CONCRETE PARTNERS INC Form S-4 February 26, 2010 Table of Contents

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 26, 2010

Registration No. 333-

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

# FORM S-4 REGISTRATION STATEMENT

**UNDER** 

THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

## **KOPPERS INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Pennsylvania (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

25-1588399 (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

#### 436 Seventh Avenue

#### Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219

(412) 227-2001

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant s principal executive offices)

Steven R. Lacy, Esq.

Senior Vice President, Administration,

**General Counsel and Secretary** 

Koppers Holdings Inc.

436 Seventh Avenue

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219

Telephone: (412) 227-2001 (Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service) Robert K. Morris, Esq.

Hannah T. Frank, Esq.

**Reed Smith LLP** 

225 Fifth Avenue

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222

Telephone: (412) 288-3131 (Copies of all communications, including

communications sent to agent for service)

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: As soon as practicable after this registration statement becomes effective.

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.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer, and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer x Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer " (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company "

If applicable, place an X in the box to designate the appropriate rule provision relied upon in conducting this transaction: Exchange Act Rule 13e-4(i) (Cross-Border Issuer Tender Offer) "

Exchange Act Rule 14d-1(d) (Cross-Border Third-Party Tender Offer) "

#### CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of each class of	Amount to be	Proposed maximum offering price	Proposed maximum aggregate	Amount of
securities to be registered	registered	per unit	offering price (1)	registration fee (2)
7.875% Senior Notes due 2019	\$300,000,000	100%	\$300,000,000	\$21,390.00
Guarantees of the 7.875% Senior Notes	\$300,000,000	(3)	(3)	None
Total	\$300,000,000		\$300,000,000	\$21,390.00

- (1) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act ).
- (2) Calculated pursuant to Rule 457 under the Securities Act.
- (3) Pursuant to Rule 457(n) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, no separate consideration will be received for the guarantee.

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 or until the registration statement shall become effective on such date as the Securities and Exchange Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

#### TABLE OF CO-REGISTRANTS

#### **Exact Name as**

	Jurisdiction of	I.R.S. Employer
Specified in their Charters	Incorporation or Organization	<b>Indemnification Number</b>
Koppers Holdings Inc. (1)	Pennsylvania	20-1878963
World-Wide Ventures Corporation (2)	Delaware	51-0340346
Koppers Concrete Products, Inc. (1)	Delaware	25-1655686
Concrete Partners, Inc. (1)	Delaware	25-1669803
Koppers Delaware, Inc. (3)	Delaware	51-0370974
Koppers Asia LLC (1)	Delaware	25-1588399
Koppers Ventures LLC (1)	Delaware	51-0340346

- (1) The address and telephone number of the principal executive offices of each of the co-registrants, except for World-Wide Ventures Corporation and Koppers Delaware, Inc., is 436 Sixth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219, (412) 227-2001, and the agent for service is Mr. Steven R. Lacy, Esq. at the same address.
- (2) The address and telephone number of the principal executive office of World-Wide Ventures Corporation is 501 Silverside Road, Suite 67, Wilmington, Delaware 19809, (302-791-9375), and the agent of service is Mr. John S. Smith.
- (3) The address and telephone number of the principal executive office of Koppers Delaware, Inc. is 501 Silverside Road, Suite 67, Wilmington, Delaware 19809, (302) 798-8010, and the agent of service is Mr. John S. Smith.

The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. These securities may not be sold until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell nor does it seek an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED FEBRUARY 26, 2010

#### PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS

## **KOPPERS INC.**

Offer to Exchange up to \$300,000,000 aggregate principal amount of our new

7.875% Senior Notes due 2019 that have been registered under the Securities Act

of 1933, as amended, for any and all of our outstanding unregistered 7.875%

Senior Notes due 2019

## **Terms of the Exchange Offer**

Koppers Inc. ( KI ) is offering to exchange up to \$300,000,000 aggregate principal amount of new 7.875% Senior Notes due 2019 (the Exchange Notes ) on equal terms for any and all of its outstanding 7.875% Senior Notes due 2019 that were issued on December 1, 2009 (the Original Notes and together with the Exchange Notes, the Notes ).

The exchange offer expires at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on , 2010 (such date and time, the Expiration Date , unless KI extends or terminates the exchange offer, in which case the Expiration Date will mean the latest date and time to which KI extends the exchange offer).

Tenders of Original Notes may be withdrawn at any time prior to the Expiration Date.

All Original Notes that are validly tendered and not validly withdrawn will be exchanged.

The exchange of Original Notes for Exchange Notes generally will not be a taxable exchange for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

KI will not receive any proceeds from the exchange offer.

The terms of the Exchange Notes to be issued in the exchange offer are substantially the same as the terms of the Original Notes, except that the offer of the Exchange Notes is registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act ), and the Exchange Notes have no transfer restrictions, rights to additional interest or registration rights.

The Exchange Notes will be guaranteed on a senior unsecured basis, as are the Original Notes, by Koppers Holdings, Inc., and by each of the following wholly owned subsidiaries of Koppers Holdings, Inc.: World-Wide Ventures Corporation, Koppers Delaware, Inc., Koppers Concrete Products, Inc., Concrete Partners, Inc, Koppers Asia LLC and Koppers Ventures LLC.

The Exchange Notes will not be listed on any securities exchange. A public market for the Exchange Notes may not develop, which could make selling the Exchange Notes difficult.

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 letter of transmittal accompanying this prospectus states that by so acknowledging and by 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 Original Notes where such Original Notes were acquired by such broker-dealer as a result of market-making activities or other trading activities. Starting on the Expiration Date (as defined herein) and ending on the close of business 180 days after the Expiration Date, we will make this prospectus available to any broker-dealer for use in connection with any such resale. See Plan of Distribution .

Investing in the Exchange Notes to be issued in the exchange offer involves certain risks. See Risk Factors beginning on page 17.

We are not making an offer to exchange Notes in any jurisdiction where the offer is not permitted.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) nor any state securities commission has 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 , 2010.

#### **Table of Contents**

	Page
MPORTANT TERMS USED IN THIS PROSPECTUS	1
WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION AND INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE	1
CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS	2
<u>SUMMARY</u>	3
RISK FACTORS	17
<u>CAPITALIZATION</u>	31
SELECTED HISTORICAL CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL DATA	33
DESCRIPTION OF THE EXCHANGE OFFER	34
DESCRIPTION OF NOTES	45
FORM, BOOK-ENTRY PROCEDURES AND TRANSFER	85
CERTAIN U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES	88
PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION	92
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	93
LEGAL MATTERS	93
EXPERTS	93

We have not authorized anyone to give any information or make any representation about the offering that is different from, or in addition to, that contained in this prospectus, the related registration statement or in any of the materials that we have incorporated by reference into this prospectus. Therefore, if anyone does give you information of this type, you should not rely on it. If you are in a jurisdiction where offers to sell, or solicitations of offers to purchase, the securities offered by this document are unlawful, or if you are a person to whom it is unlawful to direct these types of activities, then the offer presented in this document does not extend to you. The information contained in this document speaks only as of the date of this document unless the information specifically indicates that another date applies.

i

#### IMPORTANT TERMS USED IN THIS PROSPECTUS

In this prospectus, unless otherwise noted or the context otherwise requires, (i) the term Koppers , we or us refers to Koppers Holdings Inc. and its consolidated subsidiaries, (ii) the term KH refers to Koppers Holdings Inc. and not any of its subsidiaries and (iii) the term KI refers to Koppers Inc. and not any of its subsidiaries. Koppers Inc. is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Koppers Holdings Inc. Koppers Holdings Inc. has substantially no operations independent of Koppers Inc. and its subsidiaries.

#### WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION AND INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

KH is required to file annual and quarterly reports and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any materials we file with the SEC at the SEC s Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Room 1580, Washington, D.C., 20549. Please call 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the operation of the Public Reference Room. KH s filings are also available to the public from commercial document retrieval services and at the web site maintained by the SEC at http://www.sec.gov. In addition, you may obtain these materials on our website at www.koppers.com. Information on our website does not constitute part of this prospectus and should not be relied upon in connection with making any decision with respect to the offering.

We incorporate by reference certain information into this prospectus. This means that we disclose important information to you by referring you to another document filed separately by KH with the SEC. The information in the documents incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus, and information in documents that KH files later with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below filed by KH under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act.

Annual Report on Form 10-K of KH for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009;

Current Report on Form 8-K of KH filed on February 5, 2010; and

Current Report on Form 8-K of KH filed on February 23, 2010.

In addition, all documents filed by KH pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act subsequent to the date of this prospectus and prior to the Expiration Date (except that, unless otherwise indicated in the applicable report, we are not incorporating any information furnished under Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of Form 8-K) are to be incorporated herein by reference. Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document which also is incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus.

You can also obtain from us without charge copies of any document incorporated by reference in this prospectus, excluding exhibits (unless the exhibit is specifically incorporated by reference into the information that this prospectus incorporates) by requesting such materials in writing or by telephone from us at:

Koppers Holdings Inc.

436 Seventh Avenue

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219

Telephone: (412) 227-2001

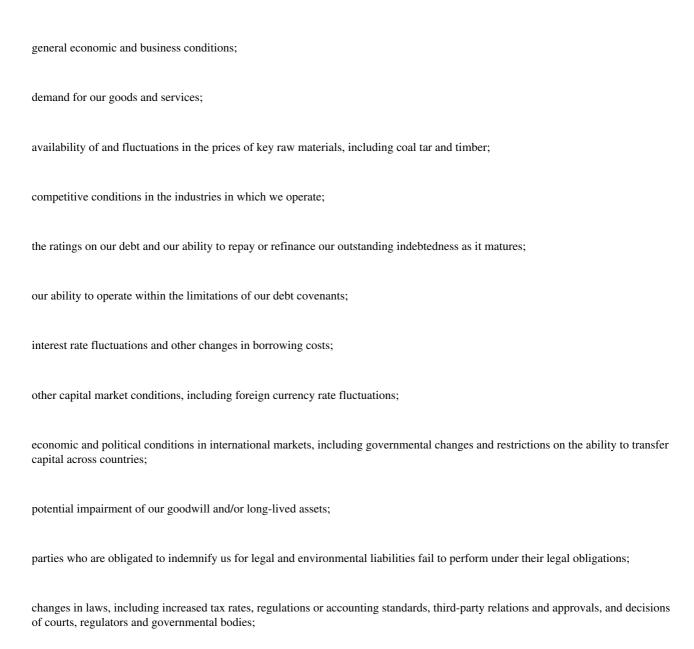
Attention: Secretary

To obtain timely delivery you must request this information no later than five (5) business days before the date you must make your investment decision, which date is , 2010.

1

#### CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus, any prospectus supplement and the documents incorporated herein by reference contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and may include, but are not limited to, statements about sales levels, restructuring, profitability and anticipated expenses and cash outflows. All forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties. All statements contained herein that are not clearly historical in nature are forward-looking, and words such as believe, anticipate, expect, estimate. should, continue, plans, intends, likely or other similar words or phrases are generally intended to identify forward-looking statements. Any forward-looking statement contained herein, in press releases, written statements or other documents filed with the SEC, or in the Company s communications with and discussions with investors and analysts in the normal course of business through meetings, phone calls and conference calls, regarding expectations with respect to sales, earnings, cash flows, operating efficiencies, product introduction or expansion, the benefits of acquisitions and divestitures or other matters as well as financings and repurchases of debt or equity securities, are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and contingencies. Many of these risks, uncertainties and contingencies are beyond our control, and may cause actual results, performance or achievements to differ materially from anticipated results, performance or achievements. Factors that might affect such forward-looking statements include, among other things:



the effects of competition, including locations of competitors and operating and market competition;

unfavorable resolution of litigation against us; and

the other factors set forth under Risk Factors.

Any forward-looking statements in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and the documents incorporated herein by reference speak only as of the date of the applicable report, and we undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances after that date or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

2

#### **SUMMARY**

The following summary contains basic information about this offering contained elsewhere in this prospectus. It does not contain all the information that may be important to you. For a more complete understanding of this offering before making an investment decision regarding the notes, we encourage you to read this entire prospectus carefully, including the Risk Factors section and the consolidated financial statements and other financial information included in, and incorporated by reference into, this prospectus.

#### **Company Overview**

We are a leading integrated global provider of carbon compounds and commercial wood treatment products and services. Our products are used in a variety of niche applications in a diverse range of end-markets, including the aluminum, railroad, specialty chemical, utility, rubber, concrete and steel industries. We serve our customers through a comprehensive global manufacturing and distribution network, with manufacturing facilities located in the United States, Australia, China, the United Kingdom and Denmark. Our net sales for the year ended December 31, 2009 were \$1,124.4 million.

#### **Primary Businesses**

We operate two principal business segments: Carbon Materials & Chemicals and Railroad & Utility Products.

Our operations are, to a substantial extent, vertically integrated. Through our Carbon Materials & Chemicals business, we process coal tar into a variety of products, including carbon pitch, creosote, naphthalene and phthalic anhydride, which are intermediate materials necessary in the production of aluminum, the pressure treatment of wood, the production of high-strength concrete, and the production of plasticizers and specialty chemicals, respectively. Through our Railroad & Utility Products business, we believe that we are the largest supplier of railroad crossties to the North American railroads. Two of our customers, CSX Corporation and Alcoa, Inc., each represent greater than ten percent of our consolidated sales.

3

#### **Carbon Materials & Chemicals**

Carbon pitch, naphthalene and creosote are produced through the distillation of coal tar, a by-product generated through the processing of coal into coke for use in steel and iron manufacturing. Coal tar distillation involves the conversion of coal tar into a variety of intermediate chemical products in processes beginning with distillation. During the distillation process, heat and vacuum are utilized to separate coal tar into three primary components: carbon pitch (approximately 50 percent), chemical oils (approximately 20 percent) and creosote (approximately 30 percent). The diagram below shows the streams derived from coal tar distillation:

Our Carbon Materials & Chemicals business ( CM&C ) manufactures the following principal products:

carbon pitch, a critical raw material used in the production of aluminum and steel;

naphthalene, used for the production of phthalic anhydride and as a surfactant in the production of concrete;

phthalic anhydride, used in the production of plasticizers, polyester resins and alkyd paints;

creosote or carbon black feedstock, used in the treatment of wood or as a feedstock in the production of carbon black, respectively; and

carbon black, used primarily in the manufacture of rubber tires.

We sell our products directly to our customers through long-term contracts and purchase orders negotiated by our regional sales personnel and coordinated through our global marketing group in the United States.

#### Carbon Pitch

Carbon pitch is a critical raw material used in the production of aluminum and for the production of steel in electric arc furnaces. Approximately one ton of carbon pitch is required for every 10 tons of aluminum produced and there are currently no known viable substitutes for carbon pitch in the aluminum production process. Over 90 percent of our carbon pitch is sold to the aluminum industry, typically under long-term contracts ranging from three to five years. Many of these long-term contracts have provisions for periodic pricing reviews. We have been a leading supplier of carbon pitch to the aluminum industry for over 20 years, and we believe we are the

4

#### **Table of Contents**

largest producer of carbon pitch for the aluminum industry. Competitive factors in the carbon pitch market include price, quality, service and security of supply. We believe we have a competitive advantage based on our global presence and long-term raw material supply contracts.

Naphthalene & Phthalic Anhydride

Chemical oils are further processed to produce naphthalene which we sell into the industrial sulfonate market for use as dispersants or in the concrete additive and gypsum board markets. Additional end-uses include oil field additives, agricultural emulsifiers, synthetic tanning agents and dyestuffs. In the United States, we also use naphthalene as a feedstock in the manufacture of phthalic anhydride. The primary markets for phthalic anhydride are in the production of plasticizers, unsaturated polyester resins and alkyd resins. We believe our ability to utilize our internally produced naphthalene gives us a more stable supply and generally lower-cost feedstock for the production of phthalic anhydride.

Creosote, Carbon Black & Carbon Black Feedstock

In the United States, creosote is used as a commercial wood treatment chemical to preserve railroad crossties and lumber, utility poles and piling. The majority of our domestically produced creosote is sold to our Railroad & Utility Products business. In Australia, China and Europe, creosote is sold primarily into the carbon black market for use as a feedstock in the production of carbon black. In Australia, the majority of creosote generated at our tar distillation facility is sold to our carbon black facility. In Europe and China creosote is sold to wood treaters as well as various carbon black producers. Globally, approximately one-third of our total creosote production was sold internally in 2009. Our wood treating plants in the United States purchase substantially all of their creosote from our tar distillation plants. We believe we are the only major competitor in these markets that is integrated in this fashion. The remainder of our creosote is sold to railroads and other wood treaters.

Our CM&C business manufactures its primary products and sells them directly to our global customer base under long-term contracts or through purchase orders negotiated by our regional sales personnel and coordinated through our global marketing group in the United States. We believe we have a strategic advantage over our competitors based on our ability to access coal tar from many global suppliers. Our nine coal tar distillation facilities including joint ventures and six carbon materials terminals give us the ability to offer customers multiple sourcing and a consistent supply of high quality products.

Net sales for our CM&C segment for the year ended December 31, 2009 were \$655.2 million. The CM&C segment s sales by geographic region, for 2009, were 41 percent for North America, 32 percent for Australasia and 22 percent for Europe. The CM&C segment s sales by product, for 2009, were 46 percent for carbon pitch, 12 percent for creosote (excluding intercompany sales), ten percent for phthalic anhydride, eight percent for naphthalene, seven percent for carbon black, eight percent for naphthalene, and 17 percent for other products.

Other Products

Other products include the sale of refined tars, benzole and specialty chemicals.

#### Railroad & Utility Products

Our Railroad & Utility Products business ( R&UP ) sells treated and untreated wood products and services primarily to the railroad and public utility markets in the United States and Australia. We also produce concrete crossties, a complementary product to our wood treatment business, through a joint venture in North America.

5

#### **Table of Contents**

Railroad products include procuring and treating items such as crossties, switch ties and various types of lumber used for railroad bridges and crossings. Utility products include transmission and distribution poles for electric and telephone utilities and piling used in industrial foundations, beach housing, docks and piers. The R&UP business operates 14 wood treating plants, one co-generation facility and 12 pole distribution yards located throughout the United States and Australia. Our network of plants is strategically located near timber supplies to enable us to access raw materials and service customers effectively. In addition, our crosstie treating plants typically abut railroad customers track lines, and our pole distribution yards are typically located near our utility customers.

Our R&UP business manufactures its primary products and sells them directly to our customers through long-term contracts and purchase orders negotiated by our regional sales personnel and coordinated through our marketing group at corporate headquarters. There are several principal regional competitors in this North American market.

Hardwoods, such as oak and other species, are the major raw materials in wood crossties. Hardwood prices which account for more than 50 percent of a finished crosstie s cost, fluctuate with the demand from competing hardwood lumber markets, such as oak flooring, pallets and other specialty lumber products. Weather conditions can be a factor in the supply of raw material, as unusually wet conditions may make it difficult to harvest timber.

In the United States, hardwood lumber is procured by us from hundreds of small sawmills throughout the northeastern, midwestern and southern areas of the country. The crossties are shipped via rail car or trucked directly to one of our crosstie treating plants, all of which are on line with a major railroad. The crossties are either air-stacked for a period of six to twelve months or artificially dried by a process called boultonizing. Once dried, the crossties are pressure treated with crossote, a product of our Carbon Materials & Chemicals business.

We believe we are the largest supplier of railroad crossties in North America. There are several principal regional competitors in this North American market. Competitive factors in the railroad crosstie market include price, quality, service and security of supply. We believe we have a competitive advantage due to our national network of treating plants and direct access to our major customers rail lines, which provide for security of supply and logistics advantages for our customers.

Our R&UP business largest customer base is the North American Class I railroad market, which buys approximately 80 percent of all crossties produced in the United States and Canada. We also have relationships with many of the approximately 550 short-line and regional rail lines. The railroad crosstie market is a mature market with approximately 21 million replacement crossties (both wood and non-wood) purchased during 2009. We currently supply all seven of the North American Class I railroads and have contracts with six of them.

Net sales for our R&UP segment for the year ended December 31, 2009 were \$469.2 million. The R&UP segment s sales by region, for 2009, were 93 percent within North America and 6 percent within Australia. The R&UP segment s sales by product for 2009 were 64 percent for railroad crossties, 14 percent for utility poles, 13 percent for creosote and nine percent for other products.

#### **Recent Developments**

In December 2009, we announced that we had entered into a letter of intent to acquire Cindu Chemicals B.V., a coal tar distillation company located in the Netherlands. The acquisition may be completed in the first quarter of 2010. For the year ended December 31, 2008 (the last date such information is publicly available), Cindu s revenues were approximately \$70 million.

In connection with the acquisition, we formed a new subsidiary, Koppers Ventures LLC, on February 2, 2010. Koppers Ventures LLC entered into a supplemental indenture to the indenture governing the Notes on

6

#### **Table of Contents**

February 25, 2010. Pursuant to the supplemental indenture Koppers Ventures LLC was added as an additional guarantor of the Notes, along with Koppers Holdings Inc., World-Wide Ventures Corporation, Koppers Delaware, Inc., Koppers Concrete Products, Inc., Concrete Partners, Inc. and Koppers Asia LLC. Koppers Ventures LLC is also a co-registrant to this registration statement.

#### **Trend Overview**

Our businesses and results of operations are impacted by various competitive and other factors including (i) the impact of global economic conditions on demand for our products both in the United States and overseas; (ii) raw materials pricing and availability, in particular the amount and quality of coal tar available in global markets, which could be negatively impacted by reductions in steel production; (iii) volatility in oil prices, which impacts selling prices and margins for certain of our products including carbon black feedstock and phthalic anhydride; (iv) competitive conditions in global carbon pitch markets; (v) low margins in the utility pole business; and (vi) changes in foreign exchange

Our businesses and results of operations have been impacted by the global recession starting in late 2008 and continuing through 2009. We expect that, although the global economy and our key end markets appear to have stabilized, we will continue to experience these negative trends in 2010 as improvement in our key end markets will emerge slowly over time. Certain key end markets have experienced significant global reductions in demand that have negatively impacted the demand for our products. Starting in late 2008 and continuing into 2009 we have seen significant reductions in global production of aluminum, steel, rubber, concrete, plastics and paints, among others, that represent markets in which our products are consumed. We believe that there will continue to be uncertainty regarding the levels of production going forward.

In addition to reduced demand for our products, many of our customers are aggressively attempting to reduce their manufactured raw material costs. Accordingly, some of our customers are moving toward short-term pricing arrangements as opposed to long-term contracts with periodic pricing reviews.

In the past year we have seen the temporary idling or closure of several aluminum smelters, particularly in North America and Europe, as global production of aluminum declined by approximately six percent over 2008 levels. We expect the trend of closing or reducing production at higher cost smelters to continue as newer, more cost effective smelters come on line in regions with lower cost energy, particularly in the Middle East. As an example we have seen specific closures in North America and Europe that will negatively impact volumes in those geographic areas; at this time we cannot predict if or when these idled smelters will return to production. However, we believe we are well positioned to supply the new Middle Eastern smelters due to our capacity expansions in China.

We produced lower volumes in 2009 as compared to 2008 in many of our products which impacted the capacity utilization at our facilities. We do not expect a dramatic recovery in production volumes during 2010. Lower throughput volumes combined with increasing pressure for price reductions has led us to review our capacity utilization and has resulted in production cutbacks, from time to time, at certain facilities, which will result in lower margins. If these trends continue, we may temporarily idle or permanently close facilities. For example, in December 2009 we announced the sale of our Gainesville utility pole treatment plant. Utility pole markets are expected to continue to remain competitive with resulting low margins. We will continue to review underperforming assets and rationalize capacity as necessary to remain competitive in this market and will reduce market share if warranted.

Several of our products, particularly carbon black feedstock and phthalic anhydride, have end market pricing that is linked to benchmark oil indices. During the past few years we have benefited in terms of revenues and profitability from the higher pricing for these products as the cost of coal tar has not increased proportionally with oil. However, when the price of oil declined in late 2008 we saw significant price and profit declines for these products in 2009.

7

#### **Table of Contents**

The availability of a key raw material, coal tar, is linked to levels of metallurgical coke production. As the global steel industry has reduced production of steel and metallurgical coke the volumes of coal tar by-product were also reduced. Our ability to obtain coal tar and the price we are able to negotiate has a significant impact on the level of profitability of our business. Many of our sales contracts include provisions that allow for price increases based on increases in the price of raw materials, which has allowed us to generally maintain profit dollars in our core businesses. However, significant increases in raw material costs will result in margin dilution because only the increased cost of the raw material is passed on to the customer.

The North American railroad market has experienced better stability than our other end markets over the past year; however, continued negative economic trends could impact the demand for crossties from the short line railroads as well as the Class I railroads. Additionally, lumber availability and pricing were negatively impacted in 2009 by depressed markets for furniture and hardwood flooring caused by the dramatic decline in the U.S. housing market. It is likely that housing will remain depressed during 2010 and may result in continued difficulties related to cost and availability of hardwoods for crossties.

In 2010, we expect that capital spending in the railroad sector will be moderately lower and will be concentrated on maintenance projects as new construction has been deferred. While Class I railroad crosstie purchases are expected to remain at prior year levels, the commercial railroad market continues to be challenging and competitive due to the current economic climate.

Net sales over the past several years have been significantly impacted by favorable foreign exchange rates in Australia, Great Britain, Europe, Denmark and China. In late 2008 and continuing into 2009 we saw those trends begin to reverse. Exchange rates for currencies in Australia, Great Britain, Europe, Denmark, and to a lesser extent, China, have changed significantly and negatively impacted sales and profits in 2009 compared to 2008. For example, unfavorable changes in exchange rates reduced our sales by approximately \$33 million or two percent as compared to 2008. In addition, we expect continued volatility in these exchange rates that could impact our ability to accurately predict future levels of sales and profits.

8

## **Table of Contents**

## **Organizational Structure**

The chart below is a summary of our organizational structure and illustrates the long-term debt that will be outstanding following completion of this offering.

- (1) Koppers Assurance, Inc. is a captive insurance company that will not be a guarantor of the Notes.
- (2) Koppers holds a 50 percent equity interest in KSA Limited Partnership, which will not be a guarantor of the Notes.

9

#### **Corporate Information**

KI was originally created as Koppers Industries, Inc. in December 1988 when it was formed to acquire some of the assets of what was then called Koppers Company, Inc., in a management-led leveraged buyout. One of those assets was the Koppers brand name which has been associated with the carbon compounds and wood treating businesses for many years and is well-recognized as a leader in these industries. The company changed its name from Koppers Industries, Inc. to Koppers Inc. in February 2003.

KH was incorporated on November 12, 2004 in Pennsylvania as a holding company for KI in a transaction in which all of the capital stock of KI was converted into shares of common and preferred stock of KH, and KI became a wholly owned subsidiary of KH. KH has substantially no operations independent of KI. In February 2006, KH conducted an initial public offering of its common stock. Since then, KH s common stock has traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol KOP.

Our corporate offices are located at 436 Seventh Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219, and our telephone number is (412) 227-2001. The address of our internet site is http://www.koppers.com. This internet address is provided for informational purposes only and is not intended to be a hyperlink. Accordingly, no information at this internet address is included or incorporated by reference herein.

10

#### **Summary of the Exchange Offer**

#### **Background**

On December 1, 2009, we issued \$300,000,000 aggregate principal amount of Original Notes in an unregistered offering. In connection with that offering, we entered into a registration rights agreement on December 1, 2009 (the Registration Rights Agreement ) in which we agreed, among other things, to complete this exchange offer. Under the terms of the exchange offer, you are entitled to exchange Original Notes for Exchange Notes evidencing the same indebtedness and with substantially similar terms. You should read the discussion under the heading Description of the Notes for further information regarding the Exchange Notes.

#### The Exchange Offer

We are offering to exchange, for each \$1,000 aggregate principal amount of our Original Notes validly tendered and accepted, \$1,000 aggregate principal amount of our Exchange Notes.

We will not pay any accrued and unpaid interest on the Original Notes that we acquire in the exchange offer. Instead, interest on the Exchange Notes will accrue from December 1, 2009, the date on which we issued the Original Notes.

As of the date of this prospectus, approximately \$300,000,000 aggregate principal amount of the Original Notes are outstanding.

#### Resales

We are registering the exchange offer in reliance on the position enunciated by the SEC in Exxon Capital Holdings Corp., SEC No-Action Letter (April 13, 1988), Morgan Stanley & Co, Inc., SEC No-Action Letter (June 5, 1991), and Shearman & Sterling, SEC No-Action Letter (July 2, 1993). Based on interpretations by the staff of the SEC, as set forth in these no-action letters issued to third parties not related to us, we believe that the Exchange Notes issued in the exchange offer may be offered for resale, resold or otherwise transferred by you without compliance with the registration and prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act as long as:

you are acquiring the Exchange Notes in the ordinary course of your business:

you are not participating, do not intend to participate and have no arrangement or understanding with any person to participate, in a distribution of the Exchange Notes; and

you are not our affiliate.

Rule 405 under the Securities Act defines affiliate as a person that, directly or indirectly, controls or is controlled by, or is under common control with, a specified person. In the absence of an exemption, you must comply with the registration and prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act in connection with the resale of the Exchange Notes. If you fail to comply with these requirements you may incur liabilities under the Securities Act, and we will not indemnify you for such liabilities.

11

Each broker or dealer that receives Exchange Notes for its own account in exchange for Original Notes that were acquired as a result of market-making or other trading activities must acknowledge that it will comply with the registration and prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act in connection with any offer to resell, resale or other transfer of the Exchange Notes issued in the exchange offer. For such persons, such requirements can be satisfied by delivery of this prospectus.

**Denominations of Exchange Notes**Tendering holders of Original Notes must tender Original Notes in minimum

denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof. Exchange Notes will be issued in minimum denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of

\$1,000 in excess thereof.

**Expiration Date** The exchange offer will expire at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on 2010,

unless we extend or terminate the exchange offer in which case the Expiration Date will

mean the latest date and time to which we extend the exchange offer.

**Settlement Date**The settlement date of the exchange offer will be as soon as practicable after the

Expiration Date.

Withdrawal of Tenders Tenders of Original Notes may be withdrawn at any time prior to the Expiration Date.

**Procedures for Tendering** If you wish to accept the exchange offer, you must (1) complete, sign and date the

accompanying letter of transmittal, or a facsimile copy of such letter, in accordance with its instructions and the instructions in this prospectus, and (2) mail or otherwise deliver the executed letter of transmittal, together with the Original Notes and any other required documentation to the exchange agent at the address set forth in the letter of transmittal. If you are a broker, dealer, commercial bank, trust company or other nominee and you hold Original Notes through The Depository Trust Company ( DTC ) and wish to accept the exchange offer, you must do so pursuant to DTC s automated tender offer program. By executing or agreeing to be bound by the letter of transmittal, you will represent to us, among other things, (1) that you are, or the person or entity receiving the Exchange Notes is, acquiring the Exchange Notes in the ordinary course of business, (2) that neither you nor any such other person or entity has any arrangement or understanding with any person to participate in the distribution of the Exchange Notes within the meaning of the Securities Act and (3) that neither you nor any such other person or entity is our affiliate within the meaning of Rule 405 under the Securities Act or if it is such an affiliate, it will comply with the registration and prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act to the extent applicable.

If you are a beneficial owner whose Original Notes are registered in the name of a broker, dealer, commercial bank, trust company or other nominee and you wish to tender in the exchange offer, we urge you to promptly contact the person or entity in whose name your Original Notes are registered and instruct that person or entity to

tender on your behalf. If you wish to tender in the exchange offer on your own behalf, you must, prior to completing and executing the letter of transmittal and delivering your Original Notes, either make appropriate arrangements to register ownership of your Original Notes in your name or obtain a properly completed bond power from the person or entity in whose name your Original Notes are registered. The transfer of registered ownership may take considerable time.

#### **Consequences of Failure to Exchange**

If we complete the exchange offer and you do not participate in it, then:

your Original Notes will continue to be subject to the existing restrictions upon their transfer;

we will have no further obligation to provide for the registration under the Securities Act of those Original Notes except under certain limited circumstances; and

the liquidity of the market for your Original Notes could be adversely affected.

#### **Registration Rights Agreement**

Contemporaneously with the initial sale of the Original Notes, we entered into a registration rights agreement with the initial purchasers pursuant to which we agreed, among other things, (1) to use commercially reasonable efforts to consummate an exchange offer and (2) if required, to have a shelf registration statement declared effective with respect to resales of the Original Notes. This exchange offer is intended to satisfy those obligations set forth in the registration rights agreement. After the exchange offer is complete, except in limited circumstances with respect to specific types of holders of Original Notes, we will have no further obligation to provide for the registration under the Securities Act of such Original Notes. See the section entitled The Exchange Offer.

#### **Federal Income Tax Considerations**

The exchange pursuant to the exchange offer generally will not be a taxable event for U.S. federal income tax purposes. See Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations in this prospectus.

#### **Use of Proceeds**

We will not receive any cash proceeds from the issuance of the Exchange Notes in this exchange offer.

#### **Exchange Agent and Information Agent**

Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, is serving as the exchange agent in connection with the exchange offer. The address, telephone number and facsimile number of the exchange agent are listed under the heading 

The Exchange Offer Exchange Agent.

Table of Contents 22

13

#### **Summary of the Exchange Notes**

The form and terms of the Exchange Notes are the same as the form and terms of the Original Notes for which they are being exchanged, except that the Exchange Notes will be registered under the Securities Act. As a result, the Exchange Notes will not bear legends restricting their transfer and will not have provisions providing for the benefit of the registration rights or the obligation to pay additional interest because of our failure to register the Exchange Notes and complete this exchange offer as required. The Exchange Notes represent the same debt as the Original Notes for which they are being exchanged. Both the Original Notes and the Exchange Notes are governed by the same indenture. The summary below describes the principal terms of the Exchange Notes. Certain of the terms and conditions described below are subject to important limitations and exceptions. The Description of the Notes section of this prospectus contains a more detailed description of the terms and conditions of the Exchange Notes. We use the term notes in this prospectus to collectively refer to the Original Notes and the Exchange Notes.

**Issuer** Koppers Inc., a Pennsylvania corporation.

Securities offered U.S. \$300,000,000 aggregate principal amount of 7.875% Senior Notes due 2019.

Maturity Date December 1, 2019.

**Interest Rate**The Exchange Notes will bear interest at a rate of 7.875% per annum. Interest will be

computed on the basis of a 360-day year comprised of twelve 30-day months.

Interest Payment Dates Interest on the Exchange Notes will be payable semi-annually on December 1 and June 1

of each year, beginning on June 1, 2010. Interest on the Exchange Notes will accrue from

December 1, 2009, the date on which we issued the Original Notes.

Guarantees The obligations under the Exchange Notes will be fully and unconditionally guaranteed

by KH and each of KI s wholly-owned material domestic subsidiaries other than Koppers

Assurance, which is a captive insurance company (the subsidiary guarantors ).