

VIASAT INC
Form 424B5
January 09, 2002

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This filing is made pursuant
to Rule 424(b)(5) under
the Securities Act of
1933 in connection with
Registration No. 333- 69664

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT
(To Prospectus dated November 27, 2001)

2,000,000 Shares

Common Stock

We are selling 2,000,000 shares of our common stock.

Our common stock is traded on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol VSAT. On January 8, 2002, the closing sale price of our common stock as quoted on the Nasdaq National Market was \$15.03 per share.

An investment in our common stock involves significant risks. These risks are described under the caption Risk Factors on page S-3 of this prospectus supplement.

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

	Per Share	Total
Public offering price	\$ 14.500	\$29,000,000
Underwriting discounts and commissions	\$ 0.775	\$ 1,550,000
Proceeds, before expenses, to ViaSat	\$ 13.725	\$27,450,000

The underwriter may also purchase up to an additional 300,000 shares of common stock at the public offering price, less the underwriting discounts and commissions, to cover over-allotments.

The underwriter expects to deliver the shares in New York, New York on January 14, 2002.

SG COWEN

January 8, 2002

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You should rely only on information contained in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with information that is different. We are offering to sell and seeking offers to buy shares of our common stock only in jurisdictions where offers and sales are permitted. The information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is accurate only as of their respective dates, regardless of time of delivery of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus or of any sale of our common stock.

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VIASAT

We are a leading provider of advanced broadband digital satellite communications and other wireless networking and signal processing equipment and services to the defense and commercial markets. Based on our extensive experience in complex defense communications systems, we have developed the capability to design and implement innovative communications solutions that enhance bandwidth utilization by applying our sophisticated networking and digital signal processing techniques. To date, we have achieved 15 consecutive years of revenue growth and 14 consecutive years of profitability. Our goal is to leverage our advanced technology and capabilities to capture a significant share of the global satellite communications services and equipment segment of the high-growth broadband communications market for both government and commercial customers.

Our internal growth to date has historically been driven largely by our success in meeting the need for advanced communications products for the U.S. military. By developing cost-effective communications products incorporating our advanced technologies we have continued to grow the markets for our defense products and services in an environment of shrinking defense budgets. Our current defense products include our advanced multifunction information distribution system, or MIDS, product line, our simulation and test equipment which allows the testing of sophisticated airborne radio equipment without expensive flight exercises, and our UHF DAMA satellite communications products consisting of modems, terminals and network control systems. The MIDS terminal operates as part of the Link-16 line-of-sight tactical radio system that enables real time data networking among ground and airborne military users providing an electronic overview of the battlefield for each terminal user. We were recently selected by the U.S. government as a new Link-16 terminal contractor and one of only three current U.S. government certified manufacturers of Link-16 MIDS terminals. The defense market continues to be a critical and core element of our overall business strategy.

We have been increasing our focus in recent years on offering satellite based communications products to address commercial market needs, including through the recent acquisition of three other strategic satellite communication equipment providers. Our commercial business has grown from approximately 24% of our revenues in fiscal year 2000 to approximately 62% of our revenues in fiscal year 2001. To date, our principal commercial offerings include Very Small Aperture Terminals (VSATs), network control systems, network integration services, network operation services, gateway infrastructure, antenna systems and other satellite ground stations.

We were incorporated in California in 1986 and reincorporated in Delaware in 1996. Our principal executive offices are located at 6155 El Camino Real, Carlsbad, California 92009 and our telephone number is (760) 476-2200.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

On December 12, 2001, we acquired all of the outstanding preferred units of U.S. Monolithics, LLC, an Arizona limited liability company (USM), from Wildblue Communications, Inc. pursuant to a Unit Purchase Agreement dated as of December 12, 2001. On January 4, 2002, we completed our previously announced acquisition of all of the outstanding common units of USM pursuant to a Unit Purchase Agreement dated as of December 14, 2001. The aggregate purchase price for the preferred and common units of USM was approximately \$30.0 million.

Founded in 1998, USM is primarily focused on developing proprietary gallium arsenide (GaAs) millimeter wave Integrated Circuits (MMICs) for use in broadband communications. USM's systems background and proprietary capabilities have also enabled it to design power amplifiers, frequency block upconverters, and entire transceivers for the high frequency, broadband markets. USM also has strong capabilities with respect to high frequency packaging.

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THE OFFERING

Common stock offered 2,000,000 shares

Common stock to be outstanding after the offering 25,866,147 shares

Use of proceeds We will use the net proceeds from the sale of the common stock offered hereby for general corporate purposes, which may include funding research, increasing our working capital, reducing indebtedness, acquisitions or investments in businesses, products or technologies that are complementary to our own, and capital expenditures.

Nasdaq National Market Symbol VSAT

The number of shares of our common stock outstanding after this offering is based on the number of shares of our common stock outstanding as of the date of this prospectus supplement and does not include:

4,537,115 shares issuable upon exercise of stock options outstanding under our existing stock option plans as of the date of this prospectus supplement;

160,000 shares issuable upon exercise of warrants existing as of the date of this prospectus supplement;

526,831 shares available for future grant or issuance pursuant to our employee stock purchase plan as of the date of this prospectus supplement; and

300,000 shares that may be issued to cover over-allotments, if any.

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RISK FACTORS

An investment in the common stock offered in connection with this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus involves a high degree of risk. In addition to the other information in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, you should carefully consider the following risks before making an investment decision.

Risks Related to Our Business

Our Success Depends on Our Ability to Grow Our Commercial Business

To date, our historical growth has been driven largely by our success in meeting the needs for advanced communications products for the U.S. military. We have been increasing our focus in recent years on offering satellite-based communications products to address commercial market needs. Our goal is to leverage our advanced technology and capabilities to capture a significant share of the global satellite services and equipment segment of the high-growth broadband communications market. However, we cannot assure you that we will be able to successfully continue to grow our commercial satellite communications business or that we will be able to compete effectively in the commercial market in the future. If we are unable to successfully continue to grow our commercial business or compete effectively in the commercial market in the future, it could materially harm our business and impair the value of our common stock.

Our Reliance on U.S. Government Contracts Could Harm Our Business

Approximately 76% of our revenues for fiscal year 2000, 38% of our revenues for fiscal year 2001 and 31% of our revenues for the six-month period ended September 30, 2001 were derived from U.S. government applications. Although the recent growth of our commercial business has substantially reduced our dependence on U.S. government business, such business will continue to represent a significant portion of our revenues for the foreseeable future. U.S. government business exposes us to various risks, including:

unexpected contract or project terminations or suspensions,

unpredictable order placements, reductions or cancellations,

reductions in government funds available for our projects due to government policy changes, budget cuts and contract adjustments,

penalties arising from post-award contract audits,

cost audits in which the value of our contracts may be reduced,

higher-than-expected final costs, particularly relating to software and hardware development, for work performed under contracts where we commit to specified deliveries for a fixed price,

limited profitability from cost-reimbursement contracts under which the amount of profit is limited to a specified amount, and

unpredictable cash collections of unbilled receivables that may be subject to acceptance of contract deliverables by the customer and contract close-out procedures, including government approval of final indirect rates.

In addition, substantially all of our U.S. government backlog scheduled for delivery can be terminated at the convenience of the U.S. government because our contracts with the U.S. government typically provide that orders may be terminated with limited or no penalties. If we are unable to address any of the risks described above, it could materially harm our business and impair the value of our common stock.

A Significant Portion of Our Revenue Is Derived from a Few of Our Contracts

A small number of our contracts account for a significant percentage of our revenues. Historically, our largest revenue producing contracts have been U.S. government contracts related to our UHF DAMA

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technology, which generated approximately 33% of our revenues for fiscal year 2000, 9% of our revenues for fiscal year 2001 and 5% of our revenues for the six-month period ended September 30, 2001. Our five largest contracts generated approximately 35% of our revenues for fiscal year 2000, 37% of our revenues for fiscal year 2001 and 34% of our revenues for the six-month period ended September 30, 2001. In the next few years, we expect to generate a significant portion of our revenues from contracts with customers which have broadband commercial projects. The failure of these customers to place additional orders or to maintain these contracts with us for any reason, including any downturn in their business or financial condition, or our inability to renew or replace our contracts with these customers when they expire could materially harm our business and impair the value of our common stock.

If Our Customers Experience Financial or Other Difficulties, Our Business Could Be Materially Harmed

A number of our commercial customers may experience financial difficulties in the future. Many of our commercial customers face similar risks as our business, including risks associated with market growth, acceptance by the market of our customers' products and services, and the ability of our customers to obtain sufficient capital. We cannot assure you that our customers will be successful in managing these risks. If our customers do not successfully manage these types of risks, it could impair our ability to generate revenue and collect amounts due from these customers and materially harm our business.

In particular, one of our customers, ORBCOMM, was recently purchased in bankruptcy. We have approximately \$5.0 million worth of receivables and other assets currently at risk with ORBCOMM. On November 15, 2001, ORBCOMM formally rejected our contracts in bankruptcy. Although we are continuing to negotiate with ORBCOMM on continuing our business relationship, we cannot make assurances that any portion of these assets will be recovered. If we are unable to reach agreement with ORBCOMM, our rights as an unsecured creditor will entitle us to collect only a small percentage of our assets currently at risk. Further, if ORBCOMM is unable to successfully restructure its operations, it would substantially limit our ability to recover these assets. If we are unable to recover these assets it will cause us to incur substantial losses, which would harm our business and impair the value of our common stock.

In addition, on December 5, 2001 Astrolink International LLC terminated for convenience two of our ground segment contracts. The termination requires Astrolink to pay us a termination amount that is based on a predetermined formula provided by the two contracts. Telespazio SpA has also recently delivered notice to us of the termination of our contract for the production of dedicated gateways for the Astrolink system. Recently, one of Astrolink's major investors announced that it would not invest further in the Astrolink program. Astrolink contracts, in total, have accounted for approximately 10% to 15% of our revenues in recent periods. Currently, our assets at risk to Astrolink are at least \$7.6 million, which includes a \$2.5 million payment to Astrolink for prepaid airtime on its satellites. We expect that our assets at risk will exceed \$7.6 million, however, the additional amount of assets at risk is not determinable at this time. Further, we expect to incur additional costs associated with winding down the program and terminating the contracts of our subcontractors on the program. We are having continuing discussions with Astrolink and other interested parties regarding potential alternatives for the Astrolink project. We cannot, however, make assurances that the assets at risk or the contractual termination amounts will be fully recovered. If Astrolink is unable to successfully restructure its operations or obtain additional funding, it would substantially limit our ability to recover the assets at risk and could cause us to incur substantial losses and impair the value of our common stock.

Other major communications infrastructure programs, such as proposed satellite communications systems, are important sources of our current and planned future revenues. We also participate in a number of defense programs. Programs of these types cannot proceed unless the customer can raise adequate funds, from either governmental or private sources. As a result, our expected revenues can be adversely affected by political developments or by conditions in private capital markets. They can also be adversely affected if private capital markets are not receptive to a customer's proposed business plans, which could materially harm our business and impair the value of our common stock.

In particular, two commercial customers on which we are relying in part for future revenue growth face challenges that could result in their failure to deploy planned systems in accordance with current schedules. We

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believe that Wildblue Communications, with which we have a large contract for the development of satellite modems and satellite modem termination systems for a planned Ka-band broadband Internet platform, may need to raise additional funds in the near future in order to remain viable, and may have difficulty obtaining such funds. Similarly, Connexion by Boeing, which has awarded us a contract to design and manufacture receive and transmit subsystems and other components for a satellite in-flight data network, faces substantial challenges with respect to the development of its system. Recently, for example, several airlines that had partnered with Boeing on the Connexion project publicly announced withdrawal from the project. Any failure on the part of either Wildblue Communications or Boeing to deploy successfully its intended system as a result of lack of funding or other difficulties could materially harm our business and impair the value of our common stock.

Our Success Depends upon the Development of New Satellite and Other Wireless Communications Products and Our Ability to Gain Acceptance of These Products

The wireless communications market in general, and the satellite communications market in particular, are subject to rapid technological change, frequent new and enhanced product introductions, product obsolescence and changes in user requirements. Our ability to compete successfully in these markets depends on our success in applying our expertise and technology to existing and emerging satellite and other wireless communications markets. Our ability to compete in these markets also depends in large part on our ability to successfully develop, introduce and sell new products and enhancements on a timely and cost-effective basis that respond to ever changing customer requirements. Our ability to successfully introduce new products depends on several factors, including:

successful integration of various elements of our complex technologies and system architectures,

timely completion and introduction of new product designs,

achievement of acceptable product costs,

timely and efficient implementation of our manufacturing and assembly processes and cost reduction efforts,

establishment of close working relationships with major customers for the design of their new wireless communications systems incorporating our products,

development of competitive products by competitors,

marketing and pricing strategies of our competitors with respect to competitive products, and

market acceptance of our new products.

We cannot assure you that our product development efforts for communications products will be successful or that any new products that we develop, including ArcLight and LinkStar, will achieve market acceptance. We may experience difficulties that could delay or prevent us from successfully selecting, developing, manufacturing or marketing new products or enhancements. In addition, defects may be found in our products after we begin deliveries, which could result in the delay or loss of market acceptance. If we are unable to design, manufacture, integrate and market profitable new products for existing or emerging communications markets, it could materially harm our business and impair the value of our common stock.

Our Success Depends upon the Growth of Commercial Wireless Communications Markets

A number of the commercial markets for our products in the wireless communications area, including our DAMA and broadband products, have only recently developed. Because these markets are relatively new, it is difficult to predict the rate at which these markets will grow, if at all. If the markets for commercial wireless communications products fail to grow, or grow more slowly than anticipated, our business could be materially harmed. Conversely, to the extent that growth in these markets results in capacity limitations in the wireless communications area, it could materially harm our business and impair the value of our common stock.

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We Depend Heavily on the VSAT Market

We derived approximately 24% of our product revenues for fiscal year 2000, 29% of our product revenues for fiscal year 2001 and 28% of our product revenues for the six-month period ended September 30, 2001 from sales of VSAT communications networks. While the market for VSAT communications networks and services has grown steadily since its inception in the mid-1980s, this market may not continue to grow or VSAT technology may be replaced by an alternative technology. A significant decline in this market or the replacement of VSAT technology by an alternative technology could materially harm our business and impair the value of our common stock.

Any Failure by Us to Efficiently and Effectively Manage Our Growth Could Adversely Affect Our Business

Future expansion of our business may place strains on our personnel, financial and other resources. In order to successfully manage our growth we must identify, attract, motivate, train and retain highly skilled managerial, financial, engineering, business development, sales and marketing and other personnel. Competition for these types of personnel is intense. If we fail to efficiently manage our growth and compete for these types of personnel, it could adversely affect the quality of our products and services and, in turn, materially harm our business and impair the value of our common stock.

If the Selling Prices of Our Products Decrease, It Could Materially Harm Our Business

The average selling prices of wireless communications products historically decline over product life cycles. In particular, we expect the average selling prices of our products to decline as a result of competitive pricing pressures and customers who negotiate discounts based on large unit volumes. We also expect that competition in this industry will continue to increase. To offset these price decreases, we intend to rely primarily on obtaining yield improvements and corresponding cost reductions in the manufacturing process of existing products and on the introduction of new products with advanced features that can be sold at higher prices. However, we cannot assure you that we will be able to obtain any yield improvements or cost reductions or introduce any new products in the future. To the extent that we do not reduce costs or introduce new products in a timely manner, or our new products do not achieve market acceptance, it could materially harm our business and impair the value of our common stock.

Our Development Contracts May Be Difficult for Us to Comply With and May Expose Us to Third-Party Claims for Damages

We are often party to government and commercial contracts that involve the development of new products. We derived approximately 46% of our revenues for fiscal year 2000 and 48% of our revenues for fiscal year 2001 from these development contracts. These contracts typically contain strict performance obligations and project milestones. We cannot assure you that we will comply with these performance obligations or meet these project milestones. If we are unable to comply with these performance obligations or meet these milestones, our customers may terminate these contracts and, under some circumstances, recover damages or other penalties from us. We are not currently, nor have we always been, in compliance with all outstanding performance obligations and project milestones. In the past, when we have not complied with the performance obligations or project milestones in a contract, generally, the other party has not elected to terminate the contract or seek damages from us. However, we cannot assure you that in the future other parties will not terminate their contracts or seek damages from us. If other parties elect to terminate their contracts or seek damages from us, it could materially harm our business and impair the value of our common stock.

We May Experience Losses from Our Fixed-Price Contracts

Approximately 79% of our revenues for fiscal year 2000, 94% of our revenues for fiscal year 2001 and 96% of our revenues for the six-month period ended September 30, 2001 were derived from contracts with fixed prices. We assume greater financial risk on fixed-price contracts than on other types of contracts because if we do not anticipate technical problems, estimate costs accurately or control costs during performance of a fixed-price contract, it may significantly reduce our net profit or cause a loss on the contract. We believe that a high

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percentage of our contracts will be at fixed prices in the future. Although we believe that we adequately estimate costs for fixed-price contracts, we cannot assure you that our estimates will be adequate or that substantial losses on fixed-price contracts will not occur in the future. If we are unable to address any of the risks described above, it could materially harm our business and impair the value of our common stock.

We Expect to Increase Our Research and Development Costs, Which Could Significantly Reduce Our Profitability

Our future growth depends on penetrating new markets, adapting existing satellite communications products to new applications, and introducing new communications products that achieve market acceptance. Accordingly, we are actively applying our communications expertise to design and develop new hardware and software products and enhance existing products. We expended \$7.6 million in fiscal year 2000, \$6.2 million in fiscal year 2001 and \$3.1 million in the six-month period ended September 30, 2001 on research and development activities. We expect to increase the amount we spend on research and development in the near future. Because we account for research and development as an operating expense, these expenditures will adversely affect our earnings in the near future. Our research and development program may not produce successful results, which could materially harm our business and impair the value of our common stock.

Our Reliance on a Limited Number of Third Parties to Manufacture and Supply Our Products Exposes Us to Various Risks

Our internal manufacturing capacity is limited and we do not intend to expand that capability in the foreseeable future. We rely on a limited number of contract manufacturers to produce our products and expect to rely increasingly on these manufacturers in the future. In addition, some components, subassemblies and services necessary for the manufacture of our products are obtained from a sole supplier or a limited group of suppliers. In particular, Texas Instruments is a sole source supplier of digital signal processing chips, which are critical components in substantially all of our products.

Our reliance on contract manufacturers and on sole suppliers or a limited group of suppliers involves several risks. We may not be able to obtain an adequate supply of required components, and our control over the price, timely delivery, reliability and quality of finished products may be reduced. The process of manufacturing our products and some of our components and subassemblies is extremely complex. We have in the past experienced and may in the future experience delays in the delivery of and quality problems with products and components and subassemblies from vendors. Some of the suppliers that we rely upon have relatively limited financial and other resources. If we are not able to obtain timely deliveries of components and subassemblies of acceptable quality or if we are otherwise required to seek alternative sources of supply, or to manufacture our finished products or components and subassemblies internally, it could delay or prevent us from delivering our systems promptly and at high quality. This failure could damage relationships with current or prospective customers, which, in turn, could materially harm our business and impair the value of our common stock.

The Markets We Serve Are Highly Competitive and Our Competitors May Have Greater Resources Than Us

The wireless communications industry generally is highly competitive and competition is increasing. In addition, because our industry is evolving and characterized by rapid technological change, it is difficult for us to predict whether, when and by whom new competing technologies, products or services may be introduced into our markets. Currently, we face substantial competition from domestic and international wireless and ground-based communications service providers in the commercial and government industries. Many of our competitors and potential competitors have significant competitive advantages, including strong customer relationships, more experience with regulatory compliance, greater financial and management resources, and control over central communications networks. In addition, some of our customers continuously evaluate whether to develop and manufacture their own products and could elect to compete with us at any time. Increased competition from any of these or other entities could materially harm our business and impair the value of our common stock.

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We Depend on a Limited Number of Key Employees Who Would Be Difficult to Replace

We depend on a limited number of key technical, marketing and management personnel to manage and operate our business. In particular, we believe that our success depends to a significant degree on our ability to attract and retain highly skilled personnel, including our President and Chief Executive Officer, Mark D. Dankberg, and those highly skilled design, process and test engineers involved in the manufacture of existing products and the development of new products and processes. The competition for these types of personnel is intense, and the loss of key employees could materially harm our business and impair the value of our common stock. We do not have employment agreements with any of our officers. We have obtained a key person insurance policy on the life of Mr. Dankberg.

Any Failure to Successfully Integrate Strategic Acquisitions Could Adversely Affect Our Business

In order to position ourselves to take advantage of growth opportunities, we have made, and may continue to make, strategic acquisitions that involve significant risks and uncertainties. These risks and uncertainties include:

the difficulty in integrating newly-acquired businesses and operations in an efficient and effective manner,

the challenges in achieving strategic objectives, cost savings and other benefits expected from acquisitions,

the risk that our markets do not evolve as anticipated and that the technologies acquired do not prove to be those needed to be successful in those markets,

the potential loss of key employees of the acquired businesses,

the risk of diverting the attention of senior management from the operations of our business, and

the risks of entering markets in which we have less experience.

Any failure to successfully integrate strategic acquisitions could harm our business and impair the value of our common stock. Furthermore, to complete future acquisitions we may issue equity securities, incur debt, assume contingent liabilities or have amortization expenses and writedowns of acquired assets, which could cause our earnings per share to decline.

Our Ability to Protect Our Proprietary Technology Is Limited and Infringement Claims Against Us Could Restrict Our Ability to Conduct Business

Our success depends significantly on our ability to protect our proprietary rights to the technologies we use in our products and services. If we are unable to protect our proprietary rights adequately, our competitors could use the intellectual property that we have developed to enhance their own products and services, which could materially harm our business and impair the value of our common stock. We currently rely on a combination of patents, trade secret laws, copyrights, trademarks, service marks and contractual rights to protect our intellectual property. We cannot assure you that the steps we have taken to protect our proprietary rights will be adequate. Additionally, the laws of some foreign countries in which our products are or may be sold do not protect our intellectual property rights to the same extent as do the laws of the United States.

Litigation may be necessary to protect our intellectual property rights and trade secrets, to determine the validity and scope of the proprietary rights of others or to defend against claims of infringement or invalidity. We cannot assure you that infringement, invalidity, right to use or ownership claims by third parties or claims for indemnification resulting from infringement claims will not be asserted against us in the future. If any claims or actions are asserted against us, we may seek to obtain a license under a third party's intellectual property rights. We cannot assure you, however, that a license will be available under reasonable terms or at all. Litigation of intellectual property claims could be extremely expensive and time consuming, which could materially harm our business, regardless of the outcome of the litigation. If our products are found to infringe upon the rights of third parties, we may be forced to incur substantial costs to develop alternative products. We cannot assure you that we would be able to develop alternative products or that if these alternative products

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were developed, they would perform as required or be accepted in the applicable markets. If we are unable to address any of the risks described above, it could materially harm our business and impair the value of our common stock.

Adverse Regulatory Changes Could Impair Our Ability to Sell Products

Our products are incorporated into wireless communications systems that must comply with various government regulations, including those of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). In addition, we operate and provide services to customers through the use of several satellite earth stations that are licensed by the FCC. Regulatory changes, including changes in the allocation of available frequency spectrum and in the military standards and specifications that define the current satellite networking environment, could materially harm our business by (1) restricting development efforts by us and our customers, (2) making our current products less attractive or obsolete, or (3) increasing the opportunity for additional competition. Changes in, or our failure to comply with, applicable regulations could materially harm our business and impair the value of our common stock. In addition, the increasing demand for wireless communications has exerted pressure on regulatory bodies world wide to adopt new standards for these products and services, generally following extensive investigation of and deliberation over competing technologies. The delays inherent in this government approval process have caused and may continue to cause our customers to cancel, postpone or reschedule their installation of communications systems. This, in turn, may have a material adverse effect on our sales of products to our customers.

Because We Conduct Business Internationally, We Face Additional Risks Related to Global Political and Economic Conditions and Currency Fluctuations

We anticipate that international sales will account for an increasing percentage of our revenues over the next several years. In addition, international sales represent a significant portion of the revenues from our satellite networks business. Many of these international sales may be denominated in foreign currencies. Because we do not currently engage in nor do we currently anticipate engaging in foreign currency hedging transactions, a decrease in the value of foreign currencies relative to the U.S. dollar could result in losses from transactions denominated in foreign currencies. This decrease in value could also make our products less price-competitive.

There are additional risks in conducting business internationally, including:

- unexpected changes in regulatory requirements,
- increased cost of localizing systems in foreign countries,
- increased sales and marketing and research and development expenses,
- availability of suitable export financing,
- timing and availability of export licenses,
- tariffs and other trade barriers,
- political and economic instability,
- challenges in staffing and managing foreign operations,
- difficulties in managing distributors,
- potentially adverse tax consequences, and
- potential difficulty in collecting accounts receivable.

In addition, some of our customer purchase agreements are governed by foreign laws, which may differ significantly from U.S. laws. Therefore, we may be limited in our ability to enforce our rights under these agreements and to collect damages, if awarded. If we are unable to address any of the risks described above, it could materially harm our business and impair the value of our common stock.

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Our Operating Results Have Varied Significantly from Quarter to Quarter in the Past and, if They Continue to do so, the Market Price of Our Common Stock Could Be Impaired

Our operating results have varied significantly from quarter to quarter in the past and may continue to do so in the future. The factors that cause our quarter-to-quarter operating results to be unpredictable include:

a complex and lengthy procurement process for most of our customers or potential customers,

the difficulty in estimating costs over the life of a contract, which may require adjustment in future periods,

the timing, quantity and mix of products and services sold,

price discounts given to some customers,

market acceptance and the timing of availability of our new products,

the timing of customer payments for significant contracts,

one time charges to operating income arising from items such as acquisition expenses and write-offs of assets related to customer non-payments,

the failure to receive an expected order or a deferral of an order to a later period, and

general economic and political conditions.

As a result, we believe that period-to-period comparisons of our revenues are not necessarily meaningful and you should not rely upon them as indicators of future performance. If we are unable to address any of the risks described above, it could materially impair the value of our common stock. In addition, it is likely that in one or more future quarters our results may fall below the expectations of analysts and investors. In this event, the trading price of our common stock would likely decrease.

We Face Potential Product Liability Claims

We may be exposed to legal claims relating to the products we sell or the services we provide. Our agreements with our customers generally contain terms designed to limit our exposure to potential product liability claims. We also maintain a product liability insurance policy for our business. However, our insurance may not cover all relevant claims or may not provide sufficient coverage. To date, we have not experienced any material product liability claims. If our insurance coverage does not cover all costs resulting from future product liability claims, it could materially harm our business and impair the value of our common stock.

We Face Risks from the Uncertainty of Prevailing Economic Conditions

Current domestic and global economic conditions and economies are extremely uncertain. As a result, it is difficult to estimate the level of expansion, if any, for the economy. Even more difficult is estimating the growth in various parts of the economy, including the markets in which we participate. Because parts of our budgeting and forecasting are reliant on estimates of growth in the markets we serve, the current economic uncertainty renders estimates of future income and expenditures even more difficult than usual to formulate. The future direction of the overall domestic and global economies may have a significant impact on our overall financial performance and impair the value of our common stock.

Our Executive Officers and Directors Own a Large Percentage of Our Common Stock and Exert Significant Influence Over Matters Requiring Stockholder Approval

As of January 8, 2002, our executive officers and directors and their affiliates beneficially owned an aggregate of approximately 22% of our common stock. Accordingly, these stockholders may be able to significantly influence the board of directors and the outcome of corporate actions requiring stockholder approval, such as mergers and acquisitions. These stockholders may exercise this ability in a manner that advances their best interests and not necessarily those of other stockholders. This ownership interest could also have the effect of delaying or preventing a

change in control.

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We Have Implemented Anti-Takeover Provisions That Could Prevent an Acquisition of Our Business at a Premium Price

Some of the provisions of our certificate of incorporation and bylaws could discourage, delay or prevent an acquisition of our business at a premium price. These provisions:

permit the board of directors to increase its own size and fill the resulting vacancies,

provide for a board comprised of three classes of directors with each class serving a staggered three-year term,

authorize the issuance of preferred stock in one or more series, and

prohibit stockholder action by written consent.

In addition, Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law also imposes restrictions on mergers and other business combinations between us and any holder of 15% or more of our common stock.

Risks Related to Our Common Stock

Future Sales of Our Common Stock in the Public Market Could Lower the Stock Price

We may, in the future, sell additional shares of common stock in subsequent public offerings. We may also issue additional shares of common stock to finance future acquisitions, including acquisitions larger than those we have done in the past through the use of equity. Additionally, a substantial number of shares of our common stock is available for future sale pursuant to stock options and warrants. We cannot predict the size of future issuances of our common stock or the effect, if any, that future sales and issuances of shares of our common stock will have on the market price of our common stock. Sales of substantial amounts of our common stock (including shares issued upon the exercise of stock options and warrants or in connection with acquisition financing), or the perception that such sales could occur, may adversely affect prevailing market prices for our common stock.

In addition, after expiration of a 90-day lock-up period to which we, our directors and executive officers are subject, these holders and us will be entitled to dispose of our shares, although the shares of common stock held by our affiliates will continue to be subject to the volume and other restrictions of Rule 144 under the Securities Act.

We are also required to file by April 4, 2002 a registration statement in respect of approximately 452,000 shares of our common stock owned by some of our stockholders. By selling a large number of shares, these stockholders may cause the price of our common stock to decline.

We Expect Our Stock Price to Be Volatile

The market price of our common stock has been volatile in the past. For example, since January 1, 2001, the market price of our common stock has ranged from \$9.37 to \$23.88. Trading prices may continue to fluctuate in response to a number of events and factors, including the following:

quarterly variations in operating results and announcements of innovations,

new products, services and strategic developments by us or our competitors,

developments in our relationships with our customers, distributors and suppliers,

regulatory developments,

changes in our revenues, expense levels or profitability,

changes in financial estimates and recommendations by securities analysts,

failure to meet the expectations of securities analysts,

changes in the wireless communications industry, and

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changes in the economy.

Any of these events may cause the market price of our common stock to fall. In addition, the stock market in general and the market prices for technology companies in particular have experienced significant volatility that often has been unrelated to the operating performance of these companies. These broad market and industry fluctuations may adversely affect the market price of our common stock, regardless of our operating performance.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus contain and incorporate by reference forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. You can identify these forward-looking statements by forward-looking words such as believe, may, could, will, estimate, continue, anticipate, intend, see, should, would and similar expressions in this prospectus. These forward-looking statements are subject to a number of risks, uncertainties and assumptions about us, including, among other things:

the ability to successfully grow our commercial business, while maintaining our significant government business,

the ability to successfully develop, introduce and sell new satellite and other wireless communications products,

the ability to successfully develop technologies according to anticipated schedules that meet performance expectations,

the ability to successfully integrate strategic acquisitions,

changes in product supply, pricing and customer demand,

changes in relationships with key suppliers, and

increased competition and other factors affecting the telecommunications market generally.

We have described other risks concerning us under the caption "Risk Factors" of this prospectus supplement. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. In light of these risks and uncertainties, the forward-looking events and circumstances discussed in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus may not occur and actual results could differ materially from those anticipated or implied in the forward-looking statements.

USE OF PROCEEDS

We estimate that the net proceeds from the sale of our common stock in this offering will be approximately \$27.1 million, or \$31.2 million if the underwriter exercises its over-allotment option in full, after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and our estimated offering expenses. We will use the net proceeds from the sale of the common stock offered hereby for general corporate purposes, which may include funding research, increasing our working capital, reducing indebtedness, acquisitions or investments in businesses, products or technologies that are complementary to our own, and capital expenditures. We currently have no agreements with respect to any acquisitions as of the date of this prospectus supplement. Pending the application of the net proceeds, we expect to invest the proceeds in investment-grade, interest-bearing securities.

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We and the underwriter, SG Cowen Securities Corporation, have entered into an underwriting agreement with respect to the shares being offered. Subject to the terms and conditions of the underwriting agreement, the underwriter has agreed to purchase 2,000,000 shares of our common stock at the public offering price less the underwriting discounts and commissions set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement.

The underwriting agreement provides that the obligations of the underwriter are conditional and may be terminated at its discretion based on its assessment of the state of the financial markets. The obligations of the underwriter may also be terminated upon the occurrence of other events specified in the underwriting agreement. The underwriter is committed to purchase all of the common stock being offered by us if any shares are purchased.

The underwriter proposes to offer the common stock directly to the public at the public offering price set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement, which is only being delivered in printed form. The underwriter may offer the common stock to securities dealers at that price less a concession not in excess of \$0.46 per share. Securities dealers may reallow a concession not in excess of \$0.10 per share to other dealers. After the shares of common stock are released for sale to the public, the underwriter may vary the offering price and other selling terms from time to time.

We have granted to the underwriter an option to purchase up to 300,000 additional shares of common stock at the public offering price set forth on the cover of this prospectus supplement to cover over-allotments, if any. The option is exercisable for a period of 30 days.

The following table shows the per share and total public offering price, the underwriting discount to be paid by us to the underwriter and the proceeds from the sale of the shares to the underwriter before our expenses. This information is presented assuming either no exercise or full exercise by the underwriter of the over-allotment option.

	<u>Per Share</u>	<u>Without Option</u>	<u>With Option</u>
Public offering price	\$ 14.500	\$ 29,000,000	\$ 33,350,000
Underwriting discount	\$ 0.775	\$ 1,550,000	\$ 1,782,500
Proceeds, before expenses, to ViaSat	\$ 13.725	\$ 27,450,000	\$ 31,567,500

We have agreed to indemnify the underwriter against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, and to contribute to payments that the underwriter may be required to make with respect to these liabilities.

We, and our directors and executive officers, have agreed with the underwriter that for a period of 90 days following the date of this prospectus supplement, without the prior written consent of SG Cowen Securities Corporation, we, and our directors and executive officers, will not dispose of any shares of our common stock or any securities convertible into or exchangeable for our common stock. The underwriter may, in its sole discretion, at any time without prior notice, release all or any portion of the shares from these restrictions. Notwithstanding the foregoing, during the 90-day period (1) we are permitted to issue shares of our capital stock upon exercise of stock options granted under our stock option plans and upon exercise of currently outstanding warrants, (2) we are permitted to offer and issue up to 1,250,000 shares of our common stock in connection with the acquisition of unaffiliated entities or assets or businesses of unaffiliated entities provided that each person to whom securities are so issued shall agree to be bound by a similar lock-up arrangement for the remainder of the 90-day period, and (3) our directors and executive officers as a group are permitted to dispose of up to an aggregate of 50,000 shares of our common stock.

The underwriter may engage in over-allotment, stabilizing transactions and passive market making in accordance with Regulation M under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Over-allotment involves syndicate sales in excess of the offering size, which creates a syndicate short position. Covered short sales are sales made in an amount not greater than the number of shares available for purchase by the underwriter under the over-allotment option. The underwriter may close out a covered short sale by exercising its over-allotment option or

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purchasing shares in the open market. Naked short sales are sales made in an amount in excess of the number of shares available under the over-allotment option. The underwriter must close out any naked short sale by purchasing shares in the open market. Stabilizing transactions permit bids to purchase the underlying security so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum. In passive market making, market makers in the common stock who are underwriters or prospective underwriters may, subject to certain limitations, make bids for or purchases of the common stock until the time, if any, at which a stabilizing bid is made. These over-allotments and stabilizing transactions may cause the price of the common stock to be higher than it would otherwise be in the absence of these transactions. These transactions may be effected on the Nasdaq National Market or otherwise and, if commenced, may be discontinued at any time.

We estimate that our out-of-pocket expenses for this offering, exclusive of underwriting discounts and commissions, will be approximately \$350,000.

LEGAL MATTERS

Certain legal matters with respect to the common stock offered hereby will be passed upon for us by Latham & Watkins, San Diego, California. Certain legal matters with respect to the common stock offered hereby will be passed upon for SG Cowen Securities Corporation by Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison, New York, New York.

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PROSPECTUS

\$75,000,000

Debt Securities

**Preferred Stock
Depositary Shares
Common Stock
Warrants**

We may offer and sell from time to time in one or more classes or series and in amounts, at prices and on the terms that we will determine at the time of offering, with an aggregate initial offering price of up to \$75,000,000:

debt securities, which may consist of debentures, notes or other types of debt;

shares of preferred stock;

shares of preferred stock represented by depositary shares;

shares of common stock; and

warrants to purchase debt securities, preferred stock or common stock.

We will provide the specific terms of these securities in supplements to this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and any supplement carefully before you invest.

Our common stock is listed on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol VSAT.

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.

We will sell these securities directly to our stockholders or to purchasers or through agents on our behalf or through underwriters or dealers as designated from time to time. If any agents or underwriters are involved in the sale of any of these securities, the applicable prospectus supplement will provide the names of the agents or underwriters and any applicable fees, commissions or discounts.

The date of this prospectus is November 27, 2001

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You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. We have not authorized any other person to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are not making an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should assume that the information appearing in this prospectus is accurate as of the date on the front cover of this prospectus only. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have subsequently changed.

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Whenever we refer to ViaSat, we, our or us in this prospectus, we mean ViaSat, Inc. and its consolidated subsidiaries, unless the context suggests otherwise. When we refer to you or yours, we mean the holders of the applicable series of securities.

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ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission using a shelf registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we may sell any combination of the securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings up to a total dollar amount of \$75,000,000. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we offer to sell securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. To the extent that any statement that we make in a prospectus supplement is inconsistent with statements made in this prospectus, the statements made in this prospectus will be deemed modified or superseded by those made in a prospectus supplement. You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with additional information described under the next heading, *Where You Can Find More Information*.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

ViaSat is subject to the informational requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and files annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any reports, proxy statements and other information we file at the SEC's public reference room at 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference room. You may also access filed documents at the SEC's web site at www.sec.gov.

We are incorporating by reference some information about us that we file with the SEC. We are disclosing important information to you by referencing those filed documents. Any information that we reference this way is considered part of this prospectus. The information in this prospectus supersedes information incorporated by reference that we have filed with the SEC prior to the date of this prospectus, while information that we file with the SEC after the date of this prospectus that is incorporated by reference will automatically update and supersede this information.

We incorporate by reference the following documents we have filed, or may file, with the SEC:

Our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2001 filed with the SEC on June 29, 2001 and Amendment No. 1 thereto filed on Form 10-K/A with the SEC on October 12, 2001;

Our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended June 30, 2001 filed with the SEC on August 14, 2001 and Amendment No. 1 thereto filed on Form 10-Q/A with the SEC on October 12, 2001;

Our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended September 30, 2001 filed with the SEC on November 14, 2001;

The description of our common stock contained in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed with the SEC on November 20, 1996; and

All documents filed by us with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 after the date of this prospectus and before termination of this offering.

You may request a free copy of any of the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus by writing or telephoning us at the following address:

ViaSat, Inc.

6155 El Camino Real
Carlsbad, California 92009
(760) 476-2200

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FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus contains and incorporates by reference forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. You can identify these forward-looking statements by forward-looking words such as believe, may, could, will, estimate, continue, anticipate, intend, seek, plan, expect, should, would and similar prospectus. These forward-looking statements are subject to a number of risks, uncertainties and assumptions about ViaSat, including, among other things:

the ability to successfully grow our commercial business, while maintaining our significant government business;

the ability to successfully develop, introduce and sell new satellite and other wireless communications products;

the ability to successfully develop technologies according to anticipated schedules that meet performance expectations;

the ability to successfully integrate strategic acquisitions;

changes in product supply, pricing and customer demand;

changes in relationships with key suppliers; and

increased competition and other factors affecting the telecommunications market generally.

The factors identified above are believed to be some, but not all, of the important factors that could cause actual events and results to be significantly different from those that may be expressed or implied in any forward-looking statements. Any forward-looking statements should also be considered in light of the risk factors detailed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

VIASAT

We are a leading provider of advanced broadband digital satellite communications and other wireless networking and signal processing equipment and services to the defense and commercial markets. Based on our extensive experience in complex defense communications systems, we have developed the capability to design and implement innovative communications solutions which enhance bandwidth utilization by applying our sophisticated networking and digital signal processing techniques. To date, we have achieved 15 consecutive years of revenue growth and 14 consecutive years of profitability. Our goal is to leverage our advanced technology and capabilities to capture a significant share of the global satellite communications services and equipment segment of the high-growth broadband communications market for both government and commercial customers.

Our internal growth to date has historically been driven largely by our success in meeting the need for advanced communications products for the U.S. military. By developing cost-effective communications products incorporating our advanced technologies we have continued to grow the markets for our defense products and services in an environment of shrinking defense budgets. Our current defense products include our advanced multifunction information distribution system, or MIDS, product line, our simulation and test equipment which allows the testing of sophisticated airborne radio equipment without expensive flight exercises, and our UHF DAMA satellite communications products consisting of modems, terminals and network control systems. The MIDS terminal operates as part of the Link-16 line-of-sight tactical radio system that enables real time data networking among ground and airborne military users providing an electronic overview of the battlefield for each terminal user. We were recently selected by the U.S. government as a new Link-16 terminal contractor and one of only three current U.S. government certified manufacturers of Link-16 MIDS terminals. The defense market continues to be a critical and core element of our overall business strategy.

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We have been increasing our focus in recent years on offering satellite based communications products to address commercial market needs, including through the recent acquisition of two other strategic satellite communication equipment providers. Our commercial business has grown from approximately 24% of our revenues in fiscal year 2000 to approximately 62% of our revenues in fiscal year 2001. To date, our principal commercial offerings include Very Small Aperture Terminals (VSATs), network control systems, network integration services, network operation services, gateway infrastructure, antenna systems and other satellite ground stations.

We were incorporated in California in 1986 and reincorporated in Delaware in 1996. Our principal executive offices are located at 6155 El Camino Real, Carlsbad, California 92009 and our telephone number is (760) 476-2200.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

Our ratios of earnings to fixed charges are as follows for the periods indicated:

	Year Ended March 31,					Six Months Ended
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	September 30, 2001
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges	10.34	14.99	15.18	16.28	11.21	8.14

Fixed charges consist of interest expense, including capitalized interest, amortized premiums, discounts and capitalized expenses related to indebtedness and estimated interest included in rental expense.

For the periods indicated above, we had no outstanding shares of preferred stock with required dividend payments. Therefore, the ratios of earnings to fixed charges and preferred stock dividends are identical to the ratios presented in the table above.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless otherwise indicated in the prospectus supplement, we intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of the securities under this prospectus for general corporate purposes, including acquisitions, capital expenditures, working capital and repayment or refinancing of our debts. When a particular series of securities is offered, the prospectus supplement relating thereto will set forth our intended use for the net proceeds we receive from the sale of the securities. Pending the application of the net proceeds, we expect to invest the proceeds in short-term, interest-bearing instruments or other investment-grade securities.

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DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

This prospectus describes the general terms and provisions of our debt securities. When we offer to sell a particular series of debt securities, we will describe the specific terms of the series in a supplement to this prospectus. Accordingly, for a description of the terms of any series of debt securities, you must refer to both the prospectus supplement relating to that series and the description of the debt securities in this prospectus. To the extent the information contained in the prospectus supplement differs from this summary description, you should rely on the information in the prospectus supplement.

The debt securities offered by this prospectus will be issued under an indenture between us and the trustee for one or more series of debt securities designated in the applicable prospectus supplement or supplements. The indenture is subject to, and governed by, the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended. We have incorporated by reference the form of indenture as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part and you should read the indenture carefully for the provisions that may be important to you. We have summarized select portions of the indenture below. The summary is not complete. Terms used in the summary below and not defined in this prospectus have the meanings specified in the indenture.

General

The debt securities will be our direct obligations, which may be secured or unsecured, and which may be senior or subordinated indebtedness. We may issue an unlimited amount of debt securities, in one or more series, under the indenture. The terms of each series of debt securities will be established by our board of directors or in a supplemental indenture. We do not have to issue all debt securities of one series at the same time and, unless described differently in a prospectus supplement, we may reopen a series, without the consent of the holders of the debt securities of that series, for issuances of additional debt securities of that series.

There may be more than one trustee under the indenture, each relating to one or more series of debt securities. Any trustee may resign or be removed by us at which time we will appoint a successor trustee. Each trustee will be a trustee of a trust under the indenture separate and apart from the trust administered by any other trustee under the indenture. Except as indicated elsewhere in this prospectus, any action taken by the trustee may be taken by the trustee only relating to the series of debt securities for which it is the trustee.

We will provide in a prospectus supplement, including any pricing supplement, relating to any series of debt securities being offered, the aggregate principal amount and the following terms of the debt securities:

the title of the debt securities;

the aggregate principal amount of the debt securities and any limit on the aggregate principal amount of the debt securities;

whether we will issue the debt securities at a discount and the portion of the principal amount of the debt securities payable upon declaration of acceleration of the maturity of the securities or upon redemption, if other than the principal amount, and the rate at which the original issue discount will accrue;

the date on which we will pay the principal on the debt securities;

the rate, which may be fixed or variable, or the method used to determine the rate at which the debt securities will bear interest;

the date from which interest will accrue, the date on which interest will be payable and any regular record date for the interest payable on any interest payment date;

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the place where we will pay, or the method of payment of, principal, premium and interest on the debt securities and where holders may surrender the debt securities for conversion, registration of transfer or exchange;

any obligation we have to redeem or purchase the debt securities under any sinking fund or similar provisions or at the option of a holder of debt securities;

our right to redeem the debt securities and the date on which, the price at which and the terms and conditions upon which we may redeem the debt securities;

the denominations in which we will issue the debt securities, if other than denominations of \$1,000 and any multiples of \$1,000;

provisions, if any, for the defeasance or discharge of our obligations relating to the debt securities;

whether we will issue the debt securities in registered or bearer form;

the currency in which we will pay principal, premium and interest on the debt securities;

if we will pay principal, premium or interest on the debt securities in one or more currencies other than those in which the debt securities are denominated, the manner in which we will determine the exchange rate on the payments;

the manner in which we will determine the amounts of payment of principal, premium or interest on the debt securities if these amounts may be determined by reference to an index based on a currency other than that in which the debt securities are denominated or designated or by reference to a commodity, commodity index, stock exchange index or financial index;

any addition to, or change or deletion of, any events of default or covenants in the indenture;

a discussion of any material or special United States federal income tax considerations applicable to the debt securities;

any depositaries, trustees, interest rate calculation agents, exchange rate calculation agents or other agents relating to the debt securities other than those originally appointed;

whether we will issue the debt securities in the form of global securities and whether we will issue the global securities in temporary or permanent global form;

any rights of the holders of the debt securities to convert the debt securities into other securities or property and the terms and conditions of the conversion;

any subordination provisions relating to the debt securities;

any listing of the debt securities on a securities exchange;

any provisions relating to any security provided for by the debt securities; and

any other terms of the debt securities that will not be inconsistent with the indenture.

We may issue debt securities at a discount below their stated principal amount. Even if we do not issue the debt securities below their stated principal amount, for United States federal income tax purposes the debt securities may be deemed to have been issued with a discount because of interest payment characteristics. We will describe in a prospectus supplement the United States federal income tax considerations applicable to debt securities issued at a discount or deemed to be issued at a discount. We will also describe in a prospectus supplement the special United States federal income tax considerations or other restrictions or terms applicable to debt securities issuable in bearer form, offered exclusively to foreigners or denominated in a foreign currency.

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Denominations, Registration, Transfer and Exchange

Unless we specify otherwise in the prospectus supplement, the debt securities of any series will be issuable only in denominations of \$1,000 and multiples of \$1,000, and will be payable only in U.S. dollars.

We may issue the debt securities in whole or in part in the form of one or more global securities that will be deposited with, or on behalf of, a depository identified in the applicable prospectus supplement. We may issue the global securities in either registered or bearer form and in either temporary or permanent form. We will describe the specific terms of the depository arrangement relating to a series of debt securities in the prospectus supplement.

You may transfer or exchange certificated debt securities at any office we maintain for this purpose in accordance with the terms of the indenture. We will not charge a service fee for any transfer or exchange of certificated debt securities, but we may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge we are required to pay in connection with a transfer or exchange.

You may effect the transfer of certificated debt securities and the right to receive the principal, premium and interest on certificated debt securities only by surrendering the certificate representing those certificated debt securities and either reissuance by us or the trustee of the certificate to the new holder or the issuance by us or the trustee of a new certificate to the new holder.

We are not required to:

register, transfer or exchange debt securities of any series during a period beginning at the opening of 15 business days before the day we transmit a notice of redemption of debt securities of the series selected for redemption and ending at the close of business on the day of the transmission; or

to register, transfer or exchange any debt security so selected for redemption in whole or in part, except the unredeemed portion of any debt security being redeemed in part.

Covenants

We will describe in the prospectus supplement any restrictive covenants applicable to an issue of debt securities.

Consolidation, Merger or Sale of Assets

We may not consolidate or merge with or into, or sell, assign, convey or transfer our properties and assets substantially in their entirety to another corporation, person or entity unless:

in the case of a consolidation or merger, (1) we are the surviving corporation, or (2) the successor corporation is an entity organized and validly existing under the laws of the United States, any state of the United States or the District of Columbia and expressly assumes our obligations under the debt securities and the indenture; and

immediately after giving effect to the transaction, no event of default exists.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, any of our subsidiaries may consolidate with, merge into or transfer all or part of its properties and assets to us.

Events of Default

Each of the following is an event of default relating to a series of debt securities:

default in the payment of any interest upon any debt security of that series when it becomes due and payable, and continuance of that default for a period of 30 days;

default in the payment of principal of or premium on any debt security of that series when due and payable;

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default in the deposit of any sinking fund payment, when and as due relating to any debt security of that series;

default in the performance or breach by us of any other covenant or warranty in the indenture, other than a covenant or warranty that has been included in the indenture solely for the benefit of a series of debt securities other than that series, which default continues uncured for a period of 60 days after we receive written notice from the trustee or we and the trustee receive written notice from the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series as provided in the indenture;

the acceleration of the maturity date of any of our indebtedness, other than non-recourse indebtedness, at any one time, in an amount exceeding the greater of (1) \$25 million or (2) 5% of our consolidated net tangible assets, if the acceleration is not cancelled within 30 days;

events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization; and

any other event of default provided relating to debt securities of that series that is described in the applicable prospectus supplement accompanying this prospectus.

Non-recourse indebtedness means indebtedness for which the terms provide that the lender's claim for repayment of the indebtedness is limited solely to a claim against the property that secures the indebtedness.

Consolidated net tangible assets means the total amount of assets, including investments in joint ventures, of a company and its subsidiaries, if any, less applicable depreciation, amortization and other valuation reserves after deducting:

all current liabilities, excluding (1) the current portion of long-term indebtedness, (2) intercompany liabilities and (3) any liabilities that are by their terms renewable or extendible at the option of the obligor to a time more than 12 months from the time as of which the amount is being computed; and

all goodwill, trade names, trademarks, patents, unamortized debt discount and any other similar intangibles, all as provided on the most recent consolidated balance sheet of the company and computed in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

If an event of default relating to outstanding debt securities of any series occurs and is continuing, then the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of outstanding debt securities of that series may declare, in a written notice, the principal amount, or specified amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest and premium, if payable on all debt securities of that series to be immediately due and payable. At any time after a declaration of acceleration relating to debt securities of any series has been made, the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series may rescind and cancel the acceleration if:

the holders act before the trustee has obtained a judgment or decree for payment of the money due;

we have paid or deposited with the trustee a sum sufficient to pay overdue interest and overdue principal other than the accelerated interest and principal; and

we have cured or the holders have waived all events of default, other than the non-payment of accelerated principal and interest relating to debt securities of that series, as provided in the indenture.

We refer you to the prospectus supplement relating to any series of debt securities that are discount securities for the particular provisions relating to acceleration of a portion of the principal amount of the discount securities upon the occurrence of an event of default.

The trustee has no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers under the indenture at the request of any holder of outstanding debt securities, unless the trustee receives indemnity satisfactory to it against

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any loss, liability or expense. Subject to rights of the trustee, the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series will have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee or exercising any trust or power conferred on the trustee relating to the debt securities of that series.

No holder of any debt security of any series will have any right to institute any judicial or other proceeding relating to the indenture or for the appointment of a receiver or trustee, or for any remedy under the indenture, unless:

that holder has previously given the trustee written notice of a continuing event of default relating to debt securities of that series; and

the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of outstanding debt securities of that series have made a written request, and offered reasonable indemnity, to the trustee to institute the proceeding as trustee, and the trustee has not received from the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series a direction inconsistent with that request and has failed to institute the proceeding within 60 days.

The holder of any debt security will have an absolute and unconditional right to receive payment of the principal, premium and any interest on that debt security on or after the due dates expressed in that debt security and to institute suit for the enforcement of payment.

Within 120 days after the end of our fiscal year we will furnish to the trustee a statement as to compliance with the indenture. The trustee may withhold notice to the holders of debt securities of any series of any default or event of default, except in payment on any debt securities of that series, relating to debt securities of that series if it in good faith determines that withholding notice is in the interest of the holders of those debt securities.

Modification and Waiver

We may modify the indenture, without prior notice to or consent of any holders, for any of the following purposes:

to evidence the succession of another corporation to our rights and the assumption by the successor of our covenants and obligations in the indenture and the debt securities;

to add to the covenants for the benefit of the holders of the debt securities or to surrender any right or power conferred upon us in the indenture;

to add any events of default;

to add or change any provision of the indenture to permit or facilitate the issuance of debt securities of any series in bearer form, to permit bearer securities to be issued in exchange for registered securities, to permit bearer securities to be issued in exchange for bearer securities of other denominations or to permit the issuance of debt securities of any series in uncertificated form, provided that the action will not adversely affect the interests of the holders of debt securities or coupons in any material respect;

to change or eliminate any provision of the indenture, provided that the change or elimination will become effective only when there is no outstanding debt security issued under the indenture or coupon of any series created prior to the modification which is entitled to the benefit of the provision and as to which the modification would apply;

to secure the debt securities or to provide that any of our obligations under the debt securities or the indenture will be guaranteed and the terms and conditions for the release or substitution of the security or guarantee;

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to supplement any provisions of the indenture to permit or facilitate the defeasance and discharge of any series of debt securities, provided that the action will not adversely affect the interests of the holders of the debt securities or coupons in any material respect;

to establish the form or terms of debt securities and coupons as permitted by the indenture;

to evidence and provide for a successor or other trustee relating to one or more series of debt securities and to add or change any provision of the indenture to provide for or facilitate the administration of the trusts by more than one trustee; or

to cure any ambiguity, to correct or supplement any provision of the indenture that may be defective or inconsistent with any other provision of the indenture, to eliminate any conflict between the terms of the indenture and the debt securities and the Trust Indenture Act or to make any other provisions which will not be inconsistent with any provision of the indenture; provided, however, that these other provisions will not adversely affect the interest of the holders of outstanding debt securities or coupons in any material respect.

We may modify and amend the indenture with the written consent of at least a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of each series affected by the modifications or amendments. However, these modifications may not, without the consent of the holder of each outstanding debt security of each series affected:

change the stated maturity of any debt security or coupon;

reduce the principal amount of any payment to be made on any debt security or coupon;

reduce the rate of interest or extend the time for payment of interest or premium payable upon redemption of any debt security;

change the coin or currency in which any debt security or any premium or interest is payable;

reduce the amount of the principal of a discount security that would be due and payable upon a declaration of acceleration of the maturity;

impair the right to institute suit for the enforcement of any payment on or after the due date of the payment;

alter any redemption provisions in a manner adverse to the holders of the debt securities;

reduce the percentage in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities;

adversely affect the right of any holder to convert any debt security;

modify any of the waiver provisions, except to increase any required percentage or to provide that other provisions of the indenture cannot be modified or waived without the consent of the holder of each affected outstanding debt security; or

modify any provision described in the applicable prospectus supplement as requiring the consent of each affected holder of debt securities.

A modification that changes or eliminates any covenant or other provision of the indenture relating to one or more particular series of debt securities and coupons, or that modifies the rights of the holder of debt securities and coupons of that series, will be deemed not to affect the rights of the holders of debt securities and coupons of any other series.

The holders of at least a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series, by notice to the trustee, may on behalf of the holders of all debt securities of that series waive any default and its consequences under the indenture, except:

a continuing default in the payment of interest on, premium or the principal amount of any debt security held by a non-consenting holder;
or

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a default of a covenant or provision that cannot be modified or amended without the consent of the holder of each outstanding debt security of each series affected.

Defeasance of Debt Securities and Covenants in Circumstances

Legal Defeasance. We may be discharged from any and all obligations relating to the debt securities of any series except for obligations:

to pay additional amounts, if any, upon the occurrence of specified tax, assessment or government charge events relating to payments on the debt securities;

to register the transfer or exchange of debt securities;

to replace stolen, lost or mutilated debt securities;

to maintain paying agencies; and

to hold money in payment for trust.

We will be discharged upon our deposit with the trustee, in trust, of money or government obligations that will provide money in an amount sufficient, in the opinion of a nationally recognized firm of independent public accountants, to pay and discharge each installment of principal, premium and interest on and any mandatory sinking fund payments relating to the debt securities of that series on the stated maturity of those payments.

We may be discharged only if we have delivered to the trustee an opinion of counsel stating that we have received from, or there has been published by, the United States Internal Revenue Service a ruling or, since the date of execution of the indenture, there has been a change in the applicable United States federal income tax law, in either case to the effect that the holders of the debt securities of that series will not recognize income, gain or loss for United States federal income tax purposes as a result of the deposit, defeasance and discharge.

Defeasance of Covenants. Upon compliance with specified conditions, we will not be required to comply with some restrictive covenants contained in the indenture and any omission to comply with the obligations will not constitute a default or event of default relating to the debt securities. These conditions include:

depositing with the trustee money or government obligations that, through the payment of interest and principal in accordance with their terms, will provide money in an amount sufficient in the opinion of a nationally recognized firm of independent public accountants to pay principal, premium and interest on and any mandatory sinking fund payments relating to the debt securities of that series on the date those payments are due; and

delivering to the trustee a United States Internal Revenue Service ruling or an opinion of counsel to the effect that the holders of the debt securities of the series will not recognize income, gain or loss for United States federal income tax purposes as a result of the deposit and related covenant defeasance.

Limited Liability of Some Persons

No past, present or future stockholder, incorporator, employee, officer or director of ViaSat or any successor corporation or any of our affiliates will have any personal liability for our obligations under the indenture or the debt securities because of his, her or its status as a stockholder, incorporator, employee, officer or director.

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Conversion Rights

We will describe in the applicable prospectus supplement the terms and conditions, if any, upon which the debt securities are convertible into common stock or preferred stock. Those terms will include:

- whether the debt securities are convertible into common stock or preferred stock;
- the conversion price, or manner of calculation;
- the conversion period;
- provisions regarding whether conversion will be at our option or the option of the holders;
- the events requiring an adjustment of the conversion price; and
- provisions affecting conversion in the event of the redemption of the debt securities.

Payment and Paying Agents

The indenture will require us to duly and punctually pay the principal, premium and interest on the debt securities as provided in the debt securities and the indenture.

If debt securities of a series are issuable only as registered securities, we will maintain in each place of payment for that series an office or agency where:

- holders may present or surrender for payment debt securities of that series;
- holders may surrender debt securities of that series for registration of transfer or exchange; and
- we may be served with notices and demands regarding the debt securities of that series.

If debt securities of a series are issuable as bearer securities, we will maintain or cause to be maintained:

- in the Borough of Manhattan, the City and State of New York, an office or agency (i) where holders may (1) present or surrender for payment any registered securities of that series, (2) surrender for registration or transfer any registered securities of that series, (3) surrender debt securities of that series for exchange or redemption and (4) present or surrender for payment bearer securities of that series and related coupons in the circumstances described in the following paragraph and not otherwise, and (ii) where we may be served with notices and demands regarding the debt securities of that series;

subject to any applicable laws or registration, in a place of payment for that series that is located outside the United States, an office or agency where holders may present and surrender for payment debt securities of that series and related coupons; provided that if the debt securities of that series are listed on The Stock Exchange of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland, the Luxembourg Stock Exchange or any other stock exchange located outside the United States and the stock exchange so requires, we will maintain a paying agent for the debt securities of that series in London, Luxembourg or any other required city located outside the United States, so long as the debt securities of that series are listed on that exchange; and

subject to any applicable laws or regulations, in a place of payment for that series located outside the United States, an office or agency where holders may surrender any registered securities of that series for registration of transfer or surrender for exchange or redemption debt securities of that series and where we may receive notices and demands regarding the debt securities of that series.

We will give prompt written notice to the applicable trustee of the locations, and any change in the locations, of offices or agencies. If at any time we fail to maintain any required office or agency or fail to furnish the applicable trustee with the address, holders may make or serve the presentations, surrenders, notices and demands at the corporate trust office of the applicable trustee, except that holders may present

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and surrender bearer securities of that series and the related coupons for payment at the offices specified in the applicable debt security. We will appoint the applicable trustee as our agent to receive the foregoing presentations, surrenders, notices and demands. However, in the case of bearer securities, we may appoint another agent as may be specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

We will make no payment of principal, premium or interest on bearer securities at any of our offices or agencies in the United States or by check mailed to any address in the United States or by transfer to an account maintained with a bank located in the United States. However, if the debt securities of a series are denominated and payable in U.S. dollars, we will pay principal and any premium and interest on the debt securities of that series, if specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, at the office of our paying agent in the Borough of Manhattan, the City and State of New York, only if payment in U.S. dollars of the full amount of the principal, premium, interest or additional amounts, as the case may be, at all offices or agencies outside the United States maintained for the purpose by us in accordance with the indenture is illegal or effectively precluded by exchange controls or other similar restrictions.

Governing Law

The indenture and the related debt securities will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York.

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

General

This prospectus describes the general terms of our capital stock. For a more detailed description of these securities, you should read the applicable provisions of Delaware law and our certificate of incorporation and bylaws. When we offer to sell a particular series of these securities, we will describe the specific terms of the series in a supplement to this prospectus. Accordingly, for a description of the terms of any series of securities, you must refer to both the prospectus supplement relating to that series and the description of the securities described in this prospectus. To the extent the information contained in the prospectus supplement differs from this summary description, you should rely on the information in the prospectus supplement.

Under our certificate of incorporation, the total number of shares of all classes of stock that we have authority to issue is 105,000,000, consisting of 5,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$0.0001 per share, and 100,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share.

Common Stock

As of November 23, 2001, we had 22,625,067 shares of common stock outstanding. The holders of our common stock are entitled to one vote for each share on all matters voted on by stockholders. The holders of our common stock do not have cumulative voting rights, which means that holders of more than one-half of the shares voting for the election of directors can elect all of the directors then being elected. Subject to the preferences of any of our outstanding preferred stock, the holders of our common stock are entitled to a proportional distribution of any dividends that may be declared by the board of directors. In the event of a liquidation or dissolution of ViaSat, the holders of our common stock are entitled to share equally in all assets remaining after payment of liabilities and any payments due to holders of any outstanding shares of our preferred stock. The outstanding shares of our common stock are, and the shares offered by this prospectus, when issued, will be fully paid and nonassessable. The rights, preferences and privileges of holders of our common stock are subject to, and may be adversely affected by, the rights of the holders of shares of any of our outstanding preferred stock.

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Preferred Stock

We currently have no outstanding shares of preferred stock. Under our certificate of incorporation, our board of directors is authorized to issue shares of our preferred stock from time to time, in one or more classes or series, without stockholder approval. Prior to the issuance of shares of each series, the board of directors is required by the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, known as the DGCL, and our certificate of incorporation to adopt resolutions and file a certificate of designation with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware. The certificate of designation fixes for each class or series the designations, powers, preferences, rights, qualifications, limitations and restrictions, including the following:

the number of shares constituting each class or series;

voting rights;

rights and terms of redemption, including sinking fund provisions;

dividend rights and rates;

dissolution;

terms concerning the distribution of assets;

conversion or exchange terms;

redemption prices; and

liquidation preferences.

All shares of preferred stock offered by this prospectus will, when issued, be fully paid and nonassessable and will not have any preemptive or similar rights. Our board of directors could authorize the issuance of additional shares of preferred stock with terms and conditions that could have the effect of discouraging a takeover or other transaction that might involve a premium price for holders of the shares or that holders might believe to be in their best interests.

We will describe in a prospectus supplement relating to the class or series of preferred stock being offered the following terms:

the title and stated value of the preferred stock;

the number of shares of the preferred stock offered, the liquidation preference per share and the offering price of the preferred stock;

the dividend rate(s), period(s) or payment date(s) or method(s) of calculation applicable to the preferred stock;

whether dividends are cumulative or non-cumulative and, if cumulative, the date from which dividends on the preferred stock will accumulate;

the procedures for any auction and remarketing, if any, for the preferred stock;

the provisions for a sinking fund, if any, for the preferred stock;

the provision for redemption, if applicable, of the preferred stock;

any listing of the preferred stock on any securities exchange;

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the terms and conditions, if applicable, upon which the preferred stock will be convertible into common stock, including the conversion price or manner of calculation and conversion period;

voting rights, if any, of the preferred stock;

whether interests in the preferred stock will be represented by depositary shares;

a discussion of any material or special United States federal income tax considerations applicable to the preferred stock;

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the relative ranking and preferences of the preferred stock as to dividend rights and rights upon the liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our affairs;

any limitations on issuance of any class or series of preferred stock ranking senior to or on a parity with the class or series of preferred stock as to dividend rights and rights upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our affairs; and

any other specific terms, preferences, rights, limitations or restrictions of the preferred stock.

Unless we specify otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, the preferred stock will rank, relating to dividends and upon our liquidation, dissolution or winding up:

senior to all classes or series of our common stock and to all of our equity securities ranking junior to the preferred stock;

on a parity with all of our equity securities the terms of which specifically provide that the equity securities rank on a parity with the preferred stock; and

junior to all of our equity securities the terms of which specifically provide that the equity securities rank senior to the preferred stock.

The term equity securities does not include convertible debt securities.

Anti-Takeover Provisions

As a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Delaware, we are subject to Section 203 of the DGCL, which restricts our ability to enter into business combinations with an interested stockholder or a stockholder owning 15% or more of our outstanding voting stock, or that stockholder's affiliates or associates, for a period of three years. These restrictions do not apply if:

prior to becoming an interested stockholder, our board of directors approves either the business combination or the transaction in which the stockholder becomes an interested stockholder;

upon consummation of the transaction in which the stockholder becomes an interested stockholder, the interested stockholder owns at least 85% of our voting stock outstanding at the time the transaction commenced, subject to exceptions; or

on or after the date a stockholder becomes an interested stockholder, the business combination is both approved by our board of directors and authorized at an annual or special meeting of our stockholders by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the outstanding voting stock not owned by the interested stockholder.

Some provisions of ViaSat's certificate of incorporation and bylaws could also have anti-takeover effects. These provisions:

permit the board of directors to increase its own size and fill the resulting vacancies;

provide for a board comprised of three classes of directors with each class serving a staggered three-year term;

authorize the issuance of preferred stock in one or more series; and

prohibit stockholder action by written consent.

These provisions are intended to enhance the likelihood of continuity and stability in the composition of the policies formulated by the board of directors. In addition, these provisions are intended to ensure that the board of directors will have sufficient time to act in what it believes to be in the best interests of ViaSat and its stockholders. These provisions also are designed to reduce our vulnerability to an unsolicited proposal for a takeover of ViaSat that does not contemplate the acquisition of all of our outstanding shares or an unsolicited proposal for the restructuring or sale of all or part of ViaSat. The provisions are also intended to discourage some tactics that may be used in proxy fights.

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Classified Board of Directors

The certificate of incorporation provides for the board of directors to be divided into three classes of directors, with each class as nearly equal in number as possible, serving staggered three-year terms. As a result, approximately one-third of the board of directors will be elected each year. The classified board provision will help to assure the continuity and stability of the board of directors and the business strategies and policies of ViaSat as determined by the board of directors. The classified board provision could have the effect of discouraging a third party from making a tender offer or attempting to obtain control of ViaSat. In addition, the classified board provision could delay stockholders who do not agree with the policies of the board of directors from removing a majority of the board of directors for two years.

No Stockholder Action by Written Consent; Special Meetings

The certificate of incorporation provides that stockholder action can only be taken at an annual or special meeting of stockholders and prohibits stockholder action by written consent in lieu of a meeting.

The certificate of incorporation also provides that special meetings of stockholders may be called only by the board of directors, its chairman, the president or the secretary of ViaSat. Stockholders are not permitted to call a special meeting of stockholders or to require that the board of directors call a special meeting.

Number of Directors; Removal; Filling Vacancies

The certificate of incorporation provides that the board of directors will consist of between four and eleven members, the exact number to be fixed by resolution adopted by affirmative vote of a majority of the board of directors. The board of directors currently consists of five directors. Further, the certificate of incorporation authorizes the board of directors to fill newly created directorships. Accordingly, this provision could prevent a stockholder from obtaining majority representation on the board of directors by permitting the board of directors to enlarge the size of the board and fill the new directorships with its own nominees. A director so elected by the board of directors holds office until the next election of the class for which the director has been chosen and until his or her successor is elected and qualified. The certificate of incorporation also provides that directors may be removed only for cause and only by the affirmative vote of holders of a majority of the total voting power of all outstanding securities. The effect of these provisions is to preclude a stockholder from removing incumbent directors without cause and simultaneously gaining control of the board of directors by filling the vacancies created by the removal with its own nominees.

Transfer Agent and Registrar

The Transfer Agent and Registrar for our common stock is Computershare Investor Services LLC.

DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES

General

We may issue depositary shares, each of which will represent a fractional interest of a share of a particular series of preferred stock, as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. We will deposit with a depositary, referred to as the preferred stock depositary, shares of preferred stock of each series represented by depositary shares. We will enter into a deposit agreement with the preferred stock depositary and holders from time to time of the depositary receipts issued by the preferred stock depositary which evidence the depositary shares. Subject to the terms of the deposit agreement, each owner of a depositary receipt will be entitled, in proportion to the holder's fractional interest in the preferred stock, to all the rights and preferences of the series of the preferred stock represented by the depositary shares, including dividend, voting, conversion, redemption and liquidation rights.

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Immediately after we issue and deliver the preferred stock to a preferred stock depositary, we will cause the preferred stock depositary to issue the depositary receipts on our behalf. You may obtain copies of the applicable form of deposit agreement and depositary receipt from us upon request. The statements made in this section relating to the deposit agreement and the depositary receipts are summaries only. These summaries are not complete and we may modify any of the terms of the depositary shares described in this prospectus in a prospectus supplement. To the extent the information contained in the prospectus supplement differs from this summary description, you should rely on the information in the prospectus supplement. For more detail, we refer you to the deposit agreement, which we will file as an exhibit to, or incorporate by reference in, the registration statement.

Dividends and Other Distributions

The preferred stock depositary will distribute all cash dividends or other cash distributions received relating to the preferred stock to the record holders of depositary receipts in proportion to the number of the depositary receipts owned by the holders, subject to the obligations of holders to file proofs, certificates and other information and to pay certain charges and expenses to the preferred stock depositary.

In the event of a distribution other than in cash, the preferred stock depositary will distribute property received by it to the record holders of depositary receipts in proportion to the number of the depositary receipts owned by the holders, unless the preferred stock depositary determines that it is not feasible to make the distribution, in which case the preferred stock depositary may, with our approval, sell the property and distribute the net proceeds from the sale to the holders.

No distribution will be made relating to any depositary share that represents any preferred stock converted into other securities.

Withdrawal of Stock

Assuming we have not previously called for redemption or converted into other securities the related depositary shares, upon surrender of the depositary receipts at the corporate trust office of the preferred stock depositary, the holders will be entitled to delivery at that office of the number of whole or fractional shares of the preferred stock and any money or other property represented by the depositary shares. Holders of depositary receipts will be entitled to receive shares of the related preferred stock as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, but holders of the shares of preferred stock will no longer be entitled to receive depositary shares.

Redemption of Depositary Shares

Whenever we redeem shares of preferred stock held by the preferred stock depositary, the preferred stock depositary will concurrently redeem the number of depositary shares representing shares of the preferred stock so redeemed, provided we have paid the applicable redemption price for the preferred stock to be redeemed plus an amount equal to any accrued and unpaid dividends to the date fixed for redemption. The redemption price per depositary share will be equal to the corresponding proportion of the redemption price and any other amounts per share payable relating to the preferred stock. If fewer than all the depositary shares are to be redeemed, the depositary shares to be redeemed will be selected pro rata or by any other equitable method determined by us.

From and after the date fixed for redemption:

all dividends relating to the shares of preferred stock called for redemption will cease to accrue;

the depositary shares called for redemption will no longer be deemed to be outstanding; and

all rights of the holders of the depositary receipts evidencing the depositary shares called for redemption will cease, except the right to receive any moneys payable upon the redemption and any money or other property to which the holders of the depositary receipts were entitled upon redemption and surrender to the preferred stock depositary.

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Any funds we deposit with the preferred stock depositary for redemption of depositary shares that the holders fail to redeem will be returned to us after a period of two years from the date the funds are deposited.

Voting of the Preferred Stock

Upon receipt of notice of any meeting at which the holders of the preferred stock are entitled to vote, the preferred stock depositary will mail the information contained in the notice of meeting to the record holders of the depositary receipts. Each record holder of these depositary receipts on the record date, which will be the same date as the record date for the preferred stock, will be entitled to instruct the preferred stock depositary as to the exercise of the voting rights pertaining to the amount of preferred stock represented by the holder's depositary shares. The preferred stock depositary will vote the amount of preferred stock represented by the depositary shares in accordance with the instructions, and we will agree to take all reasonable action necessary to enable the preferred stock depositary to do so. The preferred stock depositary will abstain from voting the amount of preferred stock represented by the depositary shares for which it does not receive specific instructions from the holders of depositary receipts evidencing the depositary shares. The preferred stock depositary will not be responsible for any failure to carry out any instruction to vote, or for the manner or effect of any vote made, as long as the action or non-action is in good faith and does not result from the preferred stock depositary's negligence or willful misconduct.

Liquidation Preference

In the event that we voluntarily or involuntarily liquidate, dissolve or wind up, the holders of each depositary receipt will be entitled to the fraction of the liquidation preference accorded each share of preferred stock represented by the depositary shares, as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Conversion of Depositary Shares

The depositary shares will not be convertible into common stock or any of our other securities or property, unless we so specify in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to an offering of depositary shares.

Amendment and Termination of the Deposit Agreement

We may amend the form of depositary receipt and any provision of the deposit agreement at any time by agreement with the preferred stock depositary. However, any amendment that imposes or increases any fees, taxes or other charges payable by the holders of depositary receipts, other than taxes and other governmental charges, fees and other expenses payable by the holders as described below under "Charges of Preferred Stock Depositary," or that otherwise prejudices any substantial existing right of holders of depositary receipts, will not take effect as to outstanding depositary receipts until the expiration of 30 days after notice of the amendment has been mailed to the record holders of outstanding depositary receipts.

When we direct the preferred stock depositary to do so, the preferred stock depositary will terminate the deposit agreement by mailing a notice of termination to the record holders of all depositary receipts then outstanding at least 30 days prior to the date fixed in the notice for termination. In addition, the preferred stock depositary may terminate the deposit agreement if at any time 45 days have passed since the preferred stock depositary has delivered to us a written notice of its election to resign and a successor depositary has not been appointed and accepted its appointment. If any depositary receipts remain outstanding after the date of termination, the preferred stock depositary thereafter will discontinue the transfer of depositary receipts, will suspend the distribution of dividends to the holders thereof, and will not give any further notices, other than the notice of termination, or perform any further acts under the deposit agreement, except as provided below and except that the preferred stock depositary will continue to collect dividends on the preferred stock and other distributions with respect to the preferred stock and will continue to deliver the preferred stock together with any dividends and distributions and the net proceeds of any sales of rights, preferences, privileges or other property, without liability for interest thereon, in

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exchange for depositary receipts surrendered. At any time after the expiration of two years from the date of termination, the preferred stock depositary may sell the preferred stock then held by it at public or private sales, at such place or places and upon such terms as it deems proper and may thereafter hold the net proceeds of any such sale, together with any money or other property then held by it, without liability for interest thereon, for the pro rata benefit of the holders of depositary receipts that have not been surrendered.

In addition, the deposit agreement will automatically terminate if:

all outstanding depositary shares have been redeemed; or

there has been a final distribution of the related preferred stock in connection with our liquidation, dissolution or winding up and the distribution has been distributed to the holders of depositary receipts evidencing the depositary shares representing the preferred stock.

Charges of Preferred Stock Depositary

We will pay all fees, charges and expenses of the preferred stock depositary in connection with its performance of the deposit agreement, except for any taxes and other governmental charges and except as provided in the deposit agreement. Holders of depositary receipts will pay the fees and expenses of the preferred stock depositary for any duties requested by the holders to be performed which are outside those expressly provided for in the deposit agreement.

Resignation and Removal of Depositary

The preferred stock depositary may resign at any time by delivering to us notice of its election to do so, and we may at any time remove the preferred stock depositary. Any resignation or removal of the acting preferred stock depositary will take effect upon our appointment of a successor preferred stock depositary. We must appoint a successor preferred stock depositary within 45 days after delivery of the notice of resignation or removal.

Miscellaneous

The preferred stock depositary will make available for inspection to holders of depositary receipts any reports and communications the preferred stock depositary receives from us relating to the preferred stock.

We will not be liable, nor will the preferred stock depositary be liable, if we are prevented from or delayed in, by law or any circumstances beyond our control, performing our obligations under the deposit agreement. Our obligations and the obligations of the preferred stock depositary under the deposit agreement will be limited to performing our duties in good faith and without negligence or willful misconduct. We will not be obligated, nor will the preferred stock depositary be obligated, to prosecute or defend any legal proceeding relating to any depositary receipts, depositary shares or shares of preferred stock represented by depositary shares unless satisfactory indemnity is furnished to us. We may rely, and the preferred stock depositary may rely, on written advice of counsel or accountants, or information provided by persons presenting shares of preferred stock represented by depositary shares for deposit, holders of depositary receipts or other persons we believe in good faith to be competent to give this information, and on documents we believe in good faith to be genuine and signed by a proper party.

DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS

We may issue warrants to purchase debt securities, preferred stock or common stock. We may issue warrants independently or together with any other securities we offer under a prospectus supplement. The warrants may be attached to or separate from the securities. We will issue each series of warrants under a separate warrant agreement that we will enter into with a bank or trust company, as warrant agent. The statements made in this section relating to the warrant agreement are summaries only. These summaries are not complete. When we issue warrants, we will provide the specific terms of the warrants and the

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applicable warrant agreement in a prospectus supplement. To the extent the information contained in the prospectus supplement differs from this summary description, you should rely on the information in the prospectus supplement. For more detail, we refer you to the applicable warrant agreement itself, which we will file as an exhibit to, or incorporate by reference in, the registration statement.

Debt Warrants

We will describe in the applicable prospectus supplement the terms of the debt warrants being offered, the warrant agreement relating to the debt warrants and the debt warrant certificates representing the debt warrants, including:

the title of the debt warrants;

the aggregate number of the debt warrants;

the price or prices at which the debt warrants will be issued;

the designation, aggregate principal amount and terms of the debt securities purchasable upon exercise of the debt warrants, and the procedures and conditions relating to the exercise of the debt warrants;

the designation and terms of any related debt securities with which the debt warrants are issued, and the number of the debt warrants issued with each security;

the date, if any, on and after which the debt warrants and the related debt securities will be separately transferable;

the principal amount of debt securities purchasable upon exercise of each debt warrant, and the price at which the principal amount of the debt securities may be purchased upon exercise;

the date on which the right to exercise the debt warrants will commence, and the date on which the right will expire;

the maximum or minimum number of the debt warrants which may be exercised at any time;

information with respect to book-entry procedures, if any;

a discussion of the material United States federal income tax considerations applicable to the exercise of the debt warrants; and

any other terms of the debt warrants and terms, procedures and limitations relating to the exercise of the debt warrants.

Holders may exchange debt warrant certificates for new debt warrant certificates of different denominations, and may exercise debt warrants at the corporate trust office of the warrant agent or any other office indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement. Prior to the exercise of their debt warrants, holders of debt warrants will not have any of the rights of holders of the securities purchasable upon the exercise and will not be entitled to payments of principal, premium or interest on the securities purchasable upon the exercise of debt warrants.

Equity Warrants

We will describe in the applicable prospectus supplement the terms of the preferred stock warrants or common stock warrants being offered, the warrant agreement relating to the preferred stock warrants or common stock warrants and the warrant certificates representing the preferred stock warrants or common stock warrants, including:

the title of the warrants;

the securities for which the warrants are exercisable;

the price or prices at which the warrants will be issued;

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if applicable, the number of warrants issued with each share of preferred stock or share of common stock;

if applicable, the date on and after which the warrants and the related preferred stock or common stock will be separately transferable;

the date on which the right to exercise the warrants will commence, and the date on which the right will expire;

the maximum or minimum number of warrants which may be exercised at any time;

information with respect to book-entry procedures, if any;

a discussion of the material United States federal income tax considerations applicable to exercise of the warrants; and

any other terms of the warrants, including terms, procedures and limitations relating to the exchange and exercise of the warrants.

Unless otherwise provided in the applicable prospectus supplement, holders of equity warrants will not be entitled, by virtue of being such holders, to vote, consent, receive dividends, receive notice as stockholders with respect to any meeting of stockholders for the election of our directors or any other matter, or to exercise any rights whatsoever as stockholders.

Except as provided in the applicable prospectus supplement, the exercise price payable and the number of shares of common stock or preferred stock purchasable upon the exercise of each warrant will be subject to adjustment in certain events, including the issuance of a stock dividend to holders of common stock or preferred stock or a stock split, reverse stock split, combination, subdivision or reclassification of common stock or preferred stock. In lieu of adjusting the number of shares of common stock or preferred stock purchasable upon exercise of each warrant, we may elect to adjust the number of warrants. Unless otherwise provided in the applicable prospectus supplement, no adjustments in the number of shares purchasable upon exercise of the warrants will be required until all cumulative adjustments require an adjustment of at least 1% thereof. We may, at our option, reduce the exercise price at any time. No fractional shares will be issued upon exercise of warrants, but we will pay the cash value of any fractional shares otherwise issuable. Notwithstanding the foregoing, except as otherwise provided in the applicable prospectus supplement, in case of any consolidation, merger, or sale or conveyance of our property as an entirety or substantially as an entirety, the holder of each outstanding warrant will have the right to the kind and amount of shares of stock and other securities and property, including cash, receivable by a holder of the number of shares of common stock or preferred stock into which each warrant was exercisable immediately prior to the particular triggering event.

Exercise of Warrants

Each warrant will entitle the holder of the warrant to purchase for cash at the exercise price provided in the applicable prospectus supplement the principal amount of debt securities or shares of preferred stock or shares of common stock being offered. Holders may exercise warrants at any time up to the close of business on the expiration date provided in the applicable prospectus supplement. After the close of business on the expiration date, unexercised warrants are void.

Holders may exercise warrants as described in the prospectus supplement relating to the warrants being offered. Upon receipt of payment and the warrant certificate properly completed and duly executed at the corporate trust office of the warrant agent or any other office indicated in the prospectus supplement, we will, as soon as practicable, forward the debt securities, shares of preferred stock or shares of common stock purchasable upon the exercise of the warrant. If less than all of the warrants represented by the warrant certificate are exercised, we will issue a new warrant certificate for the remaining warrants.

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PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the securities (1) through underwriters or dealers, (2) through agents, and/or (3) directly to one or more purchasers. We may distribute the securities from time to time in one or more transactions at:

a fixed price or prices, which may be changed;

market prices prevailing at the time of sale;

prices related to the prevailing market prices; or

negotiated prices.

We may solicit directly offers to purchase the securities being offered by this prospectus. We may also designate agents to solicit offers to purchase the securities from time to time. We will name in a prospectus supplement any agent involved in the offer or sale of our securities.

If we utilize a dealer in the sale of the securities being offered by this prospectus, we will sell the securities to the dealer, as principal. The dealer may then resell the securities to the public at varying prices to be determined by the dealer at the time of resale.

If we utilize an underwriter in the sale of the securities being offered by this prospectus, we will execute an underwriting agreement with the underwriter at the time of sale and we will provide the name of any underwriter in the prospectus supplement that the underwriter will use to make resales of the securities to the public. In connection with the sale of the securities, we, or the purchasers of securities for whom the underwriter may act as agent, may compensate the underwriter in the form of underwriting discounts or commissions. The underwriter may sell the securities to or through dealers, and the underwriter may compensate those dealers in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions.

We will provide in the applicable prospectus supplement any compensation we pay to underwriters, dealers or agents in connection with the offering of the securities, and any discounts, concessions or commissions allowed by underwriters to participating dealers. Underwriters, dealers and agents participating in the distribution of the securities may be deemed to be underwriters within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and any discounts and commissions received by them and any profit realized by them on resale of the debt securities may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions. We may enter into agreements to indemnify underwriters, dealers and agents against civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribute to payments they may be required to make in respect thereof.

If we so specify in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will authorize underwriters, dealers and agents to solicit offers by institutions to purchase the securities under contracts providing for payment and delivery on future dates. The institutions with which the contracts may be made include commercial and savings banks, insurance companies, pension funds, investment companies, educational and charitable institutions and others. The purchasers' obligations under the contracts will not be subject to any conditions except that:

the purchase of the securities may not at the time of delivery be prohibited under the laws of the jurisdiction to which the purchaser is subject; and

if the securities are also being sold to underwriters, we will have sold to the underwriters the securities not sold for delayed delivery.

The underwriters, dealers and agents will not be responsible for the validity or performance of the contracts. We will provide in the prospectus supplement relating to the contracts the price to be paid for the securities, the commissions payable for solicitation of the contracts and the date in the future for delivery of the securities.

The securities may or may not be listed on a national securities exchange. To facilitate the offering of securities, certain persons participating in the offering may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain

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or otherwise affect the price of the securities. This may include over-allotments or short sales of the securities, which involves the sale by persons participating in the offering of more securities than we sold to them. In these circumstances, these persons would cover such over-allotments or short positions by making purchases in the open market or by exercising their over-allotment option. In addition, these persons may stabilize or maintain the price of the securities by bidding for or purchasing securities in the open market or by imposing penalty bids, whereby selling concessions allowed to dealers participating in the offering may be reclaimed if securities sold by them are repurchased in connection with stabilization transactions. The effect of these transactions may be to stabilize or maintain the market price of the securities at a level above that which might otherwise prevail in the open market. These transactions may be discontinued at any time.

The underwriters, dealers and agents may engage in transactions with us, or perform services for us, in the ordinary course of business.

LEGAL MATTERS

Latham & Watkins, San Diego, California, will pass upon the validity of the securities being offered by this prospectus.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements incorporated in this Prospectus by reference to the Annual Report on Form 10-K of ViaSat, Inc. for the year ended March 31, 2001 have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent accountants, given on the authority of that firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

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2,000,000 Shares

Common Stock

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

SG COWEN

January 8, 2002
