinanced Indebtedness;

(2) the Refinancing Indebtedness is scheduled to mature either (a) no earlier than the Refinanced Indebtedness being repaid or amended or (b) after the maturity date of the Notes;

(3) the portion, if any, of the Refinancing Indebtedness that is scheduled to mature on or prior to the maturity date of the Notes has a Weighted Average Life to Maturity at the time such Refinancing Indebtedness is incurred that is equal to or greater than the Weighted Average Life to Maturity of the portion of the Refinanced Indebtedness being repaid that is scheduled to mature on or prior to the maturity date of the Notes; and

(4) the Refinancing Indebtedness is secured only to the extent, if at all, and by the assets, that the Refinanced Indebtedness being repaid, extended or amended is secured.

“**Registration Rights Agreement**” means the registration rights agreement dated as of the Issue Date among the Issuer, the Guarantors and the Initial Purchaser.

“**Restricted Payment**” means any of the following:

(1) the declaration or payment of any dividend or any other distribution on Equity Interests of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary or any payment made to the direct or indirect holders (in their capacities as such) of Equity Interests of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary, including, without limitation, any payment in connection with any merger or consolidation involving the Issuer, but excluding (a) dividends or distributions payable solely in Qualified Equity Interests and (b) in the case of Restricted Subsidiaries, dividends or distributions payable to the Issuer or to a Restricted Subsidiary and *pro rata* dividends or distributions payable to minority stockholders of any Restricted Subsidiary;

(2) the redemption of any Equity Interests of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary, including, without limitation, any payment in connection with any merger or consolidation involving the Issuer, but excluding any such Equity Interests held by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary;

(3) any Investment other than a Permitted Investment; or

(4) any redemption prior to the scheduled maturity or prior to any scheduled repayment of principal or sinking fund payment, as the case may be, in respect of Subordinated Indebtedness.

“**Restricted Payments Basket**” has the meaning given to such term in the first paragraph of the covenant described under “— Certain Covenants — Limitations on Restricted Payments.”

“**Restricted Subsidiary**” means any Subsidiary of the Issuer other than an Unrestricted Subsidiary.

“**Sale and Leaseback Transaction**” means, with respect to any person, an arrangement with any bank, insurance company or other lender or investor or to which such lender or investor is a party, providing for the leasing by such person of any asset of such person which has been or is being sold or transferred by such person to such lender or investor or to any person to whom funds have been or are to be advanced by such lender or investor on the security of such asset.

“**Significant Subsidiary**” means (1) any Restricted Subsidiary that would be a “significant subsidiary” as defined in Regulation S-X promulgated pursuant to the Securities Act as such Regulation is in effect on the Issue Date and (2) any Restricted Subsidiary that, when aggregated with all other Restricted Subsidiaries that are not otherwise Significant Subsidiaries and as to which any event described in clause (7) or (8) under “— Events of Default” has occurred and is continuing, would constitute a Significant Subsidiary under clause (1) of this definition.

“**Subordinated Indebtedness**” means Indebtedness of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary that is subordinated in right of payment to the Notes or the note guarantees, respectively.

“**Subsidiary**” means, with respect to any person:

(1) any corporation, limited liability company, association or other business entity of which more than 50% of the total voting power of the Equity Interests entitled (without regard to the occurrence of any contingency) to vote in the election of the board of directors thereof are at the time owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by such Person or one or more of the other Subsidiaries of that person (or a combination thereof); and

(2) any partnership (a) the sole general partner or the managing general partner of which is such person or a Subsidiary of such person or (b) the only general partners of which are such person or one or more Subsidiaries of such person (or any combination thereof).

Unless otherwise specified, “Subsidiary” refers to a Subsidiary of the Issuer.

“**Unit**” means a residence, whether single or part of a multifamily building, whether completed or under construction, held by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary for sale or rental in the ordinary course of business; *provided, however*, that the number of Units that are rental Units at the time of determination shall not exceed 25% of the total Units sold or rented by the Issuer and its Restricted Subsidiaries during the immediately preceding twelve month period.

“**Unrestricted Subsidiary**” means (1) any Subsidiary that at the time of determination shall be designated an Unrestricted Subsidiary by the board of directors of the Issuer in accordance with the covenant described under “— Certain Covenants — Limitations on Designation of Unrestricted Subsidiaries” and (2) any Subsidiary of an Unrestricted Subsidiary.

“**Weighted Average Life to Maturity**” when applied to any Indebtedness at any date, means the number of years obtained by dividing (1) the sum of the products obtained by multiplying (a) the amount of each then remaining installment, sinking fund, serial maturity or other required payment of principal, including payment at final maturity, in respect thereof by (b) the number of years (calculated to the nearest one-twelfth) that will elapse between such date and the making of such payment by (2) the then outstanding principal amount of such Indebtedness.

“**Wholly-Owned Restricted Subsidiary**” means a Restricted Subsidiary of which 100% of the Equity Interests (except for directors’ qualifying shares or certain minority interests owned by other persons solely due to local law requirements that there be more than one stockholder, but which interest is not in excess of what is required for such purpose) are owned directly by the Issuer or through one or more Wholly-Owned Restricted Subsidiaries.

## Book-Entry, Delivery and Form of Notes

The exchange notes will be represented by one or more global notes in definitive form. The global notes will be deposited with, or on behalf of, the Depository Trust Company (“**DTC**”) and registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee of DTC (such nominee being referred to herein as the “**Global Note Holder**”). DTC will maintain the Notes in denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples thereof through its book-entry facilities.

DTC has advised the Company as follows:

DTC is a limited-purpose trust company that was created to hold securities for its participating organizations, including the Euroclear System and Clearstream Banking, Société Anonyme, Luxembourg (collectively, the “**Participants**” or the “**Depository’s Participants**”), and to facilitate the clearance and settlement of transactions in these securities between Participants through electronic book-entry changes in accounts of its Participants. The Depository’s Participants include securities brokers and dealers (including the initial purchaser), banks and trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations. Access to DTC’s system is also available to other entities such as banks, brokers, dealers and trust companies (collectively, the “**Indirect Participants**” or the “**Depository’s Indirect Participants**”) that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Participant, either directly or indirectly. Persons who are not Participants may beneficially own securities held by or on behalf of DTC only through the Depository’s Participants or the Depository’s Indirect Participants. Pursuant to procedures established by DTC, ownership of the Notes will be shown on, and the transfer of ownership thereof will be effected only through, records maintained by DTC (with respect to the interests of the Depository’s Participants) and the records of the Depository’s Participants (with respect to the interests of the Depository’s Indirect Participants).

The laws of some states require that certain persons take physical delivery in definitive form of securities that they own. Consequently, the ability to transfer the Notes will be limited to such extent.

So long as the Global Note Holder is the registered owner of any Notes, the Global Note Holder will be considered the sole holder of outstanding Notes represented by such global notes under the indenture. Except as provided below, owners of Notes will not be entitled to have Notes registered in their names and will not be considered the owners or holders thereof under the Indenture for any purpose, including with respect to the giving of any directions, instructions, or approvals to the trustee thereunder. None of the Issuer, the Guarantors or the trustee will have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the records relating to or payments made on account of Notes by DTC, or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records of DTC relating to such Notes.

Payments in respect of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on any Notes registered in the name of a Global Note Holder on the applicable record date will be payable by the trustee to or at the direction of such Global Note Holder in its capacity as the registered holder under the indenture. Under the terms of the indenture, the Issuer and the trustee may treat the persons in whose names any Notes, including the global notes, are registered as the owners thereof for the purpose of receiving such payments and for any and all other purposes whatsoever. Consequently, neither the Issuer nor the trustee has or will have any responsibility or liability for the payment of such amounts to beneficial owners of Notes (including principal, premium, if any, and interest). The Issuer believes, however, that it is currently the policy of DTC to immediately credit the accounts of the relevant Participants with such payments, in amounts proportionate to their respective beneficial interests in the relevant security as shown on the records of DTC. Payments by the Depository’s Participants and the Depository’s Indirect Participants to the beneficial owners of Notes will be governed by standing instructions and customary practice and will be the responsibility of the Depository’s Participants or the Depository’s Indirect Participants.

If an Event of Default occurs, any person having a beneficial interest in the global notes may, through the Depository’s Participants or the Depository’s Indirect Participants upon request to the trustee and confirmation of such beneficial interest by the Depository or its Participants or Indirect Participants,

exchange such beneficial interest for notes in definitive form. Upon any such issuance, the trustee is required to register such Notes in the name of and cause the same to be delivered to, such person or persons (or the nominee of any thereof).

Neither the Issuer nor the trustee will be liable for any delay by the Global Note Holder or DTC in identifying the beneficial owners of notes and the Issuer and the trustee may conclusively rely on, and will be protected in relying on, instructions from the Global Note Holder or DTC for all purposes.

## THE EXCHANGE OFFER

### Purposes and Effects

We issued the outstanding notes on April 21, 2004 to the initial purchaser, who resold the outstanding notes to “qualified institutional buyers” (as defined in Rule 144A under the Securities Act) and certain non-U.S. persons in accordance with Regulation S of the Securities Act. In connection with the sale of the outstanding notes, we and the initial purchaser entered into the registration rights agreement pursuant to which we agreed to file with the SEC a registration statement with respect to an offer to exchange exchange notes for the outstanding notes within 75 days after the outstanding notes were issued. In addition, we agreed to use our reasonable best efforts to cause the registration statement to become effective under the Securities Act within 150 days after the outstanding notes were issued and to issue the exchange notes pursuant to the exchange offer. A copy of the registration rights agreement has been filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

The exchange offer is being made pursuant to the registration rights agreement. Holders of outstanding notes who do not tender their outstanding notes or whose outstanding notes are tendered but not accepted would have to rely on exemptions from registration requirements under the securities laws, including the Securities Act, if they wish to sell their outstanding notes.

Based on interpretations by the staff of the SEC set forth in no-action letters issued to persons unrelated to us, we believe the exchange notes issued pursuant to the exchange offer in exchange for outstanding notes may be offered for sale, sold and otherwise transferred by any holder (other than a person that is an “affiliate” of ours within the meaning of Rule 405 under the Securities Act and except as set forth in the next paragraph) without registration or the delivery of a prospectus under the Securities Act, provided the holder acquires the exchange notes in the ordinary course of the holder’s business and the holder is not participating and does not intend to participate, and has no arrangement or understanding with any person to participate, in the distribution of the exchange notes.

If a person were to participate in the exchange offer for the purpose of distributing securities in a manner not permitted by the SEC’s interpretation, (1) the position of the staff of the SEC enunciated in the no-action letters would not be applicable to the person and (2) the person would be required to comply with the registration and prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act in connection with a sale of the exchange notes with any such resale transaction effected by it covered by an effective registration statement containing the selling securityholder information required by Item 507 or 508 of the SEC’s Regulation S-K.

Each broker-dealer that receives exchange notes for its own account in exchange for outstanding notes which the broker-dealer acquired as a result of market-making activities or other trading activities, must acknowledge that it will deliver a prospectus in connection with any sale of those exchange notes.

The exchange offer is not being made to, nor will we accept surrenders for exchange from, holders of exchange notes with addresses in any jurisdiction in which the exchange offer or the issuance of exchange notes pursuant to it would violate applicable securities or blue sky laws. Prior to the exchange offer, however, we will register or qualify, or cooperate with the holders of the outstanding notes and their respective counsel in connection with the registration or qualification of, the exchange notes for offer and sale under the securities or blue sky laws of such jurisdictions as are necessary to permit consummation of the exchange offer and do anything else which is necessary or advisable to enable the offer and issuance of the exchange notes in those jurisdictions.

### Terms of the Exchange Offer

Upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in this prospectus and in the accompanying letter of transmittal, we will issue exchange notes in exchange for all outstanding notes which are validly tendered prior to 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the expiration date (as defined below) and not withdrawn. The principal amount of the exchange notes issued in the exchange will be the same as the

principal amount of the outstanding notes for which they are exchanged. Holders may tender some or all of their outstanding notes in response to the exchange offer.

However, outstanding notes may be tendered only in multiples of \$1,000. See "Description of the Exchange Notes."

The form and terms of the exchange notes will be the same in all material respects as the form and terms of the outstanding notes, except that (1) the exchange notes will be registered under the Securities Act and hence will not bear legends regarding restrictions on transfer and (2) because the exchange notes will be registered, holders of exchange notes will not be, and upon the consummation of the exchange offer, except under limited circumstances, holders of outstanding notes will no longer be, entitled to rights under the registration rights agreement intended for holders of unregistered securities.

Outstanding notes which are not tendered for exchange or are tendered but not accepted in the exchange offer will remain outstanding and be entitled to the benefits of the indenture, but will not be entitled to any registration rights under the registration rights agreement.

We will be deemed to accept all the outstanding notes which are validly tendered and not withdrawn when we give oral or written notice to that effect to the exchange agent. The exchange agent will act as agent for the tendering holders for the purpose of receiving exchange notes from us.

If any tendered outstanding notes are not accepted for exchange because of an invalid tender or otherwise, certificates for those outstanding notes will be returned, without expense, to the tendering holder promptly after the expiration date.

Holders who tender outstanding notes in response to the exchange offer will not be required to pay brokerage commissions or fees or, except as described in the instructions in the letter of transmittal, transfer taxes. We will pay all charges and expenses, other than certain taxes described below, in connection with the exchange offer. See "— Fees and Expenses."

#### **Expiration Date; Extension; Termination; Amendments**

The exchange offer will expire at 5:00 p.m., New York time, \_\_\_\_\_, 2004, the "expiration date" unless we extend it by notice to the exchange agent. The expiration date will be at least 20 business days after commencement of the exchange offer in accordance with Rule 14e-1(a) under the Exchange Act. We reserve the right to extend the exchange offer at our discretion. If we extend the exchange offer, the term "expiration date" will mean the time and date on which the exchange offer as extended will expire. We will notify the exchange agent of any extension by oral or written notice and will make a public announcement of any extension, not later than 9:00 a.m., New York City time, on the business day after the previously scheduled expiration date. We may terminate the exchange offer by written notice to the exchange agent if any of the conditions described below under "— Conditions of the Exchange Offer" is not satisfied. If the exchange offer is amended in a manner that we determine to constitute a material change, we will promptly disclose the amendment in a prospectus supplement that will be distributed to the registered holders.

#### **Interest on Exchange Notes**

The exchange notes will bear interest at 7% per year from and including April 21, 2004. Interest on the exchange notes will be payable twice a year, on May 1 and November 1, beginning November 1, 2004. In order to avoid duplicative payment of interest, all interest accrued on outstanding notes that are accepted for exchange before November 1, 2004 will be superceded by the interest that is deemed to have accrued on the exchange notes from April 21, 2004 through the date of exchange.

#### **Termination of Certain Rights**

The registration rights agreement provides that, with certain exceptions, if: (1) the exchange offer registration statement has not been filed with the SEC on or prior to the 75th calendar day following the

date of original issue of the outstanding notes; (2) the exchange offer registration statement has not been declared effective on or prior to the 150th calendar day following the date of original issue of the outstanding notes, or (3) the exchange offer is not consummated on or prior to the 180th day following the date of original issue of the outstanding notes (each event referred to in clauses (1) through (3) above being a "registration default"), the interest rate borne by the outstanding notes will be increased by 0.25% per annum upon the occurrence of a registration default. This rate will continue to increase by 0.25% each 90 day period that the liquidated damages (as defined below) continue to accrue under any such circumstance. However, the maximum total increase in the interest rate will in no event exceed one percent (1.0%) per year. We refer to this increase in the interest rate on the notes as "liquidated damages." Such interest is payable in addition to any other interest payable from time to time with respect to the outstanding notes and the exchange notes in cash on each interest payment date to the holders of record for such interest payment date. After the cure of registration defaults, the accrual of liquidated damages will stop and the interest rate will revert to the original rate.

Holders of exchange notes will not be and, upon consummation of the exchange offer, holders of outstanding notes will no longer be, entitled to rights under the registration rights agreement intended for holders of outstanding notes which are restricted as to transferability, except as otherwise provided in the registration rights agreement. The exchange offer will be deemed consummated when we deliver to the exchange agent exchange notes in the same aggregate principal amount as that of the outstanding notes which are validly tendered and not withdrawn.

In the event that:

- any changes in law or the applicable interpretations of the SEC do not permit us to effect the exchange offer;
- the exchange offer is not consummated within 180 days after the original issue date of the outstanding notes;
- any holder notifies us that it is prohibited by law or applicable interpretations of the SEC from participating in the exchange offer;
- in the case of any holder that participates in the exchange offer, such holder does not receive freely transferable notes on the date of the exchange (other than due solely to the status of such holder as an affiliate of the Issuer);
- the initial purchasers of the outstanding notes so request with respect to notes that have, or are reasonably likely to be determined to have, the status of unsold allotments in an initial distribution; or
- or any holder of notes that is not entitled to participate in the exchange offer so requests

then, the Issuer and the Guarantors shall as promptly as practicable, but in no event later than 45 days after the occurrence of any of the above shelf registration statement triggering events, file with the SEC a shelf registration statement covering resales of the outstanding notes by holders who satisfy certain conditions relating to the provision of information in connection with the shelf registration statement.

#### **Procedures for Tendering**

Only a holder of outstanding notes may tender outstanding notes in response to the exchange offer. To tender outstanding notes, the holder must either:

— follow DTC's Automated Tender Offer Program procedures, or

— do the following:

- complete, sign and date the letter of transmittal, or a facsimile of one;
- have the signatures guaranteed if required by the letter of transmittal; and

- mail or otherwise deliver the transmittal or facsimile of one, together with the outstanding notes (unless the tender is being effected using the procedure for book-entry transfer described below) and any other required documents, to the exchange agent prior to 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the expiration date.

The exchange agent will seek to establish an account with respect to the outstanding notes at the depository for purposes of the exchange offer within two business days after the date of this prospectus. Any financial institution that is a participant in the depository's system may make book-entry delivery of outstanding notes by causing the depository to transfer them into the exchange agent's account at the depository in accordance with the depository's procedures for transfer. However, although a holder may effect delivery of outstanding notes through book-entry transfer at the depository, it must also follow the depository's Automated Tender Offer Program procedures, submit to the exchange agent the letter of transmittal or facsimile thereof, with any required signature guarantees and any other required documents, on or before the expiration date, or follow the guaranteed delivery procedures described below.

LETTERS OF TRANSMITTAL AND OUTSTANDING NOTES MUST BE SENT TO THE EXCHANGE AGENT. DELIVERY OF A DOCUMENT TO DTC DOES NOT CONSTITUTE DELIVERY TO THE EXCHANGE AGENT.

A tender of outstanding notes by a holder will constitute an agreement by the holder to transfer the outstanding notes to us in exchange for exchange notes on the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in this prospectus and in the letter of transmittal.

The method of delivering outstanding notes and the letter of transmittal and any other required documents to the exchange agent is at the election and risk of the holder. It is recommended that holders use overnight or hand delivery services. In all cases, sufficient time should be allowed to assure delivery to the exchange agent before the expiration time. No letter of transmittal or outstanding notes should be sent to us. Holders may ask their brokers, dealers, commercial banks, trust companies or nominees to assist them in effecting tenders.

If you are the beneficial owner of outstanding notes that are registered in the name of a broker-dealer, commercial bank, trust company, or other nominee and you wish to tender, you should contact the registered holder promptly and instruct such holder on your behalf. Holders who intend to tender outstanding notes through DTC's Automated Tender Offer Program procedures need not submit a letter of transmittal.

Signatures on letters of transmittal or a notice of withdrawal, as the case may be, must be guaranteed by an eligible institution unless the outstanding notes are being tendered for the account of an eligible institution. An eligible institution is a bank, broker, dealer, credit union, savings association or other entity which is a member in good standing of the Securities Transfer Agents Medallion Program.

If the letter of transmittal or any outstanding notes or bond powers are signed by trustees, executors, administrators, guardians, attorneys-in-fact, officers of corporations or others acting in a fiduciary or representative capacity, they should so indicate when signing, and we may require that evidence satisfactory to us of their authority to sign be submitted with the letter of transmittal.

The depository has confirmed that any financial institution that is a participant in DTC's system may use DTC's Automated Tender Offer Program procedures to tender outstanding notes. All questions as to the validity, form, eligibility (including time of receipt) and acceptance and withdrawal of tendered outstanding notes will be determined by us in our sole discretion, and that determination will be final and binding. We reserve the right to reject any outstanding notes which are not properly tendered or the acceptance of which we believe might be unlawful. We also reserve the right to waive any defects, irregularities or conditions of tender as to particular outstanding notes, without being required to waive the same defects, irregularities or conditions as to other outstanding notes. Our interpretation of the terms and conditions of the exchange offer (including the instructions in the letter of transmittal) will be final and binding on all parties. Unless waived, any defects or irregularities in connection with tenders of outstanding notes must be cured by the expiration date, or by such later time as we may determine. Although we



intend to request the exchange agent to notify holders of defects or irregularities with respect to tenders of outstanding notes, neither we, the exchange agent nor any other person will incur any liability for failure to give such notification. Tenders of outstanding notes will not be deemed to have been made until all defects and irregularities have been cured or waived. Any outstanding notes received by the exchange agent that are not properly tendered and as to which the defects or irregularities have not been cured or waived will be returned by the exchange agent to the tendering holders, unless otherwise provided in the letter of transmittal, as soon as practicable following the expiration date.

We have the right (subject to limitations contained in the indenture) (1) to purchase or make offers for any outstanding notes that remain outstanding after the expiration date and (2) to the extent permitted by applicable law, to purchase outstanding notes in privately negotiated transactions or otherwise. The terms of any such purchases or offers could differ from the terms of the exchange offer.

By tendering, a holder will be representing to us, among other things, that: (1) it or the person who will acquire the exchange notes being issued as a result of the exchange offer (whether or not that is the holder) will be acquiring them in the ordinary course of that person's business, (2) neither the holder nor any such other person has an arrangement or understanding with any person to participate in a distribution of the exchange notes, (3) it is not a broker-dealer that owns outstanding notes acquired directly from us or an affiliate of ours, (4) it is not an "affiliate" of the company (as defined in Rule 405 under the Securities Act) or any of the guarantors, and (5) it is not acting on behalf of any other person who could not truthfully make the representation described in this paragraph. In addition, if the holder is a broker-dealer that will receive exchange notes for its own account in exchange for outstanding notes that were acquired as result of market-making activities or other trading activities, the holder will, by tendering, acknowledge that it will comply with the prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act in connection with any resale of those exchange notes.

#### **Conditions of the Exchange Offer**

Notwithstanding any other term of the exchange offer, we will not be required to accept for exchange, or exchange securities for, any outstanding notes, if:

(a) any action or proceeding is instituted or threatened in any court or by or before any governmental agency which might materially impair our or the guarantors' ability to proceed with the exchange offer or any material adverse development has occurred in any existing action or proceeding with respect to us or any of the guarantors that would impair our or their ability to proceed;

(b) the exchange offer would violate any law or interpretation by the staff of the SEC; or

(c) any governmental approval has not been obtained, which approval we deem necessary for the consummation of the exchange offer.

If any of the conditions are not satisfied, we may (1) refuse to accept any outstanding notes and return all tendered outstanding notes to the tendering holders, (2) extend the exchange offer and retain all outstanding notes tendered prior to the expiration of the exchange offer, subject, however, to the rights of holders to withdraw such outstanding notes (see "— Withdrawal of Tenders"), (3) waive such unsatisfied conditions with respect to the exchange offer and accept all properly tendered outstanding notes which have not been withdrawn, (4) terminate the exchange offer, or (5) amend the exchange offer.

#### **Guaranteed Delivery Procedures**

Holders who wish to tender their outstanding notes and (1) whose outstanding notes are not immediately available, or (2) who cannot deliver their outstanding notes or any other required documents

to the exchange agent or cannot complete the procedure for book-entry transfer prior to the expiration date, may effect a tender if:

(a) The tender is made through an eligible institution;

(b) Prior to the expiration date, the exchange agent receives from the eligible institution a properly completed and duly executed notice of guaranteed delivery (by facsimile transmission, mail or hand) setting forth the name and address of the eligible holder, the certificate number(s) of the outstanding notes (if available) and the principal amount of outstanding notes tendered, together with a duly executed letter of transmittal (or a facsimile of one), stating that the tender is being made by that notice of guaranteed delivery and guaranteeing that, within three business days after the expiration date, the certificate(s) representing the outstanding notes (or confirmation of a book-entry transfer into the exchange agent's account at DTC) and any other documents required by the letter of transmittal will be delivered to the exchange agent; and

(c) The certificate(s) representing all the tendered outstanding notes (or confirmation of a book-entry transfer into the exchange agent's account at DTC) and all other documents required by the letter of transmittal are received by the exchange agent within three business days after the expiration date.

Upon the request to the exchange agent, a form of notice of guaranteed delivery will be sent to holders who wish to use the guaranteed delivery procedures described above.

#### **Withdrawal of Tenders**

Except as otherwise described below, tenders of outstanding notes may be withdrawn at any time prior to 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the expiration date.

To withdraw a tender of outstanding notes, a written or facsimile transmission notice of withdrawal must be received by the exchange agent prior to 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the expiration date. Any notice of withdrawal must (i) specify the name of the person who deposited the outstanding notes to be withdrawn, (ii) identify the outstanding notes to be withdrawn (including the certificate numbers and principal amounts of the outstanding notes), (iii) be signed by the depositor in the same manner as the signature on the letter of transmittal by which the outstanding notes were tendered (including any required signature guarantees) or be accompanied by documents of transfer sufficient to have the trustee register the transfer of the outstanding notes into the name of the person who withdraws the tender, and (iv) specify the name in which the withdrawn outstanding notes are to be registered, if different from that of the depositor. All questions as to the validity, form and eligibility (including time of receipt) of withdrawal notices will be determined by us in our sole discretion, and that determination will be final and binding on all parties. Any outstanding notes which are withdrawn will be deemed not to have been validly tendered for purposes of the exchange offer, and no exchange notes will be issued with respect to those outstanding notes unless they are validly re-tendered. Any outstanding notes which have been tendered but which are not accepted for exchange or which are withdrawn will be returned to the holder without cost to the holder promptly after withdrawal, rejection of tender or termination of the exchange offer. Properly withdrawn outstanding notes may be re-tendered at any time prior to the expiration date in accordance with the procedures described above under "— Procedures for Tendering."

#### **Fees and Expenses**

We will bear the expenses of soliciting tenders pursuant to the exchange offer. The principal solicitation of tenders is being made by mail. However, solicitations also may be made by telecopy, telephone or in person by officers and regular employees of ours and our affiliates.

We have not retained any dealer-manager in connection with the exchange offer and will not make any payments to brokers, dealers or others for soliciting acceptances of the exchange offer. We will, however, pay the exchange agent reasonable and customary fees for its services and reimburse it for its reasonable out-of-pocket expenses in connection with the exchange offer. We may also reimburse

brokerage houses and other custodians, nominees and fiduciaries for the reasonable out-of-pocket expenses they incur in forwarding copies of this prospectus, letters of transmittal and related documents to the beneficial owners of the outstanding notes and in handling or forwarding tenders for exchange. We will pay the other expenses incurred in connection with the exchange offer, including fees and expenses of the trustee, accounting and legal fees and printing costs.

We will pay all transfer taxes, if any, applicable to the exchange of outstanding notes for exchange notes pursuant to the exchange offer. If, however, certificates representing exchange notes or outstanding notes for principal amounts which are not tendered or accepted for exchange are to be delivered to, or are to be issued in the name of, a person other than the registered holder of the outstanding notes tendered, or if tendered outstanding notes are registered in the name of a person other than the person who signs the letter of transmittal, or if a transfer tax is imposed for any other reason, other than the exchange of outstanding notes for exchange notes pursuant to the exchange offer, the tendering holder must pay the transfer taxes (whether imposed on the registered holder or any other person). Unless satisfactory evidence of payment of transfer taxes or exemption from the need to pay them is submitted with the letter of transmittal, the amount of the transfer taxes will be billed directly to the tendering holder. We may refuse to issue exchange notes in exchange for outstanding notes, or to return certificates evidencing outstanding notes which are not exchanged, until we receive evidence satisfactory to us that any transfer taxes payable by the holder have been paid.

#### **Consequences of Failure to Exchange Outstanding Notes**

If a holder does not exchange outstanding notes for exchange notes in response to the exchange offer, the outstanding notes will continue to be subject to the restrictions on transfer described in the legend on the certificate evidencing the outstanding notes, and will not have the benefit of any agreement by us to register outstanding notes under the Securities Act. In general, notes may not be offered or sold, unless the sale is registered under the Securities Act, or unless the offer and sale are exempt from, or not subject to, the Securities Act or any applicable state securities laws.

Participation in the exchange offer is voluntary and holders should carefully consider whether to accept the exchange offer and tender their outstanding notes. Holders of outstanding notes are urged to consult their financial and tax advisors in making their own decisions on what action to take.

#### **Accounting Treatment**

The exchange notes will be recorded in our accounting records at the same carrying value as the outstanding notes on the date of the exchange. Accordingly, we will not recognize any gain or loss for accounting purposes as a result of the exchange offer. We will amortize the expenses of the exchange offer over the term of the exchange notes.

#### **Exchange Agent**

Wells Fargo Bank, National Association has been appointed as exchange agent for the exchange offer. All correspondence in connection with the exchange offer and the letter of transmittal should be addressed to the exchange agent, as follows:

*By Facsimile:*

Wells Fargo Bank,  
National Association  
Facsimile: (213) 614-3355  
(For Eligible Institutions Only)  
Attention: Jeanie Mar  
Confirm by telephone: (213) 614-3349

*By Registered or Certified Mail;  
Overnight Courier or Hand Delivery:*

Wells Fargo Bank,  
National Association  
707 Wilshire Blvd.  
17th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
Attention: Jeanie Mar

Requests for additional copies of this prospectus or the letter of transmittal or accompanying documents should be directed to the exchange agent. Delivery of the letter of transmittal or accompanying documents to a different address or transmission instructions to a different facsimile does not constitute a valid delivery of such letter of transmittal or other documents.

## UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

The following discussion addresses material United States federal income tax considerations applicable to the holder that exchanges outstanding notes for exchange notes. This discussion is based on the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), the applicable treasury regulations promulgated or proposed under the Code, judicial authority and current administrative rulings and practice. All of these authorities may change without notice, possibly on a retroactive basis. This summary deals only with holders that will hold exchange notes as capital assets within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Code. It does not address tax considerations applicable to investors that may be subject to special tax rules, such as banks and other financial institutions; tax-exempt organizations; insurance companies; partnerships; expatriates; traders or dealers in securities or currencies; custodians, nominees or similar financial intermediaries holding exchange notes for others; persons that will hold exchange notes as a position in a hedging transaction, straddle or conversion transaction for tax purposes or persons subject to the alternative minimum tax. This summary does not discuss the tax consequences of any conversion of currency into or out of the United States dollar as such a conversion relates to the purchase, ownership or disposition of the notes. Meritage has not sought any ruling from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) with respect to the statements made and the conclusions reached in the following summary. There can be no assurance that the IRS will agree with such statements and conclusions.

**HOLDERS OF OUTSTANDING NOTES SHOULD CONSULT THEIR OWN TAX ADVISORS WITH RESPECT TO THE APPLICATION OF THE UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX LAWS TO THEIR PARTICULAR SITUATIONS AS WELL AS ANY TAX CONSEQUENCES ARISING UNDER THE LAWS OF ANY STATE, LOCAL OR FOREIGN TAXING JURISDICTION OR UNDER ANY APPLICABLE TAX TREATY AS TO HOW THEIR PARTICULAR TAX SITUATION MIGHT BE AFFECTED BY THE EXCHANGE OF THE OUTSTANDING NOTES FOR THE EXCHANGE NOTES AND THE HOLDING AND DISPOSITION OF THEIR EXCHANGE NOTES.**

### United States Holders

For purposes of this discussion, a United States holder is the beneficial owner of an exchange note that, for United States federal income tax purposes, is:

- an individual citizen or resident of the United States;
- a corporation or other entity taxable as a corporation created or organized under the laws of the United States or any state thereof or the District of Columbia;
- an estate, the income of which is subject to United States federal income taxation regardless of its source; or
- a trust, if (i) one or more United States persons (as defined in Section 7701(a)(30) of the Code) have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust and a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of the trust or (ii) it has a valid election in effect to be treated as a United States Person.

A non-United States holder is a beneficial owner of an exchange note who is a nonresident alien or a corporation, trust or estate that is not a United States holder. If a partnership holds exchange notes, the tax treatment of a partner will generally depend on the status of the partner and on the activities of the partnership. Partners of partnerships holding notes should consult their tax advisors.

### *Exchange of Notes*

The exchange of outstanding notes for exchange notes pursuant to the exchange offer will not constitute a material modification of the terms of the notes and thus will not constitute a taxable event for United States holders. Consequently, United States holders will not recognize gain upon the receipt of exchange notes in exchange for outstanding notes in the exchange offer, United States holders' bases in

the exchange notes received in the exchange offer will be the same as their bases in the corresponding outstanding notes immediately before the exchange, and United States holders' holding period in the exchange notes will include their holding period in the outstanding notes.

#### *Payment of Interest*

Stated interest on an exchange note generally will be includible in the income of a United States holder as ordinary income at the time such interest is received or accrued, in accordance with the holder's method of accounting for United States federal income tax purposes.

#### *Market Discount*

United States holders should be aware that the resale of an exchange note may be affected by the market discount rules of the Code. Under these rules, a subsequent purchaser of an exchange note acquiring the note at a market discount generally would be required to include as ordinary income a portion of the gain realized upon the disposition or retirement of the note to the extent of the market discount that has accrued while the debt instrument was held by the purchaser. A purchase at a market discount includes the purchase of a note after its original issuance at a price less than the note's stated redemption price at maturity. The amount of market discount, if any, will generally equal the excess of:

- the sum of the issue price of the note and the aggregate amount of the discount includible in the gross income of all United States holders, over
- the purchase price.

Gain recognized on the disposition, including a redemption, by a United States holder of an exchange note that has accrued market discount will be treated as ordinary income, and not capital gain, to the extent of the accrued market discount, but only if the amount of market discount exceeds a statutorily-defined de minimis amount. Under the de minimis exception, there is no market discount on a note if the excess of the stated redemption price at maturity of the note over the holder's tax basis in the note is less than 0.25% of the stated redemption price at maturity multiplied by the number of complete years after the acquisition date to the note's date of maturity. Unless the holder elects otherwise, as described below, the accrued market discount would be the amount calculated by multiplying the market discount by a fraction:

- the numerator of which is the number of days the obligation has been held by the holder; and
- the denominator of which is the number of days after the holder's acquisition of the obligation up to and including its maturity date.

A United States holder of an exchange note acquired at market discount will be deemed to have realized an amount equal to the fair market value of the note if the holder disposes of the note in specified transactions other than a sale, exchange or involuntary conversion, even though the transaction is otherwise non-taxable (for example, a gift). The United States holder will be required to recognize as ordinary income any accrued market discount to the extent of the deemed gain. A holder of an exchange note acquired at a market discount also may be required to defer the deduction of all or a portion of the interest on any indebtedness incurred or maintained to purchase or carry the note until it is disposed of in a taxable transaction.

A United States holder of an exchange note acquired at market discount may elect to include the market discount in income as it accrues. This election would apply to all market discount obligations acquired by the electing United States holder on or after the first day of the first taxable year to which the election applies. The election may be revoked only with the consent of the IRS. If a United States holder of a note elects to include market discount in income currently, the rules discussed above with respect to ordinary income recognition resulting from sales and certain other dispositions and to deferral of interest deductions would not apply.

### *Amortizable Bond Premium*

An exchange note purchased for more than its principal amount generally will be considered to have been purchased at a premium. The bond premium is generally equal to the excess, if any, of the tax basis of the note over the amount payable at maturity of the note or, if a smaller premium would result, on an earlier call date of the note. A note holder may elect to amortize the bond premium on a constant yield basis, in which case amortizable bond premium is allocated to payments of interest and treated as an offset to interest income. A holder that elects to amortize premium must reduce the holder's tax basis in the note by the amount of the aggregate deductions, or interest offsets, allowable for the amortization of premium. If an election to amortize bond premium is not made, a note holder must include the full amount of each interest payment in income in accordance with the note holder's regular method of tax accounting, and the note holder will generally receive a tax benefit from the bond premium only upon computing the note holder's gain or loss upon the sale or other disposition or payment of the principal amount of the note.

### *Sale, Exchange, Redemption or Other Taxable Disposition of Notes*

Upon the sale, exchange, redemption or other taxable disposition of an exchange note, a United States holder generally will recognize capital gain or loss equal to the difference between:

- the amount of cash proceeds and the fair market value of any property received on the sale, exchange, redemption or other taxable disposition, except to the extent such amount is attributable to accrued interest income, which is taxable as ordinary income (as described above under "Payment of Interest"); and
- such holder's adjusted tax basis in the note.

A United States holder's adjusted tax basis in a note generally will equal the cost of the note to such holder less any amortized bond premium and any principal payments received by such holder plus any market discount previously included in income. Such capital gain or loss will be long-term if the United States holder's holding period is more than one year and will be short-term if the holding period is one year or less. Long-term capital gains recognized by individuals are generally taxed at a current maximum federal tax rate of 15%.

### *Information Reporting and Backup Withholding*

In general, information reporting requirements will apply to certain noncorporate United States holders with respect to payments of principal, premium and interest on a note, and to payments of the proceeds of the sale of a note. The receipt of such payments may be subject to "backup withholding" at a current rate of 28%. Backup withholding generally applies only if the holder:

- fails to furnish his or her Social Security or other taxpayer identification number within a reasonable time after the request for it;
- furnishes an incorrect taxpayer identification number;
- is notified by the IRS that he or she has failed to report properly interest, dividends or original issue discount; or
- fails, under specified circumstances, to provide a certified statement, signed under penalties of perjury, that the taxpayer identification number provided is the correct number and that he or she is not subject to backup withholding.

Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules from a payment to a United States holder will be allowed as a credit against such holder's United States federal income tax and may entitle the holder to a refund, provided that the required information is furnished to the IRS.

## Non-United States Holders

### *Exchange of Notes*

The exchange of outstanding notes for exchange notes pursuant to the exchange offer will not constitute a material modification of the terms of the notes and thus will not constitute a taxable event for non-United States holders. Consequently, non-United States holders will not recognize gain upon the receipt of exchange notes in exchange for outstanding notes in the exchange offer, non-United States holders' bases in the exchange notes received in the exchange offer will be the same as their bases in the corresponding outstanding notes immediately before the exchange, and non-United States holders' holding period in the exchange notes will include their holding period in the outstanding notes.

### *Payment of Interest*

Generally, interest income of a non-United States holder that is not effectively connected with a United States trade or business will be subject to a withholding tax at a 30% rate or any lower rate that may be prescribed by an income tax treaty between the United States and the holder's country of residence. However, such interest will qualify for the portfolio interest exemption and, therefore, will not be subject to United States federal income tax or withholding tax if the non-United States holder:

- does not actually or constructively own 10% or more of the combined voting power of all classes of stock of Meritage entitled to vote, and
- is not a controlled foreign corporation related to Meritage, actually or constructively through stock ownership under section 864(d)(4) of the Code.

and either:

- provides to Meritage or its agent an appropriate W-8 series Form or a suitable substitute form signed under penalties of perjury that includes its name and address and certifies as to the holder's non-United States status, and Meritage does not have actual knowledge or reason to know that the holder is a United States person, or
- Meritage does not have actual knowledge or reason to know that the holder is a United States person and Meritage receives (i) a withholding certificate from an intermediary payee (such as a withholding foreign partnership, qualified intermediary or U.S. branch of a non-United States bank or of a non-United States insurance company), and such intermediary obtains appropriate certification with respect to the holder's non-United States status and, if required, provides a copy of such certification to Meritage or (ii) if the payee is a securities clearing organization, bank or other financial institution that holds securities for its customers in the ordinary course, a statement signed under penalties of perjury that the institution has received a withholding certificate from the beneficial owner (or that it has received a similar statement from another financial institution), listing the name and address of the beneficial owner and attaching a copy of the beneficial owner's withholding certificate.

A non-United States holder which does not qualify for the "portfolio interest exemption" may nevertheless be entitled to an exemption from, or reduction on the rate of, the United States withholding tax on the interest and discount if such holder:

- resides in a jurisdiction which has a favorable income tax treaty with the United States,
- satisfies the conditions for the application of such treaty, and
- provides to Meritage or its agent the appropriate Form W-8 or a suitable substitute form.

Except to the extent that an applicable treaty otherwise provides, a non-United States holder generally will be taxed in the same manner as a United States holder with respect to interest if the interest is effectively connected with a United States trade or business of the non-United States holder. Effectively connected interest received by a corporate non-United States holder may also, under certain



circumstances, be subject to an additional branch profits tax at a 30% rate or, if applicable, a lower treaty rate. Even though such effectively connected interest is subject to income tax, and may be subject to the branch profits tax, it is not subject to withholding if the non-United States holder delivers an appropriate and properly executed W-8 series Form to Meritage or its agent.

#### *Sale, Exchange, Redemption or Other Taxable Dispositions of Notes*

A non-United States holder of an exchange note will generally not be subject to United States withholding tax on any gain realized on the sale, exchange, redemption or other taxable dispositions of an exchange note, other than gain attributable to accrued interest. Such gain also will generally not be subject to United States federal income tax unless:

- the gain is effectively connected with a United States trade or business of the non-United States holder (in which case such gain generally would be taxable in the same manner as effectively connected interest (as described above)), or
- in the case of a non-United States holder who is an individual, the holder is present in the United States for a period or periods aggregating at least 183 days (as such days are calculated in accordance with the Code) during the current taxable year of the disposition and certain other conditions are met (in which case such gain, net of certain U.S. source losses, may be subject to tax at a 30% rate).

The amount of gain realized upon the sale, exchange, or redemption of a note may include amounts attributable to accrued interest. Gain attributable to accrued interest will be taxable, if at all, as described above under “— Non-United States Holders — Payment of Interest.”

#### *Information Reporting and Backup Withholding*

In general, payments of interest made by Meritage and other payors to a non-United States holder will not be subject to backup withholding and information reporting, provided that the non-United States holder certifies its non-United States holder status under penalties of perjury or otherwise establishes an exemption. In general, payments of principal or the proceeds from the sale of exchange notes effected at a United States office of a broker are subject to both United States backup withholding and information reporting. However, a holder will not be subject to backup withholding and information reporting on such a payment provided that:

- the broker does not have actual knowledge or reason to know that the holder is a United States person and the holder has furnished to the broker:
  - an appropriate W-8 series Form or an acceptable substitute form upon which the holder certifies, under penalties of perjury, that the holder is a non-United States person, or
  - other documentation upon which it may rely to treat the payment as made to a non-United States person in accordance with U.S. Treasury regulations, or
- the holder otherwise establishes an exemption.

In general, payments of principal or the proceeds from the sale of exchange notes effected at a foreign office of a broker will not be subject to information reporting or backup withholding. However, such payments will be subject to information reporting, but not backup withholding, if the holder fails to provide the documentation described above or otherwise establish an exemption and the broker is:

- a United States person,
- a controlled foreign corporation for United States tax purposes,
- a foreign person 50% or more of whose gross income is effectively connected with the conduct of a United States trade or business for a specified three-year period, or

- a foreign partnership, if at any time during its tax year:

- one or more of its partners are United States persons, who in the aggregate hold more than 50% of the income or capital interest in the partnership, or

- such foreign partnership is engaged in the conduct of a United States trade or business unless the broker does not have actual knowledge or reason to know that the holder is a United States person and the documentation requirements described above (relating to a sale of notes effected at a United States office of a broker) are met or the holder otherwise establishes an exemption.

Applicable Treasury regulations contain a number of other provisions affecting United States withholding taxes and reporting requirements including special rules for payments made to nonqualified intermediaries, flow-through entities and United States branches. Prospective investors should consult their tax advisors regarding the effect of these regulations.

## PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

Each broker-dealer that receives exchange notes for its own account pursuant to the exchange offer must acknowledge that it will deliver a prospectus in connection with any resale of such exchange notes. The prospectus, as it may be amended or supplemented from time to time, may be used by a broker-dealer in connection with sales of exchange notes received in exchange for outstanding notes which were acquired as a result of market-making activities or other trading activities. We have agreed that, starting on the expiration date and ending on the close of business on the date that is 180 days after the expiration date, we will make this prospectus, as amended or supplemented, available to any broker-dealer for use in connection with any such resale.

We will not receive any proceeds from any sale of exchange notes by broker-dealers. Exchange notes received by broker-dealers for their own account pursuant to the exchange offer may be sold from time to time in one or more transactions in the over-the-counter market, in negotiated transactions, through the writing of options on the exchange notes or a combination of those methods of resale, at prices which may or may not be based upon market prices prevailing at the time of the sale. Any such sale may be made directly to purchasers or to or through brokers or dealers who may receive compensation in the form of commissions or concessions from the selling broker-dealer and/or the purchasers of the exchange notes. Any broker-dealer that sells exchange notes that were received by it for its own account pursuant to the exchange offer and any broker or dealer that participates in a distribution of such exchange notes may be deemed to be an "underwriter" within the meaning of the Securities Act and any profit from sale of the exchange notes and any commissions or concessions received by any such persons may be deemed to be underwriting compensation. The letter of transmittal states that a broker-dealer will not, by delivering a prospectus, be deemed to admit that it is an "underwriter" within the meaning of the Securities Act.

We have agreed to pay all expenses incident to the exchange offer other than commissions or concessions of any brokers or dealers and will indemnify the holders of the outstanding notes and the exchange notes (including any broker-dealers) against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

## LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the exchange notes and the related guarantees has been passed upon for Meritage by Snell & Wilmer L.L.P., Phoenix, Arizona.

## EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Meritage Corporation and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2003 and 2002, and for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2003, have been incorporated by reference herein and in the registration statement in reliance upon the report of KPMG LLP, independent accountants, incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

## AVAILABLE INFORMATION

Meritage and the Guarantors have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission a registration statement on Form S-4 (together with all amendments and exhibits thereto, the "registration statement") under the Securities Act for the registration of the exchange notes offered hereby. As permitted by the rules and regulations of the Commission, this prospectus does not contain all of the information set forth in the registration statement and the exhibits and schedules thereto. For further information with respect to Meritage, the Guarantors and the exchange notes offered hereby, reference is made to the registration statement and to the exhibits and schedules filed therewith. Statements contained in this prospectus concerning the contents of any contract or other document are not necessarily complete. With respect to

each such contract or other document filed with the Commission as an exhibit to the registration statement, reference is made to the exhibit for a more complete description of the matter involved.

We are subject to the informational requirements of the Exchange Act, and file reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. These reports, proxy statements and other information may be read and copied at the Public Reference Room maintained by the SEC at 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. You may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at (800) SEC-0330. The SEC also maintains an Internet site that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding registrants like us that file electronically with the SEC (at <http://www.sec.gov>). Meritage's common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange (Symbol: MTH). Reports, proxy statements and other information relating to Meritage can be inspected at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

#### INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

We are incorporating by reference certain information that we have filed under the informational requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. The information contained in the documents we are incorporating by reference is considered part of this prospectus. We are incorporating by reference the following documents, which we have already filed with the SEC:

Filing	Date Filed
Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003	March 15, 2004
Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2004	May 10, 2004
Current Report on Form 8-K	January 7, 2004
Current Report on Form 8-K	April 21, 2004
Current Report on Form 8-K	April 23, 2004

All documents filed by Meritage under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, after the date of this prospectus until the exchange offer is completed are incorporated into this prospectus by reference and will constitute part of this prospectus from the date they are filed.

#### SUBSIDIARY GUARANTORS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Each subsidiary guarantor is exempt from Exchange Act reporting pursuant to Rule 12h-5 under the Exchange Act, as:

- Meritage Corporation has no independent assets or operations;
- the guarantees of the subsidiary guarantors are full and unconditional and joint and several; and
- any subsidiaries of Meritage Corporation other than the subsidiary guarantors are, individually and in the aggregate, minor.

There are no significant restrictions on the ability of Meritage Corporation or any subsidiary guarantor to obtain funds from its subsidiaries by dividend or loan.

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**\$130,000,000**

MERITAGE  CORPORATION

**7% Senior Notes due 2014**

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PROSPECTUS

, 2004

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Each broker-dealer that receives exchange notes for its own account in the exchange offer must acknowledge that it will deliver a prospectus in connection with any resale of those exchange notes. The letter of transmittal states that, by so acknowledging and delivering a prospectus, a broker-dealer will not be deemed to admit that it is an “underwriter” within the meaning of the Securities Act.

This prospectus, as it may be amended or supplemented from time to time, may be used by a broker-dealer in connection with resales of exchange notes received in exchange for outstanding notes where the outstanding notes were acquired by the broker-dealer as a result of market-making activities or other trading activities.

We have agreed that, for a period of 180 days after the consummation of this exchange offer, we will make this prospectus available to any broker-dealer for use in connection with the resale of exchange notes. See “Plan of Distribution.”

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## PART II

### INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS

#### Item 20. *Indemnification of Directors and Officers*

##### **Meritage Corporation**

Under the provisions of the Maryland General Corporation Law, a corporation's articles may, with certain exceptions, include any provision expanding or limiting the liability of its directors and officers to the corporation or its stockholders for money damages, but may not include any provision that restricts or limits the liability of its directors or officers to the corporation or its stockholders to the extent that (i) it is proved that the person actually received an improper benefit or profit in money, property, or services for the amount of the benefit or profit in money, property, or services actually received; or (ii) a judgment or other final adjudication adverse to the person is entered in a proceeding based on a finding in the proceeding that the person's action, or failure to act, was the result of active and deliberate dishonesty and was material to the cause of action adjudicated in the proceeding. Meritage's charter contains a provision limiting the personal liability of officers and directors to Meritage and its stockholders to the fullest extent permitted under Maryland law.

In addition, the provisions of the Maryland General Corporation Law permit a corporation to indemnify its present and former directors and officers, among others, against liability incurred, unless it is established that (i) the act or omission of the director or officer was material to the matter giving rise to the proceeding and was committed in bad faith or was the result of active and deliberate dishonesty, or (ii) the director or officer actually received an improper personal benefit in money, property, or services, or (iii) in the case of any criminal proceeding, the director or officer had reasonable cause to believe that the act or omission was unlawful. Meritage's charter provides that it will indemnify its directors, officers, and others so designated by the board of directors to the full extent allowed under Maryland law.

##### **Subsidiary Guarantors**

###### *Arizona Corporate Guarantors*

Arizona Revised Statutes ("ARS") § 10-851 allows a corporation, in certain circumstances, to indemnify its directors against costs and expenses (including attorneys' fees) reasonably incurred in connection with threatened, pending or completed civil, criminal, administrative or investigative actions, suits or proceedings, in which such persons were or are parties, or are threatened to be made parties, by reason of the fact that they were or are directors of the corporation, if such persons acted in good faith and either (i) in a manner they reasonably believed to be in the best interests of the corporation (if acting in an official capacity), or (ii) in a manner they reasonably believed was at least not opposed to the corporation's best interests (in all other cases). A corporation may indemnify its directors with respect to any criminal action or proceeding if, in addition to the above conditions being met, the individual had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful. Directors may not be indemnified under ARS § 10-851 in connection with a proceeding by or in the right of the corporation in which the director was adjudged liable to the corporation or in connection with any other proceeding charging improper financial benefit to the director in which the director was adjudged liable on the basis that financial benefit was improperly received by the director. In addition, under ARS § 10-202, a corporation's articles of incorporation may indemnify a director for conduct for which broader indemnification has been made permissible or mandatory under other ARS provisions.

ARS § 10-202 provides that the articles of incorporation may set forth a provision eliminating or limiting the liability of a director to the corporation or its shareholders for money damages, and permitting or making obligatory indemnification of a director, for liability for any action taken or any failure to take any action as a director, except liability for any of the following: (a) the amount of a financial benefit received by a director to which the director is not entitled; (b) an intentional infliction of harm on the

corporation or the shareholders; (c) unlawful distributions; and (d) an intentional violation of criminal law.

ARS § 10-852 provides for mandatory indemnification in certain situations such that, unless limited by its articles of incorporation, a corporation shall indemnify a director who was the prevailing party, on the merits or otherwise, in the defense of any proceeding to which the director was a party because the director is or was a director of the corporation against reasonable expenses incurred by the director in connection with the proceeding.

ARS § 10-856 provides that a corporation may indemnify its officers against costs and expenses (including attorneys' fees) reasonably incurred in connection with threatened, pending or completed civil, criminal, administrative or investigative actions, suits or proceedings, in which such persons were or are parties, or are threatened to be made parties because the individual is or was an officer of the corporation to the same extent as a director. If the individual is an officer but not a director (or is both but is made a party to the proceeding solely because of an act or omission as an officer), a corporation may indemnify and advance expenses to the further extent as may be provided by the articles of incorporation, the bylaws, a resolution of the board of directors, or contract except for (i) liability in connection with a proceeding by or in the right of the corporation other than for reasonable expenses incurred in connection with the proceeding, or (ii) liability arising out of conduct that constitutes (a) receipt by the officer of a financial benefit to which the officer is not entitled, (b) an intentional infliction of harm on the corporation or the shareholders, or (c) an intentional violation of criminal law. An officer of a corporation who is not a director is entitled to mandatory indemnification as a prevailing party under ARS § 10-852.

ARS § 10-850 define as a director as including an individual who is or was a director of a corporation or an individual while a director of a corporation is or was serving at the corporation's request as a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture or other entity.

The articles of incorporation of Monterey Homes Arizona, Inc., Monterey Homes Construction, Inc., Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc., Meritage Homes Construction, Inc., MTH-Texas GP, Inc. and MTH-Texas LP, Inc., each of which is an Arizona corporation, provide that the liability of a director or former director to the corporation or its shareholders shall be eliminated to the fullest extent permitted by Arizona law.

The articles of incorporation of Hancock-MTH Builders, Inc., Hancock-MTH Communities, Inc., MTH-Texas GP II, Inc., MTH-Texas LP II, Inc., MTH-Homes Nevada, Inc. and Meritage Homes of Colorado, Inc., each of which is an Arizona corporation, provide that the liability of a director or former director to the corporation or its stockholders shall be eliminated to the fullest extent permitted by Arizona law. In addition, the articles of incorporation of each of these corporations provide that the corporation shall indemnify any and all of its existing and former directors and officers to the fullest extent permitted by Arizona law.

#### ***California Guarantor***

Section 317 of the California General Corporation Law (the "CGCL") allows a corporation, in certain circumstances, to indemnify its directors and officers against certain expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines, settlements and other amounts actually and reasonably incurred in connection with threatened, pending or completed civil, criminal, administrative or investigative actions, suits or proceedings (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation), in which such persons were or are parties, or are threatened to be made parties, by reason of the fact that they were or are directors or officers of the corporation, if such persons acted in good faith and in a manner they reasonably believed to be in the best interests of the corporation, and with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe their conduct was unlawful. In addition, a corporation is, in certain circumstances, permitted to indemnify its directors and officers against certain expenses incurred in connection with the defense or settlement of a threatened, pending or completed action by or in the right of the corporation, and against amounts paid in settlement of any such action, if such persons acted in

good faith and in a manner they believed to be in the best interests of the corporation and its shareholders, provided that the specified court approval is obtained.

Section 204(a)(10) of the CGCL allows a corporation to include a provision in its articles of incorporation eliminating or limiting the personal liability of a director for monetary damages in an action brought by or in the right of the corporation for breach of the director's duty to the corporation, except for the liability of a director resulting from (i) acts or omissions involving intentional misconduct or a knowing and culpable violation of law, (ii) any transaction from which a director derived an improper personal benefit, (iii) acts or omissions that a director believes to be contrary to the best interests of the corporation or its shareholders or that involve the absence of good faith, (iv) acts or omissions showing a reckless disregard for the director's duty to the corporation or its shareholders, (v) acts or omissions constituting an unexcused pattern of inattention to the director's duty, (v) liability under California law relating to transactions between corporations and directors or corporations having interrelated directors, or (vi) the making of an illegal distribution or loan to shareholders.

The articles of incorporation of Meritage Homes of California, Inc. provide that the corporation is authorized to provide indemnification of its officers and directors through bylaw provisions, agreements with officers and directors, vote of shareholders or disinterested directors or otherwise, in excess of the indemnification otherwise permitted by Section 317 of the CGCL, subject only to the applicable limits set forth in Section 204 of the CGCL. The bylaws of Meritage Homes of California, Inc. provide that the corporation shall indemnify each of its directors and officers to the maximum extent and in the manner permitted by the CGCL.

**Item 21. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules**

(a) Exhibits:

Exhibit Number	Description	Page or Method of Filing
2.1	Agreement and plan of Reorganization, dated as of September 13, 1996, by and among Homeplex, the Monterey Merging Companies and the Monterey Stockholders	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-15937.
2.2	Master Transaction Agreement, dated May 7, 2001, by and among the Company, Hancock-MTH Builders, Inc., HC Builders, Inc. and Hancock Communities, L.L.C.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 of Form 8-K dated May 10, 2001.
2.2.1	Amendment No. 1 to Master Transaction Agreement, dated May 30, 2001, by and between Meritage Corporation, Meritage-MTH Communities, Inc., HC Builders, Inc., Hancock Communities, L.L.C. and American Homes West, Incorporated	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 of Form 8-K dated June 6, 2001.
2.3	Master Transaction Agreement, dated June 12, 2002, by and among the Company, MTH Homes-Texas, L.P., Hammonds Homes Ltd., Crystal City Land & Cattle, Ltd., Hammonds Homes I, LLC, Crystal City I, LLC and Ronnie D. Hammonds	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of Form 8-K dated July 12, 2002.
2.3.1	Amendment No. 1 to Master Transaction Agreement, dated June 12, 2002, by and among the Company, MTH Homes-Texas, L.P., Hammonds Homes Ltd., Crystal City Land & Cattle, Ltd., Hammond Homes I, LLC, Crystal City I, LLC and Ronnie D. Hammonds	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 of Form 8-K dated July 12, 2002.



Exhibit Number	Description	Page or Method of Filing
2.4	Master Transaction Agreement, dated October 7, 2002, by and among the Company, MTH-Homes Nevada, Inc., Perma-Bilt, A Nevada Corporation, and Zenith National Insurance Corp.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of Form 8-K/A dated October 7, 2002.
3.1	Amendment to Articles of Incorporation of Meritage Corporation	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 of Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended September 30, 1998.
3.2	Restated Articles of Incorporation of Meritage Corporation	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3 of Form 8-K dated June 20, 2002.
3.3	Amended and Restated Bylaws of Meritage Corporation	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.3 of Form S-3 Registration Statement No. 333-58793.
3.4	Articles of Incorporation of Monterey Homes Arizona, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.4 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.5	Bylaws of Monterey Homes Arizona, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.5 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.6	Articles of Organization of Meritage Paseo Crossing, LLC	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.6 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.7	Articles of Incorporation of Monterey Homes Construction, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.7 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.8	Bylaws of Monterey Homes Construction, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.8 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.9	Articles of Organization of Meritage Paseo Construction, LLC	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.9 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.9.1	Amendment to Articles of Organization of Meritage Paseo Construction, LLC	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.9.1 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.10	Articles of Incorporation of Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.10 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.11	Bylaws of Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.11 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.12	Articles of Incorporation of MTH-Texas GP, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.12 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.13	Bylaws of MTH-Texas GP, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.13 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.14	Articles of Incorporation of MTH-Texas LP, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.14 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.15	Bylaws of MTH-Texas LP, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.15 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.

Exhibit Number	Description	Page or Method of Filing
3.16	Certificate of Limited Partnership of Legacy/ Monterey Homes L.P.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.16 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.16.1	Amendment to Certificate of Limited Partnership of Legacy/ Monterey Homes L.P.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.16.1 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.17	Articles of Incorporation of Meritage Homes of California, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.17 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.17.1	Amendment to Articles of Incorporation for Meritage Homes of California	Filed herewith.
3.18	Bylaws of Meritage Homes of California, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.18 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.19	Articles of Incorporation of Hancock-MTH Builders, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.19 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.20	Bylaws of Hancock-MTH Builders, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.20 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.21	Articles of Incorporation of Hancock-MTH Communities, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.21 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.22	Bylaws of MTH-Communities, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.22 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.23	Certificate of Limited Partnership for Legacy Operating Company, L.P.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.23 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.24	Articles of Incorporation of Meritage Homes Construction, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.24 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.25	Bylaws of Meritage Homes Construction, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.25 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.26	Articles of Incorporation of MTH-Texas GP II, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.26 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.
3.27	Bylaws of MTH-Texas GP II, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.27 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.
3.28	Articles of Incorporation of MTH-Texas LP II, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.28 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.
3.29	Bylaws of MTH-Texas LP II, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.29 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.
3.30	Articles of Incorporation of MTH-Homes Nevada, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.30 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.

Exhibit Number	Description	Page or Method of Filing
3.31	Bylaws of MTH-Homes Nevada, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.31 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.
3.32	Articles of Organization of Meritage Holdings, L.L.C.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.32 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.
3.33	Regulations of Meritage Holdings, L.L.C.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.33 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.
3.34	Articles of Organization of Hulen Park Venture, LLC	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.34 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.
3.35	Regulations of Hulen Park Venture, LLC	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.35 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.
3.36	Certificate of Limited Partnership of MTH Homes-Texas, L.P.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.36 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.
3.37	Agreement of Limited Partnership of MTH Homes-Texas, L.P.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.37 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.
3.38	Articles of Organization of MTH-Cavalier, LLC	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.38 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.
3.39	Operating Agreement of MTH-Cavalier, LLC	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.39 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.
3.40	Articles of Organization of Mission Royale Golf Course, LLC (predecessor of MTH Golf, LLC)	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.40 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-109933.
3.40.1	Amended and Restated Articles of Organization for MTH Golf, LLC	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.40.1 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-109933.
3.41	Certificate of Limited Partnership of Legacy-Hammonds Materials, L.P.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.41 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-109933.
3.42	Agreement of Limited Partnership of Legacy- Hammonds Materials, L.P.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.42 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-109933.
3.43	Articles of Incorporation of Meritage Homes of Colorado, Inc.	Filed herewith.
3.44	Bylaws of Meritage Homes of Colorado, Inc.	Filed herewith.
4.1	Form of Specimen of Common Stock Certificate	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 of Form S-3 Registration Statement No. 333-87398.
4.2	Indenture, dated May 31, 2001, by and among the Company, the Guarantors named therein and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 of Form 8-K dated June 6, 2001.

Exhibit Number	Description	Page or Method of Filing
4.2.1	First Supplemental Indenture, dated September 20, 2001, by and among the Company, Hulen Park Venture, LLC, Meritage Holdings, L.L.C., the Guarantors named therein and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3.1 of Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002.
4.2.2	Second Supplemental Indenture, dated July 12, 2002, by and among the Company, MTH Homes-Texas, L.P., MTH-Texas GP II, Inc., MTH-Texas LP II, Inc., the Guarantors named therein and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3.2 of Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002.
4.2.3	Third Supplemental Indenture, dated October 21, 2002, by and among the Company, MTH-Homes Nevada, Inc., the Guarantors named therein and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3.3 of Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002.
4.2.4	Fourth Supplemental Indenture, dated February 19, 2003 by and among the Company, MTH-Cavalier, LLC, the Guarantors named therein and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3.4 of Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002.
4.2.5	Fifth Supplemental Indenture, dated August 22, 2003, by and among the Company, MTH Golf, LLC (formerly known as Mission Royale, LLC), Legacy-Hammonds Materials, L.P., the Guarantors named therein and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2.5 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-109933.
4.2.6	Sixth Supplemental Indenture, dated May 14, 2004, by and among the Company, Meritage Homes of Colorado, Inc., the Guarantors named therein and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	Filed herewith.
4.3	Indenture, dated April 21, 2004, by and among the Company, the Guarantors named therein and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. and form of 7% Senior Note due 2014	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 of Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2004.
4.3.1	First Supplemental Indenture, dated May 14, 2004, by and among the Company, Meritage Homes of Colorado, Inc., the Guarantors named therein and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	Filed herewith.
5	Opinion of Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. regarding the legality of the securities being registered	Filed herewith.
10.1	\$250 Million Credit Agreement, dated December 12, 2002, by and among the Company, Guaranty Bank, Fleet National Bank, Bank One, NA and the other lenders thereto	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002.
10.1.1	First Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated September 8, 2003, among the Company, Guaranty Bank, Fleet National Bank, Bank One, NA and the other lenders thereto	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1.1 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-109933.
10.1.2	Second Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated December 3, 2003, among the Company, Guaranty Bank, Bank One, NA, Fleet National Bank and the other lenders thereto	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1.2 of Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003.

Exhibit Number	Description	Page or Method of Filing
10.1.3	Third Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated April 20, 2004, among the Company, Guaranty Bank, Bank One, NA, Fleet National Bank and the other lenders thereto	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2004.
10.2	2001 Annual Incentive Plan*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit B of the Proxy Statement for the 2001 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.
10.3	Amended Meritage Stock Option Plan*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 of Form S-8 Registration Statement, dated July 3, 2002.
10.4	Representative Form of Employment Agreement between the Company and Steven J. Hilton and John R. Landon*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of Form 8-K dated July 8, 2003.
10.4.1	Amendment to Employment Agreement between the Company and Steven J. Hilton and John R. Landon*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 of Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2004.
10.5	Representative Form of Change of Control Agreement between the Company and Steven J. Hilton and John R. Landon*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 of Form 8-K dated July 8, 2003.
10.6	Employment Agreement between the Company and Larry W. Seay*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.7 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-109933.
10.6.1	Amendment to Employment Agreement between the Company and Larry W. Seay*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 of Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2004.
10.7	Change of Control Agreement between the Company and Larry W. Seay*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.8 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-109933.
10.8	Change of Control Agreement between the Company and Richard T. Morgan*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.6 of Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2000.
10.9	Deferred Bonus Agreement — 2001 Award Year — between the Company and Larry W. Seay*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 of Form 8-K dated June 20, 2002.
10.10	Deferred Bonus Agreement — 2002 Award Year — between the Company and Larry W. Seay*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.10 of Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002.
10.11	Deferred Bonus Agreement — 2003 Award Year, between the Company and Larry W. Seay*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 of Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2004.
10.12	Deferred Bonus Agreement — 2001 Award Year — between the Company and Richard T. Morgan*	Incorporate by reference to Exhibit 10.3 of Form 8-K dated June 20, 2002.
10.13	Deferred bonus Agreement — 2002 Award Year — between the company and Richard T. Morgan*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.12 of Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002.
10.14	Deferred Bonus Agreement — 2003 Award Year, between the Company and Richard T. Morgan*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 of Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2004.

Exhibit Number	Description	Page or Method of Filing
10.15	Registration Rights Agreement dated April 14, 2004, by and among the Company, the Guarantors named therein and Citigroup Global Markets Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of Form 8-K dated April 21, 2004.
12	Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges	Filed herewith.
21	List of Subsidiaries	Filed herewith.
23.1	Consent of KPMG LLP	Filed herewith.
23.2	Consent of Snell & Wilmer L.L.P.	Contained in Exhibit 5.1.
24	Powers of Attorney	See signature page.
25	Statement of Eligibility under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 on Form T-1 of Wells Fargo Bank Minnesota, National Association	Filed herewith.
99	Form of Letter of Transmittal and related documents with respect to the Exchange Offer	Filed herewith.

\* Indicates a management contract or compensation plan.

(b) *Financial Statement Schedules:*

Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges filed at Exhibit 12.

## Item 22. *Undertakings*

The undersigned registrants hereby undertake:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in this registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than 20 percent change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in this registration statement; and

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in this registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement;

*provided, however*, that the undertakings set forth in paragraphs (i) and (ii) do not apply if the registration statement is on Form S-3, Form S-8 or Form F-3, and the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in this registration statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(4) That, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(5) To respond to requests for information that is incorporated by reference into the prospectus pursuant to Item 4, 10(b), 11, or 13 of this form, within one business day of receipt of such request, and to send the incorporated documents by first class mail or other equally prompt means. This includes information contained in documents filed subsequent to the effective date of the registration statement through the date of responding to the request.

(6) To supply by means of a post-effective amendment all information concerning a transaction, and the company being acquired involved therein, that was not the subject of and included in this registration statement when it became effective.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission, such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question of whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act, the registrant has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Scottsdale, State of Arizona, on May 18, 2004.

MERITAGE CORPORATION

By: /s/ STEVEN J. HILTON

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Steven J. Hilton  
*Co-Chairman,*  
*Co-Chief Executive Officer*

By: /s/ JOHN R. LANDON

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John R. Landon  
*Co-Chairman,*  
*Co-Chief Executive Officer*



The following direct and indirect subsidiaries of the registrant will guarantee the debt securities and are co-registrants under this registration statement.

**Name of Co-Registrant**

- Monterey Homes Arizona, Inc.
- Meritage Paseo Crossing, LLC(1)
- Monterey Homes Construction, Inc.
- Meritage Paseo Construction, LLC(2)
- Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc.
- Meritage Homes Construction, Inc.
- MTH-Texas GP, Inc.
- MTH-Texas LP, Inc.
- Legacy/Monterey Homes L.P.(3)
- Meritage Homes of California, Inc.
- Hancock-MTH Builders, Inc.
- Hancock-MTH Communities, Inc.
- Legacy Operating Company, L.P.(4)
- Legacy-Hammonds Materials, L.P.(4)
- MTH-Texas GP II, Inc.
- MTH-Texas LP II, Inc.
- MTH-Homes Nevada, Inc.
- Meritage Holdings, L.L.C.(5)
- Hulen Park Venture, LLC(5)
- MTH Homes-Texas, L.P.(6)
- MTH-Cavalier, LLC(7)
- MTH Golf, LLC(8)
- Meritage Homes of Colorado, Inc.

as CO-REGISTRANTS

By: /s/ STEVEN J. HILTON

---

Steven J. Hilton  
*Principal Executive Officer and Director of each Co-Registrant that is a corporation and Principal Executive Officer and Director of the corporate general partner or sole member of each Co-Registrant that is a limited partnership or limited liability company, respectively.*

By: /s/ JOHN R. LANDON

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John R. Landon  
*Principal Executive Officer and Director of each Co-Registrant that is a corporation and Principal Executive Officer and Director of the corporate general partner or sole member of each Co-Registrant that is a limited partnership or limited liability company, respectively.*

- 
- (1) Executed by Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc., as sole member
  - (2) Executed by Meritage Homes Construction, Inc., as sole member
  - (3) Executed by MTH-Texas GP, Inc., as general partner
  - (4) Executed by MTH-Texas GP, Inc., the general partner of Legacy/Monterey Homes L.P., which in turn is the sole member of Meritage Holdings, L.L.C., which is the general partner of this Co-Registrant
  - (5) Executed by MTH-Texas GP, Inc., the general partner of Legacy/Monterey Homes L.P., which is the sole member of this Co-Registrant
  - (6) Executed by MTH-Texas GP II, Inc., as general partner
  - (7) Executed by Monterey Homes Construction, Inc., as sole member
  - (8) Executed by Hancock-MTH Builders, Inc., as sole member

**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Steven J. Hilton, John R. Landon and Larry W. Seay, and each of them, his true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments to this registration statement, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises, and fully and to all intents and purposes as he might or could do in person hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorney-in-fact and agents, or his substitute or substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

ON BEHALF OF MERITAGE CORPORATION:

	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
By:	<u>/s/ STEVEN J. HILTON</u> Steven J. Hilton	Co-Chairman, Co-Chief Executive Officer and Director	May 18, 2004
By:	<u>/s/ JOHN R. LANDON</u> John R. Landon	Co-Chairman, Co-Chief Executive Officer and Director	May 18, 2004
By:	<u>/s/ LARRY W. SEAY</u> Larry W. Seay	Chief Financial Officer and Vice President — Finance (Principal Financial Officer)	May 18, 2004
By:	<u>/s/ VICKI L. BIGGS</u> Vicki L. Biggs	Vice President — Controller (Principal Accounting Officer)	May 18, 2004
By:	<u>/s/ ROBERT G. SARVER</u> Robert G. Sarver	Director	May 18, 2004
By:	<u>/s/ RAYMOND OPPEL</u> Raymond Oppel	Director	May 18, 2004
By:	<u>/s/ PETER L. AX</u> Peter L. Ax	Director	May 18, 2004
By:	<u>/s/ WILLIAM G. CAMPBELL</u> William G. Campbell	Director	May 18, 2004
By:	<u>/s/ C. TIMOTHY WHITE</u> C. Timothy White	Director	May 18, 2004

ON BEHALF OF THE FOLLOWING CO-REGISTRANTS:

**Name of Co-Registrant:**

Monterey Homes Arizona, Inc.  
 Monterey Homes Construction, Inc.  
 Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc.  
 Meritage Homes Construction, Inc.  
 Meritage Homes of California, Inc.  
 Hancock-MTH Builders, Inc.  
 Hancock-MTH Communities, Inc.  
 MTH-Texas GP, Inc.  
 MTH-Texas LP, Inc.  
 MTH-Texas GP II, Inc.  
 MTH-Texas LP II, Inc.  
 MTH-Homes Nevada, Inc.  
 Meritage Homes of Colorado, Inc.

	Signature	Title	Date
By:	_____ /s/ STEVEN J. HILTON _____ Steven J. Hilton	Principal Executive Officer and Director (Principal Executive Officer)	May 18, 2004
By:	_____ /s/ JOHN R. LANDON _____ John R. Landon	Principal Executive Officer and Director (Principal Executive Officer)	May 18, 2004
By:	_____ /s/ LARRY W. SEAY _____ Larry W. Seay	Vice President (Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer)	May 18, 2004

ON BEHALF OF THE FOLLOWING LIMITED PARTNERSHIP AND LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY CO-REGISTRANTS:

**Name of Co-Registrant**

Meritage Paseo Crossing, LLC  
 Meritage Paseo Construction, LLC  
 Legacy/Monterey Homes L.P.  
 Legacy Operating Company, L.P.  
 Meritage Holdings, L.L.C.  
 Hulen Park Venture, LLC  
 MTH Homes-Texas, L.P.  
 MTH-Cavalier, LLC  
 MTH Golf, LLC  
 Legacy-Hammonds Materials, L.P.

**General Partner or Sole Member of Co-Registrant**

Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc.  
 Meritage Homes Construction, Inc.  
 MTH-Texas GP, Inc.  
 Meritage Holdings, L.L.C.  
 Legacy/Monterey Homes L.P.  
 Legacy/Monterey Homes L.P.  
 MTH-Texas GP II, Inc.  
 Monterey Homes Construction, Inc.  
 Hancock-MTH Builders, Inc.  
 Meritage Holdings, L.L.C.

	Signature	Title	Date
By:	<hr/> /s/ STEVEN J. HILTON <hr/> Steven J. Hilton	Principal Executive Officer and Director of each: Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc., Meritage Homes Construction, Inc., MTH-Texas GP, Inc., MTH-Texas GP II, Inc., and Monterey Homes Construction Inc. Hancock-MTH Builders, Inc.	May 18, 2004
By:	<hr/> /s/ JOHN R. LANDON <hr/> John R. Landon	Principal Executive Officer and Director of each: Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc., Meritage Homes Construction, Inc., MTH-Texas GP, Inc., MTH-Texas GP II, Inc. and Monterey Homes Construction, Inc. Hancock-MTH Builders, Inc.	May 18, 2004
By:	<hr/> /s/ LARRY W. SEAY <hr/> Larry W. Seay	Vice President of each: Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc., Meritage Homes Construction, Inc., MTH-Texas GP, Inc., MTH-Texas GP II, Inc. and Monterey Homes Construction, Inc. Hancock-MTH Builders, Inc. (Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer)	May 18, 2004

## INDEX OF EXHIBITS

Exhibit Number	Description	Page or Method of Filing
2.1	Agreement and plan of Reorganization, dated as of September 13, 1996, by and among Homeplex, the Monterey Merging Companies and the Monterey Stockholders	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-15937.
2.2	Master Transaction Agreement, dated May 7, 2001, by and among the Company, Hancock-MTH Builders, Inc., HC Builders, Inc. and Hancock Communities, L.L.C.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 of Form 8-K dated May 10, 2001.
2.2.1	Amendment No. 1 to Master Transaction Agreement, dated May 30, 2001, by and between Meritage Corporation, Meritage-MTH Communities, Inc., HC Builders, Inc., Hancock Communities, L.L.C. and American Homes West, Incorporated	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 of Form 8-K dated June 6, 2001.
2.3	Master Transaction Agreement, dated June 12, 2002, by and among the Company, MTH Homes-Texas, L.P., Hammonds Homes Ltd., Crystal City Land & Cattle, Ltd., Hammonds Homes I, LLC, Crystal City I, LLC and Ronnie D. Hammonds	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of Form 8-K dated July 12, 2002.
2.3.1	Amendment No. 1 to Master Transaction Agreement, dated June 12, 2002, by and among the Company, MTH Homes-Texas, L.P., Hammonds Homes Ltd., Crystal City Land & Cattle, Ltd., Hammond Homes I, LLC, Crystal City I, LLC and Ronnie D. Hammonds	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 of Form 8-K dated July 12, 2002.
2.4	Master Transaction Agreement, dated October 7, 2002, by and among the Company, MTH-Homes Nevada, Inc., Perma-Bilt, A Nevada Corporation, and Zenith National Insurance Corp.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of Form 8-K/A dated October 7, 2002.
3.1	Amendment to Articles of Incorporation of Meritage Corporation	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 of Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended September 30, 1998.
3.2	Restated Articles of Incorporation of Meritage Corporation	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3 of Form 8-K dated June 20, 2002.
3.3	Amended and Restated Bylaws of Meritage Corporation	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.3 of Form S-3 Registration Statement No. 333-58793.
3.4	Articles of Incorporation of Monterey Homes Arizona, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.4 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.5	Bylaws of Monterey Homes Arizona, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.5 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.6	Articles of Organization of Meritage Paseo Crossing, LLC	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.6 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.7	Articles of Incorporation of Monterey Homes Construction, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.7 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.

Exhibit Number	Description	Page or Method of Filing
3.8	Bylaws of Monterey Homes Construction, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.8 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.9	Articles of Organization of Meritage Paseo Construction, LLC	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.9 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.9.1	Amendment to Articles of Organization of Meritage Paseo Construction, LLC	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.9.1 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.10	Articles of Incorporation of Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.10 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.11	Bylaws of Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.11 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.12	Articles of Incorporation of MTH-Texas GP, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.12 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.13	Bylaws of MTH-Texas GP, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.13 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.14	Articles of Incorporation of MTH-Texas LP, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.14 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.15	Bylaws of MTH-Texas LP, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.15 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.16	Certificate of Limited Partnership of Legacy/Monterey Homes L.P.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.16 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.16.1	Amendment to Certificate of Limited Partnership of Legacy/Monterey Homes L.P.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.16.1 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.17	Articles of Incorporation of Meritage Homes of California, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.17 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.17.1	Amendment to Articles of Incorporation for Meritage Homes of California	Filed herewith.
3.18	Bylaws of Meritage Homes of California, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.18 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.19	Articles of Incorporation of Hancock-MTH Builders, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.19 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.20	Bylaws of Hancock-MTH Builders, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.20 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.21	Articles of Incorporation of Hancock-MTH Communities, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.21 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.22	Bylaws of MTH-Communities, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.22 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.

Exhibit Number	Description	Page or Method of Filing
3.23	Certificate of Limited Partnership for Legacy Operating Company, L.P.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.23 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.24	Articles of Incorporation of Meritage Homes Construction, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.24 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.25	Bylaws of Meritage Homes Construction, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.25 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-64538.
3.26	Articles of Incorporation of MTH-Texas GP II, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.26 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.
3.27	Bylaws of MTH-Texas GP II, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.27 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.
3.28	Articles of Incorporation of MTH-Texas LP II, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.28 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.
3.29	Bylaws of MTH-Texas LP II, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.29 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.
3.30	Articles of Incorporation of MTH-Homes Nevada, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.30 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.
3.31	Bylaws of MTH-Homes Nevada, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.31 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.
3.32	Articles of Organization of Meritage Holdings, L.L.C.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.32 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.
3.33	Regulations of Meritage Holdings, L.L.C.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.33 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.
3.34	Articles of Organization of Hulen Park Venture, LLC	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.34 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.
3.35	Regulations of Hulen Park Venture, LLC	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.35 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.
3.36	Certificate of Limited Partnership of MTH Homes-Texas, L.P.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.36 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.
3.37	Agreement of Limited Partnership of MTH Homes-Texas, L.P.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.37 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.
3.38	Articles of Organization of MTH-Cavalier, LLC	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.38 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.
3.39	Operating Agreement of MTH-Cavalier, LLC	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.39 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-105043.

Exhibit Number	Description	Page or Method of Filing
3.40	Articles of Organization of Mission Royale Golf Course, LLC (predecessor of MTH Golf, LLC)	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.40 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-109933.
3.40.1	Amended and Restated Articles of Organization for MTH Golf, LLC	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.40.1 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-109933.
3.41	Certificate of Limited Partnership of Legacy-Hammonds Materials, L.P.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.41 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-109933.
3.42	Agreement of Limited Partnership of Legacy-Hammonds Materials, L.P.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.42 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-109933.
3.43	Articles of Incorporation of Meritage Homes of Colorado, Inc.	Filed herewith.
3.44	Bylaws of Meritage Homes of Colorado, Inc.	Filed herewith.
4.1	Form of Specimen of Common Stock Certificate	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 of Form S-3 Registration Statement No. 333-87398.
4.2	Indenture, dated May 31, 2001, by and among the Company, the Guarantors named therein and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 of Form 8-K dated June 6, 2001.
4.2.1	First Supplemental Indenture, dated September 20, 2001, by and among the Company, Hulen Park Venture, LLC, Meritage Holdings, L.L.C., the Guarantors named therein and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3.1 of Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002.
4.2.2	Second Supplemental Indenture, dated July 12, 2002, by and among the Company, MTH Homes-Texas, L.P., MTH-Texas GP II, Inc., MTH-Texas LP II, Inc., the Guarantors named therein and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3.2 of Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002.
4.2.3	Third Supplemental Indenture, dated October 21, 2002, by and among the Company, MTH-Homes Nevada, Inc., the Guarantors named therein and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3.3 of Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002.
4.2.4	Fourth Supplemental Indenture, dated February 19, 2003 by and among the Company, MTH-Cavalier, LLC, the Guarantors named therein and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3.4 of Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002.
4.2.5	Fifth Supplemental Indenture, dated August 22, 2003, by and among the Company, MTH Golf, LLC (formerly known as Mission Royale, LLC), Legacy-Hammonds Materials, L.P., the Guarantors named therein and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2.5 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-109933.
4.2.6	Sixth Supplemental Indenture, dated May 14, 2004, by and among the Company, Meritage Homes of Colorado, Inc., the Guarantors named therein and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	Filed herewith.
4.3	Indenture, dated April 21, 2004, by and among the Company, the Guarantors named therein and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. and form of 7% Senior Note due 2014	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 of Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2004.



Exhibit Number	Description	Page or Method of Filing
4.3.1	First Supplemental Indenture, dated May 14, 2004, by and among the Company, Meritage Homes of Colorado, Inc., the Guarantors named therein and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	Filed herewith.
5	Opinion of Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. regarding the legality of the securities being registered	Filed herewith.
10.1	\$250 Million Credit Agreement, dated December 12, 2002, by and among the Company, Guaranty Bank, Fleet National Bank, Bank One, NA and the other lenders thereto	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002.
10.1.1	First Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated September 8, 2003, among the Company, Guaranty Bank, Fleet National Bank, Bank One, NA and the other lenders thereto	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1.1 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-109933.
10.1.2	Second Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated December 3, 2003, among the Company, Guaranty Bank, Bank One, NA, Fleet National Bank and the other lenders thereto	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1.2 of Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003.
10.1.3	Third Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated April 20, 2004, among the Company, Guaranty Bank, Bank One, NA, Fleet National Bank and the other lenders thereto	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2004.
10.2	2001 Annual Incentive Plan*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit B of the Proxy Statement for the 2001 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.
10.3	Amended Meritage Stock Option Plan*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 of Form S-8 Registration Statement, dated July 3, 2002.
10.4	Representative Form of Employment Agreement between the Company and Steven J. Hilton and John R. Landon*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of Form 8-K dated July 8, 2003.
10.4.1	Amendment to Employment Agreement between the Company and Steven J. Hilton and John R. Landon*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 of Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2004.
10.5	Representative Form of Change of Control Agreement between the Company and Steven J. Hilton and John R. Landon*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 of Form 8-K dated July 8, 2003.
10.6	Employment Agreement between the Company and Larry W. Seay*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.7 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-109933.
10.6.1	Amendment to Employment Agreement between the Company and Larry W. Seay*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 of Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2004.
10.7	Change of Control Agreement between the Company and Larry W. Seay*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.8 of Form S-4 Registration Statement No. 333-109933.
10.8	Change of Control Agreement between the Company and Richard T. Morgan*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.6 of Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2000.
10.9	Deferred Bonus Agreement — 2001 Award Year — between the Company and Larry W. Seay*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 of Form 8-K dated June 20, 2002.

Exhibit Number	Description	Page or Method of Filing
10.10	Deferred Bonus Agreement — 2002 Award Year — between the Company and Larry W. Seay*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.10 of Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002.
10.11	Deferred Bonus Agreement — 2003 Award Year, between the Company and Larry W. Seay*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 of Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2004.
10.12	Deferred Bonus Agreement — 2001 Award Year — between the Company and Richard T. Morgan*	Incorporate by reference to Exhibit 10.3 of Form 8-K dated June 20, 2002.
10.13	Deferred bonus Agreement — 2002 Award Year — between the company and Richard T. Morgan*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.12 of Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002.
10.14	Deferred Bonus Agreement — 2003 Award Year, between the Company and Richard T. Morgan*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 of Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2004.
10.15	Registration Rights Agreement dated April 14, 2004, by and among the Company, the Guarantors named therein and Citigroup Global Markets Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of Form 8-K dated April 21, 2004.
12	Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges	Filed herewith.
21	List of Subsidiaries	Filed herewith.
23.1	Consent of KPMG LLP	Filed herewith.
23.2	Consent of Snell & Wilmer L.L.P.	Contained in Exhibit 5.1.
24	Powers of Attorney	See signature page.
25	Statement of Eligibility under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 on Form T-1 of Wells Fargo Bank Minnesota, National Association	Filed herewith.
99	Form of Letter of Transmittal and related documents with respect to the Exchange Offer	Filed herewith.

\* Indicates a management contract or compensation plan.

(b) *Financial Statement Schedules:*

Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges filed at Exhibit 12.

CERTIFICATE OF AMENDMENT  
OF ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

The undersigned certify that:

1. They are the president and the secretary, respectively, of Meritage Homes of Northern California, Inc., a California corporation.

2. Article First of the Articles of Incorporation of this corporation is amended in its entirety to read as follows:

"FIRST: The name of the corporation is Meritage Homes of California, Inc."

3. The foregoing amendment of Articles of Incorporation has been duly approved by the board of directors.

4. The foregoing amendment of Articles of Incorporation has been duly approved by the required vote of shareholders in accordance with Section 902, California Corporations Code. The total number of outstanding shares of the corporation is 1,000. The number of shares voting in favor of the amendment equaled or exceeded the vote required. The percentage vote required was more than 50%.

We further declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the matters set forth in this certificate are true and correct of our own knowledge.

DATE: March 1, 2004

/s/ Steven J. Hilton

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Steven J. Hilton, President

/s/ Larry W. Seay

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Larry W. Seay, Secretary

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION  
OF  
MERITAGE HOMES OF COLORADO, INC.

FIRST: The name of the corporation is Meritage Homes of Colorado, Inc.

SECOND: The purpose for which the corporation is organized is the transaction of any or all lawful business for which corporations may be incorporated under the laws of the State of Arizona, as they may be amended from time to time. The character of business which the corporation initially intends actually to conduct in the State of Arizona is the development, construction and sale of single family homes.

THIRD: The aggregate number of shares that the corporation shall have authority to issue is one thousand (1,000) common shares, all of which shares shall be of a single class, and shall be without par.

FOURTH: The name and street address in Arizona of the initial statutory agent of the corporation is CT Corporation System, 3225 North Central Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85012.

FIFTH: The number of directors constituting the initial board of directors of the corporation is two (2). The names and addresses of the persons who are to serve as directors until the first annual meeting of shareholders, or until their successors are elected and qualified, are:

Name	Address
Steven J. Hilton	8501 East Princess Drive, Suite 290, Scottsdale, Arizona 85255
John R. Landon	4050 West Park Boulevard Plano, TX 75093

The number of persons to serve on the board of directors thereafter shall be fixed by the bylaws of the corporation.

SIXTH: The name and address of the incorporator is Larry Seay, 8501 East Princess Drive, Suite 290, Scottsdale, Arizona 85255.

SEVENTH: The liability of a director or former director to the corporation or its shareholders shall be eliminated to the fullest extent permitted by Section 10-202.B.1 of the Arizona Revised Statutes.

If the Arizona Business Corporation Act is amended to authorize corporate action further eliminating or limiting the liability of directors, the liability of a director of the

corporation shall be eliminated or limited to the fullest extent permitted by the Arizona Business Corporation Act, as amended.

Any repeal or modification of this Article Seventh shall not adversely affect any right or protection of a director of the corporation existing hereunder with respect to any act or omission occurring prior to or at the time of such repeal or modification.

The provisions of this Article Seventh shall not be deemed to limit or preclude indemnification of a director by the corporation for any liability of a director which has not been eliminated by the provisions of this Article Seventh.

EIGHTH. The corporation shall indemnify any and all of its existing and former directors and officers to the fullest extent permitted by Arizona law. If Arizona law is amended to authorize corporate action broadening the corporation's ability to indemnify its directors and officers, the corporation shall indemnify its existing and former directors and officers to the fullest extent permitted by Arizona law, as amended. Any repeal or modification of this Article Eighth shall not adversely affect any right or protection of any existing or former director or officer of the corporation existing hereunder with respect to any act or omission occurring prior to or at the time of such repeal or modification.

DATED: May 4, 2004.

/s/ Larry Seay  
-----  
Larry Seay, Incorporator

## BYLAWS

OF

MERITAGE HOMES OF COLORADO, INC.

## I. REFERENCES TO CERTAIN TERMS AND CONSTRUCTION

1.01. Certain References. Any reference herein made to law will be deemed to refer to the law of the State of Arizona, including any applicable provision of Chapters 1 through 17 of Title 10 of the Arizona Revised Statutes, or any successor statute, as from time to time amended and in effect (sometimes referred to herein as the "Arizona Business Corporation Act"). Any reference herein made to the corporation's Articles will be deemed to refer to its Articles of Incorporation and all amendments thereto as at any given time on file with the Arizona Corporation Commission. Except as otherwise required by law and subject to any procedures established by the corporation pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes Section 723, the term "shareholder" as used herein shall mean one who is a holder of record of shares of the corporation. References to specific sections of law herein made shall be deemed to refer to such sections, or any comparable successor provisions, as from time to time amended and in effect.

1.02. Seniority. The law and the Articles (in that order of precedence) will in all respects be considered senior and superior to these Bylaws, with any inconsistency to be resolved in favor of the law and such Articles (in that order of precedence), and with these Bylaws to be deemed automatically amended from time to time to eliminate any such inconsistency which may then exist.

1.03. Computation of Time. The time during which an act is required to be done, including the time for the giving of any required notice herein, shall be computed by excluding the first day or hour, as the case may be, and including the last day or hour.

## II. OFFICES

2.01. Principal Office. The principal office of the corporation shall be located at any place either within or outside the State of Arizona as designated in the corporation's most current Annual Report filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission or in any other document executed and delivered to the Arizona Corporation Commission for filing. If a principal office is not so designated, the principal office of the corporation shall mean the known place of business of the corporation. The corporation may have such other offices, either within or without the State of Arizona, as the Board of Directors may designate or as the business of the corporation may require from time to time.

2.02. Known Place of Business. A known place of business of the corporation shall be located within the State of Arizona and may be, but need not be, the address of the statutory agent

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of the corporation. The corporation may change its known place of business from time to time in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Arizona Business Corporation Act.

## III. SHAREHOLDERS

3.01. Annual Shareholder Meeting. The annual meeting of the shareholders shall be held on such date and at such time and place, either within or without the State of Arizona, as shall be fixed by the Board of Directors or, in the absence of action by the Board, as set forth in the notice given or waiver signed with respect to such meeting pursuant to Section 3.03 below, for the purpose of electing directors and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting. If any annual meeting is for any reason not held on the date determined as aforesaid, a deferred annual meeting may thereafter be called and held in lieu thereof, at which the same proceedings may be conducted. If the day fixed for the annual meeting shall be a legal holiday in the State of Arizona such meeting shall be held on the next succeeding business day.

3.02. Special Shareholder Meetings. Special meetings of the shareholders may be held whenever and wherever, either within or without the State of Arizona, called for by or at the direction of a Co-Chairman of the Board, a Chief Executive Officer, or the Board of Directors.

3.03. Notice of Shareholders Meetings.

(a) Required Notice. Notice stating the place, day and hour of any annual or special shareholders meeting shall be given not less than ten (10) nor more than sixty (60) days before the date of the meeting by or at the direction of the person or persons calling the meeting, to each shareholder entitled to vote at such meeting and to any other shareholder entitled to receive notice of the meeting by law or the Articles. Notices to shareholders shall be given in

accordance with, and shall be deemed to be effective at the time and in the manner described in, Arizona Revised Statutes Section 10-141. If no designation is made of the place at which an annual or special meeting will be held in the notice for such meeting, the place of the meeting will be at the principal place of business of the corporation.

(b) Adjourned Meeting. If any shareholders meeting is adjourned to a different date, time, or place, notice need not be given of the new date, time, and place, if the new date, time, and place are announced at the meeting before adjournment. But if a new record date for the adjourned meeting is fixed or must be fixed in accordance with law or these Bylaws, then notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given to those persons who are shareholders as of the new record date and who are entitled to such notice pursuant to Section 3.03(a) above.

(c) Waiver of Notice. Any shareholder may waive notice of a meeting (or any notice of any other action required to be given by the Arizona Business Corporation Act, the corporation's Articles, or these Bylaws), at any time before, during, or after the meeting or other action, by a writing signed by the shareholder entitled to the notice. Each such waiver shall be delivered to the corporation for inclusion in the minutes or filing with the corporate records. Under certain circumstances, a shareholder's attendance at a meeting may constitute a waiver of notice,

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unless the shareholder takes certain actions to preserve his/her objections as described in the Arizona Business Corporation Act.

(d) Contents of Notice. The notice of each special shareholders meeting shall include a description of the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called. Except as required by law or the corporation's Articles, the notice of an annual shareholders meeting need not include a description of the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called.

3.04. Fixing of Record Date. For the purpose of determining shareholders of any voting group entitled to notice of or to vote at any meeting of shareholders, or shareholders entitled to receive any distribution or dividend, or in order to make a determination of shareholders for any other proper purpose, the Board of Directors may fix in advance a date as the record date. Such record date shall not be more than seventy (70) days prior to the date on which the particular action requiring such determination of shareholders is to be taken. If no record date is so fixed by the Board of Directors, the record date for the determination of shareholders shall be as provided in the Arizona Business Corporation Act.

When a determination of shareholders entitled to notice of or to vote at any meeting of shareholders has been made as provided in this Section, such determination shall apply to any adjournment thereof, unless the Board of Directors fixes a new record date, which it must do if the meeting is adjourned to a date more than one hundred twenty (120) days after the date fixed for the original meeting.

3.05. Shareholder List. The corporation shall make a complete record of the shareholders entitled to notice of each meeting of shareholders thereof, arranged in alphabetical order, listing the address and the number of shares held by each. The list shall be arranged by voting group and within each voting group by class or series of shares. The shareholder list shall be available for inspection by any shareholder, beginning two (2) business days after notice of the meeting is given for which the list was prepared and continuing through the meeting. The list shall be available at the corporation's principal office or at another place identified in the meeting notice in the city where the meeting is to be held. Failure to comply with this section shall not affect the validity of any action taken at the meeting.

3.06. Shareholder Quorum and Voting Requirements.

(a) If the Articles or the Arizona Business Corporation Act provide for voting by a single voting group on a matter, action on that matter is taken when voted upon by that voting group.

(b) If the Articles or the Arizona Business Corporation Act provide for voting by two (2) or more voting groups on a matter, action on that matter is taken only when voted upon by each of those voting groups counted separately.

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(c) Shares entitled to vote as a separate voting group may take action on a matter at a meeting only if a quorum of those shares exists with respect to that matter. Unless the Articles or the Arizona Business Corporation Act provide otherwise, a majority of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter by the voting group constitutes a quorum of that voting group for action on that matter.

(d) Once a share is represented for any purpose at a meeting, it is deemed present for quorum purposes for the remainder of the meeting and for any adjournment of that meeting, unless a new record date is or must be set for that adjourned meeting.

(e) If a quorum exists, action on a matter (other than the election of directors) by a voting group is approved if the votes cast within the voting group favoring the action exceed the votes cast opposing the action, unless the Articles or the Arizona Business Corporation Act require a greater number of affirmative votes.

(f) Voting will be by ballot on any question as to which a ballot vote is demanded prior to the time the voting begins by any person entitled to vote on such question; otherwise, a voice vote will suffice. No ballot or change of vote will be accepted after the polls have been declared closed following the ending of the announced time for voting.

3.07. Proxies. At all meetings of shareholders, a shareholder may vote in person or by proxy duly executed in writing by the shareholder or the shareholder's duly authorized attorney-in-fact. Such proxy shall comply with law and shall be filed with the Secretary of the corporation or other person authorized to tabulate votes before or at the time of the meeting. No proxy shall be valid after eleven (11) months from the date of its execution unless otherwise provided in the proxy. The burden of proving the validity of any undated, irrevocable, or otherwise contested proxy at a meeting of the shareholders will rest with the person seeking to exercise the same. A facsimile appearing to have been transmitted by a shareholder or by such shareholder's duly authorized attorney-in-fact may be accepted as a sufficiently written and executed proxy.

3.08. Voting of Shares. Unless otherwise provided in the Articles or the Arizona Business Corporation Act, each outstanding share entitled to vote shall be entitled to one (1) vote upon each matter submitted to a vote at a meeting of shareholders.

3.09. Voting for Directors. Unless otherwise provided in the Articles, directors are elected by a plurality of the votes cast by the shares entitled to vote in the election at a meeting at which a quorum is present at the time of such vote. As provided by law, shareholders shall be entitled to cumulative voting in the election of directors.

3.10. Election Inspectors. The Board of Directors, in advance of any meeting of the shareholders, may appoint an election inspector or inspectors to act at such meeting (and at any adjournment thereof). If an election inspector or inspectors are not so appointed, the chairman of the meeting may, or upon request of any person entitled to vote at the meeting will, make such appointment. If any person appointed as an inspector fails to appear or to act, a substitute may be

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appointed by the chairman of the meeting. If appointed, the election inspector or inspectors (acting through a majority of them if there be more than one) will determine the number of shares outstanding, the authenticity, validity, and effect of proxies, the credentials of persons purporting to be shareholders or persons named or referred to in proxies, and the number of shares represented at the meeting in person and by proxy; will receive and count votes, ballots, and consents and announce the results thereof; will hear and determine all challenges and questions pertaining to proxies and voting; and, in general, will perform such acts as may be proper to conduct elections and voting with complete fairness to all shareholders. No such election inspector need be a shareholder of the corporation.

3.11. Organization and Conduct of Meetings. Each meeting of the shareholders will be called to order and thereafter chaired by a Co-Chairman of the Board of Directors if there is one, or, if not, or if a Co-Chairman of the Board is absent or so requests, then by a Chief Executive Officer, or if both a Co-Chairman of the Board and a Chief Executive Officer are unavailable, then by such other officer of the corporation or such shareholder as may be appointed by the Board of Directors. The corporation's Secretary or in his or her absence, an Assistant Secretary will act as secretary of each meeting of the shareholders. If neither the Secretary nor an Assistant Secretary is in attendance, the chairman of the meeting may appoint any person (whether a shareholder or not) to act as secretary for the meeting. After calling a meeting to order, the chairman thereof may require the registration of all shareholders intending to vote in person and the filing of all proxies with the election inspector or inspectors, if one or more have been appointed (or, if not, with the secretary of the meeting). After the announced time for such filing of proxies has ended, no further proxies or changes, substitutions, or revocations of proxies will be accepted. If directors are to be elected, a tabulation of the proxies so filed will, if any person entitled to vote in such election so requests, be announced at the meeting (or adjournment thereof) prior to the closing of the election polls. Absent a showing of bad faith on his or her part, the chairman of a meeting will, among other things, have absolute authority to fix the period of time allowed for the registration of shareholders and the filing of proxies, to

determine the order of business to be conducted at such meeting, and to establish reasonable rules for expediting the business of the meeting and preserving the orderly conduct thereof (including any informal, or question and answer portions thereof).

3.12. Shareholder Approval or Ratification. The Board of Directors may submit any contract or act for approval or ratification of the shareholders at a duly constituted meeting of the shareholders. Except as otherwise required by law, if any contract or act so submitted is approved or ratified by a majority of the votes cast thereon at such meeting, the same will be valid and as binding upon the corporation and all of its shareholders as it would be if it were the act of its shareholders.

3.13. Informalities and Irregularities. All informalities or irregularities in any call or notice of a meeting of the shareholders or in the areas of credentials, proxies, quorums, voting, and similar matters, will be deemed waived if no objection is made at the meeting.

3.14. Shareholder Action by Written Consent. Any action required or permitted to be taken at a meeting of the shareholders may be taken without a meeting if one (1) or more consents in writing, setting forth the action so taken, shall be signed by all of the shareholders entitled to vote

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with respect to the subject matter thereof. The consents shall be delivered to the corporation for inclusion in the minutes or filing with the corporate record. Action taken by consent is effective when the last shareholder signs the consent, unless the consent specifies a different effective date, except that if, by law, the action to be taken requires that notice be given to shareholders who are not entitled to vote on the matter, the effective date shall not be prior to ten (10) days after the corporation shall give such shareholders written notice of the proposed action, which notice shall contain or be accompanied by the same material that would have been required if a formal meeting had been called to consider the action. A consent signed under this section has the effect of a meeting vote and may be described as such in any document.

#### IV. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

4.01. General Powers. All corporate powers shall be exercised by or under the authority of, and the business and affairs of the corporation shall be managed under the direction of, the Board of Directors.

4.02. Number, Tenure, and Qualification of Directors. Unless otherwise provided in the Articles of Incorporation, the authorized number of directors shall be not less than two (2) nor more than five (5). The initial number of directors of the corporation shall be two (2). The number of directors in office from time to time shall be within the limits specified above, as prescribed from time to time by resolution adopted by either the shareholders or the Board of Directors. The directors will regularly be elected at each annual meeting of the shareholders, but directors may be elected at any other meeting of the shareholders. Each director shall hold office until the annual meeting of shareholders following his/her election, subject to his/her earlier resignation or removal. However, if a director's term expires, he/she shall continue to serve until his/her successor shall have been elected and qualified, until his/her resignation or removal, or until there is a decrease in the number of directors. Unless required by the Articles, directors do not need to be residents of the State of Arizona or shareholders of the corporation.

4.03. Regular Meetings of the Board of Directors. A regular annual meeting of the Board of Directors is to be held as soon as practicable after the adjournment of each annual meeting of the shareholders, either at the place of the shareholders meeting or at such other place as the directors elected at the shareholders meeting may have been informed of at or prior to the time of their election. Additional regular meetings may be held at regular intervals at such places and at such times as the Board of Directors may determine.

4.04. Special Meetings of the Board of Directors. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be held whenever and wherever called for by a Co-Chairman of the Board, a Chief Executive Officer, or the number of directors that would be required to constitute a quorum.

4.05. Notice of, and Waiver of Notice for, Directors Meetings. No notice need be given of regular meetings of the Board of Directors. Notice of the time and place of any special directors meeting shall be given at least 48 hours prior thereto. Notice shall be given in accordance with and shall be deemed to be effective at the time and in the manner described in Arizona Revised

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Statutes Section 10-141. Any director may waive notice of any meeting and any adjournment thereof at any time before, during, or after it is held. Except as provided in the next sentence below, the waiver must be in writing, signed by the director entitled to the notice, and filed with the minutes or corporate



records. The attendance of a director at or participation of a director in a meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting, unless the director at the beginning of the meeting (or promptly upon his/her arrival) objects to holding the meeting or transacting business at the meeting, and does not thereafter vote for or assent to action taken at the meeting.

4.06. Director Quorum. A majority of the number of directors prescribed according to Section 4.02 above, or if no number is so prescribed, the number in office immediately before the meeting begins, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board of Directors, unless the Articles require a greater number.

4.07. Directors, Manner of Acting.

(a) If a quorum is present when a vote is taken, the affirmative vote of a majority of the directors present shall be the act of the Board of Directors unless the Articles require a greater percentage.

(b) Unless the Articles provide otherwise, any or all directors may participate in a regular or special meeting by, or conduct the meeting through the use of, any means of communication by which all directors participating may simultaneously hear each other during the meeting, in which case, any required notice of the meeting may generally describe the arrangements (rather than or in addition to the place) for the holding thereof. A director participating in a meeting by this means is deemed to be present in person at the meeting.

(c) A director who is present at a meeting of the Board of Directors or a committee of the Board of Directors when corporate action is taken is deemed to have assented to the action taken unless: (1) the director objects at the beginning of the meeting (or promptly upon his/her arrival) to holding it or transacting business at the meeting; or (2) his/her dissent or abstention from the action taken is entered in the minutes of the meeting; or (3) he/she delivers written notice of his/her dissent or abstention to the presiding officer of the meeting before its adjournment or to the corporation before 5:00 p.m. on the next business day after the meeting. The right of dissent or abstention is not available to a director who votes in favor of the action taken.

4.08. Director Action Without a Meeting. Unless the Articles provide otherwise, any action required or permitted to be taken by the Board of Directors at a meeting may be taken without a meeting if the action is taken by unanimous written consent of the Board of Directors as evidenced by one (1) or more written consents describing the action taken, signed by each director and filed with the minutes or corporate records. Action taken by consent is effective when the last director signs the consent, unless the consent specifies a different effective date. A signed consent has the effect of a meeting vote and may be described as such in any document.

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4.09. Removal of Directors by Shareholders. The shareholders may remove one (1) or more directors at a meeting called for that purpose if notice has been given that a purpose of the meeting is such removal. The removal may be with or without cause unless the Articles provide that directors may only be removed with cause. If a director is elected by a voting group of shareholders, only the shareholders of that voting group may participate in a shareholder vote to remove him. If less than the entire Board of Directors is to be removed, a director may not be removed if the number of votes sufficient to elect the director under cumulative voting is voted against the director's removal.

4.10. Board of Director Vacancies.

(a) Unless the Articles provide otherwise, if a vacancy occurs on the Board of Directors, including a vacancy resulting from an increase in the number of directors, either the shareholders or the Board of Directors may fill the vacancy.

(b) If the vacant office was held by a director elected by a voting group of shareholders, only the holders of shares of that voting group are entitled to vote to fill the vacancy if it is filled by the shareholders.

(c) A vacancy that will occur at a specific later date (by reason of resignation effective at a later date) may be filled before the vacancy occurs, but the new director may not take office until the vacancy occurs.

(d) The term of a director elected to fill a vacancy expires at the next shareholders meeting at which directors are elected.

4.11. Director Compensation. Unless otherwise provided in the Articles by resolution of the Board of Directors, each director may be paid his/her expenses, if any, of attendance at each meeting of the Board of Directors or any committee thereof, and may be paid a stated salary as director or a fixed sum for attendance at each meeting of the Board of Directors or any committee thereof, or both. No such payment shall preclude any director from serving the

corporation in any capacity and receiving compensation therefor.

#### 4.12. Director Committees.

(a) Creation of Committees. Unless the Articles provide otherwise, the Board of Directors may create one (1) or more committees and appoint members of the Board of Directors to serve on them. Each committee shall have one (1) or more members, who serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors.

(b) Selection of Members. The creation of a committee and appointment of members to it shall be approved by the greater of (1) a majority of all the directors in office when the action is taken or (2) the number of directors required by the Articles to take such action.

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(c) Required Procedures. Sections 4.03 through 4.08 of this Article IV, which govern meetings, action without meetings, notice and waiver of notice, and quorum and voting requirements of the Board of Directors, apply to committees and their members.

(d) Authority. Unless limited by the Articles, each committee may exercise those aspects of the authority of the Board of Directors which the Board of Directors confers upon such committee in the resolution creating the committee, provided, however, that a committee may not: (1) authorize distributions; (2) approve or propose to shareholders action that requires shareholder approval under the Arizona Business Corporation Act; (3) fill vacancies on the Board of Directors or on any of its committees; (4) amend the Articles of Incorporation without shareholder action as provided by law; (5) adopt, amend or repeal these Bylaws; (6) approve a plan of merger not requiring shareholder approval; (7) authorize or approve reacquisition of shares, except according to a formula or method prescribed by the Board of Directors; (8) authorize or approve the issuance or sale or contract for sale of shares or determine the designation and relative rights, preferences, and limitations of a class or series of shares, except within limits specifically prescribed by the Board of Directors; or (9) fix the compensation of directors for serving on the Board of Directors or any committee of the Board of Directors.

4.13. Director Resignations. Any director or committee member may resign from his or her office at any time by written notice delivered to the Board of Directors, a Co-Chairman of the Board, or the corporation at its known place of business. Any such resignation will be effective upon its receipt unless some later time is therein fixed, and then from that time. The acceptance of a resignation will not be required to make it effective.

#### V. OFFICERS

5.01 In General. The Board of Directors shall elect not more than two Co-Chairmen, a Chief Executive Officer, a President, one or more Vice Presidents, a Chief Financial Officer, a Secretary, and such Assistant Secretaries and Assistant Treasurers as the Board may from time to time deem appropriate. All officers shall hold office only during the pleasure of the Board or until their successors are chosen and qualify. Any two of the above offices, except those of President and Vice President, may be held by the same person, but no officer shall execute, acknowledge or verify any instrument in more than one capacity when such instrument is required to be executed, acknowledged or verified by any two or more officers. The Board of Directors may from time to time appoint such other agents and employees with such powers and duties as the Board may deem proper. In its discretion, the Board of Directors may leave unfilled any offices except those of Co-Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, President, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary.

5.02 Co-Chairman of the Board. Each Co-Chairman shall have the responsibility for the implementation of the policies determined by the Board of Directors and for the administration of the business affairs of the Corporation. Each Co-Chairman shall, if present, preside over the meetings of the Board and of the stockholders on a rotating basis such that a Co-Chairman shall preside over no more than one consecutive Board meeting or one consecutive stockholders meeting.

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5.03 Chief Executive Officer. The Chief Executive Officer shall have the responsibility for the active management of the business and general supervision and direction of all of the affairs of the Corporation. The Chief Executive Officer shall have the authority on the Corporation's behalf to endorse securities owned by the Corporation and to execute any documents requiring the signature of an executive officer. The Chief Executive Officer shall perform such other duties as the Board of Directors may direct.

5.04 President. The President shall have the responsibility for the active management of the day to day business of the Corporation. The President shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors or the Chief Executive Officer

5.05 Vice Presidents. The Vice Presidents, in the order of priority designated by the Board of Directors, shall be vested with all the power and may perform all the duties of the Chief Executive Officer in the latter's absence. They may perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee or the Chief Executive Officer.

5.06 Chief Financial Officer. The Chief Financial Officer shall have general supervision over the finances of the Corporation and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors or the Chief Executive Officer. If required by resolution of the Board, the Chief Financial Officer shall furnish bond (which may be a blanket bond) with such surety and in such penalty for the faithful performance of duty as the Board of Directors may from time to time require, the cost of such bond to be defrayed by the Corporation.

5.07 Secretary. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the stockholders and of the Board of Directors and shall attend to the giving and serving of all notices of the Corporation required by law or these Bylaws. The Secretary shall maintain at all times in the principal office of the Corporation at least one copy of the Bylaws with all amendments to date, and shall make the same, together with the minutes of the meetings of the stockholders, the annual statement of affairs of the Corporation and any voting trust or other stockholders agreement on file at the office of the Corporation, available for inspection by any officer, director or stockholder during reasonable business hours. The Secretary shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors.

5.08 Assistant Treasurer and Secretary. The Board of Directors may designate from time to time Assistant Treasurers and Secretaries, who shall perform such duties as may from time to time be assigned to them by the Board of Directors or the Chief Executive Officer.

5.09. Salaries. The salaries of the officers of the corporation may be fixed from time to time by the Board of Directors or (except as to the Chief Executive Officer's own) left to the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer. No officer will be prevented from receiving a salary by reason of the fact that he or she is also a director of the corporation.

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5.10. Additional Appointments. In addition to the officers contemplated in this Article V, the Board of Directors may appoint other agents of the corporation with such authority to perform such duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the Board of Directors.

## VI. CERTIFICATES FOR SHARES AND THEIR TRANSFER

### 6.01. Certificates for Shares.

(a) Content. Certificates representing shares of the corporation shall, at a minimum, state on their face the name of the issuing corporation and that it is formed under the laws of the State of Arizona, the name of the person to whom issued, and the number and class of shares and the designation of the series, if any, the certificate represents. Such certificates shall be signed (either manually or by facsimile to the extent allowable by law) by one or more officers of the corporation, as determined by the Board of Directors, or, if no such determination is made, by any of a Co-Chairman of the Board (if any), the Chief Executive Officer, any Vice-President, the Secretary, or the Chief Financial Officer of the corporation, and may be sealed with a corporate seal or a facsimile thereof. Each certificate for shares shall be consecutively numbered or otherwise identified and will exhibit such information as may be required by law. If a supply of unissued certificates bearing the facsimile signature of a person remains when that person ceases to hold the office of the corporation indicated on such certificates or ceases to be the transfer agent or registrar of the corporation, they may still be issued by the corporation and countersigned, registered, issued, and delivered by the corporation's transfer agent and/or registrar thereafter, as though such person had continued to hold the office indicated on such certificate.

(b) Legend as to Class or Series. If the corporation is authorized to issue different classes of shares or different series within a class, the designations, relative rights, preferences, and limitations applicable to each class and the variations in rights, preferences, and limitations determined for each series (and the authority of the Board of Directors to determine variations for future series) shall be summarized on the front or back of each certificate. Alternatively, each certificate may state conspicuously on its front or back that the corporation will furnish a shareholder this information on request in writing and without charge.

(c) Shareholder List. The name and address of the person to whom shares are issued, with the number of shares and date of issue, shall be entered on the stock transfer books of the corporation.

(d) Lost Certificates. In the event of the loss, theft, or destruction of any certificate representing shares of the corporation or of any predecessor corporation, the corporation may issue (or, in the case of any such

shares as to which a transfer agent and/or registrar have been appointed, may direct such transfer agent and/or registrar to countersign, register, and issue) a new certificate, and cause the same to be delivered to the registered owner of the shares represented thereby; provided that such owner shall have submitted such evidence showing the circumstances of the alleged loss, theft, or destruction, and his, her, or its ownership of the certificate, as the corporation considers satisfactory, together with any other facts that the corporation considers

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pertinent; and further provided that, if so required by the corporation, the owner shall provide a bond or other indemnity in form and amount satisfactory to the corporation (and to its transfer agent and/or registrar, if applicable).

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6.02. Registration of the Transfer of Shares. Registration of the transfer of shares of the corporation shall be made only on the stock transfer books of the corporation. In order to register a transfer, the record owner shall surrender the shares to the corporation for cancellation, properly endorsed by the appropriate person or persons with reasonable assurances that the endorsements are genuine and effective. Unless the corporation has established a procedure by which a beneficial owner of shares held by a nominee is to be recognized by the corporation as the owner, the corporation will be entitled to treat the registered owner of any share of the capital stock of the corporation as the absolute owner thereof and, accordingly, will not be bound to recognize any beneficial, equitable, or other claim to, or interest in, such share on the part of any other person, whether or not it has notice thereof, except as may expressly be provided by applicable law.

6.03. Shares Without Certificates. The Board of Directors may authorize the issuance of uncertificated shares by the corporation and may prescribe procedures for the issuance and registration of transfer thereof and with respect to such other matters as the Board of Directors shall deem necessary or appropriate.

#### VII. DISTRIBUTIONS

7.01. Distributions. Subject to such restrictions or requirements as may be imposed by applicable law or the corporation's Articles or as may otherwise be binding upon the corporation, the Board of Directors may from time to time declare, and the corporation may pay or make, dividends or other distributions to its shareholders.

#### VIII. CORPORATE SEAL

8.01. Corporate Seal. The Board of Directors may provide for a corporate seal of the corporation that will have inscribed thereon any designation including the name of the corporation, Arizona as the state of incorporation, the year of incorporation, and the words "Corporate Seal."

#### IX. AMENDMENTS

9.01. Amendments. The corporation's Board of Directors may amend or repeal the corporation's Bylaws unless:

- (1) the Articles or the Arizona Business Corporation Act reserve this power exclusively to the shareholders in whole or part;  
or
- (2) the shareholders in adopting, amending, or repealing a particular Bylaw provide expressly that the Board of Directors may not amend or repeal that Bylaw.

The corporation's shareholders may amend or repeal the corporation's Bylaws even though the Bylaws may also be amended or repealed by its Board of Directors.

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SIXTH SUPPLEMENTAL INDENTURE, dated as of May 14, 2004 (the "Sixth Supplemental Indenture") between Meritage Corporation, a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Maryland (the "Issuer"), the Guarantors named therein, Meritage Homes of Colorado, Inc., an Arizona corporation (the "Additional Guarantor") and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as trustee (the "Trustee"), under the Indenture (as defined below). Capitalized terms used and not defined herein shall have the same meanings given in the Indenture unless otherwise indicated.

WHEREAS, the Issuer, the Guarantors thereto and the Trustee are parties to that certain Indenture dated as of May 30, 2001 (the "Indenture") pursuant to which the Company issued its 9 -3/4% Senior Notes 2011 (the "Notes") and the Guarantors guaranteed the obligations of the Issuer under the Indenture and the Notes;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 4.13 of the Indenture, if the Issuer acquires or creates any additional subsidiary which is a Restricted Subsidiary, each such subsidiary shall execute and deliver a supplemental indenture pursuant to which such subsidiary shall unconditionally guaranty the Issuer's obligations under the Notes;

WHEREAS, the Issuer, the Guarantors thereto, Hulen Park Venture, LLC, Meritage Holdings, L.L.C. and the Trustee are parties to that First Supplemental Indenture, dated as of September 20, 2001 (the "First Supplemental Indenture") pursuant to which Hulen Park Venture, LLC and Meritage Holdings, L.L.C. were added as Guarantors;

WHEREAS, the Issuer, the Guarantors thereto, MTH Homes-Texas, L.P., MTH-Texas GP II, Inc., MTH-Texas LP II, Inc. and the Trustee are parties to that Second Supplemental Indenture, dated as of July 12, 2002 (the "Second Supplemental Indenture") pursuant to which MTH Homes-Texas, L.P., MTH-Texas GP II, Inc. and MTH-Texas LP II, Inc. were added as Guarantors;

WHEREAS, the Issuer, the Guarantors thereto, MTH-Homes Nevada, Inc. and the Trustee are parties to that Third Supplemental Indenture, dated as of October 21, 2002 (the "Third Supplemental Indenture") pursuant to which MTH-Homes Nevada, Inc. was added as a Guarantor;

WHEREAS, the Issuer, the Guarantors thereto, MTH Cavalier, LLC and the Trustee are parties to that Fourth Supplemental Indenture, dated as of February 19, 2003 (the "Fourth Supplemental Indenture") pursuant to which MTH Cavalier, LLC was added as a Guarantor;

WHEREAS, the Issuer, the Guarantors thereto, Mission Royale Golf Course, LLC and Legacy-Hammonds Materials, L.P. are parties to that Sixth Supplemental Indenture, dated as of August 22, 2003 (the "Fifth Supplemental Indenture") pursuant to which Mission Royale Golf Course, LLC and Legacy-Hammonds Materials, L.P. were added as Guarantors;

WHEREAS, the Additional Guarantor is a Restricted Subsidiary of the Issuer;

WHEREAS, the Issuer and the Trustee desire to have the Additional Guarantor enter into this Sixth Supplemental Indenture and agree to guaranty the obligations of the Issuer under the Indenture and the Notes and the Additional Guarantor desires to enter into this Sixth Supplemental Indenture and to guaranty the obligations of the Issuer under the Indenture and the Notes as of such date;

WHEREAS, Section 8.01 of the Indenture provides that the Issuer, the Guarantors and the Trustee may, without the written consent of the Holders of the outstanding Notes, amend the Indenture as provided herein;

WHEREAS, by entering into this Sixth Supplemental Indenture, the Issuer and the Trustee have consented to amend the Indenture in accordance with the terms and conditions herein;

WHEREAS, each Guarantor hereby acknowledges and consents to amend the Indenture in accordance with the terms and conditions herein; and

WHEREAS, all acts and things prescribed by the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws (as now in effect) of the Additional Guarantor necessary to make this Sixth Supplemental Indenture a valid instrument legally binding on the Additional Guarantor for the purposes herein expressed, in accordance with its terms, have been duly done and performed.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the Issuer, the Additional Guarantor and the Trustee hereby agree for the benefit of each other and the equal and ratable benefit of the Holders of the Notes as follows:

1. Additional Guarantor as Guarantor. As of the date hereof and pursuant to this Sixth Supplemental Indenture, the Additional Guarantor shall become a

Guarantor under the definition of Guarantor in the Indenture in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Indenture and shall assume all rights and obligations of a Guarantor thereunder.

2. Compliance with and Fulfillment of Condition of Section 4.13. The execution and delivery of this Sixth Supplemental Indenture by the Additional Guarantor (along with such documentation relating thereto as the Trustee shall require) fulfills the obligations of the Issuer under Section 4.13 of the Indenture.

3. Construction. For all purposes of this Sixth Supplemental Indenture, except as otherwise herein expressly provided or unless the context otherwise requires: (i) the defined terms and expressions used herein shall have the same meanings as corresponding terms and expressions used in the Indenture; and (ii) the words "herein," "hereof" and "hereby" and other words of similar import used in this Sixth Supplemental Indenture refer to this Sixth Supplemental Indenture as a whole and not to any particular Section hereof.

4. Trustee Acceptance. The Trustee accepts the amendment of the Indenture effected by this Sixth Supplemental Indenture, as hereby amended, but only upon the terms and conditions set forth in the Indenture, as hereby amended, including the terms and provisions defining and limiting the liabilities and responsibilities of the Trustee in the performance of its duties and obligations under the Indenture, as hereby amended. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Trustee has no responsibility for the correctness of the recitals of fact herein contained which shall be taken as the statements of each of the Issuer and the Additional Guarantor, respectively, and makes no representations as to the validity or enforceability against either the Issuer or the Additional Guarantor.

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5. Indenture Ratified. Except as expressly amended hereby, the Indenture is in all respects ratified and confirmed and all the terms, conditions and provisions thereof shall remain in full force and effect.

6. Holders Bound. This Sixth Supplemental Indenture shall form a part of the Indenture for all purposes, and every Holder of the Notes heretofore or hereafter authenticated and delivered shall be bound hereby.

7. Successors and Assigns. This Sixth Supplemental Indenture shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns.

8. Counterparts. This Sixth Supplemental Indenture may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which when so executed shall be deemed to be an original, and all of such counterparts shall together constitute one and the same instrument.

9. Governing Law. This Sixth Supplemental Indenture shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the internal laws of the State of New York without giving effect to principles of conflicts of laws.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Issuer, the Additional Guarantor and the Trustee have caused this Sixth Supplemental Indenture to be duly executed as of the date first above written.

ISSUER:

MERITAGE CORPORATION

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Steven J. Hilton  
Its: Co-Chairman, Co-President and Co-Chief  
Executive Officer

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Larry W. Seay  
Its: Chief Financial Officer, Vice  
President-Finance and Secretary

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ADDITIONAL GUARANTOR:

MERITAGE HOMES OF COLORADO, INC.

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-Chairman and CEO

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Larry W. Seay  
Its: Vice President-Secretary

TRUSTEE:

WELLS FARGO BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,  
as Trustee

By: /s/ Jeanie Mar

Its: Vice President

GUARANTORS:

MONTEREY HOMES ARIZONA, INC.

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay  
Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-CEO, President and Chief  
Executive Officer

MERITAGE PASEO CROSSING, LLC

By: Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc., its  
Sole Member

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay  
Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-CEO and Chairman

-4-

MONTEREY HOMES CONSTRUCTION, INC.

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay  
Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-CEO, President and Chief  
Executive Officer

MERITAGE PASEO CONSTRUCTION, LLC

By: Meritage Homes Construction, Inc.,  
its Sole Member

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay  
Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-CEO and Co-Chairman

MERITAGE HOMES OF ARIZONA, INC.

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay  
Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-CEO and Co-Chairman

MERITAGE HOMES CONSTRUCTION, INC.

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay  
Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-CEO and Co-Chairman

-5-

MTH-TEXAS GP, INC.

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay  
Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-Chairman

MTH-TEXAS LP, INC.

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay  
Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-Chairman

LEGACY/MONTEREY HOMES L.P.

By: MTH-Texas GP, Inc., its General  
Partner

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay  
Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-Chairman

MERITAGE HOMES OF CALIFORNIA, INC.

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay  
Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-CEO, President and Chief  
Executive Officer

-6-

HANCOCK-MTH BUILDERS, INC.

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay  
Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-Chairman and Co-CEO

HANCOCK-MTH COMMUNITIES, INC.

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay  
Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-Chairman and Co-CEO

LEGACY OPERATING COMPANY, L.P.

By: Meritage Holdings, L.L.C., its General  
Partner

By: Legacy/Monterey Homes L.P., its Sole  
Member

By: MTH-Texas GP, Inc., its General  
Partner

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Steven J. Hilton  
Its: Co-Chairman

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Larry W. Seay  
Its: Vice President-Secretary

-7-



HULEN PARK VENTURE, LLC

By: Legacy/Monterey Homes L.P., its Sole  
Member

By: MTH-Texas GP, Inc., its General  
Partner

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Steven J. Hilton  
Its: Co-Chairman

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Larry W. Seay  
Its: Vice President-Secretary

MERITAGE HOLDINGS, L.L.C.

By: Legacy/Monterey Homes L.P., its Sole  
Member

By: MTH-Texas GP, Inc., its General  
Partner

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Steven J. Hilton  
Its: Co-Chairman

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Larry W. Seay  
Its: Vice President-Secretary

MTH HOMES-TEXAS, L.P.

By: MTH-Texas GP II, Inc., its General  
Partner

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Steven J. Hilton  
Its: Co-Chairman

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Larry W. Seay  
Its: Vice President-Secretary

-8-

MTH-TEXAS GP II, INC.

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Steven J. Hilton  
Its: Co-Chairman

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Larry W. Seay  
Its: Vice President-Secretary

MTH-TEXAS LP II, INC.

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Steven J. Hilton  
Its: Co-Chairman

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Larry W. Seay  
Its: Vice President-Secretary

MTH-HOMES NEVADA, INC.

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Steven J. Hilton  
Its: Co-Chairman and Chief Executive  
Officer

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Larry W. Seay  
Its: Vice President-Secretary

MTH-CAVALIER, LLC

By: Monterey Homes Construction, Inc., its  
Sole Member

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay

Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-CEO, President and Chief  
Executive Officer

-9-

MTH GOLF, LLC

By: Hancock-MTH Builders, Inc., its Sole  
Member

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay  
Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-Chairman and Co-CEO

LEGACY-HAMMONDS MATERIALS, L.P.

By: Meritage Holdings, L.L.C., its General  
Partner

By: Legacy/Monterey Homes L.P., its Sole  
Member

By: MTH-Texas GP, Inc., its General  
Partner

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Steven J. Hilton  
Its: Co-Chairman

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Larry W. Seay  
Its: Vice President-Secretary

-10-

FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL INDENTURE, dated as of May 14, 2004 (the "First Supplemental Indenture") between Meritage Corporation, a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Maryland (the "Issuer"), the Guarantors named therein, Meritage Homes of Colorado, Inc. (the "Additional Guarantor") and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as trustee (the "Trustee"), under the Indenture (as defined below). Capitalized terms used and not defined herein shall have the same meanings given in the Indenture unless otherwise indicated.

WHEREAS, the Issuer, the Guarantors thereto and the Trustee are parties to that certain Indenture dated as of April 21, 2004 (the "Indenture") pursuant to which the Company issued its 7% Senior Notes 2014 (the "Notes") and the Guarantors guaranteed the obligations of the Issuer under the Indenture and the Notes;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 4.13 of the Indenture, if the Issuer acquires or creates any additional subsidiary which is a Restricted Subsidiary, each such subsidiary shall execute and deliver a supplemental indenture pursuant to which such subsidiary shall unconditionally guaranty the Issuer's obligations under the Notes;

WHEREAS, the Additional Guarantor is a Restricted Subsidiary of the Issuer;

WHEREAS, the Issuer and the Trustee desire to have the Additional Guarantor enter into this First Supplemental Indenture and agree to guaranty the obligations of the Issuer under the Indenture and the Notes and the Additional Guarantor desires to enter into this First Supplemental Indenture and to guaranty the obligations of the Issuer under the Indenture and the Notes as of such date;

WHEREAS, Section 8.01 of the Indenture provides that the Issuer, the Guarantors and the Trustee may, without the written consent of the Holders of the outstanding Notes, amend the Indenture as provided herein;

WHEREAS, by entering into this First Supplemental Indenture, the Issuer and the Trustee have consented to amend the Indenture in accordance with the terms and conditions herein;

WHEREAS, each Guarantor hereby acknowledges and consents to amend the Indenture in accordance with the terms and conditions herein; and

WHEREAS, all acts and things prescribed by the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Additional Guarantor (as now in effect) necessary to make this First Supplemental Indenture a valid instrument legally binding on the Additional Guarantor for the purposes herein expressed, in accordance with its terms, have been duly done and performed.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the Issuer, the Additional Guarantor and the Trustee hereby agree for the benefit of each other and the equal and ratable benefit of the Holders of the Notes as follows:

1. Additional Guarantor as Guarantor. As of the date hereof and pursuant to this First Supplemental Indenture, the Additional Guarantor shall become a Guarantor under the definition of Guarantor in the Indenture in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Indenture and shall assume all rights and obligations of a Guarantor thereunder.

2. Compliance with and Fulfillment of Condition of Section 4.13. The execution and delivery of this First Supplemental Indenture by the Additional Guarantor (along with such documentation relating thereto as the Trustee shall require) fulfills the obligations of the Issuer under Section 4.13 of the Indenture.

3. Construction. For all purposes of this First Supplemental Indenture, except as otherwise herein expressly provided or unless the context otherwise requires: (i) the defined terms and expressions used herein shall have the same meanings as corresponding terms and expressions used in the Indenture; and (ii) the words "herein," "hereof" and "hereby" and other words of similar import used in this First Supplemental Indenture refer to this First Supplemental Indenture as a whole and not to any particular Section hereof.

4. Trustee Acceptance. The Trustee accepts the amendment of the Indenture effected by this First Supplemental Indenture, as hereby amended, but only upon the terms and conditions set forth in the Indenture, as hereby amended, including the terms and provisions defining and limiting the liabilities and responsibilities of the Trustee in the performance of its duties and obligations under the Indenture, as hereby amended. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Trustee has no responsibility for the correctness of the recitals of fact herein contained which shall be taken as the statements of each of the Issuer and the Additional Guarantor, respectively, and makes no representations as to the validity or enforceability against either the Issuer or the Additional Guarantor.

5. Indenture Ratified. Except as expressly amended hereby, the Indenture is in all respects ratified and confirmed and all the terms, conditions and provisions thereof shall remain in full force and effect.

6. Holders Bound. This First Supplemental Indenture shall form a part of the Indenture for all purposes, and every Holder of the Notes heretofore or hereafter authenticated and delivered shall be bound hereby.

7. Successors and Assigns. This First Supplemental Indenture shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns.

8. Counterparts. This First Supplemental Indenture may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which when so executed shall be deemed to be an original, and all of such counterparts shall together constitute one and the same instrument.

9. Governing Law. This First Supplemental Indenture shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the internal laws of the State of New York without giving effect to principles of conflicts of laws.

- 2 -

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Issuer, the Additional Guarantor and the Trustee have caused this First Supplemental Indenture to be duly executed as of the date first above written.

ISSUER:

MERITAGE CORPORATION

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Steven J. Hilton  
Its: Co-Chairman, Co-President and Co-Chief  
Executive Officer  
  
By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Larry W. Seay  
Its: Chief Financial Officer, Vice  
President-Finance and Secretary

- 3 -

ADDITIONAL GUARANTOR:

MERITAGE HOMES OF COLORADO, INC.

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-Chairman and CEO  
  
By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Larry W. Seay  
Its: Vice President-Secretary

TRUSTEE:

WELLS FARGO BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, as Trustee

By: /s/ Jeanie Mar  
  
Its: Vice President

GUARANTORS:

MONTEREY HOMES ARIZONA, INC.

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay  
Title: Vice President-Secretary  
  
By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-CEO, President and Chief  
Executive Officer

MERITAGE PASEO CROSSING, LLC

By: Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc., its  
Sole Member

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay  
Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-CEO and Chairman

- 4 -

MONTEREY HOMES CONSTRUCTION, INC.

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay  
Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-CEO, President and Chief  
Executive Officer

MERITAGE PASEO CONSTRUCTION, LLC

By: Meritage Homes Construction, Inc., its  
Sole Member

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay  
Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-CEO and Co-Chairman

MERITAGE HOMES OF ARIZONA, INC.

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay  
Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-CEO and Co-Chairman

MERITAGE HOMES CONSTRUCTION, INC.

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay  
Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-CEO and Co-Chairman

- 5 -

MTH-TEXAS GP, INC.

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay  
Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-Chairman

MTH-TEXAS LP, INC.

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay  
Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-Chairman

LEGACY/MONTEREY HOMES L.P.

By: MTH-Texas GP, Inc., its General Partner

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay

Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-Chairman

MERITAGE HOMES OF CALIFORNIA, INC.

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay  
Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-CEO, President and Chief  
Executive Officer

- 6 -

HANCOCK-MTH BUILDERS, INC.

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay  
Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-Chairman and Co-CEO

HANCOCK-MTH COMMUNITIES, INC.

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay  
Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-Chairman and Co-CEO

LEGACY OPERATING COMPANY, L.P.

By: Meritage Holdings, L.L.C., its General  
Partner

By: Legacy/Monterey Homes L.P., its Sole  
Member

By: MTH-Texas GP, Inc., its General Partner

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Steven J. Hilton  
Its: Co-Chairman

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Larry W. Seay  
Its: Vice President-Secretary

- 7 -

HULEN PARK VENTURE, LLC

By: Legacy/Monterey Homes L.P., its Sole  
Member

By: MTH-Texas GP, Inc., its General Partner

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Steven J. Hilton  
Its: Co-Chairman

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Larry W. Seay  
Its: Vice President-Secretary

MERITAGE HOLDINGS, L.L.C.

By: Legacy/Monterey Homes L.P., its Sole  
Member

By: MTH-Texas GP, Inc., its General Partner

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Steven J. Hilton  
Its: Co-Chairman

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Larry W. Seay

Its: Vice President-Secretary

MTH HOMES-TEXAS, L.P.

By: MTH-Texas GP II, Inc., its General  
Partner

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Steven J. Hilton

Its: Co-Chairman

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Larry W. Seay

Its: Vice President-Secretary

- 8 -

MTH-TEXAS GP II, INC.

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Steven J. Hilton

Its: Co-Chairman

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Larry W. Seay

Its: Vice President-Secretary

MTH-TEXAS LP II, INC.

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Steven J. Hilton

Its: Co-Chairman

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Larry W. Seay

Its: Vice President-Secretary

MTH-HOMES NEVADA, INC.

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Steven J. Hilton

Its: Co-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Larry W. Seay

Its: Vice President-Secretary

MTH-CAVALIER, LLC

By: Monterey Homes Construction, Inc., its  
Sole Member

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay  
Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-CEO, President and Chief  
Executive Officer

- 9 -

MTH GOLF

By: Hancock-MTH Builders, Inc., its Sole  
Member

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Name: Larry W. Seay  
Title: Vice President-Secretary

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Name: Steven J. Hilton  
Title: Co-Chairman and Co-CEO

LEGACY-HAMMONDS MATERIALS, L.P.

By: Meritage Holdings, L.L.C., its General  
Partner

By: Legacy/Monterey Homes L.P., its Sole  
Member

By: MTH-Texas GP, Inc., its General Partner

By: /s/ Steven J. Hilton  
Steven J. Hilton

Its: Co-Chairman

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay  
Larry W. Seay

Its: Vice President-Secretary



May 18, 2004

Meritage Corporation  
8501 East Princess Drive  
Suite 290  
Scottsdale, Arizona 85255

Each of the subsidiaries of Meritage Corporation listed on Schedule I attached hereto

c/o Meritage Corporation  
8501 East Princess Drive  
Suite 290  
Scottsdale, Arizona 85255

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Reference is made to the Registration Statement on Form S-4, including amendments and exhibits thereto (the "Registration Statement"), for the proposed offer to exchange (the "Exchange Offer") by Meritage Corporation (the "Company") and each of the guarantor subsidiaries listed on Schedule I attached hereto (collectively, the "Guarantors"), of up to an aggregate of \$130 million in principal amount of its 7% Senior Notes due 2014 (the "Exchange Notes") for an equal principal amount of its outstanding 7% Senior Notes due 2014 (the "Outstanding Notes") and the guarantees by the Guarantors of the Exchange Notes. The Outstanding Notes were issued, and the Exchange Notes are issuable, pursuant to an Indenture, dated April 21, 2004, by and among the Company, the Guarantors and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as Trustee (the "Indenture").

Based on the foregoing, and subject to the qualifications and limitations set forth herein, we advise you that:

1. The Exchange Notes, when issued, authenticated and delivered by the Company and the Trustee in accordance with the terms of the Indenture, and when issued in exchange for Outstanding Notes as contemplated in the Registration Statement, will be legally binding and valid obligations of the Company, entitled to the benefits of the Indenture and enforceable against the Company in accordance with their terms.  
Meritage Corporation

May 18, 2004  
Page 2

2. The guarantees by the Guarantors to be endorsed on the Exchange Notes, when the Exchange Notes are issued, authenticated and delivered by the Company and the Trustee in accordance with the terms of the Indenture, and when issued as contemplated in the Registration Statement, will be legally binding and valid obligations of the Guarantors enforceable against each of them in accordance with their terms.

In rendering this opinion, we have reviewed and relied upon the Indenture, the Outstanding Notes, the form of Exchange Notes and such documents, records, and other instruments of the Company and the Guarantors as we have deemed necessary.

The opinions set forth above are subject to the following qualifications:

(i) The opinions are subject to and may be limited by (a) applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, liquidation, fraudulent conveyance or transfer, moratorium, reorganization, or other similar laws affecting creditors' rights generally; (b) general equitable principles and rules of law governing specific performance, estoppel, waiver, injunctive relief, and other equitable remedies (regardless of whether enforcement is sought in a proceeding at law or in equity), and the discretion of any court before which a proceeding may be brought; (c) duties and standards of good faith, reasonableness and fair dealing imposed on creditors and parties to contracts; and (d) a court determination that any fees payable pursuant to a provision requiring the payment of attorneys' fees is reasonable.

(ii) We have assumed: (a) the genuineness of the signatures and the authenticity of documents submitted to us as originals, and the conformity to originals of all documents submitted to us as certified or photostatic copies;

(b) that such documents accurately describe the mutual understanding of the parties as to all matters contained therein and that no other agreements or undertakings exist between the parties that would affect the documents relating to the transactions contemplated by such documents and agreements; (c) the due authorization, execution, and delivery of the documents discussed herein by all parties thereto except the Company and the Guarantors, that such documents will be valid and binding upon, and enforceable in accordance with their terms against, all parties thereto except the Company and the Guarantors, and that the execution, delivery, and performance of such documents by parties other than the Company and the Guarantors will not violate any provision of any charter document, law, rule, regulation, judgment, order, decree, agreement or other document binding upon or applicable to such other parties or their respective assets; (d) the accuracy, completeness, and genuineness of all representations and certifications made to or obtained by us, including those of public officials; and (e) the accuracy and completeness of records of the Company and the Guarantors.

(iii) We express no opinion regarding compliance by the Company or any Guarantor with any financial covenants required to be maintained by them under any agreement  
Meritage Corporation

May 18, 2004  
Page 3

or document, or as to the financial ability of the Company or any Guarantors to meet its obligations under the documents described herein.

(iv) This opinion letter is limited to the matters stated herein and no opinion is implied or may be inferred beyond the matters expressly stated. Without limiting the foregoing, the opinions expressed in this letter are based upon the law and facts as we understand them in effect on the date hereof, and we assume no obligation to revise or supplement this opinion should such law be changed by legislative action, judicial decision, or otherwise, or should any facts or other matters upon which we have relied be changed.

We hereby consent to the filing of the opinion as an exhibit to the Registration Statement and to the use of our name in the Registration Statement.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Snell & Wilmer L.L.P.  
SCHEDULE I

LIST OF SUBSIDIARY GUARANTORS

Monterey Homes Arizona, Inc.  
Meritage Paseo Crossing, LLC  
Monterey Homes Construction, Inc.  
Meritage Paseo Construction, LLC  
Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc.  
Meritage Homes Construction, Inc.  
MTH-Texas GP, Inc.  
MTH-Texas LP, Inc.  
Legacy/Monterey Homes L.P.  
Meritage Homes of California, Inc.  
Hancock-MTH Builders, Inc.  
Hancock-MTH Communities, Inc.  
Legacy Operating Company, L.P.  
MTH-Texas GP II, Inc.  
MTH-Texas LP II, Inc.  
MTH-Homes Nevada, Inc.  
Meritage Holdings, LLC  
Hulen Park Venture, L.L.C.  
MTH Homes-Texas, L.P.  
MTH-Cavalier, LLC  
MTH Golf, LLC  
Legacy-Hammonds Materials, L.P.  
Meritage Homes of Colorado, Inc.

## MERITAGE CORPORATION

COMPUTATION OF RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES  
(In Thousands, Except Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges)<TABLE>  
<CAPTION>Three Months  
ended March 31,

Year ended December 31,

	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	2004
2003	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-	----					
<S>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>
<C>						
COMPUTATION OF EARNINGS:						
Earnings before income taxes	\$151,460	\$ 113,544	\$ 82,954	\$ 56,762	\$ 32,214	\$
43,463     \$ 25,606						
Add: fixed charges	31,772	23,550	18,221	11,528	7,678	
9,644     6,843						
Add: amortization of capitalized interest	22,287	19,259	13,303	9,171	5,036	
6,682     4,031						
Less: interest capitalized	(26,580)	(19,294)	(16,623)	(10,626)	(7,025)	
(8,191)     (5,662)						
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
EARNINGS, AS ADJUSTED:	\$178,939	\$ 137,059	\$ 97,855	\$ 66,835	\$ 37,903	\$
51,598     \$ 30,318						
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	
=====						
COMPUTATION OF FIXED CHARGES:						
Interest expense, including amortization of deferred financing costs	\$ 1,155	\$ 525	\$ 348	\$ 98	\$ 96	\$
407     \$ 236						
Interest portion of rent expense (1)	4,037	3,731	1,250	804	557	
1,046     945						
Capitalized interest	26,580	19,294	16,623	10,626	7,025	
8,191     5,662						
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
TOTAL FIXED CHARGES:	\$ 31,772	\$ 23,550	\$ 18,221	\$ 11,528	\$ 7,678	\$
9,644     \$ 6,843						
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	
=====						
RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES:	5.63x	5.82x	5.37x	5.80x	4.94x	
5.35x     4.50x						
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	
=====						

&lt;/TABLE&gt;

(1) Represents 50% of rental expense

MERITAGE CORPORATION

LIST OF SUBSIDIARIES

Monterey Homes Arizona, Inc.  
Monterey Homes Construction, Inc.  
Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc.  
Meritage Paseo Crossing, LLC  
Meritage Homes Construction, Inc.  
Meritage Paseo Construction, LLC  
Hancock-MTH Communities, Inc.  
Hancock-MTH Builders, Inc.  
MTH-Texas GP, Inc.  
MTH-Texas GP II, Inc.  
MTH-Texas LP, Inc.  
MTH-Texas LP II, Inc.  
MTH Homes-Texas, L.P.  
MTH-Homes Nevada, Inc.  
Meritage Holdings, L.L.C.  
Meritage Homes of California, Inc.  
MTH Mortgage, LLC  
MTH-Cavalier, LLC  
MTH Golf, LLC  
Legacy-Hammonds Materials, L.P.  
Legacy/Monterey Homes L.P.  
Legacy Operating Company, L.P.  
Hulen Park Venture, LLC  
Texas Home Mortgage Corporation  
Meritage Homes of Colorado, Inc.

CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

The Board of Directors  
Meritage Corporation:

We consent to the use of our report dated February 16, 2004, with respect to the consolidated balance sheets of Meritage Corporation and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2003 and 2002, and the related consolidated statements of earnings, stockholders' equity and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2003, which report appears in the Annual Report on Form 10-K of Meritage Corporation for the year ended December 31, 2003, incorporated herein by reference and to the reference to our firm under the heading "Experts" in the prospectus.

/s/ KPMG LLP

Phoenix, Arizona  
May 18, 2004

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM T-1

STATEMENT OF ELIGIBILITY
UNDER THE TRUST INDENTURE ACT OF 1939 OF A
CORPORATION DESIGNATED TO ACT AS TRUSTEE

CHECK IF AN APPLICATION TO DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY OF A TRUSTEE PURSUANT TO
SECTION 305(b) (2)

WELLS FARGO BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
(Exact name of trustee as specified in its charter)

NOT APPLICABLE
(Jurisdiction of incorporation or
organization if not a U.S. national
bank)

94-1347393
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

420 MONTGOMERY STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA
(Address of principal executive offices)

94163
(Zip code)

WELLS FARGO & COMPANY
LAW DEPARTMENT, TRUST SECTION
MAC N9305-172
SIXTH AND MARQUETTE, 17TH FLOOR
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55479
(agent for services)

MERITAGE CORPORATION
(Exact name of obligor as specified in its charter)

DELAWARE
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

86-0611231
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

6613 N. SCOTTSDALE ROAD, SUITE 200
SCOTTSDALE, AZ
(Address of principal executive offices)

85250
(Zip code)

7% SENIOR NOTES DUE 2014
(Title of the indenture securities)

Item 1. General Information. Furnish the following information as to the
trustee:

(a) Name and address of each examining or supervising authority to
which it is subject.

Comptroller of the Currency,
Treasury Department
Washington, D.C. 20230

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
Washington, D.C. 20429

Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco
San Francisco, CA 94120

(b) Whether it is authorized to exercise corporate trust powers.

The trustee is authorized to exercise corporate trust powers.

Item 2. Affiliations with Obligor. If the obligor is an affiliate of the
trustee, describe each such affiliation.

None with respect to the trustee.

No responses are included for Items 3-14 of this Form T-1 because the obligor is not in default as provided under Item 13.

- Item 15. Foreign Trustee. Not applicable.
- Item 16. List of Exhibits. List below all exhibits filed as a part of this Statement of Eligibility. Wells Fargo Bank incorporates by reference into this Form T-1 exhibits attached hereto.
- Exhibit 1. A copy of the Articles of Association of the trustee now in effect. \*
- Exhibit 2. A copy of the Comptroller of the Currency Certificate of Corporate Existence for Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, dated November 28, 2001. \*
- Exhibit 3. A copy of the authorization of the trustee to exercise corporate trust powers. A copy of the Comptroller of the Currency Certificate of Corporate Existence (with Fiduciary Powers) for Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, dated November 28, 2001. \*
- Exhibit 4. Copy of By-laws of the trustee as now in effect. \*
- Exhibit 5. Not applicable.
- Exhibit 6. The consents of United States institutional trustees required by Section 321(b) of the Act.
- Exhibit 7. Attached is a copy of the latest report of condition of the trustee published pursuant to law or the requirements of its supervising or examining authority.
- Exhibit 8. Not applicable.
- Exhibit 9. Not applicable.

\* Incorporated by reference to exhibit number 25 filed with registration statement number 333-87398.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, the trustee, Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, a national banking association organized and existing under the laws of the United States of America, has duly caused this statement of eligibility to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, all in the City of Los Angeles and State of California on the day of 7th of May, 2004.

WELLS FARGO BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

/s/ Jeanie Mar

-----  
Name: Jeanie Mar  
Title: Vice President

EXHIBIT 6

May 7, 2004

Securities and Exchange Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20549

Gentlemen:

In accordance with Section 321(b) of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, the undersigned hereby consents that reports of examination of the undersigned made by Federal, State, Territorial, or District authorities

authorized to make such examination may be furnished by such authorities to the Securities and Exchange Commission upon its request thereof.

Very truly yours,

WELLS FARGO BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

/s/ Jeanie Mar

-----  
Jeanie Mar  
Vice President

EXHIBIT 7

Consolidated Report of Condition of

Wells Fargo Bank National Association  
of 420 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, CA 94163  
And Foreign and Domestic Subsidiaries,  
at the close of business December 31, 2003, filed in  
accordance with 12 U.S.C. Section 161 for National Banks.

<TABLE>  
<CAPTION>

	Dollar Amounts In Millions
	-----
<S>	<C>
ASSETS	
Cash and balances due from depository institutions:	
Noninterest-bearing balances and currency and coin	\$ 11,411
Interest-bearing balances	3,845
Securities:	
Held-to-maturity securities	0
Available-for-sale securities	17,052
Federal funds sold and securities purchased under agreements to resell:	
Federal funds sold in domestic offices	516
Securities purchased under agreements to resell	109
Loans and lease financing receivables:	
Loans and leases held for sale	14,571
Loans and leases, net of unearned income	172,511
LESS: Allowance for loan and lease losses	1,554
Loans and leases, net of unearned income and allowance	170,957
Trading Assets	6,255
Premises and fixed assets (including capitalized leases)	2,067
Other real estate owned	144
Investments in unconsolidated subsidiaries and associated companies	306
Customers' liability to this bank on acceptances outstanding	68
Intangible assets	
Goodwill	6,814
Other intangible assets	7,501
Other assets	8,858
	-----
Total assets	\$250,474
	=====
LIABILITIES	
Deposits:	
In domestic offices	\$157,695
Noninterest-bearing	44,315
Interest-bearing	113,380
In foreign offices, Edge and Agreement subsidiaries, and IBFs	16,249
Noninterest-bearing	6
Interest-bearing	16,243
Federal funds purchased and securities sold under agreements to repurchase:	
Federal funds purchased in domestic offices	14,685
Securities sold under agreements to repurchase	1,613

</TABLE>

<TABLE>  
<CAPTION>



	Dollar Amounts In Millions -----
<S>	<C>
Trading liabilities	4,277
Other borrowed money	
(includes mortgage indebtedness and obligations under capitalized leases)	18,212
Bank's liability on acceptances executed and outstanding	68
Subordinated notes and debentures	6,742
Other liabilities	7,358
	-----
Total liabilities	\$226,899
Minority interest in consolidated subsidiaries	60
EQUITY CAPITAL	
Perpetual preferred stock and related surplus	0
Common stock	520
Surplus (exclude all surplus related to preferred stock)	17,709
Retained earnings	4,920
Accumulated other comprehensive income	366
Other equity capital components	0
	-----
Total equity capital	23,515
	-----
Total liabilities, minority interest, and equity capital	\$250,474 =====

</TABLE>

I, James E. Hanson, Vice President of the above-named bank do hereby declare that this Report of Condition has been prepared in conformance with the instructions issued by the appropriate Federal regulatory authority and is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

James E. Hanson  
Vice President

We, the undersigned directors, attest to the correctness of this Report of Condition and declare that it has been examined by us and to the best of our knowledge and belief has been prepared in conformance with the instructions issued by the appropriate Federal regulatory authority and is true and correct.

Carrie L. Tolstedt  
Howard Atkins  
John Stumpf

Directors



The undersigned acknowledges receipt of the Prospectus, dated \_\_\_\_\_, 2004 (the "Prospectus"), of Meritage Corporation, a Maryland corporation (the "Company"), relating to the offer (the "Exchange Offer") of the Company, upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the Prospectus and herein and the instructions hereto, to exchange \$1,000 principal amount of its registered 7% Senior Notes due 2014 (the "Exchange Notes") for each \$1,000 principal amount of its outstanding unregistered 7% Senior Notes due 2014 (the "Outstanding Notes"), of which \$130 million aggregate principal amount is outstanding. The minimum permitted tender is \$1,000 principal amount of outstanding notes, and all other tenders must be in integral multiples of \$1,000.

**DELIVERY OF THIS LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL TO AN ADDRESS, OR TRANSMISSION BY FACSIMILE, OTHER THAN AS SET FORTH ABOVE WILL NOT CONSTITUTE A VALID DELIVERY. THE INSTRUCTIONS ACCOMPANYING THIS LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL SHOULD BE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE THIS LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL IS COMPLETED.**

The Exchange Offer will expire at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on \_\_\_\_\_, 2004 (the "Expiration Date"), unless extended.

**HOLDERS WHO WISH TO BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE EXCHANGE NOTES PURSUANT TO THE EXCHANGE OFFER MUST VALIDLY TENDER THEIR OUTSTANDING NOTES TO THE EXCHANGE AGENT PRIOR TO 5:00 P.M. ON THE EXPIRATION DATE.**

This Letter of Transmittal should be used only to exchange the Outstanding Notes, pursuant to the Exchange Offer as set forth in the Prospectus.

This Letter of Transmittal is to be used: (a) if Outstanding Notes are to be physically delivered to the Exchange Agent; (b) if delivery of Outstanding Notes is to be made by book-entry transfer to the account maintained by the Exchange Agent at The Depository Trust Company ("DTC" or the "Book — Entry Transfer Facility") pursuant to the procedures set forth in the Prospectus under the caption "The Exchange Offer — Procedures for Tendering"; or (c) delivery of Outstanding Notes is to be made according to the guaranteed delivery procedures set forth in the prospectus under the caption "The Exchange Offer — Guaranteed Delivery Procedures," and, in each case, instructions are not being transmitted through DTC. Delivery of documents to the Book-Entry Transfer Facility does not constitute delivery to the Exchange Agent.

Holders whose Outstanding Notes are not available or who cannot deliver their Outstanding Notes and all other documents required hereby to the Exchange Agent by 5:00 p.m. on the Expiration Date nevertheless may tender their Outstanding Notes in accordance with the guaranteed delivery procedures set forth in the Prospectus under the caption "The Exchange Offer — Guaranteed Delivery Procedures."

All capitalized terms used herein and not defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Prospectus.

**HOLDERS WHO WISH TO EXCHANGE THEIR OUTSTANDING NOTES MUST COMPLETE ALL THE COLUMNS IN THE BOX ENTITLED "DESCRIPTION OF OUTSTANDING NOTES TENDERED" ON THE PRIOR PAGE, COMPLETE THE BOX BELOW ENTITLED "METHOD OF DELIVERY" AND SIGN WHERE INDICATED BELOW.**

**THE UNDERSIGNED, BY COMPLETING THE BOX ENTITLED "DESCRIPTION OF OUTSTANDING NOTES TENDERED" AND SIGNING THIS LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL, WILL BE DEEMED TO HAVE TENDERED THE OUTSTANDING NOTES AND MADE CERTAIN REPRESENTATIONS DESCRIBED IN THE PROSPECTUS AND HEREIN.**

METHOD OF DELIVERY

- CHECK HERE IF CERTIFICATES FOR TENDERED OUTSTANDING NOTES ARE ENCLOSED HERewith.
- CHECK HERE IF TENDERED OUTSTANDING NOTES ARE BEING DELIVERED BY BOOK-ENTRY TRANSFER MADE TO THE ACCOUNT MAINTAINED BY THE EXCHANGE AGENT WITH THE BOOK-ENTRY TRANSFER FACILITY AND COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

Name of Tendering Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Transaction Code Number: \_\_\_\_\_

- CHECK HERE IF TENDERED OUTSTANDING NOTES ARE BEING DELIVERED PURSUANT TO A NOTICE OF GUARANTEED DELIVERY PREVIOUSLY SENT TO THE EXCHANGE AGENT AND COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING (SEE INSTRUCTIONS 1 AND 4):

Name(s) of Registered Holder(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Window Ticket Number (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Execution of Notice of Guaranteed Delivery: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Eligible Institution which Guaranteed Delivery: \_\_\_\_\_

**If delivered by the Book-Entry Transfer Facility, provide the following information:**

- The Depository Trust Company

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Transaction Code Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR PARTICIPATING BROKER-DEALERS ONLY**

- CHECK HERE AND PROVIDE THE INFORMATION REQUESTED BELOW IF YOU ARE A PARTICIPATING BROKER-DEALER AND WISH TO RECEIVE ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THE PROSPECTUS AND COPIES OF ANY AMENDMENTS OR SUPPLEMENTS THERETO, AS WELL AS ANY NOTICES FROM THE COMPANY TO SUSPEND AND RESUME USE OF THE PROSPECTUS. BY TENDERING ITS OUTSTANDING NOTES AND EXECUTING THIS LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL, EACH PARTICIPATING BROKER-DEALER AGREES TO USE ITS REASONABLE BEST EFFORTS TO NOTIFY THE COMPANY OR THE EXCHANGE AGENT WHEN IT HAS SOLD ALL OF ITS EXCHANGE NOTES. (if no Participating Broker-Dealers check this box, or if all Participating Broker-Dealers who have checked this box subsequently notify the Company or the Exchange Agent that all their Exchange Notes have been sold, the Company will not be required to maintain the effectiveness of the Exchange Offer Registration Statement or to update the Prospectus and will not provide any notices to any Holders to suspend or resume use of the Prospectus.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Facsimile No.: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: SIGNATURES MUST BE PROVIDED BELOW**

**PLEASE READ THE ACCOMPANYING INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY**

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Upon the terms and subject to the conditions of the Exchange Offer, the undersigned hereby tenders to the Company the principal amount of Outstanding Notes indicated in the box entitled "Description of Outstanding Notes Tendered." Subject to, and effective upon, the acceptance for exchange of the Outstanding Notes tendered hereby, the undersigned hereby irrevocably sells, assigns and transfers to or upon the order of the Company all right, title and interest in and to such Outstanding Notes, and hereby irrevocably constitutes and appoints the Exchange Agent the true and lawful agent and attorney-in-fact of the undersigned (with full knowledge that said Exchange Agent also acts as the agent of the Company and as Trustee under the indenture governing the Outstanding Notes and the Exchange Notes) with respect to such Outstanding Notes, with full power of substitution (such power of attorney being deemed to be an irrevocable power coupled with an interest) to (a) deliver certificates representing such Outstanding Notes on the account books maintained by DTC, and to deliver all accompanying evidences of transfer and authenticity to or upon the order of the Company upon receipt by the Exchange Agent, as the undersigned's agent, of the Exchange Notes to which the undersigned is entitled upon the acceptance by the Company of such Outstanding Notes for exchange pursuant to the Exchange Offer, (b) receive all benefits and otherwise to exercise all rights of beneficial ownership of such Outstanding Notes, all in accordance with the terms of the Exchange Offer, and (c) present such Outstanding Notes for transfer on the books of the Company or the trustee under the Indenture (the "Trustee") for such Outstanding Notes.

The undersigned acknowledges that prior to this Exchange Offer, there has been no public market for the Outstanding Notes or the Exchange Notes. If a market for the Exchange Notes should develop, the Exchange Notes could trade at a discount from their principal amount. The undersigned is aware that the Company does not intend to list the Exchange Notes on a national securities exchange and that there can be no assurance that an active market for the Exchange Notes will develop.

THE EXCHANGE OFFER IS NOT BEING MADE TO ANY BROKER-DEALER WHO PURCHASED OUTSTANDING NOTES DIRECTLY FROM THE COMPANY FOR RESALE PURSUANT TO RULE 144A UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OR ANY PERSON THAT IS AN "AFFILIATE" OF THE COMPANY WITHIN THE MEANING OF RULE 405 UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT. THE EXCHANGE OFFER IS NOT BEING MADE TO, NOR WILL TENDERS BE ACCEPTED FROM OR ON BEHALF OF, HOLDERS OF THE OUTSTANDING NOTES IN ANY JURISDICTION IN WHICH THE MAKING OF THE OFFER OR ACCEPTANCE THEREOF WOULD NOT BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE LAWS OF SUCH JURISDICTION OR WOULD OTHERWISE NOT BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH ANY PROVISION OF ANY APPLICABLE SECURITY LAW.

The undersigned represents that (a) it is not an "affiliate," as defined under Rule 405 of the Securities Act, of the Company or any of the Guarantors (as defined in the Prospectus), (b) it does not have an arrangement or understanding with any person to participate in a distribution of the Exchange Notes, (c) it is not a broker-dealer that owns Outstanding Notes acquired directly from the Company or an affiliate of the Company, (d) it is acquiring the Exchange Notes in the ordinary course of its business, and (e) it is not acting on behalf of any other person that could not truthfully make the representations set forth herein. In addition, if the undersigned is participating in the Exchange Offer for the purpose of distributing the Exchange Notes it cannot rely on the interpretations of the staff of the Commission discussed under the caption "The Exchange Offer — Purposes and Effects" and may only sell the Exchange Notes acquired by it pursuant to a registration statement containing the selling security holder information required by Item 507 or 508 of Regulation S-K under the Securities Act.

If the undersigned is a broker-dealer that will receive Exchange Notes for its own account in exchange for Outstanding Notes that were acquired as a result of market-making activities or other trading activities, it acknowledges that it will deliver a prospectus in connection with any resale of such Exchange Notes; however, by so acknowledging and by delivering a prospectus, the undersigned will not be deemed to admit that it is an "underwriter" within the meaning of the Securities Act.

Each broker-dealer making the representations contained in the above paragraph (a "Participating Broker-Dealer"), by tendering the Outstanding Notes and executing this Letter of Transmittal, agrees that, upon receipt of notice from the Company of the occurrence of any event or the discovery of any fact which makes any statement contained or incorporated by reference in the Prospectus untrue in any material respect or which causes the

Prospectus to omit to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements contained or incorporated by reference therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading or of the occurrence of certain other events specified in the Registration Rights Agreement, such Participating Broker-Dealer will suspend the sale of Exchange Notes pursuant to the Prospectus until the Company has amended or supplemented the Prospectus to correct such misstatement or omission and has furnished copies of the amended or supplemented Prospectus to the Participating Broker-Dealer or the Company has given notice that the sale of the Exchange Notes may be resumed, as the case may be.

Each Participating Broker-Dealer should check the box herein under the caption “For Participating Broker-Dealers Only” in order to receive additional copies of the Prospectus, and any amendments and supplements thereto, for use in connection with resales of the Exchange Notes, as well as any notices from the Company to suspend and resume use of the Prospectus. By tendering its Outstanding Notes and executing this Letter of Transmittal, each Participating Broker-Dealer agrees to use its reasonable best efforts to notify the Company or the Exchange Agent when it has sold all of its Exchange Notes. If no Participating Broker-Dealers check such box, or if all Participating Broker-Dealers who have checked such box with subsequently notify the Company or the Exchange Agent that all their Exchange Notes have been sold, the Company will not be required to maintain the effectiveness of the Exchange Offer Registration Statement or to update the Prospectus and will not provide any Holders with any notices to suspend or resume use of the Prospectus.

The undersigned understands and acknowledges that the Company reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to purchase or make offers for any Outstanding Notes that remain outstanding subsequent to the Expiration Date or to terminate the Exchange Offer and, to the extent permitted by applicable law, purchase Outstanding Notes in the open market, in privately negotiated transactions or otherwise. The terms of any such purchases or offers may differ from the terms of the Exchange Offer.

The undersigned hereby represents and warrants that (a) the undersigned accepts the terms and conditions of the Exchange Offer, (b) the undersigned has a net long position within the meaning of Rule 14e-4 under the Exchange Act (“Rule 14e-4”) equal to or greater than the principal amount of Outstanding Notes tendered hereby, (c) the tender of such Outstanding Notes complies with Rule 14e-4 (to the extent that Rule 14e-4 is applicable to such exchange), (d) the undersigned has full power and authority to tender, exchange, assign and transfer the Outstanding Notes tendered hereby, and (e) when the same are accepted for exchange by the Company, the Company will acquire good and unencumbered title thereto, free and clear of all liens, restrictions, charges and encumbrances and not subject to any adverse claim or right. The undersigned will, upon request, execute and deliver any additional documents deemed by the Exchange Agent or the Company to be necessary or desirable to complete the sale, assignment and transfer of the Outstanding Notes tendered hereby or transfer ownership of such Outstanding Notes on the account books maintained by DTC.

The undersigned understands that tenders of the Outstanding Notes pursuant to any one of the procedures described in the Prospectus under the caption “The Exchange Offer — Procedures for Tendering” and in the instructions hereto will constitute a binding agreement between the undersigned and the Company in accordance with the terms and subject to the conditions of the Exchange Offer.

The undersigned agrees that all authority conferred or agreed to be conferred by this Letter of Transmittal and every obligation of the undersigned hereunder shall be binding upon the successors, assigns, heirs, executors, administrators, trustees in bankruptcy and legal representatives of the undersigned and shall not be affected by, and shall survive, the death or incapacity of the undersigned. The undersigned also agrees that, except as stated in the Prospectus, the Outstanding Notes tendered hereby cannot be withdrawn.

The undersigned understands that by tendering Outstanding Notes pursuant to one of the procedures described in the Prospectus and the instructions thereto, the tendering holder will be deemed to have waived the right to receive any payment in respect of interest on the Outstanding Notes accrued up to the date of issuance of the Exchange Notes.

Holders of Outstanding Notes that are tendering by book-entry transfer to the Exchange Agent’s account at DTC can execute the tender through DTC’s Automated Tender Program (“ATOP”), for which the transaction will be eligible. DTC participants that are accepting the Exchange Offer should transmit their acceptance to DTC, which will

edit and verify the acceptance and execute a book-entry delivery to the Exchange Agent's account at DTC. DTC will then send an Agent's Message to the Exchange Agent for its acceptance. Delivery of the Agent's Message by DTC will satisfy the terms of the Exchange Offer as to execution and delivery of a Letter of Transmittal by the participant identified in the Agent's Message. DTC participants may also accept the Exchange Offer by submitting a Notice of Guaranteed Delivery through ATOP.

The undersigned recognizes that, under certain circumstances set forth in the Prospectus, the Company may not be required to accept for exchange any of the Outstanding Notes tendered. Outstanding Notes not accepted for exchange or withdrawn will be returned to the undersigned at the address set forth below unless otherwise indicated under the box entitled "Special Delivery Instructions" below.

Unless otherwise indicated herein under the box entitled "Special Issuance Instructions" below, Exchange Notes, and Outstanding Notes not validly tendered or accepted for exchange, will be issued in the name of the undersigned. Similarly, unless otherwise indicated under the box entitled "Special Delivery Instructions" below, Exchange Notes, and Outstanding Notes not validly tendered or accepted for exchange, will be returned to the undersigned at the address shown below the signature of the undersigned. The undersigned recognizes that the Company has no obligation pursuant to the "Special Issuance Instructions" to transfer any Outstanding Notes from the name of the registered holder thereof if the Company does not accept for exchange any of the principal amount of such Outstanding Notes so tendered.

The undersigned understands that the delivery and surrender of the Outstanding Notes is not effective, and the risk of loss of the Outstanding Notes does not pass to the Exchange Agent, until receipt by the Exchange Agent of this Letter of Transmittal, or facsimile hereof, properly completed and duly executed, with any required signature guarantees, together with all accompanying evidences of authority and any other required documents in form satisfactory to the Company. All questions as to the validity, form, eligibility (including time of receipt), and withdrawal of the tendered Outstanding Notes will be determined by the Company in its sole discretion, which determination will be final and binding. The Company reserves the absolute right to reject any and all Outstanding Notes not properly tendered or any Outstanding Notes the Company's acceptance of which would, in the opinion of counsel for the Company, be unlawful. The Company also reserves the right to waive any irregularities or conditions of tender as to particular Outstanding Notes. The Company's interpretation of the terms and conditions of the Exchange Offer (including the instructions in this Letter of Transmittal) will be final and binding. Unless waived, any defects or irregularities in connection with tenders of Outstanding Notes must be cured within such time as the Company shall determine. Neither the Company, the Exchange Agent nor any other person shall be under any duty to give notification of defects or irregularities with respect to tenders of Outstanding Notes, nor shall any of them incur any liability for failure to give such notification. Tenders of Outstanding Notes will not be deemed to have been made until such irregularities have been cured or waived. Any Outstanding Notes received by the Exchange Agent that are not properly tendered and as to which the defects or irregularities have not been cured or waived will be returned without cost to such holder by the Exchange Agent to the tendering holders of Outstanding Notes, unless otherwise provided in this Letter of Transmittal, as soon as practicable following the Expiration Date.

In order to complete this Letter of Transmittal properly, a Holder must (i) complete the box entitled "Description of Outstanding Notes Tendered," (ii) complete the box entitled "Method of Delivery" by checking one of the four boxes therein and supplying the appropriate information, (iii) if such Holder is a Participating Broker-Dealer and wishes to receive additional copies of the Prospectus for delivery in connection with resales of Exchange Notes, complete the box entitled "For Participating Broker-Dealers Only," (iv) sign this Letter of Transmittal by completing the box entitled "Please Sign Here," (v) if appropriate, check and complete the boxes relating to the "Special Issuance Instructions" and "Special Delivery Instructions" and (vi) complete the Substitute Form W-9. Each Holder should carefully read the detailed Instructions below prior to the completing this Letter of Transmittal. See "The Exchange Offer — Procedures for Tendering" in the Prospectus.

Your bank or broker can assist you in completing this form. The instructions included with this Letter of Transmittal must be followed. Questions and requests for assistance or for additional copies of the Prospectus, this Letter of Transmittal and the Notice of Guaranteed Delivery may be directed to the Exchange Agent, whose address and telephone number appear on the front cover of this Letter of Transmittal.

**PLEASE SIGN HERE**  
**(To Be Completed By All Tendering Holders)**

X \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, 2004

X \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, 2004

(Signature(s) of Owner)

Date

Area code and Telephone Number

\_\_\_\_\_

If a Holder is tendering any Outstanding Notes, this Letter must be signed by the registered Holder(s) as the name(s) appear(s) on the certificate(s) for the Outstanding Notes or by any person(s) authorized to become registered Holder(s) by endorsements and documents transmitted herewith. If signature is by a trustee, executor, administrator, guardian, officer or other person acting in a fiduciary or representative capacity, please set forth full title. See Instruction 3.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

(Please type or print)

Capacity: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(Including Zip Code)

**SIGNATURE GUARANTEE**

(If Required By Instruction 3)

Signature(s) Guaranteed by an Eligible Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

(Authorized Signature)

(Title)

(Name and Firm)

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_, 2004



**SPECIAL ISSUANCE INSTRUCTIONS**  
(See Instructions 3, 4 and 6)

To be completed ONLY if certificates for Outstanding Notes in a principal amount not exchanged and/or certificates for Exchange Notes are to be issued in the name of someone other than the undersigned, or if Outstanding Notes are to be returned by credit to an account maintained by the Book-Entry Transfer Facility.

Issue (check appropriate box)

Exchange Notes to:

Outstanding Notes to:

Name:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Zip Code)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Taxpayer Identification Number)

(You must also complete Substitute Form W-9 below.)

Credit unaccepted Outstanding Notes tendered by book-entry transfer to:

The Depository Trust Company account set forth below

\_\_\_\_\_  
(DTC Account Number)

**SPECIAL DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS**  
(See Instructions 3, 4 and 6)

To be completed ONLY if certificates for Outstanding Notes in a principal amount not exchanged and/or certificates for Exchange Notes are to be sent to someone other than undersigned at an address other than that shown above.

Deliver (check appropriate box)

Exchange Notes to:

Outstanding Notes to:

Name:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Zip Code)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Taxpayer Identification Number)

(You must also complete Substitute Form W-9 below.)

INSTRUCTIONS FORMING PART OF THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE OFFER

AND THE SOLICITATION

**1. Delivery of This Letter of Transmittal and Certificates; Guaranteed Delivery Procedures.** To be effectively tendered pursuant to the Exchange Offer, the Outstanding Notes, together with a properly completed Letter of Transmittal (or facsimile thereof), or in the case of a book-entry transfer, an Agent's Message, duly executed by the registered holder thereof, and any other documents required by this Letter of Transmittal, must be received by the Exchange Agent at one of its addresses set forth on the first page of this Letter of Transmittal. If the beneficial owner of any Outstanding Notes is not the registered holder, then such person may validly tender his or her Outstanding Notes only by obtaining and submitting to the Exchange Agent a properly completed Letter of Transmittal from the registered holder. **OUTSTANDING NOTES SHOULD BE DELIVERED ONLY TO THE EXCHANGE AGENT AND NOT TO THE COMPANY OR TO ANY OTHER PERSON.**

**THE METHOD OF DELIVERY OF OUTSTANDING NOTES AND ALL OTHER REQUIRED DOCUMENTS TO THE EXCHANGE AGENT, INCLUDING DELIVERY THROUGH DTC AND ANY ACCEPTANCE OF AN AGENT'S MESSAGE THROUGH ATOP, IS AT THE ELECTION AND RISK OF THE HOLDER. IF SUCH DELIVERY IS MADE BY MAIL, IT IS SUGGESTED THAT THE HOLDER USE PROPERLY INSURED, REGISTERED MAIL WITH RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED AND THAT SUFFICIENT TIME SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO ASSURE TIMELY DELIVERY. NO ALTERNATIVE, CONDITIONAL OR CONTINGENT TENDERS OF OLD NOTES WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

**SUFFICIENT TIME SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO ASSURE TIMELY DELIVERY TO THE EXCHANGE AGENT BY 5:00 P.M., NEW YORK CITY TIME, ON THE EXPIRATION DATE.**

If a holder desires to tender Outstanding Notes and such holder's Outstanding Notes are not immediately available or time will not permit such holder's Letter of Transmittal, Outstanding Notes or other required documents to reach the Exchange Agent on or before the Expiration Date, such holder's tender may be effected if:

- (a) the tender is made through an Eligible Institution (as defined herein);
- (b) prior to the Expiration Date, the Exchange Agent receives from such Eligible Institution a properly completed and duly executed Notice of Guaranteed Delivery (by facsimile transmission, mail or hand delivery) setting forth the name and address of the holder of the Outstanding Notes, the certificate number or numbers of such Outstanding Notes and the principal amount of Outstanding Notes tendered, stating that the tender is being made thereby, and guaranteeing that, within three business days after the Expiration Date, the Letter of Transmittal (or facsimile thereof) together with the certificate(s) representing the Outstanding Notes to be tendered in proper form for transfer or a Book-Entry Confirmation, as the case may be, and any other documents required by the Letter of Transmittal will be deposited by the Eligible Institution with the Exchange Agent; and
- (c) such properly completed and executed Letter of Transmittal (or facsimile thereof), properly completed and validly executed with any required signature guarantees, or, in the case of a book-entry transfer, an Agent's Message, together with the certificate(s) representing all tendered Outstanding Notes in proper form for transfer (or a Book-Entry Confirmation with respect to all tendered Outstanding Notes), and all other documents required by the Letter of Transmittal are received by the Exchange Agent within three business days after the Expiration Date.

**2. Withdrawal of Tenders.** Tendered Outstanding Notes may be withdrawn at any time prior to 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the Expiration Date, unless previously accepted for exchange.

To be effective, a written or facsimile transmission notice of withdrawal must (a) be received by the Exchange Agent at one of its addresses set forth on the first page of this Letter of Transmittal prior to 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the Expiration Date, unless previously accepted for exchange, (b) specify the name of the person who tendered the Outstanding Notes, (c) contain the description of the Outstanding Notes to be withdrawn, the certificate numbers shown on the particular certificates evidencing such Outstanding Notes and the aggregate principal amount represented by such Outstanding Notes, and (d) be signed by the holder of such Outstanding Notes in the same manner as the original signature appears on this Letter of Transmittal (including any required signature guarantees)

or be accompanied by evidence sufficient to have the Trustee with respect to the Outstanding Notes register the transfer of such Outstanding Notes into the name of the holder withdrawing the tender. The signature(s) on the notice of withdrawal must be guaranteed by an Eligible Institution unless such Outstanding Notes have been tendered (a) by a registered holder of Outstanding Notes who has not completed either the box entitled "Special Issuance Instructions" or the box entitled "Special Delivery Instructions" on this Letter of Transmittal or (b) for the account of an Eligible Institution. All questions as to the validity, form and eligibility (including time of receipt) of such withdrawal notices shall be determined by the Company, whose determination shall be final and binding on all parties. If the Outstanding Notes to be withdrawn have been delivered or otherwise identified to the Exchange Agent, a signed notice of withdrawal is effective immediately upon receipt by the Exchange Agent of a written or facsimile transmission notice of withdrawal even if physical release is not yet effected. In addition, such notice must specify, in the case of Outstanding Notes tendered by delivery of certificates for such Outstanding Notes, the name of the registered holder (if different from that of the tendering holder) to be credited with the withdrawn Outstanding Notes. Withdrawals may not be rescinded, and any Outstanding Notes withdrawn will thereafter be deemed not validly tendered for purposes of the Exchange Offer. However, properly withdrawn Outstanding Notes may be retendered by following one of the procedures described under "The Exchange Offer — Procedures for Tendering" in the Prospectus at any time on or prior to the applicable Expiration Date.

**3. Signatures on This Letter of Transmittal, Bond Powers and Endorsements; Guarantee of Signatures.** If this Letter of Transmittal is signed by the registered holder(s) of the Outstanding Notes tendered hereby, the signature must correspond exactly with the name(s) as written on the face of the certificates without any change whatsoever.

If any Outstanding Notes tendered hereby are owned of record by two or more joint owners, all such owners must sign this Letter of Transmittal.

If any Outstanding Notes tendered hereby are registered in different names on several certificates, it will be necessary to complete, sign and submit as many separate copies of this Letter of Transmittal as there are different registrations of certificates.

When this Letter of Transmittal is signed by the registered holder or holders specified herein and tendered hereby, no endorsements of certificates or separate bond powers are required unless Exchange Notes are to be issued, or certificates for any untendered principal amount of Outstanding Notes are to be reissued, to a person other than the registered holder.

If this Letter of Transmittal is signed by a person other than the registered holder(s) of any certificate(s) specified herein, such certificate(s) must be endorsed or accompanied by appropriate bond powers, in either case signed exactly as the name(s) of the registered holder(s) appear(s) on the certificate(s). If this Letter of Transmittal is signed by a participant in DTC whose name is shown as the owner of the Outstanding Notes tendered hereby, the signature must correspond with the name shown on the security position listing as the owner of the Outstanding Notes.

If this Letter of Transmittal or a Notice of Guaranteed Delivery or any certificates or bond powers are signed by trustees, executors, administrators, guardians, attorneys-in-fact, officers of corporations or others acting in a fiduciary or representative capacity, such persons should so indicate when signing, and unless waived by the Company, evidence satisfactory to the Company of their authority so to act must be submitted with this Letter of Transmittal.

Except as described below, signatures on this Letter of Transmittal or a notice of withdrawal, as the case may be, must be guaranteed by an Eligible Institution. Signatures on this Letter of Transmittal or a notice of withdrawal, as the case may be, need not be guaranteed if the Outstanding Notes tendered pursuant hereto are tendered (a) by a registered holder of Outstanding Notes who has not completed either the box entitled "Special Issuance Instructions" or the box entitled "Special Delivery Instructions" on this Letter of Transmittal or (b) for the account of an Eligible Institution. In the event that signatures on this Letter of Transmittal or a notice of withdrawal, as the case may be, are required to be guaranteed, such guarantee must be by a firm which is a member of a registered national securities exchange or a member of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. or by a commercial bank or trust company having an office or correspondent in the United States (each as "Eligible Institutions").

**IF THIS LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL IS EXECUTED BY A PERSON OR ENTITY WHO IS NOT THE REGISTERED HOLDER, THEN THE REGISTERED HOLDER MUST SIGN A VALID BOND POWER WITH THE SIGNATURE OF SUCH REGISTERED HOLDER GUARANTEED BY A PARTICIPANT IN A RECOGNIZED MEDALLION SIGNATURE PROGRAM (A "MEDALLION SIGNATURE GUARANTOR").**

**4. Special Issuance and Delivery Instructions.** Tendering holders should indicate in the applicable box the name and address to which certificates for Exchange Notes and/or substitute certificates evidencing Outstanding Notes for the principal amounts not exchanged are to be issued or sent, if different from the name and address of the person signing this Letter of Transmittal. In the case of issuance in a different name, the employer identification or social security number of the person named must also be indicated. If no such instructions are given, any Outstanding Notes not exchanged will be returned to the name and address of the person signing this Letter of Transmittal.

**5. Tax Identification Number Withholding.** Federal income tax law of the United States requires that a holder of Outstanding Notes whose Outstanding Notes are accepted for exchange provide the Company with the holder's correct taxpayer identification number, which, in the case of a holder who is an individual, is his or her social security number, or otherwise establish an exemption from backup withholding. If the Company is not provided with the correct taxpayer identification number, the exchanging holder of Outstanding Notes may be subject to a \$50 penalty imposed by the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS"). In addition, interest on the Exchange Notes acquired pursuant to the Exchange Offer may be subject to backup withholding in an amount up to 31% of any interest payment. If withholding occurs and results in an overpayment of taxes, a refund may be obtained.

To prevent backup withholding, an exchanging holder of Outstanding Notes must provide his correct taxpayer identification number by completing the Substitute Form W-9 provided in this Letter of Transmittal, certifying that the taxpayer identification number provided is correct (or that the exchanging holder of Outstanding Notes is awaiting a taxpayer identification number) and that either (a) the exchanging holder has not yet been notified by the IRS that such holder is subject to backup withholding as a result of failure to report all interest or dividends or (b) the IRS has notified the exchanging holder that such holder is no longer subject to backup withholding.

Certain exchanging holders of Outstanding Notes (including, among others, all corporations and certain foreign individuals) are not subject to these backup withholding requirements. A foreign individual and other exempt holders other than foreign individuals (e.g., corporations) should certify, in accordance with the enclosed "Guidelines for Certification of Taxpayer Identification Number on Substitute Form W-9," to such exempt status on the Substitute Form W-9 provided in this Letter of Transmittal. Foreign individuals should complete and provide Form W-8 to indicate their foreign status.

**6. Transfer Taxes.** Holders tendering pursuant to the Exchange Offer will not be obligated to pay brokerage commissions or fees or to pay transfer taxes with respect to their exchange under the Exchange Offer unless the box entitled "Special Issuance Instructions" in this Letter of Transmittal has been completed, or unless the Exchange Notes are to be issued to any person other than the holder of the Outstanding Notes tendered for exchange. The Company will pay all other charges or expenses in connection with the Exchange Offer. If holders tender Outstanding Notes for exchange and the Exchange Offer is not consummated, certificates representing the Outstanding Notes will be returned to the holders at the Company's expense. If a transfer tax is imposed for any reason other than the exchange of Outstanding Notes pursuant to the Exchange Offer, then the amount of any transfer taxes (whether imposed on the registered Holder or any other persons) will be payable by the tendering Holder. If satisfactory evidence of payment of such taxes or exemption therefrom is not submitted herewith the amount of taxes will be billed directly to such tendering Holder.

Except as provided in this Instruction 6, it will not be necessary for transfer tax stamps to be affixed to the certificate(s) specified in this Letter of Transmittal.

**7. Inadequate Space.** If the space provided herein is inadequate, the aggregate principal amount of the Outstanding Notes being tendered and the certificate numbers (if available) should be listed on a separate schedule attached hereto and separately signed by all parties required to sign this Letter of Transmittal.

**8. Partial Tenders.** Tenders of Outstanding Notes will be accepted only in integral multiples of \$1,000. If tenders are to be made with respect to less than the entire principal amount of any Outstanding Notes, fill in the total principal amount of Outstanding Notes which are tendered in the appropriate box on the cover entitled "Description

of Outstanding Notes Tendered.” In the case of partial tenders, new certificates representing the Outstanding Notes in fully registered form for the remainder of the principal amount of the Outstanding Notes will be sent to the person(s) signing this Letter of Transmittal, unless otherwise indicated in the appropriate place on this Letter of Transmittal, as promptly as practicable after the expiration or termination of the Exchange Offer.

**9. Mutilated, Lost, Stolen or Destroyed Outstanding Notes.** Any holder whose Outstanding Notes have been mutilated, lost, stolen or destroyed should contact the Exchange Agent at the address indicated above for further instructions.

**10. Request for Assistance or Additional Copies.** Requests for assistance or additional copies of the Prospectus or this Letter of Transmittal may be obtained from the Exchange Agent at its telephone number set forth on the first page of this Letter of Transmittal.

#### **IMPORTANT TAX INFORMATION**

Under federal income tax law, the Exchange Agent may be required to withhold, at the relevant withholding rate which will range from 31% to 28%, a portion of certain payments made to Holders of the Exchange Notes. To prevent backup withholding on reportable payments made with respect to Exchange Notes received pursuant to the Exchange Offer, a tendering Holder is required to provide the Exchange Agent with (i) the Holder’s correct TIN by completing the form below, certifying that the TIN provided on the Substitute Form W-9 is correct (or that such Holder is awaiting a TIN) and that (A) such Holder is exempt from backup withholding, (B) the Holder has not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) that the Holder is subject to backup withholding as a result of failure to report all interest or dividends or (C) the IRS has notified the Holder that the Holder is no longer subject to backup withholding, or (ii) if applicable, an adequate basis for exemption. If such Holder is an individual, the TIN is his or her social security number. If the Exchange Agent is not provided with the correct TIN, a \$50 penalty may be imposed by the IRS and payments, including any Exchange Notes, made to such Holder with respect to Exchange Notes received pursuant to the Exchange Offer may be subject to backup withholding.

For purposes of backup withholding, the relevant withholding rate will be 29% for reportable payments made in the remainder of 2004 and in 2005, 28% for reportable payments made in the years 2006 through 2010, and 31% for payments made thereafter. Certain Holders (including, among others, all corporations and certain foreign persons) are not subject to these backup withholding and reporting requirements. Exempt Holders should indicate their exempt status on the Substitute Form W-9. A foreign person may qualify as an exempt recipient by submitting to the Exchange Agent a properly completed IRS Form W-8 signed under penalties of perjury, attesting to that Holder’s exempt status. A Form W-8 can be obtained from the Exchange Agent. See the enclosed “Guidelines for Certification of Taxpayer Identification Number on Substitute Form W-9” for additional instructions. Holders are urged to consult their own tax advisors to determine whether they are exempt.

If backup withholding applies, the Exchange Agent is required to withhold, at the relevant withholding rate, a portion of any reportable payments made to the holder of the Exchange Notes or other payee. Backup withholding is not an additional Federal income tax. Rather, the Federal income tax liability of persons subject to backup withholding will be reduced by the amount of tax withheld. If withholding results in an overpayment of taxes, a refund may be obtained from the IRS.

#### **WHAT NUMBER TO GIVE THE EXCHANGE AGENT**

The Holder is required to give the Exchange Agent the TIN (e.g., social security number or employer identification number) of the registered holder of the Exchange Notes. If the Exchange Notes will be held in more than one name or are held not in the name of the actual owner, consult the enclosed “Guidelines for Certification of Taxpayer Identification Number on Substitute Form W-9” for additional guidance on which number to report.

PAYER'S NAME: Meritage Corporation\*

SUBSTITUTE  
Form W-9

**Part 1** — PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR TIN IN THE BOX AT RIGHT AND CERTIFY BY SIGNING AND DATING BELOW.

Social Security Number

OR TIN

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

Payer's Request for  
Taxpayer Identification  
Number (TIN)

**Part 2 — Certification** — Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

(1) The number shown on this form is my correct Taxpayer Identification Number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me), and

(2) I am not subject to backup withholding because (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") that I am subject to backup as a result of failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding, and

(3) I am a U.S. person (including a U.S. resident alien).

**Part 3** —  
Awaiting TIN

**Part 4** —  
Exempt

**Certification Instructions** — You must cross out item (2) in Part 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest or dividends on your tax return. If you are exempt from backup withholding, check the box in Part 4 above.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_, 2004

Name (Please print)

\* See Instruction 5.

**NOTE: FAILURE TO COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM MAY RESULT IN BACKUP WITHHOLDING OF UP TO 31% OF ANY PAYMENTS MADE TO YOU PURSUANT TO THE EXCHANGE OFFER AND THE SOLICITATION PLEASE REVIEW THE ENCLOSED GUIDELINES FOR CERTIFICATION OF TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER ON SUBSTITUTE FORM W-9 FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS.**

**YOU MUST COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING CERTIFICATE IF YOU CHECKED THE BOX IN PART II OF THE SUBSTITUTE FORM W-9.**

**YOU MUST COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING CERTIFICATE**

**IF YOU CHECKED THE BOX IN PART 3 OF SUBSTITUTE FORM W-9**

**CERTIFICATE OF TAXPAYER AWAITING TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER**

I certify under penalty of perjury that a taxpayer identification number has not been issued to me, and either (a) I have mailed or delivered an application to receive a taxpayer identification number to the appropriate Internal Revenue Service Center or Social Security Administration Office or (b) I intend to mail or deliver an application in the near future. I understand that if I do not provide a taxpayer identification number to the payor, a portion of payments made to me pursuant to the Exchange Offer shall be retained until I provide a taxpayer identification number to the payor and that, if I do not provide my taxpayer identification number within sixty (60) days, such retained amounts shall be remitted to the Internal Revenue Service as a backup withholding and all reportable payments made to me thereafter will be subject to backup withholding until I provide a number.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_, 2004

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name (Please Print)**





Ladies and Gentlemen:

The undersigned hereby tender(s) to the Company, upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the Prospectus, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the principal amount of Outstanding Notes set forth below, pursuant to the guaranteed delivery procedures set forth in the Prospectus under the caption "The Exchange Offer — Guaranteed Delivery Procedures." By so tendering, the undersigned does hereby make, at and as of the date hereof, the representations and warranties of a tendering Holder of Outstanding Notes set forth in the Letter of Transmittal.

Subject to and effective upon acceptance for exchange of the Outstanding Notes tendered herewith, the undersigned hereby sells, assigns and transfers to or upon the order of the Company all right, title and interest in and to, and any and all claims in respect of or arising or having arisen as a result of the undersigned's status as a holder of, all Outstanding Notes tendered hereby. In the event of a termination of the Exchange Offer, the Outstanding Notes tendered pursuant thereto will be returned promptly to the tendering Outstanding Note holder.

The undersigned hereby represents and warrants that the undersigned accepts the terms and conditions of the Prospectus and the Letter of Transmittal, has full power and authority to tender, sell, assign and transfer the Outstanding Notes tendered hereby and that the Company will acquire good and unencumbered title thereto, free and clear of all liens, restrictions, charges and encumbrances and not subject to any adverse claim. The undersigned will, upon request, execute and deliver any additional documents deemed by the Exchange Agent or the Company to be necessary or desirable to complete the sale, assignment and transfer of the Outstanding Notes tendered.

All authority herein conferred or agreed to be conferred by this Notice of Guaranteed Delivery shall survive the death or incapacity of the undersigned and every obligation of the undersigned under this Notice of Guaranteed Delivery shall be binding upon the heirs, personal representatives, executors, administrators, successors, assigns, trustees in bankruptcy and other legal representatives of the undersigned.

**PLEASE SIGN AND COMPLETE**

Signature(s) of Registered Holder(s) or Authorized Signatory:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Address(es):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of Registered Holder(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Principal Amount of Outstanding Notes Tendered:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Area Code and Telephone No.:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Certificate No(s). of Outstanding Notes (if available):  
\_\_\_\_\_

If Outstanding Notes will be delivered by a book-entry transfer, provide the following information:

Transaction Code No.:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Depository Account No.:  
\_\_\_\_\_

This Notice of Guaranteed Delivery must be signed by the registered holder(s) of Outstanding Notes exactly as their name(s) appear(s) on the Outstanding Notes or by person(s) authorized to become registered holder(s) by endorsements and documents transmitted with this Notice of Guaranteed Delivery. If signature is by a trustee, guardian, attorney-in-fact, officer of a corporation, executor, administrator, agent or other representative, such person must provide the following information:

**Please print name(s) and address(es)**

Name(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Capacity:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Address(es):  
\_\_\_\_\_

**GUARANTEE**

**(Not to be used for signature guarantee)**

The undersigned, a member of a registered national securities exchange or a member of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. or a commercial bank or trust company having an office or correspondent in the United States (each, an "Eligible Institution"), hereby guarantees that, within three business days from the date of this Notice of Guaranteed Delivery, a properly completed and validly executed Letter of Transmittal (or a facsimile thereof), together with Outstanding Notes tendered hereby in proper form for transfer (or confirmation of the book-entry transfer of such Outstanding Notes into the Exchange Agent's account at a Book-Entry Transfer Facility) and all other required documents will be deposited by the undersigned with the Exchange Agent at one of its addresses set forth above.

Name of Firm:

\_\_\_\_\_

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Area Code and  
Telephone Number:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Authorized Signature**

Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

Title:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date:

\_\_\_\_\_

**DO NOT SEND OUTSTANDING NOTES WITH THIS FORM. ACTUAL SURRENDER OF OUTSTANDING NOTES MUST BE MADE PURSUANT TO, AND BE ACCOMPANIED BY, A PROPERLY COMPLETED AND VALIDLY EXECUTED LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL AND ANY OTHER REQUIRED DOCUMENTS.**

# MERITAGE CORPORATION

## Offer to Exchange

### Registered 7% Senior Notes due 2014

### for Any and All Outstanding Unregistered 7% Senior Notes due 2014

**THE EXCHANGE OFFER WILL EXPIRE AT 5:00 P.M., NEW YORK CITY TIME ON \_\_\_\_\_, 2004, UNLESS EXTENDED. TENDERS OF 7% SENIOR NOTES DUE 2014 MAY ONLY BE WITHDRAWN UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES DESCRIBED IN THE PROSPECTUS AND THE LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.**

\_\_\_\_\_, 2004

To Our Clients:

Enclosed for your consideration is the Prospectus dated \_\_\_\_\_, 2004 (the "Prospectus") and the related Letter of Transmittal and instructions thereto (the "Letter of Transmittal") in connection with the offer (the "Exchange Offer") of Meritage Corporation, a Maryland corporation ("the Company"), to exchange \$1,000 principal amount of its registered 7% Senior Notes due 2014 (the "Exchange Notes") for each \$1,000 principal amount of its outstanding unregistered 7% Senior Notes due 2014 (the "Outstanding Notes").

Consummation of the Exchange Offer is subject to certain conditions described in the Prospectus. Capitalized terms used herein but not defined shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Prospectus.

WE ARE THE REGISTERED HOLDER OF OUTSTANDING NOTES HELD BY US FOR YOUR ACCOUNT. A TENDER OF ANY SUCH OUTSTANDING NOTES CAN BE MADE ONLY BY US AS THE REGISTERED HOLDER AND PURSUANT TO YOUR INSTRUCTIONS. THE LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL IS FURNISHED TO YOU FOR YOUR INFORMATION ONLY AND CANNOT BE USED BY YOU TO TENDER OUTSTANDING NOTES HELD BY US FOR YOUR ACCOUNT.

Accordingly, we request instructions as to whether you wish us to tender any or all such Outstanding Notes held by us for your account pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in the Prospectus and the Letter of Transmittal. We urge you to read carefully the Prospectus and the Letter of Transmittal before instructing us to tender your Outstanding Notes.

Your instructions to us should be forwarded as promptly as possible in order to permit us to tender Outstanding Notes on your behalf in accordance with the provisions of the Exchange Offer. **THE EXCHANGE OFFER WILL EXPIRE AT 5:00 P.M., NEW YORK CITY TIME ON \_\_\_\_\_, 2004 (THE "EXPIRATION DATE"), UNLESS EXTENDED.** Outstanding Notes tendered pursuant to the Exchange Offer may only be withdrawn under the circumstances described in the Prospectus and the Letter of Transmittal.

Your attention is directed to the following:

1. The Exchange Offer is for the entire aggregate principal amount of Outstanding Notes.
  2. Consummation of the Exchange Offer is conditioned upon the conditions set forth in the Prospectus under the caption "The Exchange Offer — Conditions of the Exchange Offer."
  3. The Exchange offer and withdrawal rights will expire at 5:00 p.m., New York City time on \_\_\_\_\_, 2004, unless extended. Tendering holders may withdraw their tender at any time until 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the Expiration Date.
-

4. Any transfer taxes incident to the transfer of Outstanding Notes from the tendering holder to the Company will be paid by the Company, except as provided in the Prospectus and the instructions to the Letter of Transmittal.

5. The Exchange Offer is not being made to (nor will the surrender of Outstanding Notes for exchange be accepted from or on behalf of) holders of Outstanding Notes in any jurisdiction in which the making or acceptance of the Exchange Offer would not be in compliance with the laws of such jurisdiction.

6. The acceptance for exchange of Outstanding Notes validly tendered and not validly withdrawn and the issuance of Exchange Notes will be made as promptly as practicable after the Expiration Date. However, subject to rules promulgated pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), the Company expressly reserves the right to delay acceptance of any of the Outstanding Notes or to terminate the Exchange Offer and not accept for purchase any Outstanding Notes not theretofore accepted if any of the conditions set forth in the Prospectus under the caption "The Exchange Offer — Conditions of the Exchange Offer" shall not have been satisfied or waived by the Company.

7. The Company expressly reserves the right, in its sole discretion, (i) to delay accepting any Outstanding Notes, (ii) to extend the Exchange Offer, (iii) to amend the terms of the Exchange Offer, or (iv) to terminate the Exchange Offer. Any delay, extension, amendment or termination will be followed as promptly as practicable by oral or written notice to the Exchange Agent and the Company will mail to the registered holders an announcement thereof, each prior to 9:00 a.m., New York City time, on the next business day after the previously scheduled Expiration Date. Except as otherwise provided in the Prospectus, withdrawal rights with respect to Outstanding Notes tendered pursuant to the Exchange Offer will not be extended or reinstated as a result of an extension or amendment of the Exchange Offer.

8. Consummation of the Exchange Offer may have adverse consequences to non-tendering Outstanding Note holders, including that the reduced amount of Outstanding Notes as a result of the Exchange Offer may adversely affect the trading market, liquidity and market price of the Outstanding Notes.

If you wish to have us tender any or all of the Outstanding Notes held by us for your account, please so instruct us by completing, executing and returning to us the instruction form that follows. **IF YOU DO NOT INSTRUCT US TO TENDER YOUR OUTSTANDING NOTES, THEY WILL NOT BE TENDERED.**

**MERITAGE CORPORATION**

**Instructions Regarding the Exchange**

**Offer with Respect to the  
7% Senior Notes due 2014**

THE UNDERSIGNED ACKNOWLEDGE(S) RECEIPT OF YOUR LETTER AND THE ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO THEREIN RELATING TO THE EXCHANGE OFFER OF THE COMPANY.

THIS WILL INSTRUCT YOU WHETHER TO TENDER THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF OUTSTANDING NOTES INDICATED BELOW HELD BY YOU FOR THE ACCOUNT OF THE UNDERSIGNED PURSUANT TO THE TERMS OF AND CONDITIONS SET FORTH IN THE PROSPECTUS AND THE LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

Box 1  Please tender the Outstanding Notes held by you for my account, as indicated below.

Box 2  Please do not tender any Outstanding Notes held by you for my account.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 2004

Principal Amount of Outstanding Notes to be Tendered:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ \*

(must be in the principal amount of \$1,000 or an integral multiple thereof)

Signature(s)

Please print name(s) here

Please type or print address

Area Code and Telephone Number

Taxpayer Identification or Social Security Number

My Account Number with You

\* UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED, SIGNATURE(S) HEREON BY BENEFICIAL OWNER(S) SHALL CONSTITUTE AN INSTRUCTION TO THE NOMINEE TO TENDER ALL OUTSTANDING NOTES OF SUCH BENEFICIAL OWNER(S).

# MERITAGE CORPORATION

## Offer to Exchange

### Registered 7% Senior Notes due 2014

### for Any and All Outstanding Unregistered 7% Senior Notes due 2014

**THE EXCHANGE OFFER WILL EXPIRE AT 5:00 P.M., NEW YORK CITY TIME ON \_\_\_\_\_, 2004, UNLESS EXTENDED. TENDERS OF 7% SENIOR NOTES DUE 2014 MAY ONLY BE WITHDRAWN UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES DESCRIBED IN THE PROSPECTUS AND THE LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.**

To Brokers, Dealers, Commercial Banks, Trust Companies and other Nominees:

We have been appointed by Meritage Corporation, a Maryland corporation (the "Company"), to act as the Exchange Agent in connection with the offer (the "Exchange Offer") of the Company to exchange \$1,000 principal amount of its registered 7% Senior Notes due 2014 (the "Exchange Notes") for each \$1,000 principal amount of its unregistered 7% Senior Notes due 2014 (the "Outstanding Notes"), upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the Prospectus dated \_\_\_\_\_, 2004 (the "Prospectus") and in the related Letter of Transmittal and the instructions thereto (the "Letter of Transmittal").

Enclosed herewith are copies of the following documents:

1. The Prospectus;
2. The Letter of Transmittal for your use and for the information of clients, together with guidelines of the Internal Revenue Service for Certification of Taxpayer Identification Number on Substitute Form W-9 providing information relating to backup federal income tax withholding;
3. Notice of Guaranteed Delivery to be used to accept the Exchange Offer if the Notes and all other required documents cannot be delivered to the Exchange Agent on or prior to the Expiration Date (as defined);
4. A form of letter which may be sent to your clients for whose account you hold the Notes in your name or in the name of a nominee, with space provided for obtaining such clients' instructions with regard to the Exchange Offer; and
5. A return envelope addressed to the Exchange Agent.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE EXCHANGE OFFER WILL EXPIRE AT 5:00 P.M., NEW YORK CITY TIME ON \_\_\_\_\_, 2004 (THE "EXPIRATION DATE"), UNLESS EXTENDED. WE URGE YOU TO CONTACT YOUR CLIENTS AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE.

The Company will not pay any fees or commission to any broker or dealer or other person (other than to the Exchange Agent) for soliciting tenders of the Notes pursuant to the Exchange Offer. You will be reimbursed for customary mailing and handling expenses incurred by you in forwarding the enclosed materials to your clients.

Additional copies of the enclosed materials may be obtained by contacting the Exchange Agent as provided in the enclosed Letter of Transmittal.

Very truly yours,

Wells Fargo Bank, National Association

**NOTHING CONTAINED HEREIN OR IN THE ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS SHALL CONSTITUTE YOU OR ANY OTHER PERSON THE AGENT OF THE COMPANY OR THE EXCHANGE AGENT OR AUTHORIZE YOU OR ANY OTHER PERSON TO GIVE ANY INFORMATION OR MAKE ANY REPRESENTATION ON BEHALF OF ANY OF THEM WITH RESPECT TO THE EXCHANGE OFFER NOT CONTAINED IN THE PROSPECTUS OR THE LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.**

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**GUIDELINES FOR CERTIFICATION OF TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION**

**NUMBER ON SUBSTITUTE FORM W-9**

**A. TIN** — The Taxpayer Identification Number for most individuals is their social security number. Refer to the following chart to determine the appropriate number:

For this type of account:	Give the SOCIAL SECURITY number or EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION number of:
1. Individual	The individual
2. Two or more individuals (joint account)	The actual owner of the account or, if combined funds, the first individual on the account(1)
3. Custodian account of a minor (Uniform Gift to Minors Act)	The minor(2)
4. a. Revocable savings trust (grantor is also trustee)	The grantor-trustee(1)
b. So-called trust account that is not a legal or valid trust under State law	The actual owner(1)
5. Sole proprietorship	The owner(3)
6. A valid trust, estate or pension trust	Legal entity(4)
7. Corporate	The corporation
8. Association, club, religious, charitable, educational or other tax exempt organization	The organization
9. Partnership	The partnership
10. A broker or registered nominee	The broker or nominee
11. Account with the Department of Agriculture in the name of a public entity that receives agricultural program payments.	The public entity

- (1) List first and circle the name of the person whose number you furnish.
- (2) Circle the minor's name and furnish the minor's name and social security number.
- (3) Show the individual's name. You may use either your Social Security number or your employer identification number.
- (4) List first and circle the name of the legal trust, estate, or pension trust. Do not furnish the identifying number of the personal representative or trustee unless the legal entity itself is not designated in the account title.

**NOTE:** If no name is circled when there is more than one name, the number will be considered to be that of the first name listed.

**B. Exempt Payees** — The following lists exempt payees. If you are exempt, you must nonetheless complete the form and provide your TIN in order to establish that you are exempt. Check the box in Part II of the form, sign and date the form.

For this purpose, Exempt Payees include: (1) a corporation; (2) an organization exempt from tax under section 501(a), or an individual retirement plan (IRA) or a custodial account under section 403(b)(7); (3) the United States or any of its agencies or instrumentalities; (4) a state, the District of Columbia, a possession of the United States, or any of their political subdivisions, or instrumentalities; (5) a foreign government or any of its political subdivisions, agencies or instrumentalities; (6) an international organization or any of its agencies or instrumentalities; (7) a foreign central bank of issue; (8) a dealer in securities or commodities required to register in the U.S. or a possession of the U.S.; (9) a real estate investment trust; (10) an entity or person registered at all times during the tax year under the Investment Company Act of 1940; (11) a common trust fund operated by a bank under section 584(a); (12) a financial institution; (13) a trust exempt from tax under section 664 or described in section 4947; (14) a futures commission merchant registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission; and (15) a middleman known in the investment community as a nominee or custodian.

**C. Obtaining a Number** — If you do not have a taxpayer identification number or you do not know your number, obtain Form SS-5, application for a Social Security Number, or Form SS-4, Application for Employer Identification Number, at the local office of the Social Security Administration or the Internal Revenue Service and apply for a number.

**D. Privacy Act Notice** — Section 6109 requires most recipients of dividend, interest or other payments to give taxpayer identification numbers to payors who must report the payments to the IRS. The IRS uses the numbers for identification purposes.

Payors must be given the numbers whether or not payees are required to file tax returns. Payors must generally withhold, at a maximum rate of 31%, a portion of taxable interest, dividend and certain other payments to a payee who does not furnish a taxpayer identification number. Certain penalties may also apply.

**E. Penalties** —

**(1) Penalty for Failure to Furnish Taxpayer Identification Number.** If you fail to furnish your taxpayer identification number to a payor, you are subject to a penalty of \$50 for each such failure unless your failure is due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect.

**(2) Civil Penalty for False Information with Respect to Withholding.** If you make a false statement with no reasonable basis which results in no imposition of backup withholding, you are subject to a penalty of \$500.

**(3) Criminal Penalty for Falsifying Information.** Falsifying certifications or affirmations may subject you to criminal penalties including fines and/or imprisonment.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT YOUR TAX CONSULTANT OR THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE.