

CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.
Form S-3ASR
February 24, 2014
Table of Contents

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 24, 2014

Registration No. 333-

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-3
REGISTRATION STATEMENT

UNDER

THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

California
(State of incorporation)

77-0059951
(IRS Employer

Identification Number)

170 West Tasman Drive

San Jose, California 95134

(408) 526-4000

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

Mark Chandler, Esq.

Senior Vice President, Legal Services, General Counsel and Secretary

170 West Tasman Drive

San Jose, California 95134

(408) 526-4000

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

Copy to:

Daniel J. Winnike, Esq.

David K. Michaels, Esq.

William L. Hughes, Esq.

Fenwick & West LLP

801 California Street

Mountain View, California 94041

(650) 988-8500

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Large accelerated filer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Accelerated filer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-accelerated filer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Smaller reporting company	<input type="checkbox"/>

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

	Amount to be registered/
Title of Each Class of	Proposed maximum offering price per unit/ Proposed maximum offering price/
Securities to be Registered	Amount of registration fee
Debt Securities	(1)

- (1) An indeterminate amount of securities to be offered at indeterminate prices is being registered pursuant to this registration statement. The registrant is deferring payment of the registration fee pursuant to Rule 456(b) and is excluding this information in reliance on Rule 456(b) and Rule 457(r).

Table of Contents

Prospectus

Cisco Systems, Inc.

Debt Securities

We may offer from time to time, in one or more offerings, debt securities. This prospectus describes the general terms of these securities and the general manner in which we will offer them. We will provide the specific terms of these securities in supplements to this prospectus. The prospectus supplements will also describe the specific manner in which we will offer these securities and may also supplement, update or amend information contained in this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement carefully before you invest.

We may sell these securities on a continuous or delayed basis directly, through agents, dealers or underwriters as designated from time to time, or through a combination of these methods. We reserve the sole right to accept, and together with any agents, dealers and underwriters, reserve the right to reject, in whole or in part, any proposed purchase of securities. If any agents, dealers or underwriters are involved in the sale of any securities, the applicable prospectus supplement will set forth any applicable commissions or discounts. Our net proceeds from the sale of securities also will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Unless we state otherwise in a prospectus supplement, we will not list any of the securities described in this prospectus on any securities exchange.

Investing in our debt securities involves risks. See Part II, Item 1A, Risk Factors beginning on page 76 of our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended January 25, 2014, which is incorporated by reference herein, for a discussion of certain risks that you should consider in connection with an investment in the debt securities.

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

February 24, 2014

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Prospectus

	Page
<u>About This Prospectus</u>	1
<u>Where You Can Find More Information</u>	1
<u>Information Incorporated By Reference</u>	1
<u>Risk Factors</u>	3
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	3
<u>Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges</u>	3
<u>Description of Debt Securities</u>	4
<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	18
<u>Legal Matters</u>	19
<u>Experts</u>	19

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a shelf registration statement that we have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC). By using a shelf registration statement, we may sell, at any time and from time to time, in one or more offerings, the debt securities described in this prospectus.

This prospectus only provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we sell securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement that contains specific information about the terms of those securities. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with the additional information described below under the headings Where You Can Find More Information and Information Incorporated by Reference.

We are not making an offer of these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer is not permitted. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus or a prospectus supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of the document.

Unless the context otherwise requires, references in this prospectus to Cisco, we, us and our are to Cisco Systems, Inc.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. Our SEC filings are available to the public from the SEC's web site at <http://www.sec.gov>. You may also read and copy any document we file at the SEC's public reference room in Washington, D.C. located at 100 F Street, N.E., Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549. You may also obtain copies of any document we file at prescribed rates by writing to the Public Reference Section of the Securities Exchange Commission at that address. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference room. Information about us, including our SEC filings, is also available on our website at <http://www.cisco.com>, however, the information contained on, or accessible through, our website is not a part of this prospectus or any accompanying prospectus supplement.

INFORMATION INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference in this prospectus the information in other documents that we file with it, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be a part of this prospectus, and information in documents that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and supersede information contained in documents filed earlier with the SEC or contained in this prospectus or a prospectus supplement. We incorporate by reference in this prospectus the documents listed below and any future filings that we may make with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14, or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, prior to the termination of the offering under this prospectus:

Edgar Filing: CISCO SYSTEMS, INC. - Form S-3ASR

Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended July 27, 2013;

Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended October 26, 2013;

Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended January 25, 2014; and

Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on August 15, 2013, November 20, 2013, December 4, 2013 and December 23, 2013.

Table of Contents

Notwithstanding the foregoing, we are not incorporating any document or information deemed to have been furnished and not filed in accordance with SEC rules. You may obtain a copy of any or all of the documents referred to above which may have been or may be incorporated by reference into this prospectus (excluding certain exhibits to the documents) at no cost to you by writing or telephoning us at the following address:

Cisco Systems, Inc.

170 West Tasman Drive

San Jose, California 95134-1706

Attn: Investor Relations

(408) 227-2726

The mailing address of our principal executive offices is 170 West Tasman Drive, San Jose, California 95134-1706, and our telephone number at that location is (408) 526-4000.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

Investing in our debt securities involves risk. You should carefully consider the specific risks discussed or incorporated by reference in the applicable prospectus supplement, together with all the other information contained in the prospectus supplement or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. You should also consider the risks, uncertainties and assumptions discussed under the caption **Risk Factors** included in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended January 25, 2014, which is incorporated by reference in this prospectus, and which may be amended, supplemented or superseded from time to time by other reports we file with the SEC in the future.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless otherwise specified in a prospectus supplement accompanying this prospectus, we will use the net proceeds from the sale of the securities to which this prospectus relates for general corporate purposes. General corporate purposes may include repurchases of common stock, repayment of debt, acquisitions, investments, additions to working capital, capital expenditures, cash dividends and advances to or investments in our subsidiaries. Net proceeds may be temporarily invested prior to use.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

The following table contains our ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the periods indicated.

Six months ended		Fiscal year ended			
January 25, 2014	July 27, 2013	July 28, 2012	July 30, 2011	July 31, 2010	July 25, 2009
14x	17x	15x	11x	14x	18x

For purposes of determining the ratio of earnings to fixed charges, **earnings** represent our income before provision for income taxes, plus (i) our share of losses attributable to our equity method investment in VCE Company, LLC, and (ii) our fixed charges. **Fixed charges** represent interest expense plus an estimate of the interest within rental expense.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

General

The debt securities offered by this prospectus will be issued under an indenture between us and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as trustee (the "Trustee"). We have filed the form of indenture as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. We have summarized selected provisions of the indenture and the debt securities below. This summary is not complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the indenture.

We may issue debt securities at any time and from time to time, in one or more series, under the indenture. We will describe the particular terms of each series of debt securities we offer in a supplement to this prospectus. If any particular terms of the debt securities described in a prospectus supplement differ from any of the terms described in this prospectus, then the terms described in the applicable prospectus supplement will supersede the terms described in this prospectus. The terms of our debt securities will include those set forth in the indenture and those made a part of the indenture by the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended. You should carefully read the summary below, the applicable prospectus supplement and the provisions of the indenture that may be important to you before investing in our debt securities.

Ranking

The debt securities offered by this prospectus will:

be our senior unsecured obligations;

rank equally with all of our other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness; and

with respect to the assets and earnings of our subsidiaries, effectively rank below all of the liabilities of our subsidiaries.

The indenture does not limit the amount of debt securities or other unsecured debt which we or our subsidiaries may issue. A significant portion of our assets are owned through our subsidiaries, many of which have significant liabilities of their own which will be structurally senior to the debt securities. None of our subsidiaries will have any obligations with respect to the debt securities. Therefore, our rights and the rights of our creditors, including holders of debt securities, to participate in the distribution of the assets of any subsidiary upon any such subsidiary's liquidation will be subject to any prior claims of the subsidiary's other creditors.

Subject to exceptions, and subject to compliance with the applicable requirements set forth in the indenture, we may discharge our obligations under the indenture with respect to our debt securities as described below under *Defeasance* and *Satisfaction and Discharge*.

Further Issuances

Subject to the limitations contained in the indenture, we may from time to time, without notice to or the consent of the holders of a series of debt securities, issue additional debt securities of any such series on the same terms and conditions as the debt securities of such series, except for any differences in the issue price and, if applicable, the initial interest accrual date and interest payment date; provided that if the additional debt securities are not fungible with the debt securities of such series for U.S. federal income tax purposes, such additional debt securities will have one or more separate CUSIP numbers.

Table of Contents

Terms

We will describe the specific terms of the series of debt securities being offered in a supplement to this prospectus. These terms will include some or all of the following:

the title;

any limit upon the aggregate principal amount;

the date or dates on which the principal is payable;

the rate or rates at which the debt securities shall bear interest, if any, or the method by which such rate shall be determined;

the date or dates from which interest shall accrue;

the date or dates on which interest shall be payable;

the record dates for the determination of holders to whom interest is payable;

the right, if any, to extend the interest payment periods and the duration of such extension;

the place or places where the principal of and any interest shall be payable;

our obligation, if any, to redeem, purchase or repay the debt securities pursuant to any sinking fund or otherwise or at the option of a holder thereof;

if applicable, the price or prices at which and the period or periods within which and the terms and conditions upon which the debt securities shall be redeemed, purchased or repaid, in whole or in part;

if other than denominations of \$2,000 and any multiple of \$1,000 in excess thereof, the denominations in which the debt securities of the series shall be issuable;

the percentage of the principal amount at which the debt securities will be issued and, if other than the principal amount thereof, the portion of such principal amount which shall be payable upon declaration of acceleration of the maturity thereof or provable in bankruptcy;

Edgar Filing: CISCO SYSTEMS, INC. - Form S-3ASR

whether the debt securities are issuable under Rule 144A or Regulation S and, in such case, any provisions unique to such form of issuance including any transfer restrictions or exchange and registration rights;

whether the debt securities are issuable as global securities or definitive certificates and, in such case, the identity for the depositary;

any deletion from, modification of or addition to the events of default or covenants;

any provisions granting special rights to holders when a specified event occurs;

whether and under what circumstances we will pay additional amounts on the debt securities held by a person who is not a U.S. person in respect of any tax, assessment or governmental charge withheld or deducted;

any special tax implications of the debt securities;

any trustees, authenticating or paying agents, transfer agents or registrars or any other agents with respect to the debt securities;

any guarantor or co-issuers;

any special interest premium or other premium;

whether the debt securities are convertible or exchangeable into cash, common stock or other of our equity securities or other assets or property and the terms and conditions upon which such conversion or exchange shall be effected;

Table of Contents

the currency in which payments shall be made, if other than U.S. dollars and the manner for determining the equivalent amount in U.S. dollars;

any provisions that would determine payments on the debt securities by reference to an index or a formula;

if the principal amount to be paid at the stated maturity of the debt securities is not determinable as of one or more dates prior to the stated maturity, the amount that will be deemed to be the principal amount as of any such date for any purpose;

any additional provisions relating to defeasance of such debt securities; and

any and all other terms of the series including any terms which may be required by or advisable under U.S. law or regulations or advisable in connection with the marketing of the debt securities.

Any limit on the maximum total principal amount for any series of the debt securities may be increased by resolution of our board of directors. We may sell the debt securities, including original issue discount securities, at a substantial discount below their stated principal amount. If there are any special United States federal income tax considerations applicable to debt securities we sell at an original issue discount, we will describe them in a prospectus supplement. In addition, we will describe in the prospectus supplement any special United States federal income tax considerations and any other special considerations for any debt securities we sell which are denominated in a currency or currency unit other than U.S. dollars.

Exchange and Transfer

Holders generally will be able to exchange debt securities for other debt securities of the same series with the same total principal amount and the same terms but in different authorized denominations.

Holders may present debt securities for exchange or for registration of transfer at the office of the security registrar or at the office of any transfer agent we designate for that purpose. The security registrar or designated transfer agent will exchange or transfer the debt securities if it is satisfied with the documents of title and identity of the person making the request. We will not charge a service charge for any exchange or registration of transfer of debt securities. However, we and the security registrar may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge payable for the registration of transfer or exchange. Unless we inform you otherwise in the prospectus supplement, we will appoint the Trustee as security registrar. We will identify any transfer agent in addition to the security registrar in the prospectus supplement. At any time we may:

designate additional transfer agents;

rescind the designation of any transfer agent; or

approve a change in the office of any transfer agent.

Edgar Filing: CISCO SYSTEMS, INC. - Form S-3ASR

However, we are required to maintain a transfer agent in each place of payment for the debt securities at all times.

If we elect to redeem a series of debt securities, neither we nor the Trustee will be required to:

exchange or register the transfer of any debt securities of that series during the period beginning at the opening of business 15 days before the day we mail the notice of redemption for the series and ending at the close of business on the day the notice is mailed; or

register the transfer or exchange of any debt security of that series so selected, called or being called for redemption, except for any portion not to be redeemed.

Table of Contents

Payment and Paying Agents

Under the indenture, we will pay interest on the debt securities to the persons in whose names the debt securities are registered at the close of business on the regular record date for each interest payment.

Unless we inform you otherwise in the prospectus supplement, we will pay principal, premium, if any, and interest on the debt securities at the offices of the paying agents we designate. However, except in the case of a global security, we will pay interest:

by check mailed to the address of the person entitled to the payment as it appears in the security register; or

if you are a holder of an aggregate principal amount in excess of \$2.0 million, by wire transfer in immediately available funds to the place and account designated in writing at least fifteen days prior to the interest payment date by the person entitled to the payment as specified in the security register (or such lesser aggregate principal amount or such shorter period as may be acceptable to us).

We will designate the Trustee as the sole paying agent for the debt securities unless we inform you otherwise in the prospectus supplement. If we initially designate any other paying agents for a series of debt securities, we will identify them in the prospectus supplement. At any time, we may designate additional paying agents or rescind the designation of any paying agents. However, we are required to maintain a paying agent in each place of payment for the debt securities at all times.

Any money deposited with the Trustee or any paying agent for the payment of principal, premium, if any, and interest on the debt securities that remains unclaimed for two years after the date the payments became due, may be repaid to us upon our request. After we have been repaid, holders entitled to those payments may only look to us for payment as our unsecured general creditors. The Trustee and any paying agents will not be liable for those payments after we have been repaid.

Covenants

The indenture contains covenants including, among others, the following:

Consolidation, Merger and Conveyance, Transfer and Lease of Assets

We may not consolidate with or merge into, or convey, transfer or lease our properties and assets substantially as an entirety to, any person, referred to as a successor person unless:

Edgar Filing: CISCO SYSTEMS, INC. - Form S-3ASR

either (a) we are the continuing person or (b) the resulting, surviving or transferee person is an entity organized under the laws of the United States;

the successor person expressly assumes our obligations with respect to the debt securities and the indenture;

immediately after giving effect to the transaction, no event of default, and no event which, after notice or lapse of time or both, would become an event of default, shall have occurred and be continuing; and

we or the successor person have delivered to the Trustee the certificates and opinions required under the indenture.

Table of Contents

Limitation on Liens

Neither we nor any of our wholly-owned subsidiaries will create or incur any Lien on any Principal Property, whether now owned or hereafter acquired, in order to secure any Indebtedness, without effectively providing that the applicable series of debt securities shall be equally and ratably secured until such time as such Indebtedness is no longer secured by such Lien, except:

Liens existing as of the date of initial issuance of such series;

Liens granted after the date of initial issuance of such series of debt securities created in favor of the holders of the such series;

Liens securing Indebtedness which are incurred to extend, renew or refinance Indebtedness which is secured by Liens permitted to be incurred under the Indenture;

Liens created in substitution of or as replacements for any Liens described in the preceding three bullet points; *provided* that based on a good faith determination of one of our Senior Officers, the Principal Property encumbered under any such substitute or replacement Lien is substantially similar in nature to the Principal Property encumbered by the otherwise permitted Lien which is being replaced; and

Permitted Liens.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, we may, without equally and ratably securing the applicable series of debt securities, create or incur Liens which would otherwise be subject to the restrictions set forth in the preceding paragraph, if after giving effect thereto, Aggregate Debt does not exceed the greater of (i) 15% of Consolidated Net Worth calculated as of the date of the creation or incurrence of the Lien or (ii) 15% of Consolidated Net Worth calculated as of the date of initial issuance of such series.

Limitation on Sale and Lease-Back Transactions

Neither we nor any of our wholly-owned subsidiaries will enter into any sale and lease-back transaction for the sale and leasing back of any Principal Property, whether now owned or hereafter acquired, unless:

such transaction was entered into prior to the date of initial issuance of the applicable series of debt securities;

such transaction was for the sale and leasing back to us of any Principal Property by one of our subsidiaries;

such transaction involves a lease for not more than three years (or which may be terminated by us within a period of not more than three years);

Edgar Filing: CISCO SYSTEMS, INC. - Form S-3ASR

we would be entitled to incur Indebtedness secured by a mortgage on the property to be leased in an amount equal to Attributable Liens with respect to such sale and lease-back transaction without equally and ratably securing the debt securities of such series pursuant to the first paragraph of *Limitation on Liens* above; or

we apply an amount equal to the net proceeds from the sale of the Principal Property to the purchase of another Principal Property or to the retirement of long-term Indebtedness within 365 days before or after the effective date of any such sale and lease-back transaction; *provided* that in lieu of applying such amount to such retirement, we may deliver debt securities to the Trustee for cancellation, such debt securities to be credited at the cost thereof to us.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, we and our wholly-owned subsidiaries may enter into any sale lease-back transaction which would otherwise be subject to the foregoing restrictions if after giving effect thereto and

Table of Contents

at the time of determination, Aggregate Debt does not exceed the greater of (i) 15% of Consolidated Net Worth calculated as of the closing date of the sale-leaseback transaction or (ii) 15% of Consolidated Net Worth calculated as of the date of initial issuance of the applicable series of debt securities.

Certain Definitions

As used in this section, the following terms have the meanings set forth below.

Aggregate Debt means the sum of the following as of the date of determination: (1) the aggregate principal amount of our and our Consolidated Subsidiaries' Indebtedness incurred after the date of initial issuance of the applicable series of debt securities and secured by Liens not permitted by the first paragraph under *Limitation on Liens* above and (2) our and our Consolidated Subsidiaries' Attributable Liens in respect of sale and lease-back transactions entered into after the date of initial issuance of such series pursuant to the second paragraph of *Limitation on Sale and Lease-Back Transactions* above.

Attributable Liens means in connection with a sale and lease-back transaction the lesser of: (1) the fair market value of the assets subject to such transaction, as determined in good faith by our board of directors; and (2) the present value (discounted at a rate of 10% per annum compounded monthly) of the obligations of the lessee for rental payments during the shorter of the term of the related lease or, the period through the first date on which we may terminate the lease.

Capital Lease means any Indebtedness represented by a lease obligation of a Person incurred with respect to real property or equipment acquired or leased by such Person and used in its business that is required to be recorded as a capital lease in accordance with GAAP.

Consolidated Net Worth means, as of any date of determination, the Shareholders' Equity of us and our Consolidated Subsidiaries on that date.

Consolidated Subsidiaries means, as of any date of determination and with respect to any Person, those subsidiaries of that Person whose financial data is, in accordance with GAAP, reflected in that Person's consolidated financial statements.

GAAP means generally accepted accounting principles set forth in the opinions and pronouncements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) and statements and pronouncements of the Financial Accounting Standards Board or in such other statements by such other entity as have been approved by a significant segment of the accounting profession, which are in effect as of the date of determination.

Indebtedness of any specified Person means any indebtedness in respect of borrowed money.

Edgar Filing: CISCO SYSTEMS, INC. - Form S-3ASR

Lien means any lien, security interest, charge or encumbrance of any kind (including any conditional sale or other title retention agreement, any lease in the nature thereof, and any agreement to give any security interest).

Permitted Liens means:

Liens on any assets, created solely to secure obligations incurred to finance the refurbishment, improvement or construction of such asset, which obligations are incurred no later than 12 months after completion of such refurbishment, improvement or construction, and all renewals, extensions, refinancings, replacements or refundings of such obligations;

(a) Liens given to secure the payment of the purchase price incurred in connection with the acquisition (including acquisition through merger or consolidation) of any Principal Property,

Table of Contents

including Capital Lease transactions in connection with any such acquisition, and (b) Liens existing on any Principal Property at the time of acquisition thereof or at the time of acquisition by us of any Person then owning such property whether or not such existing Liens were given to secure the payment of the purchase price of the property to which they attach; *provided* that with respect to clause (a), the Liens shall be given within 12 months after such acquisition and shall attach solely to the Principal Property acquired or purchased and any improvements then or thereafter placed thereon and any proceeds thereof;

pre-existing Liens on assets acquired after the date of initial issuance of the relevant series of debt securities;

Liens in favor of us or one of our wholly-owned subsidiaries;

purchase money Liens or purchase money security interests upon or in any Principal Property acquired or held by us in the ordinary course of business to secure the purchase price of such Principal Property or to secure indebtedness incurred solely for the purpose of financing the acquisition of such Principal Property;

Liens on any Principal Property in favor of the United States of America or any State thereof or any political subdivision thereof to secure progress or other payments or to secure Indebtedness incurred for the purpose of financing the cost of acquiring, constructing or improving such Principal Property;

Liens incurred in connection with an acquisition of assets or a project financed on a non-recourse basis; and

any extension, renewal, substitution or replacement (or successive extensions, renewals or replacements), in whole or in part, of any Lien referred to in the preceding eight bullet points, inclusive.

Person means any individual, corporation, partnership, joint venture, association, limited liability company, joint-stock company, trust, unincorporated organization or government or any agency or political subdivision thereof.

Principal Property means our principal offices in San Jose, California, and each research and development facility (including associated office facilities) located within the territorial limits of the States of the United States of America owned by us or any of our wholly-owned subsidiaries, except such as our board of directors by resolution determines in good faith (taking into account, among other things, the importance of such property to the business, financial condition and earnings of us and our Consolidated Subsidiaries taken as a whole) not to be of material importance to the business of us and our Consolidated Subsidiaries, taken as a whole.

Senior Officer of any specified Person means the chief executive officer, any president, any vice president, the chief financial officer, the treasurer, any assistant treasurer, the secretary or any assistant secretary.

Shareholders' Equity means, as of any date of determination, shareholders' equity as reflected on our most recent consolidated balance sheet prepared in accordance with GAAP.

Events of Default

Edgar Filing: CISCO SYSTEMS, INC. - Form S-3ASR

Each of the following will be an event of default under the indenture with respect to a series of debt securities:

our failure to pay principal or premium, if any, on that series when due at maturity, upon redemption, required repurchase or otherwise;

our failure to pay any interest on that series for 30 days after the interest becomes due;

Table of Contents

our failure to perform, or our breach of, any other covenant, agreement or condition in the indenture in respect of that series for 60 days after either the Trustee or holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of all series affected (voting together as a single class) have given us written notice of the breach in the manner required by the indenture; and

specified events involving our bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization.

An event of default under one series of debt securities does not necessarily constitute an event of default under any other series of debt securities. If an event of default for a series of debt securities occurs and is continuing (other than an event of default described in the fourth bullet point above), either the Trustee or the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of all series affected (voting together as a single class) may declare the principal amount plus accrued and unpaid interest of all the debt securities of that series due and immediately payable. In order to declare the principal amount and accrued and unpaid interest of that series of debt securities due and immediately payable, the Trustee or such holders must deliver a notice that satisfies the requirements of the indenture. Upon a declaration by the Trustee or the holders, we will be obligated to pay the principal amount plus accrued and unpaid interest of the each affected series of debt securities so declared due and payable.

If an event of default described in the fourth bullet point above occurs and is continuing, then the entire principal amount plus accrued and unpaid interest of the outstanding debt securities (or, if such debt securities are issued with original issue discount, such lesser amount as may be provided in the terms of the debt securities) will automatically become due immediately and payable without any declaration or other act on the part of the Trustee or any holder.

However, after any declaration of acceleration of a series of debt securities or any automatic acceleration under the fourth bullet point above, but before a judgment or decree for payment has been obtained, the holders of a majority in principal amount of outstanding debt securities of any series may rescind this accelerated payment requirement if all existing events of default, except for nonpayment of the principal and interest on the debt securities of that series that has become due solely as a result of the accelerated payment requirement, have been cured or waived and if the rescission of acceleration would not conflict with any judgment or decree. The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of all affected series (voting together as a single class) series also have the right to waive past defaults, except a default in paying principal, premium, if any, or interest on any outstanding debt security, or in respect of a covenant or provision that cannot be modified or amended without the consent of all holders of the debt securities of that series.

If an event of default occurs and is continuing, the Trustee will generally have no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers under the indenture at the request or direction of any of the holders, unless the holders offer reasonable indemnity to the Trustee. The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of all affected series (voting together as a single class) will generally have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the Trustee or exercising any trust or power conferred on the Trustee for such debt securities, provided that:

the direction is not in conflict with any law or the indenture;

the Trustee may take any other action it deems proper which is not inconsistent with the direction; and

the Trustee will generally have the right to decline to follow the direction if the Trustee, upon the advice of counsel, determines that the action or proceeding would otherwise be contrary to applicable law or if the Trustee determines in good faith that the action or proceeding would involve the Trustee in personal liability or would be unduly prejudicial to the rights of any other holder of a debt security affected not joining in the giving of said direction.

Table of Contents

A holder of a debt security of any series may only pursue a remedy under the indenture if:

the holder gives the Trustee written notice of a continuing event of default for that series;

holders of at least 25% in principal amount of all affected series of outstanding debt securities make a written request to the Trustee to institute proceedings with respect to the event of default;

such holders offer reasonable indemnity to the Trustee;

the Trustee fails to pursue that remedy within 60 days after receipt of the notice, request and offer of indemnity; and

during that 60-day period, the holders of a majority in principal amount of the affected series of outstanding debt securities do not give the Trustee a direction inconsistent with the request.

However, these limitations do not apply to a suit by a holder of a debt security demanding payment of the principal, premium, if any, or interest on a debt security on or after the date the payment is due.

We will be required to furnish to the Trustee annually a statement by some of our officers regarding our performance or observance of any of the terms of the indenture and specifying all of our known defaults, if any.

Modification and Waiver

When authorized by resolution of our board of directors, we may enter into one or more supplemental indentures with the Trustee without the consent of the holders of the relevant series of debt securities in order to:

evidence the succession of another corporation to us, or successive successions and the assumption of our covenants, agreements and obligations by a successor;

add to our covenants for the benefit of the holders of any series of debt securities or to surrender any of our rights or powers;

add events of default for the benefit of holders of any series of debt securities;

add to, change or eliminate any provision of the indenture applying to one or more series of debt securities, provided that we deem such action necessary or advisable and that such action does not adversely affect the interests of any holder of any series of debt securities in any material respect;

Edgar Filing: CISCO SYSTEMS, INC. - Form S-3ASR

evidence and provide for successor Trustees or to add to or change any provisions to the extent necessary to appoint a separate Trustee or Trustees for a specific series of debt securities;

cure any ambiguity, defect or inconsistency under the indenture, or to make other provisions with respect to matters or questions arising under the indenture, provided that such action does not adversely affect the rights of any holder of debt securities;

supplement any provisions of the indenture necessary to defease and discharge any series of debt securities, provided that such action does not adversely affect the interests of the holders of any series of debt securities;

add, change or eliminate any provisions of the indenture in accordance with the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, provided that the action does not adversely affect the interests of any holder of debt securities;

provide collateral security for any series of debt securities; or

provide for the issuance of additional debt securities of any series ranking equally with the debt securities of the corresponding series in all respects (other than the payment of interest accruing prior to the issue date of such further debt securities or except for the first payment of interest following the issue date of such further debt securities).

Table of Contents

When authorized by resolution of our board of directors, we may enter into one or more supplemental indentures with the Trustee in order to add to, change or eliminate provisions of an indenture or to modify the rights of the holders of one or more series of debt securities if we obtain the consent of the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of all series affected by the supplemental indenture, treated as one class. However, without the consent of the holders of each outstanding debt security of a particular series affected by the supplemental indenture, we may not enter into a supplemental indenture that:

reduces the rates of or changes the time for payment of interest on the debt securities of such series;

reduces the principal amount of, or changes the maturity of, any debt security of such series;

reduces the redemption price or repurchase price of any debt security or amends or modifies in any manner adverse to the holders of such series our obligation to make such payments;

reduces the quorum requirements under the indenture;

changes the currency of payment of principal, premium, if any, or interest with respect to such series;

reduces the percentage in principal amount of outstanding debt securities of any series, the consent of whose holders is required for modification of the indenture, for waiver of compliance with certain provisions of the indenture, for waiver of certain defaults or consent to take any action;

adversely affects the ranking of the debt securities of any series;

waives any default in the payment of principal, premium, if any, or interest; or

impairs the right to receive payment of amounts due under such series or to institute suit for the enforcement of any payment on such series of debt securities.

Defeasance

When we use the term defeasance, we mean discharge from some or all of our obligations under the indenture with respect to one or more series of debt securities. If we irrevocably deposit with the Trustee funds or government securities sufficient to make payments of all principal, premium, if any, and interest on the debt securities of a series on the dates those payments are due and payable and comply with all other conditions to defeasance set forth in the indenture, then, at our option, either of the following will occur:

we will be discharged from our obligations with respect to the debt securities of that series, which is referred to in this prospectus as legal defeasance ; or

Edgar Filing: CISCO SYSTEMS, INC. - Form S-3ASR

we will no longer have any obligation to comply with certain restrictive covenants under the indenture, and the related events of default will no longer apply to us with respect to the applicable series of debt securities, but some of our other obligations under the indenture and the debt securities of that series, including our obligation to make payments on those debt securities, will survive, collectively referred to in this prospectus as covenant defeasance ;

provided that no default with respect to the outstanding debt securities of that series has occurred and is continuing at the time of such deposit after giving effect to the deposit, or in the case of legal defeasance, no default relating to bankruptcy or insolvency has occurred and is continuing at any time on or before the 91st day after the date of such deposit, it being understood that this condition is not deemed satisfied until after the 91st day.

If we legally defease a series of debt securities, the holders of the debt securities of the series affected will not be entitled to the benefits of the indenture, except for our obligations to:

pay principal, premium, if any, interest and any redemption price when due;

register the transfer or exchange of debt securities; and

replace mutilated, destroyed, lost or stolen debt securities.

Table of Contents

We may legally defease a series of debt securities notwithstanding any prior exercise of our option of covenant defeasance in respect of such series.

We will be required to deliver to the Trustee an opinion of counsel that the deposit and related defeasance would not cause the holders of the debt securities to recognize gain or loss for federal income tax purposes and that the holders would be subject to federal income tax on the same amounts, in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if the deposit and related defeasance had not occurred. If we elect legal defeasance, that opinion of counsel must be based upon a ruling from the United States Internal Revenue Service or a change in law to that effect.

Satisfaction and Discharge

We may discharge our obligations with respect to one or more series under the indenture while debt securities of such securities remain outstanding if (1) all outstanding debt securities of such series issued under the indenture have become due and payable, (2) all outstanding debt securities of such series issued under the indenture have or will become due and payable at their stated maturity within one year or (3) all outstanding debt securities of such series issued under the indenture are scheduled for redemption in one year, and in each case, we have deposited with the Trustee an amount sufficient to pay and discharge all outstanding debt securities of such series issued under the indenture on the date of their scheduled maturity or the scheduled date of the redemption, paid all other amounts payable under the indenture with respect to such series and delivered to the Trustee all certificates required by the indenture.

Book-Entry System

We have obtained the information in this section concerning The Depository Trust Company (DTC), Clearstream Banking, Luxembourg (Clearstream, Luxembourg) and Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V., as operator of the Euroclear System (Euroclear) and their book-entry systems and procedures from sources that we believe to be reliable. We take no responsibility for an accurate portrayal of this information. In addition, the description of the clearing systems in this section reflects our understanding of the rules and procedures of DTC, Clearstream, Luxembourg and Euroclear as they are currently in effect. Those systems could change their rules and procedures at any time.

Unless otherwise specified in a prospectus supplement, the debt securities of each series will initially be represented by one or more fully registered global notes. Each such global note will be deposited with, or on behalf of, DTC or any successor thereto and registered in the name of Cede & Co. (DTC's nominee). You may hold your interests in the global notes in the United States through DTC, or in Europe through Clearstream, Luxembourg or Euroclear, either as a participant in such systems or indirectly through organizations which are participants in such systems. Clearstream, Luxembourg and Euroclear will hold interests in the global notes on behalf of their respective participating organizations or customers through customers' securities accounts in Clearstream, Luxembourg's or Euroclear's names on the books of their respective depositories, which in turn will hold those positions in customers' securities accounts in the depositories' names on the books of DTC. Citibank, N.A. will act as depository for Clearstream, Luxembourg and JPMorgan Chase Bank will act as depository for Euroclear.

So long as DTC or its nominee is the registered owner of the global securities representing the debt securities, DTC or such nominee will be considered the sole owner and holder of the debt securities for all purposes of the debt securities and the indenture. Except as provided below, owners of beneficial interests in the debt securities will not be entitled to have the debt securities registered in their names, will not receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of the debt securities in definitive form and will not be considered the owners or holders of the debt securities under the indenture, including for purposes of receiving any reports delivered by us or the Trustee pursuant to the indenture. Accordingly, each person owning a beneficial interest in

Table of Contents

a debt security must rely on the procedures of DTC or its nominee and, if such person is not a participant, on the procedures of the participant through which such person owns its interest, in order to exercise any rights of a holder of debt securities.

Unless and until we issue the debt securities in fully certificated, registered form under the limited circumstances described below under the heading *Certificated Debt Securities* :

you will not be entitled to receive a certificate representing your interest in the debt securities;

all references in this prospectus or an accompanying prospectus supplement to actions by holders will refer to actions taken by DTC upon instructions from its direct participants; and

all references in this prospectus or an accompanying prospectus supplement to payments and notices to holders will refer to payments and notices to DTC or Cede & Co., as the registered holder of the debt securities, for distribution to you in accordance with DTC procedures.

The Depository Trust Company

DTC will act as securities depository for the debt securities. The debt securities will be issued as fully registered debt securities registered in the name of Cede & Co. DTC is:

a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law;

a banking organization under the New York Banking Law;

a member of the Federal Reserve System;

a clearing corporation under the New York Uniform Commercial Code; and

a clearing agency registered under the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

DTC holds securities that its direct participants deposit with DTC. DTC facilitates the settlement among direct participants of securities transactions, such as transfers and pledges, in deposited securities through electronic computerized book-entry changes in direct participants accounts, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of securities certificates.

Direct participants of DTC include securities brokers and dealers (including the underwriters), banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations. DTC is owned by a number of its direct participants. Indirect participants of DTC, such as securities brokers and dealers, banks and trust companies, can also access the DTC system if they maintain a custodial relationship with a direct participant.

Purchases of debt securities under DTC's system must be made by or through direct participants, which will receive a credit for the debt securities on DTC's records. The ownership interest of each beneficial owner is in turn to be recorded on the records of direct participants and indirect participants. Beneficial owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchase, but beneficial owners are expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transaction, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the direct participants or indirect participants through which such beneficial owners entered into the transaction. Transfers of ownership interests in the debt securities are to be accomplished by entries made on the books of participants acting on behalf of beneficial owners. Beneficial owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in debt securities, except as provided below in *Certificated Debt Securities*.

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all debt securities deposited with DTC are registered in the name of DTC's nominee, Cede & Co. The deposit of debt securities with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. effect no change in beneficial ownership. DTC has no knowledge of the actual beneficial owners of

Table of Contents

the debt securities. DTC's records reflect only the identity of the direct participants to whose accounts such debt securities are credited, which may or may not be the beneficial owners. The participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to direct participants, by direct participants to indirect participants and by direct participants and indirect participants to beneficial owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time.

Book-Entry Format

Under the book-entry format, the Trustee will pay interest or principal payments to Cede & Co., as nominee of DTC. DTC will forward the payment to the direct participants, who will then forward the payment to the indirect participants (including Clearstream, Luxembourg or Euroclear) or to you as the beneficial owner. You may experience some delay in receiving your payments under this system. Neither we, the Trustee nor any paying agent has any direct responsibility or liability for the payment of principal or interest on the debt securities to owners of beneficial interests in the debt securities.

DTC is required to make book-entry transfers on behalf of its direct participants and is required to receive and transmit payments of principal, premium, if any, and interest on the debt securities. Any direct participant or indirect participant with which you have an account is similarly required to make book-entry transfers and to receive and transmit payments with respect to the debt securities on your behalf. We and the Trustee have no responsibility for any aspect of the actions of DTC, Clearstream, Luxembourg or Euroclear or any of their direct or indirect participants. In addition, we and the Trustee have no responsibility or liability for any aspect of the records kept by DTC, Clearstream, Luxembourg, Euroclear or any of their direct or indirect participants relating to or payments made on account of beneficial ownership interests in the debt securities or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to such beneficial ownership interests. We also do not supervise these systems in any way.

So long as DTC or its nominee is the registered owner of the global securities representing the debt securities, the Trustee will not recognize you as a holder under the indenture, and you can only exercise the rights of a holder indirectly through DTC and its direct participants. DTC has advised us that it will only take action regarding a debt security if one or more of the direct participants to whom the debt security is credited directs DTC to take such action and only in respect of the portion of the aggregate principal amount of the debt securities as to which that participant or participants has or have given that direction. DTC can only act on behalf of its direct participants. Your ability to pledge debt securities to non-direct participants, and to take other actions, may be limited because you will not possess a physical certificate that represents your debt securities.

Neither DTC nor Cede & Co. (nor such other DTC nominee) will consent or vote with respect to the debt securities unless authorized by a direct participant in accordance with DTC's procedures. Under its usual procedures, DTC will mail an omnibus proxy to us as soon as possible after the record date. The omnibus proxy assigns Cede & Co.'s consenting or voting rights to those direct participants to whose accounts the debt securities are credited on the record date (identified in a listing attached to the omnibus proxy).

Clearstream, Luxembourg or Euroclear will credit payments to the cash accounts of Clearstream, Luxembourg customers or Euroclear participants in accordance with the relevant system's rules and procedures, to the extent received by its depository. These payments will be subject to tax reporting in accordance with relevant United States tax laws and regulations. Clearstream, Luxembourg or the Euroclear Operator, as the case may be, will take any other action permitted to be taken by a holder under the indenture on behalf of a Clearstream, Luxembourg

customer or Euroclear participant only in accordance with its relevant rules and procedures and subject to its depositary's ability to effect those actions on its behalf through DTC.

Table of Contents

DTC, Clearstream, Luxembourg and Euroclear have agreed to the foregoing procedures in order to facilitate transfers of the debt securities among participants of DTC, Clearstream, Luxembourg and Euroclear. However, they are under no obligation to perform or continue to perform those procedures, and they may discontinue those procedures at any time.

Transfers Within and Among Book-Entry Systems

Transfers between DTC's direct participants will occur in accordance with DTC rules. Transfers between Clearstream, Luxembourg customers and Euroclear participants will occur in accordance with its applicable rules and operating procedures.

DTC will effect cross-market transfers between persons holding directly or indirectly through DTC, on the one hand, and directly or indirectly through Clearstream, Luxembourg customers or Euroclear participants, on the other hand, in accordance with DTC rules on behalf of the relevant European international clearing system by its depository. However, cross-market transactions will require delivery of instructions to the relevant European international clearing system by the counterparty in that system in accordance with its rules and procedures and within its established deadlines (European time). The relevant European international clearing system will, if the transaction meets its settlement requirements, instruct its depository to effect final settlement on its behalf by delivering or receiving securities in DTC, and making or receiving payment in accordance with normal procedures for same-day funds settlement applicable to DTC. Clearstream, Luxembourg customers and Euroclear participants may not deliver instructions directly to the depositories.

Because of time-zone differences, credits of securities received in Clearstream, Luxembourg or Euroclear resulting from a transaction with a DTC direct participant will be made during the subsequent securities settlement processing, dated the business day following the DTC settlement date. Those credits or any transactions in those securities settled during that processing will be reported to the relevant Clearstream, Luxembourg customer or Euroclear participant on that business day. Cash received in Clearstream, Luxembourg or Euroclear as a result of sales of securities by or through a Clearstream, Luxembourg customer or a Euroclear participant to a DTC direct participant will be received with value on the DTC settlement date but will be available in the relevant Clearstream, Luxembourg or Euroclear cash amount only as of the business day following settlement in DTC.

Although DTC, Clearstream, Luxembourg and Euroclear has agreed to the foregoing procedures in order to facilitate transfers of debt securities among their respective participants, they are under no obligation to perform or continue to perform such procedures and such procedures may be discontinued at any time.

Certificated Debt Securities

Unless and until they are exchanged, in whole or in part, for debt securities in definitive form in accordance with the terms of the debt securities, the debt securities may not be transferred except (1) as a whole by DTC to a nominee of DTC or (2) by a nominee of DTC to DTC or another nominee of DTC or (3) by DTC or any such nominee to a successor of DTC or a nominee of such successor.

We will issue debt securities of a series to you or your nominees, in fully certificated registered form, rather than to DTC or its nominees, only if:

Edgar Filing: CISCO SYSTEMS, INC. - Form S-3ASR

we advise the Trustee in writing that DTC is no longer willing or able to discharge its responsibilities properly with respect to such series or that DTC is no longer a registered clearing agency or in good standing under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or any other applicable statute or regulation, and the Trustee or we are unable to locate a qualified successor within 90 days;

an event of default has occurred and is continuing under the indenture with respect to such series of debt securities and a beneficial owner of such series requests that its beneficial interest in a global note be exchanged for debt securities in physical, certificated form; or

we, at our option, elect to terminate the book-entry system through DTC with respect to such series.

Table of Contents

If any of the three above events occurs, DTC is required to notify all direct participants that debt securities in fully certificated registered form are available through DTC. DTC will then surrender the global note representing the debt securities along with instructions for re-registration. The Trustee will re-issue the debt securities in fully certificated registered form and will recognize the registered holders of the certificated debt securities as holders under the indenture.

Unless and until we issue the debt securities in fully certificated, registered form, (1) you will not be entitled to receive a certificate representing your interest in the debt securities; (2) all references in this prospectus or an accompanying prospectus supplement to actions by holders will refer to actions taken by the depository upon instructions from their direct participants; and (3) all references in this prospectus or an accompanying prospectus supplement to payments and notices to holders will refer to payments and notices to the depository, as the registered holder of the debt securities, for distribution to you in accordance with its policies and procedures.

Notices

Holders will receive notices by mail at their addresses as they appear in the security register.

Title

We may treat the person in whose name a debt security is registered on the applicable record date as the owner of the debt security for all purposes, whether or not it is overdue.

Governing Law

New York law will govern the indenture and the debt securities.

Regarding the Trustee

We and our affiliates maintain various commercial and service relationships with The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. and its affiliates in the ordinary course of business. Affiliates of The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. may in the future engage in lending, interest rate swap and other hedging transactions with us and our affiliates.

If an event of default occurs under the indenture and is continuing, the Trustee will be required to use the degree of care and skill of a prudent person in the conduct of that person's own affairs. The Trustee will not become obligated to exercise any of its powers under the indenture at the request of any of the holders of any debt securities issued under the indenture unless those holders have offered the Trustee indemnity satisfactory to it.

If the Trustee becomes one of our creditors, its rights to obtain payment of claims in specified circumstances, or to realize for its own account on certain property received in respect of any such claim as security or otherwise will be limited under the terms of the indenture. The Trustee may engage in certain other transactions; however, if the Trustee acquires any conflicting interest (within the meaning specified under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended), it will be required to eliminate the conflict or resign.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the offered securities (a) through agents; (b) through underwriters or dealers; (c) directly to one or more purchasers; or (d) through a combination of any of these methods of sale. We will identify the specific plan of distribution, including any underwriters, dealers, agents or direct purchasers and their compensation in a prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

LEGAL MATTERS

Unless otherwise specified in the prospectus supplement accompanying this prospectus, Fenwick & West LLP, 801 California Street, Mountain View, California 94041, will provide opinions regarding the authorization and validity of the securities. Any underwriters will also be advised about the validity of the securities and other legal matters by their own counsel, which will be named in the prospectus supplement.

EXPERTS

The Consolidated Financial Statements and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting (which is included in Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting) incorporated in this prospectus by reference to the Annual Report on Form 10-K of Cisco Systems, Inc. for the year ended July 27, 2013, have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

Table of Contents**PART II****INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS****Item 14. *Other expenses of issuance and distribution.***

The following is a statement of the estimated expenses (other than underwriting compensation) to be incurred by Registrant in connection with the distribution of debt securities registered under this registration statement.

SEC registration fee	\$	*
Accounting fees and expenses		**
Trustee's fees and expenses (including counsel fees)		**
Legal fees and expenses		**
Printing and engraving fees		**
Rating Agency fees		**
Miscellaneous		**
 Total	 \$	 **

* Excluded because the SEC registration fee is being deferred pursuant to Rule 456.

** The amount of securities and number of offerings are indeterminable and the expenses cannot be estimated at this time. An estimate of the aggregate expenses in connection with the sale and distribution of securities being offered will be included in any applicable prospectus supplement.

Item 15. *Indemnification of directors and officers.*

Section 317 of the California Corporations Code authorizes a court to award or a corporation's board of directors to grant indemnity to directors and officers in terms sufficiently broad to permit indemnification (including reimbursement of expenses incurred) under certain circumstances for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. The Registrant's Restated Articles of Incorporation, as amended, and Amended and Restated Bylaws provide for indemnification of its directors, officers, employees and other agents to the maximum extent permitted by the California Corporations Code. In addition, the Registrant has entered into Indemnification Agreements with each of its directors and officers, and maintains directors' and officers' liability insurance under which its directors and officers are insured against loss (as defined in the policy) as a result of certain claims brought against them in such capacities.

Table of Contents**Item 16. Exhibits.**

Exhibit Number	Exhibit Description	Incorporated by Reference to Filings Indicated				Filed Herewith
		Form	File No.	Exhibit	Filing Date	
1.1	Form of Underwriting Agreement for debt securities.*					
4.1	Form of Indenture, between Cisco and the trustee for the debt securities.					X
4.2	Form of notes related to the debt securities					X
5.1	Opinion of Fenwick & West LLP.					X
12.1	Computation of ratio of earnings to fixed charges.					X
23.1	Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent registered public accounting firm.					X
23.2	Consent of Fenwick & West LLP (contained in Exhibit 5.1).					X
24.1	Power of Attorney (contained on Pages II-5 and II-6).					X
25.1	T-1 Statement of Eligibility under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 of the trustee, in respect of the Indenture.					X

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

Item 17. Undertakings.

(a) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) to file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement: (i) to include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933; (ii) to reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the Registration Statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the Registration Statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the Calculation of Registration Fee table in the effective Registration Statement; and (iii) to include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the Registration Statement or any material change to such information in the Registration Statement;

provided, however, that clauses (i), (ii) and (iii) do not apply if the Registration Statement is on Form S-3 and the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the Registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement, or is contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of the Registration Statement;

Table of Contents

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

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

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

(A) Each prospectus filed by the Registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of the Registration Statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in the Registration Statement; and

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

(5) that, for the purpose of determining liability of the Registrant under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the securities, the undersigned Registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the undersigned Registrant pursuant to this Registration Statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned Registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:

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

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

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

Edgar Filing: CISCO SYSTEMS, INC. - Form S-3ASR

(iv) Any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned Registrant to the purchaser; and

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

II-3

Table of Contents

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

Table of Contents**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant, Cisco Systems, Inc., certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in San Jose, California on February 24, 2014.

Cisco Systems, Inc.

By /s/ John T. Chambers
John T. Chambers,
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that the undersigned officers and directors of Cisco Systems, Inc., a California corporation, do hereby constitute and appoint John T. Chambers, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Frank A. Calderoni, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, and Mark Chandler, Senior Vice President, Legal Services, General Counsel and Secretary, and each of them, the lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents with full power and authority to do any and all acts and things and to execute any and all instruments which said attorneys and agents, and any one of them, determine may be necessary or advisable or required to enable said corporation to comply with the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and any rules or regulations or requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission in connection with this Registration Statement. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing power and authority, the powers granted include the power and authority to sign the names of the undersigned officers and directors in the capacities indicated below to this Registration Statement, to any and all amendments, both pre-effective and post-effective, and supplements to this Registration Statement, and to any and all instruments or documents filed as part of or in conjunction with this Registration Statement or amendments or supplements thereof, and each of the undersigned hereby ratifies and confirms that all said attorneys and agents, or any one of them, shall do or cause to be done by virtue hereof. This Power of Attorney may be signed in several counterparts.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement has been signed below by the following persons in the capacities and on the date indicated.

Signature	Title	Date
/s/ John T. Chambers	Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and Director	February 24, 2014
John T. Chambers	(Principal Executive Officer)	
/s/ Frank A. Calderoni	Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer	February 24, 2014
Frank A. Calderoni	(Principal Financial Officer)	
/s/ Prat S. Bhatt	Senior Vice President, Corporate Controller and	February 24, 2014
Prat S. Bhatt	Chief Accounting Officer	

Edgar Filing: CISCO SYSTEMS, INC. - Form S-3ASR

(Principal Accounting Officer)

II-5

Table of Contents

Lead Independent Director

Carol A. Bartz

/s/ Marc Benioff Director February 24, 2014

Marc Benioff

/s/ Gregory Q. Brown Director February 24, 2014

Gregory Q. Brown

/s/ M. Michele Burns Director February 24, 2014

M. Michele Burns

/s/ Michael D. Capellas Director February 24, 2014

Michael D. Capellas

/s/ Brian L. Halla Director February 24, 2014

Brian L. Halla

/s/ John L. Hennessy Director February 24, 2014

Dr. John L. Hennessy

/s/ Kristina M. Johnson Director February 24, 2014

Dr. Kristina M. Johnson

/s/ Roderick C. McGeary Director February 24, 2014

Roderick C. McGeary

/s/ Arun Sarin Director February 24, 2014

Arun Sarin

/s/ Steven M. West Director February 24, 2014

Steven M. West

Table of Contents**Exhibit Index**

Exhibit Number	Exhibit Description	Incorporated by Reference to Filings Indicated			Filed Herewith
		Form	File No.	Filing Date	
1.1	Form of Underwriting Agreement for debt securities.*				
4.1	Form of Indenture, between Cisco and the trustee for the debt securities.				X
4.2	Form of notes related to the debt securities				X
5.1	Opinion of Fenwick & West LLP.				X
12.1	Computation of ratio of earnings to fixed charges.				X
23.1	Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent registered public accounting firm.				X
23.2	Consent of Fenwick & West LLP (contained in Exhibit 5.1).				X
24.1	Power of Attorney (contained on Pages II-5 and II-6).				X
25.1	T-1 Statement of Eligibility under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 of the trustee, in respect of the Indenture.				X

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