

SMITHFIELD FOODS INC
Form PRER14A
August 12, 2013
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UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A
Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

SMITHFIELD FOODS, INC.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

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(2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

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(1) Amount Previously Paid:

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(4) Date Filed:

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[], 2013

Dear Fellow Shareholder:

On May 28, 2013, Smithfield Foods, Inc. (Smithfield) entered into a definitive merger agreement to be acquired by Shuanghui International Holdings Limited (Parent). Subject to the terms and conditions of the merger agreement, a wholly owned subsidiary of Parent will be merged with and into Smithfield and Smithfield will survive the merger as a wholly owned subsidiary of Parent.

If the merger is completed, our shareholders will have the right to receive \$34.00 in cash, without interest and less any applicable withholding taxes, for each share of common stock, par value \$0.50 per share, of Smithfield (Smithfield common stock) that they own immediately prior to the effective time of the merger, which represents a premium of approximately 31% to the \$25.97 per share closing price of Smithfield common stock on the New York Stock Exchange on May 28, 2013, the last trading day prior to the public announcement of the proposed merger.

You are cordially invited to attend a special meeting of our shareholders to be held in connection with the proposed merger on [], [], 2013 at [], Eastern Time. At the special meeting, shareholders will be asked to vote on a proposal to approve the merger agreement, the related plan of merger and the merger. The affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of Smithfield common stock outstanding at the close of business on August 5, 2013 is required to approve the merger agreement, the related plan of merger and the merger.

The merger cannot be completed unless Smithfield shareholders approve the merger agreement, the related plan of merger and the merger. **Your vote is very important, regardless of the number of shares you own. Whether or not you expect to attend the special meeting in person, please vote or otherwise submit a proxy to vote your shares as promptly as possible so that your shares may be represented and voted at the special meeting. The failure to vote on the proposal to approve the merger agreement, the related plan of merger and the merger will have the same effect as a vote AGAINST this proposal.**

The Smithfield board of directors has unanimously adopted and approved the merger agreement, the related plan of merger and the merger. **The Smithfield board of directors unanimously recommends that Smithfield shareholders vote FOR the proposal to approve the merger agreement, the related plan of merger and the merger.**

At the special meeting, shareholders will also be asked to vote on (i) a proposal to approve, on a non-binding, advisory basis, certain compensation that will or may be paid to Smithfield's named executive officers by Smithfield based on or otherwise relating to the merger, as required by the rules adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission and (ii) a proposal to approve an adjournment of the special meeting, if necessary or appropriate, to solicit additional votes for the approval of the proposal to approve the merger agreement, the related plan of merger and the merger. **The Smithfield board of directors unanimously recommends that Smithfield shareholders vote FOR each of the foregoing proposals.**

The obligations of Smithfield and Parent to complete the merger are subject to the satisfaction or waiver of certain conditions. The accompanying proxy statement contains detailed information about Smithfield, the special meeting, the merger agreement, the related plan of merger and the merger.

Thank you for your confidence in Smithfield.

Sincerely,

C. Larry Pope

President and Chief Executive Officer

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities regulatory agency has approved or disapproved of the merger, passed upon the merits of the merger agreement, the related plan of merger or the merger or determined if the accompanying proxy statement is accurate or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

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The accompanying proxy statement is dated [], 2013 and, together with the enclosed form of proxy, is first being mailed to Smithfield shareholders on or about [], 2013.

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Smithfield Foods, Inc.

200 Commerce Street

Smithfield, Virginia 23430

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

DATE & TIME

[], [], 2013 at [], Eastern Time

PLACE

[]

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

To consider and vote on a proposal to approve the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of May 28, 2013 (the merger agreement), among Smithfield Foods, Inc. (Smithfield), Shuanghui International Holdings Limited (Parent), and Sun Merger Sub, Inc. (Merger Sub), the related plan of merger and the merger (the merger proposal);

To consider and vote on a proposal to approve, on a non-binding, advisory basis, certain compensation that will or may be paid by Smithfield to its named executive officers that is based on or otherwise relates to the merger (the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal);

To consider and vote on a proposal to approve an adjournment of the special meeting of shareholders of Smithfield (the special meeting), if necessary or appropriate, for the purpose of soliciting additional votes for the approval of the merger proposal (the adjournment proposal); and

To transact such other business as may properly come before the special meeting or any adjournments or postponements of the special meeting.

RECORD DATE

Only shareholders of record at the close of business on August 5, 2013 (the record date) are entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the special meeting and at any adjournment or postponement of the special meeting.

VOTING BY PROXY

The Smithfield board of directors (the Smithfield Board) is soliciting your proxy to assure that a quorum is present and that your shares are represented and voted at the special meeting. For information on submitting your proxy over the internet, by telephone or by mailing back the traditional proxy card (no extra postage is needed for the provided envelope if mailed in the U.S.), please see the attached proxy statement and enclosed proxy card. If you later decide to vote in person at the special meeting, information on revoking your proxy prior to the special meeting is also provided.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Smithfield Board unanimously recommends that you vote:

FOR the merger proposal;

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FOR the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal; and

FOR the adjournment proposal.

YOUR VOTE IS VERY IMPORTANT. WHETHER OR NOT YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE SPECIAL MEETING IN PERSON, PLEASE VOTE OVER THE INTERNET OR BY TELEPHONE PURSUANT TO THE INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED IN THESE MATERIALS OR COMPLETE, DATE, SIGN AND RETURN A PROXY CARD AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE. IF YOU RECEIVE MORE THAN ONE PROXY BECAUSE YOU OWN SHARES REGISTERED IN DIFFERENT NAMES OR ADDRESSES, EACH PROXY SHOULD BE VOTED. IF YOU DO NOT SUBMIT YOUR PROXY, INSTRUCT YOUR BROKER HOW TO VOTE YOUR SHARES OR VOTE IN PERSON AT THE SPECIAL MEETING ON THE MERGER PROPOSAL, IT WILL HAVE THE SAME EFFECT AS A VOTE AGAINST THIS PROPOSAL.

Your proxy may be revoked at any time before the vote at the special meeting by following the procedures outlined in the accompanying proxy statement.

Please note that we intend to limit attendance at the special meeting to Smithfield shareholders as of the record date (or their authorized representatives), as well as invited guests. Each shareholder will be permitted to bring one guest. If your shares are held by a broker, bank or other nominee and you wish to vote in person at the special meeting, you must bring to the special meeting a proxy from the broker, bank or other nominee that holds your shares authorizing you to vote in person at the special meeting. Please also bring to the special meeting your account statement evidencing your beneficial ownership of Smithfield common stock as of the record date. All shareholders should also bring photo identification.

The proxy statement of which this notice forms a part provides a detailed description of the merger agreement, the related plan of merger and the merger. We urge you to read the proxy statement, including any documents incorporated by reference, and its annexes carefully and in their entirety. If you have any questions concerning the merger or the proxy statement, would like additional copies of the proxy statement or need help voting your shares of Smithfield common stock, please contact Smithfield's proxy solicitor, Okapi Partners LLC, 437 Madison Avenue, 28th Floor, New York, NY 10022, Toll free: 1-877-79OKAPI (1-877-796-5274).

By Order of the Board of Directors,

Michael H. Cole

Secretary

Smithfield, Virginia

[], 2013

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SUMMARY TERM SHEET

This summary highlights information contained elsewhere in this proxy statement and may not contain all the information that is important to you with respect to the merger and the other matters being considered at the special meeting of Smithfield shareholders. We urge you to read carefully the remainder of this proxy statement, including the attached annexes, and the other documents to which we have referred you. For additional information on Smithfield included in documents incorporated by reference into this proxy statement, see the section entitled "Where You Can Find More Information" beginning on page []. We have included page references in this summary to direct you to a more complete description of the topics presented below.

All references to Smithfield, we, us, or our in this proxy statement refer to Smithfield Foods, Inc., a Virginia corporation; all references to Parent refer to Shuanghui International Holdings Limited, a corporation formed under the laws of the Cayman Islands; all references to Merger Sub refer to Sun Merger Sub, Inc., a Virginia corporation and a wholly owned subsidiary of Parent formed for the sole purpose of effecting the merger; all references to Smithfield common stock refer to the common stock, par value \$0.50 per share, of Smithfield; all references to the Smithfield Board refer to the board of directors of Smithfield; all references to the merger refer to the merger of Merger Sub with and into Smithfield with Smithfield surviving as a wholly owned subsidiary of Parent; unless otherwise indicated or as the context otherwise requires, all references to the merger agreement refer to the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of May 28, 2013, and as may be further amended from time to time, by and among Smithfield, Parent and Merger Sub, a copy of which is included as Annex A to this proxy statement; and all references to the plan of merger refer to the plan of merger to be filed with the office of the State Corporation Commission of the Commonwealth of Virginia (along with the articles of merger) to effect the merger, a copy of which is attached as Annex B to this proxy statement. Smithfield, following the completion of the merger, is sometimes referred to in this proxy statement as the surviving corporation.

The Companies

Smithfield (see page [])

Smithfield, together with its subsidiaries, is the largest pork processor and hog producer in the world. We produce and market a wide variety of fresh meat and packaged meats products both domestically and internationally. We currently conduct our operations through four reportable segments: Pork, Hog Production, International and Corporate, each of which is comprised of a number of subsidiaries, joint ventures and other investments.

Shares of Smithfield common stock are listed with, and trade on, the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) under the symbol SFD. Our corporate website address is www.smithfieldfoods.com. The information provided on the Smithfield website is not part of this proxy statement and is not incorporated in this proxy statement by reference hereby or by any other reference to Smithfield's website provided in this proxy statement.

Parent (see page [])

Parent operates in the food processing industry through its various subsidiaries. Parent's core businesses include: animal feed, hog production, livestock slaughtering, pork processing, sale of meat products (frozen and chilled meat, retorted meat products and pasteurized meat products), packaging, logistics, flavoring products, natural casings, and marsh gas power generation.

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Merger Sub (see page [])

Merger Sub was formed in May 2013 solely for the purpose of completing the merger with Smithfield. Merger Sub has not carried out any activities to date, except for activities incidental to its incorporation and activities undertaken in connection with the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, including the merger and matters related to the financing of the merger consideration.

The Special Meeting

Date, Time and Place (see page [])

The special meeting of Smithfield shareholders (the special meeting) is scheduled to be held at [] on [], [], 2013 at [], Eastern Time.

Purpose of the Meeting (see page [])

The special meeting is being held in order to consider and vote on the following proposals:

to approve the merger agreement, the related plan of merger and the merger (the merger proposal);

to approve, on a non-binding, advisory basis, certain compensation that will or may be paid by Smithfield to its named executive officers that is based on or otherwise relates to the merger (the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal);

to approve the adjournment of the special meeting, if necessary or appropriate, for the purpose of soliciting additional votes for the approval of the merger proposal (the adjournment proposal); and

to transact such other business as may properly come before the special meeting or any adjournments or postponements of the special meeting.

Smithfield shareholders must vote to approve the merger proposal as a condition for the merger to occur. If the Smithfield shareholders fail to approve the merger proposal, the merger will not occur.

Record Date; Shareholders Entitled to Vote (see page [])

Only holders of Smithfield common stock at the close of business on August 5, 2013, the record date for the special meeting (the record date), will be entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the special meeting or any adjournments or postponements of the special meeting. At the close of business on the record date, 139,196,460 shares of Smithfield common stock were issued and outstanding.

Holders of Smithfield common stock are entitled to one vote for each share of Smithfield common stock they own at the close of business on the record date.

Quorum (see page [])

The presence at the special meeting, in person or by proxy, of the holders of a majority of the shares of Smithfield common stock outstanding on the record date will constitute a quorum. There must be a quorum for business to be conducted at the special meeting. However, even if a quorum does not exist, a majority of the shares of Smithfield common stock present or represented by proxy at the special meeting and entitled to vote may adjourn the meeting to another place, date or time. Failure of a quorum to be represented at the special meeting will necessitate an adjournment or postponement of the special meeting and will subject Smithfield to additional expense.

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Required Vote (see page [])

The approval of the merger proposal requires the affirmative vote of at least a majority of the shares of Smithfield common stock outstanding at the close of business on the record date.

Approval of the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal (on an advisory basis) and the adjournment proposal requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of Smithfield common stock present or represented by proxy at the special meeting and entitled to vote thereon.

Voting at the Special Meeting (see page [])

If your shares are registered directly in your name with our transfer agent, you are considered a shareholder of record and you may vote your shares in person at the special meeting or by mail, over the internet or by telephone. If you plan to attend the special meeting and wish to vote in person, you will be given a ballot at the special meeting. Although Smithfield offers four different voting methods, Smithfield encourages you to vote over the internet or by telephone, as Smithfield believes they are convenient, cost-effective and reliable voting methods. If you choose to vote your shares over the internet or by telephone, there is no need for you to mail back your proxy card.

If your shares are held by your broker, bank or other nominee, you are considered the beneficial owner of shares held in street name and you will receive a form from your broker, bank or other nominee seeking instruction from you as to how your shares should be voted. If you are a beneficial owner and you wish to vote in person at the special meeting, you must bring to the special meeting a proxy from the broker, bank or other nominee that holds your shares authorizing you to vote in person at the special meeting.

Shareholders who are entitled to vote at the special meeting, as well as invited guests, may attend the special meeting. Each shareholder will be permitted to bring one guest. Beneficial owners should bring a copy of an account statement reflecting their ownership of Smithfield common stock as of the record date. All shareholders should bring photo identification.

Smithfield recommends that you vote as soon as possible, even if you are planning to attend the special meeting, so that the vote count will not be delayed.

Solicitation of Proxies (see page [])

The Smithfield Board is soliciting your proxy, and Smithfield will bear the cost of soliciting proxies. Okapi Partners LLC has been retained to assist with the solicitation of proxies. Okapi Partners LLC will be paid approximately \$30,000 and will be reimbursed for its reasonable out-of-pocket expenses for these and other advisory services in connection with the special meeting. Solicitation initially will be made by mail. Forms of proxies and proxy materials may also be distributed through brokers, banks and other nominees to the beneficial owners of shares of Smithfield common stock, in which case these parties will be reimbursed for their reasonable out-of-pocket expenses. Proxies may also be solicited in person or by telephone, facsimile, electronic mail, or other electronic medium by Okapi Partners LLC or, without additional compensation by certain of Smithfield's directors, officers and employees.

Adjournment (see page [])

In addition to the merger proposal and the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal, Smithfield shareholders are also being asked to approve the adjournment proposal, which will give the Smithfield Board authority to, as permitted under the terms of the merger agreement, adjourn the special meeting for the purpose of soliciting additional votes in favor of the merger proposal if there are not sufficient votes at the time of the special meeting to approve the merger proposal. If the adjournment proposal is approved, the special

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meeting could be adjourned by the Smithfield Board as permitted under the terms of the merger agreement. In addition, the Smithfield Board, as permitted under the terms of the merger agreement, could postpone the meeting before it commences, whether for the purpose of soliciting additional votes or for other reasons. If the special meeting is adjourned for the purpose of soliciting additional votes, shareholders who have already submitted their proxies will be able to revoke them at any time prior to their use.

The Merger

Structure of the Merger (see page [])

If the merger is completed, then at the effective time of the merger (the effective time), Merger Sub will merge with and into Smithfield, the separate corporate existence of Merger Sub will cease and Smithfield will survive the merger as a wholly owned subsidiary of Parent.

Merger Consideration (see page [])

Upon the terms and subject to the conditions of the merger agreement, at the effective time, Smithfield shareholders will have the right to receive \$34.00 in cash, without interest and less any applicable withholding taxes, for each share of Smithfield common stock that they own immediately prior to the effective time.

Treatment of Smithfield Equity Awards (see page [])

The merger agreement provides that outstanding equity-based awards under Smithfield's equity plans will be treated as set forth below.

Stock Options. Each option to purchase shares of Smithfield common stock, whether vested or unvested, that is outstanding and unexercised as of the effective time will be canceled and the holder thereof will be entitled to receive an amount in cash, without interest and less any applicable withholding taxes, equal to the product of (i) the number of shares of Smithfield common stock subject to such option and (ii) the excess, if any, of \$34.00 over the exercise price of the option.

PSUs. Each Smithfield performance stock unit (each a PSU), whether vested or unvested, that is outstanding immediately prior to the effective time, will be canceled and the holder thereof will be entitled to receive an amount in cash, without interest and less any applicable withholding taxes, equal to the product of (i) the total number of shares of Smithfield common stock subject to such PSU award and (ii) \$34.00. For purposes of unvested PSU awards outstanding as of the date of the merger agreement, any performance-based vesting condition will be treated as having been attained at the maximum level, and awards that are subject to such performance-based vesting condition will be deemed to be fully vested as of immediately prior to the effective time. For purposes of unvested PSU awards granted between the date of the merger agreement and the effective time, any performance-based vesting condition will be treated as having been attained at the target level, and awards that are subject to such performance-based vesting condition will be deemed to be fully vested as of immediately prior to the effective time.

Deferred Units and Deferred Stock Accounts. Each deferred unit relating to Smithfield common stock (each a deferred unit), all of which are currently vested, that is outstanding immediately prior to the effective time, will be canceled and the holder thereof will be entitled to receive an amount in cash, without interest and less any applicable withholding taxes, equal to the product of (i) the total number of shares of Smithfield common stock subject to such deferred unit and (ii) \$34.00.

Each right to receive a share of Smithfield common stock pursuant to any Smithfield stock deferral plan will, as of the effective time, become the right to receive an amount in cash, without interest and less any applicable withholding taxes, equal to \$34.00, payable at the time such stock otherwise would be delivered to the holder of such deferred stock account.

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Recommendation of the Smithfield Board of Directors (see page [])

The Smithfield Board unanimously adopted and approved the merger agreement, the related plan of merger and the merger. Certain factors considered by the Smithfield Board in reaching its decision to adopt and approve the merger agreement, the related plan of merger and the merger can be found in the section entitled "The Merger Proposal Recommendation of the Smithfield Board and Reasons for the Merger" beginning on page []. **The Smithfield Board unanimously recommends that the Smithfield shareholders vote:**

FOR the merger proposal;

FOR the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal; and

FOR the adjournment proposal.

Opinion of Smithfield's Financial Advisor (see page [])

In connection with the merger, Smithfield's financial advisor, Barclays Capital Inc. ("Barclays"), delivered a written opinion, dated May 28, 2013, to the Smithfield Board to the effect that, based upon and subject to the qualifications, limitations and assumptions stated therein and as of the date of the opinion, from a financial point of view, the merger consideration being offered to the Smithfield shareholders in the merger was (as of such date) fair to such shareholders.

The full text of the written opinion, which describes the assumptions made, procedures followed, factors considered and limitations on the review undertaken, is attached to this proxy statement as Annex C and is incorporated herein by reference. You should read the opinion carefully in its entirety. Barclays' opinion was provided to the Smithfield Board in connection with its evaluation of the merger consideration provided for in the merger agreement from a financial point of view. Barclays' opinion does not address any other aspects or implications of the merger and does not constitute a recommendation to any holder of shares of Smithfield common stock as to how such holder should vote or act with respect to the merger agreement or any other matter.

Interests of Smithfield Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger (see page [])

In considering the recommendation of the Smithfield Board that you vote **FOR** the merger proposal, you should be aware that, aside from their interests as Smithfield shareholders, Smithfield's directors and executive officers have interests in the merger that are different from, or in addition to, the interests of other Smithfield shareholders generally.

With regard to our directors serving on the Smithfield Board (other than Mr. C. Larry Pope, whose interests are as an executive officer), these interests relate to the impact of the transaction on the directors' outstanding equity awards (which consist solely of deferred units) and the provision of indemnification and insurance arrangements pursuant to the merger agreement and Smithfield's articles of incorporation and bylaws, which reflect that such directors may be subject to claims arising from their service on the Smithfield Board.

With regard to our executive officers, these interests relate to the possible receipt of the following types of payments and benefits that may be triggered by or otherwise relate to the merger and coverage under indemnification and insurance arrangements:

cash payment of retention bonuses contingent on continued employment after the merger, in the maximum aggregate amount of \$21,000,000 for Messrs. Pope, Manly, Richter, Thamodaran and Treacy, and cash payment of retention bonuses to Messrs. Sebring, Luter, IV, Brown and Schellpeper (see footnote (1) under "Potential Merger-Related Payments to Named Executive Officers Table" on page [] for more details on retention bonuses for Messrs. Sebring and Luter, IV, and footnote (2) under "Potential Merger-Related Payments to Other Executive Officers Table" on page [] for more details on retention bonuses for Messrs. Brown and Schellpeper);

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accelerated vesting of executive officer equity awards, in the maximum aggregate amount of \$40,591,182 for all executive officers;

possible cash payments under the change in control executive severance plan, in the maximum aggregate amount of \$72,403,493 for all executive officers;

payment of previously accrued benefits under a supplemental pension plan; and

the provision of indemnification and insurance arrangements pursuant to the merger agreement and Smithfield's articles of incorporation and bylaws.

As discussed in "The Merger Proposal Interests of Smithfield Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger" beginning on page [], the aggregate amount of compensation that our executive officers may potentially receive in connection with the proposed merger is \$133,994,675. Our directors will not receive any compensation in connection with the proposed merger in their capacity as directors. The foregoing list does not include any compensation that our executive officers and directors will receive with respect to equity awards or other benefits that they have already fully earned and in which they are already fully vested without regard to the occurrence of the merger.

Financing of the Merger (see page [])

Parent and Merger Sub have obtained binding financing commitments for the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, the aggregate proceeds of which, together with cash on hand at Smithfield and Parent, will be used to consummate the merger and the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, including the payment of the per share merger consideration and all related fees and expenses, to refinance certain existing indebtedness of Smithfield, and to pay any other amounts required to be paid in connection with the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement. The consummation of the merger is not subject to any financing conditions (although funding of the financing is subject to the satisfaction of the conditions set forth in the commitment letters under which the financing will be provided).

Regulatory Clearances and Approvals Required for the Merger (see page [])

Under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976, as amended (the "HSR Act"), we could not complete the merger until we gave notification and furnished information to the Federal Trade Commission and the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice, and until the applicable waiting period expired or was terminated. On June 11, 2013, Smithfield and Parent each filed a premerger notification and report form under the HSR Act, and the applicable waiting period expired on July 11, 2013 at 11:59 p.m., New York City time.

The merger agreement provides for Smithfield and Parent to file a joint voluntary notice with the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS), pursuant to the Defense Protection Act of 1950, as amended. Under the terms of the merger agreement, consummation of the merger is subject to the condition that, if review by CFIUS has concluded, the President of the United States has not taken action to block or prevent the merger and no requirements or conditions to mitigate any national security concerns have been imposed that would reasonably be expected to have, individually or in the aggregate, a material adverse effect on Smithfield. On June 18, 2013, the parties timely filed a joint voluntary notice with CFIUS, which was accepted for review by CFIUS on June 24, 2013. CFIUS has informed the parties that it will conduct a second-phase, 45-day review of the merger that is to be completed no later than September 6, 2013.

Pursuant to conditions to the consummation of the merger set forth in the merger agreement, the parties have obtained merger control approvals in Mexico, Poland and Russia and are seeking governmental antitrust or merger control approvals in Ukraine. There can be no assurance that any other approvals, if required, will be obtained.

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While we have no reason to believe it will not be possible to obtain regulatory approvals in a timely manner or without the imposition of burdensome conditions, there is no certainty that these approvals will be obtained within the period of time contemplated by the merger agreement or that any such approvals would not be conditioned upon actions that would be materially adverse to Smithfield or Parent, or that a CFIUS or other regulatory challenge to the merger will not be made.

Parent has agreed to pay Smithfield a termination fee of \$275,000,000 if the merger agreement is terminated in certain circumstances where the primary cause therefor is a final and non-appealable order relating to antitrust law that is enforced in a U.S. court or the failure to obtain all necessary consents, approvals and the expiration of any applicable waiting periods required under the HSR Act and, unless waived by Parent, the merger control laws of Mexico, Poland, Russia and Ukraine.

Legal Proceedings Regarding the Merger (see page [])

On June 21, 2013, a putative class action was filed in the United States District Court Eastern District of Virginia (*Payne v. Smithfield Foods, et al.*, 1:13-cv-00761-LMB-IDD) against Smithfield, certain of its officers and directors, and Merger Sub. The complaint alleges that the Smithfield officers and directors named in the suit breached their fiduciary duties to Smithfield shareholders in connection with the merger, that Smithfield and Merger Sub aided and abetted in that breach, and that all defendants violated Rule 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act). Plaintiff seeks an injunction (or, if the merger is consummated, rescission or rescissory damages) and costs and disbursements, including reasonable attorneys' and experts' fees. The lawsuit is in its early stages and no significant developments have occurred. Smithfield believes the lawsuit is without merit and intends to vigorously defend against the complaint's allegations.

Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger (see page [])

The exchange of Smithfield common stock for cash in the merger will be a taxable transaction for U.S. federal income tax purposes and may also be taxable under state and local and other tax laws. You should read the section entitled "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger" beginning on page []. You are also encouraged to consult your own tax advisors regarding the U.S. federal income tax consequences of the merger to you in your particular circumstances, as well as tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, local or foreign taxing jurisdiction.

Appraisal Rights (see page [])

In accordance with Section 13.1-730 of the Virginia Stock Corporation Act (VSCA), no appraisal rights will be available to the holders of Smithfield common stock in connection with the merger or the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement.

Expected Timing of the Merger

We expect to complete the merger in the second half of calendar 2013. However, the merger is subject to various regulatory clearances and approvals and other conditions, and it is possible that factors outside of the control of Smithfield or Parent could result in the merger being completed at a later time, or not at all. There may be a substantial amount of time between the special meeting and the completion of the merger. We expect to complete the merger promptly following the receipt of all required clearances and approvals and the satisfaction or, to the extent permitted, waiver of the other conditions to the consummation of the merger.

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Restrictions on Solicitation of Acquisition Proposals (see page [])

From the date of the merger agreement until the earlier of the effective time and the termination of the merger agreement, Smithfield is required to immediately cease and cause to be terminated any solicitation, encouragement, discussion or negotiation that may be ongoing with respect to an acquisition proposal with any person, other than two parties who submitted acquisition proposals prior to the execution of the merger agreement (the qualified pre-existing bidders). Smithfield is generally not permitted to:

solicit, initiate, or knowingly encourage or facilitate or knowingly take any other action which is intended to lead to the making, submission or announcement by any person (other than a qualified pre-existing bidder) of an acquisition proposal;

enter into, continue or participate in any discussions or negotiations with any person (other than a qualified pre-existing bidder) regarding any acquisition proposal;

furnish to any person (other than Parent and Merger Sub, their designees, or any qualified pre-existing bidder) any non-public information or afford access to the business, properties, assets, books or records of Smithfield to facilitate the making of any acquisition proposal;

approve, endorse or recommend any acquisition proposal or other contract contemplating an acquisition proposal or requiring Smithfield to abandon its obligations under the merger agreement (other than with respect to a qualified pre-existing bidder);

terminate, amend, modify or waive any rights under any standstill or similar agreement between Smithfield and a third party unless the Smithfield Board determines in good faith, after consultation with its outside legal counsel, that failure to do so would be inconsistent with its fiduciary obligations (provided that such termination, amendment, modification or waiver will not be to permit the purchase of any securities of Smithfield by such third party); or

resolve, propose or agree to do any of the foregoing.

However, prior to approval of the merger proposal by Smithfield shareholders at the special meeting, Smithfield may, upon terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the merger agreement, provide information to and engage in discussions or negotiations with a third party if such third party has made a bona fide written acquisition proposal that has not been solicited after the date of the merger agreement (except from a qualified pre-existing bidder to the extent permitted in the merger agreement) and the Smithfield Board determines in good faith, after consultation with its advisors, that such acquisition proposal would reasonably be expected to constitute, result in, or lead to, a superior proposal and that failure to take such action would be inconsistent with the Smithfield Board's fiduciary duties.

Conditions to the Closing of the Merger (see page [])

Each party's obligation to effect the merger is subject to the satisfaction or, to the extent permitted, waiver of various conditions, including the following:

the merger agreement and the related plan of merger are approved by Smithfield's shareholders at the special meeting;

all applicable waiting periods under the HSR Act have expired or been terminated and all applicable waiting periods and consents and approvals required under the merger control laws of Mexico, Poland, Russia and Ukraine have expired or been obtained;

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if review by CFIUS has concluded, the President of the United States has not taken action to block or prevent the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement and no requirements or conditions to mitigate any national security concerns have been imposed, other than requirements or conditions that have not had, and would not reasonably be expected to have, individually or in the aggregate, a material adverse effect on Smithfield;

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no governmental authority has enacted, issued, enforced or entered any order (subject to certain exceptions) that has been enforced in a U.S. court, whether temporary, preliminary or permanent, that makes illegal, enjoins or otherwise prohibits the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement;

Smithfield's, Parent's and Merger Sub's respective representations and warranties in the merger agreement must be true and correct as of the date of the merger agreement and as of the closing of the merger in the manner described under The Merger Agreement-Conditions to the Closing of the Merger beginning on page [];

Smithfield, Parent and Merger Sub shall have performed or complied in all material respects with each of their respective obligations under the merger agreement at or prior to the closing of the merger; and

since the date of the merger agreement, no change, effect, event, fact or development has occurred that would reasonably be expected to have a material adverse effect on Smithfield.

Termination of the Merger Agreement (see page [])

Smithfield and Parent can terminate the merger agreement under certain circumstances, including:

by mutual written consent;

if the merger has not occurred prior to November 29, 2013 (the outside date), provided that the right to terminate the merger agreement under this circumstance will not be available to any party whose failure to perform its obligations under the merger agreement has been the primary cause of the failure of the merger to occur on or before such date and such action or failure to perform constitutes a breach in a material respect of the merger agreement;

if a governmental authority has issued a final and non-appealable order that is enforced in a U.S. court of competent jurisdiction having the effect of permanently restraining, enjoining or otherwise prohibiting the consummation of the merger, provided that the right to terminate the merger agreement under this circumstance will not be available to any party whose failure to perform its obligations under the merger agreement has been the primary cause of the issuance of such final, non-appealable order, and the party seeking to terminate the merger agreement must have complied with its obligations under the merger agreement to prevent, oppose or remove such order; or

if approval of the merger proposal by the Smithfield shareholders has not been obtained at the special meeting or at any adjournment or postponement thereof at which a vote on the approval of the merger proposal was taken.

Smithfield can terminate the merger agreement:

upon a breach or inaccuracy in any of Parent's or Merger Sub's representations or warranties or the failure by Parent or Merger Sub to perform any of its obligations under the merger agreement, which in any case would result in the failure of any condition to our obligation to close the merger to be satisfied and which breach, inaccuracy or failure is not capable of being cured prior to the outside date, provided that the right to terminate the merger agreement under this circumstance will not be available to Smithfield if Smithfield is then in material breach of any of its covenants or agreements under the merger agreement;

in order to accept a superior proposal and enter into an acquisition agreement providing for such superior proposal immediately following or concurrently with such termination, subject to Smithfield's compliance with the non-solicitation provisions in the merger

agreement and payment of the applicable termination fee; or

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if the mutual conditions to the parties' obligations to consummate the merger and the conditions to the obligations of Parent and Merger Sub to consummate the merger are satisfied (other than those conditions that by their terms are to be satisfied by actions taken at the closing of the merger), the marketing period has ended, Parent has not received the proceeds of the debt financing and/or the lenders have not confirmed that the debt financing will be available at the closing of the merger in a sufficient amount, and Parent failed to consummate the merger by the time set forth in the merger agreement.

Parent can terminate the merger agreement:

upon a breach or inaccuracy in any of Smithfield's representations or warranties or Smithfield's failure to perform any of its obligations under the merger agreement, which in any case would result in the failure of any condition to Parent's obligation to close the merger to be satisfied and which breach, inaccuracy or failure is not capable of being cured prior to the outside date, provided that the right to terminate the merger agreement under this circumstance will not be available if Parent or Merger Sub is then in material breach of any of its covenants or agreements under the merger agreement; or

if (i) the Smithfield Board has made a change in recommendation with respect to the merger, (ii) Smithfield has materially breached or failed to perform in a material respect its obligations under the non-solicitation provisions in the merger agreement or (iii) the Smithfield Board has failed to reaffirm publicly its recommendation that the Smithfield shareholders approve the merger agreement within ten business days after an acquisition proposal is disclosed or announced, provided that Parent will not have the right to terminate the merger agreement under these circumstances if the merger proposal has been approved by the Smithfield shareholders.

Termination Fees and Expenses (see page []) and Escrow for Parent's Termination Fee (see page [])

If the merger agreement is terminated in connection with Smithfield entering into an alternative acquisition agreement in respect of a superior proposal, or making a change of recommendation, or in certain other customary circumstances, the termination fee payable by Smithfield to Parent will be \$175,000,000. Under specified circumstances, if Smithfield had entered into a definitive agreement with a qualified pre-existing bidder with respect to an alternative acquisition proposal on or before June 27, 2013, the amount of the termination fee would instead have been \$75,000,000.

The merger agreement also provides that Parent will be required to pay Smithfield a reverse termination fee of \$275,000,000 (which is not exclusive in the case of a willful breach by Parent) if the merger agreement is terminated under certain circumstances in connection with a willful breach by Parent, termination primarily caused by the failure to obtain required U.S. or foreign antitrust or other regulatory approvals (other than CFIUS), or termination as a result of the failure by Parent to receive the proceeds of the committed debt financing and consummate the merger.

On the date of the merger agreement, Parent caused to be deposited an amount of cash equal to Parent's termination fee with Bank of China, New York Branch, as collateral and security for the payment of Parent's termination fee, which amount will be held in escrow pursuant to an escrow agreement with Bank of China, New York Branch (the escrow agreement).

Directors and Officers Indemnification and Insurance (see page [])

For six years following the effective time, Parent shall cause the surviving corporation to indemnify Smithfield and its subsidiaries' present and former directors and executive officers. In addition, for a period of six years following the effective time, the surviving corporation will maintain in effect provisions in the surviving corporation's organizational documents related to indemnification and advancement of expenses that

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are no less favorable than those set forth in Smithfield's organizational documents as of the date of the merger agreement. The merger agreement also provides that, at or prior to the effective time, Smithfield will purchase a directors' and officers' liability tail insurance policy on the same terms and conditions as the existing directors' and officers' liability (and fiduciary) insurance maintained by Smithfield, in an amount not to exceed 300% of the annual premiums of the current policies maintained by Smithfield.

Delisting and Deregistration of Smithfield Common Stock (see page [])

Upon completion of the merger, Smithfield common stock will be delisted from the NYSE and deregistered under the Exchange Act.

Market Prices of Smithfield Common Stock (see page [])

The merger consideration of \$34.00 per share of Smithfield common stock represented a premium of approximately 31% to the \$25.97 closing price per share of Smithfield common stock on the NYSE on May 28, 2013, the last trading day prior to the public announcement of the proposed merger. The closing price of the Smithfield common stock on the NYSE on [], 2013, the most recent practicable date prior to the filing of this proxy statement, was \$[] per share. You are encouraged to obtain current market prices of Smithfield common stock in connection with voting your shares of Smithfield common stock.

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE SPECIAL MEETING AND THE MERGER

The following are brief answers to certain questions that you may have regarding the merger, the special meeting and the proposals being considered at the special meeting. We urge you to carefully read the remainder of this proxy statement because the information in this section does not provide all the information that might be important to you with respect to the merger and the special meeting. Additional important information is also contained in the annexes attached to this proxy statement and the documents referred to or incorporated by reference into this proxy statement.

Q. Why am I receiving these proxy materials?

A. On May 28, 2013, Smithfield entered into the merger agreement providing for the merger of Merger Sub with and into Smithfield, pursuant to which Smithfield will survive the merger as a wholly owned subsidiary of Parent. You are receiving this proxy statement in connection with the solicitation by the Smithfield Board of proxies of Smithfield shareholders in favor of the merger proposal and the other matters to be voted on at the special meeting.

Q. What is the proposed transaction?

A. If the merger proposal is approved by Smithfield shareholders and the other conditions to the consummation of the merger contained in the merger agreement are satisfied or waived, Merger Sub will merge with and into Smithfield. Smithfield will be the surviving corporation in the merger and will be privately held as a wholly owned subsidiary of Parent.

Q. What will I receive in the merger?

A. Under the terms of the merger agreement, if the merger is completed, you will be entitled to receive \$34.00 in cash, without interest and less any applicable withholding taxes, for each share of Smithfield common stock you own. For example, if you own 100 shares of Smithfield common stock, you will be entitled to receive \$3,400 in cash in exchange for your shares, without interest and less any applicable withholding taxes. You will not be entitled to receive shares in the surviving corporation or in Parent.

Q. Where and when is the special meeting, and who may attend?

A. The special meeting will be held at [] on [], [], 2013 at [], Eastern Time. The meeting room will open at [], Eastern Time, and registration will begin at that time. Shareholders who are entitled to vote, as well as invited guests, may attend the meeting. Each shareholder will be permitted to bring one guest. Beneficial owners of shares held in street name should bring a copy of an account statement reflecting their ownership of Smithfield common stock as of the record date. All shareholders should bring photo identification.

Q. Who can vote at the Special Meeting?

A. All Smithfield shareholders of record as of the close of business on August 5, 2013, the record date for the special meeting, are entitled to receive notice of, attend and vote at the special meeting, or any adjournment or postponement thereof. Each share of Smithfield common stock is entitled to one vote on all matters that come before the meeting. At the close of business on the record date, there were 139,196,460 shares of Smithfield common stock issued and outstanding.

Q. What matters will be voted on at the special meeting?

A. At the special meeting, you will be asked to consider and vote on the following proposals:

the merger proposal;

the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal;

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the adjournment proposal; and

to transact such other business as may properly come before the special meeting or any adjournments or postponements of the special meeting.

Q. How does the Smithfield Board recommend that I vote on the proposals?

A. Smithfield's Board unanimously recommends that you vote:

FOR the merger proposal;

FOR the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal; and

FOR the adjournment proposal.

Q. What vote is required to approve the merger proposal?

A. The merger proposal will be approved if shareholders holding at least a majority of the shares of Smithfield common stock outstanding and entitled to vote at the close of business on the record date vote FOR the proposal.

Q. What vote is required to approve the other proposals?

A. Each of the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal and the adjournment proposal will be approved if a majority of the shares of Smithfield common stock present or represented by proxy at the special meeting and entitled to vote thereon vote FOR each such proposal.

Q. Do you expect the merger to be taxable to Smithfield shareholders?

A. The exchange of Smithfield common stock for cash in the merger will be a taxable transaction for U.S. federal income tax purposes and may also be taxable under state, local or other tax laws. You should read the section entitled "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger" beginning on page []. You are also encouraged to consult your own tax advisors regarding the U.S. federal income tax consequences of the merger to you in your particular circumstances, as well as tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, local or foreign taxing jurisdiction.

Q. What other effects will the merger have on Smithfield?

A. If the merger is completed, Smithfield common stock will be delisted from the NYSE and deregistered under the Exchange Act, and Smithfield will no longer be required to file periodic reports with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") with respect

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to Smithfield common stock, in each case in accordance with applicable law, rules and regulations. Following the completion of the merger, Smithfield common stock will no longer be publicly traded and you will no longer have any interest in Smithfield's future earnings or growth; each share of Smithfield common stock you hold will represent only the right to receive \$34.00 in cash, without interest and less any applicable withholding taxes.

Q. When is the merger expected to be completed?

- A. The parties to the merger agreement expect to complete the merger in the second half of calendar 2013, although Smithfield cannot assure completion by any particular date, if at all. Because the merger is subject to a number of conditions, including the receipt of shareholder approval of the merger proposal and the receipt of certain regulatory approvals, the exact timing of the merger cannot be determined at this time and we cannot guarantee that the merger will be completed.

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Q. What happens if the merger is not completed?

- A. If the merger proposal is not approved by Smithfield shareholders, or if the merger is not completed for any other reason, Smithfield shareholders will not receive any payment for their shares of Smithfield common stock in connection with the merger. Instead, Smithfield will remain an independent public company and shares of Smithfield common stock will continue to be listed and traded on the NYSE. If the merger agreement is terminated under specified circumstances, Smithfield may be required to pay Parent a termination fee of \$175,000,000 or Parent may be required to pay Smithfield a termination fee of \$275,000,000. See the section entitled "The Merger Agreement-Termination Fees and Expenses" beginning on page [] for a discussion of the circumstances under which either party will be required to pay a termination fee.

Q. Why am I being asked to consider and vote on the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal?

- A. The SEC rules require Smithfield to seek approval on a non-binding, advisory basis with respect to certain payments that will or may be made to Smithfield's named executive officers in connection with the merger. Approval of the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal is not required to complete the merger.

Q. Who is soliciting my vote?

- A. The Smithfield Board is soliciting your proxy, and Smithfield will bear the cost of soliciting proxies. Okapi Partners LLC has been retained to assist with the solicitation of proxies. Okapi Partners LLC will be paid approximately \$30,000 and will be reimbursed for its reasonable out-of-pocket expenses for these and other advisory services in connection with the special meeting. Solicitation initially will be made by mail. Forms of proxies and proxy materials may also be distributed through brokers, banks or other nominees to beneficial owners of shares of Smithfield common stock, in which case these parties will be reimbursed for their reasonable out-of-pocket expenses. Proxies may also be solicited in person or by telephone, facsimile, electronic mail or other electronic medium by Okapi Partners LLC or, without additional compensation, by certain of Smithfield's directors, officers and employees.

Q. What do I need to do now?

- A. Carefully read and consider the information contained in and incorporated by reference into this proxy statement, including the attached annexes. Whether or not you expect to attend the special meeting in person, please submit a proxy to vote your shares as promptly as possible so that your shares may be represented and voted at the special meeting.

Q. How do I vote if my shares are registered directly in my name?

- A. If your shares are registered directly in your name with our transfer agent, you are considered a shareholder of record and there are four methods by which you may vote your shares at the special meeting:

Internet: To vote over the internet, go to <http://www.envisionreports.com/SFD> and follow the steps outlined on the secured website. Please have your proxy card available for reference because you will need the validation details that are located on your proxy card in order to cast your vote over the internet. If you vote over the internet, you do not have to mail in a proxy card.

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Telephone: To vote by telephone, call toll-free 1-800-652-VOTE (8683) within the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico any time on a touchtone phone. Please have your proxy card available for reference because you will need the validation details that are located on your proxy card in order to cast your vote by telephone. If you vote by telephone, you do not have to mail in a proxy card.

Mail: To vote by mail, complete, sign and date a proxy card and return it promptly to the address indicated on the proxy card in the postage paid envelope provided. If you return your signed proxy card to us before the special meeting and do not subsequently revoke your proxy, we will vote your shares as you direct.

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In Person: You may attend the special meeting and vote your shares in person, rather than voting your shares by mail, over the internet or by telephone. You will be given a ballot when you arrive.

Whether or not you plan to attend the meeting, we urge you to vote by proxy to ensure your vote is counted. You may still attend the meeting and vote in person if you have already voted by proxy. Please choose only one method to cast your vote by proxy. We encourage you to vote over the internet or by telephone, both of which are convenient, cost-effective and reliable alternatives to returning a proxy card by mail.

Q. How do I vote if my shares are held in the name of my broker, bank or other nominee?

- A. If your shares are held by your broker, bank or other nominee, you are considered the beneficial owner of shares held in street name and you will receive a form from your broker, bank or other nominee seeking instruction from you as to how your shares should be voted. If you are a beneficial owner and you wish to vote in person at the special meeting, you must bring to the special meeting a proxy from the broker, bank or other nominee that holds your shares authorizing you to vote in person at the special meeting.

Q. Can I change or revoke my proxy after it has been submitted?

- A. Yes. You can change or revoke your proxy at any time before the final vote at the special meeting. If you are the record holder of your shares, you may change or revoke your proxy by:

voting again over the internet or by telephone prior to [] a.m., Eastern Time, on [], 2013 ;

timely sending a written notice that you are revoking your proxy to our Secretary;

timely delivering a valid, later-dated proxy; or

attending the special meeting and notifying the election officials that you wish to revoke your proxy to vote in person. Simply attending the special meeting will not, by itself, revoke your proxy.

If you are the beneficial owner of shares held in street name, you will have to follow the instructions provided by your broker, bank or other nominee to change or revoke your proxy.

Q. How many shares of Smithfield common stock must be present to constitute a quorum for the meeting?

- A. The presence at the special meeting, in person or by proxy, of a majority of the shares of Smithfield common stock outstanding on the record date will constitute a quorum. There must be a quorum for business to be conducted at the special meeting. However, even if a quorum does not exist, a majority of the shares of Smithfield common stock present or represented by proxy at the special meeting and entitled to vote may adjourn the special meeting to another place, date or time. Failure of a quorum to be present at the special meeting will necessitate an adjournment or postponement of the special meeting and will subject Smithfield to additional expense. As of the record date, there were 139,196,460 shares of Smithfield common stock outstanding. Accordingly, 69,598,231 shares of Smithfield common stock must be present or represented by proxy at the special meeting to constitute a quorum.

Q. What if I abstain from voting on any proposal?

- A. If you attend the special meeting or submit a proxy card, but abstain from voting on any proposal, your shares will still be counted for purposes of determining whether a quorum exists, but will not be voted on any proposal. **As a result, your abstention from voting will have the same effect as a vote AGAINST the merger proposal, the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal and the adjournment proposal.**
- Q. **Will my shares be voted if I do not sign and return my proxy card or vote by telephone or over the internet or in person at the special meeting?**
- A. If you are a shareholder of record and you do not sign and return your proxy card or vote by telephone, over the internet or in person, your shares will not be voted at the special meeting and will not be counted for

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purposes of determining whether a quorum exists. The failure to return your proxy card or otherwise vote your shares at the special meeting will have no effect on the outcome of the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal or the adjournment proposal. However, the vote to approve the merger proposal is based on the total number of shares of Smithfield common stock outstanding on the record date, not just the shares that are counted as present in person or by proxy at the special meeting. **As a result, if you fail to return your proxy card or otherwise vote your shares at the special meeting, it will have the same effect as a vote AGAINST the merger proposal.**

You will have the right to receive the merger consideration if the merger proposal is approved and the merger is completed even if your shares are not voted at the special meeting. **However, if your shares are not voted at the special meeting, it will have the same effect as a vote AGAINST the merger proposal.**

Q. What is a broker non-vote?

A. Broker non-votes are shares held in street name by brokers, banks and other nominees that are present or represented by proxy at the special meeting, but with respect to which the broker, bank or other nominee is not instructed by the beneficial owner of such shares how to vote on a particular proposal and such broker, bank or nominee does not have discretionary voting power on such proposal. Because, under NYSE rules, brokers, banks and other nominees holding shares in street name do not have discretionary voting authority with respect to any of the three proposals described in this proxy statement, if a beneficial owner of shares of Smithfield common stock held in street name does not give voting instructions to the broker, bank or other nominee, then those shares will not be counted as present in person or by proxy at the special meeting. As a result, it is expected that there will not be any broker non-votes in connection with any of the three proposals described in this proxy statement. The failure to issue voting instructions to your broker, bank or other nominee will have no effect on the outcome of the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal or the adjournment proposal. However, the vote to approve the merger proposal is based on the total number of shares of Smithfield common stock outstanding on the record date, not just the shares that are counted as present in person or by proxy at the special meeting. **As a result, if you fail to issue voting instructions to your broker, bank or other nominee, it will have the same effect as a vote AGAINST the merger proposal.**

Q. Will my shares held in street name or another form of record ownership be combined for voting purposes with shares I hold of record?

A. No. Because any shares you may hold in street name will be deemed to be held by a different shareholder than any shares you hold of record, any shares held in street name will not be combined for voting purposes with shares you hold of record. Similarly, if you own shares in various registered forms, such as jointly with your spouse, as trustee of a trust or as custodian for a minor, you will receive, and will need to sign and return, a separate proxy card for those shares because they are held in a different form of record ownership. Shares held by a corporation or business entity must be voted by an authorized officer of the entity. Shares held in an individual retirement account must be voted under the rules governing the account.

Q. Am I entitled to exercise appraisal rights instead of receiving the merger consideration for my shares of Smithfield common stock?

A. No. In accordance with Section 13.1-730 of the VSCA, no appraisal rights will be available to the holders of Smithfield common stock in connection with the merger or the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement.

Q. What happens if I sell my shares of Smithfield common stock before the completion of the merger?

A. If you transfer your shares of Smithfield common stock, you will have transferred your right to receive the merger consideration in the merger. In order to receive the merger consideration, you must hold your shares of Smithfield common stock through the completion of the merger.

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Q. Should I send in my stock certificates or other evidence of ownership now?

- A. No. After the merger is completed, you will receive a letter of transmittal from the paying agent for the merger with detailed written instructions for exchanging your shares of Smithfield common stock for the consideration to be paid to former Smithfield shareholders in connection with the merger. If you are the beneficial owner of shares of Smithfield common stock held in street name, you may receive instructions from your broker, bank or other nominee as to what action, if any, you need to take to effect the surrender of such shares. **Do not send in your stock certificates now.**

Q. What does it mean if I get more than one proxy card or voting instruction card?

- A. If your shares are registered differently or are held in more than one account, you will receive more than one proxy card or voting instruction card. Please complete and return all of the proxy cards or voting instruction cards you receive (or submit each of your proxies over the internet or by telephone) to ensure that all of your shares are voted.

Q. What is householding and how does it affect me?

- A. The SEC permits companies to send a single set of proxy materials to any household at which two or more shareholders reside, unless contrary instructions have been received, but only if the applicable company provides advance notice and follows certain procedures. In such cases, each shareholder continues to receive a separate notice of meeting and proxy card. Certain brokerage firms may have instituted householding for beneficial owners of common stock held through brokerage firms. If your family has multiple accounts holding common stock, you may have already received a householding notification from your broker. Please contact your broker directly if you have any questions or require additional copies of this proxy statement. The broker will arrange for delivery of a separate copy of this proxy statement promptly upon your written or oral request. You may decide at any time to revoke your decision to household, and thereby receive multiple copies of proxy materials.

Q. When will Smithfield announce the voting results of the special meeting, and where can I find the voting results?

- A. Smithfield intends to announce the preliminary voting results at the special meeting, and will report the final voting results of the special meeting in a Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC. All reports that Smithfield files with the SEC are publicly available when filed.

Q. Who can help answer my other questions?

- A. If you have questions about the merger, require assistance in submitting your proxy or voting your shares, or need additional copies of this proxy statement or the enclosed proxy card, please contact Okapi Partners LLC, which is acting as the proxy solicitation agent for Smithfield in connection with the merger.

Okapi Partners LLC

437 Madison Avenue

28th Floor

New York, NY 10022

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(1-877-796-5274)

If your broker, bank or other nominee holds your shares, you should also call your broker, bank or other nominee for additional information.

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CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This proxy statement and the attached annexes contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the federal securities laws. The forward-looking statements include statements concerning our outlook for the future, as well as other statements of beliefs, future plans and strategies or anticipated events, and similar expressions concerning matters that are not historical facts. Our forward-looking information and statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in, or implied by, the forward-looking statements. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to:

the occurrence of any event, change or other circumstances that could give rise to the termination of the merger agreement,

the failure to receive, on a timely basis or otherwise, approval of the merger proposal by the Smithfield shareholders or the approval of government or regulatory agencies with regard to the merger,

the failure of one or more conditions to the closing of the merger agreement to be satisfied,

the failure of Parent to obtain the necessary financing in connection with the merger agreement,

the amount of the costs, fees, expenses and charges related to the merger agreement or merger,

risks arising from the merger's diversion of management's attention from our ongoing business operations,

risks that our stock price may decline significantly if the merger is not completed,

the ability of Smithfield to retain and hire key personnel and maintain relationships with customers, suppliers and other business partners pending the completion of the merger,

the availability and prices of live hogs, feed ingredients (including corn), raw materials, fuel and supplies,

food safety,

livestock disease,

live hog production costs,

product pricing,

the competitive environment and related market conditions,

risks associated with our indebtedness, including cost increases due to rising interest rates or changes in debt ratings or outlook,

hedging risk,

adverse weather conditions,

operating efficiencies,

changes in foreign currency exchange rates,

access to capital,

the cost of compliance with and changes to regulations and laws, including changes in accounting standards, tax laws, environmental laws, agricultural laws and occupational, health and safety laws,

adverse results from litigation,

actions of domestic and foreign governments,

labor relations issues,

credit exposure to large customers,

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the ability to make effective acquisitions and successfully integrate newly acquired businesses into existing operations, and

other risks and uncertainties described under Part I, Item 1A. Risk Factors in Smithfield's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended April 28, 2013.

Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements because actual results may differ materially from those expressed in, or implied by, the forward-looking statements. Any forward-looking statement that we make speaks only as of the date of such statement, and we undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Comparisons of results for current and any prior periods are not intended to express any future trends or indications of future performance, unless expressed as such, and should only be viewed as historical data.

All subsequent written or oral forward-looking statements concerning the merger or the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement or other matters addressed in this proxy statement and attributable to Smithfield or any person acting on Smithfield's behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements contained or referred to in this section of this proxy statement.

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THE COMPANIES

Smithfield Foods, Inc.

Smithfield Foods, Inc.

200 Commerce Street

Smithfield, Virginia 23430

(757) 365-3000

Smithfield, together with its subsidiaries, began as a pork processing operation called The Smithfield Packing Company, founded in 1936 by Joseph W. Luter and his son, Joseph W. Luter, Jr. Through a series of acquisitions starting in 1981, we have become the largest pork processor and hog producer in the world.

Smithfield produces and markets a wide variety of fresh meat and packaged meats products both domestically and internationally. We operate in a cyclical industry and our results are affected by fluctuations in commodity prices. Additionally, some of the key factors influencing our business are customer preferences and demand for our products; our ability to maintain and grow relationships with customers; the introduction of new and innovative products to the marketplace; accessibility to international markets for our products, including the effects of any trade barriers; and operating efficiencies of our facilities.

Smithfield currently conducts its operations through four reportable segments: Pork, Hog Production, International and Corporate, each of which is comprised of a number of subsidiaries, joint ventures and other investments. The Pork segment consists mainly of our three wholly owned U.S. fresh pork and packaged meats subsidiaries: The Smithfield Packing Company, Inc., Farmland Foods, Inc. and John Morrell Food Group. The Hog Production segment consists of our hog production operations located in the U.S. The International segment is comprised mainly of our meat processing and distribution operations in Poland, Romania and the United Kingdom, our interests in meat processing operations, mainly in Western Europe and Mexico, our hog production operations located in Poland and Romania and our interests in hog production operations in Mexico. The Corporate segment provides management and administrative services to support our other segments.

Shares of Smithfield common stock are listed with, and trade on, the NYSE under the symbol SFD. Our corporate website address is www.smithfieldfoods.com. The information provided on our website is not part of this proxy statement and is not incorporated in this proxy statement by reference hereby or by any other reference to our website provided in this proxy statement.

For additional information about Smithfield included in documents incorporated by reference into this proxy statement, see the section entitled "Where You Can Find More Information" on page [].

Shuanghui International Holdings Limited

Shuanghui International Holdings Limited

7602B-7604A, International Commerce Centre

1 Austin Road West

Kowloon, Hong Kong

+ 852 - 2868 - 2828

Shuanghui International Holdings Limited, which we refer to in this proxy statement as Parent, operates in the food processing industry through its various subsidiaries. Parent's core businesses include: animal feed, hog production, livestock slaughtering, pork processing, sale of meat products (frozen and chilled meat, retorted meat products and pasteurized meat products), packaging, logistics, flavoring products, natural casings and marsh gas power generation. Parent has meat processing operations in 13 provinces across China, operates a self-owned retail chain store with over 300 branches, and works with an extensive network of distributors, retailers and sales partners.

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Parent's website is www.shuanghui-international.com. The information provided on Parent's website is not part of this proxy statement and is not incorporated in this proxy statement by reference hereby or by any other reference to Parent's website provided in this proxy statement.

Sun Merger Sub, Inc.

Sun Merger Sub, Inc., which we refer to in this proxy statement as Merger Sub, was formed in May 2013 solely for the purpose of completing the merger with Smithfield. Merger Sub has not carried out any activities to date, except for activities incidental to its incorporation and activities undertaken in connection with the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, including the merger and matters related to the financing of the merger consideration. Upon consummation of the merger, Merger Sub will merge with and into Smithfield, the separate corporate existence of Merger Sub will cease and Smithfield will continue as the surviving corporation and a wholly owned subsidiary of Parent.

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THE SPECIAL MEETING

This proxy statement is being provided to the Smithfield shareholders as part of a solicitation by the Smithfield Board of proxies for use at the special meeting to be held at the time and place specified below, and at any properly convened meeting following an adjournment or postponement of the special meeting.

Date, Time and Place

The special meeting is scheduled to be held at [] on [], [], 2013 at [], Eastern Time.

Purpose of the Special Meeting

At the special meeting, Smithfield shareholders will be asked to consider and vote on the following proposals:

the merger proposal, which is further described in the sections entitled "The Merger Proposal" and "The Merger Agreement," beginning on pages [] and [], respectively;

the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal, which is further described in the sections entitled "The Merger Proposal," "Interests of Smithfield's Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger" and "Advisory Vote on Named Executive Officer Merger-Related Compensation Proposal" beginning on pages [] and [], respectively;

the adjournment proposal; and

to transact such other business as may properly come before the special meeting or any adjournments or postponements of the special meeting.

Smithfield shareholders must approve the merger proposal as a condition to the completion of the merger. If the Smithfield shareholders fail to approve the merger proposal, the merger will not occur. The vote on the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal is a vote separate and apart from the vote to approve the merger proposal. Accordingly, a shareholder may vote to approve the merger proposal and vote not to approve the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal, and vice versa. Because the vote on the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal is only advisory in nature, it will not be binding on Smithfield, Parent or the surviving corporation. Accordingly, because Smithfield is contractually obligated to pay such merger-related compensation, the compensation will be payable, subject only to the conditions applicable thereto, if the merger proposal is approved, regardless of the outcome of the advisory vote.

Other than the matters described above, Smithfield does not expect a vote to be taken on any other matters at the special meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof. However, if any other matters are properly presented at the special meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof for consideration, the holders of the proxies will have discretion to vote on such matters in accordance with their best judgment.

Recommendation of the Smithfield Board of Directors

The Smithfield Board unanimously adopted and approved the merger agreement, the related plan of merger and the merger. Certain factors considered by the Smithfield Board in reaching its decision to adopt and approve the merger agreement, the related plan of merger and the merger can be found in the section entitled "The Merger Proposal," "Recommendation of the Smithfield Board and Reasons for the Merger" beginning on page [].

The Smithfield Board unanimously recommends that the Smithfield shareholders vote FOR the merger proposal, FOR the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal and FOR the adjournment proposal.

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Record Date; Shareholders Entitled to Vote

Only holders of Smithfield common stock at the close of business on August 5, 2013, the record date for the special meeting, will be entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the special meeting or any adjournments or postponements of the special meeting. At the close of business on the record date, 139,196,460 shares of Smithfield common stock were issued and outstanding.

Holders of Smithfield common stock are entitled to one vote for each share of Smithfield common stock they own at the close of business on the record date.

Quorum

The presence at the special meeting, in person or by proxy, of the holders of a majority of the shares of Smithfield common stock outstanding on the record date will constitute a quorum. There must be a quorum for business to be conducted at the special meeting. However, even if a quorum does not exist, a majority of the shares of Smithfield common stock present or represented by proxy at the special meeting and entitled to vote may adjourn the meeting to another place, date or time. Failure of a quorum to be represented at the special meeting will necessitate an adjournment or postponement of the special meeting and will subject Smithfield to additional expense.

Once a share is represented in person or by proxy at the special meeting, it will be counted for purposes of determining whether a quorum exists at the special meeting and any adjournment or postponement of the special meeting. However, if a new record date is set for the adjourned or postponed special meeting, a new quorum will have to be established. If you submit a properly executed proxy card, even if you abstain from voting, your shares will be counted for purposes of determining whether a quorum exists at the special meeting.

Required Vote

The approval of the merger proposal requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of Smithfield common stock outstanding at the close of business on the record date.

Approval of each of the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal and the adjournment proposal requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of Smithfield common stock present or represented by proxy at the special meeting and entitled to vote thereon.

Abstentions and Broker Non-Votes

An abstention occurs when a shareholder attends a meeting, either in person or by proxy, but abstains from voting. At the special meeting, abstentions will be counted for purposes of determining whether a quorum exists. **Abstaining from voting will have the same effect as a vote AGAINST the merger proposal, the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal and the adjournment proposal.**

If no instruction as to how to vote is given (including no instruction to abstain from voting) in an executed, duly returned and not revoked proxy, the proxy will be voted FOR (i) approval of the merger proposal, (ii) approval of the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal, and (iii) approval of the adjournment proposal.

Broker non-votes are shares held in street name by brokers, banks and other nominees that are present or represented by proxy at the special meeting, but with respect to which the broker, bank or other nominee is not instructed by the beneficial owner of such shares how to vote on a particular proposal and such broker, bank or nominee does not have discretionary voting power on such proposal. Because, under NYSE rules, brokers, banks and other nominees holding shares in street name do not have discretionary voting authority with respect to

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any of the three proposals described in this proxy statement, if a beneficial owner of shares of Smithfield common stock held in street name does not give voting instructions to the broker, bank or other nominee, then those shares will not be counted as present in person or by proxy at the special meeting. As a result, it is expected that there will not be any broker non-votes in connection with any of the three proposals described in this proxy statement.

Failure to Vote

If you are a shareholder of record and you do not sign and return your proxy card or vote over the internet, by telephone or in person at the special meeting, your shares will not be voted at the special meeting, will not be counted as present in person or by proxy at the special meeting and will not be counted for purposes of determining whether a quorum exists.

As discussed above, under NYSE rules, brokers and other record holders do not have discretionary voting authority with respect to any of the three proposals described in this proxy statement. Accordingly, if you are the beneficial owner of shares held in street name and you do not issue voting instructions to your broker, bank or other nominee, your shares will not be voted at the special meeting and will not be counted as present in person or by proxy at the special meeting or counted for purposes of determining whether a quorum exists.

A failure to vote will have no effect on the outcome of the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal or the adjournment proposal. However, the vote to approve the merger proposal is based on the total number of shares of Smithfield common stock outstanding on the record date, not just the shares that are counted as present in person or by proxy at the special meeting. **As a result, if you fail to vote your shares, it will have the same effect as a vote AGAINST the merger proposal.**

Voting by Smithfield's Directors and Executive Officers

At the close of business on the record date, directors and executive officers of Smithfield and their affiliates were entitled to vote 2,608,612 shares of Smithfield common stock, or approximately 1.9% of the shares of Smithfield common stock issued and outstanding on that date. Smithfield's directors and executive officers have informed us that they intend to vote their shares in favor of the merger proposal and the other proposals to be considered at the special meeting so long as the recommendation of the Smithfield Board with respect to these proposals has not changed, although none of Smithfield's directors and executive officers is obligated to do so.

Voting at the Special Meeting

If your shares are registered directly in your name with our transfer agent, you are considered a shareholder of record and there are four methods by which you may vote your shares at the special meeting. You may attend the special meeting and vote your shares in person, rather than signing and returning your proxy card, or you may vote your shares by authorizing the persons named as proxies on the proxy card to vote your shares at the special meeting by returning the proxy card by mail, through the internet, or by telephone. **Although Smithfield offers four different voting methods, Smithfield encourages you to vote over the internet or by telephone, as Smithfield believes they are the most convenient, cost-effective and reliable voting methods.** If you choose to vote your shares over the internet or by telephone, there is no need for you to mail back your proxy card. We also recommend that you vote as soon as possible, even if you are planning to attend the special meeting, so that the vote count will not be delayed.

To Vote in Person: If you plan to attend the special meeting and wish to vote in person, you will be given a ballot at the special meeting.

To Vote Over the Internet: To vote over the internet, go to <http://www.envisionreports.com/SFD> and follow the steps outlined on the secured website. Please have your proxy card available for reference because you will need the validation details that are located on your proxy card in order to cast your vote. If you vote over the internet, you do not have to mail in a proxy card.

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To Vote by Telephone: To vote by telephone, call toll-free 1-800-652-VOTE (8683) within the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico at any time on a touchtone phone. Please have your proxy card available for reference because you will need the validation details that are located on your proxy card in order to cast your vote. If you vote by telephone, you do not have to mail in a proxy card.

To Vote by Mail: To vote by mail, complete, sign and date the proxy card and return it promptly to the address indicated on the proxy card in the postage paid enveloped provided. If you sign and return your proxy card without indicating how you want your shares of Smithfield common stock to be voted with regard to a particular proposal, your shares of Smithfield common stock will be voted in favor of such proposal. If you return your proxy card without a signature, your shares will not be counted as present at the special meeting and cannot be voted.

If your shares are held by your broker, bank or other nominee, you are considered the beneficial owner of shares held in street name and you will receive a form from your broker, bank or other nominee seeking instruction from you as to how your shares should be voted. If you are a beneficial owner and you wish to vote in person at the special meeting, you must bring to the special meeting a proxy from the broker, bank or other nominee that holds your shares authorizing you to vote in person at the special meeting.

Shareholders who are entitled to vote at the special meeting, as well as invited guests, may attend the special meeting. Each shareholder will be permitted to bring one guest. Beneficial owners should bring a copy of an account statement reflecting their ownership of Smithfield common stock as of the record date. All shareholders should bring photo identification.

Revocation of Proxies

You can change or revoke your proxy at any time before the final vote at the special meeting. If you are the record holder of your shares, you may revoke your proxy by:

voting again over the internet or by telephone prior to [] a.m., Eastern Time, on [], 2013;

timely sending a written notice that you are revoking your proxy to our Secretary;

timely delivering a valid, later-dated proxy; or

attending the special meeting and notifying the election officials that you wish to revoke your proxy to vote in person. Simply attending the special meeting will not, by itself, revoke your proxy.

If you are the beneficial owner of shares held in street name, you should contact your broker, bank or other nominee with questions about how to change or revoke your voting instructions.

Solicitation of Proxies

The Smithfield Board is soliciting your proxy, and Smithfield will bear the cost of soliciting proxies. Okapi Partners LLC has been retained to assist with the solicitation of proxies. Okapi Partners LLC will be paid approximately \$30,000 and will be reimbursed for its reasonable out-of-pocket expenses for these and other advisory services in connection with the special meeting. Solicitation initially will be made by mail. Forms of proxies and proxy materials may also be distributed through brokers, banks and other nominees to the beneficial owners of shares of Smithfield common stock, in which case these parties will be reimbursed for their reasonable out-of-pocket expenses. Proxies may also be solicited in person or by telephone, facsimile, electronic mail, or other electronic medium by Okapi Partners LLC or, without additional compensation by certain of Smithfield's directors, officers and employees.

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Adjournment

In addition to the merger proposal and the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal, Smithfield shareholders are also being asked to approve the adjournment proposal, which will give the Smithfield Board authority to, as permitted under the terms of the merger agreement, adjourn the special meeting for the purpose of soliciting additional votes in favor of the merger proposal if there are not sufficient votes at the time of the special meeting to approve the merger proposal. If a quorum does not exist, the holders of a majority of the shares of Smithfield common stock present or represented by proxy at the special meeting and entitled to vote may adjourn the special meeting to another place, date or time. If the adjournment proposal is approved, the special meeting could be adjourned by the Smithfield Board as permitted under the terms of the merger agreement. In addition, the Smithfield Board, as permitted under the terms of the merger agreement, could postpone the meeting before it commences, whether for the purpose of soliciting additional votes or for other reasons. If the special meeting is adjourned or postponed for the purpose of soliciting additional votes, shareholders who have already submitted their proxies will be able to revoke them at any time prior to their use. If you return a proxy and do not indicate how you wish to vote on the adjournment proposal, your shares will be voted in favor of the adjournment proposal.

The Smithfield Board unanimously recommends a vote FOR the adjournment proposal.

Other Information

You should not return your stock certificate or send documents representing Smithfield common stock with the proxy card. If the merger is completed, the paying agent for the merger will send you a letter of transmittal and instructions for exchanging your shares of Smithfield common stock for the consideration to be paid to the former Smithfield shareholders in connection with the merger.

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THE MERGER PROPOSAL

(PROPOSAL 1)

The discussion of the merger in this proxy statement is qualified in its entirety by reference to the merger agreement and related plan of merger, copies of which are attached to this proxy statement as Annex A and Annex B, respectively, and hereby incorporated by reference into this proxy statement.

Structure of the Merger

Subject to the terms and conditions of the merger agreement and in accordance with the VSCA, at the effective time, Merger Sub will merge with and into Smithfield, the separate corporate existence of Merger Sub will cease and Smithfield will survive the merger as a wholly owned subsidiary of Parent.

What Shareholders Will Receive in the Merger

At the effective time, each outstanding share of Smithfield common stock (other than Smithfield common stock held by us or our wholly owned subsidiaries, or by Parent or Merger Sub) will be automatically converted into the right to receive \$34.00 in cash, without interest and less any applicable withholding taxes. After the merger is completed, holders of Smithfield common stock will have only the right to receive a cash payment in respect of their shares of Smithfield common stock, and will no longer have any rights as holders of Smithfield common stock, including voting or other rights. Shares of Smithfield common stock held by us or our wholly owned subsidiaries or by Parent or Merger Sub will be canceled at the effective time.

Treatment of Smithfield Equity Awards

Each option to purchase shares of Smithfield common stock, whether vested or unvested, that is outstanding and unexercised as of the effective time will be canceled and the holder thereof will be entitled to receive an amount in cash, without interest and less any applicable withholding taxes, equal to the product of (i) the number of shares of Smithfield common stock subject to such option and (ii) the excess, if any, of \$34.00 over the exercise price of the option.

Each PSU, whether vested or unvested, that is outstanding immediately prior to the effective time, will be canceled and the holder thereof will be entitled to receive an amount in cash, without interest and less any applicable withholding taxes, equal to the product of (i) the total number of shares of Smithfield common stock subject to such PSU award and (ii) \$34.00. For purposes of unvested PSU awards outstanding as of the date of the merger agreement, any performance-based vesting condition will be treated as having been attained at the maximum level, and awards that are subject to such performance-based vesting condition will be deemed to be fully vested as of immediately prior to the effective time. For purposes of unvested PSU awards granted between the date of the merger agreement and the effective time, any performance-based vesting condition will be treated as having been attained at the target level, and awards that are subject to such performance-based vesting condition will be deemed to be fully vested as of immediately prior to the effective time.

Each deferred unit, all of which are currently vested, that is outstanding immediately prior to the effective time, will be canceled and the holder thereof will be entitled to receive an amount in cash, without interest and less any applicable withholding taxes, equal to the product of (i) the total number of shares of Smithfield common stock subject to such deferred unit and (ii) \$34.00.

Each right to receive a share of Smithfield common stock pursuant to any Smithfield stock deferral plan will, as of the effective time, become the right to receive an amount in cash, without interest and less any applicable withholding taxes, equal to \$34.00, payable at the time such stock otherwise would be delivered to the holder of such deferred stock account.

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Effects on Smithfield if the Merger Is Not Completed

If the merger proposal is not approved by Smithfield shareholders or if the merger is not completed for any other reason, Smithfield shareholders will not receive any payment for their shares in connection with the merger. Instead, Smithfield will remain an independent public company and shares of Smithfield common stock will continue to be listed and traded on the NYSE. In addition, if the merger is not completed, Smithfield expects that management will operate Smithfield's business in a manner similar to that in which it is being operated today and that Smithfield shareholders will continue to be subject to the same risks and opportunities to which they are currently subject, including, without limitation, risks related to the highly competitive industry in which Smithfield operates and adverse economic conditions.

Furthermore, if the merger is not completed, and depending on the circumstances that would have caused the merger not to be completed, it is likely that the price of Smithfield's common stock will decline significantly. If that were to occur, it is uncertain when, if ever, the price of Smithfield's common stock would return to the price at which it trades as of the date of this proxy statement.

Accordingly, if the merger is not completed, there can be no assurance as to the effect of these risks and opportunities on the future value of your shares of Smithfield's common stock. If the merger is not completed, the Smithfield Board will continue to evaluate and review Smithfield's business operations, properties, dividend policy and capitalization, among other things, make such changes as are deemed appropriate and continue to seek to identify strategic alternatives to enhance shareholder value. If the merger proposal is not approved by Smithfield shareholders or if the merger is not completed for any other reason, there can be no assurance that any other transaction acceptable to Smithfield will be offered or that Smithfield's business, prospects or results of operation will not be adversely impacted.

Further, if the merger agreement is terminated under specified circumstances, Smithfield may be required to pay Parent a termination fee of \$175,000,000 or Parent may be required to pay Smithfield a termination fee of \$275,000,000. See the section entitled "The Merger Agreement - Termination Fees and Expenses" beginning on page [] for a discussion of the circumstances under which either party will be required to pay a termination fee.

Background of the Merger

From time to time, Smithfield and the Smithfield Board, together with their legal and financial advisors, review and evaluate strategic opportunities and alternatives with a view to enhancing shareholder value. Such opportunities and alternatives include remaining as a stand-alone entity, changes to Smithfield's dividend policy and its policy regarding Smithfield repurchasing shares of its common stock, potential domestic or international large transformational acquisitions, potential domestic or international smaller strategic acquisitions of one or more other companies, business segments or other value-added assets in the sectors in which Smithfield operates, investments in domestic or international joint ventures, dispositions of one or more of our business segments and a potential sale of Smithfield.

One such opportunity that had been contemplated in 2011 was a potential joint delisting takeover to acquire the remaining shares of Campofrio Food Group, S.A., together with Campofrio's chairman Mr. Pedro Ballve, in order to further Smithfield's long term strategy of becoming a leading global consumer packaged meats company. Campofrio is a publicly traded Spanish company and is the largest European-based protein company. Smithfield owns 37% of Campofrio's outstanding shares. In June 2011, Smithfield terminated negotiations due to a number of factors, including adverse economic conditions in Europe and a decline in the price of Smithfield common stock at such time that had made the proposed transaction more difficult to finance on an accretive basis.

Another such opportunity that had been contemplated and evaluated from time to time since 2012 was a potential restructuring or other break-up of Smithfield, including by means of a carve-out or spin-off of the hog production segment and other assets. In connection with such evaluation, Smithfield and the Smithfield Board concluded that such restructuring alternatives were not in the best interests of Smithfield and its shareholders because, among other things, Smithfield's hog production segment created efficiencies and synergies and

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provided a competitive advantage to Smithfield through vertical integration, such restructuring alternatives raised substantial management and operational issues, and did not appear to be feasible at the time due to the underperformance of the hog production business.

Another such opportunity that had been contemplated and evaluated since January 2013 was a potentially significant acquisition of a large business in the packaged meats sector. In connection with such evaluation, the Smithfield Board retained Barclays to assist it in such evaluation. Smithfield has had a longstanding relationship with Barclays and retained Barclays in connection with this potential acquisition based on Barclays' reputation and experience as an investment banking firm generally and its knowledge of the packaged meats sector in particular. On an ongoing basis, Smithfield also evaluated selected opportunities with respect to other smaller targets for potential acquisitions.

Smithfield had retained a different financial advisor since 2011 to advise it with respect to shareholder activism matters. The engagement letter with such financial advisor in connection with such retention also provided that such financial advisor would advise Smithfield in connection with a potential sale of Smithfield.

On March 7, 2013, Smithfield announced its third quarter earnings, and the Smithfield common stock closed at \$24.68 per share, a 10.7% gain from the previous day.

After the close of trading of Smithfield's common stock on the NYSE on March 7, 2013, Continental Grain Company, then a major shareholder of Smithfield, made public a letter to the Smithfield Board that, among other things, suggested that Smithfield should be split into three separate parts: a hog production business, a U.S. processing and packaged meats business and an international business. On March 8, 2013, the day after the public disclosure of the letter from Continental Grain Company, the Smithfield common stock closed at \$25.79 per share, a 4.5% gain from the previous day.

In the following days and weeks, in light of the publicity related to the letter from Continental Grain Company, various research analysts and other commentators speculated as to whether Smithfield would undertake any potential dispositions or spin-offs of its business segments or engage in mergers or acquisitions involving Smithfield.

As discussed above, the Smithfield Board had previously considered aspects of the major suggestions made by Continental Grain Company in one form or another pursuant to its ongoing review of strategic opportunities. Following receipt of the letter from Continental Grain Company, the Smithfield Board considered such suggestions again and, after review and deliberation, determined that at the present time it was not in the best interests of the Smithfield shareholders to pursue a restructuring or other break-up of Smithfield.

Parent has been a customer of Smithfield for more than ten years. From time to time since early 2006, representatives of Parent and representatives of Smithfield have had high-level preliminary discussions about potential mutually beneficial business transactions, including joint ventures, reciprocal equity investments pursuant to which each of Parent and Smithfield would acquire shares of the other company, and various forms of more comprehensive commercial cooperation beyond the existing customer relationship. None of these discussions resulted in a potential transaction or arrangement that was sufficiently commercially attractive to the parties such that it matured to the point of being approved by the Smithfield Board.

On March 21, 2013, a representative of Morgan Stanley, Parent's financial advisor, called Mr. C. Larry Pope, Smithfield's Chief Executive Officer, and told him that Parent was prepared to send Smithfield a written non-binding proposal to acquire all of the outstanding shares of Smithfield common stock for \$30.00 per share in cash.

Later on March 21, 2013, the Smithfield Board held a telephonic meeting at which representatives of Simpson Thacher, special legal counsel to the Smithfield Board, were present and at which Mr. Pope briefed the Smithfield Board regarding his call with Morgan Stanley. After discussion, the consensus of the Smithfield Board was that Parent's proposal of \$30.00 per share was not at a level that the Smithfield Board would be

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interested in pursuing, but that management should determine if an opportunity for a sale of Smithfield at a significantly higher price would be available. On or about this date, Smithfield became aware that the financial advisor that had been retained with regard to shareholder activism issues, through one of its affiliates, had a relationship with Parent. Due to this relationship with Parent, Smithfield concluded (with the concurrence of such financial advisor) that it would not be appropriate for such financial advisor to advise Smithfield in respect of Parent's proposal or any alternative proposal. Such financial advisor remained engaged with respect to matters solely related to the Continental Grain letter and similar shareholder activism. No information was shared by Smithfield with such financial advisor about Parent's proposal, ongoing developments relating thereto or other alternatives after the time Smithfield reached this conclusion. Smithfield decided to retain Barclays as its financial advisor in connection with Parent's proposal and alternative sale transactions.

On March 22 and March 23, 2013, Mr. Pope spoke several times by telephone with a representative of Morgan Stanley and conveyed that Smithfield was not for sale and that if it were to be for sale, the price offered by Parent substantially undervalued Smithfield.

On March 24, 2013, Parent delivered a non-binding written proposal to Smithfield in which Parent proposed acquiring all outstanding shares of Smithfield common stock at a price of \$33.00 per share in cash. Parent's offer represented a premium of 25.86% to \$26.22, the closing price of Smithfield common stock on March 22, 2013, the last trading day before such date, and a premium of 33.71% to \$24.68, the closing price of Smithfield common stock on March 7, 2013, before the letter from Continental Grain Company was made public. In connection with the offer, Morgan Stanley communicated to Smithfield that Parent was very focused on making sure Smithfield's existing management team remain in place after the transaction closed.

On or about this time, representatives of Morgan Stanley requested that Mr. Pope and Mr. Joseph W. Luter III, the Chairman of the Smithfield Board, travel to Hong Kong to meet with Parent's chairman to discuss the potential sale of Smithfield at the \$33.00 per share price. Mr. Pope responded that it was premature to schedule a trip at that time.

On March 25, 2013, Smithfield submitted an offer in connection with the potential packaged meats acquisition, which was formally rejected by the target on April 10, 2013.

Company A is a non-U.S. public company. In 2010, representatives of Company A and representatives of Smithfield engaged in discussions regarding a potential combination of Company A's U.S. operations with Smithfield's by way of a transaction in which Smithfield would acquire the U.S. assets of Company A in exchange for issuing Smithfield stock to Company A, a transaction that would provide no consideration to Smithfield shareholders directly and leave Smithfield as a public company controlled by Company A. These discussions were subsequently discontinued. A representative of Company A contacted Mr. Pope to request a meeting and then met with Mr. Pope on March 29, 2013, at which meeting he told Mr. Pope that he had seen the Continental Grain letter and would potentially be interested in reviving discussions regarding the previously discussed transaction. Mr. Pope indicated that a transaction of that type would not be attractive to Smithfield's shareholders, but that if Company A had interest in communicating with the Smithfield Board about a proposal involving a consideration composed of all or substantially all cash depending on the price and other terms, such a proposal might be timely and possibly well received.

On April 1, 2013, the Smithfield Board held a telephonic meeting at which representatives of Simpson Thacher and Barclays were present. The Smithfield Board discussed the fact that preliminary indications suggested that Smithfield's fiscal fourth quarter earnings would be lower than anticipated, driven in large part by the poor performance of Smithfield's hog production business. The Smithfield Board also discussed the March 24 non-binding written offer it had received from Parent proposing to acquire Smithfield for \$33.00 per share in cash. Barclays discussed with the Smithfield Board a preliminary financial analysis similar to the one described under "Opinion of Smithfield's Financial Advisor" based on the sales, earnings per share (EPS) and earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) projections prepared by Smithfield's management. In addition, at the direction of the Smithfield Board, Barclays also discussed certain sensitivity

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analyses, including the Sensitivity Analyses discussed under Certain Financial Projections, based on the Smithfield Board's and management's recognition that Smithfield would have difficulty achieving the management projections in the short term and the Smithfield Board's concern that Smithfield's business itself is inherently volatile. Barclays discussed these sensitivity analyses with the management of Smithfield and the Smithfield Board agreed with the appropriateness of using such particular sensitivity analyses as part of the performance of Barclays' analysis. Although the Smithfield Board determined that any transaction with Parent would need to be at a higher price per share and that Smithfield would need to receive appropriate protections in respect of the financing, regulatory and enforcement risks posed by a transaction with Parent, given the substantial premium already represented by Parent's \$33.00 per share offer, the Smithfield Board authorized Barclays and management to continue discussions with Parent to see if a deal could be reached. The Smithfield Board also expressed some concern that Smithfield's expected fourth quarter results may have a negative impact on Parent's willingness to increase its offer.

From April 1 through April 3, 2013, representatives of Smithfield held one-on-one meetings with several of Smithfield's largest investors in which they discussed Smithfield's views on its strategic position, in part to discuss and respond to the Continental Grain letter. In these meetings and in an investor presentation that was publicly filed and made publicly available, Smithfield's representatives expressed the view that separating Smithfield into multiple companies was not the appropriate strategic alternative for Smithfield to undertake and was not in the best interests of the Smithfield shareholders.

On April 4, 2013, representatives of Barclays communicated to representatives of Morgan Stanley that Parent's proposed price of \$33.00 per share would not be sufficient, and Barclays offered to arrange a meeting between Parent and Smithfield to discuss the reasons why Smithfield's value justified a higher offer price by Parent. In particular, Barclays noted the synergies that the businesses may have, the strategic importance that Smithfield may have to Parent, the scarcity value of a market leading participant and the value in Smithfield's business.

On April 8, 2013, the Smithfield Board held a telephonic meeting to discuss the status of the discussions with Parent. Simpson Thacher and Barclays were in attendance on the call. The Smithfield Board authorized Simpson Thacher to send a draft confidentiality agreement to Parent which, when executed, would enable Parent to receive non-public information about Smithfield. In an effort to control the process of any proposed transaction, the draft confidentiality agreement contained a standstill and no-hire provision in favor of Smithfield. The draft confidentiality agreement was sent to Parent on April 10, 2013.

On April 11, 2013, Smithfield received a letter from Company B, a non-U.S. public company, which included a notice of termination of a confidentiality agreement between an affiliate of Company B and Smithfield that had previously been entered into in connection with certain preliminary discussions between the companies with respect to a potential joint venture. In the letter, Company B indicated that it was interested in acquiring a significant minority stake in Smithfield.

On April 16, 2013, a representative of Company B's financial advisor met with a representative of Smithfield to discuss Company B's April 11th letter. At that meeting, the representative of Company B's financial advisor indicated, among other things, that while Company B's current intention was to increase its economic stake in Smithfield to an equity ownership percentage of no higher than 9.9%, if Smithfield were to be involved in a transformative acquisition or management-led leveraged buy-out, Company B would be interested in participating in any such transaction.

After negotiations among the advisors of Smithfield and Parent, the parties executed a confidentiality agreement on April 17, 2013. The confidentiality agreement substantially retained the standstill and no-hire provisions originally proposed by Smithfield. Later that day, representatives of Smithfield, Parent, Barclays and Morgan Stanley held a financial due diligence meeting to discuss certain aspects of Smithfield's business. Among other topics, the parties discussed the developing weakness in Smithfield's expected fourth quarter financial results.

On the evening of April 17, 2013, Mr. Pope spoke to representatives of Morgan Stanley. During the conversation, Mr. Pope indicated that he would be supportive of, and would recommend that the Smithfield Board support, a proposal from Parent to acquire Smithfield at a price of between \$35.00 and \$36.00 per share.

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On April 19, 2013, Parent sent a revised non-binding written proposal to Smithfield increasing the price per share Parent was willing to pay to \$33.50 per share in cash. Contemporaneously with the delivery of this written proposal, representatives of Parent's advisors communicated to representatives of Smithfield's advisors that, while Parent had decided to increase its price by \$0.50, the impact of the expected fourth quarter financial results was negatively viewed by Parent. In particular, Parent's advisors noted that a transaction at this price would be more challenging from a financing perspective and that the expected weakness in Smithfield's fourth quarter results had significantly limited Parent's willingness to increase its proposed price and, in fact, that Parent even considered reducing the original proposed price of \$33.00 per share in cash.

On April 21, 2013, Smithfield held a board meeting in Williamsburg, Virginia at which representatives of Barclays and Simpson Thacher were present. Barclays and the Smithfield Board discussed Smithfield's historical performance, and, at the direction of the Smithfield Board, Barclays discussed with the Smithfield Board Barclays' preliminary financial analysis of several potential strategic alternatives for Smithfield, including the current proposal from Parent. In addition to continuing the operation of the business consistent with the status quo or selling Smithfield to a strategic buyer for cash, the Smithfield Board reviewed certain strategic alternatives, including the following:

a spin-off of Smithfield's hog production assets and a portion of its fresh pork business (Freshco), leaving a portion of the fresh pork business and the packaged meats and international businesses in a new Smithfield (New Smithfield);

a variation of the spin-off alternative in which New Smithfield would be turned into a public company via an initial public offering;

the acquisition of a large business in the packaged meats sector with which Smithfield had already had preliminary discussions; and

the sale of Smithfield to a private equity firm for cash.

The ranges of values implied by the preliminary analyses of the strategic alternatives performed by Barclays produced, in some cases, values in excess of \$33.50, the amount of Parent's current proposal. After discussion of the various strategic alternatives, the Smithfield Board reaffirmed its view that the spin-off and carve-out alternatives raised substantial management and operational issues that had previously led the Smithfield Board to determine that such alternatives were not in the best interests of Smithfield and its shareholders. In addition, any such transactions did not appear to be currently feasible due to the underperformance of the hog production business and the uncertainty as to the market receptivity to the New Smithfield. The Smithfield Board considered the acquisition of the packaged meats business to be potentially attractive, but was concerned about whether it would be possible to make the acquisition on terms that were financially favorable to Smithfield (in light of the fact that Smithfield's proposal had been rejected) and whether it would be possible to achieve the synergies necessary to make such acquisition financially successful. Barclays had also undertaken an analysis of a potential sale to a private equity firm. After discussion with Barclays, the Smithfield Board concluded that the sale of Smithfield to a private equity firm would be difficult due to several factors, including (i) the volatility of the hog production business, which would limit the total amount of debt financing leverage that could likely be used in an acquisition of Smithfield, (ii) the large equity investment that would be needed for such a transaction, and (iii) the capital and debt restructuring constraints that would be faced by a private equity buyer given that Smithfield's current capital structure would have required such a buyer to incur significant breakage costs upon refinancing Smithfield's existing debt facilities to put into place a traditional leveraged acquisition financing structure.

During the course of the April 21st meeting, representatives of Smithfield management informed the Smithfield Board and Barclays that, in light of the inherent volatility in Smithfield's business, including Smithfield's expected performance in the fourth fiscal quarter, it would be appropriate to discount the EBITDA margin assumptions contained in the management projections for purposes of evaluating Barclays' analysis by at least 100 basis points.

The Smithfield Board also discussed at the April 21st meeting the expressions of potential interest received from Company A and Company B.

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While the Smithfield Board found the price proposed by Parent to be potentially worthy of pursuing, it was concerned about the risk that a deal with Parent, if executed, might not be completed as a result of the risks of cross-jurisdictional enforcement issues arising from Parent's status as a foreign entity with a majority of assets located in China that may not be subject to the jurisdiction of U.S. courts, of failing to obtain a required regulatory approval or of the failure of Parent to obtain the financing that it required. Following discussion and deliberation, the Smithfield Board directed Smithfield's management team and legal and financial advisors to focus on negotiating contractual and other protections to mitigate such risks while continuing to push Parent to improve its offer. The Smithfield Board also instructed Smithfield's management team and financial and legal advisors to explore whether the expressions of interest from Company A and Company B could be developed into more fully formed proposals.

Over the course of April 23 and April 24, 2013, representatives of Company B's financial advisor participated in phone calls and meetings with Mr. Pope and other representatives of Smithfield and Barclays. Among other matters discussed, Mr. Pope and other representatives of Smithfield communicated to representatives of Company B's financial advisors that a management led leveraged buy-out was not a transaction that was being contemplated. However, if Company B had an interest in making an all cash proposal to acquire Smithfield then, depending on the price and other terms, such a proposal might be timely and possibly well-received by Smithfield. A series of phone calls between representatives of Smithfield and Barclays and representatives of Company B about a potential transaction continued through May 1, 2013. Also on that date, representatives of Company B's financial advisors met with representatives of Smithfield and Barclays in New York and were provided certain publicly available information about Smithfield. At this point, Smithfield did not provide any confidential information regarding its operations as Company B had not yet entered into a confidentiality agreement with Smithfield.

On April 24, 2013, representatives of Barclays spoke to representatives of Morgan Stanley, and representatives of Simpson Thacher spoke to representatives of Paul Hastings, about Smithfield's perspective on certain issues relating to deal certainty in the event that Smithfield agreed to a transaction with Parent. Among the issues which Smithfield's representatives noted were important was the expectation that a reverse termination fee would be payable by Parent in the event that Parent failed to obtain financing or a required regulatory approval (including CFIUS approval) or upon a willful breach of the transaction agreement by Parent. In addition, Smithfield's representatives insisted that the amount of any reverse termination fee be placed in escrow, or a similar device be employed, to ensure its collectability. At the direction of Smithfield, Barclays requested that Morgan Stanley discuss with Parent whether Parent may be able to increase its offer. Moreover, Barclays indicated to Morgan Stanley that Parent and its advisors should work toward announcing a deal shortly after the Memorial Day holiday, assuming the parties could agree to mutually acceptable terms.

On April 26, 2013, Company A sent a non-binding written proposal to Smithfield in which it proposed to acquire Smithfield for \$30.00 per share in cash. On April 28, 2013, Mr. Pope spoke by telephone with a representative of Company A and indicated that the value represented by Company A's proposal was too low for Smithfield to meaningfully engage in discussions with Company A.

Between April 24th and April 30th, there were a series of communications between advisors of Smithfield and Parent regarding issues centered around deal certainty. During the course of such discussions, Smithfield's advisors told Parent's advisors that reaching agreement with respect to these key points was a precondition to receiving access to certain non-public information regarding Smithfield. A representative of Paul Hastings contacted a representative of Simpson Thacher on May 1, 2013 to discuss the deal certainty issues raised by Smithfield's advisors. The Paul Hastings representative informed the Simpson Thacher representative that under no circumstances would Parent be willing to pay a reverse termination fee in respect of any failure to obtain CFIUS approval; however, Parent would agree to pay a reverse termination fee in an amount to be mutually agreed between the parties in the event Parent willfully breached the merger agreement or Parent was unable to obtain financing or a required regulatory approval. The Paul Hastings representative indicated that Parent would likely be willing to agree to a strong contractual covenant to take actions required to obtain regulatory approvals.

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(including CFIUS). Shortly thereafter, Parent and its representatives were given access to an online data room which had been prepared by Smithfield (we refer to this on-line data room in this proxy statement as the data room).

The Smithfield Board held a telephonic meeting on May 3, 2013 at which representatives of Barclays, Simpson Thacher and McGuireWoods, Smithfield's Virginia counsel, were present and at which Smithfield's management team and advisors gave the Smithfield Board an update on developments since the April 21st meeting.

On May 3, 2013, Company A sent a revised non-binding written proposal to Smithfield in which it increased its offer to \$33.50 per share in cash.

On May 8, 2013, Mr. Pope and Mr. Michael Cole, Smithfield's Chief Legal Officer, met with representatives of Parent, including its Chairman, in Hong Kong. In these meetings the Parent's Chairman expressed a strong desire to complete a transaction. In this meeting, Parent's Chairman again reiterated the importance to Parent that Smithfield's management team remain in place after the transaction and wanted assurances that a proper retention program would be established in connection with the transaction.

On May 8, 2013, Company B submitted a non-binding written proposal pursuant to which it proposed to acquire all of the outstanding shares of Smithfield common stock for a purchase price of between \$31.00 and \$35.00 per share in cash. Shortly after Smithfield received this letter, representatives of Smithfield's financial advisors communicated at the direction of Smithfield to representatives of Company B's financial advisors that the breadth of the value range in Company B's revised proposal made the proposal difficult to evaluate.

On May 10, 2013, representatives of Company A met with Mr. Pope and representatives of Barclays to discuss Company A's interest in acquiring Smithfield. At the meeting, Company A reiterated its unwillingness to enter into a confidentiality agreement or perform due diligence on non-public information.

On May 12, 2013, representatives of Company B and their financial advisors met with Mr. Pope, Mr. Cole and representatives of Barclays to express Company B's interest in pursuing a transaction with Smithfield.

On May 13, 2013, Company B executed a confidentiality agreement with Smithfield. Shortly thereafter, Company B and its representatives were given access to the data room.

Also on May 13, 2013, representatives of Paul Hastings delivered to representatives of Simpson Thacher a draft merger agreement providing for the acquisition of Smithfield by Parent, which contemplated, among other things, that only a subsidiary of Parent would enter into the agreement and Parent itself would not be a party, contained a condition for the benefit of Parent that Smithfield would have a target amount of cash on its balance sheet at the closing of the merger and a highly restrictive non-solicitation provision, did not permit the Smithfield Board to change its recommendation in response to an intervening event, and provided for reciprocal termination fees for Parent and Smithfield in the amount of \$100,000,000 and an obligation by Smithfield to reimburse Parent for up to \$10,000,000 of expenses in certain circumstances.

From May 13, 2013 through May 15, 2013, representatives of Parent, Morgan Stanley and Paul Hastings participated in management presentations and were provided with due diligence information at meetings in Simpson Thacher's New York offices.

On May 16, 2013, representatives of Company B and its financial advisors and legal counsel participated in management presentations and were provided with due diligence information at meetings in Simpson Thacher's New York offices.

Also on May 16, 2013, representatives of Parent conducted site visits at various operating locations of Smithfield in connection with Parent's due diligence of Smithfield.

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On May 17, 2013, representatives of Company B conducted site visits at various operating locations of Smithfield in connection with Company B's due diligence of Smithfield.

On May 18, 2013, representatives of Simpson Thacher and Paul Hastings discussed certain of the key issues reflected in the draft merger agreement that Paul Hastings had delivered on May 13, 2013.

On May 21, 2013, Company B delivered a revised non-binding written proposal to Smithfield, in which Company B offered \$34.00 per share in cash. A representative of Simpson Thacher delivered a draft merger agreement to Company B's legal counsel later that day.

Also on that day, at the direction of Smithfield, representatives of Barclays informed representatives of Morgan Stanley on behalf of Parent that other bidders had approached Smithfield after Parent's initial approach and that, notwithstanding the prior aspiration potentially to announce a transaction with Parent shortly after the Memorial Day holiday, the recently expressed interest of one of the other parties at a level in excess of Parent's proposal had led Smithfield to conclude that it was appropriate to request that all three interested parties submit their best price (together with a proposed contract and executed financing commitments) no later than May 31, 2013. On that date, the Smithfield Board would evaluate all offers and proceed with negotiations with the party whose offer, taking into account the offer price and other terms of the transaction, would be most favorable to the Smithfield shareholders. Despite the fact that Smithfield provided the other bidders with a draft merger agreement for their comment, Simpson Thacher informed Paul Hastings that Smithfield would provide comments to the draft merger agreement delivered by Parent to Smithfield on May 13th.

On May 22, 2013, the Smithfield Board held a telephonic meeting. During the meeting, representatives of Smithfield management, Barclays and Simpson Thacher updated the Smithfield Board on the status of negotiations with Parent and Company B. Such representatives also advised the Smithfield Board that Company A had still not executed a confidentiality agreement, but appeared to remain interested in pursuing a transaction. In this regard, earlier that day, Company A had delivered financing commitment letters in support of its offer to Smithfield. It was noted that Company A's presence as a competitor in the United States would pose potential antitrust issues that, while likely manageable, would have timing implications and would require negotiation with Company A as to how such issues could be resolved in the face of any potential challenge by U.S. antitrust authorities. In order to facilitate such a discussion, as well as to otherwise facilitate Company A's ability to move quickly if it chose to do so, a representative of Simpson Thacher sent a draft merger agreement to Company A's legal counsel the same day for comment.

Also on May 22, 2013, representatives of Company B's financial advisors reached out to Barclays to communicate that for internal reasons, Company B would not be able to execute or announce any potential transaction earlier than June 13, 2013.

On May 23, 2013 representatives of Company A's legal counsel delivered to Simpson Thacher a markup of the draft merger agreement that had been provided to Company A. As to the important issue of the allocation of antitrust risk, however, Company A's markup of the merger agreement did not make a substantive proposal; rather the markup simply made reference to the desirability of arranging a discussion between respective antitrust counsel.

In the early morning hours of May 24, 2013, representatives of Simpson Thacher delivered to Paul Hastings a markup of Parent's draft merger agreement that had been delivered on May 13, 2013. Late that same night, Paul Hastings communicated by e-mail a proposal by Parent to acquire Smithfield for \$33.50 per share in cash. The e-mail also included a markup of the draft merger agreement that Paul Hastings had received that morning and fully executed binding commitment letters from Morgan Stanley Senior Funding and Bank of China with respect to providing financing to support Parent's offer. Paul Hastings' e-mail made it clear that if the parties did not reach agreement and sign the merger agreement by 6:00 pm Eastern Time on May 28, 2013, Parent's offer would be withdrawn. Representatives of Morgan Stanley also contacted Mr. Pope and Barclays that evening and

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delivered the same message. As a means to facilitate an expeditious process, Parent agreed to a substantial number of open issues that were important to Smithfield in the merger agreement draft. Significantly, as a means of acknowledging that Smithfield was engaged in a process with other bidders that Parent was intending to cut short, Parent also agreed that Smithfield would be permitted to continue to negotiate and solicit further acquisition proposals from such existing bidders. The merger agreement provided that, if Smithfield were to terminate the merger agreement with Parent in order to pursue a transaction with one of the existing bidders within 30 days of signing the merger agreement with Parent, the termination fee payable by Smithfield in such case would be \$75,000,000, a level that was significantly lower than a typical company-side break-up fee. Parent's mark-up also provided for a termination fee of \$150,000,000 to be payable by Smithfield in connection with any other potential transactions (or with any transaction with existing parties that occurred later than 30 days after signing the Parent merger agreement) and a reverse termination fee payable by Parent in specified circumstances equal to \$225,000,000. Consistent with its prior position in this regard, Parent insisted that a failure to receive CFIUS approval would not give rise to the obligation to pay a reverse termination fee. However, at the insistence of Smithfield, Parent agreed to a strong covenant to take actions required to obtain such clearance. In addition, Parent agreed that the full amount of the reverse termination fee would be placed in escrow in the New York branch of the Bank of China during the pendency of the transaction. Parent also specified that it was a condition of its willingness to complete the transaction that Mr. Pope and his six direct reports agree to waive the ability to terminate their employment following the change of control and obtain certain payments merely because Smithfield would no longer be a public company.

On May 25, 2013, Smithfield's management and advisors discussed the latest Parent proposal in detail and concluded that Parent's stated intention to abandon the process after May 28th if the parties had not executed a merger agreement by such time was genuine. In addition, Smithfield was of the view that given the deliberate fashion in which Company B had been approaching the process and its stated intention to execute and announce a transaction no earlier than June 13th, it would not be possible to come to terms with Company B with respect to a definitive agreement in advance of Parent's deadline. At the request of Smithfield, representatives of Barclays contacted representatives of Company B's financial advisors to determine whether Company B would be able to significantly accelerate the process to meet Parent's deadline and were informed that this would not be possible.

Given that Company A still had not entered into a confidentiality agreement or performed due diligence on non-public information and had not yet made a concrete proposal as to the allocation of antitrust risk, Smithfield was similarly of the view that Company A would not be able to reach an agreement in advance of the Parent deadline. While Parent's negotiation tactic was aggressive, Smithfield concluded that if it were possible to extract some further concessions from Parent, it would likely be in Smithfield's interest to agree to the basic terms of Parent's proposal as a result of the favorable progress made in the revised merger agreement regarding the reduced termination fee relating to proposals from the existing bidders, thereby creating a floor value for Smithfield's shareholders at an attractive price. It was Smithfield's view that the 30-day window in which the \$75,000,000 termination fee would be payable gave Company A and Company B ample opportunity (at a cost that equated to approximately \$0.50 per share) to submit superior proposals if they intended to do so. Company B indicated to Barclays that they would not view the \$75,000,000 termination fee as an impediment and would likely continue negotiations but needed additional time.

Smithfield made a counter-proposal to Parent requesting that the per share price be raised to \$34.50, that the reverse termination fee be increased to \$300,000,000, that the special termination fee remain at \$75,000,000 and conceding that the regular termination fee be increased by the same amount as the reverse termination fee, to \$175,000,000. In response to this counter-proposal, the management of Smithfield and Parent agreed in principle, subject to obtaining approval of the Smithfield Board, on a price of \$34.00 per share with a reverse termination fee of \$275,000,000, a regular termination fee of \$175,000,000 and a special termination fee of \$75,000,000. Mr. Pope communicated to representatives of Parent that he would recommend that Smithfield's Compensation Committee approve the retention bonus contingent on continued employment with the surviving corporation after the merger described under "Interests of Smithfield Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger" as a means to partially compensate the executives whose rights to change of control payments would be modified

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pursuant to Parent's request and as a means of providing a broadly-based retention plan in order to facilitate a smooth transition to Parent ownership.

In the early morning hours of May 26, 2013, Simpson Thacher delivered a draft of the merger agreement to Paul Hastings reflecting the revised terms. Later that day, the Smithfield Board held a telephonic meeting at which the Smithfield Board was given an update on the Parent proposal and Smithfield's response. After discussion, the Smithfield Board agreed that the proposed approach was sound and directed Smithfield's management and advisors to work to complete the merger agreement and other documentation related to the proposed transaction. The Smithfield Board scheduled a meeting for May 28, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time to formally consider Parent's proposal and the final terms of the merger agreement and merger.

On May 27 and May 28, 2013, representatives of Smithfield, Parent and their respective advisors and counsel worked to complete the merger agreement and other documentation required for the merger as well as to finalize a communication strategy related to the transaction.

On May 28, 2013, the Smithfield Board held a meeting at Simpson Thacher's New York office at which members of Smithfield's management and representatives of Barclays, Simpson Thacher and McGuireWoods were present. At that meeting, a representative of McGuireWoods reviewed the fiduciary duties of the Smithfield Board in connection with the Smithfield Board's consideration of a potential transaction with Parent. Representatives of Simpson Thacher reviewed for the Smithfield Board the final material terms of the proposed merger agreement. Representatives of Barclays reviewed the financial analysis of the proposed transaction with Parent. After responding to questions, Barclays delivered to the Smithfield Board an oral opinion, which was subsequently confirmed by delivery of a written opinion, to the effect that, based upon and subject to the qualifications, limitations and assumptions stated therein and as of the date of the opinion, from a financial point of view, the merger consideration being offered to the Smithfield shareholders in the merger was fair to such shareholders. The full text of the written opinion of Barclays is attached to this proxy statement as Annex C and is incorporated by reference in this proxy statement in its entirety. See also [Opinion of Smithfield's Financial Advisor](#).

The Smithfield Board discussed with representatives of Smithfield's management, Barclays, Simpson Thacher and McGuireWoods the strategic, business and legal considerations relating to the proposed merger, the risks and benefits of the transaction compared to other alternatives available to Smithfield and the terms of the merger agreement, as well as the resolutions to be adopted by the Smithfield Board in connection with the proposed transaction with Parent. Following the presentations and discussion, the Smithfield Board unanimously adopted and approved the merger agreement, the related plan of merger and the merger with Parent, and resolved to unanimously recommend that Smithfield shareholders vote to approve the merger agreement, the related plan of merger and the merger with Parent.

Prior to, but in connection with, the Smithfield Board's approval of the merger, the Smithfield Board and the Compensation Committee of the Smithfield Board approved the Retention Bonus Program, the amendment to the Executive Severance Plan and all other financial interests and compensation arrangements of Smithfield's directors and executive officers in or relating to the merger, including those matters discussed above under [Interests of Smithfield Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger](#).

Following the meeting of the Smithfield Board on May 28, 2013, after the close of trading of Smithfield's common stock on the NYSE, the parties executed the merger agreement and the other documentation related to the proposed transaction and Parent placed the full amount of the \$275,000,000 reverse termination fee into escrow with the New York Branch of the Bank of China.

On May 29, 2013, prior to the opening of trading of Smithfield's common stock on the NYSE, the parties issued a joint press release announcing the transaction.

Later that day on May 29, 2013, representatives of Simpson Thacher delivered a copy of the final merger agreement to Company A's counsel.

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On May 31, 2013, a representative of Barclays and a representative of Company B's financial advisors discussed the possibility of an alternative acquisition proposal from Company B.

On June 1, 2013, representatives of Simpson Thacher delivered a draft confidentiality agreement to Company A's counsel. Over the course of the following days, representatives of Simpson Thacher and representatives of Company A's counsel negotiated the terms of a potential confidentiality agreement between Smithfield and Company A, but no such confidentiality agreement was executed and Company A did not deliver an alternative acquisition proposal to Smithfield.

On June 3, 2013, Continental Grain Company filed an amendment to its Schedule 13D/A announcing that it had elected to exit its interest in Smithfield as of May 31, 2013 and that it no longer intended to nominate candidates for election at the 2013 annual meeting of the Smithfield shareholders.

On June 6, 2013, Smithfield communicated to Company B that the Smithfield Board would seriously consider a superior offer from Company B.

On June 10, 2013, the chief executive officer of Company B delivered a letter to Mr. Pope stating that it no longer intended to pursue a potential acquisition of Smithfield.

On June 17, 2013, Starboard Value LP (together with its affiliates, Starboard) made public a letter to the Smithfield Board in a statement on Schedule 13D that, among other things, disclosed Starboard's ownership of securities representing beneficial ownership of approximately 5.7% of Smithfield, suggested that a piece-by-piece sale of Smithfield's businesses could result in greater value to the Smithfield shareholders than the merger, and informed the Smithfield Board of Starboard's intention to explore the possibility of a piece-by-piece sale of Smithfield's operating divisions to interested third parties.

On July 12, 2013, Starboard filed an amendment to its statement on Schedule 13D, disclosing that it had recently engaged Moelis & Company and BDA Advisors Inc. as financial advisors to assist Starboard in identifying and connecting any strategic or financial buyers for Smithfield's individual business units to determine if it would be possible to structure a sum-of-the-parts transaction that could deliver greater value for the Smithfield shareholders than the merger in the hopes that Starboard's efforts would lead to the submission of a superior proposal under the terms of the merger agreement. As of the date of this proxy statement, Smithfield has not received such an alternative acquisition proposal from Starboard or any other potential buyer.

Recommendation of the Smithfield Board and Reasons for the Merger

The Smithfield Board recommends that you vote **FOR the merger proposal.**

At a meeting of the Smithfield Board held on May 28, 2013, the Smithfield Board unanimously adopted and approved the merger agreement, the related plan of merger and the merger.

When you consider the Smithfield Board's recommendation, you should be aware that Smithfield's directors may have interests in the merger that may be different from, or in addition to, the interests of Smithfield shareholders generally. These interests are described in [Interests of Smithfield Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger](#).

In the course of reaching its decision, the Smithfield Board consulted with our senior management, financial and legal advisors, reviewed a significant amount of information and considered a number of factors, including, among others, the following:

Merger consideration. The Smithfield Board considered the \$34.00 per share in cash to be paid as merger consideration in relation to (i) the market prices of Smithfield common stock prior to the Smithfield Board's approval of the merger agreement and (ii) the Smithfield Board's estimate of the current and future value of Smithfield as an independent entity.

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Premium to the trading price of Smithfield common stock. The Smithfield Board considered the fact that the \$34.00 per share in cash to be paid as merger consideration represents a premium of approximately (i) 31.2% to the closing price of \$25.91 on May 24, 2013, the last trading day prior to the Smithfield Board's approval of the merger, (ii) 37.8% to the closing price of \$24.68 on March 7, 2013, the day prior to the filing by Continental Grain of a Schedule 13D, (iii) 31.5% to \$25.86, the average price for the 30 day period ending May 24, 2013 and (iv) 33.7% to \$25.43, the average price for the 90 day period ending May 24, 2013.

Negotiations with Parent. The Smithfield Board considered the benefits that we and our advisors were able to obtain during our extensive negotiations with Parent, including a significant increase in Parent's offer price per share from the beginning of the process to the end of the negotiations. The Smithfield Board concluded that we had obtained the highest price per share that Parent was willing to agree to pay, considering the extensive negotiations between the parties.

Cash consideration. The Smithfield Board considered the fact that the merger consideration would be paid solely in cash, which, compared to non-cash consideration, provides certainty and immediate liquidity and value to our shareholders.

Fairness opinion. The Smithfield Board considered the financial analyses presented by Barclays, as well as the opinion of Barclays, dated May 28, 2013, to the Smithfield Board to the effect that, as of such date and based upon and subject to the factors, procedures, assumptions, qualifications and limitations set forth in such opinion, the \$34.00 cash per share merger consideration to be paid to holders of Smithfield common stock in the proposed merger was fair, from a financial point of view, to such shareholders. The Barclays opinion is more fully described in the subsection entitled "Opinion of Smithfield's Financial Advisor" and the full text of the opinion is attached to this proxy statement as Annex C.

Smithfield's current condition. The Smithfield Board considered information with respect to our financial condition, results of operations, business, competitive position and business strategy, on both a historical and prospective basis, as well as current industry, economic and market conditions and trends.

Smithfield's future prospects. The Smithfield Board considered Smithfield's future prospects if we were to remain independent, including the competitive landscape and the business, financial and execution risks, our relationships with customers and suppliers and increasing competition, and the risks associated with continued independence discussed below.

Risks associated with continued independence. While the Smithfield Board remained supportive of our strategic plan and optimistic about our prospects on a standalone basis, it also considered the risks associated with going forward as an independent company, including the potential market and execution risks associated with the strategic plan, which risks are in part reflected in the sensitivity analyses relating to the plan. The Smithfield Board also considered the risk that, if we did not enter into the merger agreement with Parent, the price that might be received by Smithfield's shareholders selling shares in the open market, both in the short term and the long term, could be less than the merger consideration, particularly in light of the possible adverse effect of the disappointing results of Smithfield's fourth fiscal quarter on the market price of Smithfield common stock. The Smithfield Board concluded that the merger consideration enabled Smithfield's shareholders to realize a substantial portion of Smithfield's potential future value without the market or execution risks associated with continued independence.

Strategic alternatives. The Smithfield Board considered the risks and uncertainties facing Smithfield's shareholders associated with possible strategic alternatives to the merger (including potential alternative acquisition proposals, separation scenarios involving dispositions of business segments and the possibility of remaining independent), and the timing and likelihood of accomplishing such alternatives.

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Economic conditions. The Smithfield Board considered the current state of the economy, debt financing markets and general uncertainty surrounding forecasted economic conditions both in the near term and the long term, generally and within our industry.

Merger agreement. The Smithfield Board considered the terms of the merger agreement, including:

the representations, warranties and covenants of the parties, the conditions to the parties' obligations to complete the merger and their ability to terminate the merger agreement;

Parent's undertakings in furtherance of obtaining required regulatory approvals and the fact that the consummation of the merger agreement is conditioned on obtaining foreign regulatory approvals only in Mexico, Poland, Russia and Ukraine;

the obligation of Parent under certain circumstances to pay us a termination fee of \$275,000,000, including in connection with any willful breach by Parent (including a failure to consummate the merger if the relevant conditions are satisfied), a failure to obtain certain regulatory approvals or a failure by Parent to receive the proceeds of the committed debt financing and consummate the merger;

the fact that Parent agreed to place the Parent termination fee in escrow prior to the execution of the merger agreement;

the right of Smithfield and the Smithfield Board to respond to a competing proposal from any bidder, subject to certain restrictions and the requirement that we pay Parent the applicable termination fee if we terminate the merger agreement to accept a superior proposal;

the belief of the Smithfield Board that, although the termination fee provisions might have the effect of discouraging competing third-party proposals or reducing the price of such proposals, such provisions are customary for transactions of this size and type, and its belief that the \$175,000,000 termination fee, representing approximately 3.7% of the equity value of the transaction, was reasonable in the context of comparable transactions, particularly given the discussions with certain other bidders that we held in advance of the execution of the merger agreement and the related limited go-shop provision described below;

the limited go-shop provision pursuant to which we would have the opportunity to actively seek a higher offer from two qualified pre-existing bidders who had previously made acquisition proposals, as well as the 30-day period during which a lower termination fee of \$75,000,000 would apply in connection with such bidders, which represents approximately 1.6% of the equity value of the transaction; and

the Smithfield Board's right to change its recommendation, subject to certain restrictions, in connection with an intervening event or a superior proposal.

Parent's reputation. The Smithfield Board considered the business reputation and capabilities of Parent and its management.

Parent's resources. The Smithfield Board concluded that Parent had the resources needed to complete the merger.

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Financing. The Smithfield Board considered the terms of the debt financing commitments provided to Parent and Merger Sub in connection with the merger and the financial capabilities and reputation of the financing sources, including the fact that approximately \$3.9 billion of financing was committed by Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc. prior to the execution of the merger agreement.

Likelihood of consummation. The Smithfield Board considered the likelihood that the merger would be completed, in light of, among other things, the conditions to the merger and the absence of a financing condition, the relative likelihood of obtaining required regulatory approvals, Parent's representation that it will have sufficient financial resources to pay the merger consideration and consummate the merger, and the remedies available to us under the merger agreement in the event of various breaches by Parent.

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Possibility of more favorable bid. The Smithfield Board considered our assessment as to the possibility that a third party with the financial means would agree to a transaction at a higher price than Parent on substantially similar or more favorable terms, as more fully described in Background of the Merger.

Shareholders' ability to reject the merger. The Smithfield Board considered the fact that the merger is subject to approval by Smithfield's shareholders, who would be free to reject the merger.

Certain of the financial analyses presented by Barclays to the Smithfield Board were based upon financial projections and related sensitivity analyses prepared by our management based on various assumptions about the future performance of our business. These projections were based on numerous variables and assumptions that are inherently uncertain and may be beyond the control of management, including factors related to general economic and competitive conditions and prevailing interest rates. Accordingly, actual results could vary significantly from those set forth in such projections.

In the course of reaching its decision, the Smithfield Board also considered a number of potentially negative factors including, among others, the following:

Participation in future gains. The Smithfield Board considered the fact that we will no longer exist as an independent public company and Smithfield's shareholders will forgo any future increase in Smithfield's value that might result from our earnings or possible growth as an independent company. The Smithfield Board was optimistic about our prospects on a standalone basis and our strategic plan, as supplemented by the related sensitivity analyses, but concluded that the premium reflected in the merger consideration constituted fair compensation for the loss of the potential shareholder benefits that could be realized by our strategic plan and related sensitivity analyses on a risk-adjusted basis.

Risks associated with announcement and pendency of the merger. The Smithfield Board considered the risk that the announcement and pendency of the merger, including restrictions on the conduct of our business or any solicitation activities pursuant to the limited go-shop provision, may cause substantial harm to relationships with our employees, vendors, customers and partners and may divert management and employee attention away from the day-to-day operation of our business.

Risks associated with a failure to consummate the merger. The Smithfield Board considered the fact that there can be no assurance that all conditions to the parties' obligations to consummate the merger will be satisfied and as a result the possibility that the merger might not be completed. The Smithfield Board noted the fact that, if the merger is not completed, (i) we will have incurred significant risk and transaction and opportunity costs, including the possibility of disruption to our operations, diversion of management and employee attention, employee attrition and a potentially negative effect on our business and customer relationships, (ii) depending on the circumstances that caused the merger not to be completed, it is likely that the price of Smithfield's common stock will decline significantly and (iii) the market's perception of our prospects could be adversely affected.

Regulatory risk. The Smithfield Board considered the risk that necessary regulatory approvals may be delayed, conditioned or denied, including the fact that no termination fee would be payable by Parent if the CFIUS condition were not satisfied and Parent were not then in breach of its obligations under the merger agreement.

Financing risk. The Smithfield Board considered the risk that, while the merger agreement is not by its terms subject to a financing condition, if Parent fails to obtain sufficient financing, the merger may not be consummated and the termination fee payable to us by Parent in such event may not be sufficient to compensate us for potential losses we may incur under such circumstances.

Enforcement risk. The Smithfield Board considered that Parent's status as a foreign entity without substantial assets in the United States would by its nature make enforcement of our rights under the merger agreement against Parent more difficult than against a buyer located in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction of U.S. courts, but the Smithfield Board concluded that this risk was

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mitigated by the fact that Parent agreed to pay us a termination fee of \$275,000,000 if the merger agreement is terminated under certain circumstances, including in connection with any willful breach by Parent (including a failure to consummate the merger if the relevant conditions are satisfied), a failure to obtain certain regulatory approvals or a failure by Parent to receive the proceeds of the committed debt financing and consummate the merger, and that Parent agreed to place the entire amount of such termination fee in escrow in New York City prior to the execution of the merger agreement.

Strategic alternatives. The Smithfield Board considered the possible strategic alternatives to the merger (including potential alternative acquisition proposals, separation scenarios involving dispositions of business segments and the possibility of remaining independent), the potential values and benefits facing Smithfield's shareholders associated with such alternatives, and the timing and likelihood of accomplishing such alternatives.

Restrictions on the operation of our business. The Smithfield Board considered the restrictions on the conduct of our business prior to the completion of the merger, which could delay or prevent us from realizing certain business opportunities or taking certain actions with respect to our operations we would otherwise take absent the pending merger.

Non-solicitation provision. The Smithfield Board considered the fact that the merger agreement precludes us from actively soliciting alternative proposals except pursuant to the limited go-shop provision with respect to certain qualified pre-existing bidders.

Termination fees. The Smithfield Board considered the possibility that the termination fee payable to Parent if the merger agreement is terminated under certain circumstances might have the effect of discouraging alternative acquisition proposals or reducing the price of such proposals.

Tax treatment. The Smithfield Board considered the fact that an all cash transaction would be taxable to Smithfield's shareholders that are U.S. holders for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Risk factors. The Smithfield Board considered other risks and uncertainties as described above under Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements.

While the Smithfield Board considered potentially positive and potentially negative factors, the Smithfield Board concluded that, overall, the potentially positive factors outweighed the potentially negative factors. Accordingly, the Smithfield Board unanimously determined that the merger agreement, the related plan of merger and the merger are advisable and fair to, and in the best interests of, Smithfield and its shareholders.

The foregoing discussion is not intended to be an exhaustive list of the information and factors considered by the Smithfield Board in its consideration of the merger, but is merely a summary of the material positive factors and material negative factors considered by the Smithfield Board in that regard. In view of the number and variety of factors and the amount of information considered, the Smithfield Board did not find it practicable to, and did not make specific assessments of, quantify, or otherwise assign relative weights to, the specific factors considered in reaching its determination. In addition, the Smithfield Board did not undertake to make any specific determination as to whether any particular factor, or any aspect of any particular factor, was favorable or unfavorable to its ultimate determination, and individual members of the Smithfield Board may have given different weights to different factors. Based on the totality of the information presented, the Smithfield Board collectively reached the unanimous decision to adopt and approve the merger agreement, the related plan of merger and the merger in light of the factors described above and other factors that the members of the Smithfield Board felt were appropriate.

This explanation of Smithfield's reasons for the merger and other information presented in this section is forward-looking in nature and, therefore, should be read in light of the section entitled Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements.

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Opinion of Smithfield's Financial Advisor

Smithfield engaged Barclays to act as its financial advisor with respect to a possible sale of Smithfield and related advisory services. On May 28, 2013, Barclays rendered its oral opinion, which was subsequently confirmed in writing, to the Smithfield Board, that based upon and subject to the qualifications, limitations and assumptions stated therein and as of the date of the opinion, from a financial point of view, the merger consideration being offered to the Smithfield shareholders in the merger was fair to such shareholders.

The full text of the written opinion, which describes the assumptions made, procedures followed, factors considered and limitations on the review undertaken, is attached to this proxy statement as Annex C and is incorporated herein by reference. You should read the opinion carefully in its entirety. This summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of Barclays' opinion.

Barclays' opinion, the issuance of which was approved by Barclays' Fairness Opinion Committee, is addressed to the Smithfield Board, addresses only the fairness, from a financial point of view, of the merger consideration provided for in the merger agreement and does not constitute a recommendation to any holder of shares of Smithfield common stock as to how such holder should vote or act with respect to the merger or any other matter. The terms of the merger were determined through arm's length negotiations between Smithfield and Parent and were unanimously approved by the Smithfield Board. Barclays did not recommend any specific form of consideration to the Smithfield Board or that any specific form of consideration constituted the only appropriate consideration for the merger. Barclays was not requested to address, and its opinion does not in any manner address, Smithfield's underlying business decision to proceed with or effect the merger or the likelihood of consummation of the merger. Barclays' opinion does not address the relative merits of the merger as compared to any other transaction or business strategy in which Smithfield might engage. In addition, Barclays expressed no opinion on, and its opinion does not in any manner address, the fairness of the amount or nature of any compensation to any officers, directors or employees of any parties to the merger agreement, or any class of such persons, relative to the merger consideration being offered to the Smithfield shareholders in the merger. No limitations were imposed by the Smithfield Board upon Barclays with respect to the investigations made or procedures followed by it in rendering its opinion.

In arriving at its opinion, among other things, Barclays reviewed and analyzed:

the merger agreement and the specific terms of the merger;

publicly available information concerning Smithfield that Barclays believed to be relevant to its analysis, including Smithfield's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarters ended July 29, 2012, October 28, 2012 and January 27, 2013;

preliminary financial results of Smithfield for the fiscal year ended April 28, 2013;

financial and operating information with respect to the business, operations and prospects of Smithfield furnished to Barclays by Smithfield, including financial projections of Smithfield prepared by management of Smithfield;

the trading history of Smithfield common stock from May 24, 2003 to May 24, 2013 and a comparison of the trading history with those of other companies that Barclays deemed relevant;

a comparison of the historical financial results and present financial condition of Smithfield with those of other companies that Barclays deemed relevant;

a comparison of the financial terms of the merger with the financial terms of certain other transactions that Barclays deemed relevant; and

published estimates of independent research analysts with respect to the future financial performance and price targets of Smithfield.

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In addition, Barclays has had discussions with the management of Smithfield concerning its business, operations, assets, liabilities, financial condition and prospects and has undertaken such other studies, analyses and investigations as Barclays deemed appropriate.

In arriving at its opinion, Barclays assumed and relied upon the accuracy and completeness of the financial and other information used by Barclays without any independent verification of such information (and has not assumed responsibility or liability for any independent verification of such information) and further relied upon the assurances of the management of Smithfield that they are not aware of any facts or circumstances that would make such information inaccurate or misleading. With respect to the financial projections of Smithfield, upon the advice of Smithfield, Barclays assumed that such projections were reasonably prepared on a basis reflecting the best currently available estimates and judgments of the management of Smithfield as to the future financial performance of Smithfield and relied on such projections in performing its analysis. In addition, for purposes of its analysis and at the direction of Smithfield, Barclays considered certain sensitivity analyses. Barclays discussed these sensitivity analyses with the management of Smithfield and Smithfield has agreed with the appropriateness of the use of such sensitivity analyses as part of the performance of Barclays' analysis. Barclays assumes no responsibility for and expressed no view as to any such projections or sensitivity analyses or the assumptions or estimates on which they were based.

In arriving at its opinion, Barclays did not conduct a physical inspection of the properties and facilities of Smithfield and did not make or obtain any evaluations or appraisals of the assets or liabilities of Smithfield. In addition, Smithfield did not authorize Barclays to solicit, and Barclays did not solicit, any indications of interest from any third party with respect to the purchase of all or a part of Smithfield's business. Barclays' opinion was necessarily based upon market, economic and other conditions as they existed on, and could be evaluated as of, May 28, 2013. Barclays assumed no responsibility for updating or revising its opinion based on events or circumstances that may have occurred after May 28, 2013.

Barclays assumed the accuracy of the representations and warranties contained in the merger agreement and all agreements related thereto. Barclays also assumed, upon the advice of Smithfield, that all material governmental, regulatory and third-party approvals, consents and releases for the merger would be obtained within the constraints contemplated by the merger agreement and that the merger would be consummated in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement without waiver, modification or amendment of any material term, condition or agreement thereof, in each case in all respects material to its analysis. Barclays did not express any opinion as to any tax or other consequences that might result from the merger, nor does its opinion address any legal, tax, regulatory or accounting matters, as to which Barclays understands that Smithfield has obtained such advice as it deemed necessary from qualified professionals.

In connection with rendering its opinion, Barclays performed certain financial, comparative and other analyses as summarized below. In arriving at its opinion, Barclays did not ascribe a specific range of values to the shares of Smithfield common stock, but rather made its determination as to the fairness, from a financial point of view, to the holders of Smithfield common stock of the merger consideration on the basis of various financial and comparative analyses. The preparation of a fairness opinion is a complex process and involves various determinations as to the most appropriate and relevant methods of financial and comparative analyses and the application of those methods to the particular circumstances. Therefore, a fairness opinion is not readily susceptible to summary description.

In arriving at its opinion, Barclays did not attribute any particular weight to any single analysis or factor considered by it but rather made qualitative judgments as to the significance and relevance of each analysis and factor relative to all other analyses and factors performed and considered by it and in the context of the circumstances of the merger. Accordingly, Barclays believes that its analyses must be considered as a whole, as considering any portion of such analyses and factors, without considering all analyses and factors as a whole, could create a misleading or incomplete view of the process underlying its opinion.

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The following is a summary of the material financial analyses used by Barclays in preparing its opinion for the Smithfield Board. Certain financial analyses summarized below include information presented in tabular format. In order to fully understand the financial analyses used by Barclays, the tables must be read together with the text of each summary, as the tables alone do not constitute a complete description of the financial analyses. In performing its analyses, Barclays made numerous assumptions with respect to industry performance, general business and economic conditions and other matters, many of which are beyond the control of Smithfield or any other parties to the merger. None of Smithfield, Parent, Merger Sub, Barclays or any other person assumes responsibility if future results are materially different from those discussed. Any estimates contained in these analyses are not necessarily indicative of actual values or predictive of future results or values, which may be significantly more or less favorable than as set forth below. In addition, analyses relating to the value of the businesses do not purport to be appraisals or to reflect the prices at which the businesses could actually be sold.

Historical Trading Analysis

Barclays reviewed the historical trading prices and volumes for Smithfield common stock for the period from May 24, 2003 through May 24, 2013. In addition, Smithfield's financial advisors analyzed the consideration to be paid to holders of Smithfield common stock pursuant to the merger agreement in relation to the historical trading price of Smithfield common stock. This analysis indicated that the \$34.00 per share to be paid to Smithfield shareholders pursuant to the merger agreement represented:

a premium of 31.2% to the closing price of Smithfield common stock of \$25.91 on May 24, 2013;

a premium of 37.8% to the closing price of Smithfield common stock of \$24.68 on March 7, 2013, the closing price of Smithfield common stock prior to the 13D filing by Continental Grain;

a premium of 31.5% to \$25.86, the average share price of Smithfield common stock for the 30 day period ending May 24, 2013;

a premium of 33.7% to \$25.43, the average share price of Smithfield common stock for the 90 day period ending May 24, 2013;

a premium of 26.6% to \$26.85, the highest closing price of Smithfield common stock in the prior 52 weeks, on March 25, 2013;

a premium of 90.8% to \$17.82, the lowest closing price of Smithfield common stock in the prior 52 weeks, on August 7, 2012.

Selected Comparable Company Analysis

In order to assess how the public market values shares of similar publicly traded companies, Barclays reviewed and compared specific financial and operating data relating to Smithfield with selected companies in the meat/protein industry. The selected comparable companies were Hormel Foods Corp, Hillshire Brands Company and Maple Leaf Foods Inc., which are packaged meats companies, and Sanderson Farms, Inc., JBS S.A. and Tyson Foods, Inc., which are protein companies.

Although none of the selected companies is entirely comparable to Smithfield, the companies included were chosen based on the professional experience and judgment of Barclays because they are publicly traded companies that, for the purposes of analysis, may be considered to have operations that are similar to certain operations of Smithfield. Barclays believed that, of the companies reviewed, Tyson Foods, Inc. was the most similar to Smithfield. Based on Barclays' professional experience and judgment, Barclays believes that the business and operating profile of Smithfield is more similar to Tyson Foods, Inc. than to any of the other companies reviewed, because both the Company and Tyson Foods, Inc. are vertically integrated protein companies. Accordingly their businesses, operations, financial conditions and prospects, taken as a whole, are similarly affected by various market conditions, including cyclicalities and fluctuations in commodity prices. The results of Barclays' analysis of Tyson Foods, Inc. were not weighted more heavily than any other company in Barclays' selected comparable company analysis and all selected comparable companies were weighted equally in such analysis.

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The multiples for the selected companies contained in the analysis set forth below and for Smithfield were calculated based on Institutional Brokers Estimate System consensus estimates for May 24, 2013.

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In its analysis, Barclays derived and compared for Smithfield and the selected companies:

closing price per share, as of May 24, 2013, as a multiple of estimated earnings per share for the calendar year ending December 31, 2013 (2013E P/E);

average of the closing prices per share during the three years ended May 24, 2013 as a multiple of corresponding projected twelve-month earnings per share (3-Yr Avg Proj P/E¹);

enterprise value (which is defined as equity market capitalization plus total debt, less total cash and cash equivalents) as a multiple of estimated earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, which we refer to as EBITDA, for the calendar year ending December 31, 2013 (EV / 2013E EBITDA); and

average enterprise value during the three years ended May 24, 2013 as a multiple of corresponding projected twelve-month EBITDA (3-Yr Avg EV / Proj EBITDA).

The results of this analysis are summarized as follows:

	2013E P/E	3-Yr Avg Proj P/E	EV / 2013E EBITDA	3-Yr Avg EV / Proj EBITDA
Range of the selected companies	11.2x - 20.4x	9.5x - 18.5x	5.8x - 11.8x	4.6x - 8.5x
Range of the selected Protein companies	11.2x - 15.3x	9.5x - 18.5x	5.8x - 7.4x	4.6x - 8.1x
Range of the selected Packaged Meats companies	16.6x - 20.4x	11.3x - 16.2x	8.3x - 11.8x	6.1x - 8.5x
Hormel Foods Corp	20.4x	16.2x	11.8x	8.5x
Hillshire Brands Company (1)	19.6x	N/A	9.5x	N/A
Maple Leaf Foods Inc.	16.6x	11.3x	8.3x	6.1x
Sanderson Farms, Inc.	15.3x	18.5x	7.4x	8.1x
JBS S.A.	11.2x	13.3x	6.8x	7.0x
Tyson Foods, Inc.	11.4x	9.5x	5.8x	4.6x
The Company	10.9x	9.2x	6.9x	5.6x

(1) Hillshire Brands Company began regular way trading on June 29, 2012. Accordingly, three year averages are not available for this issuer. Based on the 2013E P/E and 3-Yr Avg Proj P/E for the selected companies, Barclays selected and applied a 9.0x to 11.0x reference range of 2013E P/E for the selected companies to the Wall Street research-estimated Smithfield earnings per share for the calendar year ending December 31, 2013 of \$2.38, resulting in illustrative per share values for Smithfield common stock ranging from \$21.43 to \$26.19.

Barclays noted that on the basis of the selected comparable company analysis, the merger consideration was above the range of implied values per share calculated.

Selected Precedent Transaction Analysis

Barclays reviewed and compared the purchase prices and financial multiples paid in selected other transactions in the meat/protein industry that Barclays, based on its experience with merger and acquisition transactions, deemed relevant and for which relevant financial information was publicly disclosed by the parties to such transaction. Barclays chose such transactions based on, among other things, the similarity of the applicable target companies in the transactions to Smithfield with respect to the mix, margins, end markets and other characteristics of their businesses. Barclays selected transactions since the year 2000 in order to create a significant sample set (rather than limiting the selected transactions to those announced since the 2008 financial crisis) and Barclays did not identify any limitation on comparability based upon the passage of time. Barclays did not identify any more recent transactions that fit this criteria.

¹ Each of 3-Yr Avg Proj P/E and 3-Yr Avg EV / Proj EBITDA excludes Hillshire Brands Company, which began regular-way trading on June 29, 2012. Such projected metrics are on a rolling 3-month average basis.

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The following table sets forth the transactions analyzed based on such characteristics and the results of such analysis:

Announcement Date	Target	Acquiror	Transaction Value / LTM EBITDA
5/21/2010	Michael Foods Group	The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.	7.7x
9/16/2009	Pilgrim's Pride Corp.	JBS SA	8.0x
6/24/2008	Starkist	Dongwon F&B Co., Ltd.	7.8x
5/29/2007	Swift & Co.	JBS S.A.	7.7x
9/18/2006	Premium Standard Farms, Inc.	Smithfield Foods, Inc.	6.0x
7/31/2006	ConAgra Foods, Inc. Branded Meats Business	Smithfield Foods, Inc.	5.8x
6/27/2006	Sara Lee Corp. European Meat Business	Smithfield Foods, Inc.	6.0x
1/1/2001	IBP, Inc.	Tyson Foods, Inc.	7.3x

As part of its analysis of precedent transactions involving companies in the meat/protein industry, Barclays calculated and analyzed, among other things, the ratio of the transaction value to LTM EBITDA, based on such target company's LTM EBITDA for the twelve months prior to the transaction.

All of these calculations were performed based on publicly available financial data. The results of this precedent transaction company analysis are summarized below:

	Transaction Value/LTM EBITDA
Mean	7.0x
Median	7.5x
High	8.0x
Low	5.8x

The reasons for and the circumstances surrounding each of the selected precedent transactions analyzed were diverse and there are inherent differences between the businesses, operations, financial conditions and prospects of Smithfield and the companies included in the precedent transaction analysis. Accordingly, Barclays believed that a purely quantitative precedent transaction analysis would not be particularly meaningful in the context of considering the merger. Barclays therefore made qualitative judgments concerning differences between the characteristics of the selected precedent transactions and the merger which would affect the acquisition values of the selected target companies and Smithfield.

Based upon these judgments, Barclays selected a range of 7.0x to 8.0x multiples of Transaction Value / LTM EBITDA for Smithfield. Barclays then applied these multiples ranges to Smithfield's estimated EBITDA for the last twelve months ended April 28, 2013 (such period, LTM, or EBITDA for such period, LTM EBITDA), which equaled \$759,000,000, to calculate ranges of implied prices per share of Smithfield. Based on this analysis, Barclays calculated an implied price per share range of \$21.90 to \$27.22. Barclays noted that on the basis of the selected precedent transaction analysis, the merger consideration exceeded the Transaction Value / LTM EBITDA multiples range of implied values per share calculated.

Discounted Cash Flow Analysis

In order to estimate the present value of Smithfield common stock, Barclays performed three separate discounted cash flow analyses of Smithfield based on three separate scenarios: (i) the EBITDA projections of Smithfield's management, (ii) a sensitivity selected by Smithfield's management of 100 basis points discount to the EBITDA margin assumed in the projections of Smithfield's management (Management Sensitivity 1) and (iii) a sensitivity selected by Smithfield's management of 200 basis points discount to the EBITDA margin assumed in the projections of Smithfield's management (Management Sensitivity 2 or, together with Management Sensitivity 1, the Sensitivity Analyses). Barclays discussed the Sensitivity Analyses with the

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management of Smithfield and Smithfield agreed with the appropriateness of the use of such sensitivity analyses as part of the performance of Barclays' analysis. Smithfield's management indicated to Barclays and the Smithfield Board that, particularly in light of Smithfield's performance in the fourth fiscal quarter, it would be appropriate to focus on a discount of at least 100 basis points to the EBITDA margin assumed in the management projections for purposes of evaluating Barclays' analysis.

A discounted cash flow analysis is a traditional valuation methodology used to derive a valuation of an asset by calculating the present value of estimated future cash flows of the asset. Present value refers to the current value of future cash flows or amounts and is obtained by discounting those future cash flows or amounts by a range of discount rates that takes into account macroeconomic assumptions and estimates of risk, the opportunity cost of capital, expected returns and other appropriate factors.

To calculate the estimated enterprise value of Smithfield using the discounted cash flow method, Barclays added (i) the present value of Smithfield's after-tax unlevered free cash flows for fiscal years 2014 through 2018 to (ii) the terminal value of Smithfield as of December 31, 2018, in each case based on Smithfield's management EBITDA projections and the Sensitivity Analyses. In calculating EBITDA, stock-based compensation was treated as a cash expense. The present value of the after-tax unlevered free cash flows was calculated using a range of discount rates from 7.5% to 8.5% in the case of the EBITDA projections of Smithfield's management, and 8.0% in the cases of the Sensitivity Analyses, each of which were selected based on an analysis of the weighted average cost of capital of Smithfield. The weighted average cost of capital is derived by application of the Capital Asset Pricing Model, which takes into account certain company-specific metrics, including Smithfield's target capital structure, the cost of long-term debt, tax rate and betas for Smithfield and selected companies which exhibited similar business characteristics to Smithfield, as well as certain financial metrics for the United States financial markets generally. The after-tax unlevered free cash flows were calculated by taking the tax-affected earnings before interest and tax expense, then adding depreciation and amortization, subtracting capital expenditures and adjusting for changes in working capital. The residual value of Smithfield at the end of the forecast period, or terminal value, was estimated by selecting a range of exit multiples for the period ending December 31, 2018 of 6.0x to 7.0x, which in the case of the EBITDA projections of Smithfield's management corresponded to implied perpetuity growth rates ranging from (0.3%) to 1.8% and were estimated by Barclays utilizing its professional judgment and experience, taking into account Smithfield's management EBITDA projections and the Sensitivity Analyses and historical trading multiples of Smithfield and industry peers. Barclays then calculated a range of implied prices per share of Smithfield by subtracting estimated net debt as of May 24, 2013 as provided by Smithfield's management from the estimated enterprise value using the discounted cash flow method and dividing such amount by the fully diluted number of shares of Smithfield common stock.

The discounted cash flow analysis based on (a) the management projection case implied an equity value range for Smithfield of \$35.37 to \$42.87 per share; (b) the Management Sensitivity 1 case implied an equity value range for Smithfield of \$30.59 to \$35.50 per share; and (c) the Management Sensitivity 2 case implied an equity value range for Smithfield of \$24.16 to \$29.03 per share. Barclays noted that on the basis of the discounted cash flow analysis, the transaction consideration of \$34.00 per share was: (a) below the range of implied values per share calculated using the management projection case; (b) within the range of implied values per share calculated using the Management Sensitivity 1 case; and (c) above the range of implied values per share calculated using the Management Sensitivity 2 case.

Present Value of Future Stock Price Analysis

Barclays performed an illustrative analysis of the implied present value of the future price per share of Smithfield common stock. For this analysis, Barclays, utilizing its professional judgment and experience, taking into account the earnings projections of Smithfield's management, the Sensitivity Analyses and current and historical trading multiples of Smithfield and those peer companies in the meat/protein industry included in the selected comparable company analysis, selected a next twelve month P/E multiple of 10.0x and derived

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hypothetical future share prices for Smithfield common stock by applying such multiple to (i) the earnings projections of Smithfield's management, (ii) Management Sensitivity 1 and (iii) Management Sensitivity 2, in each case for each fiscal year from 2014 through 2017. Barclays then discounted these future share prices to May 2013 using a discount rate of 9.5%, reflecting an estimate of Smithfield's cost of equity calculated in a manner consistent with the discount rates used in the discounted cash flow analysis. Smithfield's management indicated to Barclays and the Smithfield Board that, particularly in light of Smithfield's performance in the fourth fiscal quarter, it would be appropriate to focus on a discount of at least 100 basis points to the EBITDA margin assumed in the management projections for purposes of evaluating Barclays' analysis.

This analysis based on (a) the earnings management projection case implied an equity value range for Smithfield of \$33.89 to \$38.90 per share; (b) the Management Sensitivity 1 case implied an equity value range for Smithfield of \$27.69 to \$33.12 per share; and (c) the Management Sensitivity 2 case implied an equity value range for Smithfield of \$21.47 to \$27.70 per share. Barclays noted that on the basis of this analysis, the transaction consideration of \$34.00 per share was: (a) within the range of implied values per share calculated using the management projection case; (b) above the range of implied values per share calculated using the Management Sensitivity 1 case; and (c) above the range of implied values per share calculated using the Management Sensitivity 2 case.

Precedent Premium Paid Analysis

Barclays analyzed the premiums paid in all-cash transactions, announced from January 2011 to May 2013 involving U.S. targets (excluding spin-offs, recapitalizations, self-tenders, repurchases), in which the aggregate consideration paid exceeded \$1 billion, based on publicly available information and databases. Barclays analyzed the premiums based on the consideration paid in the relevant transaction relative to the closing price of the target's common stock one trading day prior to the announcement of the relevant transaction. For the selected transactions, Barclays calculated that the top quartile of transactions had a premium to share price one trading day prior to announcement in excess of 42%, and the bottom quartile of transactions had a premium to share price one trading day prior to announcement of less than 11%. Barclays then applied these reference premiums to the closing price of Smithfield common stock on (i) May 24, 2013, resulting in illustrative per share values for Smithfield common stock ranging from \$28.72 to \$36.80 and (ii) March 7, 2013, resulting in illustrative per share values for Smithfield common stock ranging from \$27.36 to \$35.05. Barclays noted that on the basis of this analysis, the transaction consideration of \$34.00 per share was: (a) within the range based on the closing price on May 24, 2013 and (b) within the range based on the closing price on March 7, 2013.

General

Barclays is an internationally recognized investment banking firm and, as part of its investment banking activities, is regularly engaged in the valuation of businesses and their securities in connection with mergers and acquisitions, investments for passive and control purposes, negotiated underwritings, competitive bids, secondary distributions of listed and unlisted securities, private placements and valuations for estate, corporate and other purposes. The Smithfield Board selected Barclays because of its qualifications, reputation and experience in the valuation of businesses and securities in connection with mergers and acquisitions generally, as well as substantial experience in transactions comparable to the merger.

Barclays is acting as financial advisor to Smithfield in connection with the merger. As compensation for its services in connection with the merger, Smithfield became obligated to pay Barclays a fee of \$1,000,000 upon announcement of the execution of the merger agreement. In addition, approximately \$31,000,000 is expected to become payable to Barclays on completion of the merger, against which any amounts paid for the fee due upon announcement of the merger will be credited. Also, Smithfield may in its sole discretion choose to pay Barclays at the completion of the merger up to \$5,000,000 in additional compensation based on any factors it chooses to consider. Separately, Smithfield would become obligated to pay Barclays a fee of \$5,000,000 if 12 months following the effective date of a termination of Barclays' engagement letter Barclays had not been paid any of

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the foregoing fees and no agreement had been entered into by Smithfield that is capable of causing such a fee to become payable. In addition, Smithfield has agreed to reimburse Barclays for expenses incurred in connection with the merger and to indemnify Barclays for certain liabilities that may arise out of its engagement by Smithfield and the rendering of Barclays' opinion. Barclays may perform from time to time in the future various investment banking and financial services for Smithfield and expects to receive customary fees for such services. Barclays has performed various investment banking and financial services for Smithfield in the past, and expects to perform such services in the future, and has received, and expects to receive, customary fees for such services. Specifically, in the past two years, Barclays has performed the following investment banking and financial services: (i) in July 2012 Barclays acted as joint bookrunner and deal manager on Smithfield's \$1.0 billion 6.625% senior unsecured notes due 2022 and a cash tender offer for any and all 7.75% senior unsecured notes due 2013 and 10% senior secured notes due 2014 and (ii) in June 2011 Barclays acted as joint bookrunner on Smithfield's \$925,000,000 ABL revolving credit facility. The aggregate amount of all fees paid by Smithfield to Barclays in the past two years, excluding the fees expected to be received for its services as financial advisor to Smithfield in connection with the merger and Barclays' opinion, is approximately \$18.0 million.

Barclays and its affiliates engage in a wide range of businesses including investment and commercial banking, lending, asset management and other financial and non-financial services. In the ordinary course of its business, Barclays and its affiliates may actively trade and effect transactions in the equity, debt and/or other securities (and any derivatives thereof) and financial instruments (including loans and other obligations) of Smithfield or Parent for its own account and for the accounts of Barclays' customers and, accordingly, may at any time hold long or short positions and investments in such securities and financial instruments.

Certain Financial Projections

We do not as a matter of course make public projections as to future performance, earnings or other results due to the inherent unreliability of these matters and because certain variables beyond our control affecting our business, such as the commodity markets, are often volatile and fluctuate on a daily basis. However, we provided certain non-public financial information to Barclays in its capacity as our financial advisor, including projections by management of Smithfield's standalone financial performance for fiscal years 2014 through 2017 (which were extrapolated by Barclays to derive projected unlevered free cash flow for 2018) and related sensitivity analyses. These financial projections included (i) forecasts of revenue, EBITDA, EBIT, earnings per share and unlevered free cash flows, (ii) a sensitivity selected by Smithfield's management of 100 basis points discount to the EBITDA margin assumed in such forecasts (Management Sensitivity 1) and (iii) a sensitivity selected by Smithfield's management of 200 basis points discount to the EBITDA margin assumed in such forecasts (Management Sensitivity 2 and, collectively with Management Sensitivity 1, the Sensitivity Analyses). These financial projections and the related Sensitivity Analyses were in turn used by Barclays in performing the discounted cash flow analysis and present value of implied future stock price analysis described under The Merger Opinion of Smithfield's Financial Advisor on page [] as well as certain analyses relating to strategic alternatives to the merger. Portions of these financial projections were also provided to Parent. A summary of these financial projections and the related Sensitivity Analyses is set forth below.

The financial projections and the related Sensitivity Analyses included in this proxy statement have been prepared by, and are the responsibility of, Smithfield's management. The financial projections and the related Sensitivity Analyses summarized in this section were prepared solely for internal use by us and not with a view toward public disclosure or with a view toward complying with the guidelines established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants for preparation and presentation of prospective financial data, published guidelines of the SEC regarding forward-looking statements, or accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S. (GAAP). The financial projections and related Sensitivity Analyses are forward-looking statements.

Our management believes the forecasts were prepared in good faith and on a reasonable basis based on the best information available to our management at the time of their preparation. The financial projections and the related Sensitivity Analyses, however, are not actual results and should not be relied upon as being indicative of actual future results, and readers of this proxy statement are cautioned not to place undue reliance on this information. Ernst & Young LLP, our outside auditors, have not examined, compiled, or performed any

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procedures with respect to these financial projections or the related Sensitivity Analyses and do not express an opinion or any other form of assurance with respect thereto. The summary of these financial projections and the related Sensitivity Analyses are not being included in this proxy statement to influence a Smithfield shareholder's decision whether to vote in favor of the proposal to approve the merger proposal, but because portions of the financial projections were provided to Parent in connection with Parent's due diligence of Smithfield, and represent an assessment by our management of the future cash flows that were used in Barclays' financial analysis and on which the Smithfield Board relied in making its recommendation to Smithfield's shareholders.

Because these financial projections and related Sensitivity Analyses were developed for Smithfield on a standalone basis without giving effect to the merger, the financial projections and related Sensitivity Analyses do not give effect to the merger or any changes to our operations or strategy that may be implemented after the consummation of the merger, including any potential cost synergies realized as a result of the merger, or to any costs related to or that may arise in connection with the merger.

The inclusion of the financial projections and related Sensitivity Analyses in this proxy statement should not be regarded as an indication that Smithfield, Parent or Barclays or anyone who received the financial projections (or related Sensitivity Analyses) then considered, or now considers, the financial projections (and related Sensitivity Analyses, as applicable) to be material information of Smithfield or a reliable prediction of future events, and the financial projections and the related Sensitivity Analyses should not be relied upon as such. Smithfield views the financial projections and the related Sensitivity Analyses as non-material because of the inherent risks and uncertainties associated with such long-range financial forecasts.

The inclusion of the financial projections and the related Sensitivity Analyses in this proxy statement should not be regarded as an indication that we or any of our affiliates, advisors, representatives, or Parent or any other recipient of this information considered or consider the financial projections and the related Sensitivity Analyses to be predictive of actual future events or future operating results, and the financial projections and the related Sensitivity Analyses should not be relied upon as such. Neither we nor any of our affiliates, advisors, officers, directors or representatives can give any assurance that actual results will not differ from these financial projections. While the financial projections and the related Sensitivity Analyses were prepared in good faith and Smithfield's management believes the assumptions on which the financial forecasts were based were reasonable when made, no assurance can be made regarding events subsequent to the date the projections were made. In addition, a number of assumptions were made in preparing the projections and the related Sensitivity Analyses, including, but not limited to, assumptions of 2.5% average annual volume growth at operating profits averaging approximately \$0.18 per pound with respect to our packaged meats business, stable production at approximately 29 million head annually at an operating profit of \$8 to \$9 per head with respect to our fresh pork business, consistent production of approximately 16 million head annually at an operating profit of \$7 to \$8 per head with respect to our domestic Hog Production business and continued growth in our International segment, primarily from the Campofrio restructuring and Smithfield's Polish subsidiary Animex, with earnings before interest and taxes averaging approximately \$175 million annually. Because the financial projections and the related Sensitivity Analyses cover multiple years, such information by its nature becomes less reliable with each successive year. While presented with numeric specificity, the assumptions upon which the financial projections and the related Sensitivity Analyses were based necessarily involve judgments with respect to, among other things, future economic and competitive conditions, industry performance, regulatory and financial market conditions and future business decisions that are subject to change or may not be realized and are inherently subject to significant business, economic, competitive and regulatory uncertainties, all of which are difficult to predict accurately and inherently subjective, and many of which are beyond our control. These estimates, assumptions and projections are subject to risks and uncertainties which could cause actual results to differ materially from the projections and the related Sensitivity Analyses. In addition to those risks and uncertainties discussed in this proxy statement, the estimates, assumptions and projections and the related Sensitivity Analyses were also subject to the risks described in our most recent annual report filed with the SEC on Form 10-K, and in this proxy statement under the heading "Cautionary Statement Concerning Forward-Looking Information."

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Accordingly, actual results likely will differ, and may differ materially, from those contained in the financial projections and the related Sensitivity Analyses and there can be no assurance that the financial projections will be realized or that actual results will not be significantly higher or lower than estimated.

None of Smithfield or any of its affiliates, advisors or representatives undertakes any obligation to update or otherwise revise or reconcile the financial projections and the related Sensitivity Analyses to reflect circumstances existing after the date such financial projections and the related Sensitivity Analyses were generated or to reflect the occurrence of future events even in the event that any or all of the assumptions underlying the financial projections and the related Sensitivity Analyses are shown to be in error. We do not intend to make publicly available any update or other revision to the financial projections and the related Sensitivity Analyses, except as required by law. None of Smithfield or any of its affiliates, advisors, officers, directors or representatives has made or makes any representation to any shareholder or other person regarding the ultimate performance of Smithfield compared to the information contained in the financial projections and the related Sensitivity Analyses or that forecasted results will be achieved. Smithfield has made no representation to Parent, in the merger agreement or otherwise, concerning the financial projections or the related Sensitivity Analyses.

Smithfield shareholders are cautioned not to place undue reliance on the financial projections and the related Sensitivity Analyses included in this proxy statement.

Financial Projections

(\$ in millions, except per share data)

	Projected Fiscal Year (1)				
	2013E	2014E	2015E	2016E	2017E
Sales	\$ 13,221	\$ 13,100	\$ 13,425	\$ 13,541	\$ 13,683
EBITDA (2)(3)	759	1,125	1,224	1,265	1,285
<i>% Margin</i>	<i>5.7%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>9.1%</i>	<i>9.3%</i>	<i>9.4%</i>
EBIT (3)(4)	519	872	967	997	1,015
EPS (5)	1.80	3.39	4.26	4.59	4.89
Tax Rate	20.1%	34.0%	34.0%	34.0%	34.0%
Capital Expenditures	(278)	(350)	(350)	(350)	(350)
Net Working Capital	(313)	11	15	(26)	(27)

(1) Smithfield's fiscal year consists of 52 or 53 weeks and ends on the Sunday nearest April 30.

(2) EBITDA represents earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, which we calculate as net sales, minus cost of goods sold, minus total operating expenses, plus depreciation and amortization. In calculating EBITDA, stock-based compensation was treated as a cash expense.

(3) EBITDA and EBIT are non-GAAP financial measures. Non-GAAP financial measures should not be considered in isolation from, or as a substitute for, financial information presented in compliance with GAAP, and non-GAAP financial measures as used by Smithfield may not be comparable to similarly titled amounts used by other companies.

(4) EBIT represents earnings before interest and taxes, which we calculate as net sales, minus cost of goods sold, minus total operating expenses. In calculating EBIT, stock-based compensation was treated as a cash expense.

(5) Earnings per share projections assume \$250,000,000 annual share repurchases.

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(\$ in millions, except per share data)

	Projected Fiscal Year (1)				
	2013E	2014E	2015E	2016E	2017E
Sales	\$ 13,221	\$ 13,100	\$ 13,425	\$ 13,541	\$ 13,683
EBITDA (2)(3)	759	994	1,090	1,129	1,148
<i>% Margin</i>	5.7%	7.6%	8.1%	8.3%	8.4%
EBIT (3)(4)	519	741	833	861	878
EPS (5)	1.80	2.77	3.63	3.96	4.25
Tax Rate	20.1%	34.0%	34.0%	34.0%	34.0%
Capital Expenditures	(278)	(350)	(350)	(350)	(350)
Net Working Capital	(313)	11	15	(26)	(27)

- (1) Smithfield's fiscal year consists of 52 or 53 weeks and ends on the Sunday nearest April 30.
- (2) EBITDA represents earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, which we calculate as net sales, minus cost of goods sold, minus total operating expenses, plus depreciation and amortization. In calculating EBITDA, stock-based compensation was treated as a cash expense.
- (3) EBITDA and EBIT are non-GAAP financial measures. Non-GAAP financial measures should not be considered in isolation from, or as a substitute for, financial information presented in compliance with GAAP, and non-GAAP financial measures as used by Smithfield may not be comparable to similarly titled amounts used by other companies.
- (4) EBIT represents earnings before interest and taxes, which we calculate as net sales, minus cost of goods sold, minus total operating expenses. In calculating EBIT, stock-based compensation was treated as a cash expense.
- (5) Earnings per share projections assume \$250,000,000 annual share repurchases.

Management Sensitivity 2 (EBITDA Margin discounted by (200) bps)

(\$ in millions, except per share data)

	Projected Fiscal Year (1)				
	2013E	2014E	2015E	2016E	2017E
Sales	\$ 13,221	\$ 13,100	\$ 13,425	\$ 13,541	\$ 13,683
EBITDA (2)(3)	759	863	955	994	1,012
<i>% Margin</i>	5.7%	6.6%	7.1%	7.3%	7.4%
EBIT (3)(4)	519	610	698	726	741
EPS (5)	1.80	2.15	2.99	3.32	3.62
Tax Rate	20.1%	34.0%	34.0%	34.0%	34.0%
Capital Expenditures	(278)	(350)	(350)	(350)	(350)
Net Working Capital	(313)	11	15	(26)	(27)

- (1) Smithfield's fiscal year consists of 52 or 53 weeks and ends on the Sunday nearest April 30.
- (2) EBITDA represents earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, which we calculate as net sales, minus cost of goods sold, minus total operating expenses, plus depreciation and amortization. In calculating EBITDA, stock-based compensation was treated as a cash expense.

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- (3) EBITDA and EBIT are non-GAAP financial measures. Non-GAAP financial measures should not be considered in isolation from, or as a substitute for, financial information presented in compliance with GAAP, and non-GAAP financial measures as used by Smithfield may not be comparable to similarly titled amounts used by other companies.
- (4) EBIT represents earnings before interest and taxes, which we calculate as net sales, minus cost of goods sold, minus total operating expenses. In calculating EBIT, stock-based compensation was treated as a cash expense.
- (5) Earnings per share projections assume \$250,000,000 annual share repurchases.

Unlevered Free Cash Flows (1)(2)

(\$ in millions)

	Projected Fiscal Year (3)				
	2014E	2015E	2016E	2017E	2018E
Management Projections	\$ 489	\$ 560	\$ 550	\$ 563	\$ 573
Management Sensitivity 1 (EBITDA Margin discounted by (100) bps)	403	472	460	473	482
Management Sensitivity 2 (EBITDA Margin discounted by (200) bps)	316	383	371	383	390

- (1) Unlevered free cash flow is calculated as EBITDA, minus taxes, minus capital expenditures, minus the increase in working capital. EBITDA and unlevered free cash flow are non-GAAP financial measures. Non-GAAP financial measures should not be considered in isolation from, or as a substitute for, financial information presented in compliance with GAAP, and non-GAAP financial measures as used by Smithfield may not be comparable to similarly titled amounts used by other companies.
 - (2) Projections for fiscal year 2018 extrapolated by Barclays based on Smithfield management's projections for fiscal years 2016 through 2017.
 - (3) Smithfield's fiscal year consists of 52 or 53 weeks and ends on the Sunday nearest April 30.
- SMITHFIELD DOES NOT INTEND TO UPDATE OR OTHERWISE REVISE THE FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS TO REFLECT CIRCUMSTANCES EXISTING AFTER THE DATE WHEN MADE OR TO REFLECT THE OCCURRENCE OF FUTURE EVENTS, EVEN IN THE EVENT THAT ANY OR ALL OF THE ASSUMPTIONS UNDERLYING THE FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS ARE NO LONGER APPROPRIATE.

Interests of Smithfield Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger

In considering the recommendation of the Smithfield Board that you vote to approve the merger proposal, you should be aware that, aside from their interests as Smithfield shareholders, Smithfield's directors and executive officers have interests in the merger that are different from, or in addition to, the interests of Smithfield shareholders generally.

With regard to our directors serving on the Smithfield Board (other than Mr. Pope, whose interests are as an executive officer), areas where their interests may differ from those of other Smithfield shareholders relate to the impact of the transaction on the directors' outstanding equity awards and the provision of indemnification and insurance arrangements pursuant to the merger agreement and Smithfield's articles of incorporation and bylaws, which reflect the fact that such directors may be subject to claims arising from their service on the Smithfield Board. The non-employee directors will also receive their annual deferred unit retainer awards for fiscal 2014, in accordance with Smithfield's non-employee director compensation policy. The value of the awards for each of the non-employee directors other than Mr. Luter, III, the Chairman of the Board, will be \$105,000, and the value of each quarterly installment of the award for Mr. Luter, III is \$125,000, in each case as of the grant date.

The differences in interests for our executive officers relate to the potential receipt of the following types of payments and benefits that may be triggered by or otherwise relate to the merger:

cash payment of retention bonuses contingent on continued employment after the merger;

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accelerated vesting of executive officer equity awards;

possible cash payments under the change in control executive severance plan;

payment of previously accrued benefits under a supplemental pension plan; and

the right to continued indemnification and insurance coverage pursuant to the merger agreement.

These interests are described in more detail below, and certain of them are quantified in the tables below.

The total amount of compensation that our executive officers may potentially receive in connection with the merger in their capacities as executive officers is \$133,994,675, as follows:

Type of Compensation	Total Amount
Cash Retention Bonus(1)	\$ 21,000,000
Accelerated Vesting of Equity Awards	\$ 40,591,182
Cash Severance	\$ 72,403,493
Total	\$ 133,994,675

(1) Does not include potential retention bonuses to Messrs. Sebring, Luter IV, Brown and Schellpeper, which will be determined at a later date from an aggregate pool of \$23,952,075 in which approximately 50 executive officers and key employees of Smithfield are eligible to participate, as discussed below under Retention Bonus Program.

Our directors will not receive any compensation in connection with the merger in their capacities as directors. These amounts for our executive officers and directors do not include any payments with respect to shares of Smithfield common stock owned by our executive officers and directors which they are entitled to receive on the same terms as all other Smithfield shareholders in connection with the merger, or with respect to equity awards or other benefits that have already been fully earned by our executive officers and directors and in which they are already fully vested without regard to the occurrence of the merger.

Retention Bonus Program

In connection with the merger negotiations, Parent had requested assurances that a retention program be established for certain of Smithfield's officers and other key employees to aid in the retention of such officers and employees. See Background of the Merger on page []. In response to this request, on May 28, 2013, in connection with the approval of the merger agreement, the Smithfield Board and the Compensation Committee of the Smithfield Board approved a retention bonus program (the Retention Bonus Program) for certain of Smithfield's officers, including Smithfield's executive officers, and other key employees.

As explained below under Executive Severance Plan beginning on page [], the Smithfield Foods, Inc. Change in Control Executive Severance Plan (the Executive Severance Plan) was amended only as it would apply to the merger and only as it would apply to our Chief Executive Officer (the CEO) and the five officers who report directly to the CEO (collectively, the Senior Executives). The amendments to the Executive Severance Plan, the effects of which are to reduce the circumstances under which the CEO and Senior Executives can collect severance payments and benefits following completion of the merger under the Executive Severance Plan, were required by Parent as a condition to entering into the merger agreement. The Retention Bonus Program was similarly established by Smithfield as a result of Parent's requirement that Smithfield ensure, and the amounts of the bonuses payable to the CEO and Senior Executives under the Retention Bonus Program reflect Parent's direction that the amounts of such bonuses be significant enough to ensure, the retention of the CEO, the Senior Executives and other executive officers through and beyond the effective time. In recognition of this amendment to the Executive Severance Plan, the Retention Bonus Program has different payment terms for the CEO and the Senior Executives. Only four of the Senior Executives, Messrs. Manly, Richter, Thamodaran and Treacy, are executive officers of Smithfield. The fifth, Mr. Nowakowski, is a Senior Executive for purposes of the Retention Bonus Program but is not an executive officer of Smithfield. The aggregate amount of the retention bonuses that may be payable to the CEO and Senior Executives, including Mr. Nowakowski, is \$23,900,000.

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The retention bonuses will be paid in installments following the closing of the merger so long as the executive officers remain employed with Smithfield or any affiliate through the relevant payment dates (subject to certain exceptions), as detailed below.

For our CEO and Senior Executives, the retention payments will be paid in four installments. One-quarter of the retention bonus will be paid six months following the closing of the merger and an additional one-quarter will be paid on each of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd anniversaries of the closing of the merger, each payment of which is contingent upon continued employment with the surviving corporation. The amounts of the retention bonuses were set for our CEO and Senior Executives when the Retention Bonus Program was adopted and are shown for the CEO and Senior Executives who are executive officers of Smithfield below:

Retention Bonuses for CEO and Senior Executives

Executive Officer	Retention Bonus Payment
C. Larry Pope	\$ 8,300,000
Robert W. Manly, IV	\$ 3,800,000
George H. Richter	\$ 4,500,000
Dhamu Thamodaran	\$ 2,400,000
Dennis H. Treacy	\$ 2,000,000
Total	\$ 21,000,000

A total of approximately 50 other executive officers, including Messrs. Sebring, Luter IV, Brown and Schellpeper, and key employees of Smithfield may be entitled to receive retention bonuses in connection with the merger. The aggregate amount that will be made available for the retention bonuses to these other officers and employees will be \$23,952,075. The individual amounts of the retention bonuses for these individuals will be determined at a later date. For such executive officers and key employees of Smithfield and its subsidiaries, including Messrs. Sebring, Luter IV, Brown and Schellpeper, any retention bonus will be paid in three installments. One-third will be paid on each of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd anniversaries of the closing of the merger, each payment of which is contingent on continued employment with the surviving corporation.

A participant in the Retention Bonus Program must be employed by Smithfield or any affiliate on a payment date in order to receive the corresponding retention bonus installment, unless the participant's employment is terminated (i) by Smithfield without cause (as defined in the Executive Severance Plan), (ii) by the participant for good reason after the closing of the merger (good reason is as defined in the Executive Severance Plan, as amended as described below to the extent the participant is our CEO or a Senior Executive), or (iii) due to the participant's death or disability (as defined in the Executive Severance Plan). If the participant's employment is terminated under one of the foregoing circumstances before the merger, full payment of the retention bonus will be made at the closing of the merger. If the participant's employment is terminated under one of the foregoing circumstances after the closing of the merger but prior to any remaining payment date(s), full payment of the remaining bonus will be made at the time of the termination of employment.

Retention bonuses are subject to reduction to avoid any excise taxes imposed by Section 4999 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), but only if such reduction results in a higher after-tax payment to the participant.

Executive Severance Plan

Smithfield previously established the Executive Severance Plan. On May 28, 2013, the Executive Severance Plan was amended only as it would apply to the merger and only as it would apply to our CEO and Senior Executives. Under the existing terms of the Executive Severance Plan, a participant is entitled to certain payments and other benefits, as detailed below, in the event the participant's employment is terminated by

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Smithfield other than for cause, death or disability or the participant resigns for good reason, in either case during the period of a potential change in control or within two years following a change in control, as such terms are defined in the Executive Severance Plan. The amendment modifies the definition of good reason by eliminating the Senior Executives' right to resign with good reason because they will no longer report to a public company CEO and our CEO's right to resign with good reason because he ceases to be the CEO of a public company. The definition of good reason was further amended to provide that, with respect to our CEO and Senior Executives, the fact that they will no longer hold duties that are specific to their positions at a public company will not constitute good reason.

All current executive officers and certain additional key members of management participate in the Executive Severance Plan. In the event that a participant's employment is terminated by Smithfield other than for cause, death or disability or the participant resigns for good reason, in either case during the period of a potential change in control or within two years following a change in control, the Executive Severance Plan provides the following benefits:

a lump sum cash payment equal to two times the participant's annual base salary;

a lump sum cash payment equal to two times the greater of (i) the participant's trailing three-year average annual cash incentive award (including discretionary performance bonuses) or (ii) 300% (or 100% for non-executives) of the participant's annual base salary;

a lump sum cash payment equal to a prorated portion of the participant's annual cash incentive award for the year of termination based on the greater of (i) the participant's trailing three-year average annual cash incentive award (including discretionary performance bonuses) or (ii) 300% (or 100% for non-executives) of the participant's annual base salary;

full vesting of all of the participant's stock options, restricted stock units, PSUs and other equity-based awards without regard to the attainment of any performance target (unless the award agreement expressly provides otherwise), with payment of any such vested restricted stock units and PSUs being made on the payment dates set forth in the applicable award agreements; and

continuation for 18 months of the participant's Smithfield-paid benefits under group health, dental and life insurance plans. Severance benefits are subject to reduction to avoid any excise taxes imposed by Section 4999 of the Code, but only if such reduction results in a higher after-tax payment to the participant.

All participants who become entitled to receive Executive Severance Plan benefits are required to sign, as a condition to their receipt of such benefits, a release of claims and an agreement providing for, among other things, a one-year non-compete obligation and a two-year obligation not to solicit employees or customers of Smithfield.

In the Executive Severance Plan, as amended, the term "good reason" means:

a material diminution in the duties or responsibilities of the participant or of the person to whom the participant reports;

a material reduction in the participant's annual base salary or annual target bonus opportunity; or

a change in the location of the participant's principal place of employment of more than 50 miles.

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None of the executive officers are currently entitled to benefits under the Executive Severance Plan. The cash amounts that would be payable to our executive officers if the executive officer became entitled to benefits under the Executive Severance Plan in connection with the merger, including both the lump-sum payment and pro-rata bonus, are shown below:

Potential Cash Severance Payments to Executive Officers

Executive Officer	Potential Cash Severance Payments
C. Larry Pope	\$ 19,664,798
Robert W. Manly, IV	\$ 8,871,554
George H. Richter	\$ 10,567,351
Joseph B. Sebring	\$ 6,555,642
Joseph W. Luter, IV	\$ 5,325,772
Michael E. Brown	\$ 6,474,521
Timothy O. Schellpeper	\$ 4,769,608
Dhamu Thamodaran	\$ 5,549,589
Dennis H. Treacy	\$ 4,624,658
Total	\$ 72,403,493

See Quantification of Payments and Benefits Potential Merger-Related Payments to Named Executive Officers Table, beginning on page [], and Quantification of Payments and Benefits Potential Merger-Related Payments to Other Executive Officers Table, beginning on page [], for, for additional information regarding the payments above.

Supplemental Pension Plan

Smithfield maintains a nonqualified supplemental pension plan (the Supplemental Pension Plan). For the executive officers described herein, the Supplemental Pension Plan provides a retirement benefit which is the benefit calculated under the Smithfield Foods Salaried Pension Plan, but without application of compensation and benefit limits under federal tax laws, reduced by the benefit payable from the relevant tax-qualified pension plan covering the participant and subject to additional limits described below.

There is no enhancement to the benefits provided under the Supplemental Pension Plan due to the merger. However, all executive officers and other participants in the Supplemental Pension Plan will be paid out the actuarial present value of their benefits under the Supplemental Pension Plan, commencing at the merger, rather than at a later date. The benefits will be paid in the form that was previously elected by the participant.

Retirement benefits under the Supplemental Pension Plan generally are a function of a participant's average compensation during the five consecutive calendar years during the last ten years of employment in which his or her compensation was the highest (Final Average Earnings) and aggregate years of service with Smithfield. The retirement benefit under the Salaried Pension Plan is a lifetime benefit payable at age 65 equal to the sum of (i) 0.8% of Final Average Earnings and (ii) 0.9% of Final Average Earnings in excess of Covered Compensation (as defined in the Supplemental Pension Plan), with that sum multiplied by qualified years of service with Smithfield.

Total compensation generally includes salary, bonus, non-equity incentive plan payments, stock awards when vested, and taxable perquisites from Smithfield. The Supplemental Pension Plan limits yearly earnings for purposes of calculating accruals to \$5,000,000. Certain payments received due to the merger will be counted as

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compensation under the Supplemental Pension Plan consisting of the retention bonus (if and when paid) and payments for PSUs, except payments for PSUs that were deferred by the participant under the Executive Stock Purchase Plan which were treated as compensation in the year of the deferral. Payments received with respect to the cash out of Smithfield stock options and severance payments will not be counted as compensation for the Supplemental Pension Plan.

Participants make individual elections as to the form of payments and those previously elected forms of benefit will be paid, commencing at the merger. The normal form of benefit for the Supplemental Pension Plan is a single life annuity with monthly payments paid over the life of the participant. The Supplemental Pension Plan also includes other payment options.

Treatment of Executive Officer and Director Common Stock

As is the case for any shareholder, Smithfield's directors and executive officers will receive \$34.00 in cash, without interest and less any applicable withholding taxes, for each share of Smithfield common stock that they own at the effective time. For information regarding beneficial ownership of Smithfield common stock by each of Smithfield's current directors and certain executive officers and all directors and executive officers as a group, see Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management beginning on page [].

Treatment of Executive Officer and Director Equity Awards

As described under The Merger Agreement Treatment of Smithfield Equity Awards beginning on page [], the merger agreement provides that each option to purchase shares of Smithfield common stock, each PSU, each deferred unit and each right to receive shares of Smithfield common stock will be treated as set forth below.

Treatment of Stock Options

At the effective time, each option to purchase shares of Smithfield common stock, whether vested or unvested, that is outstanding and unexercised as of the effective time will be canceled and the holder thereof will be entitled to receive an amount in cash, without interest and less any applicable withholding taxes, equal to the product of (i) the number of shares subject to such option and (ii) the excess, if any, of \$34.00 over the exercise price of the option. Payments with respect to options to purchase shares of Smithfield common stock canceled under the merger agreement will be made as soon as reasonably practicable following the effective time. Our directors do not have rights to any stock options. Each of our executive officers currently holds unvested stock options and will receive the payments indicated in the Payments for Unvested Equity Awards Table on page [] below with respect to their unvested options upon the effective time.

Treatment of PSUs

Each PSU, whether vested or unvested, that is outstanding immediately prior to the effective time, will be canceled and the holder thereof will be entitled to receive an amount in cash, without interest and less any applicable withholding taxes, equal to the product of (i) the total number of shares of Smithfield common stock subject to such PSU award and (ii) \$34.00. For purposes of unvested PSU awards outstanding as of the date of the merger agreement, any performance-based vesting condition will be treated as having been attained at the maximum level, and awards that are subject to such performance-based vesting condition will be deemed to vest fully. For purposes of unvested PSU awards granted between the date of the merger agreement and the effective time, any performance-based vesting condition will be treated as having been attained at the target level, and awards that are subject to such performance-based vesting condition will be deemed to vest fully. None of our directors hold PSUs. Each of our executive officers currently holds unvested PSUs and will receive the payments indicated in the Payments for Unvested Equity Awards Table on page [] below with respect to their unvested PSUs upon the effective time.

Table of Contents***Treatment of Rights to Receive Common Stock under the Executive Stock Purchase Plan***

Smithfield's Executive Stock Purchase Plan (the "ESPP") allows executive officers and other executives to defer up to twenty-five percent (25%) of their annual cash incentives into rights to receive Smithfield common stock in the future ("Elective ESPP Stock Units"). Smithfield provides a match of an equal number of stock units ("Match ESPP Stock Units"). The Elective ESPP Stock Units are always vested and the Match ESPP Stock Units are vested after three (3) years subject to continued employment. For the Elective ESPP Stock Units, the executive may make an election to receive an accelerated payout upon a change in control, including the merger. The vesting of the Match ESPP Stock Units is not automatically accelerated in the event of a change of control and is not being accelerated pursuant to the merger agreement. However, executive officers who participate in the Executive Severance Plan would receive accelerated vesting of their Match ESPP Stock Units if they experience a qualifying termination of employment under the Executive Severance Plan in connection with the merger. None of our directors participate in the ESPP. Each of our executive officers other than Mr. Pope currently has unvested Match ESPP Stock Units and will receive the payments indicated in the Payments for Unvested Equity Awards Table on page [] below with respect to their unvested Match ESPP Stock Units in the event of a qualifying termination of employment in connection with the merger.

Payments for Unvested Equity Awards Table

The following table sets forth the amounts payable with respect to the unvested Smithfield stock options, PSUs and Match ESPP Stock Units to each of the executive officers as described above:

Payments for Unvested Equity Awards Table

Executive Officer	Aggregate Number of Unvested Stock Options (#)	Aggregate Amount Payable for Unvested Stock Options (\$)	Aggregate Number of Unvested PSUs (#)	Aggregate Amount Payable for Unvested PSUs (\$)	Aggregate Number of Unvested Match ESPP Stock Units (#)	Aggregate Amount Payable for Unvested Match ESPP Stock Units (\$)	Total Amount Payable for Unvested Equity Awards (\$)
C. Larry Pope	33,333	401,996	530,000	18,020,000	0	0	18,421,996
Robert W. Manly, IV	16,666	200,992	265,000	9,010,000	25,178	856,052	10,067,044
George H. Richter	13,333	160,796	25,000	850,000	37,455	1,273,470	2,284,266
Joseph B. Sebring	8,333	100,496	12,000	408,000	30,748	1,045,432	1,553,928
Joseph W. Luter, IV	8,333	100,496	12,000	408,000	34,550	1,174,700	1,683,196
Michael E. Brown	8,333	100,496	12,000	408,000	18,727	636,718	1,145,214
Timothy O. Schellpeper	8,333	100,496	12,000	408,000	16,711	568,174	1,076,670
Dhamu Thamodaran	6,666	80,392	40,000	1,360,000	33,163	1,127,542	2,567,934
Dennis H. Treacy	5,000	60,300	40,000	1,360,000	10,901	370,634	1,790,934
Total	108,330	1,306,460	948,000	32,232,000	207,433	7,052,722	40,591,182

See "Quantification of Payments and Benefits - Potential Merger-Related Payments to Named Executive Officers Table," beginning on page [], and

"Quantification of Payments and Benefits - Potential Merger-Related Payments to Other Executive Officers Table," beginning on page [], for additional information regarding the payments to our executive officers with respect to their unvested stock options, PSUs and Match ESPP Stock Units.

Treatment of Director Deferred Units

Each deferred unit, including each right to receive a share of Smithfield common stock under a director's account in Smithfield's 2005 Non-Employee Directors Stock Incentive Plan, all of which are currently vested, that is outstanding immediately prior to the effective time, will be canceled and converted into the right to

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receive an amount in cash, without interest and less any applicable withholding taxes, equal to the product of (i) the total number of shares of Smithfield common stock subject to such deferred unit, and (ii) \$34.00. As of July 1, 2013, Smithfield's non-employee directors held deferred units in the following amounts: Hon. Carol T. Crawford (42,116), Richard T. Crowder (8,775), Margaret G. Lewis (10,409), Joseph W. Luter, III (79,731), Wendell H. Murphy, Sr. (50,113), David C. Nelson (37,479), Frank Spencer Royal, M.D. (21,986), John T. Schwieters (27,022), and Hon. Paul S. Tribble, Jr. (17,733). The cash amounts received in respect of the Deferred Units will be paid out pursuant to each director's previously made distribution election.

Indemnification and Insurance

For six years following the effective time, Parent shall cause Smithfield, as the surviving corporation, to indemnify our and our subsidiaries present and former directors and executive officers. In addition, for a period of six years following the effective time, the surviving corporation will maintain in effect provisions in the surviving corporation's organizational documents related to indemnification and advancement of expenses that are no less favorable than those set forth in our organizational documents as of the date of the merger agreement. The merger agreement also provides that, at or prior to the effective time, we will purchase a directors' and officers' liability tail insurance policy on the same terms and conditions as the existing directors' and officers' liability (and fiduciary) insurance maintained by us, in an amount not to exceed 300% of the annual premiums of the current policies maintained by us.

No Employment Agreements with Executive Officers

As of the date of this proxy statement, other than the arrangements previously discussed in the section entitled "Interests of Smithfield's Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger," none of our executive officers has entered into any agreement, arrangement or understanding with Smithfield or its subsidiaries or with Parent or their respective affiliates specifically regarding employment with, or the right to participate in the equity of, the surviving corporation or Parent on a going-forward basis following the completion of the merger, and no member of the Smithfield Board has entered into any agreement, arrangement or understanding with Parent or its affiliates regarding the right to participate in the equity of Parent following the completion of the merger.

Under the merger agreement, Parent has agreed to maintain for one year after the effective time for all employees of Smithfield and its subsidiaries who remain in the active employment of the surviving corporation and its subsidiaries, including the executive officers (the "continuing employees"), (other than employees of Smithfield and its subsidiaries whose terms and conditions of employment are governed by a collective bargaining agreement, the terms and conditions of which will be respected by Parent and the surviving corporation) (i) annual rates of base salary, annual cash target bonus opportunities and annual equity-based (or cash-equivalent thereof) award opportunities, that are in each case no less favorable than those provided to such continuing employees immediately prior to the effective time under the applicable Smithfield benefit plans; (ii) severance benefits that are no less favorable than those maintained immediately prior to the effective time and (iii) employee welfare and retirement benefits that, in the aggregate, are substantially comparable to the employee welfare and retirement benefits immediately prior to the closing of the merger.

Quantification of Payments and Benefits

The following tables and related footnotes present information about the amounts of the payments and benefits that each executive officer of Smithfield would receive in connection with the merger, after giving effect to the merger as if it had occurred on [], 2013, the latest practicable date prior to the filing of this proxy statement, and assuming all other conditions to the payments of such amounts were satisfied. Certain payments, such as the payment of cash in respect of unvested stock options and PSUs subject to accelerated vesting, are payable upon the effective time, while other payments, such as the retention bonus, cash severance payments, and the payment of cash in respect of the Match ESPP Stock Units subject to accelerated vesting, are only payable upon the executive officer's qualifying termination of employment in connection with the merger. The

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retention bonuses are also payable if the executive officer remains employed with the surviving corporation for a specified period following the merger, as described below. This information is presented separately for the named executive officers and the other executive officers, in accordance with SEC rules.

Retention Bonus and Other Potential Merger-Related Payments to Named Executive Officers

Messrs. Pope, Manly, Richter, Sebring and Luter, IV, the named executive officers of Smithfield, are entitled to receive certain single trigger compensation from Smithfield as a result of the merger, consisting of accelerated vesting of stock options and PSUs. The named executive officers may also be entitled to additional double-trigger compensation due to termination of employment under certain circumstances in connection with the merger, consisting of a retention bonus (also payable if the executive officer remains employed with the surviving corporation for a certain period following the merger, as described below), cash severance, continuation of benefits, and accelerated vesting of Match ESPP Stock Units. These two types of compensation are referred to as potential merger-related payments. The potential merger-related payments payable by Smithfield to Messrs. Pope, Manly, Richter, Sebring and Luter, IV are subject to a non-binding, advisory vote of the Smithfield shareholders, as described under Advisory Vote on Named Executive Officer Merger-Related Compensation Arrangements Proposal (Proposal 2) on page [].

The following table sets forth the potential merger-related payments payable to Smithfield's named executive officers in connection with the merger. This table does not include the value of benefits which the named executive officers already have a vested right to receive without regard to the occurrence of the merger:

Potential Merger-Related Payments to Named Executive Officers Table

Executive	Cash (1)	Equity (2)	Pension/NQDC (3)	Perquisites/ Benefits (4)	Tax Reimbursements (5)	Other	Total
C. Larry Pope	\$ 27,964,798	\$ 18,421,996	\$	\$ 21,600	\$	\$	\$ 46,408,394
Robert W. Manly, IV	\$ 12,671,554	\$ 10,067,044	\$	\$ 21,600	\$	\$	\$ 22,760,198
George H. Richter	\$ 15,067,351	\$ 2,284,266	\$	\$ 21,600	\$	\$	\$ 17,373,217
Joseph B. Sebring	\$ 6,555,642	\$ 1,553,928	\$	\$ 21,600	\$	\$	\$ 8,131,170
Joseph W. Luter, IV	\$ 5,325,772	\$ 1,683,196	\$	\$ 21,600	\$	\$	\$ 7,030,568

(1) Consists of:

- a. for Messrs. Pope, Manly and Richter, double trigger payments under the Retention Bonus Program in the amount of \$8,300,000 for Mr. Pope, \$3,800,000 for Mr. Manly, and \$4,500,000 for Mr. Richter, which will be paid in four equal installments on the dates which are six months after the closing of the merger and the first, second, and third anniversaries of the closing of the merger, so long as the officer remains employed with Smithfield through the relevant payment dates, provided that if the officer's employment is terminated by Smithfield without cause, by the officer for good reason after the closing of the merger, or due to the officer's death or disability, as each of these terms is defined in the Executive Severance Plan, any remaining installments will be paid in a lump sum on the date of termination, or, if the termination occurs prior to the merger, on the merger date (see Interests of Smithfield's Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger Retention Bonus Program, beginning on page []);
- b. a double trigger cash severance payment in the amount of \$16,654,992 for Mr. Pope, \$7,601,173 for Mr. Manly, \$9,021,957 for Mr. Richter, \$5,637,395 for Mr. Sebring and \$4,451,251 for Mr. Luter, IV, which will be paid in a lump sum if the officer's employment is terminated (other than for cause, death or disability), or he resigns for good reason, during the potential change in control period preceding the merger or within two years following the date of the merger, as such terms are defined in the Executive Severance Plan (see Interests of Smithfield's Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger Executive Severance Plan, beginning on page []); and
- c. a double trigger pro-rata annual cash bonus for Smithfield's 2014 fiscal year (calculated as though the merger closes and the executive's employment terminates on September 30, 2013) in the amount of \$3,009,806 for Mr. Pope, \$1,270,381 for Mr. Manly, \$1,545,394 for Mr. Richter, \$918,247 for Mr. Sebring, and \$874,521 for Mr. Luter, IV, which will be paid in a lump sum if the officer's employment is terminated (other than for cause, death or disability), or he resigns for good reason, during the potential change in control period preceding the merger or within two years following the date of the merger, as such terms are defined in the Executive Severance Plan

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(see Interests of Smithfield's Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger Executive Severance Plan, beginning on page []).

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The amounts of the cash severance payments described in (b) above for Messrs. Sebring and Luter, IV have been determined under a provision of the Executive Severance Plan that reduces the amount of the severance payments if the reduction would increase the net compensation payments received in connection with the merger, after taking into account the application of the excess parachute payment excise tax provisions of Section 4999 of the Code on such payments. Without this reduction, the cash severance payment would have been \$5,880,000 for Mr. Sebring and \$5,600,000 for Mr. Luter, IV. As discussed above in Interests of Smithfield's Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger Retention Bonus Program, beginning on page [], Messrs. Sebring and Luter, IV are also entitled to a cash retention bonus in connection with the merger, to be paid in three equal annual installments on the first, second and third anniversaries of the merger date. The amounts of the retention bonuses for these two officers have not been decided and will be established no later than 30 days after the merger from a total pool of \$23,952,075 in which approximately 50 other employees will be eligible to participate.

(2) Consists of:

- a. with respect to Mr. Pope, (i) unvested options to acquire 33,333 shares of Smithfield common stock valued at closing with an exercise price of \$21.94 and an intrinsic value of \$401,996 (based on the merger consideration price of \$34.00 per share), as to which vesting will accelerate at closing (single trigger) and (ii) 530,000 unvested PSUs valued at closing at \$18,020,000, as to which vesting will accelerate at closing (single trigger);
- b. with respect to Mr. Manly, (i) unvested options to acquire 16,666 shares of Smithfield common stock with an exercise price of \$21.94 and an intrinsic value at closing of \$200,992, as to which vesting will accelerate at closing (single trigger), (ii) 265,000 unvested PSUs valued at closing at \$9,010,000, as to which vesting will accelerate at closing (single trigger), and (iii) 25,178 unvested Match ESPP Stock Units valued at closing at \$856,052, as to which vesting would accelerate upon Mr. Manly's qualifying termination of employment on the merger date under the Executive Severance Plan (double trigger);
- c. with respect to Mr. Richter, (i) unvested options to acquire 13,333 shares of Smithfield common stock with an exercise price of \$21.94 and an intrinsic value at closing of \$160,796, as to which vesting will accelerate at closing (single trigger), (ii) 25,000 unvested PSUs valued at closing at \$850,000, as to which vesting will accelerate at closing (single trigger), and (iii) 37,455 unvested Match ESPP Stock Units valued at closing at \$1,273,470, as to which vesting would accelerate upon Mr. Richter's qualifying termination of employment on the merger date under the Executive Severance Plan (double trigger);
- d. with respect to Mr. Sebring, (i) unvested options to acquire 8,333 shares of Smithfield common stock with an exercise price of \$21.94 and an intrinsic value at closing of \$100,496, as to which vesting will accelerate at closing (single trigger); (ii) 12,000 unvested PSUs valued at closing at \$408,000, as to which vesting will accelerate at closing (single trigger); and (iii) 30,748 unvested Match ESPP Stock Units valued at closing at \$1,045,432, as to which vesting would accelerate upon Mr. Sebring's qualifying termination of employment on the merger date under the Executive Severance Plan (double trigger); and
- e. with respect to Mr. Luter, IV, (i) unvested options to acquire 8,333 shares of Smithfield common stock with an exercise price of \$21.94 and an intrinsic value at closing of \$100,496, as to which vesting will accelerate at closing (single trigger); (ii) 12,000 unvested PSUs valued at closing at \$408,000, as to which vesting will accelerate at closing (single trigger); and (iii) 34,550 unvested Match ESPP Stock Units valued at closing at \$1,174,700, as to which vesting would accelerate upon Mr. Luter, IV's qualifying termination of employment on the merger date under the Executive Severance Plan (double trigger).

See Interests of Smithfield's Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger Treatment of Executive Officer and Director Equity Awards Treatment of Stock Options, Treatment of PSUs and Treatment of Rights to Receive Common Stock under the Executive Stock Purchase Plan beginning on page [].

- (3) As described above under the heading Interests of Smithfield's Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger Supplemental Pension Plan beginning on page [], the named executive officers and all other active participants in the Supplemental Pension Plan will begin receiving payments of the previously accrued actuarial present value of their benefits in the Supplemental Pension Plan following the merger. Because there is no enhancement or other increase in the previously accrued benefits due to the merger, there are no potential merger-related payments associated with the Supplemental Pension Plan.
- (4) Consists of the estimated value of the following double trigger benefits: continuation for 18 months of the officer's Smithfield-paid benefits under Smithfield's group health, dental and life insurance plans, which benefits are payable if the officer's employment is terminated (other than for cause, death or disability), or he resigns for good reason, during the potential change in control period preceding the merger or within two years following the date of the merger, as such terms are defined in the Executive Severance Plan. See Interests of Smithfield's Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger Executive Severance Plan, beginning on page [].
- (5) None of the executive officers, including the named executive officers, are entitled to any tax reimbursements with respect to the potential merger-related payments. Under the terms of the Retention Bonus Program and the Executive Severance Plan, payments will be reduced if

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the reduction would increase the net compensation payments received in connection with the merger, after taking into account the application of the excess parachute payment excise tax provisions of Section 4999 of the Code. The cash payments in this table reflect reductions due to application of these provisions as explained in footnote 1 to this table.

Table of Contents**Potential Merger-Related Payments to Other Executive Officers**

The table below and the related footnotes present information about the elements of compensation payable to Smithfield's executive officers (other than its named executive officers) that arise from or are otherwise related to the merger. As is described below, certain elements of the compensation shown in the table will only be payable if the executive remains employed with Smithfield or one of its affiliates for up to several years after the effective time and other elements may only become payable if the executive is involuntarily terminated from employment without cause or terminates for good reason under specified circumstances. Although SEC rules do not require presentation of this information in this format, it has been included to permit a uniform presentation of the quantification of the maximum potential merger-related payments that could be received by all of Smithfield's executive officers.

Potential Merger-Related Payments to Other Executive Officers Table

Name and Event	Retention bonus (\$ (1))	Cash severance payment (\$ (3))	Continuation of health insurance coverage (\$ (4))	Accelerated vesting of stock options (\$ (5))	Accelerated vesting of PSUs and Match ESPP Stock Units (\$ (6))	Total benefits (\$)
Michael E. Brown						
Merger (7)	(2)	0	0	100,496	408,000	508,496
Qualifying termination in connection with merger	(2)	6,474,521	21,600	100,496	1,044,718	7,641,335
Timothy O. Schellpeper						
Merger (7)	(2)	0	0	100,496	408,000	508,496
Qualifying termination in connection with merger	(2)	4,769,608	21,600	100,496	976,174	5,867,878
Dhamu Thamodaran						
Merger (7)	2,400,000	0	0	80,392	1,360,000	3,840,392
Qualifying termination in connection with merger	2,400,000	5,549,589	21,600	80,392	2,487,542	10,539,123
Dennis H. Treacy						
Merger (7)	2,000,000	0	0	60,300	1,360,000	3,420,300
Qualifying termination in connection with merger	2,000,000	4,624,658	21,600	60,300	1,730,634	8,437,192

- (1) See Interests of Smithfield's Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger Retention Bonus Program, beginning on page [].
- (2) Messrs. Brown and Schellpeper are entitled to a cash retention bonus in connection with the merger, to be paid in three equal installments on the first, second and third anniversaries of the closing of the merger. The amounts of the retention bonuses for these two officers have not been decided and will be established no later than 30 days after the merger from a total pool of \$23,952,075 in which approximately 50 other employees will be eligible to participate.
- (3) Consists of the following payments under the Executive Severance Plan: (i) a lump sum severance payment in the amount of \$5,600,000 for Mr. Brown, \$3,895,087 for Mr. Schellpeper, \$4,800,000 for Mr. Thamodaran and \$4,000,000 for Mr. Treacy, and (ii) a pro-rata annual cash bonus payment for Smithfield's 2013 fiscal year in the amount of \$874,521 for Mr. Brown, \$874,521 for Mr. Schellpeper, \$749,589 for Mr. Thamodaran and \$624,658 for Mr. Treacy. The pro-rata bonus has been calculated as though the merger took place and the executive's employment terminated on September 30, 2013. See Interests of Smithfield's Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger Executive Severance Plan, beginning on page []. The amount of the cash severance payment described in (i) above for Mr. Schellpeper has been determined under a provision of the Executive Severance Plan that reduces the amount of the severance payments if the reduction would increase the net compensation payments received in connection with the merger, after taking into account the application of the excess parachute payment excise tax provisions of Section 4999 of the Code on such payments. Without this reduction, the cash severance payment would have been \$5,600,000 for Mr. Schellpeper.

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- (4) Represents continuation for 18 months of the officer's Smithfield-paid benefits under Smithfield's group health, dental and life insurance plans, as provided under the Executive Severance Plan.
- (5) Consists of (i) with respect to Messrs. Brown and Schellpeper, unvested options to acquire 8,333 shares of Smithfield common stock valued at closing with an exercise price of \$21.94, as to which vesting would accelerate at closing; (ii) with respect to Mr. Thamodaran, unvested options to acquire 6,666 shares of Smithfield common stock with an exercise price of \$21.94, as to which vesting will accelerate at closing, and (iii) with respect to Mr. Treacy, unvested options to acquire 5,000 shares of Smithfield common stock with an exercise price of \$21.94, as to which vesting will accelerate at closing. See *Interests of Smithfield's Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger Treatment of Executive Officer and Director Equity Awards Treatment of Stock Options* beginning on page [].
- (6) Consists of (i) with respect to Mr. Brown, 12,000 unvested PSUs valued at closing at \$408,000 as to which vesting will accelerate at closing, and 18,727 unvested Match ESPP Stock Units valued at closing at \$636,718, as to which vesting would accelerate upon Mr. Brown's qualifying termination of employment in connection with the merger under the Executive Severance Plan; (ii) with respect to Mr. Schellpeper, 12,000 unvested PSUs valued at closing at \$408,000, as to which vesting will accelerate at closing, and 16,711 unvested Match ESPP Stock Units valued at closing at \$568,174, as to which vesting will accelerate upon Mr. Schellpeper's qualifying termination of employment in connection with the merger under the Executive Severance Plan; (iii) with respect to Mr. Thamodaran, 40,000 unvested PSUs valued at closing at \$1,360,000, as to which vesting will accelerate at closing, and 33,163 unvested Match ESPP Stock Units valued at closing at \$1,127,542, as to which vesting will accelerate upon Mr. Thamodaran's qualifying termination of employment in connection with the merger under the Executive Severance Plan; and (iv) with respect to Mr. Treacy, 40,000 unvested PSUs valued at \$1,360,000, as to which vesting will accelerate at closing, and 10,901 unvested Match ESPP Stock Units valued at closing at \$370,634, as to which vesting will accelerate upon Mr. Treacy's qualifying termination of employment in connection with the merger under the Executive Severance Plan. See *Interests of Smithfield's Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger Treatment of Executive Officer and Director Equity Awards Treatment of PSUs* and *Treatment of Rights to Receive Common Stock under the Executive Stock Purchase Plan*, beginning on page [].
- (7) Retention bonuses listed in this line are payable only if the executive remains employed for the applicable retention period. Although listed in both lines, retention bonuses and payments with respect to stock options and PSUs will be paid only once.

Financing of the Merger

Parent and Merger Sub have obtained binding financing commitments from Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc. (Morgan Stanley) and Bank of China Limited New York Branch (Bank of China) for the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, the aggregate proceeds of which, together with cash of Parent, will be used to consummate the merger and the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, including the payment of the per share merger consideration and all related fees and expenses to refinance certain existing indebtedness of Smithfield, and to pay any other amounts required to be paid in connection with the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement. The consummation of the merger is not subject to any financing conditions (although funding of the financing is subject to the satisfaction of the conditions set forth in the commitment letters under which the financing will be provided).

Morgan Stanley Debt Financing

On May 28, 2013, Merger Sub received a binding commitment letter (the Morgan Stanley Commitment Letter) from Morgan Stanley pursuant to which, and subject to the conditions set forth therein, Morgan Stanley committed to provide (i) \$750,000,000 for a senior secured asset-based revolving credit facility (the Revolving Facility), which amount shall initially serve as a backstop to efforts to amend each of Smithfield's existing asset-based revolving credit agreement, dated as of June 9, 2011 (as amended from time to time) among Smithfield, Coöperatieve Centrale Raiffeisen-Boerenleenbank B.A., as administrative agent, the subsidiary guarantors party thereto and the lenders from time to time party thereto (the Existing ABL Facility) and Smithfield's securitization facility and receivables sale agreement, dated as of June 9, 2011 (as amended from time to time) among Smithfield, certain subsidiaries of Smithfield, Coöperatieve Centrale Raiffeisen-Boerenleenbank B.A, as administrative agent and the other financial institutions party thereto (the Existing Securitization Facility), (ii) \$1.65 billion in the aggregate for a senior secured term loan facility (the Term Loan Facility) and (iii) up to an aggregate principal amount of \$1.5 billion for senior unsecured bridge loans (the Bridge Facility). Following consummation of the merger, the surviving corporation will make a change

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of control offer to purchase Smithfield's existing outstanding 7.75% Senior Notes due 2017 (the 2017 Notes) and 6.625% Senior Notes due 2022 (the 2022 Notes) as required by the indenture governing such notes. After the closing, the surviving corporation intends to issue senior unsecured notes (the Notes) in an offering conducted under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act), or another private placement transaction, the proceeds of which will be used to repay any 2017 Notes or 2022 Notes tendered to the surviving corporation pursuant to the change of control offer. The Bridge Facility will only be utilized to the extent the surviving corporation is unable to issue the Notes. We refer to the financing described above collectively as the Morgan Stanley Debt Financing. The Borrower refers to Merger Sub or Smithfield, and, after the consummation of the merger, the surviving corporation.

The Morgan Stanley Debt Financing is conditioned on the consummation of the merger in accordance with the merger agreement, as well as other customary conditions, including, but not limited to:

the execution and delivery by the Borrower and guarantors of definitive documentation, consistent with the Morgan Stanley Commitment Letter;

the contribution by Parent of cash common equity contributions to Merger Sub in an amount that is at least 40% of the pro forma funded capitalization of the Borrower;

subject to certain limitations the absence of a material adverse effect on Smithfield and its subsidiaries, taken as a whole, since April 29, 2012;

payment of all applicable fees and expenses;

delivery of certain audited, unaudited and pro forma financial statements;

as a condition to the availability of the Revolving Facility and the Term Loan Facility, the initial lenders having been afforded a marketing period of at least 15 consecutive business days (subject to certain blackout dates) following receipt of a complete confidential information memorandum;

receipt by the lead arrangers of documentation and other information about the Borrower and guarantors required under applicable know your customer and anti-money laundering rules and regulations (including the PATRIOT Act);

subject to certain limitations, the execution and delivery of guarantees by the guarantors and the taking of certain actions necessary to establish and perfect a security interest in specified items of collateral;

the repayment of certain outstanding debt of Smithfield; and

the accuracy in all material respects of certain representations and warranties made by the Borrower and the guarantors in the definitive documentation for the applicable debt facilities and such representations and warranties made by Smithfield in the merger agreement as are material to the interests of the lenders, but only to the extent that Parent has the right to terminate its obligations under the merger agreement or decline to consummate the merger as a result of such breach of such representation or warranty.

The commitment of Morgan Stanley to fund the Bridge Facility is subject to the following additional conditions:

one or more investment banks shall have been engaged to privately place the Notes and such investment bank or banks shall have been afforded a marketing period of at least 15 consecutive business days (subject to certain blackout dates) following receipt of a customary preliminary offering memorandum and historical and pro forma financial information;

the proceeds of the Bridge Facility shall be applied solely to the redemption of the 2017 Notes or the 2022 Notes; and

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(i) the documentation governing the Term Loan Facility and the Revolving Facility shall be in full force and effect, (ii) no bankruptcy event of default shall have occurred and be continuing under any of the documentation governing the Term Loan Facility or the Revolving Facility, (iii) no payment event of default with respect to any required payment of principal or interest under the Term Loan Facility or the Revolving Facility shall have occurred and be continuing, and (iv) no payment event of default with respect to any required payment of principal or interest under the 2017 Notes or 2022 Notes shall have occurred and be continuing.

Revolving Facility

Interest under the Revolving Facility will be payable, at the option of Borrower, either at a base rate plus a margin or a LIBOR-based rate plus a margin, with step-downs and step-ups based on excess availability. Interest will be payable, in the case of loans bearing interest based on LIBOR, at the end of each interest period set forth in the credit agreement (and, for interest periods longer than three months, every three months) and, in the case of loans bearing interest based on the base rate, quarterly in arrears.

Borrowings under the Revolving Facility will be subject to availability under a borrowing base. The Revolving Facility will be guaranteed, subject to certain agreed exceptions, on a joint and several basis by each direct and indirect wholly owned U.S. restricted subsidiary of Smithfield. The Revolving Facility will be secured, subject to certain agreed exceptions, by (i) a first priority security interest in the accounts receivable, inventory, cash, deposit accounts, securities and commodity accounts and certain items in connection therewith of the Borrower and each guarantor, which, collectively, we refer to as the Revolving Facility Priority Collateral and (ii) a second priority security interest in substantially all of the assets and property of the Borrower and the guarantors other than the Revolving Facility Priority Collateral.

The Revolving Facility will contain customary affirmative covenants including, among other things, delivery of annual audited and quarterly unaudited financial statements, notices of defaults, material litigation and material ERISA events, submission to certain inspections, maintenance of property and customary insurance, payment of taxes and compliance with laws and regulations. The Revolving Facility will also contain customary negative covenants that, subject in each case to certain exceptions, qualifications and baskets, generally will limit the Borrower's and its restricted subsidiaries' ability to incur debt, create liens, make fundamental changes, enter into asset sales and sale-and-lease back transactions, make certain investments and acquisitions, pay dividends or distribute or redeem certain equity, prepay, purchase or redeem certain debt and enter into certain transactions with affiliates; provided that the limitations on dividends and other payments in respect of capital stock, investments and acquisitions, and prepayments, purchases and redemptions of debt shall not apply so long as certain conditions related to availability and the fixed charge coverage ratio are satisfied. The Revolving Facility will also contain a financial covenant to comply with a fixed charge coverage ratio based on a trailing four-quarter period basis, to be applicable when available capacity falls below certain thresholds and continuing until availability capacity is greater than such thresholds for 30 consecutive days.

Term Loan Facility

The Term Loan Facility will be divided into two subfacilities. Interest under the Term Loan Facility will be payable, at the option of the Borrower, either at a base rate plus a margin or a LIBOR-based rate plus a margin. Interest will be payable, in the case of loans bearing interest based on LIBOR, at the end of each interest period set forth in the credit agreement (and, for interest periods longer than three months, every three months) and, in the case of loans bearing interest based on the base rate, quarterly in arrears. The Term Loan Facility will amortize in equal quarterly installments.

The Term Loan Facility will be guaranteed, subject to certain agreed exceptions, on a joint and several basis by each direct and indirect wholly owned U.S. restricted subsidiary of Smithfield. The Term Loan Facility will be secured, subject to certain agreed exceptions, by (i) a first priority security interest in substantially all the assets and property of the Borrower and the guarantors other than the Revolving Facility Priority Collateral and (ii) a second priority security interest in the Revolving Facility Priority Collateral.

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The Term Loan Facility will contain customary affirmative covenants including, among other things, delivery of annual audited and quarterly unaudited financial statements, notices of defaults, material litigation and material ERISA events, submission to certain inspections, maintenance of property and customary insurance, payment of taxes and compliance with laws and regulations. The Term Loan Facility also will contain customary negative covenants that, subject to certain exceptions, qualifications and baskets, generally will limit the Borrower's and its restricted subsidiaries' ability to incur debt, create liens, make fundamental changes, enter into asset sales and sale-and-lease back transactions, make certain investments and acquisitions, pay dividends or distribute or redeem certain equity, prepay or redeem certain debt and enter into certain transactions with affiliates.

Bridge Facility

The proceeds of the Bridge Facility and/or the Notes will be used to refinance any of the 2017 Notes or 2022 Notes that are tendered to Smithfield pursuant to the change of control offers required to be made under the indentures governing such notes, which offers to purchase will be made following the consummation of the merger.

Interest under the Bridge Facility will initially equal the LIBOR-based rate for interest periods of three months (subject to a floor), plus a margin, increasing every three months thereafter up to a cap. The Bridge Facility may be guaranteed by the same entities that guarantee the Term Loan Facility. The Bridge Facility will be unsecured.

Any loans under the Bridge Facility that are not paid in full on or before the first anniversary of the closing date of the merger will, except under certain limited circumstances, be converted into extended term loans maturing eight years after the closing date of the merger. After such a conversion, the holders of outstanding extended term loans may choose, subject to certain limitations, to exchange their extended term loans for senior exchange notes that mature eight years after the closing date of the merger.

The Bridge Facility is expected to contain incurrence-based negative covenants that, subject to certain exceptions, qualifications and baskets, will restrict, among other things, the Borrower's, the guarantors' and other restricted subsidiaries' ability to incur debt, create liens, enter into asset sales, pay dividends and enter into transactions with affiliates, affirmative covenants to deliver annual and quarterly financial statements and provide notices of default, and such other affirmative and negative covenants as are customary for bridge loan financings and consistent with Rule 144A high yield indentures of comparable issuers.

It is expected that, in lieu of borrowings under the Bridge Facility, up to \$1.5 billion of aggregate principal amount of Notes will be issued by the Borrower or one or more of its subsidiaries in an offering conducted under Rule 144A of the Securities Act, or another private placement transaction.

Alternatives to the Morgan Stanley Debt Financing

On July 12, 2013, Merger Sub and Morgan Stanley amended and restated the Morgan Stanley Commitment Letter (as so amended and restated, the Amended & Restated Morgan Stanley Commitment Letter). The Amended & Restated Morgan Stanley Commitment Letter provides that Smithfield may obtain consents and/or waivers, as applicable, to (i) the Existing ABL Facility, (ii) the Existing Securitization Facility, and (iii) Smithfield's \$200,000,000 amended and restated term loan agreement, dated as of August 31, 2012, among Smithfield, the subsidiary guarantors and lenders from time to time party thereto and Coöperatieve Centrale Raiffeisen-Boerenleenbank B.A. (Rabobank Nederland) as administrative agent, (as amended from time to time, the Existing Rabobank Term Loan Facility), which consents and/or waivers, among other things, would (a) waive the event of default or the required offer to purchase, as the case may be, that would result from the

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change of control triggered by the consummation of the merger and (b) permit Smithfield to make certain restricted payments in connection with the consummation of the merger and the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement (such consents and/or waivers, collectively, the Requisite Consents).

The Amended & Restated Morgan Stanley Commitment Letter provides that if (i) Merger Sub has obtained the Requisite Consents on or before July 26, 2013, (ii) Rabobank Nederland has issued an irrevocable letter of credit (the Rabobank Letter of Credit) in an available amount at least equal to \$750,000,000 million for the benefit of Merger Sub on or before July 26, 2013 and (iii) Merger Sub has received at least \$800,000,000 million in gross proceeds from the issuance of senior unsecured notes (the Merger Sub Notes) on or before August 2, 2013, then the commitments of Morgan Stanley with respect to the Revolving Facility and the Term Loan Facility will terminate and the Merger Sub Notes, together with (a) the Existing Rabobank Term Loan Facility, (b) cash on hand at Smithfield and the Parent, and (c) drawings under the Existing ABL Facility and Existing Securitization Facility would be expected to constitute the sources of funds used to consummate the merger.

The purpose of the Rabobank Letter of Credit is to provide financing to fund the merger only in the event that drawings under the Existing ABL Facility or Existing Securitization Facility are not available. Amounts drawn under the Rabobank Letter of Credit will convert to an unsecured term loan that matures on June 10, 2016 in the event that such amounts are not repaid within three business days of drawing. Such term loan would bear a per annum interest rate of LIBOR plus a margin or a base rate plus a margin. In addition, such term loan would provide for mandatory prepayments from the Company's excess liquidity and a 0.50% fee on the principal amount of such term loan outstanding on the first anniversary of the draw date. The Rabobank Letter of Credit Agreement contains a cross default to the Existing Rabobank Term Loan Facility.

On July 12, 2013, Rabobank obtained the Requisite Consents and also entered into an agreement pursuant to which the Rabobank Letter of Credit was issued as of July 26, 2013. On July 19, 2013, Merger Sub priced \$900 million in aggregate principal amount of Merger Sub Notes, which offering was conducted on a private placement basis pursuant to Rule 144A and Regulation S under the Securities Act. The offering has been completed and the Merger Sub Notes were issued on July 31, 2013 at which time, the proceeds of the Merger Sub Notes were deposited into an escrow account. Upon release from escrow, we expect that the net proceeds of the issuance of the Merger Sub Notes will be used to partially fund the merger, at which time, Smithfield, as the surviving corporation, will assume by operation of law all of Merger Sub's obligations under each of the indentures governing the Merger Sub Notes. Finally, in accordance with the terms of the Amended & Restated Morgan Stanley Commitment Letter, since Merger Sub obtained the requisite consent, received the Rabobank Letter of Credit and issued the Merger Sub Notes in a sufficient amount and within the required time frames, the commitments of Morgan Stanley with respect to the Revolving Facility and the Term Loan Facility terminated.

Bank of China Financing

On May 28, 2013, Parent received a binding commitment letter (the Bank of China Commitment Letter) from Bank of China pursuant to which and subject to the conditions set forth therein Bank of China committed to provide \$4.0 billion in aggregate commitments under a senior secured first lien term loan facility (the Bank of China Credit Facility). The net proceeds from the Bank of China Credit Facility will be used by Parent to make an equity contribution to Merger Sub.

The Bank of China Credit Facility is conditioned on the consummation of the merger in accordance with the merger agreement, as well as other customary conditions, including, but not limited to:

Merger Sub having received additional funds necessary to consummate the merger;

the execution and delivery by the borrower and guarantors of definitive documentation, consistent with the Bank of China Commitment Letter;

subject to certain limitations, the absence of a material adverse effect on Smithfield since April 29, 2012;

payment of all applicable fees and expenses;

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delivery of certain audited and unaudited financial statements;

receipt by the lenders and the mandated lead arranger of documentation and other information about Smithfield, the borrower and guarantors required under applicable know your customer and anti-money laundering rules and regulations (including the PATRIOT Act);

subject to certain limitations, the execution and delivery of guarantees by the guarantors and the taking of certain actions necessary to establish and perfect a security interest in specified items of collateral; and

the accuracy in all material respects of certain representations and warranties made by the borrower and the guarantors in the definitive documentation and such representations and warranties made by Smithfield in the merger agreement as are material to the interests of the mandated lead arranger or the lenders, but only to the extent that Parent has the right to terminate its obligations under the merger agreement or decline to consummate the merger as a result of such breach of such representation or warranty made by Smithfield.

Parent will be the borrower under the Bank of China Credit Facility, which will be guaranteed by certain subsidiaries of the Parent but will not be guaranteed by Merger Sub, Smithfield or any of Smithfield's subsidiaries. The Bank of China Credit Facility will be secured, subject to certain agreed exceptions, by substantially all of assets and property of the Parent and the guarantors (including all of the shares of Smithfield held by the applicable guarantor following the merger). The Bank of China Credit Facility will mature no later than the fifth anniversary of the date of closing of the merger.

Interest under the Bank of China Credit Facility will be payable at a LIBOR-based rate plus a margin. Interest will be payable at the end of each interest period set forth in the credit agreement. The Bank of China Credit Facility will contain customary affirmative covenants including, among other things, delivery of annual audited and semi-annual financial statements, notices of defaults, material litigation and such other information as may be reasonably requested, maintenance of insurance, compliance with laws and regulations and the establishment and maintenance of disbursement accounts and debt service reserve accounts. The Bank of China Credit Facility also will contain customary negative covenants that, subject to certain exceptions, qualifications and baskets, generally will limit the Parent's and the guarantors' ability to incur debt, create liens, make fundamental changes, enter into asset sales, make certain disposals, and make dividends and other payments.

Regulatory Clearances and Approvals Required for the Merger

U.S. Antitrust

Under the HSR Act, we could not complete the merger until we gave notification and furnished information to the Federal Trade Commission and the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice, and until the applicable waiting period expired or was terminated. On June 11, 2013, Smithfield and Parent each filed a premerger notification and report form under the HSR Act, and the applicable waiting period expired on July 11, 2013 at 11:59 p.m., New York City time.

CFIUS

The merger agreement provides for the parties to file a joint voluntary notice under Section 721 of the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended by Section 5021 of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988 and subsequent amendments (which we refer to in this proxy statement as Exon-Florio). Exon-Florio provides for national security reviews and, where appropriate, investigations by CFIUS of transactions in which a foreign person or entity acquires control of a U.S. business. CFIUS review of a covered transaction is subject to an initial 30-day review period that may be extended by CFIUS for an additional 45-day investigation period. Both the initial review period and the investigation period may be suspended if the parties to the transaction fail to respond promptly to additional questions or requests from CFIUS. At the close of its review, CFIUS may decline to take any action relative to the covered transaction; may impose mitigation terms to resolve any

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national security concerns with the covered transaction; or may send a report to the President of the United States recommending that the transaction be suspended or prohibited or notifying the President of the United States that CFIUS cannot agree on a recommendation relative to the covered transaction. The President of the United States then has 15 days to decide whether to block the transaction or to take other action. The parties timely filed a joint voluntary notice with CFIUS on June 18, 2013, which was accepted for review by CFIUS on June 24, 2013. CFIUS has informed the parties that it will conduct a second-phase, 45-day review of the merger that is to be completed no later than September 6, 2013. Under the terms of the merger agreement, consummation of the merger is subject to the condition that, if review by CFIUS has concluded, the President of the United States has not taken action to block or prevent the merger and no requirements or conditions to mitigate any national security concerns have been imposed that would reasonably be expected to have, individually or in the aggregate, a material adverse effect on Smithfield (which we refer to in this proxy statement as the "CFIUS condition").

Non-U.S. Regulatory Approvals

In addition to the required U.S. antitrust approval and the CFIUS condition described above, pursuant to conditions to the consummation of the merger set forth in the merger agreement, the parties are seeking or sought governmental merger clearance approvals in Mexico, Poland, Russia and Ukraine. Smithfield and Parent filed joint merger clearance applications in Mexico and Ukraine on June 11, 2013, and Parent or certain of its controlled entities filed merger clearance applications in Poland and Russia on June 11, 2013. Merger clearance was granted by the relevant authorities in Mexico and in Poland on June 27, 2013. Merger clearance was granted in Russia on July 3, 2013. Due to a change in Parent's acquisition holding company structure, Parent or certain of its controlled entities refiled for merger clearance in Russia on July 16, 2013, which was granted on August 6, 2013. The Ukraine authority required Parent to provide certain amended information for reasons related to the change in the holding company structure, which Parent provided on July 16, 2013. The Ukrainian authority concluded its initial review of the application on July 22, 2013 and has initiated its review of the merits of the transaction, which can take up to 30 days. If the application is not returned during this initial review period, then the examination of the application can take an additional 30 days. There can be no assurance that merger clearance approvals in Ukraine, or any other approvals, if required, will be obtained.

General

Under the merger agreement, Smithfield and Parent have both agreed to use best efforts to complete the merger, including to gain clearance from U.S. antitrust authorities, CFIUS and antitrust or merger control authorities in Mexico, Poland, Russia and Ukraine. Governmental entities with which filings are made may seek concessions as conditions for granting approval of the merger. For this purpose, Smithfield and Parent have each agreed to submit to orders, judgments, decrees or injunctions, or take any other action providing for the license, sale or other disposition or holding separate of any categories of assets or businesses or imposing limitations on the ability of any party or its affiliates to conduct their respective businesses to resolve objections of any governmental authority to the merger agreement or the merger, and to defend all lawsuits and other proceedings instituted by any governmental authority or any private party challenging the merger agreement or the consummation of the merger. However, neither party is obligated to seek any approvals from any non-U.S. governmental authority under any foreign merger control laws other than in Mexico, Poland, Russia and Ukraine, and neither party is required to agree to any term or take any action that is not conditioned upon consummation of the merger or that would reasonably be expected to have, individually or in the aggregate, a material adverse effect on Smithfield.

While we have no reason to believe it will not be possible to obtain regulatory approvals in a timely manner or without the imposition of burdensome conditions, there is no certainty that these approvals will be obtained within the period of time contemplated by the merger agreement, that any such approvals would not be conditioned upon actions that would be materially adverse to Smithfield or Parent, or that a CFIUS or other regulatory challenge to the merger will not be made. If a challenge is made, we cannot predict the result. For example, at any time before or

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after completion of the merger, the U.S. Federal Trade Commission or the Antitrust Division could take such action under the antitrust laws as it deems necessary or desirable in the public interest, including seeking to enjoin the consummation of the merger or seeking divestiture of substantial assets of Smithfield or Parent. Private parties may also bring actions under the antitrust laws under certain circumstances.

The approval of any regulatory application or completion of regulatory review merely implies the satisfaction of certain regulatory criteria, which do not include review of the merger from the standpoint of the adequacy of the consideration to be received by Smithfield's shareholders. Further, regulatory approvals or reviews do not constitute an endorsement or recommendation of the merger.

Parent has agreed to pay us a termination fee of \$275,000,000 if the merger agreement is terminated in certain circumstances where the primary cause therefor is a final and non-appealable order relating to antitrust law that is enforced in a U.S. court or the failure to obtain all necessary consents, approvals and the expiration of any applicable waiting periods required under the HSR Act and, unless waived by Parent, the merger control laws of Mexico, Poland, Russia and Ukraine, as described in greater detail below under "The Merger Agreement - Termination Fees and Expenses" beginning on page [].

Legal Proceedings Regarding the Merger

On June 21, 2013, a putative class action was filed in the United States District Court Eastern District of Virginia (*Payne v. Smithfield Foods, et al.*, 1:13-cv-00761-LMB-IDD) against Smithfield, certain of its officers and directors, and Merger Sub. The complaint alleges that the Smithfield officers and directors named in the suit breached their fiduciary duties to Smithfield shareholders in connection with the merger, that Smithfield and Merger Sub aided and abetted in that breach, and that all defendants violated Rule 14(a) of the Exchange Act. Plaintiff seeks an injunction (or, if the merger is consummated, rescission or rescissory damages) and costs and disbursements, including reasonable attorneys' and experts' fees. The lawsuit is in its early stages and no significant developments have occurred. Smithfield believes the lawsuit is without merit and intends to vigorously defend against the complaint's allegations.

Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger

The exchange of Smithfield common stock for cash in the merger will be a taxable transaction for U.S. federal income tax purposes and may also be taxable under state and local and other tax laws. In general, a U.S. holder (as defined in the section entitled "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger" beginning on page []) whose shares of Smithfield common stock are converted into the right to receive cash in the merger will recognize capital gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes in an amount equal to the difference, if any, between the amount of cash received with respect to such shares and the U.S. holder's adjusted tax basis in such shares.

You should read the section entitled "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger" beginning on page []. You are also encouraged to consult your own tax advisors regarding the U.S. federal income tax consequences of the merger to you in your particular circumstances, as well as tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, local or foreign taxing jurisdiction.

Delisting and Deregistration of Smithfield Common Stock

Upon completion of the merger, the Smithfield common stock currently listed on the NYSE will cease to be listed on the NYSE and will be deregistered under the Exchange Act.

Appraisal Rights

In accordance with Section 13.1-730 of the VSCA, no appraisal rights will be available to the holders of Smithfield common stock in connection with the merger or the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement.

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THE MERGER AGREEMENT

The following discussion sets forth the principal terms of the merger agreement, a copy of which is attached as Annex A to this proxy statement and is incorporated by reference herein. The rights and obligations of the parties are governed by the express terms and conditions of the merger agreement and not by this discussion, which is summary by nature. This discussion is not complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the complete text of the merger agreement. You are encouraged to read the merger agreement carefully in its entirety, as well as this proxy statement and any documents incorporated by reference herein, before making any decisions regarding the merger.

The Merger

Subject to the terms and conditions of the merger agreement and in accordance with the VSCA, Merger Sub will merge with and into Smithfield and Smithfield will survive the merger as a wholly owned subsidiary of Parent.

Closing and Effectiveness of the Merger

The closing of the merger will take place no later than two business days after the date on which the conditions to its completion have been satisfied or waived, provided that if such conditions have been satisfied or waived, but Parent's marketing period (described below under

Financing Marketing Period) has not ended, the closing will occur at the earlier of (i) a date during the marketing period specified by Parent with five business days' notice to Smithfield and (ii) the second business day following the final day of the marketing period. The parties will file articles of merger (including the plan of merger) with the State Corporation Commission of the Commonwealth of Virginia (the SCC) and the merger will become effective upon the issuance of a certificate of merger by the SCC (or at such later time as may be agreed to by the parties and specified in the articles of merger).

Merger Consideration

At the effective time, each outstanding share of Smithfield common stock (other than Smithfield common stock held by us or our wholly owned subsidiaries, or by Parent or Merger Sub) will be converted into the right to receive \$34.00 in cash, without interest and less any applicable withholding taxes (the merger consideration). After the merger is completed, holders of Smithfield common stock will have only the right to receive the merger consideration, and will no longer have any rights as holders of Smithfield common stock, including voting or other rights. Shares of Smithfield common stock held by us or our wholly owned subsidiaries or by Parent or Merger Sub will be canceled at the effective time.

Appraisal Rights

In accordance with Section 13.1-730 of the VSCA, no appraisal rights will be available to the holders of Smithfield common stock in connection with the merger or the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement.

Exchange Procedures

Promptly following the effective time, Parent shall deposit (or cause to be deposited) with a paying agent sufficient funds for payment of the merger consideration as provided by the merger agreement. Promptly after the effective time, Parent shall mail to each record holder of shares of Smithfield common stock that have converted into the right to receive the merger consideration with respect thereto a form of letter of transmittal and instructions for use in effecting the surrender of such holder's certificates or book-entry shares. Each holder of such certificates or book-entry shares will be entitled to receive the merger consideration for each share represented by such holder's certificate or book-entry share upon surrendering to the paying agent such holder's certificates or book-entry shares, together with a properly completed and executed letter of transmittal.

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Treatment of Smithfield Equity Awards

Each outstanding option to purchase shares of Smithfield common stock, whether vested or unvested that is outstanding as of the effective time, will be canceled and the holder thereof will be entitled to receive a payment in cash, without interest and less any applicable withholding taxes, equal to the product of (i) the number of shares subject to such option, and (ii) the excess, if any, of the merger consideration over the exercise price of the option.

At the effective time, each PSU, whether vested or unvested, that is outstanding immediately prior to the effective time, will be canceled and converted into the right to receive an amount in cash, without interest and less any applicable withholding taxes, equal to the product of (i) the total number of shares of Smithfield common stock subject to such PSU award, and (ii) the merger consideration. For purposes of unvested PSU awards outstanding as of the date of the merger agreement, any performance-based vesting condition will be treated as having been attained at the maximum level, and awards that are subject to such performance-based vesting condition will be deemed to be fully vested as of immediately prior to the effective time. For purposes of unvested PSU awards granted between the date of the merger agreement and the effective time, any performance-based vesting condition will be treated as having been attained at the target level, and awards that are subject to such performance-based vesting condition will be deemed to be fully vested as of immediately prior to the effective time.

Each deferred unit, all of which are currently vested, that is outstanding immediately prior to the effective time, will be canceled and converted into the right to receive an amount in cash, without interest and less any applicable withholding taxes, equal to the product of (i) the total number of shares of Smithfield common stock subject to such deferred unit, and (ii) the merger consideration.

Each right to receive a share of Smithfield common stock pursuant to any Smithfield stock deferral plan will, as of the effective time, become the right to receive an amount in cash, without interest and less any applicable withholding taxes, equal to the merger consideration, payable at the time such stock otherwise would be delivered to the holder of such deferred stock account.

Representations and Warranties

The merger agreement contains representations and warranties that we, on the one hand, and Parent and Merger Sub, on the other hand, have made to one another as of specific dates relating to their respective businesses. The assertions embodied in those representations and warranties were made solely for purposes of the merger agreement and may be subject to important qualifications and limitations agreed to by the parties in connection with negotiating the terms of the merger agreement. Accordingly, Smithfield shareholders should not rely on representations and warranties as characterizations of the actual state of facts or circumstances, and should bear in mind that the representations and warranties were made solely for the benefit of the parties to the merger agreement, were negotiated for purposes of allocating contractual risk among the parties to the merger agreement rather than to establish matters as facts, and may be subject to contractual standards of materiality different from those generally applicable to shareholders. Moreover, information concerning the subject matter of such representations and warranties may change after the date of the merger agreement, which subsequent information may or may not be reflected in our public disclosures. This description of the representations and warranties is included to provide Smithfield shareholders with information regarding the terms of the merger agreement. The representations and warranties in the merger agreement and their description in this proxy statement should be read in conjunction with the other information contained in the reports, statements and filings we publicly file with the SEC.

Our representations and warranties relate to, among other things:

our and our subsidiaries organization, existence, good standing, qualification to do business and similar corporate matters;

our and our subsidiaries capitalization and capital structure;

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our joint ventures;

our corporate power and authority to enter into and perform our obligations under the merger agreement and complete the merger, and the enforceability and due execution and delivery of the merger agreement;

the absence of conflicts with our organizational documents, applicable law (assuming that certain regulatory filings are made and certain regulatory consents are obtained) or certain contracts as a result of the execution, delivery and performance of the merger agreement and the consummation of the transactions contemplated thereby;

the absence of defaults or accelerations of obligations under certain contracts, or creation of liens on our assets resulting from our entry into the merger agreement or the completion of the merger;

consents, approvals, authorizations, permits and filings required from governmental entities to enter into the merger agreement and complete the merger;

financial statements and SEC filings, internal reporting controls and the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, off-balance sheet arrangements and undisclosed liabilities;

the absence since April 29, 2012 of any events that have had or would reasonably be expected to have a material adverse effect on Smithfield, or certain actions that would have required Parent's consent under the merger agreement as described under Conduct of Business Pending the Merger if taken after the date of the merger agreement;

the absence of suits, claims, investigations or other proceedings pending or threatened against us and the absence of certain orders against us;

our and our subsidiaries' material contracts;

our and our subsidiaries' compliance with applicable law;

employment matters affecting us or our subsidiaries, including our benefits plans;

our and our subsidiaries' compliance with tax laws, and other tax matters;

owned and leased real estate and personal property;

intellectual property;

environmental matters;

our insurance policies;

compliance with international trade laws and regulations;

compliance with regulations relating to quality and safety of food products;

affiliate transactions;

compliance with applicable anti-corruption laws;

the accuracy of the information supplied in connection with this proxy statement;

Smithfield shareholder approval required to complete the merger;

applicability of Virginia state takeover statutes to the merger;

brokers, investment bankers and financial advisors; and

our receipt of an opinion from Barclays regarding the fairness, from a financial point of view, of the consideration to be received by holders of Smithfield common stock.

Some of our representations and warranties are qualified as to materiality or by exceptions related to the absence of a material adverse effect. Under the merger agreement, material adverse effect with respect to Smithfield means any material adverse effect on the business, condition (financial or otherwise), assets, liabilities

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or results of operations of Smithfield and our subsidiaries, taken as a whole; provided that no change, effect, event or occurrence arising out of or resulting from any of the following events, in and of itself or themselves, constitutes a material adverse effect (except, in certain cases, to the extent that we are materially disproportionately affected thereby as compared with other participants in the industries in which we primarily operate, in which case the incremental materially disproportionate impact may be taken into account in determining whether there has been, or is reasonably expected to be, a material adverse effect):

general economic, credit, capital or financial markets or political conditions in the United States or elsewhere in the world;

general changes or developments in the industries in which we or our subsidiaries operate;

the execution and delivery of the merger agreement or the public announcement, pendency, performance or consummation of the merger or other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement;

any actions required under the merger agreement to obtain any approval or authorization under applicable antitrust or competition laws for the consummation of the merger;

any natural disaster, act of God or other comparable event or any outbreak or escalation of hostilities, act of war, military action or any act of sabotage or terrorism;

any change in applicable law or GAAP (or authoritative interpretation or enforcement thereof) which is proposed, approved or enacted on or after the date of the merger agreement;

the failure, in and of itself, by Smithfield to meet any internal or published projections, forecasts, estimates or predictions in respect of revenues, earnings or other financial or operating metrics before, on or after the date of the merger agreement, or changes after the date of the merger agreement in the market price or trading volume of Smithfield common stock (it being understood that the underlying facts contributing to such change may be taken into account in determining whether there has been a material adverse effect); or

any action taken by us or our subsidiaries at Parent's written request.

Parent and Merger Sub also make a number of representations and warranties to us regarding various matters pertinent to the merger. The topics covered by these representations and warranties include the following:

organization, existence, good standing, qualification to do business and similar corporate matters;

corporate power and authority to enter into and perform their obligations under the merger agreement and complete the merger, and the enforceability and due execution and delivery of the merger agreement;

the absence of conflicts with their respective organizational documents, applicable law (assuming that certain regulatory filings are made and certain regulatory consents are obtained) or certain contracts as a result of the execution, delivery and performance of the merger agreement and the consummation of the transactions contemplated thereby;

the availability and sufficiency of funds to complete the merger;

the absence of suits, claims, investigations or other proceedings pending or threatened against them and the absence of certain material orders against them;

the accuracy of the information supplied by Parent, Merger Sub or any of their respective affiliates in connection with this proxy statement;

Parent's ownership of 100% of Merger Sub and the absence of any obligations of Merger Sub other than in connection with the merger agreement and the merger;

brokers, investment bankers and financial advisors;

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ownership by Parent and Merger Sub of Smithfield common stock;

contracts with our senior management, inapplicability of interested shareholder provisions of the VSCA; and

the solvency of the surviving corporation immediately following the effective time.

Some of Parent's and Merger Sub's representations and warranties are qualified as to materiality or by exceptions related to the absence of a material adverse effect. Under the merger agreement, material adverse effect with respect to Parent and Merger Sub means any change, effect, event, fact, development or occurrence that, individually or in the aggregate, with all other changes, effects, events, facts, developments, or occurrences, prevents or materially impedes, interferes with, hinders or delays the consummation by Parent or Merger Sub of the merger or any of the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement on a timely basis, or the compliance by Parent or Merger Sub of its obligations under the merger agreement in any material respect.

The representations and warranties of each of the parties to the merger agreement will expire upon the completion of the merger or the termination of the merger agreement.

Conduct of Business Pending the Merger

We have agreed to restrictions on the operation of our business until the earlier of the effective time or the termination of the merger agreement. In general, we have agreed to conduct our business in all material respects in the ordinary course of business and use reasonable best efforts to preserve substantially intact our business organization, keep available the services of our officers and key employees, and to maintain our existing material business relationships with customers, suppliers and other persons with which we have business relations. In addition, we have agreed that, subject to specified exceptions, neither we nor our subsidiaries will, without the prior written consent of Parent (not to be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed):

amend or otherwise change our articles of incorporation or bylaws or any similar governing instruments;

declare, authorize, set aside, establish a record date for, make or pay any dividend or other distribution; authorize any split, combination or reclassification of any capital stock; repurchase, redeem or otherwise acquire our capital stock or any options or other rights to acquire our capital stock;

issue, sell, encumber or otherwise dispose of any shares of our equity securities, or grant any right to acquire any shares of our equity securities other than upon the exercise of outstanding equity awards, as required to comply with any Smithfield benefit plan in effect, as required upon exercise of any outstanding warrant or pursuant to any convertible note or convertible note hedge, or the grant of performance share units or stock options permitted to be granted under the stock plans in connection with our annual equity grant process;

except as required by our benefit plans or collective bargaining agreements, grant, pay or promise to pay any severance or termination pay or increase in severance or termination pay (other than, with respect to non-executive officers and non-directors, consistent with prior practice), pay any bonus or increase the compensation or benefits of any of our present or former directors, officers or employees (except for increases in salary or bonuses for non-executive officer employees in the ordinary course of business), adopt, enter into, terminate or materially amend any benefit plan or award thereunder, or materially change any assumption used in the calculation of funding obligations or the manner in which contributions are made to any pension plan or 401(k) plan;

enter into a material agreement with respect to any labor dispute, activity by a labor union or any lockouts, strikes, slowdowns or work stoppages;

effect or permit any plant closing, mass layoff or relocation as those terms are defined in the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act of 1988 (or any similar state or local law) which would require advance notice thereunder;

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acquire any interest in any person or business in excess of \$25,000,000 other than solely between us and our subsidiaries, or purchases of inventory or other assets in the ordinary course of business or pursuant to existing contracts;

sell, lease or otherwise dispose of assets in excess of \$25,000,000 other than in the ordinary course of business or pursuant to existing contracts;

adopt a plan of complete or partial liquidation, dissolution, restructuring, recapitalization or other reorganization;

other than under our existing credit facilities, incur any indebtedness, or assume, guarantee or otherwise become responsible for the obligations of another person, in excess of \$10,000,000 in each case, other than in the ordinary course of business, pursuant to letters of credit or otherwise, or certain commodity, currency, sale or hedging agreements;

enter into, amend, renew, extend or terminate new or existing material contracts or waive any claim against us under any material contract;

institute or settle legal proceedings, other than in the ordinary course of business and in an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000;

change our tax or financial accounting methods;

make any material tax election, or settle or compromise any material tax liability;

enter into any affiliate transaction, or amend any such transaction in a manner materially adverse to us or our subsidiaries;

make capital expenditures in excess of \$200,000,000;

enter into a contract that restricts our or our subsidiaries' ability to compete with any business or in any geographic area, or to solicit customers;

adopt a shareholder rights plan or similar agreement;

enter into any interest rate swaps, currency exchange swaps, commodity derivatives or hedging transactions, other than in the ordinary course of business; or

agree, authorize or commit to take any of the foregoing actions.

Restrictions on Solicitation of Acquisition Proposals

From the date of the merger agreement until the earlier of the effective time and the termination of the merger agreement, we have agreed to immediately cease and cause to be terminated, and to cause our subsidiaries and our respective directors, officers, employees and other representatives to cease and terminate, any solicitation, encouragement, discussion or negotiation that may be ongoing with respect to an

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acquisition proposal with any person, other than two parties who submitted acquisition proposals during the period from March 24, 2013 until the date of the merger agreement (the "qualified pre-existing bidders"), and neither we nor our subsidiaries or our respective directors, officers, employees or other representatives may:

solicit, initiate, or knowingly encourage or facilitate (including by way of furnishing information) or knowingly take any other action which is intended to lead to the making, submission or announcement by any person (other than a qualified pre-existing bidder) of an acquisition proposal;

enter into, continue or participate in any discussions or negotiations with any person (other than a qualified pre-existing bidder) regarding any acquisition proposal;

furnish to any person (other than Parent and Merger Sub, their respective designees, or any qualified pre-existing bidder) any non-public information or afford access to our business, properties, assets, books or records to facilitate the making of any acquisition proposal;

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approve, endorse or recommend any acquisition proposal or other contract contemplating an acquisition proposal or requiring Smithfield to abandon its obligations under the merger agreement (other than with respect to a qualified pre-existing bidder);

terminate, amend, modify or waive any rights under any standstill or similar agreement unless the Smithfield Board determines in good faith, after consultation with its outside legal counsel, that failure to do so would be inconsistent with its fiduciary obligations (provided that such termination, modification or waiver will not be to permit the purchase of our securities); or

resolve, propose or agree to do any of the foregoing.

However, in response to an acquisition proposal, we may provide access to our properties, books and records, furnish information, and contact and engage in negotiations with the person making an acquisition proposal or such person's representatives, if:

at any time prior to the receipt of Smithfield shareholder approval of the merger proposal, we receive, after the date of the merger agreement (or with respect to a qualified pre-existing bidder, prior to or after the date of the merger agreement), a bona fide written acquisition proposal that has not been solicited after the date of the merger agreement (except from a qualified pre-existing bidder as permitted) and such acquisition proposal did not result from a material breach of our non-solicitation obligations;

the Smithfield Board determines in good faith, after consultation with its financial advisors and outside legal counsel, that such acquisition proposal would reasonably be expected to constitute, result in, or lead to, a superior proposal; and

the Smithfield Board determines in good faith, after consultation with outside legal counsel, that failure to do so would be inconsistent with its fiduciary duties.

In engaging in such permitted discussions or negotiations regarding an acquisition proposal, we must comply with the following procedures:

unless such person is bound by a pre-existing confidentiality agreement, enter into an acceptable confidentiality agreement (which is no less favorable to Smithfield in the aggregate than the confidentiality agreement with Parent, unless the provisions of the agreement with Parent are waived or modified to be substantially similar in the aggregate, in each case as determined by us in good faith);

provide only such non-public information to such person as is also promptly provided to Parent;

promptly (within 24 hours) notify Parent of, and provide a summary of the material terms of, such acquisition proposal (but we are not required to disclose the identity of the party making such proposal); and

promptly keep Parent reasonably informed of a summary of material developments with respect to any acquisition proposal.

Under the terms of the merger agreement, subject to the exceptions described below, the Smithfield Board has agreed to recommend that the Smithfield shareholders vote in favor of the merger proposal and has agreed that it will not: (i) fail to recommend that the Smithfield shareholders vote in favor of the merger proposal; (ii) withhold, withdraw, amend or modify in a manner adverse to Parent or Merger Sub such recommendation; (iii) adopt, approve, recommend, endorse or otherwise declare advisable the adoption of any alternative acquisition proposal or alternative acquisition agreement (other than those relating to the merger); or (iv) resolve, agree or publicly propose to take any such actions. Any of the foregoing actions would constitute a change in the recommendation of the Smithfield Board that Smithfield shareholders vote in favor of the merger proposal.

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Notwithstanding the foregoing restrictions, at any time prior to the receipt of Smithfield shareholder approval of the merger proposal, the Smithfield Board may:

change its recommendation with respect to the merger, if an event occurs that is unrelated to an acquisition proposal and was not known to us as of the date of the merger agreement or, if known, whose consequences were not known or reasonably foreseen by the Smithfield Board (an intervening event) and the Smithfield Board determines in good faith, after consultation with its outside legal counsel, that failure to change its recommendation would be inconsistent with its fiduciary duties; or

if we receive an alternative acquisition proposal that does not result from a breach of the non-solicitation restrictions under the merger agreement and that the Smithfield Board determines in good faith, after consultation with its financial advisors and outside legal counsel, would, if consummated, constitute a superior proposal, change its recommendation or (subject to payment of the applicable termination fee to Parent) terminate the agreement to accept the superior proposal and enter into an alternative acquisition agreement providing for such superior proposal.

However, prior to effecting a change of recommendation with respect to the merger in connection with an intervening event or a superior proposal, or terminating the merger agreement and entering into an alternative acquisition agreement providing for a superior proposal, we must:

provide written notice to Parent and Merger Sub in advance of taking such action, which notice includes a summary of the material terms of the acquisition proposal that is the basis of such action, including a copy of the transaction agreements with, and the identity of, the party making the acquisition proposal, or reasonable detail regarding the intervening event, as applicable;

during the four business day period following such notice, negotiate with Parent and its representatives in good faith (to the extent Parent wishes to negotiate) to make such adjustments in the terms and conditions of the merger agreement and the debt financing such that the superior proposal would cease to be a superior proposal or the change in recommendation in response to the intervening event would no longer be necessary, as applicable; and

consider in good faith any changes to the merger agreement and the debt financing or other arrangements offered in writing by Parent by 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the last business day of such applicable notice period and determine in good faith after consultation with outside legal counsel and our financial advisors, that the acquisition proposal received by us continues to constitute a superior proposal, even if such changes were given effect, or that the intervening event continues to necessitate a change in recommendation, as applicable.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event of any material revisions to such superior proposal, we must deliver a new written notice to Parent and Merger Sub and comply with the requirements set forth in the bullet points above with respect to such new written notice, except that the negotiation period will be reduced to three business days.

Nothing in the provisions of the merger agreement relating to acquisition proposals prevents us from making disclosures as are required by law in the good faith determination of the Smithfield Board after consultation with outside counsel, or taking and disclosing a position contemplated by Rule 14d-9 or Rule 14e-2(a) under the Exchange Act (provided that any disclosures that specifically refer to an acquisition proposal also state that there has been no change in the Smithfield Board's recommendation to approve the merger), or making any stop-look-and-listen communication pursuant to Section 14d-9(f) under the Exchange Act.

Unless the merger agreement is terminated, we are required to call, give notice of, convene and hold the shareholders' meeting to adopt the merger agreement, even if the Smithfield Board has changed its recommendation with respect to the merger or an acquisition proposal has been submitted to us.

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In this proxy statement, we refer to any inquiry, bid, proposal or offer from any person or group (other than Parent or its affiliates) providing for (i) any acquisition of (A) more than 25% (based on the fair market value determined in good faith by the Smithfield Board) of our and our subsidiaries' combined assets or (B) shares of Smithfield common stock which, together with any shares owned by such person or group, would exceed 25% of the outstanding shares of Smithfield common stock, or more than 25% of the voting power of our equity securities, (ii) any tender offer or exchange offer that would result in any person or group owning more than 25% of the outstanding shares of Smithfield common stock or of the voting power of our equity securities, or (iii) any merger, consolidation, business combination, recapitalization, liquidation, dissolution, binding share exchange or similar transaction pursuant to which any person or group would own more than 25% of our voting power or the resulting parent of Smithfield or more than 25% of our assets and our subsidiaries, as an acquisition proposal.

In this proxy statement, we refer to a bona fide written acquisition proposal involving the acquisition of (i) more than 50% (based on the fair market value determined in good faith by the Smithfield Board) of our and our subsidiaries' combined assets or (ii) more than 50% of the voting power of our equity securities, obtained after the date of the merger agreement, which did not arise in connection with a material breach of the non-solicitation obligations under the merger agreement, which the Smithfield Board determines in good faith (after consultation with its outside legal counsel and financial advisor) to be more favorable to Smithfield's shareholders from a financial point of view than the merger, in each case, taking into account all factors deemed relevant in good faith by the Smithfield Board, including legal, financial (including financing terms), regulatory, timing or other aspects of such proposal and the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, as a superior proposal.

Best Efforts to Complete the Merger

Each of the parties will use its best efforts to take or cause to be taken all actions and to do or cause to be done, and to cooperate with each other in doing, all things necessary, proper or advisable to consummate the merger and the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement as soon as reasonably practicable, including using best efforts to effect the regulatory filings in the U.S., Mexico, Poland, Russia and Ukraine described under "The Merger Regulatory Clearances and Approvals Required for the Merger" beginning on page [], including by submitting to orders, judgments, decrees or injunctions or taking any other action providing for the license, sale or other disposition or holding separate of any categories of assets or businesses or imposing limitations on the ability of any party or its affiliates to conduct their respective businesses to resolve objections of any governmental authority to the merger agreement or the merger, and to defend all lawsuits and other proceedings instituted by any governmental authority or any private party challenging the merger agreement or the consummation of the merger.

However, neither party is obligated to seek any approvals from any non-U.S. governmental authority under any foreign merger control laws other than in Mexico, Poland, Russia and Ukraine, and neither party is required to agree to any term or take any action that is not conditioned upon consummation of the merger or that would reasonably be expected to have, individually or in the aggregate, a material adverse effect on Smithfield.

The parties will act jointly with respect to communications with U.S. governmental authorities. Parent will, after consulting with us and considering our views in good faith, take the lead in communicating with any non-U.S. governmental authority and developing a strategy for responding to any investigation or other inquiry by any non-U.S. governmental authority.

Employee Benefits

For one year from the effective time, subject to certain exceptions, continuing employees (other than employees of Smithfield and its subsidiaries whose terms and conditions of employment are governed by a collective bargaining agreement, the terms and conditions of which will be respected by Parent and the surviving corporation) will receive compensation that is no less favorable than immediately prior to the effective time,

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severance benefits that are no less favorable than immediately prior to the effective time and employee welfare and retirement benefits that, in the aggregate, are substantially comparable to those provided immediately prior to the effective time. As of and after the effective time, with respect to any Smithfield benefit plans, Parent will, or will cause the surviving corporation to, (i) continue to recognize each continuing employee's service to the same extent recognized immediately prior to the effective time for all purposes, (ii) not take any action that would impose new pre-existing conditions or eligibility limitations or (for the plan year in which the closing date of the merger occurs) reset any deductible or maximum out of pocket limitations, in each case in respect of any continuing employee in connection with such employee's participation in any such plans and (iii) honor the terms of all Smithfield benefit plans.

Directors and Officers Indemnification and Insurance

The merger agreement provides that, for a period of six years following the effective time, Parent will cause the surviving corporation to indemnify our and our subsidiaries' present and former directors and officers for acts and omissions to the fullest extent permitted by law, and Parent will cause the surviving corporation to promptly advance expenses as incurred to the fullest extent permitted by law. In addition, for a period of six years following the effective time, the surviving corporation will maintain in effect provisions in the surviving corporation's organizational documents related to indemnification and advancement of expenses that are no less favorable than those set forth in our organizational documents as of the date of the merger agreement. The merger agreement also provides that, at or prior to the effective time, we will purchase a directors' and officers' liability tail insurance policy on the same terms and conditions as the existing directors' and officers' liability (and fiduciary) insurance maintained by us, in an amount not to exceed 300% of the annual premiums of the current policies maintained by us.

The indemnification and insurance provisions of the merger agreement are intended to benefit, and are enforceable by, the indemnified persons and their respective heirs or legal representatives.

Financing

Marketing Period

Under the merger agreement, we have agreed to allow Parent and its financing sources a period of 15 consecutive business days to market the debt financing. The marketing period is a period during and at the end of which (i) Parent has Smithfield's financial and other information required in connection with the debt financing and such information is not materially misleading, is compliant with all applicable requirements of Regulation S-K and Regulation S-X, contains confirmation of auditors' readiness to issue a comfort statement during or on the next business day after the marketing period and contains information reasonably sufficient to permit such comfort letters and (ii) the conditions to the obligations of Parent and Merger Sub to consummate the merger have been satisfied (other than those conditions that by their terms are to be satisfied at the closing of the merger) and nothing has occurred and no condition exists that would cause any of such conditions of the merger to fail to be satisfied assuming the closing were to be scheduled for any time during such 15 consecutive business day period; provided that the marketing period shall end on any earlier date that is the date on which the debt financing is obtained.

Such 15 consecutive business day period will end on or prior to August 16, 2013 or begin after September 4, 2013 and the marketing period will be deemed not to have commenced if, prior to its completion, (i) Ernst & Young LLP shall have withdrawn its audit opinion with respect to any financial statements contained in our most recently filed Annual Report on Form 10-K, in which case the 15 consecutive business day period will not commence until a new unqualified audit opinion is issued for the applicable periods by Ernst & Young LLP or another independent public accounting firm, or (ii) we issue a public statement indicating our intent to restate any historical financial statements or that any such restatement is under consideration or may be a possibility, in which case the 15 consecutive business day period will not commence until such restatement has been completed or we have announced that we have concluded that no restatement will be required.

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Smithfield's Cooperation

We have agreed to provide, and to cause our subsidiaries to provide, and to use our reasonable best efforts to cause our respective representatives to provide, reasonable cooperation as reasonably requested by Parent, at Parent's expense, in connection with the debt financing (provided, that such requested cooperation does not require amending or waiving any term of the merger agreement, unreasonably interfere with our or our subsidiaries' ongoing operations, require us to take any action which would subject us to liability or expense or violate our organizational documents or any laws), including, among other things:

using reasonable best efforts to cause our senior management to participate in meetings, presentations, road shows, due diligence sessions, drafting sessions and sessions with rating agencies, and cooperate in Parent's marketing efforts;

using reasonable best efforts to assist in obtaining consents and amendments to the documentation for certain of our existing debt facilities;

using reasonable best efforts to assist in the preparation of a customary rating agency presentation, bank information memoranda and bank syndication materials, offering documents, private placement memoranda and similar documents required in connection with the debt financing;

using reasonable best efforts to provide Parent and its financing sources with all financial and other pertinent information regarding Smithfield and our subsidiaries as may be reasonably requested by Parent to assist in the preparation of customary offering or information documents;

using reasonable best efforts to obtain accountants' comfort letters;

using reasonable best efforts to assist Parent in obtaining ratings for the debt financing;

reasonably cooperating to permit the prospective lenders involved in the debt financing to evaluate Smithfield and our subsidiaries' current assets, cash management and accounting systems, policies and procedures relating thereto;

executing and delivering any customary credit agreements and other loan documentation and customary closing certificates or obtaining other requested certificates or documents;

requesting customary payoff letters, lien terminations, collateral releases, mortgage terminations and other instruments of discharge to be delivered at closing to allow for the termination of certain existing debt documents; and

furnishing Parent and its financing sources promptly with information and documentation required under applicable "know your customer" and anti-money laundering rules and regulations, including without limitation the PATRIOT Act, OFAC regulations, the FCPA, and the Investment Company Act.

The obligations of Parent and Merger Sub to consummate the merger and the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement on the terms and subject to the conditions of the merger agreement are not conditioned upon the availability or consummation of the debt financing or receipt of the proceeds therefrom. No personal liability will be imposed on our officers, advisors or representatives involved in assisting Parent and its financing sources pursuant to the foregoing.

Change of Control Offer

Prior to the effective time, we have agreed to, upon Parent's request, use commercially reasonable efforts to commence a change of control offer to purchase any or all of the outstanding aggregate principal amount of the 6.625% senior unsecured notes due 2022 issued pursuant to the Third Supplemental Indenture between Smithfield and U.S. Bank National Association. The closing of the change of control offer shall be conditioned on the occurrence of the closing of the merger, and both Parent and we will use commercially reasonable efforts to cause the change of control offer to close on the closing date of the merger.

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Parent will, promptly and at our request, reimburse us for all reasonable expenses incurred by us or our subsidiaries and representatives in connection with these obligations. Parent also agrees that we, our subsidiaries or our representatives or our subsidiaries' representatives will not incur any liability to any person prior to the effective time with respect to the change of control offer.

Conditions to the Closing of the Merger

Each party's obligation to effect the merger is subject to the satisfaction or, to the extent permitted by law, waiver by the party entitled to the benefit thereof of various conditions, which include the following:

the merger agreement and the related plan of merger are approved by Smithfield's shareholders at the special meeting;

all applicable waiting periods under the HSR Act have expired or been terminated and all applicable waiting periods and consents and approvals required under the merger control laws of Mexico, Poland, Russia and Ukraine have expired or been obtained;

if review by CFIUS has concluded, the President of the United States of America has not taken action to block or prevent the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement and no requirements or conditions to mitigate any national security concerns have been imposed, other than requirements or conditions that have not had, and would not reasonably be expected to have, individually or in the aggregate, a material adverse effect on Smithfield (the "CFIUS condition"); and

no governmental authority has enacted, issued, enforced or entered any order (subject to certain exceptions) that has been enforced in a U.S. court, whether temporary, preliminary or permanent, that makes illegal, enjoins or otherwise prohibits the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement.

Parent and Merger Sub will not be obligated to effect the merger unless the following conditions are satisfied or, to the extent permitted by law, waived by Parent and Merger Sub:

our representations and warranties regarding the absence of certain material adverse effects are true and correct in all respects as of the closing of the merger; our representations and warranties regarding our capital structure, the applicability of state takeover statutes and our brokers and advisors are true and correct in all material respects as of the closing of the merger; and each of our other representations and warranties (without regard to any qualifications or exceptions as to materiality or material adverse effect) are true and correct as of the closing of the merger except where the failure to be so true and correct would not reasonably be expected to have, individually or in the aggregate, a material adverse effect on Smithfield;

we have performed or complied in all material respects with each of our obligations under the merger agreement at or prior to the closing of the merger;

since the date of the merger agreement, no change, effect, event, fact or development has occurred that would reasonably be expected to have a material adverse effect on Smithfield; and

Parent has received a certificate executed by our Chief Executive Officer or Chief Financial Officer confirming that these conditions have been satisfied.

We will not be obligated to effect the merger unless the following conditions are satisfied or, to the extent permitted by law, waived by the Company:

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the representations and warranties of Parent and Merger Sub regarding solvency are true and correct in all respects as of the closing of the merger; and each of the other representations and warranties of Parent and Merger Sub (without regard to any qualifications or exceptions as to materiality or material adverse effect) are true and correct as of the closing of the merger except where the failure to be so true and correct would not reasonably be expected to prevent or materially impede or delay the

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consummation by Parent or Merger Sub of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement on a timely basis, or the compliance by Parent or Merger Sub with its obligations under the merger agreement in any material respect;

Parent and Merger Sub have performed or complied in all material respects with each of their obligations under the merger agreement at or prior to the closing of the merger; and

we have received a certificate executed by the Chief Executive Officer of Parent confirming that these conditions have been satisfied.

Termination of the Merger Agreement

Smithfield and Parent can terminate the merger agreement under certain circumstances, including:

by mutual written consent;

if the merger has not occurred on or prior to the outside date, which is November 29, 2013, provided that the right to terminate the merger agreement under this circumstance will not be available to any party whose failure to perform its obligations under the merger agreement has been the primary cause of the failure of the merger to occur on or before such date and such action or failure to perform constitutes a breach in a material respect of the merger agreement;

if a governmental authority has issued a final and non-appealable order that is enforced in a U.S. court of competent jurisdiction having the effect of permanently restraining, enjoining or otherwise prohibiting the consummation of the merger, provided that the right to terminate the merger agreement under this circumstance will not be available to any party whose failure to perform its obligations under the merger agreement has been the primary cause of the issuance of such final, non-appealable order, and the party seeking to terminate the merger agreement must have complied with its obligations under the merger agreement to prevent, oppose or remove such order; or

if approval of the merger agreement and the related plan of merger by the Smithfield shareholders has not been obtained at the special meeting or at any adjournment or postponement thereof at which a vote on the approval of the merger agreement and related plan of merger was taken.

We can terminate the merger agreement:

upon a breach or inaccuracy in any of Parent's or Merger Sub's representations or warranties or the failure by Parent or Merger Sub to perform any of its obligations under the merger agreement, which in any case would result in the failure of any condition to our obligation to close to be satisfied and which breach, inaccuracy or failure is not capable of being cured prior to the outside date, provided that the right to terminate the merger agreement under this circumstance will not be available to us if we are then in material breach of any of our covenants or agreements under the merger agreement;

in order to accept a superior proposal and enter into an acquisition agreement providing for such superior proposal immediately following or concurrently with such termination, subject to our compliance with the non-solicitation provisions in the merger agreement and payment of the applicable termination fee; or

if the mutual conditions of the parties' obligations to consummate the merger and the conditions to the obligations of Parent and Merger Sub to consummate the merger are satisfied (other than those conditions that by their terms are to be satisfied by actions taken at the closing of the merger), the marketing period has ended, Parent has not received the proceeds of the debt financing and/or

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the lenders have not confirmed that the debt financing will be available at the closing of the merger in a sufficient amount, and Parent failed to consummate the merger by the time set forth in the merger agreement.

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Parent can terminate the merger agreement:

upon a breach or inaccuracy in any of our representations or warranties or our failure to perform any of our obligations under the merger agreement, which in any case would result in the failure of any condition to Parent's obligation to close to be satisfied and which breach, inaccuracy or failure is not capable of being cured prior to the outside date, provided that the right to terminate the merger agreement under this circumstance will not be available to Parent if Parent or Merger Sub is then in material breach of any of its covenants or agreements under the merger agreement; or

if (i) the Smithfield Board has made a change in recommendation with respect to the merger, (ii) we have materially breached or failed to perform in a material respect our obligations under the non-solicitation provisions in the merger agreement or (iii) the Smithfield Board has failed to reaffirm publicly its recommendation that the Smithfield shareholders approve the merger agreement within ten business days after an acquisition proposal is disclosed or announced (each of the foregoing, a triggering event), provided that Parent will not have the right to terminate the merger agreement under this circumstance if Smithfield's shareholders have approved the merger agreement.

Termination Fees and Expenses

We will be required to pay Parent a termination fee in certain circumstances, as follows:

if the merger agreement is terminated by Parent upon a triggering event or by either party upon failure to obtain Smithfield shareholder approval following any time at which Parent was entitled to terminate the merger agreement in connection with a triggering event, we are required to pay Parent \$175,000,000 within two business days following such termination. If the triggering event was related to an acquisition proposal from a qualified pre-existing bidder and we had entered into an acquisition agreement with such qualified pre-existing bidder on or before June 27, 2013, the termination fee would have been \$75,000,000;

if we terminate the merger agreement to accept a superior proposal from a person other than a qualified pre-existing bidder, or from any person (including a qualified pre-existing bidder) after June 27, 2013, then we are required to pay Parent \$175,000,000 concurrently with and as a condition to such termination, provided that, if we had terminated the merger agreement to accept a superior proposal on or before June 27, 2013 from any qualified pre-existing bidder, such termination fee would have been \$75,000,000; or

if the merger agreement is terminated by either party upon failure to close by the outside date or failure to obtain Smithfield shareholder approval, or by Parent upon our material uncured breach, and, prior to such termination, an acquisition proposal was made or communicated to Smithfield's senior management or the Smithfield Board or publicly announced or publicly made known to Smithfield's shareholders, and, within nine months after such termination, we enter into a definitive agreement with respect to any acquisition proposal which is later consummated, or, within 12 months after such termination, any acquisition proposal is consummated, then we are required to pay to Parent \$175,000,000 within two business days after we consummate such acquisition proposal, provided that for purposes hereof, each reference in the definition of "acquisition proposal" to 25% is deemed to be a reference to 50%.

Parent will be required to pay us a termination fee under certain circumstances, as follows:

if the merger agreement is terminated for any reason, other than the reasons listed below, and a willful breach by Parent or Merger Sub is the primary cause of the failure of the closing to occur (including if Parent fails to consummate the merger if the conditions to the obligations of Parent and Merger Sub to consummate the merger were satisfied and Smithfield stood ready and willing to close), then Parent is required to pay us \$275,000,000 within two business days following such termination:

by either party upon mutual agreement;

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by Parent upon our material uncured breach of the merger agreement or upon a triggering event;

by either party upon failure to obtain Smithfield shareholder approval following any time at which Parent was entitled to terminate the merger agreement in connection with a triggering event; or

by us in order to accept a superior proposal;

if the merger agreement is terminated for the reasons below, Parent is required to pay to us \$275,000,000 within two business days following such termination:

by either party if a governmental authority has issued a final and non-appealable order that is enforced in a U.S. court of competent jurisdiction having the effect of permanently restraining, enjoining or otherwise prohibiting the consummation of the merger and the primary cause therefor is a final and non-appealable order relating to antitrust law;

by either party upon failure to close by the outside date and the primary cause therefor is the failure to obtain all necessary consents, approvals and the expiration of any applicable waiting periods required under the HSR Act and the merger control laws of Mexico, Poland, Russia and Ukraine (unless Parent has waived any such unsatisfied regulatory condition, other than relating to U.S. antitrust laws, and we have declined to waive such condition); or

by us upon material uncured breach of the merger agreement by Parent or Merger Sub and the primary cause therefor or result thereof is the failure to obtain all necessary consents, approvals and the expiration of any applicable waiting periods required under the HSR Act and the merger control laws of Mexico, Poland, Russia and Ukraine (unless Parent has waived any such unsatisfied regulatory condition, other than relating to U.S. antitrust laws, and we have declined to waive such condition); or

if we terminate the merger agreement upon Parent's failure to receive the proceeds of the committed debt financing and consummate the merger as discussed above, then Parent is required to pay us \$275,000,000 within two business days following such termination. Except for the termination fee payable by either party under certain circumstances in a termination of the merger agreement (as described above) and subject to certain other exceptions, whether or not the merger is completed, we and Parent are each responsible for all respective costs and expenses incurred in connection with the merger and the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement. Neither party is required to pay more than one termination fee or to pay any applicable termination fee on more than one occasion.

Except in the case of fraud or willful breach by Parent or Merger Sub, if we receive payment of Parent's termination fee, such fee will constitute our or our related parties' sole and exclusive remedy against Parent, Merger Sub and any related party for losses and damages relating to the merger agreement, subject to certain exceptions including with respect to our right to seek specific performance of Parent's obligations under the merger agreement. If Parent receives payment of our termination fee, such fee will constitute the sole and exclusive remedy of Parent and Merger Sub against us and any related party for losses and damages relating to the merger agreement, subject to certain exceptions including with respect to Parent's right to seek specific performance of our obligations under the merger agreement.

Except in connection with the payment of any termination fees, each party will pay the fees or expenses incurred by such party, whether or not the merger is consummated.

Escrow for Parent's Termination Fee

On the date of the merger agreement, Parent caused to be deposited \$275,000,000 with Bank of China, New York Branch, as collateral and security for the payment of Parent's termination fee, if and when it becomes due, which amount will be held in escrow pursuant to the escrow agreement until the earlier of the effective time (at

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which time the funds will be released to Parent) and the date on which the merger agreement is terminated (at which time the funds will be released to Parent or, if Parent is obligated to pay the termination fee, to us).

Amendment and Waiver of the Merger Agreement

The merger agreement may be amended by the parties at any time prior to the effective time, provided that after Smithfield's shareholders approve the merger agreement, the parties are prohibited from making any amendment which requires the further approval of Smithfield's shareholders unless such approval is obtained before the amendment. The merger agreement may only be amended by an instrument in writing signed by the parties.

At any time prior to the effective time, each party may waive the other party's compliance with certain provisions of the merger agreement.

Specific Performance; Remedies

The parties are entitled to seek specific performance to prevent breaches of the merger agreement and to enforce the terms thereof.

However, we are not entitled to enforce specifically the obligations of Parent or Merger Sub to consummate the merger unless all of the mutual conditions to the parties' obligations to consummate the merger and the conditions to the obligations of Parent and Merger Sub to consummate the merger are satisfied (other than any condition that by its nature cannot be satisfied until the closing of the merger, but that is expected to be satisfied at the closing) and the full proceeds to be provided to Parent or Merger Sub by the debt financing are available to Parent or Merger Sub to complete the merger.

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ADVISORY VOTE ON NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICER MERGER-RELATED

COMPENSATION PROPOSAL

(PROPOSAL 2)

In accordance with Section 14A of the Exchange Act, Smithfield is providing its shareholders with the opportunity to cast a non-binding, advisory vote on the compensation that will be paid or may become payable to the named executive officers of Smithfield in connection with the merger, the value of which is set forth in the table entitled "Potential Merger-Related Payments to Named Executive Officers Table" on page []. This proposal, commonly known as "say-on-golden parachutes" is referred to in this proxy statement as the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal. As required by Section 14A of the Exchange Act, Smithfield is asking its shareholders to vote on the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the compensation that may be paid or become payable to Smithfield's named executive officers in connection with the merger, as disclosed under "The Merger Interests of Smithfield's Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger Quantification of Payments and Benefits Potential Merger-Related Payments to Named Executive Officers," including the table, associated footnotes and narrative discussion, is hereby APPROVED.

The vote on the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal is a vote separate and apart from the vote on the merger proposal. Accordingly, you may vote to approve the merger proposal and vote not to approve the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal, and vice versa. Because the vote to approve the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal is only advisory in nature, it will not be binding on Smithfield, Parent or the surviving corporation. Because Smithfield is contractually obligated to make the potential merger-related payments to the executive officers, the compensation will be payable, subject only to the conditions applicable thereto, if the merger proposal is approved and regardless of the outcome of the advisory vote.

Approval of the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal requires the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares of Smithfield common stock present or represented by proxy at the special meeting and entitled to vote thereon (provided a quorum is present in person or by proxy). Abstentions will have the same effect as a vote AGAINST the proposal, but the failure to vote your shares will have no effect on the outcome of the proposal. Broker non-votes will have no effect on the outcome of the proposal.

The Smithfield Board unanimously recommends that the Smithfield shareholders vote FOR the named executive officer merger-related compensation proposal.

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ADJOURNMENT PROPOSAL

(PROPOSAL 3)

Smithfield shareholders are being asked to approve a proposal that will give us authority, as permitted under the terms of the merger agreement, to adjourn the special meeting for the purpose of soliciting additional proxies in favor of the merger proposal if there are not sufficient votes at the time of the special meeting to approve the merger proposal. If a quorum does not exist, the holders of a majority of the shares of Smithfield common stock present at the special meeting, in person or by proxy, may adjourn the special meeting to another place, date or time. If the adjournment proposal is approved, the special meeting could be adjourned by the Smithfield Board as permitted under the terms of the merger agreement. In addition, the Smithfield Board, as permitted under the terms of the merger agreement, could postpone the special meeting before it commences, whether for the purpose of soliciting additional proxies or for other reasons. If the special meeting is adjourned or postponed for the purpose of soliciting additional proxies, shareholders who have already submitted their proxies will be able to revoke them at any time prior to their use. If you sign and return a proxy and do not indicate how you wish to vote on any proposal, your shares will be voted in favor of the adjournment proposal. Smithfield does not intend to call a vote on this proposal if the merger proposal has been approved at the special meeting.

The Smithfield Board unanimously recommends that the Smithfield shareholders vote FOR the adjournment proposal.

Table of Contents**MARKET PRICES OF SMITHFIELD COMMON STOCK****Market Information**

Smithfield common stock trades on the NYSE under the symbol SFD. The following table shows the high and low sales price of Smithfield common stock for the first and second quarter of fiscal 2014 (through August 9, 2013) and each quarter of fiscal 2013 and fiscal 2012.

Fiscal Year	High	Low
2014		
First Quarter	\$ 33.96	\$ 24.91
Second Quarter (through August 9, 2013)	\$ 34.74	\$ 33.17
2013		
First Quarter	\$ 21.93	\$ 17.75
Second Quarter	\$ 21.17	\$ 17.55
Third Quarter	\$ 23.86	\$ 20.34
Fourth Quarter	\$ 27.33	\$ 21.98
2012		
First Quarter	\$ 23.85	\$ 18.81
Second Quarter	\$ 23.95	\$ 17.79
Third Quarter	\$ 25.12	\$ 21.75
Fourth Quarter	\$ 24.23	\$ 20.04

The closing sales price of Smithfield common stock on the NYSE on [], 2013, the latest practicable date before the printing of this proxy statement, was \$[] per share. The closing sales price of Smithfield common stock on the NYSE on May 28, 2013, the last trading day prior to the public announcement of the proposed merger, was \$25.97 per share. You are urged to obtain current market quotations for Smithfield common stock when considering whether to approve the merger proposal.

 Holders

As of August 5, 2013, there were approximately 823 record holders of Smithfield common stock.

 Dividends

We have never paid a cash dividend on our common stock. In addition, the terms of certain of our debt agreements limit the payment of any cash dividends on our common stock. We would only pay cash dividends from assets legally available for that purpose, and payment of cash dividends would depend on our financial condition, results of operations, current and anticipated capital requirements, restrictions under then-existing debt instruments and other factors then deemed relevant by the Smithfield Board. Under the merger agreement, described in The Merger Agreement Conduct of Business Pending the Merger , we are prohibited from paying any dividend or other distribution on our common stock prior to the completion of the merger.

Table of Contents**SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT**

The following information with respect to beneficial ownership, as of August 5, 2013, of shares of Smithfield common stock is furnished with respect to:

each person known to us to be the beneficial owner of 5% or more of the outstanding shares of Smithfield common stock;

each director of Smithfield,

each named executive officer of Smithfield, and

all current directors and executive officers of Smithfield as a group:

Percentage of beneficial ownership is calculated in relation to the 139,196,460 shares of Smithfield common stock that were outstanding as of August 5, 2013. Pursuant to current regulations of the SEC, securities must be listed as beneficially owned by a person who directly or indirectly has or shares voting power or dispositive power with respect to the securities, whether or not the person has any economic interest in the securities. In addition, a person is deemed a beneficial owner if he or she has the right to acquire beneficial ownership within 60 days, whether upon the exercise of a stock option or warrant, conversion of a convertible security or otherwise. Securities to purchase shares of Smithfield common stock that vest or are exercisable within 60 days of August 5, 2013 are considered beneficially owned by the person holding such securities for the purpose of computing ownership of such person, but are not treated as outstanding for the purpose of computing the beneficial ownership of any other person.

NAME AND ADDRESS OF 5% SHAREHOLDERS	NUMBER OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED	PERCENT OF CLASS
BlackRock, Inc. ⁽¹⁾ 40 East 52 nd Street New York, NY 10022	9,792,767 ⁽¹⁾	7.0%
Starboard Value LP and related affiliates ⁽²⁾ 830 Third Avenue, 3 rd Floor New York, NY 10022	7,962,300 ⁽²⁾	5.7%
Morgan Stanley ⁽³⁾ 1585 Broadway New York, NY 10036	7,022,056 ⁽³⁾	5.0%

**Amount And Nature Of Beneficial
Ownership (Number Of Shares) ⁽⁴⁾**

DIRECTORS AND NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS:	DIRECT	OTHER	TOTAL	PERCENT OF CLASS
Hon. Carol T. Crawford	3,625	58,766 ⁽⁵⁾	62,391 ⁽⁵⁾	*
Richard T. Crowder	3,500	8,775 ⁽⁶⁾	12,275 ⁽⁶⁾	*
Margaret G. Lewis	5,000	10,409 ⁽⁷⁾	15,409 ⁽⁷⁾	*
Joseph W. Luter, III	632,200	80,681 ⁽⁸⁾	712,881 ⁽⁸⁾	*
Joseph W. Luter, IV	207,897	482,199 ⁽⁹⁾	690,096 ⁽⁹⁾	*
Robert W. Manly, IV	313,947	143,333 ⁽¹⁰⁾	457,280 ⁽¹⁰⁾	*
Wendell H. Murphy, Sr.		54,113 ⁽¹¹⁾	54,113 ⁽¹¹⁾	*

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David C. Nelson	35,000	37,479 ⁽¹²⁾	72,479 ⁽¹²⁾	*
C. Larry Pope	595,309	586,667 ⁽¹³⁾	1,181,976 ⁽¹³⁾	*
George H. Richter	60,920	106,001 ⁽¹⁴⁾	166,921 ⁽¹⁴⁾	*
Frank Spencer Royal, M.D.	1,000	21,986 ⁽¹⁵⁾	22,986 ⁽¹⁵⁾	*
John T. Schwieters	31,500	27,022 ⁽¹⁶⁾	58,522 ⁽¹⁶⁾	*
Joseph B. Sebring	61,560	35,001 ⁽¹⁷⁾	96,561 ⁽¹⁷⁾	*
Hon. Paul S. Tribble, Jr.	500	17,733 ⁽¹⁸⁾	18,233 ⁽¹⁸⁾	*
All current directors and executive officers as a group (18 persons)	2,026,397	1,984,718 ⁽¹⁹⁾	4,011,115 ⁽¹⁹⁾	2.9%

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* Less than 1% of class

- (1) Based on a report on Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC on February 8, 2013, BlackRock, Inc. reported, as of December 31, 2012, sole voting power, sole dispositive power, and beneficial ownership of 9,792,767 shares of Smithfield common stock. Each of the following subsidiaries of BlackRock are identified as having acquired the shares that are being reported therein by BlackRock: BlackRock Advisors, LLC, BlackRock Capital Management, Inc., BlackRock Financial Management, Inc., BlackRock Investment Management, LLC, BlackRock (Luxembourg) S.A., BlackRock Fund Managers Limited, BlackRock Life Limited, BlackRock Asset Management Australia Limited, BlackRock Asset Management Canada Limited, BlackRock Asset Management Ireland Limited, BlackRock Advisors (UK) Limited, BlackRock Fund Advisors, BlackRock International Limited, BlackRock Institutional Trust Company, N.A., BlackRock Japan Co. Ltd. and BlackRock Investment Management (UK) Limited.
- (2) Based on a report on Schedule 13D/A filed with the SEC on July 12, 2013, Starboard Value and Opportunity Master Fund Ltd. (Starboard V&O Fund) reported, as of July 11, 2013, sole voting power, sole dispositive power and beneficial ownership of 4,035,217 shares, including 3,210,500 shares Starboard V&O Fund has the right to acquire pursuant to presently exercisable call options. Starboard Value and Opportunity S LLC (Starboard LLC) reported sole voting power, sole dispositive power and beneficial ownership of 884,700 shares, including 703,900 shares Starboard LLC has the right to acquire pursuant to presently exercisable call options. Starboard Value and Opportunity C LP (Starboard C LP) reported sole voting power, sole dispositive power and beneficial ownership of 575,100 shares, including 457,600 shares Starboard C LP has the right to acquire pursuant to presently exercisable call options. Starboard Leaders Charlie LLC (Charlie LLC) reported sole voting power, sole dispositive power and beneficial ownership of 950,008 shares, including 500,000 shares Charlie LLC has the right to acquire pursuant to presently exercisable call options. As of July 11, 2013, 1,517,275 shares were held in an account (the Starboard Value LP Account) managed by Starboard Value LP, including 1,207,800 shares subject to presently exercisable call options.

Starboard Value LP, as the investment manager of Starboard V&O Fund, Starboard C LP, Charlie LLC and the Starboard Value LP Account, and as the manager of Starboard LLC, may be deemed to beneficially own and have sole voting and dispositive power with respect to the aggregate of 7,962,300 shares beneficially owned by Starboard V&O Fund, Starboard C LP, Charlie LLC, Starboard LLC and held in the Starboard Value LP Account.

Each of Starboard Value GP LLC (Starboard Value GP), as the general partner of Starboard Value LP, Starboard Principal Co LP (Principal Co), as a member of Starboard Value GP, and Starboard Principal Co GP LLC (Principal GP), as the general partner of Principal Co, may be deemed to beneficially own and have sole voting and dispositive power with respect to the aggregate of 7,962,300 shares beneficially owned by Starboard V&O Fund, Starboard C LP, Charlie LLC, Starboard LLC and held in the Starboard Value LP Account.

Each of Jeffrey C. Smith, Mark R. Mitchell and Peter A. Feld, as members of Principal GP and a member of each of the Management Committee of Starboard Value GP and the Management Committee of Principal GP, may be deemed to beneficially own and have shared voting and dispositive power with respect to the aggregate of 7,962,300 shares beneficially owned by Starboard V&O Fund, Starboard C LP, Charlie LLC, Starboard LLC and held in the Starboard Value LP Account.

Each of Starboard Value R LP (Starboard R LP), as the general partner of Starboard C LP, and Starboard Value R GP LLC, as the general partner of Starboard R LP, may be deemed to beneficially own and have sole voting and dispositive power with respect to the 575,100 shares beneficially owned by Starboard C LP.

Each of Starboard Leaders Fund LP (Leaders Fund), as a member of Charlie LLC, Starboard Value A LP (Starboard A LP), as the general partner of Leaders Fund and the managing member of Charlie LLC, and Starboard Value A GP LLC, as the general partner of Starboard A LP, may be deemed to beneficially own and have sole voting and dispositive power with respect to the 950,008 shares beneficially owned by Charlie LLC.

Each of the foregoing persons and entities, as a member of a group for the purposes of Section 13(d)(3) of the Exchange Act may be deemed the beneficial owner of the shares directly owned by the other members. Each such person and entity disclaims beneficial ownership of such shares except to the extent of his or its pecuniary interest therein. The address of the principal office of each of Starboard LLC, Starboard C LP, Charlie LLC, Leaders Fund, Starboard Value LP, Starboard Value GP, Principal Co, Principal GP, Starboard A LP, Starboard A GP, Starboard R LP, Starboard R GP and Messrs. Smith, Mitchell and Feld is shown in the table above. The address of the principal office of Starboard V&O Fund is 89 Nexus Way, Camana Bay, PO Box 31106, Grand Cayman KY1-1205, Cayman Islands.

- (3) Based on a report on Schedule 13G filed with the SEC on July 3, 2013, Morgan Stanley reported, as of June 26, 2013, sole voting power of 7,014,124 shares, shared voting power of 4,461 shares and sole dispositive power and beneficial ownership of 7,022,056 shares by certain operating units of Morgan Stanley and its subsidiaries and affiliates.
- (4) For the Directors and Executive Officers, shares of our common stock listed under the Direct column are those which are owned and held by such person as outstanding shares and over which such person has sole voting power and sole dispositive power. For the Directors and Executive Officers, shares shown under the Other column include other forms of beneficial ownership pursuant to the SEC regulations, as

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described in the indicated footnotes.

- (5) Includes 7,400 shares owned in an IRA of Ms. Crawford's husband, 9,000 shares held by Ms. Crawford's husband and 250 shares held by Ms. Crawford as custodian for her grandchildren. Ms. Crawford disclaims beneficial ownership of these 16,650 shares. Also includes 42,116 shares held by the trustee of the Smithfield Foods, Inc. 2008 Incentive Compensation Plan (the 2008 Plan) in Ms. Crawford's deferred stock account over which Ms. Crawford has voting control.

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- (6) Includes 8,775 shares held by the trustee of the 2008 Plan in Dr. Crowder's deferred stock account over which Dr. Crowder has voting control.
- (7) Includes 10,409 shares held by the trustee of the 2008 Plan in Ms. Lewis's deferred stock account over which Ms. Lewis has voting control.
- (8) Includes 950 shares held by Mr. Luter, III as custodian for his daughter under the Virginia Uniform Transfers to Minors Act. In addition, includes 79,731 shares held by the trustee of the 2008 Plan in Mr. Luter, III's deferred stock account over which Mr. Luter, III has voting control.
- (9) Includes 17,132 shares held by Mr. Luter, IV as custodian for his children's trusts under the Uniform Transfers to Minors Act and 355,400 shares held by an LLC beneficially owned by Mr. Luter, IV and his two minor children. Also includes 109,667 shares that Mr. Luter, IV has the right to acquire pursuant to presently exercisable stock options. Mr. Luter IV has pledged 406,948 of his shares as security.
- (10) Includes 143,333 shares that Mr. Manly has the right to acquire pursuant to presently exercisable stock options.
- (11) Includes 4,000 shares held by Mr. Murphy's wife. Also includes 50,113 shares held by the trustee of the 2008 Plan in Mr. Murphy's deferred stock account over which Mr. Murphy has voting control.
- (12) Includes 37,479 shares held by the trustee of the 2008 Plan in Mr. Nelson's deferred stock account over which Mr. Nelson has voting control.
- (13) Includes 586,667 shares that Mr. Pope has the right to acquire pursuant to presently exercisable stock options.
- (14) Includes 1,000 shares held by Mr. Richter as custodian for his grandson under the Uniform Transfers to Minors Act. Also, includes 105,001 shares that Mr. Richter has the right to acquire pursuant to presently exercisable stock options.
- (15) Includes 21,986 shares held by the trustee of the 2008 Plan in Dr. Royal's deferred stock account over which Dr. Royal has voting control.
- (16) Includes 27,022 shares held by the trustee of the 2008 Plan in Mr. Schwieters's deferred stock account over which Mr. Schwieters has voting control.
- (17) Includes 35,001 shares that Mr. Sebring has the right to acquire pursuant to presently exercisable stock options.
- (18) Includes 17,733 shares held by the trustee of the 2008 Plan in Mr. Tribble's deferred stock account over which Mr. Tribble has voting control.
- (19) Includes 1,402,503 shares subject to presently exercisable stock options or stock options which will be exercisable within sixty days.

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MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE MERGER

The following are the material U.S. federal income tax consequences of the merger to U.S. holders and non-U.S. holders (in each case, as defined below) of Smithfield common stock whose shares of common stock are converted into the right to receive cash in the merger. This discussion is based on the current provisions of the Code, applicable Treasury Regulations, judicial authority, and administrative rulings, all of which are subject to change, possibly with retroactive effect. Any such change could alter the tax consequences to the holders as described herein. No ruling from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has been or will be sought with respect to any aspect of the merger. This discussion does not purport to be a complete analysis of all potential tax effects of the merger. For example, it does not consider the effect of any applicable state, local or foreign income tax laws, or of any non-income tax laws. In addition, this discussion does not address the tax consequences of transactions effectuated prior to or after the completion of the merger (whether or not such transactions occur in connection with the merger), including, without limitation, the acquisition or disposition of shares of common stock other than pursuant to the merger, or the tax consequences to holders of stock options issued by Smithfield which are canceled or converted, as the case may be, in connection with the merger. Furthermore, this discussion applies only to holders that hold their Smithfield common stock as capital assets within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Code (generally, property held for investment). In addition, this discussion does not address all aspects of U.S. federal income tax consequences that may be relevant to a holder in light of the holder's particular circumstances or to holders subject to special rules, such as:

dealers or traders subject to a mark-to-market method of tax accounting with respect to Smithfield common stock;

persons holding Smithfield common stock as part of a straddle, hedging transaction, conversion transaction, integrated transaction or constructive sale transaction;

U.S. holders whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar;

persons who acquired Smithfield common stock through the exercise of employee stock options or otherwise as compensation;

certain financial institutions;

regulated investment companies;

real estate investment trusts;

certain former citizens or residents of the United States;

tax-exempt entities, including an individual retirement account or Roth IRA ; or

persons subject to the United States alternative minimum tax.

If an entity that is classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes holds Smithfield common stock, the U.S. federal income tax treatment of a partner will generally depend on the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. Partnerships holding Smithfield common stock and partners in such partnerships should consult their tax advisors as to the particular U.S. federal income tax consequences of the merger to them.

U.S. Holders

For purposes of this discussion, the term "U.S. holder" means a beneficial owner of Smithfield common stock that is:

a citizen or resident of the United States;

a corporation, or other entity taxable as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, created or organized under the laws of the United States, any state thereof or the District of Columbia; or

an estate or trust the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source.

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The exchange of Smithfield common stock for cash in the merger will be a taxable transaction for U.S. federal income tax purposes. In general, a U.S. holder whose shares of Smithfield common stock are converted into the right to receive cash in the merger will recognize capital gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes in an amount equal to the difference, if any, between the amount of cash received with respect to such shares and the U.S. holder's adjusted tax basis in such shares. A U.S. holder's adjusted tax basis generally will equal the price the U.S. holder paid for such shares. Gain or loss will be determined separately for each block of shares of Smithfield common stock (*i.e.*, shares of Smithfield common stock acquired at the same cost in a single transaction). Such gain or loss generally will be treated as long-term capital gain or loss if the U.S. holder's holding period in the shares of Smithfield common stock exceeds one year at the time of the completion of the merger. Long-term capital gains of non-corporate U.S. holders generally are subject to U.S. federal income tax at preferential rates. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations. Capital gains recognized by individuals, trusts and estates also may be subject to a 3.8% federal Medicare contribution tax.

Non-U.S. Holders

A non-U.S. holder is a beneficial owner of Smithfield common stock that is not a U.S. holder or a partnership (or any other entity classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes). Payments made to a non-U.S. holder in exchange for shares of Smithfield common stock pursuant to the merger generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax unless:

the gain, if any, on such shares is effectively connected with a trade or business of the non-U.S. holder in the United States (and, if required by an applicable income tax treaty, is attributable to the non-U.S. holder's permanent establishment in the United States);

the non-U.S. holder is an individual who is present in the United States for 183 days or more in the taxable year of the exchange of shares of Smithfield common stock for cash pursuant to the merger and certain other conditions are met; or

the non-U.S. holder owned, directly or under certain constructive ownership rules of the Code, more than 5% of the Smithfield common stock at any time during the five-year period preceding the merger, and Smithfield is or has been a United States real property holding corporation within the meaning of Section 897(c)(2) of the Code for U.S. federal income tax purposes at any time during the shorter of the five-year period preceding the merger or the period that the non-U.S. holder held Smithfield common stock.

A non-U.S. holder described in the first bullet point immediately above will be subject to regular U.S. federal income tax on any gain realized as if the non-U.S. holder were a U.S. holder, subject to an applicable income tax treaty providing otherwise. If such non-U.S. holder is a foreign corporation, it may also be subject to a branch profits tax equal to 30% of its effectively connected earnings and profits (or a lower treaty rate). A non-U.S. holder described in the second bullet point immediately above will be subject to tax at a rate of 30% (or a lower treaty rate) on any gain realized, which may be offset by U.S.-source capital losses recognized in the same taxable year, even though the individual is not considered a resident of the United States.

Smithfield believes it has not been a United States real property holding corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes at any time during the five-year period preceding the merger.

Information Reporting and Backup Withholding

Payments made in exchange for shares of Smithfield common stock generally will be subject to information reporting unless the holder is an exempt recipient and may also be subject to backup withholding at a rate of 28%. To avoid backup withholding, U.S. holders that do not otherwise establish an exemption should complete and return Internal Revenue Service Form W-9, certifying that such U.S. holder is a U.S. person, the taxpayer identification number provided is correct and such U.S. holder is not subject to backup withholding. A non-U.S. holder that provides the applicable withholding agent with an Internal Revenue Service Form W-8BEN or W-8ECI, as appropriate, will generally establish an exemption from backup withholding.

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Amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules are not additional taxes and may be refunded or credited against a holder's U.S. federal income tax liability, provided the relevant information is timely furnished to the Internal Revenue Service.

THIS DISCUSSION OF MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES IS NOT TAX ADVICE. WE URGE YOU TO CONSULT WITH YOUR OWN TAX ADVISOR WITH RESPECT TO THE APPLICATION OF THE U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX LAWS TO YOUR PARTICULAR SITUATION, AS WELL AS ANY TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE MERGER ARISING UNDER THE FEDERAL ESTATE OR GIFT TAX RULES OR UNDER THE LAWS OF ANY STATE, LOCAL, FOREIGN OR OTHER TAXING JURISDICTION OR UNDER ANY APPLICABLE TAX TREATY.

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FUTURE SMITHFIELD SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS

Smithfield has not determined whether it will hold its 2013 annual meeting of shareholders due to the merger proposal. If the merger is not completed, Smithfield's shareholders will continue to be entitled to attend and participate in Smithfield's annual meeting of shareholders. If Smithfield holds its 2013 annual meeting of shareholders, shareholder proposals intended to be presented for inclusion in Smithfield's proxy statement and form of proxy pursuant to Rule 14a-8 of the Exchange Act for such meeting must have been received at Smithfield's principal executive offices by Michael H. Cole, our Secretary, at the address listed below, on or before April 11, 2013 and must have met the requirements of Rule 14a-8 under the Exchange Act. For director nominations the notice must describe various matters regarding the nominee, including name, address, occupation, and shares held.

A shareholder who desires to nominate a director for election at an annual meeting must give timely written notice of such intent to Michael H. Cole, our Secretary, by delivery or by mail at the address shown below. To be timely, a shareholder's notice for nominations to be made at the 2013 annual meeting of shareholders must be received (i) on or after May 1, 2013 and before June 1, 2013 if the annual meeting is to be held during the months of August and September, 2013 or (ii) with respect to any other annual meeting or special meeting for which the Board of Directors gives notice that directors are to be elected, the close of business on the tenth day following the date of public disclosure of the date of that meeting. The notice must contain the information specified in Smithfield's bylaws regarding the shareholder giving the notice and each person whom the shareholder wishes to nominate for election as a director. The notice must be accompanied by the written consent of each proposed nominee to serve as one of our directors, if elected.

In addition, if a shareholder intends to bring any other business (other than business which the shareholder has sought to be included in our proxy statement for such meeting) before the 2013 annual meeting of shareholders, if such meeting is held, the shareholder must comply with the advance notice provisions in Smithfield's bylaws. A shareholder must give timely written notice of such intent to Michael H. Cole, our Secretary, at the address shown below and be a shareholder of record both at the time such notice is given and on the record date of the meeting. To be timely, a shareholder's notice of such business to be brought before the 2013 annual meeting of shareholders must be received: (i) on or after May 1, 2013 and before June 1, 2013 if the annual meeting is to be held during the months of August and September 2013; or (ii) with respect to any other annual meeting date, the close of business on the tenth day following the date of public disclosure of the date of the annual meeting. The notice must contain the information specified in Smithfield's bylaws regarding the shareholder giving the notice and the business proposed to be brought before the meeting. The notice also must be submitted to the following address:

Michael H. Cole, Secretary
Smithfield Foods, Inc.
200 Commerce Street
Smithfield, Virginia 23430

With respect to shareholder proposals not included in our proxy statement for the 2013 annual meeting of shareholders, the persons named in the Smithfield Board's proxy for the 2013 annual meeting of shareholders will be entitled to exercise the discretionary voting power conferred by such proxy under the circumstances specified in Rule 14a-4(c) under the Exchange Act.

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MULTIPLE SHAREHOLDERS SHARING ONE ADDRESS

The SEC has adopted rules that permit companies and intermediaries, such as brokers, to satisfy the delivery requirements for proxy statements and annual reports with respect to two or more shareholders sharing the same address by delivering a single annual report or proxy statement, as applicable, addressed to those shareholders. This process, which is commonly referred to as householding, potentially provides extra convenience for shareholders and cost savings for companies.

Smithfield and some brokers may be householding our proxy materials by delivering proxy materials to multiple shareholders who request a copy and share an address, unless contrary instructions have been received from the affected shareholders. Once you have received notice from your broker or us that they or we will be householding materials to your address, householding will continue until you are notified otherwise or until you revoke your consent. If at any time you no longer wish to participate in householding and would prefer to receive a separate proxy statement and annual report, please notify your broker if your shares are held in a brokerage account or Smithfield if you are a shareholder of record. You can notify us by sending a written or oral request to Michael H. Cole, Secretary at Smithfield Foods, Inc., 200 Commerce Street, Smithfield, Virginia 23430, Tel. (757) 365-3000. Shareholders who share a single address, but receive multiple copies of the proxy statement, may request that in the future they receive a single copy by notifying Smithfield at the telephone and address set forth in the prior sentence. In addition, Smithfield will promptly deliver, upon written or oral request to the address or telephone number above, a separate copy of the proxy statement to a shareholder at a shared address to which a single copy of the documents was delivered pursuant to a prior request.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

Smithfield is subject to the reporting requirements of the Exchange Act. Accordingly Smithfield files annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any document that we file with the SEC at the Public Reference Room of the SEC at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. In addition, Smithfield's SEC filings also are available to the public at the internet website maintained by the SEC at www.sec.gov. Smithfield also makes available free of charge through its website its Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, its definitive proxy statements and Section 16 reports on Forms 3, 4 and 5, as soon as reasonably practicable after it electronically files such reports or amendments with, or furnishes them to, the SEC. Smithfield's internet website address is www.smithfield.com. The information located on, or hyperlinked or otherwise connected to, Smithfield's website is not, and shall not be deemed to be, a part of this proxy statement or incorporated into any other filings that we make with the SEC.

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information we file with the SEC into this proxy statement, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to other documents filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is deemed to be part of this proxy statement, except that information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information. This proxy statement incorporates by reference the documents listed below that have been previously filed with the SEC (other than, in each case, documents or information deemed to have been furnished and not filed in accordance with SEC rules):

Part I and Part II of Smithfield's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended April 28, 2013, filed June 18, 2013; and

Smithfield's Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on May 29, 2013, June 4, 2013, July 15, 2013, July 15, 2013, July 19, 2013 and July 31, 2013.

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We also incorporate by reference into this proxy statement additional documents that Smithfield may file with the SEC under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, from the date of this proxy statement until the date of the special meeting; provided, however, that we are not incorporating by reference any additional documents or information furnished and not filed with the SEC.

You may request a copy of documents incorporated by reference at no cost, by writing or telephoning Michael H. Cole, Secretary, Smithfield Foods, Inc., 200 Commerce Street, Smithfield, Virginia 23430, Tel. (757) 365-3000.

THIS PROXY STATEMENT DOES NOT CONSTITUTE THE SOLICITATION OF A PROXY IN ANY JURISDICTION TO OR FROM ANY PERSON TO WHOM OR FROM WHOM IT IS UNLAWFUL TO MAKE SUCH PROXY SOLICITATION IN THAT JURISDICTION. YOU SHOULD RELY ONLY ON THE INFORMATION CONTAINED OR INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE INTO THIS PROXY STATEMENT TO VOTE YOUR SHARES AT THE SPECIAL MEETING. WE HAVE NOT AUTHORIZED ANYONE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH INFORMATION THAT IS DIFFERENT FROM WHAT IS CONTAINED IN THIS PROXY STATEMENT. THIS PROXY STATEMENT IS DATED [], 2013. YOU SHOULD NOT ASSUME THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS PROXY STATEMENT IS ACCURATE AS OF ANY DATE OTHER THAN THAT DATE, AND THE MAILING OF THIS PROXY STATEMENT TO SHAREHOLDERS DOES NOT CREATE ANY IMPLICATION TO THE CONTRARY.

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Annex A

AGREEMENT AND PLAN OF MERGER

by and among

Shuanghui International Holdings Limited,

Sun Merger Sub, Inc.

and

Smithfield Foods, Inc.

dated as of May 28, 2013

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