MedQuist Holdings Inc.
Form S-1/A
February 04, 2011

Table of Contents

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 3, 2011

Registration No. 333-169997

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

AMENDMENT NO. 6
TO
Form S-1
REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

MEDQUIST HOLDINGS INC.
(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware	**7374**	**98-0676666**
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)	**(Primary Standard Industrial Classification Code Number)**	**(I. R. S. Employer Identification No.)**

9009 Carothers Parkway
Franklin, TN 37067
(615) 261-1740

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

Robert Aquilina
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
MedQuist Holdings Inc.
9009 Carothers Parkway
Franklin, TN 37067
(615) 261-1740

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

With copies to:

D. Rhett Brandon, Esq.
Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP
425 Lexington Avenue
New York, NY 10017
(212) 455-2000

Colin Diamond, Esq.
White & Case LLP
1155 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036
(212) 819-8200

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Registration Statement.

If any of the securities being registered on this form are being offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, check the following box. o

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. o

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

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. o

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

Large accelerated filer o Accelerated filer o Non-accelerated filer þ Smaller reporting company o
(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered [1]	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price [1]	Amount of Registration Fee [1][2]
Common stock, par value U.S.$0.10 per share	9,000,531	$12.00	$108,006,372	$7,700.85

(1) Estimated pursuant to Rule 457(a) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee. Includes 1,173,982 shares issuable upon exercise of the underwriters option to purchase additional shares of common stock.

(2)

A registration fee of $8,199.50 has been previously paid in connection with this Registration Statement based on an estimate of the aggregate offering price and the fee rate in effect on October 18, 2010.

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, as amended, or until this Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We and the selling stockholders 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 is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where such offer or sale is not permitted.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED FEBRUARY 3, 2011

PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS

7,826,549 Shares

MEDQUIST HOLDINGS INC.
(formerly CBaySystems Holdings Limited)

Common Stock

This is the initial public offering of our shares in the United States. We are offering 3,500,000 shares of our common stock, and the selling stockholders named in this prospectus are offering 4,326,549 shares of our common stock. We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of the shares by the selling stockholders.

We expect that the initial public offering price will be between $10.00 and $12.00 per share. We have applied to list our shares on The NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol MEDH.

Our shares were formerly listed on the Alternative Investment Market of the London Stock Exchange, or AIM. However, we have delisted from AIM and January 27, 2011 was the last day on which our shares traded on AIM. The closing price of our shares on AIM on December 24, 2010, the date on which we announced our intention to delist, was £6.08, equivalent to $9.36 per share based on the Federal Reserve noon buying rate of $1.54 to £1.00 in effect on December 24, 2010. See Market Price Information for Our Shares herein.

Investing in our shares involves significant risks. See Risk Factors beginning on page 17.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

	PER SHARE	**TOTAL**
Public offering price	$	$
Underwriting discount	$	$
Proceeds to MedQuist Holdings Inc. (before expenses)	$	$

See Underwriting for a discussion of the underwriting compensation. Delivery of the shares of common stock is expected to be made on or about , 2011. We have granted the underwriters an option for a period of 30 days to purchase on the same terms and conditions set forth above, up to an additional 1,173,982 shares of our common stock to cover overallotments.

Lazard Capital Markets	**Macquarie Capital**	**RBC Capital Markets**

Loop Capital Markets

Prospectus dated , 2011.

Table of Contents

We have not authorized anyone to give any information or to make any representations other than those contained in this prospectus or in any free-writing prospectus that we may specifically authorize to be delivered or made available to you. We and the underwriters have not authorized anyone to provide you with additional or different information. We and the selling stockholders are offering to sell, and seeking offers to buy, shares of our common stock only in jurisdictions where such offers and sales are permitted. The information in this prospectus or any free-writing prospectus is accurate only as of its date, regardless of its time of delivery or of any sale of shares of our common stock. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since that date.

References in this prospectus to dollars or $ are to the currency of the United States and references to pounds, £, p or p are to the currency of the United Kingdom. There are 100 pence to each pound.

Except where otherwise indicated, reference in this prospectus to volume or volumes are to lines of text edited or transcribed by our medical transcriptionists, or MTs, and medical editors, or MEs.

On January 27, 2011, we changed our name from CBaySystems Holdings Limited to MedQuist Holdings Inc. and redomiciled from a British Virgin Islands company to a Delaware corporation. In connection with our redomiciliation, we adjusted the number of our shares outstanding through a reverse share split pursuant to which every 4.5 shares of our common stock outstanding prior to our redomiciliation were converted into one share of our common stock upon our redomiciliation. We refer to this herein as the conversion. Our redomiciliation and the conversion resulted in no change to our stockholders relative ownership interests in us. Unless otherwise noted, all information regarding our shares of our common stock and all per share information presented herein give effect to the conversion.

The industry and 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 that we believe to be reliable.

Prospectus Summary

This summary highlights certain information contained elsewhere in this prospectus and may not contain all of the information you should consider before investing in our shares. You should read this summary together with the entire prospectus, including the information presented under the heading Risk Factors, the consolidated financial statements and related notes and the unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information and related notes appearing elsewhere in this prospectus.

Except where the context otherwise requires, or where otherwise indicated, references in this prospectus to we, us, or our are to MedQuist Holdings Inc. (formerly CBaySystems Holdings Limited) and its subsidiaries, references to MedQuist Inc. are to MedQuist Inc. and its subsidiaries and references to Spheris are to Spheris Inc. and its subsidiaries for the period prior to April 22, 2010 and to the business we acquired from Spheris Inc. for the period after such date. For purposes of our consolidated financial statements and references to us contained therein, we have not reflected our anticipated name change to MedQuist Holdings Inc.

Overview

We are a leading provider of integrated clinical documentation solutions for the U.S. healthcare system. Our end-to-end solutions convert physicians dictation of patient interactions, or the physician narrative, into a high quality and customized electronic record. These solutions integrate technologies and services for voice capture and transmission, automated speech recognition, or ASR, medical transcription and editing, workflow automation, and document management and distribution to deliver a complete managed service for our customers. Our solutions enable hospitals, clinics, and physician practices to improve the quality of clinical data as well as accelerate and automate the documentation process, and we believe our solutions improve physician productivity and satisfaction, enhance revenue cycle performance, and facilitate the adoption and use of electronic health records.

We are the largest provider by revenue of clinical documentation solutions based on the physician narrative in the United States. During the three months ended September 30, 2010, we processed, on an annualized run rate basis, more than 3.4 billion lines of clinical documentation on our platform. The significant majority of lines we process are edited or transcribed by our approximately 14,000 MTs and MEs. Of this volume, for the three months ended September 30, 2010, 67% was processed using ASR technology and 42% was produced offshore. Our size allows us to handle the clinical documentation requirements of many of the largest and most complex healthcare delivery networks in the United States, provides us with economies of scale, and enables us to devote significantly more resources to enhancing our solutions through research and development than most of our competitors.

We serve more than 2,400 hospitals, clinics, and physician practices throughout the United States, including 40% of hospitals with more than 500 licensed beds. As of September 30, 2010, the average tenure of our top 50 customers was over five years, and approximately 98% of our revenue was from recurring services. Insights gained from our broad, long-standing customer relationships allow us to optimize our integrated solutions, and we believe that this positions us for future growth as we target new customers.

We have realized significant increases in both revenue and profitability as the result of two large acquisitions, MedQuist Inc., in which we acquired a majority interest in August 2008, and Spheris, which we acquired in April 2010. From 2007 to 2009, our net revenues increased from $57.7 million to $371.8 million. Over this same period, our Adjusted EBITDA, which is a non-GAAP financial measure, increased from $0.7 million to $59.7 million, and our Adjusted EBITDA margins expanded from 1.1% to 16.1%. For a reconciliation of our net income (loss) attributable to MedQuist Holdings Inc. to Adjusted EBITDA, see Summary Historical and Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated

Financial Data.

Table of Contents

Our industry

Over the past several decades, our industry has evolved from almost exclusively in-house production to outsourced services and from labor-intensive services to technologically-enabled solutions. The market opportunity for our solutions is driven by overall healthcare utilization and cost containment efforts in the United States. Numerous factors are driving increases in the demand for healthcare services including population growth, longer life expectancy, the increasing prevalence of chronic illnesses, and expanded coverage from healthcare reform. According to a September 2010 report by the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, spending on healthcare grew from $1.2 trillion in 1998 to $2.3 trillion in 2008, representing a compound annual growth rate of 7.0%. It also projects that healthcare spending will grow to reach $4.2 trillion, or 19.3% of U.S. gross domestic product, by 2018, representing a compound annual growth rate of 6.3%. At the same time, U.S. healthcare providers remain under substantial pressure to reduce costs while maintaining or improving the quality of care.

Accurate and timely clinical documentation has become a critical requirement of the growing U.S. healthcare system. Medicare, Medicaid, and insurance companies demand extensive patient care documentation. The 2009 Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act, or the HITECH Act, includes numerous incentives to promote the adoption and meaningful use of electronic health records, or EHRs, across the healthcare industry. Consequently, healthcare providers are increasingly using EHRs to input, store, and manage their clinical data in a digital format. Healthcare providers that use EHRs require accurate, easy-to-use, and cost-effective means to input clinical data that are not disruptive to the physician workflow.

The market for outsourced clinical documentation solutions based on the physician narrative is substantial. Key components of this market include voice capture and transmission technologies, ASR software, medical transcription and editing services, and document workflow and management software. ValueNotes Database Pvt. Ltd., or ValueNotes, a market research firm, estimates that the market for outsourced medical transcription services was $5.4 billion in 2009 and is expected to grow 8.2% per annum over the next five years to $8.0 billion in 2014.

Healthcare providers are increasingly choosing to outsource their clinical documentation processes. The benefits of outsourcing include reduced costs, access to leading technologies, accelerated turn-around times, improved data accuracy, greater physician productivity, and satisfaction of security and compliance requirements. We believe that the majority of clinical documentation is still produced in-house by U.S. hospitals and physician practices today. ValueNotes estimates that the in-house medical transcription market was 67% of the overall market in 2009, and projects the percentage of outsourced production of medical transcription will grow from 33% in 2009 to 38% in 2014.

While outsourcing provides many benefits, the landscape for outsourced service providers is highly fragmented, with hundreds of providers offering varying degrees of technological automation and offshore capabilities. Technological automation and a rise in offshore capabilities have substantially decreased the cost of production and have further differentiated outsourcing providers. We believe that participants in our industry must expand their technology platform and offshore production capabilities to remain competitive.

Our competitive strengths

Our competitive strengths include:

- **Leader in a large, fragmented market** We are the largest provider by revenue of clinical documentation solutions based on the physician narrative in the United States. Our size enables us to meet the needs of large, sophisticated healthcare customers, provides economies of scale, and enables us to devote significantly more resources to research and development and quality assurance than many other providers.

- **Integrated solutions delivered as a complete managed service** We offer fully-integrated end-to-end managed services that capture and convert the physician narrative into a high quality customized electronic record. We integrate technologies and services for voice capture and transmission, ASR, medical transcription and editing, workflow automation, and document management and distribution. The end result is value-added clinical documentation with high accuracy and quick turn-around times.

- **Large and diversified customer base with long-term relationships** We serve more than 2,400 hospitals, clinics and physician practices throughout the United States, including 40% of hospitals with more than 500 licensed beds. We have a long-standing history with our customers and, as of September 30, 2010, approximately 98% of our revenue was from recurring services.
- **Highly-efficient operating model** Over the past two years, we have driven down our cost structure through the use of technology automation, standardized processes, and offshore resources. Our use of ASR, which has grown from 39% of our volume in the fourth quarter of 2008 to 67% in the third quarter of 2010, has increased our productivity. Additionally, our expanding footprint in India has enabled us to increase our offshore production from 28% of our volume to 42% over this same period. The financial impact of these measures has been an improvement in gross margins during this timeframe from 33.8% to 38.5%. We have grown our volume, excluding volume provided by the Spheris Acquisition, by 2.3% over this same period while sharing cost savings with our customers in the form of lower prices.
- **Proven management team** We have assembled an outstanding senior leadership team with significant industry experience and domain expertise in both domestic and offshore operations. Our management team has delivered substantial results and brings an entrepreneurial spirit with proven experience in managing growth, driving operational improvements, and successfully integrating acquisitions.

Our strategy

Key elements of our strategy include:

- **Expand our customer base and increase existing customer penetration** We intend to grow our customer base by targeting three market segments: large healthcare providers still using in-house services, large healthcare providers currently using competing outsourced alternatives, and small-to-medium medical practices. Given our market leadership, strong solution offerings, and low cost structure, we believe we are well positioned to both replace in-house solutions as well as displace competing outsourced alternatives for large healthcare providers. For small-to-medium sized physician practices, we offer an easy-to-use web-based clinical documentation platform, CBayScribe, to expand our market share in this segment, which we believe to be underpenetrated. In order to increase penetration within our existing customer base, we intend to continue targeting additional healthcare clinical areas and facilities of our current customers. Additionally, as healthcare providers centralize their purchasing decisions, we believe that our ability to deliver outstanding services for large, complex requirements provides us with increasing access to new sales opportunities within our existing customer base and through existing customer relationships.
- **Continue to develop and enhance our integrated solutions** We seek to differentiate our integrated solutions through sophisticated technology and process improvement. We have over 100 employees dedicated to research and development. Over the last year, we launched numerous enhancements, including a front end speech platform for general medicine, additional EHR system integration, and advanced performance monitoring.
- **Enhance profitability through technical and operational expertise** We have made significant improvements in productivity through business process and infrastructure improvements. Notwithstanding reductions in customer pricing, our gross margins have expanded from 33.8% in the fourth quarter of 2008, our first fiscal quarter after we acquired MedQuist Inc., to 38.5% in the third quarter of 2010, and our Adjusted EBITDA margins have expanded from 9.5% to 21.4% for the same periods. Our management team has proven its ability to implement continuous process improvements and we intend to

further increase offshore production and our use of technological automation, including ASR, to lower costs and enhance our profitability.

- **Facilitate the adoption and promote meaningful use of EHR systems** Our integrated solutions provide a comprehensive, accurate and effective method to incorporate physician narrative into an EHR system. We interface with substantially all of the leading EHR vendors to integrate our clinical documentation solutions and to help our customers realize the full potential of their EHR systems through the use of the physician narrative. In our experience, when EHR is adopted, customers tend to consolidate their purchase decisions, which benefits us as a leading provider of clinical documentation solutions.
- **Pursue strategic acquisitions** We believe that there are significant opportunities available to create value through strategic acquisitions. We intend to seek appropriate opportunities to grow our customer base, enhance our solutions, consolidate costs, and expand our value proposition to our customers.

Risks associated with our business

Our business is subject to a number of risks which you should be aware of before making an investment decision. Those risks are discussed more fully in Risk Factors beginning on page 16. For example:

- We compete with many others in the market for clinical documentation solutions which may result in lower prices for our services, reduced operating margins and an inability to maintain or increase our market share.
- Our business is dependent on the continued demand for transcription services, and, if electronic health records companies produce solutions acceptable to large hospital systems for the creation of electronic clinical documentation, the overall demand for medical transcription services could be reduced.
- Our ability to sustain and grow profitable operations is dependent on the willingness of new customers to outsource and adopt new technology platforms, as well as our ability to retain customers.
- Our success will depend on our ability to support existing technologies, as well as adopt and integrate new technology into our workflow platforms.

Our history

We began operation in 1998 with the goal of providing high-quality outsourced clinical documentation solutions to U.S. healthcare providers at a low cost. We combined U.S. sales, marketing, and customer service with offshore operations, primarily in India, and have grown our scale through strategic acquisitions.

Acquisitions

MedQuist Inc.

In August 2008, an affiliate of S.A.C. Private Capital Group, LLC, or SAC PCG, invested $124.0 million to acquire a majority interest in us. Concurrent with this investment, we acquired a 69.5% interest in MedQuist Inc., or the MedQuist Inc. Acquisition. At the time of the acquisition, MedQuist Inc. was the largest U.S. medical transcription service provider by revenue, but had been adversely impacted by inefficient operations, litigation and customer disputes. Net revenues for MedQuist Inc. had fallen from $483.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2002 to $340.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2007.

We believed that MedQuist Inc., despite its operational challenges and substantial overhead, had strong underlying technology, deep healthcare domain expertise, and a long-tenured customer base. Following our acquisition of MedQuist Inc., we embarked upon a strategy to enhance the management team, streamline operations, improve relationships with customers, leverage our offshore resources, increase the utilization of ASR technology, and resolve all outstanding litigation. This strategy resulted in a stabilization of volume trends starting in the second quarter of 2009. The following table shows the percentage change in MedQuist Inc. s volume for

4

Table of Contents

the nine quarters ended March 31, 2010, the last quarter prior to our acquisition of Spheris, or the Spheris Acquisition.

MedQuist Inc.	2008 Prior to the MedQuist Inc. Acquisition				2009				2010
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Volume % Change over Previous Year	(3.3)%	(4.7)%	(0.1)%	(0.4)%	(2.2)%	0.8%	2.5%	2.8%	4.0%

Spheris

In April 2010, we acquired certain assets, principally customer contracts, from Spheris in a transaction conducted under Section 363 of the Bankruptcy Code. Spheris was the second largest U.S. medical transcription service provider by revenue at the time. Spheris had experienced declines in volumes from customer attrition, which we believed was attributable to quality issues and underinvestment in product development caused by financial constraints leading up to its bankruptcy. Some volume declines continued after the date of the Spheris Acquisition as the result of notices of termination given prior to that date. The following table shows the percentage change in Spheris volume for the nine quarters ended March 31, 2010, the last quarter prior to the Spheris Acquisition.

Spheris	2008				2009				2010
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Volume % Change over Previous Year	(4.8)%	(4.7)%	(5.9)%	(11.6)%	(13.3)%	(10.9)%	(7.9)%	(6.5)%	(5.5)%

We considered the negative volume trend for Spheris in our acquisition valuation. Net revenues for Spheris were $156.6 million and $35.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 and the three months ended March 31, 2010, respectively. Customers who submitted notices of termination prior to the acquisition generated revenues of $24.6 million and $1.7 million during the year ended December 31, 2009 and the three months ended March 31, 2010, respectively. Therefore, net revenues for the year ended December 31, 2009 and the three months ended March 31, 2010, less revenues attributable to customers who submitted notices of termination prior to the Spheris Acquisition, were $132.0 million and $33.5 million, respectively.

Our Spheris integration efforts have focused on merging the new customer base acquired, integrating systems and eliminating cost redundancies. We expect the measures we have implemented since the Spheris Acquisition to yield $7.0 million of cost savings in the fourth quarter of 2010, representing an annualized impact of $28.0 million. Our results for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 reflect $4.9 million of such cost savings. We expect that the integration of Spheris will be fully completed by the first half of 2011.

Pricing

We base our pricing on various factors, principally, market forces, the extent to which we can utilize our offshore production facilities, the extent to which customers utilize the ASR technology available in our solutions, the scope of services provided and turn-around times requested by a particular customer. We work with our customers to evaluate how different solutions affect pricing and to determine an optimal mix of service level and price for that customer. Higher utilization of offshore production and ASR leads to lower costs for us, which permits us to offer better pricing to our customers while at the same time contributing to margin growth. We have successfully migrated a significant portion of MedQuist Inc. s volume offshore and we will continue these efforts in relation to our combined businesses.

Table of Contents

Recent developments

Recapitalization transactions

On October 14, 2010, MedQuist Inc. incurred $85.0 million of indebtedness through the issuance of 13% senior subordinated notes due 2016, or the Senior Subordinated Notes, under a note purchase agreement, or the Note Purchase Agreement, and incurred $200.0 million of indebtedness under a term loan, or the Term Loan, under a $225.0 million credit facility, or the Senior Secured Credit Facility. We are a guarantor of both the Senior Subordinated Notes and the Senior Secured Credit Facility. MedQuist Inc. used the proceeds to repay $80.0 million of indebtedness under its prior credit facility, or the Acquisition Credit Facility, to repay $13.6 million of indebtedness under a subordinated promissory note, or the Acquisition Subordinated Promissory Notes, each issued in connection with the Spheris Acquisition, and to pay a $176.5 million special dividend to its stockholders. We received $122.6 million of this special dividend and used $104.1 million to extinguish our 6% Convertible Notes issued to Royal Philips Electronics, in connection with the MedQuist Inc. Acquisition and $3.7 million to extinguish certain other lines of credit. We refer to these transactions as the Recapitalization Transactions.

Exchange transactions

Certain of MedQuist Inc. s noncontrolling stockholders entered into an exchange agreement with us, the Exchange Agreement, whereby we agreed to issue 4.8 million shares of our common stock in exchange for their 4.8 million shares of MedQuist Inc. common stock. We refer to this transaction as the Private Exchange. The Private Exchange is contingent upon, among other conditions, our completion of this offering and listing our shares on The NASDAQ Global Market and would increase our ownership in MedQuist Inc. from 69.5% to 82.2%.

On October 18, 2010, we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, a registration statement on Form S-4 in order to offer those noncontrolling MedQuist Inc. stockholders who did not participate in the Private Exchange shares of our common stock in exchange for their MedQuist Inc. shares. We refer to that offer as the Registered Exchange Offer. Assuming the Private Exchange is consummated, a full exchange in the Registered Exchange Offer would increase our ownership in MedQuist Inc. from 82.2% to 100.0%. We can give no assurance regarding the level of participation in the Registered Exchange Offer.

For a more detailed description of the Recapitalization Transactions, the Private Exchange and the Registered Exchange Offer, collectively with the common stock offered hereby, the Corporate Reorganization, see Corporate Reorganization.

Sale of A-Life Investment

During the three months ended December 31, 2010, we sold our approximately 32% interest in A-Life Medical, Inc., or A-Life, an equity method investment. The consideration to us for the sale of our A-Life investment was $23.6 million, of which $19.5 million was paid to us in cash and $4.1 million was paid into escrow, to be released in March 2012, subject to the satisfaction of indemnification obligations under the related merger agreement. Our presentation of Adjusted EBITDA contained herein does not include earnings attributable to our investment in A-Life. See Summary Historical and Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated Financial Data.

Sale of PFS

On December 31, 2010, we completed the sale of our non-strategic Patient Financial Services, or PFS, business. The consideration to us was $14.8 million, of which $13.5 million was paid to us in cash and the balance was in the form of a note. Our unaudited pro forma condensed financial information contained herein gives effect to the reclassification of the PFS business into discontinued operations. See Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information.

Table of Contents

Preliminary Unaudited Results for the three months ended December 31, 2010

The following information is based on our preliminary unaudited results for the three months ended December 31, 2010. This information is derived from preliminary internal financial reports and is subject to revision based on the completion of the year-end accounting and financial reporting processes necessary to finalize our consolidated financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2010. We cannot assure you that, upon completion of the audit of our consolidated financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2010, we will not report results materially different than those set forth below. We do not expect to file our audited consolidated financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2010 with the SEC until after this offering is completed.

We currently estimate that for the three months ended December 31, 2010, our net revenues were approximately $110.5 million, our income from continuing operations before income taxes and noncontrolling interests was approximately $3.7 million and our Adjusted EBITDA was approximately $27.6 million. Our estimate for Adjusted EBITDA is based on our estimates for income from continuing operations before income taxes and noncontrolling interests of approximately $3.7 million, plus interest expense, net of approximately $7.3 million, depreciation and amortization of approximately $8.9 million (including approximately $3.9 million of amortization related to acquired intangibles), cost of legal proceedings and settlements of approximately $800,000, acquisition-related charges of approximately $500,000, restructuring charges of approximately $1.8 million, the loss on early extinguishment of debt of approximately $13.5 million and less equity in income of affiliated companies (principally the gain on the sale of A-Life) of $8.9 million. See page 16 in Summary Historical and Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated Financial Data for a description of Adjusted EBITDA. Cash taxes paid during the three months ended December 31, 2010 were approximately $300,000. As of December 31, 2010 we had approximately $66.8 million of cash and approximately $294.5 million of total debt outstanding. On January 3, 2011, we made a $25.0 million cash payment, of which $20 million was an optional payment, to reduce the principal amount of our outstanding Term Loan.

Net revenues for the three months ended December 31, 2010 increased approximately $24.7 million, or approximately 28.8%, to approximately $110.5 million, compared with $85.8 million for the three months ended December 31, 2009 (excluding for both periods the revenues associated with the PFS business, which was sold in December 2010). The Spheris Acquisition contributed approximately $29.9 million in incremental revenue for the three months ended December 31, 2010, which was partially offset by a decrease in legacy maintenance service revenues and lower average pricing realized for our transcription services.

Our income from continuing operations before income taxes and noncontrolling interests was approximately $3.7 million and $2.6 million for the three months ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Our income from continuing operations before income taxes and noncontrolling interests for the three months ended December 31, 2010 as compared to December 31, 2009 reflects an increase in operating income of approximately $10.4 million and an increase in equity in income of affiliated companies of approximately $8.9 million, representing primarily the gain on the sale of A-Life during the 2010 quarter. These increases were offset by higher interest expense, net of approximately $5.1 million during the 2010 quarter, as compared to 2009, reflecting higher borrowing levels during the 2010 quarter and the loss on early extinguishment of debt of approximately $13.5 million during the 2010 quarter. Amounts for both periods exclude amounts attributable to the PFS business.

The improvement in gross profit and operating income during the three months ended December 31, 2010 was attributable to cost reductions associated with increased utilization of ASR and increased offshore production, as well as overhead savings realized as a result of the Spheris integration efforts. Our use of ASR increased to approximately 71% of volume during the three months ended December 31, 2010 compared with approximately 53% of volume in the three months ended December 31, 2009. Additionally, our expanding footprint in India enabled us to increase our offshore production to approximately 42% of volume for the three months ended December 31, 2010 compared with 39% of volume for the three months ended December 31, 2009. The cost savings and synergies resulting from the

Spheris Acquisition contributed approximately $7 million of cost savings for the three months ended December 31, 2010.

Adjusted EBITDA for the three months ended December 31, 2010 increased approximately $10.9 million, or approximately 65%, to approximately $27.6 million, compared with $16.7 million for the three months ended

Table of Contents

December 31, 2009. Adjusted EBITDA as a percentage of net revenues increased to 25.0% for the three months ended December 31, 2010, compared with 19.3% for the three months ended December 31, 2009. The improvement in Adjusted EBITDA was attributable to the factors described above.

Corporate information

Our principal executive offices are located at 9009 Carothers Parkway, Franklin, TN 37067. The telephone number of our principal executive offices is (615) 261-1740.

Table of Contents

The Offering

Common stock offered by us	3,500,000 shares
Common stock offered by the selling stockholders	4,326,549 shares
Common stock to be outstanding immediately after this offering (1)	51,087,766 shares
Over-allotment option	We have granted the underwriters a 30-day option to purchase up to 1,173,982 additional shares.

Use of proceeds

We estimate that our net proceeds from this offering, after deducting the underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses, will be approximately $28.5 million, assuming an initial public offering price of $11.00 per share, the midpoint of the price range shown on the cover page of this prospectus. We intend to use the net proceeds from this offering for working capital and other general corporate purposes. We may also use a portion of the net proceeds for the acquisition of complementary companies or businesses, although we currently do not have any acquisition or investment planned. We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of shares by the selling stockholders.

Dividend policy

We currently expect to retain future earnings, if any, for use in the operation and expansion of our business and do not anticipate paying any cash dividends in the foreseeable future. Payments of future dividends, if any, will be at the sole discretion of our board of directors after taking into account various factors, including our business, operating results and financial condition, current and anticipated cash needs, plans for expansion and any legal or contractual limitations on our ability to pay dividends. Our ability to pay dividends on our common stock is limited by the covenants of the agreements governing our indebtedness and may be further restricted by the terms of any future debt or preferred securities.

The NASDAQ Global Market listing

We have applied to list our common stock on The NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol MEDH.

Assumptions in this prospectus

Unless we indicate otherwise, all information in this prospectus:

- assumes our redomiciliation under the laws of the state of Delaware and gives effect to the conversion;
- assumes consummation of the Private Exchange based on an exchange ratio of one share of our common stock for each MedQuist Inc. share of common stock;
- assumes a full exchange in the Registered Exchange Offer;
- assumes no exercise by the underwriters of their over-allotment option; and
- assumes an initial public offering price of $11.00 per share, the midpoint of the price range shown on the cover page of this prospectus.

(1) The number of shares of common stock to be outstanding after this offering consists of (i) 3.5 million shares issued by us in this offering; (ii) 35.2 million shares held by our existing stockholders, (iii) 4.8 million shares of common stock to be issued in the Private Exchange, (iv) 6.7 million shares of our common stock to be issued in the Registered Exchange Offer, assuming a full exchange, and (v) 959,355 shares of our common stock issuable pursuant to an agreement, or the Consulting Services Agreement, we entered into at the time of the MedQuist Inc. Acquisition, and excludes (i) approximately 3.5 million shares of common stock reserved for issuance under our equity incentive plans, of which options to purchase approximately 2.7 million shares with a weighted average exercise price of $5.66 were outstanding as of September 30, 2010 and (ii) 81,488 shares of our common stock issuable pursuant to a warrant agreement, exercisable at a price of £3.15 per share, between us and Oosterveld International BV, dated March 19, 2009. See Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions.

Table of Contents

Summary Historical and Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated Financial Data

The following table sets forth our summary historical consolidated financial data for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2008 and 2009 and as of September 30, 2010 and for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 and 2010. The summary historical consolidated financial data for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2008 and 2009 have been derived from our audited consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this prospectus. The summary historical consolidated financial data as of September 30, 2010 and for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 and 2010 have been derived from our unaudited consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this prospectus. We prepared the unaudited historical information on a basis consistent with that used in preparing our audited consolidated financial statements, which reflect all adjustments, consisting of only normal recurring adjustments, that we consider necessary to present fairly our financial position and results of operations for the unaudited periods.

Our summary historical consolidated statements of operations and other operating data reflect the consolidation of the results of operations of MedQuist Inc. since August 6, 2008 and Spheris since April 22, 2010, the respective dates of their acquisition. Our summary historical consolidated statements of operations and other operating data do not give effect to the reclassification for discontinued operations for the sale of our PFS business, which was sold on December 31, 2010.

The summary consolidated financial data also sets forth our unaudited pro forma condensed combined statements of operations for the year ended December 31, 2009 and the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and our unaudited pro forma condensed consolidated balance sheet as of September 30, 2010. The unaudited pro forma condensed combined statements of operations and the unaudited pro forma condensed consolidated balance sheet have been derived from the historical consolidated financial information of us and Spheris, which are included elsewhere in this prospectus. The unaudited pro forma condensed combined statements of operations and the unaudited pro forma consolidated balance sheet give effect to the reclassification for discontinued operations. See Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Consolidated Financial Information Discontinued Operations.

The pro forma combined statements of operations and other operating data for the year ended December 31, 2009 and the nine months ended September 30, 2010 give effect to the following transactions as if they had occurred on January 1, 2009:

- the Spheris Acquisition and the incurrence by MedQuist Inc. of $113.6 million of debt to finance the Spheris Acquisition;
- the incurrence by MedQuist Inc. of $285.0 million of indebtedness under the Senior Secured Credit Facility and Senior Subordinated Notes, the simultaneous repayment of $80.0 million of indebtedness under the Acquisition Credit Facility, the repayment of $13.6 million of indebtedness under the Acquisition Subordinated Promissory Notes, the payment of a $176.5 million special dividend to MedQuist Inc. s stockholders, of which we received $122.6 million and the noncontrolling stockholders of MedQuist Inc. received $53.9 million, and the repayment by us, using the proceeds of such dividend of $104.1 million to extinguish our 6% Convertible Notes including a $7.7 million premium on early prepayment, and $3.7 million under certain other lines of credit;
- the issuance of 4.8 million shares of our common stock in exchange for 4.8 million shares of MedQuist Inc. common stock pursuant to the terms of the Exchange Agreement with certain noncontrolling stockholders of MedQuist Inc., which will increase our ownership in MedQuist Inc. from 69.5% to 82.2%;
- the issuance of 959,355 shares of our common stock pursuant to the Consulting Services Agreement; and
- the issuance of 6.7 million shares of our common stock to be issued in exchange for 6.7 million shares of MedQuist Inc. common stock in the Registered Exchange Offer, assuming a full exchange. This would increase our ownership in MedQuist Inc. from 82.2% to 100%.

The pro forma combined statements of operations and other operating data for the year ended December 31, 2009 and the nine months ended September 30, 2010 do not give effect to the following:

- the impact on net revenues from volume declines resulting from Spheris customer terminations prior to the Spheris Acquisition. The pro forma net revenues for the year ended December 31, 2009 and for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 include $24.6 million and $2.4 million, respectively, of net revenues associated with such terminations; and
- the full impact on Adjusted EBITDA of cost savings and synergies resulting from the Spheris Acquisition, which we have implemented since the Spheris Acquisition and expect to yield $7.0 million of cost savings in the fourth quarter of 2010, representing an annualized benefit of $28.0 million. Our results for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 reflect $4.9 million of such cost savings.

The pro forma balance sheet data as of September 30, 2010 gives effect to the Recapitalization Transactions, the Private Exchange, the Registered Exchange Offer, the reclassification for discontinued operations and the shares of our common stock issuable pursuant to the Consulting Services Agreement, as if they occurred as of September 30, 2010.

The pro forma as adjusted balance sheet data as of September 30, 2010 also gives effect to the issuance of 3.5 million shares of common stock in this offering at an assumed initial public offering price of $11.00 per share, the midpoint of the price range shown on the cover of this prospectus, after deducting the underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us as if such transaction occurred as of September 30, 2010.

Our historical consolidated financial information has been adjusted in the unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information to give effect to pro forma events that are (1) directly attributable to the Spheris Acquisition, the Corporate Reorganization, the shares of our common stock issuable pursuant to the Consulting Services Agreement (2) factually supportable and (3) with respect to the statements of operations, expected to have a continuing impact on the combined results. The pro forma information does not reflect revenue opportunities and cost savings that may be realized after the Spheris Acquisition. The pro forma financial information also does not reflect expenses related to integration activity that may be incurred by us in connection with the Spheris Acquisition.

The pro forma data is based upon available information and certain assumptions that we believe are reasonable. The pro forma data is for informational purposes only and does not purport to represent what our results of operations or financial position actually would have been if such events had occurred on the dates specified above and does not purport to project the results of operations or financial position for any future period or date. The pro forma data should be read in conjunction with our historical consolidated financial statements, and related notes included elsewhere in this prospectus as adjusted for the acquisition of Spheris using the acquisition method of accounting.

You should read the following summary financial and other data together with our consolidated financial statements and related notes included elsewhere in this prospectus and the information under the sections entitled Capitalization, Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information, Selected Consolidated Financial and Other Data and Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations appearing elsewhere in this prospectus.

Table of Contents

	Historical					Pro forma	
	Years ended December 31,			Nine months ended September 30,		Year ended December 31,	Nine months ended September 30,
	2007	2008	2009	2009	2010	2009	2010
				(Unaudited)		(Unaudited)	
				(In thousands)			
Statement of Operations Data							
Net revenues	$ 57,694	$ 193,673	$ 371,768	$ 281,828	$ 316,977	$ 510,528	$ 350,163
Cost of revenues	30,209	125,074	239,549	182,924	200,234	338,760	226,229
Gross profit	27,485	68,599	132,219	98,904	116,743	171,768	123,934
Operating expenses							
Selling, general and administrative	25,137	51,243	60,632	46,594	49,374	72,182	51,828
Research and development		6,099	9,604	7,235	8,945	9,604	9,137
Depreciation and amortization	2,915	14,906	26,977	20,329	24,377	39,126	27,587
Cost of legal proceedings and settlements		5,311	14,943	13,540	2,785	16,189	2,785
Acquisition related charges			1,246		6,895		
Goodwill impairment charge		98,972					
Restructuring charges		2,106	2,727	481	1,951	3,502	1,912
Total operating expenses	28,052	178,637	116,129	88,179	94,327	140,603	93,249
Operating income (loss)	(567)	(110,038)	16,090	10,725	22,416	31,165	30,685
Interest expense, net	(2,108)	(3,954)	(9,132)	(6,945)	(12,031)	(31,490)	(24,238)
Equity in income (loss) of affiliated companies	(105)	66	1,933	2,534	616	1,933	616
Other income	14	9	11		589	2,138	511
Income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes and noncontrolling interests	(2,766)	(113,917)	8,902	6,314	11,590	3,746	7,574
Income tax provision (benefit)	(113)	(5,398)	1,082	1,253	(69)	372	(31)
Net income (loss) from continuing operations	(2,653)	(108,519)	7,820	5,061	11,659	3,374	7,605
Discontinued operations							

Income (loss) from discontinued Patient Financial Services business												(1,281)		426
Income tax provision (benefit)												70		(23)
Income (loss) from discontinued operations												(1,351)		449
Net income (loss)		(2,653)		(108,519)		7,820		5,061		11,659		2,023		8,054
Less: Net (income) loss attributable to noncontrolling interests		57		(5,154)		(7,085)		(5,291)		(5,234)				11
Net income (loss) attributable to MedQuist Holdings Inc.	$	(2,596)	$	(113,673)	$	735	$	(230)	$	6,425	$	2,023	$	8,065
Net income per common share from continuing operations														
Basic											$	0.03	$	0.16
Diluted											$	0.03	$	0.16
Net income (loss) per common share from discontinued operations														
Basic											$	(0.03)	$	0.01
Diluted											$	(0.03)	$	0.01
Net income (loss) per common share attributable to MedQuist Holdings Inc.														
Basic	$	(0.20)	$	(5.08)	$	(0.06)	$	(0.07)	$	0.12	$	0.00	$	0.17
Diluted	$	(0.20)	$	(5.08)	$	(0.06)	$	(0.07)	$	0.12	$	0.00	$	0.17

Table of Contents

	Historical					Pro forma	
	Years ended December 31,			Nine months ended September 30,		Year ended December 31,	Nine months ended September 30,
	2007	2008	2009	2009	2010	2009	2010
				(Unaudited)		(Unaudited)	
				(In thousands)			
Weighted average shares outstanding:							
Basic	12,873	22,593	34,692	34,586	35,083	47,122	47,513
Diluted	12,873	22,593	34,692	34,586	35,893	47,122	48,323
Adjusted EBITDA [(1)(2)]	$ 641	$ 16,914	$ 59,687	$ 42,991	$ 57,855	$ 91,074	$ 63,480

(1) See below for reconciliations of net income (loss) attributable to MedQuist Holdings Inc. to Adjusted EBITDA. Adjusted EBITDA does not include earnings attributable to our investment in A-Life, which was sold in October 2010.

(2) Pro forma amounts do not give effect to (i) the impact on net revenues from volume declines, resulting from pre-acquisition customer terminations at Spheris, of $24.6 million and $2.4 million in net revenues for the year ended December 31, 2009 and the nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, and (ii) the full impact of cost savings and synergies resulting from the Spheris Acquisition, which we have implemented since the Spheris Acquisition and expect to yield $7.0 million of cost savings in the fourth quarter of 2010, representing an annualized benefit of $28.0 million. Our results for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 reflect $4.9 million of such cost savings. See Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information.

The following table sets forth certain historical financial and operating data for us, MedQuist Inc. and Spheris.

	Historical					Pro forma	
	Years ended December 31,			Nine months ended September 30,		Year ended December 31,	Nine months ended September 30,
	2007	2008	2009	2009	2010	2009	2010
				(Unaudited)		(Unaudited)	
				(In thousands)			
Other Data							
Net Revenues:							
Consolidated [(1)(2)]	$ 57,694	$ 193,673	$ 371,768	$ 281,828	$ 316,977	$ 510,528	$ 350,163
MedQuist Inc.	340,342	326,853	307,200				
Spheris	200,392	182,843	156,596				
Adjusted EBITDA [(3)]							
Consolidated [(1)]	$ 641	$ 16,914	$ 59,687	$ 42,991	$ 57,855	$ 91,074	$ 63,480
MedQuist Inc.	3,480	32,337	55,636				
Spheris	28,227	26,317	30,569				

(1) Pro forma amounts do not give effect to (i) the impact on net revenues from volume declines, resulting from pre-acquisition customer terminations at Spheris, of $24.6 million and $2.4 million in net revenues for the year

ended December 31, 2009 and the nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, and (ii) the full impact of cost savings and synergies resulting from the Spheris Acquisition, which we have implemented since the Spheris Acquisition and expect to yield $7.0 million of cost savings in the fourth quarter of 2010, representing an annualized benefit of $28.0 million. Our results for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 reflect $4.9 million of such cost savings. See Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information.

(2) Includes revenues of the PFS business, which was sold on December 31, 2010. PFS business contributed revenues of $15.5 million, $22.3 million and $17.8 million for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2008 and 2009 respectively, and $13.7 million and $10.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 and 2010, respectively.

(3) See below for reconciliations of net income (loss) attributable to MedQuist Holdings Inc. to Adjusted EBITDA. Adjusted EBITDA does not include earnings attributable to our investment in A-Life, which was sold in October 2010.

	As of September 30, 2010		
Balance Sheet Data	**Actual**	**Pro forma (Unaudited) (In thousands)**	**Pro forma as adjusted**
Cash and cash equivalents [a]	$ 24,025	$ 35,253	$ 63,758
Working capital [b]	11,618	26,450	26,450
Total assets	379,304	397,882	426,387
Long term debt, including current portion of debt	204,172	294,848	294,848
Total equity	83,568	16,112	44,617

(a) Pro forma as adjusted amount gives effect to $2.5 million of a total $5.0 million payment to SAC PCG in connection with the Corporate Reorganization and does not reflect $19.5 million in proceeds received from the sale of our investment in A-Life in October 2010 and $13.5 million in proceeds received from the sale of the PFS business in December 2010 and does not reflect our $25.0 million repayment of a portion of our Term loan borrowings in January 2011.

(b) Working capital is defined as total current assets, excluding cash and cash equivalents, minus total current liabilities, excluding current portion of debt.

Table of Contents

The following table presents a reconciliation of net income (loss) attributable to MedQuist Holdings Inc. to Adjusted EBITDA:

	Historical					Pro forma	
	Years ended December 31,			Nine months ended September 30,		Year ended December 31,	Nine months ended September 30,
	2007	2008	2009	2009	2010	2009	2010
				(Unaudited) (In thousands)		(Unaudited)	
Net income (loss) attributable to MedQuist Holdings Inc.	$ (2,596)	$ (113,673)	$ 735	$ (230)	$ 6,425	$ 2,023	$ 8,065
Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests	(57)	5,154	7,085	5,291	5,234		(11)
Income tax provision (benefit) [(a)]	(113)	(5,398)	1,082	1,253	(69)	372	(31)
Interest expense, net	2,108	3,954	9,132	6,945	12,031	31,490	24,238
Depreciation and amortization[(b)]	2,915	14,906	26,977	20,329	24,377	39,126	27,587
Cost of legal proceedings and settlements		5,311	14,943	13,540	2,785	16,189	2,785
Acquisition-related charges		5,620	1,246		6,895		
Goodwill impairment charge		98,972					
Restructuring charges		2,106	2,727	481	1,951	3,502	1,912
Equity in (income) loss of affiliated companies	105	(66)	(1,933)	(2,534)	(616)	(1,933)	(616)
(Income) loss from discontinued operations						1,351	(449)
Receivable write-offs, asset impairment charges, severance charges and accrual reversals [(c)]		2,000	(1,864)	(1,864)		(1,046)	
PFS business [(d)]	(1,721)	(1,972)	(443)	(220)	(1,158)		
Adjusted EBITDA [(e)]	$ 641	$ 16,914	$ 59,687	$ 42,991	$ 57,855	$ 91,074	$ 63,480

(a) We had \$130.0 million of federal net operating loss carry forwards as of December 31, 2009 and will record approximately \$30.0 million of annual tax amortization related to intangible assets, including goodwill, that will reduce future taxable income. Due to the existence of federal net operating loss carry forwards and the impact of tax amortization related to intangible assets, including goodwill, cash taxes paid were \$84,000, \$160,000, \$796,000 for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2008 and 2009, respectively, and \$667,000 and \$30,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 and 2010, respectively.

(b)

Includes amortization of acquired intangibles of $698,000, $7.1 million, $12.8 million for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2008 and 2009, respectively, $9.8 million and $11.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 and 2010, respectively and $19.2 million and $16.5 million on a pro forma basis for the year ended December 31, 2009 and the nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively.

(c) Includes the write-off of amounts due from an unconsolidated affiliate of Spheris, an impairment charge to write-off the balance of an investment and the reversal of certain accruals, related to litigation claims, as a result of the expiration of the applicable statute of limitations.

(d) Includes the effect of the PFS business, which was sold on December 31, 2010.

(e) Pro forma amounts do not give effect to (i) the impact on net revenues from volume declines, resulting from pre-acquisition customer terminations at Spheris prior to the Spheris Acquisition, of $24.6 million and $2.4 million in net revenues for the year ended December 31, 2009 and the nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, and (ii) the full impact of cost savings and synergies resulting from the Spheris Acquisition, which we have implemented since the Spheris Acquisition and expect to yield $7.0 million of cost savings in the fourth quarter of 2010, representing an annualized benefit of $28.0 million. Our results for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 reflect $4.9 million of such cost savings. Adjusted EBITDA does not include earnings attributable to our investment in A-Life, which was sold in October 2010.

The following table presents a reconciliation of net income (loss) to Adjusted EBITDA for MedQuist Inc.:

	Years ended December 31,		
	2007	2008	2009
	(In thousands)		
Net income (loss)	$ (15,206)	$ (68,795)	$ 23,291
Income tax provision (benefit)	2,339	(16,513)	1,975
Interest (income) expense, net	(8,366)	(2,438)	134
Depreciation and amortization	16,499	17,504	15,672
Restructuring and acquisition-related charges	2,756	2,055	2,727
Acquisition-related charges			1,263
Cost of legal proceedings and settlements, net	6,083	19,738	14,843
Goodwill impairment charge		82,233	
Equity in income of affiliated companies [a]	(625)	(236)	(2,015)
Other income and accrual reversals [b]		(1,211)	(2,254)
Adjusted EBITDA	$ 3,480	$ 32,337	$ 55,636

(a) Represents proportionate share of earnings from our equity method investment in A-Life, which was sold in October 2010.

(b) Represents the reversal of certain accruals relating to certain litigation claims as a result of the expiration of the applicable statute of limitations.

The following table presents a reconciliation of net loss to Adjusted EBITDA for Spheris:

	Years ended December 31,		
	2007	2008	2009
	(In thousands)		
Net loss	$ (11,361)	$ (19,179)	$ (187,383)
Income tax provision (benefit)	(5,856)	3,870	(14,571)
Interest expense, net	21,171	19,104	17,439
Depreciation and amortization	24,273	21,613	7,230
Operational restructuring charges		484	775
Transaction charge			6,961
Cost of legal proceedings and settlements		425	1,246
Goodwill impairment charge			198,872
Adjusted EBITDA	$ 28,227	$ 26,317	$ 30,569

Table of Contents

Adjusted EBITDA is a metric used by management to measure operating performance. Adjusted EBITDA is defined as net income (loss) attributable to MedQuist Holdings Inc., MedQuist Inc. or Spheris, as applicable, plus net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests, income taxes, interest expense, depreciation and amortization, cost of legal proceedings and settlements, acquisition related charges, goodwill impairment charge, restructuring charges, equity in income (loss) of affiliated company, asset impairment charges, severance costs, certain unusual or nonrecurring items and the effect of our PFS business. We present Adjusted EBITDA as a supplemental performance measure because we believe it facilitates operating performance comparisons from period to period and company to company by backing out the following:

- potential differences caused by variations in capital structures (affecting interest expense, net), tax positions (such as the impact on periods or companies for changes in effective tax rates), the age and book depreciation of fixed assets (affecting depreciation expense);
- the impact of non-cash charges, such as goodwill impairment charges and asset impairment charges; and
- the impact of unusual expenses or events, such as acquisition related charges, restructuring charges, severance costs and certain unusual or nonrecurring items.

Because Adjusted EBITDA facilitates internal comparisons of operating performance on a more consistent basis, we also use Adjusted EBITDA in measuring our performance relative to that of our competitors. Adjusted EBITDA is not a measurement of our financial performance under GAAP and should not be considered as an alternative to net income, operating income or any other performance measures derived in accordance with GAAP or as an alternative to cash flow from operating activities as measures of our profitability or liquidity. We understand that although Adjusted EBITDA is frequently used by securities analysts, lenders and others in their evaluation of companies, Adjusted EBITDA has limitations as an analytical tool, and you should not consider it in isolation, or as a substitute for analysis of our results as reported under GAAP. Some of these limitations are:

- Adjusted EBITDA does not reflect our cash expenditures or future requirements for capital expenditures or contractual commitments;
- Adjusted EBITDA does not reflect changes in, or cash requirements for, our working capital needs;
- although depreciation is a non-cash charge, the assets being depreciated will often have to be replaced in the future, and Adjusted EBITDA does not reflect any cash requirements for such replacements; and
- other companies in our industry may calculate Adjusted EBITDA differently than we do, limiting its usefulness as a comparative measure.

Risk Factors

Investing in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the following risk factors, as well as other information in this prospectus, before deciding whether to invest in shares of our common stock. The occurrence of any of the following risks, or other risks that are currently unknown or unforeseen by us, could harm our business, financial condition, results of operations or growth prospects. In that case, the trading price of our common stock could decline, and you may lose all or part of your investment.

Risks related to our business

We compete with many others in the market for clinical documentation solutions which may result in lower prices for our services, reduced operating margins and an inability to maintain or increase our market share.

We compete with other outsourced clinical documentation solutions companies in a highly fragmented market that includes national, regional and local service providers, as well as service providers with global operations. These companies have services that are similar to ours, and certain of these companies have substantially larger or have significantly greater financial resources than we do. We also compete with the in-house medical transcription staffs of our customers and potential customers. There can be no assurance that we will be able to compete effectively against our competitors or timely implement new products and services. Many of our competitors attempt to differentiate themselves by offering lower priced alternatives to our outsourced medical transcription services and customers could elect to utilize less comprehensive solutions than the ones we offer due to the lower costs of those competitive products. Some competition may even be willing to accept less profitable business in order to grow revenue. Increased competition and cost pressures affecting the healthcare markets in general may result in lower prices for our services, reduced operating margins and the inability to maintain or increase our market share.

Our business is dependent upon the continued demand for transcription services. If EHR companies produce alternatives to medical transcription that reduce the need for transcription, the demand for our solutions could be reduced.

EHR companies solutions for the collection of clinical data typically require physicians to directly enter and organize patient information through point-and-click templates which attempt to reduce or eliminate the need for transcription. A second alternative to conventional transcription involves a physician dictating a record of patient encounters and receiving a speech-recognized draft of their dictation, which the physician can self-edit. There is significant uncertainty and risk as to the demand for, and market acceptance of, these solutions for the creation of electronic clinical documentation. In the event that these and other solutions are successful and gain wide acceptance, the demand for our solutions could be reduced and our business, financial condition and results of operations could be adversely affected.

Our growth is dependent on the willingness of new customers to outsource and adopt our technology platforms.

We plan to grow, in part, by capitalizing on perceived market opportunities to provide our services to new customers. These new customers must be willing to outsource functions which may otherwise have been performed within their organizations, adopt new technologies and incur the time and expense needed to integrate those technologies into their existing systems. For example, the up-front cost and time involved in changing medical transcription providers or in converting from an in-house medical transcription department to an outsourced provider may be significant. Many customers may prefer to remain with their current provider or keep their transcription in-house rather than invest the time and resources required for the implementation of a new system. Also, as the maintenance of accurate medical records is a critical element of a healthcare provider s ability to deliver quality care to its patients and to receive proper and timely reimbursement for the services it renders, potential customers may be reluctant to outsource or change providers of such an important function.

Table of Contents

Our success will depend on our ability to support existing technologies as well as to adopt and integrate new technology into our workflow platforms.

Our ability to remain competitive in the clinical documentation industry is based, in part, on our ability to develop, utilize and support technology in the services and solutions that we provide to our customers. As our customers advance technologically, we must be able to effectively integrate our solutions with their systems and provide advanced data collection technology. We also may need to develop technologies to provide service systems comparable to those of our competitors as they develop new technology. If we are unable to effectively develop and integrate new technologies, we may not be able to compete effectively with our competitors. In addition, if the cost of developing and integrating new technologies is high, we may not realize our expected return on investment.

Technology innovations in the markets that we serve may create alternatives to our products and result in reduced sales.

Technology innovations to which our current and potential customers might have access could reduce or eliminate their need for our products. A new or other disruptive technology that reduces or eliminates the use of one or more of our products could negatively impact the sale of these products. Our failure to develop, introduce or enhance products able to compete with new technologies in a timely manner could have an adverse effect on our business, results of operation and financial condition.

Many of our customer contracts are terminable at will by our customers, and our ability to sustain and grow profitable operations is dependent upon the ability to retain customers.

Many of our contracts can be terminated at will by our customers. If a significant number of our customers were to cancel or materially change their commitments with us, we could have significantly decreased revenue, which would harm our business, operating results and financial condition. We must, therefore, engage in continual operational support and sales efforts to maintain revenue stability and future growth with these customers. If a significant number of our customers terminate or fail to renew their contracts with us, our business could be negatively impacted if additional business is not obtained to replace the business which was lost.

Customer retention is largely dependent on providing quality service at competitive prices. Customer retention may be impacted by events outside of our control, such as changes in customer ownership, management, financial condition and competitors sales efforts. If we experience a higher than expected rate of customer attrition the resulting loss of business could adversely affect results of operations and financial condition.

Our indebtedness could adversely affect our ability to raise additional capital to fund our operations and limit our ability to pursue our growth strategy or to react to changes in the economy or our industry, and our debt obligations include restrictive covenants which may restrict our operations or otherwise adversely affect us.

After the consummation of the Corporate Reorganization, we will have approximately $269.8 million of indebtedness outstanding, consisting of $175.0 million of Term Loan debt under our Senior Secured Credit Facility, $85.0 million of Senior Subordinated Notes and other indebtedness consisting of capital leases and borrowings under other credit facilities, and we may incur additional indebtedness in the future. For the years 2010 through 2014, assuming no change in our indebtedness following this offering, we will have average, annual payment obligations of approximately $20.0 million for the principal amount of our indebtedness. Our net interest expense for the year ended December 31, 2009 and the nine months ended September 30, 2010 was $9.1 million and $12.0 million, respectively. Our variable rate indebtedness bears interest at LIBOR plus 5.50% with a LIBOR floor of 1.75%. Because the LIBOR floor is currently in effect, a 1.25% increase in LIBOR above current LIBOR levels would not increase our effective interest rate. A 1.0% increase in the interest rate above this floor would impact our interest expense by approximately

$2.0 million. This indebtedness could have important negative consequences to our business, including:

- increasing the difficulty of our ability to make payments on our outstanding debt;

Table of Contents

- n increasing our vulnerability to general economic and industry conditions because our debt payment obligations may limit our ability to use our cash to respond to or defend against changes in the industry or the economy;
- n requiring a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to be dedicated to the payment of principal and interest on our indebtedness, therefore reducing our ability to use our cash flow to fund our operations, capital expenditures and future business opportunities;
- n limiting our ability to obtain additional financing for working capital, capital expenditures, debt service requirements, acquisitions and general corporate or other purposes;
- n limiting our ability to pursue our growth strategy; and
- n placing us at a disadvantage compared to our competitors who are less leveraged and may be better able to use their cash flow to fund competitive responses to changing industry, market or economic conditions.

In addition, under our debt financing agreements, we must abide by certain financial and other restrictive covenants that, among other things, require us to maintain a minimum consolidated interest coverage ratio, a maximum total leverage ratio and a maximum consolidated senior leverage ratio. Upon a breach of any of the covenants in our debt financing agreements, the lenders could declare us to be in default and could further require any outstanding borrowings to be immediately due and payable, and terminate all commitments to extend further credit.

We are dependent on third party speech recognition software incorporated in certain of our technologies, and the inability to maintain, support or enhance such third party software over time could harm our business.

We license speech recognition software from third parties, both of which are competitors, that we incorporate into several of our key products and solutions. Our ability to continue to sell and support these products and solutions depends on continued support from these licensors. If we were to experience the loss of one of these licenses, the portion of our business that relies on this software would be adversely affected while we transitioned it to the software provided under our other license. If we were to experience the loss of both of these licenses at any one time, our business would be adversely affected until we identify, license and integrate, or develop and integrate equivalent software, which we may be unable to do. There can be no assurance that such third party licensors will continue to invest the appropriate levels of resources in the software to maintain and enhance the capabilities of the software and if such third party licensors do not continue to develop their products, the development of our solutions to meet the requirements of our customers and potential customers could be adversely affected.

Our use of open source and third-party software could impose unanticipated conditions or restrictions on our ability to commercialize our solutions.

We incorporate open source software into our workflow solutions platforms and other software solutions. Open source software is accessible, usable and modifiable by anyone, provided that users and modifiers abide by certain licensing requirements. Under certain conditions, the use of some open source code to create derivative code may obligate us to make the resulting derivative code available to others at no cost. The circumstances under which our use of open source code would compel us to offer derivative code at no cost are subject to varying judicial interpretations, and we cannot guarantee that a court would not require certain of our core technology be made available as open source code. The use of such open source code may also ultimately require us to take remedial action, such as replacing certain code used in our products, paying a royalty to use some open source code, making certain proprietary source code available to others or discontinuing certain products, any of which may divert resources away from our development efforts.

We may also find that we need to incorporate certain proprietary third-party technologies, including software programs, into our products in the future. Licenses to relevant third-party technologies may not be available to us on commercially reasonable terms, or at all. Therefore, we could face delays in product releases until equivalent technology can be identified, licensed or developed and integrated into our current products. Such delays could materially adversely affect our business, operating results and financial condition.

Table of Contents

Our ability to expand our business depends on our ability to effectively manage our domestic and offshore production capacity, which we may not be able to do.

Our success depends, in part, upon our ability to effectively manage our domestic and offshore production capacity, including our ability to attract and retain qualified MTs and MEs who can provide accurate medical transcription. We must also effectively manage our offshore transcription labor pool, which is currently located in India. If the productivity of our Indian employees does not outpace any increase in wages, our profits could suffer. Because medical transcription is a skilled position in which experience is valuable, we require that our MTs and MEs have substantial experience or receive substantial training before being hired. Competition may force us to increase the compensation and benefits paid to our MTs and MEs, which could reduce our operating margins and profitability.

If we fail to comply with contractual obligations and applicable laws and regulations governing the handling of patient identifiable medical information, we could suffer material losses or be adversely affected by exposure to material penalties and liabilities.

As part of the operation of our business, our customers provide us with certain patient identifiable medical information. Although many regulatory and governmental requirements do not directly apply to our operations, we and our hospital and other healthcare provider customers must comply with a variety of requirements related to the handling of patient information, including laws and regulations protecting the privacy, confidentiality and security of protected health information, or PHI. Most of our customers are covered entities under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, or HIPAA, and, in many of our relationships, we function as a business associate. The provisions of HIPAA, require our customers to have business associate agreements with us under which we are required to appropriately safeguard the PHI we create or receive on their behalf. Further, we and our customers are required to comply with HIPAA security regulations that require us and them to implement certain administrative, physical and technical safeguards to ensure the confidentiality, integrity and availability of electronic PHI, or EPHI. We are required by regulation and contract to protect the security of EPHI that we create, receive, maintain or transmit for our customers consistent with these regulations. To comply with our regulatory and contractual obligations, we may have to reorganize processes and invest in new technologies. We also are required to train personnel regarding HIPAA requirements. If we, or any of our MTs, MEs or subcontractors, are unable to maintain the privacy, confidentiality and security of the PHI that is entrusted to us, we and/or our customers could be subject to civil and criminal fines and sanctions and we could be found to have breached our contracts with our customers.

We are bound by business associate agreements with covered entities that require us to use and disclose PHI in a manner consistent with HIPAA in providing services to those covered entities. The HITECH Act, which was enacted into law on February 17, 2009 as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, or ARRA, enhances and strengthens the HIPAA privacy and security standards and makes certain provisions applicable to business associates of covered entities. As of February 17, 2010, some provisions of HIPAA apply directly to us. In addition, the HITECH Act creates new security breach notification requirements. The direct applicability of the new HIPAA Privacy and Security provisions will require us to incur additional costs and may restrict our business operations. In addition, these new provisions will result in additional regulations and guidance issued by the United States Department of Health and Human Services and will be subject to interpretation by various courts and other governmental authorities, thus creating potentially complex compliance issues for us and our customers.

As of February 17, 2010, we are directly subject to HIPAA s criminal and civil penalties for breaches of our privacy and security obligations.

Security and privacy breaches in our systems may damage customer relations and inhibit our growth.

The uninterrupted operation of our hosted solutions and the confidentiality and security of third-party information is critical to our business. Any failures or perceived failures in our security and privacy measures could have a material adverse effect on our financial position and results of operations. If we are unable to protect, or our customers perceive that we are unable to protect, the security and privacy of our electronic information, our growth could be materially adversely affected. A security or privacy breach may:

- cause our customers to lose confidence in our solutions;

- harm our reputation;
- expose us to liability; and
- increase our expenses from potential remediation costs.

While we believe that we use proven applications designed for data security and integrity to process electronic transactions, there can be no assurance that our use of these applications will be sufficient to address changing market conditions or the security and privacy concerns of existing and potential customers.

Our business depends on the reliable and secure operation of our computer hardware, software, Internet applications and data centers.

A substantial portion of our business involves the transfer of large amounts of data to and from our workflow platforms. These workflow platforms, and their underlying technologies, are designed to operate and to be accessible by our customers 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Network and information systems, the Internet and other technologies are critical to our business activities. We have periodically experienced short term outages with our workflow platforms that have not significantly disrupted our business. However, a long term outage could adversely affect our ability to provide service to our customers.

We also perform data center and/or hosting services for certain customers, including the storage of critical patient and administrative data. Failure of public power and backup generators, impairment of telecommunications lines, a concerted denial of service cyber attack, damage (environmental, accidental, intentional or pandemic) to the buildings, the equipment inside the buildings housing our data centers, the customer data contained therein and/or the personnel trained to operate such facilities could cause a disruption in operations and negatively impact customers who depend on us for data center and system support services. Any interruption in operations at our data centers and/or customer support facilities could damage our reputation, cause us to lose existing clients, hurt our ability to obtain new customers, result in revenue loss, create potential liabilities for our customers and us and increase insurance and other operating costs.

Recent and proposed legislation and possible negative publicity may impede our ability to utilize offshore production capabilities.

Certain state laws that have recently been enacted and bills introduced in recent sessions of the U.S. Congress seek to restrict the transmission of personally identifiable information regarding a U.S. resident to any foreign affiliate, subcontractor or unaffiliated third party without adequate privacy protections or without providing notice of the transmission and an opportunity to opt out. Some of the proposals would require patient consent. If enacted, these proposed laws would impose liability on healthcare businesses arising from the improper sharing or other misuse of personally identifiable information. Some proposals would create a private civil cause of action that would allow an injured party to recover damages sustained as a result of a violation of the new law. A number of states have also considered, or are in the process of considering, prohibitions or limitations on the disclosure of medical or other information to individuals or entities located outside of the U.S. Further, as a result of concerns regarding the possible misuse of personally identifiable information, some of our customers have contractually limited our ability to use MTs and MEs located outside of the U.S. The effect of these proposals would be to limit our ability to utilize our lower-cost offshore production facilities for affected customers, which could adversely affect our operating margins.

Any change in legislation, regulation or market practices in the United States affecting healthcare or healthcare insurance may materially adversely affect our business and results of operations.

Over the past twenty years the U.S. healthcare industry has experienced a variety of regulatory and market driven changes to how it is operated and funded. Further changes, whether by government policy shift, insurance company changes or otherwise, may happen, and any such changes may adversely affect the U.S. healthcare information and services market. As business process outsourcing and off-shoring have grown in recent years, concerns have also grown about the impact of these phenomena on jobs in the United States. These concerns could drive government policy in a way which is disadvantageous to us. Further, if government regulation or market practices leads to fewer individuals seeking medical treatment, we could experience a decline in our processed volumes.

Table of Contents

Our business, financial condition and results of operations could be adversely affected by the political and economic conditions in India.

A significant portion of our operations is located in India. Multiple factors relating to our Indian operations could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. These factors include:

- changes in political, regulatory, legal or economic conditions;
- governmental actions, such as restrictions on the transfer or repatriation of funds and foreign investments;
- civil disturbances, including terrorism or war;
- political instability;
- public health emergencies;