

MOODYS CORP /DE/
Form S-3ASR
August 02, 2010
Table of Contents

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 2, 2010

Registration No. 333-

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

Form S-3
REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

Moody s Corporation

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of

13-3998945
(I.R.S. Employer

Edgar Filing: MOODYS CORP /DE/ - Form S-3ASR

incorporation or organization)

Identification Number)

7 World Trade Center at 250 Greenwich Street

New York, New York 10007

(212) 553-0300

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

John J. Goggins, Esq.

Moody's Corporation

7 World Trade Center at 250 Greenwich Street

New York, New York 10007

Telephone: (212) 553-0300

Facsimile: (212) 553-0084

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

Copies to

Stacy J. Kanter, Esq.

Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP

4 Times Square

New York, New York 10036

Telephone: (212) 735-3000

Facsimile: (212) 735-2000

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: From time to time after the effective date of this registration statement.

Edgar Filing: MOODYS CORP /DE/ - Form S-3ASR

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box.

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

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

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

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

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

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

	Amount to be Registered/Proposed Maximum	
Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered	Offering Price Per Unit/Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price (1)(2)	Amount of Registration Fee (3)
Debt Securities		

- (1) Not applicable pursuant to Form S-3 General Instruction II.E.
- (2) An unspecified aggregate initial offering price or number of debt securities is being registered as may from time to time be offered at unspecified prices.
- (3) In accordance with Rules 456(b) and 457(r) under the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant is deferring payment of the entire registration fee.

Table of Contents

MOODY S CORPORATION

Debt Securities

Moody s Corporation, from time to time, may offer to sell, issue and sell senior or subordinated debt securities.

We may offer and sell these debt securities to or through one or more underwriters, dealers and agents, or directly to purchasers, on a continuous or delayed basis.

This prospectus describes some of the general terms that may apply to these debt securities. The specific terms of any debt securities to be offered will be described in a supplement to this prospectus. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement, as well as the documents incorporated and deemed to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus, carefully before you make your investment decision.

THIS PROSPECTUS MAY NOT BE USED TO SELL SECURITIES UNLESS ACCOMPANIED BY A PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT.

Investing in our debt securities involves risks. You should carefully read and consider the information referred to under the heading Risk Factors on page 2 of this prospectus.

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.

Prospectus dated August 2, 2010

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<u>About This Prospectus</u>	ii
<u>Where You Can Find More Information</u>	ii
<u>Incorporation of Certain Documents By Reference</u>	ii
<u>Disclosure Regarding Forward-Looking Statements</u>	iii
<u>Moody's Corporation</u>	1
<u>Risk Factors</u>	2
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	2
<u>Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges</u>	3
<u>Description of Debt Securities</u>	4
<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	7
<u>Legal Matters</u>	9
<u>Experts</u>	9

In this prospectus, except as otherwise indicated, the Company, Moody's, we, our, and us refer to Moody's Corporation and its subsidiaries.

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form S-3 that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, using a shelf registration process. Under this shelf process, we may from time to time sell debt securities in one or more offerings.

This prospectus provides you with a general description of the debt securities that we may offer. Each time we sell debt securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement that contains specific information about the terms of that offering. The prospectus supplement may also add information to this prospectus or update or change information in this prospectus. If there is any inconsistency between the information in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information in the prospectus supplement. You should read carefully this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with the additional information described under the headings **Where You Can Find More Information** and **Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference**.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may inspect without charge any documents filed by us at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You may obtain copies of all or any part of these materials from the SEC upon the payment of certain fees prescribed by the SEC. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the Public Reference Room. The SEC also maintains an Internet site that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC. Our filings with the SEC are available to the public through the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-3 relating to the debt securities covered by this prospectus. This prospectus is part of the registration statement and does not contain all the information in the registration statement. You will find additional information about us in the registration statement. Any statement made in this prospectus concerning a contract or other document of ours is not necessarily complete, and you should read the documents that are filed as exhibits to the registration statement or otherwise filed with the SEC for a more complete understanding of the document or matter. Each such statement is qualified in all respects by reference to the document to which it refers. You may inspect without charge a copy of the registration statement at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington D.C., as well as through the SEC's website.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference documents we file with the SEC into this prospectus, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered part of this prospectus. Any statement in this prospectus or incorporated by reference into this prospectus shall be automatically modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a statement contained herein or in a subsequently filed document that is incorporated by reference in this prospectus modifies or supersedes such prior statement. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus.

We incorporate by reference into this prospectus the documents listed below and all documents we subsequently file with the SEC pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, prior to the completion of the offering of all debt securities covered by the respective prospectus supplement (other than, in each case, documents or information deemed to have been furnished and not filed in accordance with SEC rules):

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 filed on March 1, 2010, including portions of our Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed on March 11, 2010, to the extent specifically incorporated by reference into such Annual Report on Form 10-K;

Table of Contents

our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2010 filed on May 7, 2010;

our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2010 filed on August 2, 2010; and

our Current Report on Form 8-K filed on April 26, 2010.

You may request a copy of these filings, at no cost, by writing or telephoning us at:

Moody's Corporation

7 World Trade Center at 250 Greenwich Street

New York, New York 10007

Attention: Investor Relations

Telephone: (212) 553-0300

You should rely only on the information contained in, or incorporated by reference into, this prospectus, any accompanying prospectus supplement or any free writing prospectus filed by us with the SEC and any information about the terms of debt securities conveyed to you by us, our underwriters or agents. We have not authorized anyone else to provide you with different or additional information. We are not offering to sell or soliciting any offer to buy any securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus, any accompanying prospectus supplement, any free writing prospectus or in any document incorporated by reference is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front cover of the applicable document.

DISCLOSURE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements contained in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and the documents incorporated by reference herein or therein are forward-looking statements and are based on future expectations, plans and prospects for our business and operations that involve a number of risks and uncertainties. Such statements involve estimates, projections, goals, forecasts, assumptions and uncertainties that could cause actual results or outcomes to differ materially from those contemplated, expressed, projected, anticipated or implied in the forward-looking statements. Those statements appear at various places throughout this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and the documents incorporated by reference herein or therein, including in the sections containing the words believe, expect, anticipate, intend, plan, will, predict, potential, could, strategy, aspire, target, forecast, project, estimate, should, could, may and similar expressions or words and variations thereof relating to our views on future events, trends and contingencies. Investors are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements and other information speak only as of the date on the front cover of the applicable document, and we undertake no obligation (nor do we intend) to publicly supplement, update or revise such statements on a going-forward basis, whether as a result of subsequent developments, changed expectations or otherwise. In connection with the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, we are identifying examples of factors, risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ, perhaps materially, from those indicated by these forward-looking statements. Those factors, risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to:

the current world-wide credit market disruptions and economic slowdown, which is affecting and could continue to affect the volume of debt and other securities issued in domestic and/or global capital markets;

other matters that could affect the volume of debt and other securities issued in domestic and/or global capital markets, including credit quality concerns, changes in interest rates and other volatility in the financial markets;

the uncertain effectiveness and possible collateral consequences of U.S. and foreign government initiatives to respond to the economic slowdown;

concerns in the marketplace affecting our credibility or otherwise affecting market perceptions of the integrity or utility of independent agency ratings;

the introduction of competing products or technologies by other companies;

pricing pressure from competitors and/or customers;

Table of Contents

the impact of regulation as a nationally recognized statistical rating organization, or an NRSRO, and the potential for new U.S., state and local legislation and regulations, including provisions in the recently enacted Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and anticipated regulations resulting from that law;

the potential for increased competition and regulation in foreign jurisdictions;

exposure to litigation related to our rating opinions, as well as any other litigation to which we may be subject from time to time;

provisions in the Dodd-Frank legislation modifying pleading and liability standards applicable to credit rating agencies in a manner adverse to rating agencies;

the possible loss of key employees;

failures or malfunctions of our operations and infrastructure;

the outcome of any review by controlling tax authorities of our global tax planning initiatives;

the outcome of those Legacy Tax Matters (as defined in the documents incorporated by reference herein) and legal contingencies that relate to us, our predecessors and affiliated companies for which we have assumed portions of the financial responsibility;

our ability to successfully integrate acquired businesses; and

a decline in the demand for credit risk management tools by financial institutions.

The foregoing factors, risks and uncertainties as well as other risks and uncertainties that could cause Moody's actual results to differ materially from those contemplated, expressed, projected, anticipated or implied in the forward-looking statements are described in greater detail under

Risk Factors in Part I, Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009 and in our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarterly periods ended March 31, 2010 and June 30, 2010, in any accompanying prospectus supplement and in other filings made by the Company from time to time with the SEC or in materials incorporated herein or therein. Investors are cautioned that the occurrence of any of these factors, risks and uncertainties may cause our actual results to differ materially from those contemplated, expressed, projected, anticipated or implied in the forward-looking statements, which could have a material and adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition. New factors may emerge from time to time, and it is not possible for us to predict new factors, nor can we assess the potential effect of any new factors on us.

Table of Contents

MOODY S CORPORATION

Moody's is a provider of (i) credit ratings, (ii) credit and economic related research, data and analytical tools, (iii) risk management software and (iv) quantitative credit risk measures, credit portfolio management solutions and training services. In 2007 and prior years, Moody's operated in two reportable segments: Moody's Investors Service, or MIS, and Moody's KMV. Beginning in January 2008, Moody's segments were changed to reflect the business reorganization announced in August 2007 and Moody's now reports in two new reportable segments: MIS and Moody's Analytics, or MA. As a result of this reorganization, the rating agency remains in the MIS operating segment and several ratings business lines have been realigned. All of Moody's other non-rating commercial activities are included within the new MA segment.

MIS, the credit rating agency, publishes credit ratings on a wide range of debt obligations and the entities that issue such obligations in markets worldwide, including various corporate and governmental obligations, structured finance securities and commercial paper programs. Revenue is derived from the originators and issuers of such transactions who use MIS ratings to support the distribution of their debt issues to investors. MIS provides ratings in more than 110 countries. Ratings are disseminated via press releases to the public through a variety of print and electronic media, including the Internet and real-time information systems widely used by securities traders and investors. As of December 31, 2009, MIS had ratings relationships with approximately 12,000 corporate issuers and approximately 25,000 public finance issuers. Additionally, the Company has rated and currently monitors ratings on approximately 106,000 structured finance obligations (representing approximately 16,000 transactions).

The MA segment develops a wide range of products and services that support the credit risk management activities of institutional participants in global financial markets. Within its Research, Data and Analytics business, MA distributes investor-oriented research and data developed by MIS as part of its ratings process, including in-depth research on major debt issuers, industry studies, commentary on topical credit related events and also provides economic research and credit data and analytical tools such as quantitative credit risk scores. Within its Risk Management Software business, MA provides both economic and regulatory capital risk management software and implementation services. Within its professional services business it provides quantitative credit risk measures, credit portfolio management solutions and training services. As of December 31, 2009, MA customers represented more than 4,800 institutions worldwide operating in approximately 115 countries. Throughout 2009, Moody's research website was accessed by 174,000 individuals and by users representing 29,000 client relationships.

We operated as part of the former Dun and Bradstreet Company, or Old D&B, until September 30, 2000, when Old D&B separated into two publicly traded companies—Moody's Corporation and the New D&B Corporation, or New D&B (the 2000 Distribution). At that time, Old D&B distributed to its shareholders shares of New D&B stock. New D&B comprised the business of Old D&B's Dun & Bradstreet operating company. The remaining business of Old D&B consisted solely of the business of providing ratings and related research and credit risk management services and was renamed Moody's Corporation. For purposes of governing certain ongoing relationships between us and New D&B after the 2000 Distribution and to provide for an orderly transition, we and New D&B entered into various agreements including a distribution agreement, tax allocation agreement and employee benefits agreement.

Our principal executive offices are located at 7 World Trade Center at 250 Greenwich Street, New York, New York 10007, and our telephone number is (212) 553-0300. Our internet address is www.moodys.com. Information on our website does not constitute part of this prospectus and should not be relied upon in connection with making any investment decision with respect to the securities offered by this prospectus.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

An investment in our debt securities involves significant risks. Before purchasing any debt securities, you should carefully consider and evaluate all of the information included and incorporated by reference or deemed to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus or the applicable prospectus supplement, including the risk factors incorporated by reference herein from our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009 and our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the periods ended March 31, 2010 and June 30, 2010, as updated by annual, quarterly and other reports and documents we file with the SEC after the date of this prospectus and that are incorporated by reference herein or in the applicable prospectus supplement. Our business, results of operations or financial condition could be adversely affected by any of these risks or by additional risks and uncertainties not currently known to us or that we currently consider immaterial.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Except as may be otherwise set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement accompanying this prospectus, the net proceeds from the sale of debt securities will be used for general corporate purposes, including:

working capital;

capital expenditures;

acquisitions of or investments in businesses or assets;

redemption and repayment of short-term or long-term borrowings; and

purchases of our common stock under our ongoing stock repurchase program.

Pending application of the net proceeds from the sale of debt securities, we may invest the net proceeds in short-term investments.

Table of Contents**RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES**

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

	Six months	Years Ended December 31,				
	ended June 30,	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges (1)	10.2	10.2	8.6	14.2	52.6	34.2

- (1) For the purpose of calculating the ratio of earnings to fixed charges, earnings represent income before income taxes and non-controlling interests plus fixed charges and amortization of capitalized interest expense, less capitalized interest. Fixed charges are the sum of interest on borrowings and one-third of rental expense, which represents our estimate of the interest component of rental expense. Additionally, fixed charges include interest expense (income), net related to unrecognized tax benefits. As of the date of this prospectus, we had no preferred stock outstanding.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

We may offer unsecured debt securities which may be senior or subordinated. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, our debt securities will be issued in one or more series under an indenture to be entered into between us and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as trustee. The indenture is filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part.

The following description briefly sets forth certain general terms and provisions of the debt securities. The particular terms of the debt securities offered by any prospectus supplement and the extent, if any, to which these general provisions may apply to the debt securities, will be described in the related prospectus supplement. Accordingly, for a description of the terms of a particular issue of debt securities, reference must be made to both the applicable prospectus supplement and the following description.

Debt Securities

The aggregate principal amount of debt securities that may be issued under the indenture is unlimited. The debt securities may be issued in one or more series as may be authorized from time to time. Reference is made to the applicable prospectus supplement for the following terms of the debt securities (if applicable):

title and aggregate principal amount;

whether the debt securities are subject to subordination and applicable subordination provisions, if any;

percentage or percentages of principal amount at which such debt securities will be issued;

issuance date;

maturity date(s);

interest rate(s) or the method for determining the interest rate(s);

dates on which interest will accrue or the method for determining dates on which interest will accrue and dates on which interest will be payable;

whether interest will be payable in cash or in additional debt securities of the same series, or shall accrue and increase the aggregate principal amount outstanding of such series (including if the debt securities were originally issued at a discount);

redemption or early repayment provisions;

authorized denominations;

form;

amount of discount or premium, if any, with which such debt securities will be issued;

whether such debt securities will be issued in whole or in part in the form of one or more global securities;

identity of the depositary(ies) for global securities;

whether a temporary security is to be issued with respect to such series and whether any interest payable prior to the issuance of definitive securities of the series will be credited to the account of the persons entitled thereto;

the terms upon which beneficial interests in a temporary global security may be exchanged in whole or in part for beneficial interests in a definitive global security or for individual definitive securities;

Table of Contents

any covenants applicable to the particular debt securities being issued;

any defaults and events of default applicable to the particular debt securities being issued;

currency, currencies or currency units in which the purchase price for, the principal of and any premium and any interest on such debt securities will be payable;

securities exchange(s) on which the debt securities will be listed, if any;

our obligation or right to redeem, purchase or repay debt securities under a sinking fund, amortization or analogous provision;

provisions relating to covenant defeasance and legal defeasance of debt securities of the series;

provisions relating to satisfaction and discharge of the indenture;

provisions relating to the modification of the indenture both with and without the consent of holders of debt securities issued under the indenture;

provisions, if any, granting special rights upon the occurrence of specified events;

any restriction of transferability of the series; and

additional terms not inconsistent with the provisions of the indenture.

In addition, the applicable prospectus supplement will describe whether any underwriter will act as a market maker for the debt securities, and the extent to which a secondary market for the debt securities is or is not expected to develop.

General

The debt securities may consist of debentures, notes, bonds or other types of indebtedness. One or more series of debt securities may be sold at a substantial discount below its stated principal amount, bearing no interest or interest at a rate which at the time of issuance is below market rates. One or more series of debt securities may be variable rate debt securities that may be exchanged for fixed rate debt securities.

United States federal income tax consequences and special considerations, if any, applicable to any such series will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Debt securities may be issued where the amount of principal and/or interest payable is determined by reference to one or more currency or other indices or other formulas. Holders of such debt securities may receive a principal amount or a payment of interest that is greater than or less than the amount of principal or interest otherwise payable on such dates, depending upon the value of the applicable currency or other reference factor. Information as to the methods for determining the amount of principal or interest, if any, payable on any date, the currency or other reference factor to which the amount payable on such date is linked and certain United States federal income tax considerations will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Edgar Filing: MOODYS CORP /DE/ - Form S-3ASR

The term "debt securities" includes debt securities denominated in U.S. dollars or, if specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, in any other freely transferable currency or currency unit.

We expect most debt securities to be issued in fully registered form without coupons and in denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiples thereof. Subject to the limitations provided in the indenture and in the applicable prospectus supplement, debt securities that are issued in registered form may be transferred or exchanged at the corporate office of the trustee or the principal corporate trust office of the trustee, without the payment of any service charge, other than any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection therewith.

Table of Contents

Global Securities

The debt securities of a series may be issued in whole or in part in the form of one or more global securities that will be deposited with, or on behalf of, a depository identified in the applicable prospectus supplement. Global securities will be issued in registered form and in either temporary or definitive form. Unless and until it is exchanged in whole or in part for the individual debt securities, a global security may not be transferred except as a whole by the depository for such global security to a nominee of such depository or by a nominee of such depository to such depository or another nominee of such depository or by such depository or any such nominee to a successor of such depository or a nominee of such successor. The specific terms of the depository arrangement with respect to any debt securities of a series and the rights of and limitations upon owners of beneficial interests in a global security will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Governing Law

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

Table of Contents

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell any series of debt securities being offered hereby in one or more of the following ways from time to time:

to underwriters or dealers for resale to the public or to institutional investors;

directly to institutional investors;

directly to a limited number of purchasers or to a single purchaser;

through agents to the public or to institutional investors; or

through a combination of any of these methods of sale.

The prospectus supplement with respect to each series of debt securities will state the terms of the offering of the debt securities, including:

the offering terms, including the name or names of any underwriters, dealers or agents;

the purchase price of the securities and the net proceeds to be received by us from the sale;

any underwriting discounts or agency fees and other items constituting underwriters' or agents' compensation;

any public offering price;

any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers; and

any securities exchange on which the securities may be listed.

If we use underwriters or dealers in the sale, the debt securities will be acquired by the underwriters or dealers for their own account and may be resold from time to time in one or more transactions, including:

privately negotiated transactions;

at a fixed public offering price or prices, which may be changed;

at prices related to prevailing market prices; or

at negotiated prices.

Any initial public offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers may be changed from time to time.

If underwriters are used in the sale of any debt securities, the debt securities may be offered either to the public through underwriting syndicates represented by managing underwriters, or directly by underwriters. Generally, the underwriters' obligations to purchase the debt securities will be subject to certain conditions precedent. The underwriters will be obligated to purchase all of the debt securities if they purchase any of the debt securities.

If indicated in an applicable prospectus supplement, we may sell the debt securities through agents from time to time. The applicable prospectus supplement will name any agent involved in the offer or sale of the debt securities and any commissions paid to them. Generally, any agent will be acting on a best efforts basis for the period of its appointment. We may authorize underwriters, dealers or agents to solicit offers by certain purchasers to purchase debt securities at the public offering price set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement pursuant to delayed delivery contracts providing for payment and delivery on a specified date in the future. The delayed delivery

Table of Contents

contracts will be subject only to those conditions set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, and the applicable prospectus supplement will set forth any commissions paid for solicitation of these delayed delivery contracts.

Offered debt securities may also be offered and sold, if so indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, in connection with a remarketing upon their purchase, in accordance with a redemption or repayment pursuant to their terms, or otherwise, by one or more remarketing firms, acting as principals for their own accounts or as agents for us. Any remarketing firm will be identified and the terms of its agreements, if any, and its compensation will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Agents, underwriters and other third parties described above may be entitled to indemnification by us against certain civil liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or to contribution with respect to payments which the agents or underwriters may be required to make in respect thereof. Agents, underwriters and such other third parties may be customers of, engage in transactions with, or perform services for us in the ordinary course of business.

Each series of debt securities will be a new issue of debt securities and will have no established trading market. The debt securities may or may not be listed on a national securities exchange. Any underwriters to whom debt securities are sold by us for public offering and sale may make a market in the debt securities, but such underwriters will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market making at any time without notice.

Table of Contents

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the debt securities being offered by this prospectus will be passed upon by Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, New York, New York. In connection with particular offerings of the debt securities in the future, and unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the validity of those debt securities will be passed upon for us by Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, New York, New York. Additional legal matters may be passed upon for us by Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, New York, New York, and for any underwriters, dealers or agents by counsel that we will name in the applicable prospectus supplement.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Moody's Corporation as of and for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008 appearing in Moody's Corporation's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009, and management's assessment of the effectiveness of Moody's Corporation's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2009 have been incorporated herein by reference in reliance upon the report of KPMG LLP incorporated by reference herein and upon the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2007 incorporated in this prospectus by reference to the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

Table of Contents**PART II****INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS****Item 14. Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution.**

The following table sets forth the expenses, other than underwriting discounts and commissions, payable by us in connection with the sale of the securities being registered hereby. All amounts are estimates:

	Amount to be Paid*
SEC registration fee	\$ **
Blue Sky fees and expenses	10,000
Legal fees and expenses (other than Blue Sky fees and expenses)	300,000
Accounting fees and expenses	150,000
Trustee and registrar fees and expenses	10,500
Printing and engraving costs	30,000
Miscellaneous	50,000
 Total	 \$ 550,500

* The amounts shown are estimates of expenses payable by us in connection with the filing of this registration statement and one offering of debt securities hereunder.

** Deferred in accordance with Rule 456(b) and 457(r) of the Securities Act.

Item 15. Indemnification of Directors and Officers

Section 145 of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware empowers a Delaware corporation to indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of such corporation), by reason of the fact that such person is or was an officer, director, employee or agent of such corporation, or is or was serving at the request of such corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise. The indemnity may include expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection with such action, suit or proceeding, provided that such officer, director, employee or agent acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the corporation's best interests, and, for criminal proceedings, had no reasonable cause to believe his conduct was unlawful. A Delaware corporation may indemnify officers and directors in an action by or in the right of the corporation under the same conditions, except that no indemnification is permitted without judicial approval if the officer or director is adjudged to be liable to the corporation. Where an officer or director is successful on the merits or otherwise in the defense of any action referred to above, the corporation must indemnify him against the expenses which such officer or director actually and reasonably incurred.

The registrant's certificate of incorporation provides that the registrant shall indemnify directors and officers made party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, including appeals, to the fullest extent permitted by the laws of the State of Delaware. Such indemnification shall continue after an individual ceases to be an officer or director and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors and administrators of such person. The registrant's certificate of incorporation also provides that a director of the registrant shall not be personally liable to the registrant or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, except to the extent such exemption from liability or limitation thereof is not permitted under the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware as the same exists or may hereafter be amended.

Table of Contents

The indemnification rights conferred by the certificate of incorporation of the registrant are not exclusive of any other right to which a person seeking indemnification may otherwise be entitled. The registrant will also provide liability insurance for the directors and officers for certain losses arising from claims or charges made against them while acting in their capacities as directors or officers.

Item 16. Exhibits.

A list of exhibits filed herewith is contained in the exhibit index that immediately precedes such exhibits and is incorporated herein by reference.

The agreements included or incorporated by reference as exhibits to this registration statement contain representations and warranties by each of the parties to the applicable agreement. These representations and warranties were made solely for the benefit of the other parties to the applicable agreement and (i) were not intended to be treated as categorical statements of fact, but rather as a way of allocating the risk to one of the parties if those statements prove to be inaccurate; (ii) may have been qualified in such agreement by disclosures that were made to the other party in connection with the negotiation of the applicable agreement; (iii) may apply contract standards of materiality that are different from materiality under the applicable securities laws; and (iv) were made only as of the date of the applicable agreement or such other date or dates as may be specified in the agreement.

Moody's Corporation acknowledges that, notwithstanding the inclusion of the foregoing cautionary statements, it is responsible for considering whether additional specific disclosures of material information regarding material contractual provisions are required to make the statements in this registration statement not misleading.

Item 17. Undertakings.

(a) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

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

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

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

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

provided, however, that paragraphs (i), (ii) and (iii) above do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in this registration statement, or is contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of this registration statement.

Table of Contents

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

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

(4) That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser:

(i) Each prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of this registration statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in this registration statement; and

(ii) Each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5) or (b)(7) as part of a registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (vii) or (x) for the purpose of providing the information required by Section 10(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be part of and included in this registration statement as of the earlier of the date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of the registration statement relating to the securities in the registration statement to which the prospectus relates, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof; *provided, however*, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of this registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into this registration statement or prospectus that is part of this registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such effective date, supersede or modify any statement that was made in this registration statement or prospectus that was part of this registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such effective date.

(5) (a) That, for the purpose of determining liability of the registrant under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the securities:

The undersigned registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the undersigned registrant pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:

(i) Any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;

(ii) Any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant or used or referred to by the undersigned registrant;

(iii) The portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about the undersigned registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant; and

(iv) Any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned registrant to the purchaser.

Table of Contents

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

(c) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes to file an application for the purpose of determining the eligibility of the trustee to act under subsection (a) of Section 310 of the Trust Indenture Act in accordance with the rules and regulations prescribed by the Commission under Section 305(b)(2) of the Trust Indenture Act.

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

Table of Contents

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of New York, State of New York, on August 2, 2010.

MOODY S CORPORATION

By: /s/ RAYMOND W. McDANIEL, JR.
 Name: **Raymond W. McDaniel, Jr.**
 Title: **Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer**

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Each of the undersigned officers and directors of Moody s Corporation, a Delaware corporation, hereby constitutes and appoints Raymond W. McDaniel, Jr., Linda S. Huber and John J. Goggins, and each of them, as his or her true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, severally, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, in his or her name and on his or her behalf, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments to this registration statement, and any additional related registration statements filed pursuant to Rule 462 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (including post-effective amendments to the registration statement and any such related registration statements), and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto and all documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power of authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite or necessary to be done in and about the premises, as fully to all intents and purposes as he or she might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or their substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done.

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

Signature	Title	Date
/s/ RAYMOND W. McDANIEL, JR. Raymond W. McDaniel, Jr.	Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer)	August 2, 2010
/s/ LINDA S. HUBER Linda S. Huber	Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer)	August 2, 2010
/s/ JOSEPH McCABE Joseph McCabe	Senior Vice President Corporate Controller (Principal Accounting Officer)	August 2, 2010
/s/ BASIL L. ANDERSON Basil L. Anderson	Director	August 2, 2010
/s/ DARRELL DUFFIE Darrell Duffie	Director	August 2, 2010

Table of Contents

Signature	Title	Date
/s/ ROBERT R. GLAUBER Robert R. Glauber	Director	August 2, 2010
/s/ EWALD KIST Ewald Kist	Director	August 2, 2010
/s/ CONNIE MACK Connie Mack	Director	August 2, 2010
/s/ HENRY A. MCKINNEL, JR. Henry A. McKinnell, Jr.	Director	August 2, 2010
/s/ NANCY S. NEWCOMB Nancy S. Newcomb	Director	August 2, 2010
/s/ JOHN K. WULFF John K. Wulff	Director	August 2, 2010

Table of Contents

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No.	Description
1.1*	Form of Underwriting Agreement.
3.1	Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant dated June 15, 1998, as amended effective June 30, 1998, as amended effective October 1, 2000, and as further amended effective April 26, 2005 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Report on Form 8-K of the Registrant, file number 1-14037, filed October 4, 2000, and Exhibit 3.1 to the Report on Form 8-K of the Registrant, file number 1-14037, filed April 27, 2005).
3.2	Amended and Restated By-laws of the Registrant (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3 to the Report on Form 8-K of the Registrant, file number 1-14037, filed February 25, 2008).
4.1*	Form of Debt Securities.
4.2**	Indenture, to be entered into between the Registrant and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as trustee.
5.1**	Opinion of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, New York, New York.
12.1**	Statement of Computation of Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges.
23.1**	Consent of KPMG LLP, independent registered public accounting firm.
23.2**	Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent registered public accounting firm.
23.3**	Consent of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, New York, New York (included in Exhibit 5.1).
24.1**	Power of Attorney (included on signature page hereto).
25.1**	Form T-1 Statement of Eligibility under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 of Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as trustee under the Indenture.

* To be filed by amendment or as an exhibit to a Current Report on Form 8-K and incorporated by reference herein

** Filed herewith