AVNET INC Form 424B5 August 15, 2005

This preliminary prospectus supplement relates to an effective registration statement under the Securities Act of 1933, and is subject to completion or amendment. This preliminary prospectus supplement and the related prospectus shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy nor shall there be any sale of these securities in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful.

### SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED AUGUST 15, 2005

Prospectus Supplement August , 2005 (To Prospectus dated November 10, 2003) Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5) Registration No. 333-107474

\$250,000,000 Avnet, Inc. % Notes Due 2015

Avnet will pay interest on the notes on and of each year. The first interest payment will be made on , 2006. The notes will mature on , 2015. Avnet may redeem some or all of the notes at any time at the make-whole redemption price set forth in this prospectus supplement under Description of Notes Optional Redemption.

The notes will be Avnet s unsecured senior obligations and will rank equally with Avnet s other unsecured senior indebtedness from time to time outstanding.

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

	Per Note	Total
Price to public(1)	%	%
Underwriting discounts and commissions	%	%
Proceeds (before expenses) to Avnet(1)	\$	\$

(1) Plus accrued interest from August , 2005, if settlement occurs after that date.

Delivery of the notes in book-entry form only will be made through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company on or about August , 2005.

Joint Book-Running Managers

**Banc of America Securities LLC** 

**Credit Suisse First Boston** 

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Lead Manager

JPMorgan

Scotia Capital ABN AMRO Incorporated BNP PARIBAS Wachovia Securities

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You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus or to which Avnet has referred you. Avnet has not authorized anyone to provide you with information that is different. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus may only be used where it is legal to sell these securities. The information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus may only be accurate as of the date of the applicable document.

References in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus to we, us, our and Avnet are Avnet, Inc. and its consolidated subsidiaries unless we state otherwise or unless the context otherwise requires.

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#### FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus contain or incorporate by reference forward-looking statements with respect to Avnet s financial condition, results of operations and business. You can find many of these statements by looking for words like believes, expects, anticipates, estimates or similar expressions in this prospect supplement and the accompanying prospectus or documents incorporated by reference therein.

These forward-looking statements are subject to numerous assumptions, risks and uncertainties. Factors that may cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements include the following:

A technology industry down-cycle, particularly in the semiconductor sector, would adversely affect Avnet s expected operating results.

Competitive pressures among distributors of electronic components and computer products may increase significantly through entry of new competitors or otherwise.

General economic or business conditions, domestic and foreign, may be less favorable than management expected, resulting in lower sales and declining operating results which can, in turn, impact Avnet s credit ratings, debt covenant compliance and liquidity, as well as Avnet s ability to maintain existing unsecured financing or to obtain new financing.

Avnet s ability to successfully integrate the Memec acquisition may impact Avnet s ability to achieve the desired synergy savings in the combined business.

Legislative or regulatory changes may adversely affect the businesses in which Avnet is engaged.

Adverse changes may occur in the securities markets.

Changes in interest rates and currency fluctuations may reduce Avnet s profit margins.

Avnet may be adversely affected by the allocation of products by suppliers.

Because forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties, actual results may differ materially from those expressed or implied by them. Management cautions you not to place undue reliance on these statements, which speak only as of the date of this prospectus supplement.

Avnet does not undertake any obligation to update publicly or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are a part of a registration statement on Form S-3, Registration No. 333-107474, which Avnet filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act). Avnet refers you to this registration statement for further information concerning Avnet and this offering of its securities.

Avnet files annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC (File Number 1-4224). These filings contain important information which does not appear in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. For further information about Avnet, you may obtain these filings over the Internet at the SEC s web site at http://www.sec.gov. Avnet also posts certain of these filings on its web site at www.avnet.com. Information contained on our website is not intended to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus and you should not consider that information a part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. Our website address is included in this prospectus supplement as an inactive textual reference only. You may also read and copy these filings at the SEC s Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Room 1580 Washington, D.C. 20549. You may obtain information on the operation of the public reference room by

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The SEC allows Avnet to incorporate by reference information into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, which means that Avnet can disclose important information to you by referring you to other documents which Avnet has filed or will file with the SEC. Avnet is incorporating by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus:

Avnet s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended July 3, 2004,

Avnet s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended, October 2, 2004,

Avnet s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended, January 1, 2005,

Avnet s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended, April 2, 2005, and

Avnet s Current Reports on Form 8-K bearing cover dates of April 26, 2005, May 18, 2005, July 5, 2005, as amended on August 15, 2005, and August 10, 2005.

All documents which Avnet has filed or will file, as applicable, with the SEC pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act, as amended (the Exchange Act) (excluding information furnished pursuant to Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 on any current report on Form 8-K), after the date of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and before the termination of this offering of Avnet s securities will be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and to be a part of it from the filing dates of such documents. Certain statements in and portions of this prospectus supplement update and replace information in the above listed documents incorporated by reference. Likewise, statements in or portions of a future document incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus may update and replace statements in and portions of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus or the above listed documents. Nothing in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus shall be deemed to incorporate information furnished but not filed with the SEC.

Avnet shall provide you without charge, upon your written or oral request, a copy of the indenture or other agreement relating to Avnet s securities offered by this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, and any of the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, other than exhibits to such documents which are not specifically incorporated by reference into such documents. Please direct your written or telephone requests to the Corporate Secretary, Avnet, Inc., 2211 South 47th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85034 (Telephone 480-643-2000).

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# PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

The following summary contains information about Avnet and this offering. It does not contain all of the information that may be important to you in making a decision to purchase the notes. For a more comprehensive understanding of Avnet and this offering, Avnet urges you to read this entire prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus carefully, including the documents incorporated by reference herein, and Avnet s consolidated financial statements and related notes contained in such documents.

### Avnet, Inc.

Avnet is one of the world's largest industrial distributors, based on sales, of electronic components, enterprise computer products and embedded subsystems. Avnet provides cost-effective services and solutions vital to a broad base of more than 100,000 original equipment manufacturers (OEMs), contract manufacturers, original design manufacturers, value-added resellers (VARs) and end-users. Avnet distributes electronic components, computer products and software as received from its suppliers or with assembly or other value added by Avnet. Additionally, Avnet provides engineering design, materials management and logistics services, system integration and configuration, and supply chain advisory services.

The Company consists of two operating groups Electronics Marketing (EM) and Technology Solutions (TS) ewith operations in the three major economic regions of the world: the Americas, EMEA (Europe, Middle East and Africa) and Asia/ Pacific. A brief summary of each operating group is provided below:

EM markets and sells semiconductors and interconnect, passive and electromechanical devices. EM markets and sells its products to customers spread across end-markets including communications, computer hardware and peripheral, industrial and manufacturing, medical equipment, and military and aerospace. EM also offers an array of value-added design chain, supply chain and product enhancement services to its customers.

TS markets and sells mid- to high-end servers, data storage, software and networking solutions, and the services required to implement these solutions, to the VAR channel and enterprise computing customers. TS also focuses on the worldwide OEM market for computing technology, system integrators and non-PC OEMs that require embedded systems and solutions including engineering, product prototyping, integration and other value-added services.

Avnet s common stock is quoted on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol AVT. Avnet s principal executive offices are located at 2211 South 47th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85034.

### **Recent Developments**

On August 10, 2005, Avnet reported revenues of \$11.07 billion for fiscal 2005, ended July 2, 2005, up 8.0% over fiscal 2004 revenues of \$10.24 billion. Net income for fiscal 2005 was \$168.2 million, or \$1.39 per share on a diluted basis, as compared with net income of \$72.9 million, or \$0.60 per share on a diluted basis in fiscal 2004, which included certain restructuring and debt extinguishment costs (discussed further in notes 1 and 2 to Summary Financial Information and Other Data on pages S-6 and S-7). Fiscal 2005 net income and diluted earnings per share of \$168.2 million and \$1.39, respectively, were up 34.0% as compared with fiscal 2004 net income of \$125.6 million, or \$1.04 per share, excluding such charges in fiscal 2004.

Fiscal 2005 operating income of \$321.3 million grew 58.9% as compared with fiscal 2004 operating income of \$202.2 million, including certain restructuring charges in fiscal 2004. Fiscal 2005 operating income grew 24.6% as compared with fiscal 2004 operating income of \$257.9 million, excluding these charges. Operating income as a percent of sales was 2.9% in fiscal 2005, an increase of 38 basis points over fiscal year 2004 operating income margin of 2.5%, excluding the charges noted above in fiscal 2004. This represents the third consecutive year of growth in both operating income and operating income margin.

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Revenue for fourth quarter fiscal 2005 was \$2.83 billion representing an increase of 6.9% over fourth quarter fiscal 2004 and an increase of 2.4% sequentially over third quarter fiscal 2005. Excluding the impact of foreign currency translation, fourth quarter fiscal 2005 sales were up 5.5% year over year and up 3.8% sequentially. Net income for fourth quarter fiscal 2005 was \$47.3 million, or \$0.39 per share on a diluted basis, as compared with prior year net income of \$48.7 million, or \$0.40 per share on a diluted basis. Fiscal 2005 fourth quarter diluted earnings per share were positively impacted by approximately \$0.02 due to a lower income tax provision for the year as a result of the final mix of profits for the fiscal year by country with varying statutory tax rates.

Operating income for fourth quarter fiscal 2005 was \$85.7 million, essentially flat as compared with operating income of \$85.8 million in the year ago quarter. Operating income as a percent of sales was 3.0% in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2005, which was down 21 basis points from last year s fourth quarter. Even though TS operating income for the fourth quarter grew significantly year over year, it was not enough to offset the decline experienced by EM, which was due primarily to the lingering impact of the mid-cycle inventory correction and higher corporate expenses due to Sarbanes-Oxley compliance efforts.

On July 5, 2005, Avnet acquired Memec Group Holdings Limited (Memec), a global distributor that markets and sells a portfolio of semiconductor devices from industry leading suppliers in addition to providing customers with engineering expertise and design services. The consideration for this acquisition consisted of stock and cash valued at approximately \$744 million, including the assumption of approximately \$240 million of Memec s net debt (debt less cash acquired) and transaction costs. Under the terms of the agreement, Memec investors received 24.01 million shares of Avnet common stock and approximately \$64 million of cash. The shares of Avnet common stock were valued at \$17.42 per share which represents the 5-day average stock price beginning two days before the acquisition announcement on April 26, 2005.

Memec, with sales of \$2.29 billion in its fiscal year ended December 31, 2004, is anticipated to be fully integrated into the EM group of Avnet, Inc. by the end of fiscal 2006, with a substantial portion of the integration completed by the end of the second quarter of fiscal 2006. The acquisition of Memec will provide for expansion of EM in each of the three major economic regions as well as allowing Avnet to gain entry into the Japanese market.

In August 2005, Avnet amended its accounts receivable securitization program to, among other things, increase the maximum amount available for borrowing from \$350 million to \$450 million. In addition, the amended program now provides that financing under the program no longer qualifies as off balance sheet financing. As a result, the receivables and related debt obligation will remain on Avnet s consolidated balance sheet when amounts are drawn on the program. The program, as amended, has a one year term, which expires in August 2006.

# **Tender Offer**

On August , 2005, Avnet commenced an offer to purchase (the Tender Offer ) up to \$250 million of its outstanding 8.00% Notes due November 15, 2006 at a price of \$ per \$1,000 principal amount of the 8.00% Notes due November 15, 2006. The Tender Offer will expire on September , 2005, unless Avnet terminates or extends the offer. The consummation of this offering is not contingent upon completion of the Tender Offer, but the Tender Offer is conditioned upon the successful consummation of this offering.

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### The Offering

The following summary contains basic information about the notes. It does not contain all the information that may be important to you. For a more complete understanding of the notes, please refer to the section of this prospectus supplement entitled Description of Notes and the section of the accompanying prospectus entitled Description of Debt Securities.

Issuer Avnet, Inc.

Notes Offered \$250 million in aggregate principal amount of % Notes due 2015.

Maturity Date , 2015.

Interest Interest on the notes will accrue from the date of their issuance at the annual rate of

% per year and will be payable in cash semi-annually in arrears on

and of each year, commencing , 2006.

Ranking The notes will be Avnet s unsecured senior obligations and will rank equally in right

of payment with all of Avnet s existing and future senior unsecured indebtedness. The notes will not be guaranteed by any of Avnet s subsidiaries and so will be effectively subordinated to all of the debt of these subsidiaries that is not guaranteed

by Avnet, which amounted to \$77.4 million at April 2, 2005.

Optional Redemption Avnet may, at its option, redeem some or all of the notes at any time at the

make-whole redemption price described in Description of Notes Optional

Redemption.

Use of Proceeds Avnet expects to use the net proceeds from this offering, together with

approximately \$\frac{1}{2006}\$ million of cash and cash equivalents, to fund its tender offer to repurchase up to \$250 million of its outstanding 8.00% Notes due November 15, 2006. If Avnet acquires less than \$250 million of the outstanding 8.00% Notes due November 15, 2006 in the tender offer, any remaining net proceeds will be used for

working capital and general corporate purposes. See Use of Proceeds.

Form, Denomination and

Registration

The notes will be issued in fully registered form. The notes will be issued in denominations of \$1,000 principal amount and multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof. The notes will be represented by one global note, deposited with the trustee

under the indenture governing the notes as custodian for The Depository Trust Company (DTC) and registered in the name of Cede & Co., DTC s nominee. Beneficial interests in the global note will be shown on, and any transfers thereof will be effected only through records maintained by DTC and its participants. See

Description of the Notes Form, Denomination and Registration.

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# **Summary Financial Information and Other Data**

The summary consolidated financial data below is derived from the consolidated financial statements of Avnet. We refer you to those financial statements, accompanying notes and management s discussion and analysis, which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. The As Adjusted balance sheet data as of April 2, 2005 is presented as if the financing contemplated within this prospectus supplement had occurred on April 2, 2005. This summary financial information should be read in conjunction with the footnotes below as there are various special items recorded in certain of the periods presented.

	Fiscal Years Ended						<b>Nine Months Ended</b>			
	July 3, 2004(1)(2)		June 27, 2003(3)(4)		June 28, 2002(5)(6)		April 2, 2005			April 3, 004(1)(2)
					(in ı	millions)				
Statement of Operations Data:										
Sales	\$ 1	0,244.7	\$	9,048.4	\$	8,920.2	\$	8,241.4	\$	7,601.7
Cost of sales(5)		8,879.9		7,833.4		7,697.4		7,153.4		6,604.9
Gross profit		1,364.8		1,215.0		1,222.8		1,088.1		996.8
Selling, general and		_,				-,		-,0001-		77 010
administrative expenses		1,107.0		1,095.5		1,167.8		852.5		824.8
Restructuring and other		,		,		•				
charges(1)(3)(5)		55.6		106.8		58.0				55.6
Operating income (loss)		202.2		12.7		(3.0)		235.6		116.4
Other income, net		7.1		26.2		6.8		2.2		7.1
Interest expense		(94.6)		(104.8)		(124.6)		(63.1)		(74.2)
Debt extinguishment costs(2)(4)		(16.4)		(13.5)						(16.4)
Income (loss) from continuing										
operations before income taxes		98.4		(79.4)		(120.8)		174.7		33.0
Income tax provision (benefit)		25.5		(33.3)		(36.4)		53.7		8.8
Income (loss) before cumulative										
effect of change in accounting principle		72.9		(46.1)		(84.4)		121.0		24.2
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle(6)						(580.5)				
Net income (loss)	\$	72.9	\$	(46.1)	\$	(664.9)	\$	121.0	\$	24.2

As of the Fiscal Year Ended			As of Ap	oril 2, 2005
July 3, 2004	June 27, 2003	June 28, 2002	Actual	As Adjusted(7)
		(in millions)		

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<b>Balance Sheet Data:</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 312.7	\$ 395.5	\$ 159.2	\$ 594.3	\$
Working capital	1,839.0	1,820.0	1,928.7	2,067.4	
Total assets	4,863.6	4,499.5	4,682.0	5,062.5	
Total debt	1,356.8	1,466.1	1,625.1	1,250.1	
Total liabilities	2,910.2	2,667.0	2,877.5	2,915.3	
Shareholders equity	1,953.4	1,832.5	1,804.5	2,147.3	

(1) Includes the impact of restructuring and other charges recorded in the first and second quarters of fiscal 2004 in connection with cost cutting initiatives and the combination of the Computer Marketing and Applied Computing operating groups into one operating group called Technology Solutions. These charges included severance costs, charges for consolidation of certain owned and leased facilities, write-offs of certain capitalized information technology initiatives, the impairment of owned assets in Avnet s

(footnotes continued on next page)

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European operations, and the write-off of remaining unamortized deferred loan costs associated with Avnet s multi-year credit facility terminated in September 2003. These restructuring and other charges amounted to \$55.6 million pre-tax, all of which was included as a component of operating expenses, and \$38.5 million after-tax.

- (2) During the third quarter of fiscal 2004, Avnet incurred debt extinguishment costs associated with the cash tender offer for \$273.4 million of its 7<sup>7</sup>/8% Notes due February 15, 2005. These charges amounted to \$16.4 million pre-tax and \$14.2 million after-tax.
- (3) Includes the impact of restructuring and other charges recorded during the second quarter of fiscal 2003 related to certain actions taken as part of Avnet s cost-reduction efforts. The charges related to severance costs, consolidation of selected facilities and the discontinuation of certain information technology-related initiatives. The charges totaled \$106.8 million pre-tax (all of which is included as a component of operating expenses) and \$65.8 million after-tax.
- (4) During the third quarter of fiscal 2003, Avnet incurred \$13.5 million of debt extinguishment costs associated with the early redemption of a portion of its 6.45% Notes due August 15, 2003 and its 8.20% Notes due October 17, 2003.
- (5) Includes the impact of restructuring and other charges related to the write-down of certain assets acquired in the 2001 acquisition of Kent Electronics Corporation, net of certain recoveries of previous reserves, and other charges taken in response to business conditions, including an impairment charge to write-down certain investments in unconsolidated Internet-related businesses to their fair value and severance charges for workforce reductions announced during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2002. The net restructuring and other charges amounted to \$79.6 million pre-tax (\$21.6 million included in cost of sales and \$58.0 million included as a component of operating expenses) and \$62.1 million after-tax.
- (6) Avnet adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 142, hereinafter SFAS 142, Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets, on June 30, 2001, the first day of Avnet s fiscal year 2002. SFAS 142, which requires that ratable amortization of goodwill be replaced with periodic tests for goodwill impairment, resulted in a transition impairment charge recorded by Avnet of \$580.5 million. This charge is reflected as a cumulative change in accounting principle in the consolidated statement of operations.
- (7) The as adjusted balance sheet data as of April 2, 2005 has been adjusted from the actual balances to reflect the sale of the notes in this offering and the use of the proceeds from this offering, together with million of cash and cash equivalents, to fund Avnet s tender offer for \$250 million of its outstanding 8.00% Notes due November 15, 2006. See Use of Proceeds and Capitalization.

# **Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges**

The following table sets forth our ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the periods presented.

		Fiscal Year End	led		Nine Months Ended			
July 3, 2004(1)	June 27, 2003(2)	June 28, 2002(3)(4)	June 29, 2001(5)	June 30, 2000(6)	April 2, 2005	April 3, 2004(1)		
1.9x	*	*	1.4x	3.6x	3.2x	1.4x		

<sup>\*</sup> Earnings were deficient in covering fixed charges by \$79.4 million and \$120.8 million for the fiscal years ended June 27, 2003 and June 28, 2002, respectively.

- (1) Includes the impact of restructuring and other charges recorded in the first and second quarters of fiscal 2004 in connection with cost cutting initiatives and the combination of Computer Marketing and Applied Computing operating groups into one operating group called Technology Solutions. These charges included severance costs, charges for consolidation of certain owned and leased facilities, write-offs of certain capitalized information technology initiatives, the impairment of owned assets in Avnet s European operations, and the write-off of remaining unamortized deferred loan costs associated with Avnet s multi-year credit facility terminated in September 2003. These restructuring and other charges amounted to \$55.6 million pre-tax. In addition, during the third quarter of fiscal 2004, Avnet incurred debt extinguishment costs associated with the cash tender offer of \$273.4 million of its 77/8% Notes due February 15, 2005. These charges amounted to \$16.4 million pre-tax. The total impact of the restructuring and debt extinguishment costs on results of fiscal 2004 amounted to \$72.0 million pre-tax.
- (2) Includes the impact of restructuring and other charges recorded during the second quarter of fiscal 2003 related to certain actions taken as part of Avnet s cost-reduction efforts. The charges related to severance costs, consolidation of selected facilities and the discontinuation of certain information technology-related initiatives. The charges totaled \$106.8 million pre-tax. The loss before income taxes for fiscal 2003 also includes \$13.5 million of debt extinguishment costs associated with the early redemption of a portion of its 6.45% Notes due August 15, 2003 and its 8.20% Notes due October 17, 2003. The total impact of the restructuring and debt extinguishment costs on the results for the year ended June 27, 2003 amounted to \$120.3 million pre-tax.
- (3) Includes the impact of restructuring and other charges related to the write-down of certain assets acquired in the 2001 acquisition of Kent, net of certain recoveries of previous reserves, and other charges taken in response to business conditions, including an impairment charge to write-down certain investments in unconsolidated Internet-related businesses to their fair value and severance charges for workforce reductions announced during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2002. The net restructuring and other charges amounted to \$79.6 million pre-tax.

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- (4) Excludes the impact of Avnet s adoption of SFAS 142, Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets, on June 30, 2001, the first day of Avnet s fiscal year 2002. SFAS 142, which requires that ratable amortization of goodwill be replaced with periodic tests for goodwill impairment, resulted in a transition impairment charge recorded by Avnet of \$580.5 million. This charge is reflected as a cumulative charge in accounting principle in the consolidated statement of operations. Including the cumulative effect of change in accounting principle, Avnet recorded a net loss of \$664.9 million in the year ended June 28, 2002.
- (5) Includes the impact of restructuring and other charges related to the acquisition and integration of Kent, which was accounted for as a pooling-of-interest, and other integration, reorganization and cost reduction initiatives taken in response to business conditions. The charges amounted to \$327.5 million pre-tax.
- (6) Includes restructuring and other charges associated with: (a) the integration of Marshall Industries, Eurotronics B.V., SEI Marco Group and JBA Computer Solutions; (b) the reorganization of the Asian operations of the Electronics Marketing operating group; (c) the reorganization of the European operations of the Electronics Marketing operating group, including the consolidation of certain European warehousing operations; and (d) costs incurred in connection with certain litigation brought by Avnet. The total restructuring and other charges for fiscal 2000 amounted to \$49.0 million pre-tax.

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#### **USE OF PROCEEDS**

Management estimates that the net proceeds from this offering will be approximately \$\\$\\$ million, after deducting the underwriting discounts and commissions but before deducting other offering expenses. Avnet will use the net proceeds from this offering, together with approximately \$\\$\\$ million of cash and cash equivalents, to fund its tender offer for \$250 million of its outstanding 8.00% Notes due November 15, 2006, as described under Prospectus Summary The Tender Offer. Avnet will deposit the net proceeds from this offering into an account pending completion of the Tender Offer. If Avnet acquires less than \$250 million of the outstanding 8.00% Notes due November 15, 2006 in the Tender Offer, any remaining net proceeds will be used for working capital and general corporate purposes.

### **CAPITALIZATION**

The following table sets forth the actual consolidated cash and cash equivalents, short-term debt and capitalization of Avnet at April 2, 2005, and these amounts as adjusted to reflect the sale of the notes in this offering and the application of the net proceeds thereof, together with approximately \$\text{million from cash and cash equivalents,}\$ to repurchase \$250 million of its 8.00% Notes due November 15, 2006. See Use of Proceeds.

# **April 2, 2005**

	Actual	As Adjusted(1)	
	(in millions)		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 594.3	\$	
Short-term debt:			
Bank credit facilities(2)	67.9		
Other debt due within one year	0.9		
Total short-term debt	68.8		
Long-term debt, less amounts due within one year:			
8.00% Notes due November 15, 2006(3)	400.0		
9 <sup>3</sup> /4% Notes due February 15, 2008	475.0		
2% Convertible Debentures due March 15, 2034	300.0		
% Notes due , 2015 (offered hereby)	200.0		
Other long-term debt(4)	7.8		
Subtotal	1,182.8		
Fair value adjustment for hedged 8.00% and 9 <sup>3</sup> /4% Notes(4)	(1.5)		
Total long-term debt	1,181.3		
Total debt	1,250.1		
Shareholders equity:			
Common stock, \$1.00 par value	120.7		
Additional paid-in capital	568.0		
Retained earnings	1,235.8		
Cumulative other comprehensive income	222.9		
Treasury stock, at cost	(0.1)		

Total shareholders equity 2,147.3

Total capitalization \$ 3,397.4

- (1) The as adjusted balances assume the issuance and application of the proceeds from the notes offered hereby, together with approximately \$ million of cash and cash equivalents, to repurchase \$250 million of the 8.00% Notes due November 15, 2006.
- (2) Represents short-term foreign borrowings under various bank credit facilities.
- (3) Does not reflect the original issue discount of \$3.1 million, \$1.0 million as of April 2, 2005, which represents the difference between the face amount of the 8.00% Notes and the price paid by the public.

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(4) Represents the fair value adjustment to long-term debt relating to five interest rate swaps, with a total notional amount of \$700.0 million, entered into by Avnet to hedge the change in fair value of the underlying notes due to fluctuations in interest rates. These swaps modify Avnet s interest rate exposure by effectively converting the fixed rates on all of the 8.00% Notes due November 15, 2006 and \$300 million of the 9³/4% Notes due February 15, 2008 to a floating rate based upon three-month U.S. LIBOR plus a spread. The fair value adjustment is offset by a comparable long-term asset on Avnet s consolidated balance sheet as the hedges are currently effective and have been effective since their inception. The as adjusted balance reflects the termination of the \$400 million notional amount of swaps associated with the 8.00% Notes due November 15, 2006, which would result in \$4.5 million recorded as an offset to the debt extinguishment costs associated with the Tender Offer and \$2.8 million, associated with the remaining \$150 million of 8.00% Notes due November 15, 2006, to remain classified as debt and amortized through their maturity date.

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#### **DESCRIPTION OF THE NOTES**

The notes will be issued as a series of debt securities under an indenture dated as of March 5, 2005, between us and J.P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association, successor in interest to Bank One Trust Company, N.A., as trustee. The following description of notes, together with the description of the general terms of certain of our debt securities in the attached prospectus, is a summary of all the material provisions of the notes and the indenture but does not include all the provisions of the notes and the indenture. We urge you to read the indenture because it fully defines the rights of holders of the notes. You may obtain a copy of the indenture without charge. See Where You Can Find More Information in the accompanying prospectus. For a description of the general terms applicable to our debt securities, including the notes, see Description of the Debt Securities in the accompanying prospectus. Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined in this section have the meanings assigned to them in the accompanying prospectus.

The terms of the notes include those stated in the indenture and those made part of the indenture by reference to the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended. The notes are subject to all such terms, and investors are referred to the indenture and the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, for a statement thereof.

When we refer to Avnet, Avnet, Inc., us, we, or our in this section, we refer only to Avnet, Inc., a New York corporation, and not its subsidiaries.

#### General

The notes will be initially limited to \$250 million aggregate principal amount and will mature on , 2015. We will have the ability to reopen the series of notes and issue additional notes from time to time without the consent of the then existing noteholders. Any additional notes will be treated as part of the same series of notes as the initial notes for all purposes under the indenture. The notes will be issued in registered form only in denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000.

The notes will be unsecured obligations and will rank equally with our other present and future unsecured senior indebtedness including bank credit facilities, which amounted to \$1.18 billion at April 2, 2005. The notes will not be guaranteed by any of our subsidiaries and so will be effectively subordinated to all of the debt of these subsidiaries that is not guaranteed by us, which amounted to \$77.4 million at April 2, 2005. Substantially all of the debt of our subsidiaries has been incurred by foreign subsidiaries, primarily to fund their working capital.

The notes will not be subject to any sinking fund. The notes will be subject to defeasance and discharge and to defeasance of certain obligations as described in the accompanying prospectus under the caption Description of Debt Securities Defeasance and Discharge.

# **Interest on the Notes**

The notes will bear interest from August , 2005 at the annual rate set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement. Interest will be payable semi-annually on and of each year, beginning

, 2006, to the persons in whose names the notes are registered in the security register at the close of business on the applicable regular record date, which is the date 15 calendar days prior to such interest payment date. Interest on the notes will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months.

# **Optional Redemption**

We may, at our option, redeem some or all of the notes at any time, upon notice by mail not less than 30 nor more than 60 days before the date fixed for redemption, at a redemption price equal to the sum of the principal amount of the notes we redeem, accrued interest on that principal amount to the date of redemption, and the make-whole amount, if any, with respect to the notes. This sum is referred to as the redemption price. Make-whole amount means, in connection with the optional redemption, the excess, if any, of (a) the aggregate present value as of the date of such redemption of each dollar of principal being redeemed

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and the amount of interest, exclusive of interest accrued to the date of redemption, that would have been payable in respect of each such dollar if such redemption had not been made, determined by discounting, on a semi-annual basis (assuming a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months), such principal and interest at the reinvestment rate, determined on the third business day preceding the date notice of such redemption is given, from the respective dates on which such principal and interest would have been payable if such redemption had not been made, to the date of redemption, over (b) the aggregate principal amount of the notes being redeemed. In case of any redemption at our election of less than all of the notes, we shall, not less than 30 days nor more than 60 days prior to the redemption date fixed by us, notify the trustee in writing of such redemption date, and of the principal amount of the notes to be redeemed.

Reinvestment rate means % plus the arithmetic mean of the yields under the headings Week Ending published in the most recent statistical release under the caption. Treasury Constant Maturities for the maturity, rounded to the nearest month, corresponding to the remaining life to maturity, as of the payment date of the notes being redeemed. If no maturity exactly corresponds to such maturity, yields for the two published maturities most closely corresponding to such maturity will be calculated pursuant to the immediately preceding sentence and the reinvestment rate will be interpolated or extrapolated from such yields on a straight-line basis, rounding in each of the relevant periods to the nearest month. For purposes of calculating the reinvestment rate, the most recent statistical release published prior to the date of determination of the make-whole amount will be used.

Statistical release means the statistical release designated H.15(519) or any successor publication which is published weekly by the Federal Reserve System and which establishes yields on actively traded United States government securities adjusted to constant maturities or, if such statistical release is not published at the time of any determination, then such other reasonably comparable index which shall be designated by us.

## Depositary, Global Notes

Notes will be evidenced by one or more global notes deposited with the trustee as custodian for DTC, and registered in the name of Cede & Co. as DTC s nominee.

Record ownership of the global notes may be transferred, in whole or in part, only to another nominee of DTC or to a successor of DTC or its nominee, except as set forth below. An owner of beneficial interests may hold its interests in the global notes directly through DTC if such owner is a participant in DTC, or indirectly through organizations which are direct DTC participants if such owner is not a participant in DTC. Transfers between direct DTC participants will be effected in the ordinary way in accordance with DTC s rules and will be settled in same-day funds. You may also beneficially own interests in the global notes held by DTC through certain banks, brokers, dealers, trust companies and other parties that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a direct DTC participant, either directly or indirectly.

So long as Cede & Co., as nominee of DTC, is the registered owner of the global notes, Cede & Co. for all purposes will be considered the sole holder of the global notes. Except as provided below, owners of beneficial interests in the global notes:

will not be entitled to have certificates registered in their names; and

will not be considered holders of the global notes.

The laws of some states require that certain persons take physical delivery of securities in definitive form. Consequently, the ability of an owner of a beneficial interest in a global security to transfer the beneficial interest in the global security to such persons may be limited.

We will wire, through the facilities of the trustee, payments of principal, interest or the redemption price on the global notes to Cede & Co., the nominee of DTC, as the registered owner of the global notes. None of us, the trustee or any paying agent will have any responsibility or be liable for paying amounts due on the global notes to owners of beneficial interests in the global notes.

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It is DTC is current practice, upon receipt of any payment on the global notes, to credit participants in accounts on the payment date in amounts proportionate to their respective beneficial interests in the notes represented by the global notes, as shown on the records of DTC. Payments by DTC participants to owners of beneficial interests in notes represented by the global notes held through DTC participants will be the responsibility of DTC participants, as is now the case with securities held for the accounts of customers registered in street name.

Because DTC can only act on behalf of DTC participants, who in turn act on behalf of indirect DTC participants and other banks, your ability to pledge your interest in the notes represented by global notes to persons or entities that do not participate in the DTC system, or otherwise take actions in respect of such interest, may be affected by the lack of a physical certificate.

We will issue the notes in definitive certificated form if DTC notifies us that it is unwilling or unable to continue as depositary or DTC ceases to be a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act and a successor depositary is not appointed by us within 90 days. In addition, beneficial interests in a global note may be exchanged for definitive certificated notes upon request by or on behalf of DTC in accordance with DTC s customary procedures. We may determine at any time and in our sole discretion that notes shall no longer be represented by global notes, in which case we will issue certificates in definitive form in exchange for the global notes.

Neither we nor the trustee (nor any registrar or paying agent under the indenture) will have any responsibility for the performance by DTC or direct or indirect DTC participants of their obligations under the rules and procedures governing their operations. DTC has advised us that it will take any action permitted to be taken by a holder of notes only at the direction of one or more direct DTC participants to whose account with DTC interests in the global notes are credited and only for the principal amount of the notes for which directions have been given.

DTC has advised us as follows: DTC is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a banking organization within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a clearing corporation within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code and a clearing agency registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. DTC was created to hold securities for DTC participants and to facilitate the settlement of securities transactions among DTC participants through electronic computerized book-entry changes to the accounts of its participants, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies and clearing corporations and may include certain other organizations, such as the underwriter of the notes. Certain DTC participants or their representatives, together with other entities, own DTC. Indirect access to the DTC system is available to others such as banks, brokers, dealers and trust companies that clear through, or maintain a custodial relationship with, a participant, either directly or indirectly.

Although DTC has agreed to the foregoing procedures in order to facilitate transfers of interests in the global notes among DTC participants, it is under no obligation to perform or continue to perform such procedures, and such procedures may be discontinued at any time. None of us, the trustee or any of either s respective agents will have any responsibility for the performance by DTC or direct or indirect DTC participants of their obligations under the rules and procedures governing their operations, including maintaining, supervising or reviewing the records relating to or payments made on account of beneficial ownership interests in global notes.

The information in this section concerning DTC and DTC s book-entry system has been obtained from sources that we believe to be reliable, but we take no responsibility for the accuracy thereof.

#### Governing Law

The indenture and the notes will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York.

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### **Limited Liability of Certain Persons**

The indenture provides that none of our past, present or future incorporators, stockholders, directors, officers or employees, or of any successor corporation or any of our affiliates, shall have any personal liability in respect of our obligations under the indenture or the notes by reason of his, her or its status as an incorporator, stockholder, director, officer or employee. Each holder of the notes, by accepting a note, waives and releases all such liability. Such waiver may not be effective to waive liabilities under the federal securities laws and it is the view of the SEC that such a waiver is against public policy.

# **Information Concerning the Trustee**

J.P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association, successor in interest to Bank One Trust Company, N.A., as trustee under the indenture, has been appointed by us as paying agent and registrar with regard to, and will serve as DTC s custodian for, the notes. The trustee or its affiliates may from time to time in the future provide banking and other services to us in exchange for a fee.

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treaties.

# MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS TO NON-U.S. HOLDERS

This section summarizes the material U.S. federal income tax considerations relating to the purchase, ownership, and disposition of the notes by a purchaser of notes that, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, is not a U.S. Holder as defined below (a Non-U.S. Holder ). This summary does not provide a complete analysis of all potential tax considerations. The information provided below is based on the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (referred to herein as the Code ), Treasury regulations issued under the Code, judicial authority and administrative rulings and practice, all as of the date of this prospectus supplement and all of which are subject to change, possibly on a retroactive basis. In either case, the tax considerations of purchasing, owning or disposing of notes could differ from those described below. This summary deals only with purchasers who purchase notes at their issue price, which will equal the first price to the public (not including bond houses, brokers or similar persons or organizations acting in the capacity of underwriters, placement agents or wholesalers) at which a substantial amount of the notes is sold for money, and who hold notes as capital assets within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Code. This summary does not deal with persons in special tax situations, such as financial institutions, insurance companies, regulated investment companies, partnerships and their partners, tax exempt investors, dealers in securities and currencies, U.S. expatriates, persons holding notes as a position in a straddle, hedge, conversion transaction, or other integrated transaction for tax purposes. Further, this discussion does not address the consequences under U.S. alternative minimum tax rules, U.S. federal estate or gift tax laws, the tax laws of any U.S. state or locality, or any non-U.S. tax laws. You should consult your tax advisor regarding the application of the U.S. federal income tax laws to your particular situation and the consequences of federal estate or gift tax laws, foreign, state, or local laws, and tax

For purposes of this summary, the term U.S. Holder means a beneficial owner of notes that is, for U.S. federal income tax purposes:

an individual citizen or resident of the United States;

a corporation, or other entity treated as a corporation, created or organized in or under the laws of the United States, any state or the District of Columbia;

an estate, the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income tax regardless of its source; or

a trust if, (1) a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over its administration and one or more U.S. persons have authority to control all of its substantial decisions or (2) it has a valid election in effect under applicable Treasury regulations to be treated as a U.S. person.

For purposes of this discussion, any interest income and any gain realized on the sale, exchange or other taxable disposition of a note will be considered U.S. trade or business income if such income or gain is (i) effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States or (ii) in the case of a treaty resident, attributable to a permanent establishment (or in the case of an individual, to a fixed base) in the United States.

# Treatment of Interest

Subject to the discussion of backup withholding below, a Non-U.S. Holder will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax (or any withholding thereof) in respect of payments of interest on the notes if each of the following requirements is satisfied:

The interest is not U.S. trade or business income (as defined above).

The Non-U.S. Holder provides Avnet or its paying agent with a properly completed Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form W-8BEN (or successor form), or an appropriate substitute form, together with all appropriate attachments, signed under penalties of perjury, identifying the Non-U.S. Holder and stating, among other things, that the Non-U.S. Holder is not a U.S. person. If a note is held through a

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securities clearing organization, bank or other financial institution that holds customers—securities in the ordinary course of its trade or business, this requirement is satisfied if (i) the Non-U.S. Holder provides such a form to the organization or institution and (ii) the organization or institution, under penalties of perjury, certifies to Avnet that it has received such a form from the beneficial owner or another intermediary and furnishes Avnet or its paying agent with a copy thereof.

The Non-U.S. Holder does not actually or constructively own 10% or more of the voting power of Avnet s stock.

The Non-U.S. Holder is not a controlled foreign corporation (as defined for U.S. federal income tax purposes) that is actually or constructively related to Avnet.

If all of these conditions are not met, a 30% U.S. withholding tax will apply to payments of interest on the notes unless either (i) an applicable income tax treaty reduces or eliminates such tax or (ii) the interest is U.S. trade or business income (as defined above) and, in each case, the Non-U.S. Holder complies with applicable certification requirements. In the case of the second exception, the Non-U.S. Holder generally will be subject to U.S. federal income tax with respect to all income from the notes on a net income basis in the same manner as a U.S. Holder, as described above. Additionally, Non-U.S. Holders that are corporations could be subject to a branch profits tax on such income. Special procedures contained in Treasury regulations may apply to partnerships, trusts and intermediaries. Avnet urges Non-U.S. Holders to consult their tax advisors for information on the impact of these withholding regulations.

# Treatment of Disposition of Notes

Generally, a Non-U.S. Holder will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax on gain realized upon the sale, exchange, retirement or other disposition of a note unless:

such holder is an individual present in the United States for 183 days or more in the taxable year of the sale, exchange, retirement or other disposition and certain other conditions are met, or

the gain is U.S. trade or business income (as defined above).

# **Backup Withholding and Information Reporting**

When required, we will provide information statements to Non-U.S. Holders and the IRS reporting amounts paid with respect to the notes. Payments of the proceeds of the sale or other disposition of the notes to individual Non-U.S. Holders may also be subject to information reporting unless the Non-U.S. Holder complies with certain certification procedures. Such payments may also be subject to backup withholding (currently at a rate of 28%) unless the holder provides Avnet or its paying agent with a correct taxpayer identification number and complies with applicable certification requirements.

Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld from a payment to a holder of notes under the backup withholding rules can be credited against any U.S. federal income tax liability of the holder.

The preceding discussion of certain U.S. federal income tax considerations is for general information only; it is not tax advice. You should consult your own tax advisor regarding the particular U.S. federal, state, local and foreign tax consequences of purchasing, holding and disposing of Avnet s notes, including the consequences of any proposed change in applicable laws.

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#### **UNDERWRITING**

Banc of America Securities LLC and Credit Suisse First Boston LLC are joint book-running managers and are acting as representatives of the underwriters named below.

Subject to the terms and conditions of the underwriting agreement dated the date of this prospectus supplement, the underwriters named below have severally agreed to purchase from us, and we have agreed to sell, the principal amount of notes listed opposite their names below at the public offering price less the underwriting discount set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement:

Underwriters	Principal Amount of Notes
Banc of America Securities LLC	
Credit Suisse First Boston LLC	
J.P. Morgan Securities Inc.	
Scotia Capital (USA) Inc.	
ABN AMRO Rothschild LLC	
BNP Paribas Securities Corp.	
Wachovia Capital Markets, LLC	
Total	\$ 250,000,000

The underwriting agreement provides that the obligations of the several underwriters to purchase the notes offered hereby are subject to certain conditions and that the underwriters will purchase all of the notes offered by this prospectus supplement if any of these notes are purchased.

We have been advised by the representatives of the underwriters that the underwriters propose to offer the notes directly to the public at the public offering price set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement and to certain dealers at such price less a concession not in excess of % of the principal amount of the notes. The underwriters may allow, and such dealers may reallow, a concession not in excess of % of the principal amount of the notes to certain other dealers. After the initial public offering, the underwriters may change the offering price and other selling terms.

We estimate that our share of total expenses of this offering, excluding the underwriting discount, will be approximately \$0.4 million.

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

The notes are a new issue of securities with no established trading market. The notes will not be listed on any securities exchange or on any automated dealer quotation system. The underwriters may make a market in the notes after completion of the offering, but will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market-making activities at any time without notice. No assurance can be given as to the liquidity of the trading market for the notes or that an active trading market for the notes will develop. If an active trading market for the notes does not develop, the market price and liquidity of the notes may be adversely affected.

In connection with the offering of the notes, the underwriters may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the price of the notes. Specifically, the underwriters may overallot in connection with the offering, creating a short position. In addition, the underwriters may bid for, and purchase, the notes in the open market to cover short positions or to stabilize the price of the notes. Any of these activities may stabilize or maintain the market price of the notes above independent market levels, but no representation is made hereby that the underwriters will engage in any of those transactions or of the magnitude of any effect that the transactions described above may have on the market price of the notes. The underwriters will not be required to engage in these activities, and if they engage in

these activities, they may end any of these activities at any time without notice.

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Certain of the underwriters will make notes available for distribution on the Internet through a proprietary Web site and/or a third-party system operated by MarketAxess Corporation, an Internet-based communications technology provider. MarketAxess Corporation is providing the system as a conduit for communications between these underwriters and their respective customers and is not a party to any transactions. MarketAxess Corporation, a registered broker-dealer, will receive compensation from these underwriters based on transactions these underwriters conduct through the system. These underwriters will make notes available to their respective customers through the Internet distributions, whether made through a proprietary or third-party system, on the same terms as distributions made through other channels.

Each underwriter has represented, warranted and agreed that: (i) it has not offered or sold and, prior to the expiry of a period of six months from the closing date, will not offer or sell any notes to persons in the United Kingdom except to persons whose ordinary activities involve them in acquiring, holding, managing or disposing of investments (as principal or agent) for the purposes of their businesses or otherwise in circumstances which have not resulted and will not result in an offer to the public in the United Kingdom within the meaning of the Public Offers of Securities Regulations 1995; (ii) it has only communicated or caused to be communicated and will only communicate or cause to be communicated any invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of section 21 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (FSMA)) received by it in connection with the issue or sale of any notes in circumstances in which section 21(1) of the FSMA does not apply to UTC; and (iii) it has complied and will comply with all applicable provisions of the FSMA with respect to anything done by it in relation to the notes in, from or otherwise involving the United Kingdom.

The underwriters and/or their affiliates have provided and in the future may continue to provide investment banking, commercial banking and/or other financial services, including the provision of credit facilities, to us in the ordinary course of business for which they have received and will receive customary compensation. Banc of America Securities LLC and Credit Suisse First Boston LLC are the dealer managers for the Tender Offer.

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#### NOTICE TO CANADIAN RESIDENTS

#### **Resale Restrictions**

The distribution of the notes in Canada is being made only on a private placement basis exempt from the requirement that Avnet prepares and files a prospectus with the securities regulatory authorities in each province where trades of notes are made. Any resale of the notes in Canada must be made under applicable securities laws, which will vary depending on the relevant jurisdiction, and which may require resales to be made under available statutory exemptions or under a discretionary exemption granted by the applicable Canadian securities regulatory authority. Purchasers are advised to seek legal advice prior to any resale of the notes.

# **Representations of Purchasers**

By purchasing notes in Canada and accepting a purchase confirmation, a purchaser is representing to Avnet and the dealer from whom the purchase confirmation is received that

the purchaser is entitled under applicable provincial securities laws to purchase the notes without the benefit of a prospectus qualified under those securities laws;

where required by law, the purchaser is purchasing as principal and not as agent; and

the purchaser has reviewed the text above under Resale Restrictions.

# Rights of Action Ontario Purchasers Only

Under Ontario securities legislation, a purchaser who purchases a security offered by this prospectus during the period of distribution will have a statutory right of action for damages, or while still the owner of the notes, for rescission against Avnet in the event that this prospectus contains a misrepresentation. A purchaser will be deemed to have relied on the misrepresentation. The right of action for damages is exercisable not later than the earlier of 180 days from the date the purchaser first had knowledge of the facts giving rise to the cause of action and three years from the date on which payment is made for the notes. The right of action for rescission is exercisable not later than 180 days from the date on which payment is made for the notes. If a purchaser elects to exercise the right of action for rescission, the purchaser will have no right of action for damages against Avnet. In no case will the amount recoverable in any action exceed the price at which the notes were offered to the purchaser and if the purchaser is shown to have purchased the securities with knowledge of the misrepresentation, Avnet will have no liability. In the case of an action for damages, Avnet will not be liable for all or any portion of the damages that are proven to not represent the depreciation in value of the notes as a result of the misrepresentation relied upon. These rights are in addition to, and without derogation from, any other rights or remedies available at law to an Ontario purchaser. The foregoing is a summary of the rights available to an Ontario purchaser. Ontario purchasers should refer to the complete text of the relevant statutory provisions.

## **Enforcement of Legal Rights**

All of Avnet s directors and officers as well as the experts named herein may be located outside of Canada and, as a result, it may not be possible for Canadian purchasers to effect service of process within Canada upon Avnet or those persons. All or a substantial portion of Avnet s assets and the assets of those persons may be located outside of Canada and, as a result, it may not be possible to satisfy a judgment against Avnet or those persons in Canada or to enforce a judgment obtained in Canadian courts against Avnet or those persons outside of Canada.

# **Taxation and Eligibility for Investment**

Canadian purchasers of notes should consult their own legal and tax advisors with respect to the tax consequences of an investment in the notes in their particular circumstances and about the eligibility of the notes for investment by the purchaser under relevant Canadian legislation.

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## **LEGAL MATTERS**

The validity of the notes and matters related to this offering will be passed upon for Avnet by David R. Birk, its Senior Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel. As of August 12, 2005, Mr. Birk beneficially owned 296,114 shares of Avnet s common stock, which includes 274,965 shares issuable upon exercise of employee stock options within 60 days. Certain legal matters with respect to the notes and this offering will be passed upon for Avnet by Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, 200 Park Avenue, New York, New York. Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, Los Angeles, California, is acting as legal counsel for the underwriters.

#### **EXPERTS**

The consolidated financial statements and schedule of Avnet, Inc. and subsidiaries as of July 3, 2004 and June 27, 2003, and for each of the years in the three-year period ended July 3, 2004 have been incorporated by reference in this prospectus and in the Registration Statement in reliance upon the report of KPMG LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, incorporated by reference herein and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

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Prospectus

# Avnet, Inc.

# \$1,500,000,000

# **Debt Securities, Common Stock,**

# Stock Purchase Contracts, Stock Purchase Units, Debt Warrants, Equity Warrants and Units

Avnet, Inc. may offer from time to time, in one or more series or issuances and at prices and on terms that it will determine at the time of offering, up to \$1,500,000,000 in gross proceeds to Avnet of

senior unsecured debt securities and subordinated unsecured debt securities,

senior convertible unsecured debt securities and subordinated convertible unsecured debt securities,

shares of common stock,

contracts to purchase common stock,

contracts to purchase common stock sold as units with other securities of Avnet or other issuers,

warrants to purchase debt securities,

warrants to purchase common stock, or

units consisting of two or more of the above securities.

Avnet s common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange and the Pacific Exchange under the symbol AVT.

We will provide specific terms of these securities in supplements to this prospectus at the time when we offer them. You should read this prospectus and the applicable supplement carefully before you invest in any of these securities. The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. These securities may not be sold until the registration statement (of which this prospectus is a part) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission has become effective. This prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement do not contain an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities other than the registered securities to which they relate, or an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

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.

The date of this prospectus is November 10, 2003.

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We have not authorized any dealer, salesman or other person to give any information or to make any representation other than those contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement. You must not rely upon any information or representation not contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or a prospectus supplement. The information contained in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement is accurate as of the dates on their covers. When we deliver this prospectus or a supplement or make a sale pursuant to this prospectus, we are not implying that the information is current as of the date of the delivery or sale.

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Whenever we refer to Avnet or to us, or use the terms we or our in this prospectus, we are referring to Avnet, Inc. a New York corporation and its consolidated subsidiaries. However, for purposes of the sections entitled Description of Debt Securities, Description of Common Stock, Description of Warrants, Description of Stock Purchase Contracts and Stock Purchase Units, and Description of Units, whenever we refer to Avnet or to us, or use the terms we or our, we are referring only to Avnet, Inc.

#### ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission utilizing 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 resulting in gross proceeds to us of up to \$1,500,000,000. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we 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, you should assume that the statements made in the prospectus supplement modify or supersede those made in this prospectus. You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with additional information described under the heading Where You Can Find More Information.

#### THE COMPANY

Avnet is one of the world s largest distributors of electronic components, enterprise network and computer equipment, and embedded subsystems. Incorporated in 1955, Avnet has become a strategic channel-to-market for the world s leading electronic component and computer product manufacturers. Avnet serves as a vital link in the chain that connects manufacturers to its global customer base of original equipment manufacturers, contract manufacturers, value-added resellers and end-users. Avnet distributes electronic components and computer products as received from its suppliers or with assembly or other value added by Avnet. Additionally, Avnet provides engineering design, material management and logistic services, system integration and configuration, and supply chain advisory services. Avnet maintains a worldwide network of large, regional distribution centers and smaller warehouses located in proximity to its customers and suppliers and also maintains inventory on customers premises. Avnet has over 300 sales and marketing offices and sells to customers in over 60 countries.

Avnet s principal executive offices are located at 2211 South 47th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85034, telephone (480) 643-2000.

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#### RATIOS OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

The following table sets forth the ratios of Avnet s earnings to fixed charges, on a consolidated basis, for the periods indicated:

Figaal	Voor	Ended	
HISCAL	Y ear	Rnaea	

June 27,	June 28,	June 29,	June 30,	July 2,
2003(1)	2002(2)(3)	2001(4)	2000(5)	1999(6)
*	*	1.4x	3.6x	6.2x

#### Notes:

- \* Earnings were deficient in covering fixed charges by \$79.4 million and \$120.8 million for the fiscal years ended June 27, 2003 and June 28, 2002, respectively.
- (1) The loss from continuing operations before income taxes includes the impact of incremental restructuring and other charges recorded in connection with Avnet s continuing cost reduction initiatives. The charges related to (a) severance for workforce reductions, (b) reserves for non-cancelable lease obligations, write-downs of the carrying value of owned facilities and write-downs of owned assets located in the leased and owned facilities, all of which were identified by management to be consolidated into other existing Avnet facilities, and (c) costs related to write-offs of certain capitalized IT-related initiatives. The special charges amounted to \$106.7 million pre-tax. The loss from continuing operations before income taxes also includes the impact of debt extinguishment costs associated with Avnet s cash tender offers and repurchases completed during the third quarter of fiscal 2003 for \$159.0 million of its 6.45% Notes due August 15, 2003 and \$220.1 million of its 8.20% Notes due October 17, 2003. These charges totaled \$13.5 million pre-tax.
- (2) The loss from continuing operations before income taxes includes the impact of incremental restructuring and other charges related to the write-down of certain assets acquired in the fiscal 2001 acquisition of Kent Electronics Corporation, net of certain recoveries of previous write-downs and reserves, and other charges taken in response to business conditions, including an impairment charge to write down certain investments in unconsolidated Internet-related businesses to their fair value and severance charges for workforce reductions announced during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2002. The net charges amounted to \$79.6 million pre-tax.
- (3) The loss from continuing operations before income taxes excludes the impact of Avnet s adoption of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 142 (SFAS 142), Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets, on June 30, 2001, the first day of Avnet s fiscal year 2002. SFAS 142, which requires that ratable amortization of goodwill be replaced with periodic tests for goodwill impairment, resulted in a transition impairment charge recorded by Avnet of \$580.5 million. This charge is reflected as the cumulative change in accounting principle in the consolidated statements of operations. Including the cumulative effect of change in accounting principle, Avnet recorded a net loss of \$664.9 million in the year ended June 28, 2002.
- (4) Income from continuing operations before income taxes includes the impact of incremental restructuring and other charges related to the acquisition and integration of Kent, which was accounted for as a pooling-of-interests, and other integration, reorganization and cost cutting initiatives taken in response to business conditions. The charges amounted to \$327.5 million pre-tax.
- (5) Income from continuing operations before income taxes includes the impact of incremental restructuring and other charges associated with: (a) the integration of Marshall Industries, Eurotronics B.V. and the SEI Macro Group into EM, (b) the integration of JBA Computer Solutions into CM North America, (c) the reorganization of EM Asia, (d) the reorganization of EM s European warehousing operations, and (e) costs incurred in connection with certain litigation brought by Avnet. The total charges for fiscal 2000 amounted to \$49.0 million pre-tax.
- (6) Income from continuing operations before income taxes includes the net gain on exiting the printed catalog business recorded in the fourth quarter of fiscal 1999 offset by restructuring and other charges recorded in the first quarter associated with the reorganization of Avnet s EM operations in Europe. The net positive effect on fiscal 1999 income before income taxes was \$183.0 million.

**USE OF PROCEEDS** 

Unless we identify other uses of proceeds in a prospectus supplement, we intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of the securities for Avnet s general corporate purposes, which may include repayment of debt, capital expenditures, acquisitions, repurchases of Avnet s common stock, and working capital. Pending these uses, the net proceeds may also be temporarily invested in short-term securities.

Depending on market conditions and Avnet s financial needs, Avnet may, from time to time, undertake additional financings. We cannot at this time estimate the amount and timing of such financings, if any.

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#### DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

The following description summarizes the general terms and provisions of any debt securities which Avnet may offer under this prospectus. When Avnet offers a particular series of debt securities, we shall deliver with this prospectus a prospectus supplement which will describe the particular terms of the offered series and the extent to which the general terms below may apply to that series.

Avnet will issue the debt securities under an indenture between Avnet and a trustee chosen by Avnet and qualified to act under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939. The debt securities will be either senior debt or subordinated debt of Avnet, and will be issued under one of two separate indentures between Avnet and a trustee chosen by Avnet. Senior debt will be issued under a senior note indenture and subordinated debt will be issued under a subordinated note indenture. The senior note indenture and the subordinated note indenture are sometimes referred to in this prospectus individually as an indenture and collectively as the indentures. The forms of indentures are exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. Avnet will execute the applicable indenture if and when it issues any debt securities and will file the executed indenture as an exhibit to a Form 8-K filing with the SEC. The executed indenture will be available for inspection at the corporate trust office of the trustee, or you may obtain a copy from Avnet without charge. See Where You Can Find More Information. The indentures will be subject to, and governed by, the Trust Indenture Act. The statements contained in this prospectus relating to the indentures and the debt securities we may issue under the indentures are summaries of their material terms but do not purport to be complete and are subject to, and are qualified in their entirety by reference to, all provisions of the indentures (including those terms made a part of the indentures by reference to the Trust Indenture Act) and these debt securities.

Avnet can issue an unlimited amount of debt securities in one or more series under the indentures, with the same or various maturities, at par, at a premium, or at a discount. The terms of each series of debt securities will be established by or pursuant to a resolution of Avnet s Board of Directors or a committee of the Board or by a supplemental indenture. We will describe, in a prospectus supplement relating to any series of debt securities being offered, the aggregate principal amount and the terms of that series, including

the title of the series.

whether the series is senior debt or subordinated debt or any combination of the two and, if subordinated debt, the subordination terms relating to the series,

the price or prices, expressed as a percentage of the aggregate principal amount, at which Avnet will sell the series of debt securities,

any limit upon the aggregate principal amount of the series,

the date or dates on which Avnet will pay the principal (and premium, if any) on the series,

the rate or rates (which may be fixed or variable) or the method by which such rate or rates will be determined, at which the series of debt securities will bear interest, if any,

the date or dates from which any interest will accrue, the dates upon which any interest will be payable, and the record dates for payment of interest,

the place or places where Avnet will pay principal of, and any premium or interest on, the series of debt securities,

any obligation Avnet has to redeem, repurchase or repay all or part of the series under any sinking fund or analogous provisions or at the option of a holder of the series, and the price or prices at which and the period or periods within which and the terms and conditions upon which Avnet will redeem, repurchase or repay the series,

the denominations in which the series will be issued, if other than denominations of U.S.\$1,000 and any whole number multiple thereof,

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the portion of the principal amount of the series payable upon declaration of the acceleration of the maturity date, if other than the principal amount

any addition to, exclusion of or change in the covenants in the indenture as they apply to the series,

any addition to, change in, or modification of the events of default described in this prospectus or in the indenture with respect to the series,

whether Avnet will issue the series in global form and, if so, any terms and conditions upon which global debt securities may be exchanged for other individual securities, and the name of the depositary for the debt securities,

any terms and conditions upon which the series may be exchanged for or converted into Avnet common stock or other securities,

the form and terms of any guarantee of the series,

if the principal amount payable at the stated maturity of a series of debt securities will not be determinable as of any one or more dates prior to the stated maturity, the amount which will be deemed to be the principal amount as of any date for any purpose, including the principal amount which will be due and payable upon any maturity other than the stated maturity or which will be deemed to be outstanding as of any such date (or, in any such case, the manner in which such deemed principal amount is to be determined),

the applicability to the series of the provisions of the indenture relating to defeasance and discharge,

whether the debt securities will be sold as part of units consisting of debt securities and other securities that Avnet may offer under the indenture.

whether the debt securities will be listed on any securities exchange or included in any other market or quotation or trading system,

any trustee or fiscal or authenticating or payment agent, issuing and paying agent, transfer agent or registrar or any other person or entity to act in connection with the series of debt securities for or on our behalf or on behalf of the holders of the series, and

any other terms of the series of debt securities, which may add, modify or exclude any provision of the indenture as it applies to that series.

Avnet may issue debt securities at a discount below their stated principal amount or provide for less than the entire principal amount of the debt securities to be payable upon declaration of acceleration of maturity. In that event, we will describe any material federal income tax considerations and other material considerations in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Avnet may issue debt securities in bearer form, with or without coupons. In that event, we will describe any material federal income tax considerations and other material considerations in the applicable prospectus supplement.

### **Ranking of Debt Securities**

Any series of debt securities issued under the senior note indenture will rank equally with all of Avnet s other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness.

Any series of debt securities issued under the subordinated note indenture will be subordinate in right of payment to all senior indebtedness of Avnet. With respect to any series of subordinated debt securities, except as otherwise set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, Avnet s senior indebtedness means all Debt (as defined below) permitted to be incurred by Avnet under the terms of the indenture, unless the instrument under which such Debt is incurred expressly provides that it is on a parity with or subordinated in right of

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payment to the subordinated debt securities, and all obligations with respect to the foregoing. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the foregoing sentence, senior indebtedness will not include:

any liability for federal, state, local or other taxes owed or owing by Avnet;

any Debt of Avnet or any guarantor to any of its officers, directors, subsidiaries or other affiliates;

any trade payables; or

any Debt that is incurred in violation of the indenture.

With respect to any series of subordinated debt securities, except as otherwise set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, Debt means, with respect to any Person (as defined below) at any date of determination (without duplication), (i) all indebtedness of such Person for borrowed money, (ii) all obligations of such Person evidenced by bonds, debentures, notes or other similar instruments, including obligations incurred in connection with the acquisition of property, assets or businesses, (iii) all obligations of such Person in respect of letters of credit or bankers acceptances or other similar instruments (or reimbursement obligations thereto) issued on the account of such Person, (iv) all obligations of such Person to pay the deferred purchase price of property or services, except trade payables, (v) all obligations of such Person as lessee under capitalized leases, (vi) all Debt of others secured by a lien on any asset of such Person (including assets subject to the interest of a vendor or lessor under any conditional sale agreement, capital lease, or other title retention agreement relating to such asset), whether or not such Debt is assumed by such Person; *provided* that, for purposes of determining the amount of any Debt of the type described in this clause (vi), if recourse with respect to such Debt is limited to such asset, the amount of such Debt shall be limited to the lesser of the fair market value of such asset or the amount of such Debt, and (vii) all Debt of others guaranteed by such Person to the extent such Debt is guaranteed by such Person.

In the event and during the continuation of any default by Avnet in the payment of principal, premium, interest or any other payment due on any senior indebtedness, or in the event that the maturity of any senior indebtedness has been accelerated because of a default, then, in either case, no payment shall be made by Avnet with respect to the principal (including redemption payments) of or premium, if any, or interest on the subordinated debt securities until such default shall have been cured or waived in writing or shall have ceased to exist or such senior indebtedness shall have been discharged or paid in full.

In the event of the acceleration of the maturity of any subordinated debt securities, then no payment shall be made by Avnet with respect to the principal (including redemption payments) of or premium, if any, or interest on such subordinated debt securities until the holders of all senior indebtedness outstanding at the time of such acceleration shall receive payment in full of such senior indebtedness (including any amounts due upon acceleration).

Upon any distribution of Avnet s assets upon dissolution, winding-up, liquidation or reorganization, the holders of its senior indebtedness will be entitled to receive payment in full, in cash or cash equivalents, or payment thereof provided for in accordance with its terms, of principal, premium, if any, and interest (including interest accruing after the commencement of any proceeding for Avnet s bankruptcy or reorganization under any applicable bankruptcy, insolvency or similar law) before any payment is made on the subordinated debt securities. By reason of the subordination, if Avnet becomes insolvent, holders of its senior indebtedness may receive more, ratably, and holders of the subordinated debt securities having a claim pursuant to the subordinated debt securities may receive less, ratably, than Avnet s other creditors. Such subordination will not prevent the occurrence of any event of default in respect of the subordinated debt securities.

If Avnet offers debt securities, the applicable prospectus supplement will set forth the aggregate amount of outstanding indebtedness, if any, as of the most recent practicable date that by the terms of such debt securities would be senior to such debt securities. The applicable prospectus supplement will also set forth any limitation on Avnet s ability to issue any additional senior indebtedness and will describe in more detail the material terms of the subordination provisions of these securities, including relevant definitions.

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#### **Conversion Rights**

Any provisions for the exchange or conversion of a series of debt securities into shares of Avnet common stock will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

#### **Exchange, Registration, Transfer and Payment**

Unless we specify otherwise in a prospectus supplement, payment of principal of, and any premium and interest on, the debt securities will be payable, and the exchange of and the transfer of debt securities will be registrable, at the office of the trustee or at any other office or agency maintained by Avnet for that purpose subject to the limitations of the indenture. Unless we specify otherwise in a prospectus supplement, Avnet will issue the debt securities in denominations of U.S. \$1,000 or whole number multiples thereof. Avnet will not require a service charge for any registration of transfer or exchange of the debt securities, but it may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge.

#### **Global Debt Securities**

Avnet may issue the debt securities of a series in the form of one or more global security certificates. Avnet will deposit each global security with a depositary or its nominee or custodian, which will be The Depository Trust Company and its nominee Cede & Co unless we name another depositary or nominee in a prospectus supplement, and each global security will bear a legend regarding the restrictions on exchanges and registration of transfer thereof referred to below and any other matters as may be provided for in the indenture.

Notwithstanding any provision of the indenture or any debt security, no global security may be transferred to, or registered or exchanged for debt securities registered in the name of, any person or entity other than the depositary for the global security or any nominee of the depositary, and no such transfer may be registered, unless

the depositary has notified Avnet that it is unwilling or unable to continue as depositary for the global security or has ceased to be qualified to act as such, or

Avnet executes and delivers to the trustee an order that the global security will be so transferable, registrable and exchangeable, and those transfers will be registrable, or

the applicable prospectus supplement describes other circumstances under which the global security will be so transferable, registrable or exchangeable, or under which transfers will be so registrable.

All debt securities issued in exchange for a global security or any portion of a global security will be registered in such names as the depositary may direct.

Unless we specify otherwise in a prospectus supplement, debt securities which are to be represented by a global security will be registered in the name of the depositary or its nominee. Upon the issuance of a global security, and the deposit of the global security with or on behalf of the depositary for the global security, the depositary will credit, on its book-entry registration and transfer system, the respective principal amounts of the debt securities represented by the global security to the accounts of institutions that have accounts with the depositary or its nominee (participants). The accounts to be credited will be designated by the underwriters or agents of the debt securities, or by Avnet if it directly offers and sells the debt securities. Ownership of beneficial interests in the global security will be limited to participants or persons that may hold interests through participants. Ownership of beneficial interests by participants in the global security will be shown on, and the transfer of that ownership interest will be effected only through, records maintained by the depositary or its nominee for the global security. Ownership interest within such participant will be effected only through, records maintained by the participant. The laws of some jurisdictions require that certain purchasers of securities take physical delivery of the securities in certificate form. The foregoing limitations and these laws may impair the ability to transfer beneficial interests in the global securities.

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So long as the depositary for a global security, or its nominee, is the registered owner of the global se