KKR & Co. L.P. Form S-1/A June 16, 2010

**Table of Contents** 

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 16, 2010

Registration No. 333-165414

26-0426107

(I.R.S. Employer

Identification No.)

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Amendment No. 4

## FORM S-1

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

## KKR & CO. L.P.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

6282

(Primary Standard Industrial Classification Code Number) 9 West 57th Street, Suite 4200 New York, NY 10019

Telephone: (212) 750-8300

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

David J. Sorkin, Esq. General Counsel KKR & Co. L.P. 9 West 57<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 4200 New York, NY 10019 Telephone: (212) 750-8300

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

Copy to:

Joseph H. Kaufman, Esq. Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP 425 Lexington Avenue New York, New York 10017-3954 Telephone: (212) 455-2000

Facsimile: (212) 455-2502

Approximate date of commencement of the proposed sale of the securities to the pub	lic
As soon as practicable after the Registration Statement becomes effective.	

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, check the following box. o

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

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

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

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

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

### CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title Of Each Class Of Securities		Proposed M Amount to be Aggregate		Amount of	
	To Be Registered	Registered	Price	Registration Fee	
Comi	mon Units	204,902,226(1)	\$2,212,944,040(2)	\$157,783(3)	
<ul><li>(1)</li><li>(2)</li><li>(3)</li></ul>	The number of common units of the registrant being registered is bas KKR & Co. (Guernsey) L.P. ("KKR Guernsey"). Such number does Holdings L.P. ("KKR Holdings"). On a fully diluted basis, the registrant Represents the proposed maximum aggregate offering price, estimate under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.  Previously paid.	not include 478,105,194 co rant has 683,007,420 comm	ommon units that are benefication units outstanding.	ially held by KKR	

The Registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

### **Table of Contents**

The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We may not offer these securities until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This prospectus 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, DATED JUNE 16, 2010** 

PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS

## KKR & Co. L.P.

## **204,902,226 Common Units**

**Representing Limited Partner Interests** 

We are registering the distribution of 204,902,226 common units representing limited partner interests in our business to holders of common units of KKR & Co. (Guernsey) L.P. and, concurrently with such distribution, listing our common units on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "KKR." We refer to KKR & Co. (Guernsey) L.P. as "KKR Guernsey," to the distribution of our common units to holders of KKR Guernsey units as the "In-Kind Distribution" and to the listing of our common units on the New York Stock Exchange as the "U.S. Listing."

Pursuant to the In-Kind Distribution, each KKR Guernsey unitholder will receive one of our common units for each unit of KKR Guernsey held when the U.S. Listing becomes effective. In the aggregate, the common units that will be distributed to holders of KKR Guernsey units represent a 30% interest in our business. The remaining 70% interest in our business is held by our principals, who beneficially own 478,105,194 common units through KKR Holdings L.P. On a fully diluted basis, we have an aggregate of 683,007,420 common units outstanding. Subject to market conditions, we are planning to sell common units in an offering of our common units following the U.S. Listing, which we refer to as the "Public Offering". We have filed a separate registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission to register the Public Offering. None of our principals is selling any common units or will otherwise receive any of the net proceeds from the Public Offering, and any common units issued by us in the Public Offering would reduce the interests in our business held by KKR Guernsey unitholders and our principals on a pro rata basis. Unless otherwise indicated, references in this prospectus to our common units outstanding do not give effect to the Public Offering. There is no assurance that the Public Offering will be consummated as set forth herein or at all. The U.S. Listing is not contingent on the occurrence of the Public Offering.

KKR Guernsey is a Guernsey limited partnership whose common units are currently listed on Euronext Amsterdam by NYSE Euronext, the regulated market of Euronext Amsterdam N.V., which we refer to as Euronext Amsterdam. In connection with the In-Kind Distribution, KKR Guernsey will be deemed to be an "underwriter" within the meaning of Section 2(a)(11) of the Securities Act of 1933. The last reported sale price of KKR Guernsey units on June 15, 2010 was \$10.25 per unit. Because the assets of KKR Guernsey consist solely of its limited partner interests in our business, the In-Kind Distribution will result in a dissolution of KKR Guernsey and a delisting of its units from Euronext Amsterdam. To preserve a trading market for interests in our business, the In-Kind Distribution is conditioned upon our common units being approved for listing on the New York Stock Exchange subject to official notice of issuance.

KKR Guernsey unitholders will not be required to pay any consideration for the common units they receive in the In-Kind Distribution. No vote or further action of KKR Guernsey unitholders is required in connection with the registration, listing or distribution of our common units. We are not asking you for a proxy and request that you do not send us a proxy.

In reviewing this prospectus, you should carefully consider the matters described under the caption "Risk Factors" beginning on page 17 of this prospectus. These risks include but are not limited to the following:

We are managed by a general partner, which we refer to as our Managing Partner, and do not have our own directors or officers. Our unitholders will have only limited voting rights and will have no right to elect or remove our Managing Partner or its directors or officers, and our Managing Partner is allowed to take into account the interests of parties other than us in resolving conflicts of interest, which has the effect of limiting its fiduciary duties to us. Through KKR Holdings, our principals generally have sufficient voting power to determine the outcome of any matters that may be submitted for a vote of our unitholders.

We believe that we will be treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes and you therefore will be required to take into account your allocable share of items of our income, gain, loss and deduction in computing your U.S. federal income tax liability. You may not receive sufficient cash distributions to pay your allocable share of our net taxable income or even the tax liability that results from that income.

As a limited partnership, we will rely on exceptions from certain corporate governance requirements of the New York Stock Exchange, including the requirement to have a nominating and corporate governance committee composed entirely of independent directors and the requirement to have a compensation committee. You will not have the same protections afforded to equity holders of entities that are subject to all of the corporate governance requirements of the New York Stock Exchange.

Various forms of legislation have been introduced that could, if enacted, preclude us from qualifying as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes under the rules governing publicly traded partnerships and could require that we be treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes. If the above or any similar legislation or regulation were to be enacted and apply to us, we would incur a material increase in our tax liability that could result in a reduction in the value of our common units.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any other regulatory body has approved or disapproved these securities or passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is

, 2010.

٦	Га	h	ام	οf	$C_{\ell}$	٦n	ter	ıte
	11	I)		()1	١.(	111	-	II S

Our Assets Under Management\*

Assets under management are presented pro forma for the Combination Transaction (as defined herein) and, therefore, exclude the net asset value of KKR Guernsey and its commitments to our investment funds.

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<u>Summary</u>	<u>3</u> 17
Risk Factors	
Risks Related to Our Business	<u>17</u>
Risks Related to the Assets We Manage	<u>32</u>
Risks Related to the U.S. Listing and Our Common Units	<u>43</u>
Risks Related to Our Organizational Structure	<u>48</u>
Risks Related to U.S. Taxation	<u>48</u> <u>53</u>
<u>Distribution Policy</u>	<u>58</u>
Capitalization	<u>60</u>
The U.S. Listing	<u>61</u>
Organizational Structure	<u>65</u>
Unaudited Pro Forma Financial Information	<u>74</u>
Selected Historical Financial and Other Data	<u>93</u>
Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of	
<u>Operations</u>	<u>95</u>
Business	<u>157</u>
<u>Management</u>	<u>184</u>
Security Ownership	<u> 194</u>
Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions	<u> 196</u>
Conflicts of Interest and Fiduciary Responsibilities	205
Comparative Rights of Our Unitholders and KKR Guernsey Unitholders	211
Description of Our Common Units	219
Description of Our Limited Partnership Agreement	220
Common Units Eligible for Future Sale	231
Material U.S. Federal Tax Considerations	233
<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	<u>250</u>
<u>Legal Matters</u>	<u>251</u>
Experts	251
Where You Can Find More Information	252
Index to Financial Statements	F-1
Supplemental Financial Information of KKR & Co. (Guernsey) L.P.	<u>S-1</u>

You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus or any free writing prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with additional or different information. The information in this prospectus is accurate only as of the date of this prospectus, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus or any distribution of our common units.

This prospectus has been prepared using a number of conventions, which you should consider when reading the information contained herein. Unless the context suggests otherwise:

- (i) references to "KKR," "we," "us," "our" and "our partnership" refer to KKR & Co. L.P. and its subsidiaries;
- (ii) references to "our Managing Partner" are to KKR Management LLC, which acts as our general partner;
- (iii) references to "KKR Guernsey" are to KKR & Co. (Guernsey) L.P. (f/k/a KKR Private Equity Investors, L.P. or "KPE");

i

- (iv) references to the "Combined Business" of KKR refer to the business of KKR that resulted from the combination of its asset management business with the assets and liabilities of KKR Guernsey on October 1, 2009;
- (v) references to the "KKR Group Partnerships" are to KKR Management Holdings L.P. and KKR Fund Holdings L.P., which became holding companies for the Combined Business on October 1, 2009; and
- (vi) references to the "KPE Investment Partnership" are to KKR PEI Investments, L.P., a lower tier partnership through which KPE made all of its investments.

Unless otherwise indicated, references to equity interests in the Combined Business, or to percentage interests in the Combined Business, reflect the aggregate equity of the KKR Group Partnerships and are net of amounts that have been allocated to our principals in respect of the carried interest from the Combined Business as part of our "carry pool" and certain minority interests in our business that were not acquired by the KKR Group Partnerships in connection with our reorganization into a holding company structure and our acquisition of the assets and liabilities of KKR Guernsey. See "Organizational Structure" and "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Impact of the Transactions." References to our "principals" are to our senior executives and operating consultants who hold interests in the Combined Business through KKR Holdings and references to our "senior principals" are to principals who also hold interests in our Managing Partner entitling them to vote for the election of its directors.

On October 1, 2009, we completed the acquisition of all of the assets and liabilities of KKR Guernsey and, in connection with such acquisition, completed a series of transactions pursuant to which the business of KKR was reorganized into a holding company structure. We refer to the acquisition of the assets and liabilities of KKR Guernsey as the "Combination Transaction," to our reorganization into a holding company structure as the "Reorganization Transactions" and to the Combination Transaction and the Reorganization Transactions collectively as the "Transactions." Our financial information for periods prior to the Transactions is based on a group, for accounting purposes, of certain combined and consolidated entities under common control of our senior principals and under the common ownership of our principals and certain other individuals who have been involved in our business, and our financial information for periods subsequent to the Transactions is based on a group, for accounting purposes, consisting of KKR & Co. L.P. and its consolidated subsidiaries.

KKR Group Holdings L.P., which we refer to as "Group Holdings," is the parent of our consolidated accounting group for periods subsequent to October 1, 2009 and is the entity through which KKR Guernsey currently holds its interests in the KKR Group Partnerships. Group Holdings serves, directly and indirectly, as the general partner of the KKR Group Partnerships. Our Managing Partner serves as the ultimate general partner of Group Holdings and the KKR Group Partnerships. KKR Guernsey, through its interest in Group Holdings, holds 30% of the outstanding KKR Group Partnership Units. See "Summary The U.S. Listing KKR Group Partnership Units."

In this prospectus, the terms "assets under management" or "AUM" represent the assets from which we are entitled to receive fee income or a carried interest and general partner capital. We calculate the amount of AUM as of any date as the sum of:

- (i) the fair value of the investments of our investment funds plus uncalled capital commitments from these funds;
- (ii) the fair value of investments in our co-investment vehicles;
- (iii) the net asset value of certain of our fixed income products; and
- (iv) the value of outstanding structured finance vehicles.

You should note that our calculation of AUM may differ from the calculations of other asset managers and, as a result, our measurements of AUM may not be comparable to similar measures presented by other asset managers. Our definition of AUM is not based on any definition of AUM that is set forth in the agreements governing the investment funds, vehicles or accounts that we manage.

In this prospectus, the terms "fee paying assets under management" or "FPAUM" represent only those assets under management from which we receive fees. FPAUM is the sum of all of the individual fee bases that are used to calculate our fees and differs from AUM in the following respects: (i) assets from which we do not receive a fee are excluded (i.e., assets with respect to which we receive only carried interest); and (ii) certain assets, primarily in our private equity funds, are reflected based on capital commitments and invested capital as opposed to fair value because fees are not impacted by changes in the fair value of underlying investments.

Unless otherwise indicated, references in this prospectus to our fully diluted common units outstanding, or to our common units outstanding on a fully diluted basis, reflect both actual common units outstanding as well as common units into which KKR Group Partnership Units not held by us are exchangeable pursuant to the terms of the exchange agreement described in this prospectus, but do not reflect common units available for issuance pursuant to our Equity Incentive Plan. In addition, unless otherwise indicated, references in this prospectus to our common units outstanding do not give effect to the Public Offering.

iii

#### CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus contains forward-looking statements, which reflect our current views with respect to, among other things, our operations and financial performance. You can identify these forward-looking statements by the use of words such as "outlook," "believe," "expect," "potential," "continue," "may," "should," "seek," "approximately," "predict," "intend," "will," "plan," "estimate," "anticipate" or the negative version of these words or other comparable words. Forward-looking statements are subject to various risks and uncertainties. Accordingly, there are or will be important factors that could cause actual outcomes or results to differ materially from those indicated in these statements. These factors include, but are not limited to, those described under "Risk Factors" and "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations". These factors should not be construed as exhaustive and should be read in conjunction with the other cautionary statements that are included in this prospectus. We do not undertake any obligation to publicly update or review any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future developments or otherwise.

### MARKET AND INDUSTRY DATA

This prospectus includes market and industry data and forecasts that we have derived from independent reports, publicly available information, various industry publications, other published industry sources and internal data and estimates. Independent reports, industry publications and other published industry sources generally indicate that the information contained therein was obtained from sources believed to be reliable. Internal data and estimates are based upon information obtained from investors in our funds, trade and business organizations and other contacts in the markets in which we operate and our understanding of industry conditions. Although we believe that such information is reliable, we have not had this information verified by any independent sources.

iv

### **Table of Contents**

### **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE U.S. LISTING**

The questions and answers below highlight only selected information with respect to the U.S. Listing. They may not contain all of the information that may be important to you. You should read carefully this entire prospectus to fully understand the U.S. Listing.

Q: What is the U.S. Listing?

A:

We have elected to list our common units on the New York Stock Exchange. In connection with such listing:

KKR Guernsey will contribute its assets to us in return for our NYSE-listed common units,

KKR Guernsey will make an in-kind distribution of our common units to its unitholders and will dissolve; and

each KKR Guernsey unit will cease to be traded on Euronext Amsterdam and will be cancelled.

- Q: What do I have to do to participate in the U.S. Listing and In-Kind Distribution?
- A:

  No action is required on your part. KKR Guernsey unitholders are not required to pay any cash or deliver any other consideration to us to receive our common units distributable to them in connection with the U.S. Listing.
- Q: What will I receive in connection with the U.S. Listing?
- A:

  Each KKR Guernsey unitholder will receive one of our common units for each unit of KKR Guernsey held upon the effectiveness of the U.S. Listing. Your proportionate interest in our business will not change.
- Q: What is being distributed in connection with the U.S. Listing?
- A: 204,902,226 of our common units will be distributed in connection with the U.S. Listing. In the aggregate, the common units that will be distributed to holders of KKR Guernsey units represent a 30% interest in our business. The remaining 70% interest in our business is held by our principals, who beneficially own 478,105,194 common units through KKR Holdings L.P. On a fully diluted basis, we have an aggregate of 683,007,420 common units outstanding.
- Q: When will the In-Kind Distribution occur?
- A:

  The In-Kind Distribution will occur concurrently with the listing of our common units on the New York Stock Exchange.
- Q:

  If I sell my KKR Guernsey units on or before the U.S. Listing, am I still entitled to receive common units distributable with respect to the KKR Guernsey units I sold?
- A:

  If you have sold KKR Guernsey units on or prior to the U.S. Listing but your transaction has not been settled on or prior to the U.S. Listing, your transaction will be required to be settled in our common units.

Q:

### How will KKR Guernsey distribute our common units?

- A:

  The distribution of our common units and cancellation of KKR Guernsey units will occur automatically through the clearing systems in which your bank or broker participates.
- Q: What are the U.S. Federal income tax consequences to me of the U.S. Listing and Distribution?
- A:

  The U.S. Listing and In-Kind Distribution will not result in the recognition of gain or loss by U.S. unitholders. See "Material U.S. Federal Tax Considerations" in this prospectus for further details regarding the U.S. federal income tax consequences of the U.S. Listing and In-Kind Distribution.

1

### **Table of Contents**

A:

Q: What is the Public Offering?

A:

Subject to market conditions, we are planning to sell common units in a public offering following the U.S. Listing, which we refer to as the "Public Offering". Assuming an aggregate offering amount of \$500,000,000 at an offering price of \$ per common unit, which is the last reported sale price of KKR Guernsey units on Euronext Amsterdam on , 2010, we would issue common units in the Public Offering resulting in an aggregate of common units outstanding on a fully diluted basis, with new common unitholders holding % of our fully diluted common units, former KKR Guernsey unitholders holding % of our fully diluted common units and our principals holding the remaining % through KKR Holdings. None of our principals is selling any common units or will otherwise receive any of the net proceeds from the Public Offering, and any common units issued by us in the Public Offering would reduce the interests in our business held by KKR Guernsey unitholders and our principals on a pro rata basis. There is no assurance that the Public Offering will be consummated as set forth

herein or at all. The U.S. Listing is not contingent on the occurrence of the Public Offering.

Q:

Are there risks associated with owning our common units?

We are subject to both general and specific risks and uncertainties relating to our business. Our business is also subject to risks relating to the U.S. Listing. Following the U.S. Listing, we will also be subject to risks relating to being a publicly traded company in the United States. Accordingly, you should read carefully the information set forth in the section entitled "Risk Factors."

#### **SUMMARY**

This summary highlights information contained elsewhere in this prospectus and does not contain all the information you should consider in connection with your receipt of our common units. You should read this entire prospectus carefully, including the section entitled "Risk Factors" and the historical financial statements and related notes included elsewhere herein.

#### Overview

### KKR

Led by Henry Kravis and George Roberts, we are a global alternative asset manager with \$54.7 billion in AUM as of March 31, 2010 and a 34-year history of leadership, innovation and investment excellence. When our founders started our firm in 1976, they established the principles that guide our business approach today, including a patient and disciplined investment process; the alignment of our interests with those of our investors, portfolio companies and other stakeholders; and a focus on attracting world-class talent.

Our business offers a broad range of asset management services to our investors and provides capital markets services to our firm, our portfolio companies and our clients. Throughout our history, we have consistently been a leader in the private equity industry, having completed more than 175 private equity investments with a total transaction value in excess of \$430 billion. In recent years, we have grown our firm by expanding our geographical presence and building businesses in new areas, such as fixed income and capital markets. Our new efforts build on our core principles, leverage synergies in our business, and allow us to capitalize on a broader range of opportunities that we source. Additionally, we have increased our focus on servicing our existing investors and have invested meaningfully in developing relationships with new investors.

With over 600 people, we conduct our business through 14 offices on four continents, providing us with a pre-eminent global platform for sourcing transactions, raising capital and carrying out capital markets activities. We have grown our AUM significantly, from \$15.1 billion as of December 31, 2004 to \$54.7 billion as of March 31, 2010, representing a compounded annual growth rate of 27.7%. Our growth has been driven by value that we have created through our operationally focused investment approach, the expansion of our existing businesses, our entry into new lines of business, innovation in the products that we offer investors, an increased focus on providing tailored solutions to our clients and the integration of capital markets distribution activities.

As a global alternative asset manager, we earn management, monitoring, transaction and incentive fees for providing investment management, monitoring and other services to our funds, vehicles, managed accounts, specialty finance company and portfolio companies, and we generate transaction-specific income from capital markets transactions. We earn additional investment income from investing our own capital alongside our investors and from the carried interest we receive from our funds and certain of our other investment vehicles. A carried interest entitles the sponsor of a fund to a specified percentage of investment gains that are generated on third-party capital that is invested.

On October 1, 2009, we completed our acquisition of all of the assets and liabilities of KPE and our Combined Business became listed on Euronext Amsterdam. This acquisition, which we refer to as the Combination Transaction, has provided us with a significant source of permanent capital to further grow our business and an equity currency that we may use to attract, retain and incentivize our employees and to fund opportunistic acquisitions. The Combination Transaction did not involve the payment of any cash consideration or involve an offering of any newly issued securities to the public, and our principals did not sell any interests in our Combined Business. Following the Combination Transaction, we operate our business through three business segments: Private Markets; Public Markets; and Capital Markets and Principal Activities.

### **Business Segments**

#### **Private Markets**

Our Private Markets segment is comprised of our global private equity business, which manages and sponsors a group of investment funds and vehicles that invest capital for long-term appreciation, either through controlling ownership of a company or strategic minority positions. These funds and vehicles build on our sourcing advantage and the strong industry knowledge, operating expertise and regulatory and stakeholder management skills of our professionals, operating consultants and senior advisors to identify attractive investment opportunities and create and realize value for investors.

From our inception through March 31, 2010, we have raised 16 funds with approximately \$59.8 billion of capital commitments and have sponsored a number of fee and carry paying co-investment structures that allow us to commit additional capital to transactions. We have grown our AUM in this segment significantly in recent years, from \$14.4 billion as of December 31, 2004 to \$40.9 billion as of March 31, 2010, representing a compound annual growth rate of 22.0%. As of March 31, 2010, we had \$12.8 billion of uncalled commitments to investment funds and vehicles in this segment, providing a significant source of capital that may be deployed globally.

We generate income in our Private Markets segment from the management fees and carried interest that we receive from the funds and vehicles that we manage, as well as the monitoring fees and transaction fees that are paid by portfolio companies. During the three months ended March 31, 2010, the segment generated \$56.2 million of fee related earnings and \$193.7 million of economic net income, representing 62% and 29% of our total segment amounts, respectively.

#### **Public Markets**

Our Public Markets segment is comprised primarily of our fixed income businesses which manage capital in liquid credit strategies, such as leveraged loans and high yield bonds, and less liquid credit products, such as mezzanine debt, special situation assets, rescue financings, distressed assets, debtor-in-possession financings and exit financings. We implement these investment strategies through a specialty finance company and a number of investment funds, structured finance vehicles and separately managed accounts. These sources of capital leverage our global investment platform, experienced investment professionals and ability to adapt our investment strategies to different market conditions to capitalize on investment opportunities that may arise at every level of the capital structure.

We have grown our AUM in this segment significantly in recent years, from \$3.7 billion as of December 31, 2005, the first full year of operations, to \$13.8 billion as of March 31, 2010, representing a compound annual growth rate of 36.6%. As of March 31, 2010, the segment's AUM was comprised of \$1.0 billion of assets managed in a publicly traded specialty finance company, \$8.1 billion of assets managed in structured finance vehicles and \$4.7 billion of assets managed in other types of investment vehicles and separately managed accounts. As of March 31, 2010, we had \$1.4 billion of uncalled commitments to investment funds and separately managed accounts in this segment.

We generate income in our Public Markets segment from the management fees, incentive fees and carried interest that we receive from the companies, funds, accounts and vehicles that we manage, as well as transaction fees that may be paid by issuers in connection with specific investments. During the three months ended March 31, 2010, the segment generated \$15.7 million of fee related earnings and \$16.3 million of economic net income, representing 17% and 2% of our total segment amounts, respectively.

### Capital Markets and Principal Activities

Our Capital Markets and Principal Activities segment combines the assets we acquired in the Combination Transaction with our global capital markets business. Our capital markets business

4

supports our firm, our portfolio companies and our clients by providing services such as arranging debt and equity financing for transactions, placing and underwriting securities offerings, structuring new investment products and providing capital markets advice. To allow us to carry out these activities, we are registered or authorized to carry out certain broker-dealer activities in various countries in North America, Europe and Asia.

The assets that we acquired in the Combination Transaction have provided us with a significant source of capital to further grow and expand our business, increase our participation in our existing portfolio of businesses and further align our interests with those of our investors and other stakeholders. We believe that the market experience and skills of our capital markets professionals and the investment expertise of professionals in our Private Markets and Public Markets segments will allow us to continue to grow and diversify this asset base over time.

We generate income in our Capital Markets and Principal Activities segment from the fees that we generate through our capital markets transactions as well as the returns on the assets that we own as a principal. During the three months ended March 31, 2010, the segment generated \$18.5 million of fee related earnings and \$464.8 million of economic net income, representing 21% and 69% of our total segment amounts, respectively.

#### Strengths

Over our history, we have developed a business approach that centers around three key principles:

- (i) adhere to a patient and disciplined investment process;
- (ii) align our interests with those of our investors and other stakeholders; and
- (iii) attract world-class talent for our firm and portfolio companies.

Based on these principles, we have developed a number of strengths that we believe differentiate us as an alternative asset manager and provide additional competitive advantages that can be leveraged to grow our business and create value. These include:

### Firm Culture and People

When our founders started our firm in 1976, leveraged buyouts were a novel form of corporate finance. With no financial services firm to use as a model and little interest in copying an existing formula, our founders sought to build a firm based on principles and values that would provide a proper institutional foundation for years to come. We believe that our success and industry leadership has been largely attributable to the culture of our firm and the values we live by. We believe that our experienced and talented people, who represent our culture and values, have been the key to our success and growth. These values and our "one firm" culture will not change as a result of the U.S. Listing.

#### Leading Brand Name

The "KKR" name is associated with: experience and success in private equity transactions worldwide; a focus on operational value creation in portfolio companies; a strong investor base; a global network of leading business relationships; a reputation for integrity and fair dealing; creativity and innovation; and superior investment performance. The strength of our brand helps us attract world-class talent, raise capital and obtain access to investment opportunities. We intend to leverage this strength as we continue to grow and expand our businesses.

### Table of Contents

### Global Presence and Integrated One Firm Approach

We are a global firm. Although our operations span multiple continents and business lines, we have a common culture and are focused on sharing knowledge, resources and best practices throughout our offices and across asset classes. Our global and diversified operations are also supported by extensive local market knowledge, which provides an advantage for sourcing investments, consummating transactions and raising capital. As of March 31, 2010, 63% of our employees were based in North America, 20% were based in Europe and the Middle East, and 17% were based in Asia and Australia.

#### Sourcing Advantage

We believe that we have a competitive advantage for sourcing new investment opportunities as a result of our internal deal generation strategies, industry expertise and global network. Across our businesses, our investment professionals are organized into industry groups and work closely with our operating consultants and senior advisors to identify attractive businesses. These teams conduct their own primary research, develop views on industry themes and trends, and identify companies in which we may want to invest. They also maintain relationships with various industry players providing additional access to deal flow. Through our industry focus and global network, we often are able to obtain exclusive or limited access to investments that we identify.

### Distinguished Track Record Across Economic Cycles

We have successfully employed our patient and disciplined investment process through all types of economic and financial conditions, developing a track record that distinguishes the firm. From our inception through March 31, 2010, our private equity funds with at least 36 months of investment activity generated a cumulative gross IRR of 25.8%, compared to the 11.6% gross IRR achieved by the S&P 500 Index over the same period. Additionally, we established our fixed income business in 2004 and, despite difficult market conditions, the returns in each of our core strategies since inception have outperformed relevant benchmarks.

### Sizeable Long-Term Capital Base

As of March 31, 2010, we had \$54.7 billion of AUM, making us one of the largest independent alternative asset managers in the world. Our private equity funds typically have six year investment periods and may hold an investment for a period of up to 12 years from the acquisition date. We also manage a specialty finance company and various structured finance vehicles that have capital that is either long-dated or has no fixed maturity. As of March 31, 2010, approximately 94%, or \$51.3 billion, of our AUM had a contractual life at inception of at least 10 years, which has provided a stable source of long-term capital for our business.

### Long-Standing Investor Relationships

We have established strong relationships with a diversified group of investors, including some of the largest public and private pension plans, global financial institutions, university endowments and other institutional and public market investors. Many of these investors have invested with us for decades in various products that we have sponsored. We continue to develop relationships with new significant investors worldwide, providing an additional source of capital for our investment vehicles. We believe that the strength, breadth, duration and diversity of our investor relationships provides a significant advantage for raising capital and growing our business.

### Alignment of Interests

Since our inception, one of our fundamental philosophies has been to align the interests of the firm and our people with the interests of our investors, portfolio companies and other stakeholders. We

#### Table of Contents

achieve this by putting our own capital behind our ideas. We and our principals have over \$6.5 billion invested in or committed to our own funds and portfolio companies, including \$4.3 billion funded through our balance sheet, \$1.2 billion of additional commitments to investment funds and \$1.0 billion in personal investments.

### Creativity and Innovation

We pioneered the development of the leveraged buyout and have worked throughout our history to create new and innovative structures for both raising capital and making investments. Our history of innovation includes establishing permanent capital vehicles for our Public Markets and Private Markets segments and developing new capital markets and distribution capabilities in North America, Europe and Asia.

### **Growth Strategy**

We intend to grow our business and create value for our common unitholders by:

generating superior returns on assets that we manage and our principal assets;

growing our assets under management;

entering new businesses and creating new products that leverage our core competencies;

continuing our expansion into new geographies with respect to both investing and raising capital;

expanding our capital markets business; and

using our principal assets to grow and invest in our business.

### Why We are Undertaking the U.S. Listing

Our decision to pursue a U.S. Listing is based on our conclusion that the U.S. Listing will benefit KKR Guernsey unitholders over the long term. We view the U.S. Listing as part of our continued commitment to KKR Guernsey's unitholders, who supported us in the initial formation of KPE and its recent combination with our business. We believe that the U.S. Listing offers the opportunity to build our firm by providing new opportunities to invest in our business, attract and incentivize world-class people, and enhance the diversity, scale and capital of our business.

### The Combination Transaction and Reorganization Transactions

On October 1, 2009, we completed the acquisition of all of the assets and liabilities of KKR Guernsey in the Combination Transaction. We agreed to the Combination Transaction in order to:

create a diversified business that would benefit from the diversity, global presence, income streams, scale and franchise of KKR and the significant capital of KPE;

provide a means for further aligning the interests of KKR's owners and KKR Guernsey unitholders by providing them equity interests in a common business that would allow them to share in the same income streams, asset base and growth potential;

enhance access to capital markets and create a new currency for attracting and incentivizing world-class people and opportunistically funding acquisitions and growth opportunities.

Because the business of KKR prior to the Combination Transaction was conducted through a number of separate entities, we completed a series of transactions immediately prior to the Combination Transaction in which these separate entities were reorganized into a holding company structure. The purposes of the Reorganization Transactions was to create an integrated structure that

### **Table of Contents**

could hold the interests in KKR's asset management business and the assets and liabilities of KKR Guernsey and issue common equity representing an interest in the Combined Business.

We refer to the Reorganization Transactions and the Combination Transaction collectively as the Transactions. Following the Transactions, KKR Guernsey holds a 30% economic interest in our Combined Business through Group Holdings, and our principals hold a 70% economic interest in our Combined Business through KKR Holdings. Through KKR Holdings, our principals will further hold special voting units in our partnership that will enable them to vote alongside our common unitholders in proportion to their interests in the Combined Business with respect to any matters that are submitted to a vote of our common unitholders.

As is commonly the case with limited partnerships, our limited partnership agreement provides for the management of our business and affairs by a general partner rather than a board of directors. Our Managing Partner serves as our general partner and has a board of directors that is co-chaired by our founders, Henry Kravis and George Roberts, who also serve as our Co-Chief Executives. Our senior principals control our Managing Partner and you will not hold securities of our Managing Partner and will not be entitled to vote in the election of its directors or other matters affecting its governance. For a description of the Combination Transaction, the Reorganization Transactions, the components of our business owned by the KKR Group Partnerships and diagrams illustrating our ownership and organizational structure prior to and giving effect to the U.S. Listing and In-Kind Distribution, see "Organizational Structure."

#### **Public Offering of Common Units**

Subject to market conditions, we are planning to sell common units in a public offering following the U.S. Listing, which we refer to as the "Public Offering". Assuming an aggregate offering amount of \$500,000,000 at an offering price of \$ per common unit, which is the last reported sale price of KKR Guernsey units on Euronext Amsterdam on , 2010, we would issue common units in the Public Offering resulting in an aggregate of common units outstanding on a fully diluted basis, with new common unitholders holding our fully diluted common units, former KKR Guernsey unitholders holding % of our fully diluted common units and our principals holding % through KKR Holdings. We intend to contribute the net proceeds we receive from the Public Offering to the KKR Group the remaining Partnerships in exchange for newly issued units in the KKR Group Partnerships. The KKR Group Partnerships are expected to use the proceeds they receive from us to fund the continued growth of our existing asset management business, including through funding our general partner capital commitments to our funds; to provide capital to support the continued development of our capital markets business; to facilitate our expansion into complementary lines of business, including possibly through select strategic acquisitions; and for other general corporate purposes. None of our principals is selling any common units or will otherwise receive any of the net proceeds from the Public Offering, and any common units issued by us in the Public Offering would reduce the interests in our business held by KKR Guernsey unitholders and our principals on a pro rata basis. We have filed a separate registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission to register the Public Offering. There is no assurance that the Public Offering will be consummated as set forth herein or at all. The U.S. Listing is not contingent on the occurrence of the Public Offering.

### **Risks Related to Our Common Units**

Holding our common units involves substantial risks and uncertainties. Some of the more significant challenges and risks related to our common units include:

our business is materially affected by conditions in the financial markets and economic conditions, and recent disruptions in the global financial markets, including considerable declines

8

### Table of Contents

in the valuations of debt and equity securities, have negatively impacted our financial performance, increased the cost of financing leveraged buyout transactions and limited the availability of that financing;

we are dependent on our principals, including our founders and other key personnel;

our net income and cash flow are volatile;

any underperformance of our investments could adversely affect our ability to maintain or grow our AUM;

our unitholders have limited ability to influence decisions regarding our business;

our business is subject to extensive regulation and scrutiny, which may make our business more difficult to operate;

the valuation methodologies for certain assets in our funds are subject to significant management judgment;

our organizational structure may give rise to the potential for conflicts of interest among our Managing Partner, its affiliates and us;

many of our funds focus on illiquid investments;

there is no established trading market for our common units in the United States;

we may be subject to substantial litigation and as a result incur significant liabilities and suffer damage to our professional reputation;

you may be required to make tax payments in connection with your ownership of our common units in excess of the cash distributions you receive in any specific year;

our emphasis on private equity investments, which are among the largest in the industry, involve particular risks and uncertainties; and

our investments in companies that are based outside of the United States present potentially greater risks than similar investments in the United States.

In addition, legislation has been introduced that would tax as a corporation a publicly traded partnership, such as us, that directly or indirectly derives income from investment advisor or asset management services. Separately, legislation has been passed in the U.S. House of Representatives that would generally

treat carried interest as non-qualifying income under the tax rules applicable to publicly traded partnerships, which could preclude us from qualifying as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes; and

tax carried interest as ordinary income for U.S. federal income taxes, which could require us to hold our interest in carried interest through taxable subsidiary corporations.

If any of these pieces of legislation or any similar legislation or regulation were to be enacted and apply to us, we would incur a material increase in our tax liability, which could result in a reduction in the value of our common units. Please see "Risk Factors" for a discussion of these and additional factors related to our common units.

### The U.S. Listing

Issuer

U.S. Listing

Common units

**Public Offering** 

KKR & Co. L.P., a Delaware limited partnership.

On February 24, 2010, we delivered to KKR Guernsey a notice of our intention to exercise a right to seek a listing of our common units on the New York Stock Exchange and to have KKR Guernsey make an in-kind distribution of our common units to holders of KKR Guernsey units upon completion of the U.S. Listing. Pursuant to the In-Kind Distribution. each KKR Guernsey unitholder will receive one of our common units for each KKR Guernsey unit when the U.S. Listing becomes effective. Because the assets of KKR Guernsey consist solely of its interests in our business, the In-Kind Distribution will result in the dissolution of KKR Guernsey and a delisting of its units from Euronext Amsterdam. To preserve a trading market for interests in our business, the In-Kind Distribution is conditioned upon our common units being approved for listing on the New York Stock Exchange subject to official notice of

Our common units represent limited partner interests in our partnership. The remaining 70% of our fully diluted common units are beneficially held by our principals through KKR Holdings in the form of exchangeable KKR Group Partnership Units as described below. See "KKR Group Partnership Units." On a fully diluted basis, we have an aggregate of 683,007,420 common units outstanding.

Subject to market conditions, we are planning to sell common units in the Public Offering following the U.S. Listing. Assuming an aggregate offering amount of \$500,000,000 at an offering price of \$ per common unit, which is the last reported sale price of KKR Guernsey units on Euronext Amsterdam on 2010, we would

common units in the issue Public Offering resulting in an aggregate of common units outstanding on a fully diluted basis, with new common unitholders holding % of our fully diluted

common units, former KKR Guernsey unitholders holding % of our fully diluted common units and our principals holding the % through KKR remaining Holdings. None of our principals is selling any common units or will otherwise receive any of the net proceeds from the Public Offering, and any common units issued by us in the Public Offering would reduce the interests in our business held by KKR Guernsey unitholders and our principals on a pro rata basis. Unless otherwise indicated, references in this prospectus to our common units outstanding do not give effect to the Public Offering. There is no assurance that the Public Offering will be consummated as set forth herein or at all. The U.S. Listing is not contingent on the occurrence of the Public Offering.

10

### Table of Contents

KKR Group Partnership Units

Voting Rights; Special Voting Units

Distribution Policy

In October 2009, our Combined Business was reorganized under the KKR Group Partnerships. Each KKR Group Partnership has an identical number of partner interests and, when held together, one Class A partner interest in each of the KKR Group Partnerships together represents one "KKR Group Partnership Unit." Upon completion of the U.S. Listing and In-Kind Distribution, we will hold KKR Group Partnership Units representing a 30% interest in the Combined Business and our principals will hold KKR Group Partnership Units representing a 70% interest in the Combined Business through their interests in KKR Holdings. KKR Group Partnership Units that are held by KKR Holdings are exchangeable for our common units on a one-for-one basis, subject to customary conversion rate adjustments for splits, unit distributions and reclassifications and compliance with applicable lock-up, vesting and transfer restrictions. See "Exchange Rights."

Our Managing Partner, which serves as our sole general partner, will manage all of our business and affairs. You will not hold securities of our Managing Partner. Unlike the holders of common stock in a corporation, you will have only limited voting rights relating to certain matters affecting your investment and you will not have the right to elect or remove our Managing Partner or its directors, who will be appointed by our senior principals.

Through KKR Holdings, our principals will hold special voting units in our partnership in an amount that is equal to the number of exchangeable KKR Group Partnership Units that KKR Holdings holds from time to time. These special voting units will entitle our principals to cast an equivalent number of votes on those few matters that may be submitted to a vote of our unitholders. Due to the foregoing, our principals generally will have sufficient voting power to determine the outcome of any matter that may be submitted to a unitholder vote. See "Description of Our Limited Partnership Agreement Meetings; Voting."

We intend to make quarterly cash distributions in amounts that in the aggregate are expected to constitute substantially all of the cash earnings of our asset management business in excess of amounts determined by our Managing Partner to be necessary or appropriate to provide for the conduct of our business, to make appropriate investments in our business and our investment funds and to comply with applicable law and any of our debt instruments or other agreements. We do not intend to distribute gains on our principal assets, other than potentially certain tax distributions to the extent that distributions for the relevant tax year were otherwise insufficient to cover certain tax liabilities of our partners, as calculated by us. For the purposes of our distribution policy, our distributions are expected to consist of:

our fee related earnings net of taxes and certain other adjustments;

### **Table of Contents**

**Exchange Rights** 

Tax Receivable Agreement

carry distributions received from our investment funds and certain of our other vehicles that have not been allocated as part of our carry pool; and certain tax distributions, if any.

See "Distribution Policy."

We are party to an exchange agreement pursuant to which KKR Holdings may, up to four times each year, exchange KKR Group Partnership Units held by them for our common units on a one-for-one basis, subject to customary conversion rate adjustments for splits, unit distributions and reclassifications and compliance with applicable lock-up, vesting and transfer restrictions. At the election of our partnership and KKR Management Holdings Corp., as the general partners of the KKR Group Partnerships, the KKR Group Partnerships may settle exchanges of KKR Group Partnership Units with cash in an amount equal to the fair market value of our common units that would otherwise be deliverable in such exchanges. If an election is made to settle an exchange of KKR Group Partnership Units with cash, the KKR Group Partnerships will cancel the KKR Group Partnership Units that are acquired in the exchange, which will result in a corresponding reduction in the number of fully diluted common units and special voting units that we have outstanding following the exchange. As a result of the cancellation of the KKR Group Partnership Units that are acquired in the exchange, our percentage ownership of the KKR Group Partnerships will increase and KKR Holdings' percentage ownership will decrease. See "Organizational Structure Exchange Agreement" and "Certain Relationships and Related Transactions Exchange Agreement."

When KKR Holdings or its transferees transfers their interests in us, we expect, as a result, an increase in the tax basis of certain of our assets that would not otherwise have been available to us. This increase in tax basis may increase depreciation and amortization deductions for U.S. federal income tax purposes and therefore reduce the amount of tax that our corporate subsidiary would otherwise be required to pay in the future.

We have entered into a tax receivable agreement with KKR Holdings pursuant to which we will be required to pay to KKR Holdings or its transferees 85% of the amount of cash savings, if any, in U.S. federal, state and local income tax that we actually realize as a result of tax benefits resulting from certain exchanges made pursuant to our exchange agreement with KKR Holdings, as well as 85% of the amount of any such savings we actually realize as a result of increases in tax basis that arise due to payments under the tax receivable agreement. A termination of the agreement or a change of

12

### Table of Contents

control could give rise to similar payments based on tax savings that we would be deemed to realize in connection with such events. In the event that other of our current or future subsidiaries become taxable as corporations and acquire KKR Group Partnership Units in the future, or if we become taxable as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, ea