

ARES CAPITAL CORP
Form 497
November 12, 2013

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**Filed pursuant to Rule 497
Registration No. 333-188175**

The information in this prospectus supplement is not complete and may be changed. A registration statement relating to these securities has been filed with and declared effective by the Securities and Exchange Commission. This prospectus supplement is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

**Subject to Completion
Preliminary Prospectus Supplement dated November 12, 2013**

**PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT
(To Prospectus dated June 17, 2013)**

\$

% Senior Notes due

We are offering \$ _____ in aggregate principal amount of _____ % senior notes due _____, which we refer to as the Notes. The Notes will mature on _____, _____. We will pay interest on the Notes on _____ and _____ of each year, beginning _____, 2014. We may redeem the Notes in whole or in part at any time or from time to time at the redemption price discussed under the caption "Description of Notes Optional Redemption" in this prospectus supplement. In addition, holders of the Notes can require us to repurchase the Notes at 100% of their principal amount upon the occurrence of a Change of Control Repurchase Event (as defined herein). The Notes will be issued in minimum denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof.

The Notes will be our direct senior unsecured obligations and rank *pari passu* with all outstanding and future unsecured unsubordinated indebtedness issued by Ares Capital Corporation.

Ares Capital Corporation is a specialty finance company that is a closed-end, non-diversified management investment company incorporated in Maryland. We have elected to be regulated as a business development company under the Investment Company Act of 1940. Our investment objective is to generate both current income and capital appreciation through debt and equity investments. We invest primarily in first and second lien senior secured loans (including "unitranche" loans, which are loans that combine both senior and mezzanine debt, generally in a first lien position) and mezzanine debt, which in some cases includes an equity component. To a lesser extent, we also make preferred and/or common equity investments. We are externally managed by our investment adviser, Ares Capital Management LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Ares Management LLC, a global alternative asset manager and a Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") registered investment adviser with approximately \$68 billion of committed capital under management as of September 30, 2013. Ares Operations LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Ares Management LLC, provides administrative services necessary for us to operate.

Investing in the Notes involves risks that are described in the "Risk Factors" section beginning on page S-11 of this prospectus supplement and page 21 of the accompanying prospectus, including the risk of leverage.

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This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus concisely provide important information about us that you should know before investing in the Notes. Please read this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus before you invest and keep it for future reference. We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. This information is available free of charge by calling us collect at (310) 201-4200 or on our website at www.arescapitalcorp.com. The SEC also maintains a website at www.sec.gov that contains such information. The information on the websites referred to herein is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

	Per Note	Total
Public offering price	%	\$
Underwriting discount (sales load)	%	\$
Proceeds, before expenses, to Ares Capital Corporation(1)	%	\$

(1) Before deducting expenses payable by us related to this offering, estimated at \$ _____.

The public offering price set forth above does not include accrued interest, if any. Interest on the Notes will accrue from November _____, 2013 and must be paid by the purchaser if the Notes are delivered after November _____, 2013.

THE NOTES ARE NOT DEPOSITS OR OTHER OBLIGATIONS OF A BANK AND ARE NOT INSURED BY THE FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION OR ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCY.

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

Delivery of the Notes in book-entry form only through The Depository Trust Company will be made on or about November _____, 2013.

BofA Merrill Lynch

J.P. Morgan

Barclays

Morgan Stanley

Wells Fargo Securities

SunTrust Robinson Humphrey

Co-Managers

BMO Capital Markets

Mizuho Securities

The date of this prospectus supplement is November _____, 2013.

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

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FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Some of the statements in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus constitute forward-looking statements, which relate to future events or our future performance or financial condition. The forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus involve a number of risks and uncertainties, including statements concerning:

our, or our portfolio companies', future business, operations, operating results or prospects;

the return or impact of current and future investments;

the impact of a protracted decline in the liquidity of credit markets on our business;

the impact of fluctuations in interest rates on our business;

the impact of changes in laws or regulations (including the interpretation thereof) governing our operations or the operations of our portfolio companies;

the valuation of our investments in portfolio companies, particularly those having no liquid trading market;

our ability to recover unrealized losses;

our ability to successfully invest any capital raised in this offering;

market conditions and our ability to access alternative debt markets and additional debt and equity capital;

our contractual arrangements and relationships with third parties;

Middle East turmoil and the potential for rising energy prices and its impact on the industries in which we invest;

the general economy and its impact on the industries in which we invest;

the uncertainty surrounding the strength of the U.S. economic recovery;

European sovereign debt issues;

the financial condition of and ability of our current and prospective portfolio companies to achieve their objectives;

our expected financings and investments;

our ability to successfully complete and integrate any acquisitions;

the adequacy of our cash resources and working capital;

the timing, form and amount of any dividend distributions;

the timing of cash flows, if any, from the operations of our portfolio companies; and

the ability of our investment adviser to locate suitable investments for us and to monitor and administer our investments.

We use words such as "anticipates," "believes," "expects," "intends," "will," "should," "may" and similar expressions to identify forward- looking statements, although not all forward-looking statements include these words. Our actual results and condition could differ materially from those implied or expressed in the forward-looking statements for any reason, including the factors set forth in "Risk Factors" in this prospectus supplement and in the accompanying prospectus and the other information included in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

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We have based the forward-looking statements included in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus on information available to us as of their respective dates, and we assume no obligation to update any such forward- looking statements. Although we undertake no obligation to revise or update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, you are advised to consult any additional disclosures that we may make directly to you or through reports that we have filed or in the future may file with the SEC, including annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and current reports on Form 8-K.

The forward-looking statements in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are excluded from the safe harbor protection provided by Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act") and Section 21E of the Exchange Act.

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THE COMPANY

This summary highlights some of the information contained elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. It is not complete and may not contain all of the information that you may want to consider. You should read carefully the more detailed information set forth under "Risk Factors" in this prospectus supplement and in the accompanying prospectus and the other information included in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. Except where the context suggests otherwise, the terms "we," "us," "our," "the Company" and "Ares Capital" refer to Ares Capital Corporation and its consolidated subsidiaries; "Ares Capital Management" and "our investment adviser" refer to Ares Capital Management LLC; "Ares Operations" refers to Ares Operations LLC; and "Ares" and "Ares Management" refer to Ares Management LLC and its affiliated companies (other than portfolio companies of its affiliated funds).

Ares Capital

Ares Capital, a Maryland corporation, is a specialty finance company that is a closed-end, non-diversified management investment company. We have elected to be regulated as a business development company, or a "BDC," under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder or the "Investment Company Act." We were founded on April 16, 2004, were initially funded on June 23, 2004 and completed our initial public offering on October 8, 2004. We are one of the largest BDCs with approximately \$7.8 billion of total assets as of September 30, 2013.

We are externally managed by our investment adviser, Ares Capital Management, a wholly owned subsidiary of Ares Management, a global alternative asset manager and an SEC registered investment adviser with approximately \$68 billion of committed capital under management as of September 30, 2013. Our administrator, Ares Operations, a wholly owned subsidiary of Ares Management, provides administrative services necessary for us to operate.

Our investment objective is to generate both current income and capital appreciation through debt and equity investments. We invest primarily in U.S. middle-market companies, where we believe the supply of primary capital is limited and the investment opportunities are most attractive. However, we may from time to time invest in larger or smaller (in particular, for investments in early stage and/or venture capital-backed) companies. We generally use the term "middle-market" to refer to companies with annual EBITDA between \$10 million and \$250 million. As used herein, EBITDA represents net income before net interest expense, income tax expense, depreciation and amortization.

We invest primarily in first lien senior secured loans (including unitranche loans), second lien senior secured loans and mezzanine debt, which in some cases includes an equity component. First and second lien senior secured loans generally are senior debt instruments that rank ahead of subordinated debt of a given portfolio company. Mezzanine debt is subordinated to senior loans and is generally unsecured. Our investments in corporate borrowers generally range between \$30 million and \$400 million each, investments in project finance/power generation projects generally range between \$10 million and \$200 million each and investments in early-stage and/or venture capital-backed companies generally range between \$1 million and \$25 million each. However, the investment sizes may be more or less than these ranges and may vary based on, among other things, our capital availability, the composition of our portfolio and general micro- and macro-economic factors.

To a lesser extent, we also make preferred and/or common equity investments, which have generally been non-control equity investments of less than \$20 million (usually in conjunction with a concurrent debt investment). However, we may increase the size or change the nature of these investments.

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The proportion of these types of investments will change over time given our views on, among other things, the economic and credit environment in which we are operating. In connection with our investing activities, we may make commitments with respect to indebtedness or securities of a potential portfolio company substantially in excess of our final investment. In such situations, while we may initially agree to fund up to a certain dollar amount of an investment, we may subsequently syndicate a portion of such amount (including, without limitation, to vehicles managed by our portfolio company, Ivy Hill Asset Management, L.P. ("IHAM")), such that we are left with a smaller investment than what was reflected in our original commitment. In addition to originating investments, we may also acquire investments in the secondary market.

The first and second lien senior secured loans in which we invest generally have stated terms of three to 10 years and the mezzanine debt investments in which we invest generally have stated terms of up to 10 years, but the expected average life of such first and second lien loans and mezzanine debt is generally between three and seven years. However, we may invest in loans and securities with any maturity or duration. The instruments in which we invest typically are not rated by any rating agency, but we believe that if such instruments were rated, they would be below investment grade (rated lower than "Baa3" by Moody's Investors Service, lower than "BBB-" by Fitch Ratings or lower than "BBB-" by Standard & Poor's Ratings Services), which, under the guidelines established by these entities, is an indication of having predominantly speculative characteristics with respect to the issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal. Bonds that are rated below investment grade are sometimes referred to as "high yield bonds" or "junk bonds." We may invest without limit in debt or other securities of any rating, as well as debt or other securities that have not been rated by any nationally recognized statistical rating organization.

We believe that our investment adviser, Ares Capital Management, is able to leverage the current investment platform, resources and existing relationships of Ares with financial sponsors, financial institutions, hedge funds and other investment firms to provide us with attractive investment opportunities. In addition to deal flow, the Ares investment platform assists our investment adviser in analyzing, structuring and monitoring investments. Ares has been in existence for more than 15 years and its senior partners have an average of over 23 years of experience in leveraged finance, private equity, distressed debt, commercial real estate finance, investment banking and capital markets. The Company has access to Ares' investment professionals and administrative professionals, who provide assistance in accounting, finance, legal, compliance, operations, information technology and investor relations. As of September 30, 2013, Ares had 321 investment professionals and 402 administrative professionals.

Since our initial public offering on October 8, 2004 through September 30, 2013, our realized gains have exceeded our realized losses by approximately \$223 million (excluding the one-time gain on the acquisition of Allied Capital Corporation (the "Allied Acquisition") and gains/losses from the extinguishment of debt and other assets). For this same time period, our exited investments have resulted in an aggregate cash flow realized internal rate of return to us of approximately 13% (based on original cash invested, net of syndications, of approximately \$7.4 billion and total proceeds from such exited investments of approximately \$9.0 billion). Approximately 73% of these exited investments resulted in an aggregate cash flow realized internal rate of return to us of 10% or greater. Internal rate of return is the discount rate that makes the net present value of all cash flows related to a particular investment equal to zero. Internal rate of return is gross of expenses related to investments as these expenses are not allocable to specific investments. Investments are considered to be exited when the original investment objective has been achieved through the receipt of cash and/or non-cash consideration upon the repayment of a debt investment or sale of an investment or through the determination that no further consideration was collectible and, thus, a loss may have been realized. These internal rates of return results are historical results relating to our past performance and are not necessarily indicative of future results, the achievement of which cannot be assured.

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Additionally, since our initial public offering on October 8, 2004 through September 30, 2013, our average annualized net realized gain rate was approximately 1.1% (excluding the one-time gain on the Allied Acquisition and realized gains/losses from the extinguishment of debt and from other assets). Net realized gain/loss rates are the amount of net realized gains/losses in a particular period divided by the average quarterly investments at amortized cost in the same period.

We and General Electric Capital Corporation and GE Global Sponsor Finance LLC (collectively, "GE") also co-invest in first lien senior secured loans of middle market companies through an unconsolidated vehicle, the Senior Secured Loan Fund LLC, which operates using the name "Senior Secured Loan Program" (the "SSLP"). As of September 30, 2013, the SSLP had available capital of \$9.0 billion of which approximately \$7.6 billion in aggregate principal amount was funded. As of September 30, 2013, we had agreed to make available to the SSLP approximately \$1.8 billion, of which approximately \$1.6 billion was funded. The SSLP is capitalized as transactions are completed and all portfolio decisions and generally all other decisions in respect of the SSLP must be approved by an investment committee of the SSLP consisting of representatives of the Company and GE (with approval from a representative of each required). As of September 30, 2013, our investment in the SSLP was approximately \$1.6 billion at fair value (including unrealized appreciation of \$25.3 million), which represented approximately 22% of our total portfolio at fair value. See "Recent Developments" for more information on the SSLP.

While our primary focus is to generate current income and capital appreciation through investments in first and second lien senior secured loans and mezzanine debt and, to a lesser extent, equity securities of eligible portfolio companies, we also may invest up to 30% of our portfolio in non-qualifying assets, as permitted by the Investment Company Act. See "Regulation" in the accompanying prospectus. Specifically, as part of this 30% basket, we may invest in entities that are not considered "eligible portfolio companies" (as defined in the Investment Company Act), including companies located outside of the United States, entities that are operating pursuant to certain exceptions under the Investment Company Act, and publicly traded entities whose public equity market capitalization exceeds the levels provided for under the Investment Company Act.

In the first quarter of 2011, the staff of the SEC (the "Staff") informally communicated to certain BDCs the Staff's belief that certain entities, which would be classified as an "investment company" under the Investment Company Act but for the exception from the definition of "investment company" set forth in Rule 3a-7 promulgated under the Investment Company Act, could not be treated as "eligible portfolio companies" (as defined in Section 2(a)(46) under the Investment Company Act) (i.e., in a BDC's 70% basket of "qualifying assets"). Subsequently, in August 2011 the SEC issued a concept release (the "Concept Release") which stated that "[a]s a general matter, the Commission presently does not believe that Rule 3a-7 issuers are the type of small, developing and financially troubled businesses in which the U.S. Congress intended BDCs primarily to invest" and requested comment on whether or not a 3a-7 issuer should be considered an "eligible portfolio company." We provided a comment letter in respect of the Concept Release and continue to believe that the language of Section 2(a)(46) of the Investment Company Act permits a BDC to treat as "eligible portfolio companies" entities that rely on the 3a-7 exception. However, given the current uncertainty in this area (including the language in the Concept Release), we have, solely for purposes of calculating the composition of our portfolio pursuant to Section 55(a) of the Investment Company Act, identified such entities, which include the SSLP, as "non-qualifying assets" should the Staff ultimately take an official view that 3a-7 issuers are not "eligible portfolio companies."

As of September 30, 2013, our portfolio company, IHAM, which became an SEC registered investment adviser effective March 30, 2012, managed 13 vehicles and served as the sub-manager/sub-servicer for three other vehicles (these vehicles managed or sub-managed/sub-serviced by IHAM are collectively referred to as the "IHAM Vehicles"), which are described in more detail under "Business Investments Ivy Hill Asset Management, L.P." in the accompanying prospectus. As of

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September 30, 2013, IHAM had total committed capital under management of approximately \$3.1 billion, which included approximately \$0.3 billion invested by Ares Capital in IHAM. In connection with IHAM's registration as a registered investment adviser, on March 30, 2012, we received exemptive relief from the SEC allowing us to, subject to certain conditions, own directly or indirectly up to 100% of IHAM's outstanding equity interests and make additional investments in IHAM once IHAM became a registered investment adviser.

Ares Capital Management

Ares Capital Management, our investment adviser, is served by an origination, investment and portfolio management team of 80 U.S.-based investment professionals as of September 30, 2013 and led by the senior partners of the Ares Management Private Debt Group: Michael Arougheti, Eric Beckman, Kipp deVeer, Mitchell Goldstein and Michael Smith. Ares Capital Management leverages off of Ares' investment platform and benefits from the significant capital markets, trading and research expertise of Ares' investment professionals. Ares Capital Management's investment committee has eight members, including the senior partners of the Ares Management Private Debt Group, senior partners in the Ares Management Private Equity Group and a senior adviser to the Ares Management Capital Markets Group.

Recent Developments

In October 2013, we completed a public equity offering (the "October 2013 Offering") pursuant to which we sold to the participating underwriters 12,650,000 shares of common stock at a price of \$16.98 per share. Total proceeds from the October 2013 Offering, net of estimated offering expenses payable by us, were approximately \$214.2 million. We used the net proceeds of the October 2013 Offering to repay certain outstanding indebtedness under our debt facilities and for general corporate purposes, which included investing in portfolio companies in accordance with our investment objective.

In October 2013, we increased total commitments of the Revolving Credit Facility from \$1,035 million to \$1,060 million.

In November 2013, the SSLP's total available capital was increased from \$9.0 billion to \$11.0 billion. In connection with this expansion, GE agreed to make available to the SSLP up to approximately \$8.7 billion and we agreed to make available to the SSLP up to approximately \$2.3 billion. Investment of any unfunded amount must be approved by an investment committee of the SSLP consisting of representatives of us and GE (with approval from a representative of each required).

In November 2013, we declared the following dividends: (i) a fourth quarter 2013 dividend of \$0.38 per share payable on December 31, 2013 to stockholders of record as of December 16, 2013, (ii) an additional dividend of \$0.05 per share payable on December 31, 2013 to stockholders of record as of December 16, 2013 and (iii) another additional dividend of \$0.05 per share payable on March 28, 2014 to stockholders of record as of March 14, 2014. Payment of the additional March 2014 dividend is subject to the satisfaction of certain Maryland law requirements.

From October 1, 2013 through October 31, 2013, we made new investment commitments of \$211 million, of which \$200 million were funded. Of these new commitments, 47% were in senior subordinated debt, 36% were in first lien senior secured loans, 16% were investments in subordinated certificates of the SSLP to make co-investments with GE in first lien senior secured loans through the SSLP, and 1% were in other equity securities. Of the \$211 million of new investment commitments, 52% were floating rate, 47% were fixed rate and 1% were non-interest bearing. The weighted average yield of debt and other income producing securities funded during the period at amortized cost was

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10.6%. We may seek to syndicate a portion of these new investment commitments, although there can be no assurance that we will be able to do so.

From October 1, 2013 through October 31, 2013, we exited \$91 million of investment commitments. Of these investment commitments, 76% were first lien senior secured loans, 14% were investments in subordinated certificates of the SSLP, 5% were second lien senior secured loans, 3% were other equity securities, 1% were preferred equity securities and 1% were senior subordinated debt. Of the \$91 million of exited investment commitments, 88% were floating rate, 5% were on non-accrual status, 4% were non-interest bearing and 3% were fixed rate. The weighted average yield of debt and other income producing securities exited or repaid during the period at amortized cost was 9.4%. On the \$91 million of investment commitments exited from October 1, 2013 through October 31, 2013, we recognized total net realized gains of approximately \$1 million.

In addition, as of October 31, 2013, we had an investment backlog and pipeline of approximately \$390 million and \$930 million, respectively. Investment backlog includes transactions approved by our investment advisers investment committee and/or for which a formal mandate, letter of intent or signed commitment has been issued, and therefore we believe are likely to close. Investment pipeline includes transactions where due diligence and analysis are in process, but no formal mandate, letter of intent or signed commitment has been issued. The consummation of any of the investments in this backlog and pipeline depends upon, among other things, one or more of the following: satisfactory completion of our due diligence investigation of the prospective portfolio company, our acceptance of the terms and structure of such investment and the execution and delivery of satisfactory transaction documentation. In addition, we may syndicate a portion of these investments and certain of these investments may result in the repayment of existing investments. We cannot assure you that we will make any of these investments or that we will syndicate any portion of these investments.

Our Corporate Information

Our administrative offices are located at 2000 Avenue of the Stars, 12th Floor, Los Angeles, California 90067, telephone number (310) 201-4200, and our executive offices are located at 245 Park Avenue, 44th Floor, New York, New York 10167, telephone number (212) 750-7300.

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This prospectus supplement sets forth certain terms of the Notes that we are offering pursuant to this prospectus supplement and supplements the accompanying prospectus that is attached to the back of this prospectus supplement. This section outlines the specific legal and financial terms of the Notes. You should read this section together with the more general description of the Notes under the heading "Description of Notes" in this prospectus supplement and in the accompanying prospectus under the heading "Description of Our Debt Securities" before investing in the Notes. Capitalized terms used in this prospectus supplement and not otherwise defined shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the accompanying prospectus or in the indenture governing the Notes.

Issuer	Ares Capital Corporation
Title of the Securities	% Senior Notes due
Initial Aggregate Principal Amount Being Offered	\$
Initial Public Offering Price	% of the aggregate principal amount of Notes
Interest Rate	%
Yield to Maturity	%
Trade Date	November , 2013
Maturity Date	,
Interest Payment Dates	and , commencing , 2014.
Ranking of Notes	The Notes will be our general unsecured obligations that rank senior in right of payment to all of our existing and future indebtedness that is expressly subordinated in right of payment to the Notes. The Notes will rank equally in right of payment with all of our existing and future senior liabilities that are not so subordinated, effectively junior to any of our secured indebtedness (including unsecured indebtedness that we later secure) to the extent of the value of the assets securing such indebtedness, and structurally junior to all existing and future indebtedness (including trade payables) incurred by our subsidiaries, financing vehicles or similar facilities. As of September 30, 2013, our total consolidated indebtedness was approximately \$3.2 billion principal amount, of which approximately \$535 million was secured indebtedness at the Ares Capital level, and of which an aggregate of approximately \$402 million was indebtedness of our subsidiaries. After giving effect to the issuance of the Notes and assuming the proceeds therefrom are used to repay outstanding borrowings under our \$1,035 million revolving credit facility (the "Revolving Credit Facility"), the \$620 million revolving funding facility of our wholly owned subsidiary, Ares Capital CP Funding LLC (the "Revolving Funding Facility"), and/or the \$400 million revolving funding facility of our wholly owned subsidiary, Ares Capital JB Funding LLC (the "SMBC Funding Facility" and, together with the Revolving Credit Facility and the Revolving Funding Facility, the "Facilities"), our total consolidated indebtedness would have been approximately \$ billion principal amount as of September 30, 2013. See "Capitalization."

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Denominations	We will issue the Notes in denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof.
Optional Redemption	We may redeem some or all of the Notes at any time, or from time to time, at a redemption price equal to the greater of (1) 100% of the principal amount of the Notes to be redeemed or (2) the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest (exclusive of accrued and unpaid interest to the date of redemption) on the Notes to be redeemed, discounted to the redemption date on a semi-annual basis (assuming a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) using the applicable Treasury Rate plus basis points, plus, in each case, accrued and unpaid interest to the redemption date.
Sinking Fund	The Notes will not be subject to any sinking fund.
Offer to Purchase upon a Change of Control Repurchase Event	If a Change of Control Repurchase Event occurs prior to maturity, holders will have the right, at their option, to require us to repurchase for cash some of all of the Notes at a repurchase price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the Notes being repurchased, plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but not including, the repurchase date.
Legal Defeasance	The Notes are subject to legal defeasance by us.
Covenant Defeasance	The Notes are subject to covenant defeasance by us.
Form of Notes	The Notes will be represented by global securities that will be deposited and registered in the name of The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") or its nominee. This means that, except in limited circumstances, you will not receive certificates for the Notes. Beneficial interests in the Notes will be represented through book-entry accounts of financial institutions acting on behalf of beneficial owners as direct and indirect participants in DTC. Investors may elect to hold interests in the Notes through either DTC, if they are a participant, or indirectly through organizations that are participants in DTC.
Trustee, Paying Agent, Registrar and Transfer Agent	U.S. Bank National Association
Events of Default	If an event of default (as described herein under "Description of Notes") on the Notes occurs, the principal amount of the Notes, plus accrued and unpaid interest, may be declared immediately due and payable, subject to conditions set forth in the indenture. These amounts automatically become due and payable in the case of certain types of bankruptcy or insolvency events involving us.

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Other Covenants	<p>In addition to the covenants described in the accompanying prospectus, the following covenants shall apply to the Notes:</p> <p>We agree that for the period of time during which the Notes are outstanding, we will not violate, whether or not we are subject to, Section 18(a)(1)(A) as modified by Section 61(a)(1) of the Investment Company Act or any successor provisions.</p> <p>If, at any time, we are not subject to the reporting requirements of Sections 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act") to file any periodic reports with the SEC, we agree to furnish to holders of the Notes and the trustee, for the period of time during which the Notes are outstanding, our audited annual consolidated financial statements, within 90 days of our fiscal year end, and unaudited interim consolidated financial statements, within 45 days of our fiscal quarter end (other than our fourth fiscal quarter). All such financial statements will be prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with applicable United States generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP").</p>
No Established Trading Market	<p>The Notes are a new issue of securities with no established trading market. The Notes will not be listed on any securities exchange or quoted on any automated dealer quotation system. Although the underwriters have informed us that they intend to make a market in the Notes, they are not obligated to do so, and may discontinue any such market making at any time without notice. Accordingly, we cannot assure you that a liquid market for the Notes will develop or be maintained.</p>
Global Clearance and Settlement Procedures	<p>Interests in the Notes will trade in DTC's Same Day Funds Settlement System, and any permitted secondary market trading activity in such Notes will, therefore, be required by DTC to be settled in immediately available funds. None of the Company, the trustee or the paying agent will have any responsibility for the performance by DTC or its participants or indirect participants of their respective obligations under the rules and procedures governing their operations.</p>
Governing Law	<p>The Notes and the indenture will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York.</p>

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RISK FACTORS

You should carefully consider the risk factors described below and under the caption "Risk Factors" in the accompanying prospectus, together with all of the other information included in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, including our consolidated financial statements and the related notes thereto, before you decide whether to make an investment in our securities. The risks set out below are not the only risks we face. Additional risks and uncertainties not currently known to us or that we currently deem to be immaterial also may materially adversely affect our business, financial condition and/or operating results. If any of the following events occur, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be materially adversely affected.

The Notes will be unsecured and therefore will be effectively subordinated to any secured indebtedness we have currently incurred or may incur in the future.

The Notes will not be secured by any of our assets or any of the assets of our subsidiaries. As a result, the Notes are effectively subordinated to any secured indebtedness we or our subsidiaries have currently incurred and may incur in the future (or any indebtedness that is initially unsecured to which we subsequently grant security) to the extent of the value of the assets securing such indebtedness. In any liquidation, dissolution, bankruptcy or other similar proceeding, the holders of any of our existing or future secured indebtedness and the secured indebtedness of our subsidiaries may assert rights against the assets pledged to secure that indebtedness in order to receive full payment of their indebtedness before the assets may be used to pay other creditors, including the holders of the Notes. As of October 31, 2013, we had \$220.0 million aggregate principal amount of outstanding indebtedness under the Revolving Credit Facility. The Revolving Credit Facility is secured by certain assets in our portfolio and excludes investments held by Ares Capital CP under the Revolving Funding Facility, those held by ACJB LLC under the SMBC Funding Facility and certain other investments; the indebtedness thereunder is therefore effectively senior to the Notes to the extent of the value of such assets.

The Notes will be structurally subordinated to the indebtedness and other liabilities of our subsidiaries.

The Notes are obligations exclusively of Ares Capital and not of any of our subsidiaries. None of our subsidiaries is a guarantor of the Notes and the Notes are not required to be guaranteed by any subsidiaries we may acquire or create in the future. A significant portion of the indebtedness required to be consolidated on our balance sheet is held through subsidiary financing vehicles and secured by certain assets of such subsidiaries. For example, the secured indebtedness with respect to the Revolving Funding Facility and the SMBC Funding Facility are each held through our wholly owned subsidiaries, Ares Capital CP Funding LLC and ACJB LLC, respectively. The assets of such subsidiaries are not directly available to satisfy the claims of our creditors, including holders of the Notes. See "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Financial Condition, Liquidity and Capital Resources Debt Capital Activities" for more detail on the Revolving Funding Facility and the SMBC Funding Facility.

Except to the extent we are a creditor with recognized claims against our subsidiaries, all claims of creditors (including trade creditors) and holders of preferred stock, if any, of our subsidiaries will have priority over our equity interests in such subsidiaries (and therefore the claims of our creditors, including holders of the Notes) with respect to the assets of such subsidiaries. Even if we are recognized as a creditor of one or more of our subsidiaries, our claims would still be effectively subordinated to any security interests in the assets of any such subsidiary and to any indebtedness or other liabilities of any such subsidiary senior to our claims. Consequently, the Notes will be structurally subordinated to all indebtedness and other liabilities (including trade payables) of any of our subsidiaries and any subsidiaries that we may in the future acquire or establish as financing vehicles or otherwise. As of October 31, 2013, we had \$492.0 million aggregate principal amount of outstanding

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indebtedness under the Revolving Funding Facility and no amounts outstanding under the SMBC Funding Facility. All of such indebtedness would be structurally senior to the Notes. In addition, our subsidiaries may incur substantial additional indebtedness in the future, all of which would be structurally senior to the Notes.

The indenture under which the Notes will be issued will contain limited protection for holders of the Notes.

The indenture under which the Notes will be issued offers limited protection to holders of the Notes. The terms of the indenture and the Notes do not restrict our or any of our subsidiaries' ability to engage in, or otherwise be a party to, a variety of corporate transactions, circumstances or events that could have an adverse impact on your investment in the Notes. In particular, the terms of the indenture and the Notes will not place any restrictions on our or our subsidiaries' ability to:

issue securities or otherwise incur additional indebtedness or other obligations, including (1) any indebtedness or other obligations that would be equal in right of payment to the Notes, (2) any indebtedness or other obligations that would be secured and therefore rank effectively senior in right of payment to the Notes to the extent of the values of the assets securing such debt, (3) indebtedness of ours that is guaranteed by one or more of our subsidiaries and which therefore is structurally senior to the Notes and (4) securities, indebtedness or obligations issued or incurred by our subsidiaries that would be senior to our equity interests in our subsidiaries and therefore rank structurally senior to the Notes with respect to the assets of our subsidiaries, in each case other than an incurrence of indebtedness or other obligation that would cause a violation of Section 18(a)(1)(A) as modified by Section 61(a)(1) of the Investment Company Act or any successor provisions;

pay dividends on, or purchase or redeem or make any payments in respect of, capital stock or other securities ranking junior in right of payment to the Notes;

sell assets (other than certain limited restrictions on our ability to consolidate, merge or sell all or substantially all of our assets);

create liens (including liens on the shares of our subsidiaries) or enter into sale and leaseback transactions;

enter into transactions with affiliates;

make investments; or

create restrictions on the payment of dividends or other amounts to us from our subsidiaries.

Furthermore, the terms of the indenture and the Notes do not protect holders of the Notes in the event that we experience changes (including significant adverse changes) in our financial condition, results of operations or credit ratings, as they do not require that we or our subsidiaries adhere to any financial tests or ratios or specified levels of net worth, revenues, income, cash flow, or liquidity.

Our ability to recapitalize, incur additional debt and take a number of other actions that are not limited by the terms of the Notes may have important consequences for you as a holder of the Notes, including making it more difficult for us to satisfy our obligations with respect to the Notes or negatively affecting the trading value of the Notes.

Certain of our current debt instruments include more protections for their holders than the indenture and the Notes. See in the accompanying prospectus "Risk Factors Risks Relating to Our Business" In addition to regulatory requirements that restrict our ability to raise capital, the Facilities, the Unsecured Notes (as defined below) and the Convertible Unsecured Notes (as defined below)

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contain various covenants that, if not complied with, could accelerate repayment under the Facilities, the Unsecured Notes and the Convertible Unsecured Notes, thereby materially and adversely affecting our liquidity, financial condition and results of operations." In addition, other debt we issue or incur in the future could contain more protections for its holders than the indenture and the Notes, including additional covenants and events of default. The issuance or incurrence of any such debt with incremental protections could affect the market for and trading levels and prices of the Notes.

We may not be able to repurchase the Notes upon a Change of Control Repurchase Event.

Upon the occurrence of a Change of Control Repurchase Event, as defined in the indenture that governs the Notes, as supplemented, subject to certain conditions, we will be required to offer to repurchase all outstanding Notes at 100% of their principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest. The source of funds for that purchase of Notes will be our available cash or cash generated from our operations or other potential sources, including borrowings, investment repayments, sales of assets or sales of equity. We cannot assure you that sufficient funds from such sources will be available at the time of any Change of Control Repurchase Event to make required repurchases of Notes tendered. The terms of our Facilities provide that certain change of control events will constitute an event of default thereunder entitling the lenders to accelerate any indebtedness outstanding under the Facilities at that time and to terminate the Facilities. In addition, the indentures governing our Convertible Unsecured Notes contain a provision that would require us to offer to purchase the Convertible Unsecured Notes upon the occurrence of a fundamental change. A failure to purchase any tendered Convertible Unsecured Notes would constitute an event of default under the indentures for the Convertible Unsecured Notes, as applicable, which would, in turn, constitute a default under the Facilities and the indenture governing the Notes. Our future debt instruments also may contain similar restrictions and provisions. If the holders of the Notes exercise their right to require us to repurchase all the Notes upon a Change of Control Repurchase Event, the financial effect of this repurchase could cause a default under our future debt instruments, even if the Change of Control Repurchase Event itself would not cause a default. It is possible that we will not have sufficient funds at the time of the Change of Control Repurchase Event to make the required repurchase of the Notes and/or our other debt. See "Description of Notes Offer to Repurchase Upon a Change of Control Repurchase Event".

If an active trading market does not develop for the Notes, you may not be able to resell them.

The Notes are a new issue of debt securities for which there currently is no trading market. We do not intend to apply for listing of the Notes on any securities exchange or for quotation of the Notes on any automated dealer quotation system. If no active trading market develops, you may not be able to resell your Notes at their fair market value or at all. If the Notes are traded after their initial issuance, they may trade at a discount from their initial offering price depending on prevailing interest rates, the market for similar securities, our credit ratings, general economic conditions, our financial condition, performance and prospects and other factors. The underwriters have advised us that they intend to make a market in the Notes, but they are not obligated to do so. The underwriters may discontinue any market-making in the Notes at any time at their sole discretion. Accordingly, we cannot assure you that a liquid trading market will develop for the Notes, that you will be able to sell your Notes at a particular time or that the price you receive when you sell will be favorable. To the extent an active trading market does not develop, the liquidity and trading price for the Notes may be harmed. Accordingly, you may be required to bear the financial risk of an investment in the Notes for an indefinite period of time.

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SELECTED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL DATA OF ARES CAPITAL

The following selected financial and other data as of and for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009 and 2008 are derived from our consolidated financial statements, which have been audited by KPMG LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm whose report thereon is included elsewhere in the accompanying prospectus. The selected financial and other data as of and for the nine months ended September 30, 2013 and September 30, 2012 and other quarterly financial information is derived from our unaudited financial statements, but in the opinion of management, reflects all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring adjustments) that are necessary to present fairly the results of such interim periods. Interim results as of and for the nine months ended September 30, 2013 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ending December 31, 2013. The data should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and notes thereto and "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and "Senior Securities," which are included elsewhere in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

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ARES CAPITAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

As of and For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013 and September 30, 2012 and

As of and For the Years Ended December 31, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(dollar amounts in millions, except per share data and as otherwise indicated)

As of and For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		As of and For the Year Ended December 31,				
2013	2012	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
(unaudited)						