MRC GLOBAL INC. Form S-1/A March 28, 2012 Table of Contents

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 28, 2012

Registration No. 333-178980

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20549

# **AMENDMENT NO. 2**

TO

FORM S-1

# REGISTRATION STATEMENT

**UNDER** 

THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

# MRC GLOBAL INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware** (State or other jurisdiction of

**5084** (Primary Standard Industrial

**20-5956993** (I.R.S. Employer

incorporation or organization)

Classification Code Number)
2 Houston Center

Identification Number)

909 Fannin, Suite 3100

Houston, Texas 77010

(877) 294-7574

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

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Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Registration Statement.

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.

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 of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

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.

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. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer " Accelerated filer " Non-accelerated filer x Smaller reporting company

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

## CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class		<b>Proposed Maximum</b>	osed Maximum Proposed Maximum	
of Securities to be		Offering Price	Aggregate Offering	
	Amount to be			Amount of
Registered	Registered(1)	Per Share	<b>Price</b> (1)(2)	Registration Fee
Common Stock, \$0.01 par value	26,136,364	\$23.00	\$601,136,372	\$68,892(3)

- (1) Includes shares of common stock which the underwriters have the option to purchase.
- (2) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(o) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.
- (3) \$57,300 previously paid in respect of an aggregate offering price of \$500,000,000 based on the registration fee at the time. \$11,592 included with this filing in respect of the additional \$101,136,372 of common stock being hereby registered.

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, as amended, or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Securities and Exchange Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

The information in this preliminary prospectus is not complete and may be changed. These securities may not be sold until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This preliminary prospectus is not an offer to sell nor does it seek an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Subject to Completion, Dated March 28, 2012

22,727,273 Shares

# MRC Global Inc.

# Common Stock

This is an initial public offering of shares of common stock of MRC Global Inc. MRC Global Inc. is offering 17,045,455 shares of common stock and the selling stockholder named in this prospectus is offering 5,681,818 shares of common stock. We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of the shares by the selling stockholder.

Prior to this offering, there has been no public market for our common stock. It is currently estimated that the initial public offering price per share will be between \$21.00 and \$23.00. Our common stock has been approved for listing on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol MRC, subject to official notice of issuance.

You should consider carefully the <u>Risk Factors</u> beginning on page 22 of this prospectus.

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

> Per Share Total

Initial public offering price

Underwriting discount	\$ \$
Proceeds to us before expenses	\$ \$
Proceeds, before expenses, to the selling stockholder	\$ \$

To the extent that the underwriters sell more than 22,727,273 shares of common stock, the underwriters have the option to purchase up to an additional 3,409,091 shares from the selling stockholder at the initial public offering price less the underwriting discount.

The underwriters expect to deliver the shares against payment in New York, New York on

, 2012.

# Goldman, Sachs & Co.

**Barclays** 

**BofA Merrill Lynch** 

**Baird** 

Wells Fargo Securities

**Raymond James** 

William Blair & Company

Stephens Inc.

Prospectus dated

, 2012.

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Through and including , 2012 (the 25th day after the date of this prospectus), all dealers that effect transactions in these securities, whether or not participating in this offering, may be required to deliver a prospectus. This is in addition to a dealer s obligation to deliver a prospectus when acting as an underwriter and with respect to an unsold allotment or subscription.

No dealer, salesperson or other person is authorized to give any information or to represent anything not contained in this prospectus or any free writing prospectus that we, or somebody on our behalf, have prepared. None of the Company, the selling stockholder, or any underwriter takes responsibility for, or can provide assurance as to the reliability of, any other information that others may give you. This prospectus is an offer to sell only the shares that we and the selling stockholder are offering in this prospectus, but only under circumstances and in jurisdictions where it is lawful to do so. The information contained in this prospectus is current only as of its date.

This prospectus contains registered and unregistered trademarks and service marks of MRC Global Inc. and its affiliates, as well as trademarks and service marks of third parties. All brand names, trademarks and service marks appearing in this prospectus are the property of their respective holders.

#### PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

The following prospectus summary contains a summary of basic information contained elsewhere in this prospectus. It does not contain all the information that may be important to you. For a more complete understanding, we encourage you to read this entire prospectus carefully, including the Risk Factors section and the financial statements and related notes. Unless otherwise indicated or the context otherwise requires, all references to the Company, MRC, we, us, and our refer to MRC Global Inc. and its consolidated subsidiaries.

## **Our Company**

We are the largest global industrial distributor of pipe, valves and fittings ( PVF ) and related products and services to the energy industry based on sales and hold the leading position in our industry across each of the upstream, midstream and downstream sectors. We offer more than 150,000 stock keeping units ( SKUs ), including an extensive array of PVF, oilfield supply, automation, instrumentation and other general and specialty industry supply products from over 12,000 suppliers. Through our North American and International segments, we serve more than 12,000 customers through over 400 service locations throughout North America, Europe, Asia and Australasia.

Our PVF and oilfield supplies are used in mission critical process applications that require us to provide a high degree of product knowledge, technical expertise and value added services to our customers. We seek to provide best-in-class service and a one-stop shop for our customers by satisfying the most complex, multi-site needs of many of the largest companies in the energy and industrial sectors as their primary PVF supplier. We provide services such as product testing, manufacturer assessments, multiple daily deliveries, volume purchasing, inventory and zone store management and warehousing, technical support, just-in-time delivery, truck stocking, order consolidation, product tagging and system interfaces customized to customer and supplier specifications for tracking and replenishing inventory, which we believe result in deeply integrated customer relationships. We believe the critical role we play in our customers—supply chain, together with our extensive product offering, broad global presence, customer-linked scalable information systems and efficient distribution capabilities, serve to solidify our long-standing customer relationships and drive our growth. As a result, we have an average relationship of over 20 years with our largest 25 customers.

We believe that growth in PVF and industrial supply spending within the energy industry is likely to continue. Several factors have driven the long-term growth in spending, including underinvestment in North American energy infrastructure, production and capacity constraints, and market expectations of future improvements in the oil, natural gas, refined products, petrochemical and other industrial sectors. In addition, the products we distribute are often used in extreme operating environments, leading to the need for a regular replacement cycle. Approximately two-thirds of our sales are attributable to multi-year maintenance, repair and operations (MRO) arrangements. Our average annual retention rate for these contracts since 2000 is 95%. We consider MRO arrangements to be normal, generally repetitive business that primarily addresses the recurring maintenance, repair or operational work to existing energy infrastructure. Project activities, including facility expansions, exploration or new construction projects, are more commonly associated with a customer s capital expenditures budget. Such projects can be more sensitive to global oil and natural gas prices and general economic conditions.

We distribute products globally, including in PVF intensive, rapidly expanding oil and natural gas exploration and production ( E&P ) areas such as the Bakken, Barnett, Eagle Ford, Fayetteville, Haynesville, Marcellus, Niobrara and Utica shales in North America. Furthermore, our Canadian subsidiary Midfield Supply ULC ( MRC Midfield ), one of the two largest Canadian PVF distributors based on sales, provides PVF products to oil and natural gas companies operating primarily in

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Western Canada, including the Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin, Alberta Oil Sands and heavy oil regions. These regions are still in the early stages of infrastructure investment with numerous companies seeking to facilitate the long-term harvesting of difficult to extract and process crude oil. Beyond North America, our acquisitions of Transmark Fcx Group BV (together with its subsidiaries, MRC Transmark ) and Stainless Pipe and Fittings Australia Pty Ltd. (MRC SPF) have provided us with a well-established and integrated platform for international growth and further positioned us to be the leading global PVF distributor to the energy industry. The following map illustrates our global presence:

## MRC Locations 18 Countries

Australia Kazakhstan
Belgium Netherlands
Canada New Zealand
China Singapore
Finland South Korea
France Thailand

Germany United Arab Emirates
Indonesia United Kingdom
Italy United States

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Our business is characterized by diversity in the industry sectors and regions we serve and in the products we supply. The following charts summarize our revenue by sector, geography and product, across both our North American and International segments, for the year ended December 31, 2011:

Due to the demanding operating conditions in the energy industry, high costs and safety risks associated with equipment failure, customers prefer highly reliable products and vendors with established qualifications, reputation and experience. As our PVF products typically are mission critical yet represent a fraction of the total cost of the project, our customers often place a premium on service and high reliability given the high cost to them of maintenance or project delays. Our products are typically used in high-volume, high-stress and abrasive applications or in high-pressure, extreme temperature and high-corrosion applications.

With over 400 global service locations servicing the energy and industrial sectors, we are an important link between our more than 12,000 customers and our more than 12,000 suppliers. We add value to our customers and suppliers in a number of ways:

Broad Product Offering and High Customer Service Levels: The breadth and depth of our product offering enables us to provide a high level of service to our energy and industrial customers. Given our global inventory coverage and branch network, we are able to fulfill orders more quickly, including orders for less common and specialty items, and provide our customers with a greater array of value added services than if we operated on a smaller scale or only at a local or regional level. These value added services include multiple daily deliveries, volume purchasing, product testing, manufacturer assessments, inventory management and warehousing, technical support, just-in-time delivery, order consolidation, product tagging and tracking and system interfaces customized to customer and supplier specifications.

Approved Manufacturer List ( AML ) Services: Our customers rely on us to provide a high level of quality control for their PVF products. We do this by regularly auditing many of our suppliers for quality assurance through our Supplier Registration Process ( SRP ). We use our resulting Approved Supplier List (the MRC ASL ) to supply products across many of the industries we support, particularly for downstream and midstream customers. Increasingly, many of our customers rely on the MRC ASL and our AML services to help devise and maintain their own approved manufacturer listings.

*Customized and Integrated Service Offering:* We offer our customers integrated supply services, including product procurement, quality assurance, physical warehousing and

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inventory management and analysis, using our proprietary information technology ( IT ) platform. This is part of an overall strategy to provide a one stop solution for PVF purchases across the upstream-midstream-downstream spectrum through integrated supply agreements and MRO contracts. This enables our customers to focus on their core operations, generate cost savings and increase the overall efficiency of their businesses.

## **Our Industry**

We primarily serve the global oil and natural gas industry, generating approximately 90% of our sales from supplying products and various services to customers throughout the energy industry. In each of 2010 and 2011, as part of the broader global economic recovery, our customers capital and operating expenditures increased as compared to 2009, although overall oil and natural gas drilling and completion spending still remained below 2006 and 2007 levels. Over the longer term, we expect to continue to see customer spending increase due to a variety of global supply and demand fundamentals, a slowly improving global economy, shale E&P activity and longer term outlooks for oil and natural gas prices.

During the last several years, the global energy industry has experienced a number of favorable supply and demand dynamics that have led our customers to make substantial investments to expand their physical infrastructure and processing capacities. On the demand side, world energy markets are benefiting from:

increased consumption of energy, caused in part by the industrialization of China, India and other countries that are not members of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development ( non-OECD countries );

a slow recovery in economic growth in OECD countries from the severe downturn in 2009 and 2010;

continued global energy infrastructure expansion; and

increased use of natural gas, as opposed to coal, in power generation.

At the same time, global energy supply has been generally constrained due to increasing scarcity of natural resources, declining excess capacity of existing energy assets, geopolitical instability, natural and other unforeseen disasters and more stringent regulatory, safety and environmental standards. These demand and supply dynamics underscore the need for investment in energy infrastructure and increases in global exploration, extraction, production, transportation, refining and processing of energy inputs. Within the U.S., the energy industry has benefited from technological developments that have enabled more recent significant increases in U.S. oil production and natural gas supply. The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) expects that U.S. crude oil production, which increased 2.1% in 2010 and 2.1% in 2011, will increase by a further 4.3% in 2012, driven by increased oil-directed drilling activity, particularly in unconventional shale formations. EIA expects that U.S. marketed natural gas production, which increased by 3.5% in 2010 and 7.8% in 2011, will grow further by 2.2% in 2012. Finally, as companies in the energy industry, both in North America and internationally, continue to focus on improving operating efficiencies, they have been increasingly looking to outsource their procurement and related administrative functions to distributors such as MRC.

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# **Our Strengths**

Global Market Leader with Worldwide Branch Network and Significant Scale. We are the leading global industrial distributor of PVF and related products to the energy industry based on sales, with nearly twice the sales of our nearest competitor in 2011. The benefits of our size and international presence include:

the ability to act as a single-source supplier to large, multi-national customers operating across the various segments of the global energy industry;

the ability to commit significant financial resources to further develop and invest in our operating infrastructure and provide a strong platform for future expansion;

the ability to secure improved access, service and volume purchasing benefits from our suppliers; and

the ability to leverage our global inventory coverage to provide greater overall breadth and depth of product offerings. *Proven Track Record of Successfully Identifying, Executing and Integrating Acquisitions*. We have demonstrated our ability to successfully integrate acquired companies in 26 acquisitions since 2000, collectively representing approximately \$1.8 billion in sales in the respective years of acquisition, in addition to the business combination between McJunkin Corporation and Red Man Pipe & Supply Co. (Red Man) in October 2007 (which had approximately \$2 billion of revenue in the year of merger). Our operating scale and integration capabilities have also enabled us to realize important synergies, while minimizing execution risk. All of our North American acquisitions have been integrated onto a single IT platform, which facilitates more efficient pricing, sourcing and inventory management.

High Level of Integration and MRO Contracts with a Global Energy Customer Base. We have a diversified global customer base with over 12,000 active customers. We serve as the sole or primary supplier in all sectors or in specified sectors or geographies for many of our customers. Our largest 25 customers, with whom we have had relationships for more than 20 years on average, accounted for approximately half of our sales for 2011, while no single customer accounted for more than 6% of our sales during that period. We enjoy fully integrated relationships, including interconnected technology systems and daily communication, with many of our customers, and we provide an extensive range of integrated and outsourced supply services, allowing us to market a total transaction value concept as opposed to individual product prices. We sell products to our major customers through multi-year MRO contracts, which are typically renegotiated every three to five years. Although there are typically no guaranteed minimum purchase amounts under these contracts, these MRO customers, representing approximately two-thirds of our 2011 sales with an average annual retention rate of over 95% since 2000, provide a relatively stable revenue stream and help mitigate the effect of industry downturns on our business.

Business and Geographic Diversification in High-Growth Areas. We are well diversified across the upstream, midstream and downstream operations of the energy industry, as well as through our participation in selected industrial sectors. This diversification affords us some measure of protection in the event of a downturn in any one sector while providing us the ability to offer a one stop solution for our integrated energy customers. In our North American operating segment, our more than 175 branch locations are located near major hydrocarbon and refining regions, including rapidly expanding oil and natural gas E&P areas, such as the Bakken, Barnett, Eagle Ford, Fayetteville, Haynesville, Marcellus, Niobrara and Utica shales. In these non-conventional shale areas, a typical well can produce three to five times the revenue for us than a conventional well due to the greater length and the higher quality of pipe and related PVF products we furnish. In our International

operating segment, we have a network of over 30 branch locations throughout Europe, Asia and Australasia in close proximity to major projects in liquefied natural gas ( LNG ), mining and mineral processing and other high-growth energy and infrastructure development areas.

Strategic Supplier Relationships. We have extensive relationships with our suppliers and have key supplier relationships dating back in certain instances over 60 years. Approximately 50% of our total purchases for the year ended December 31, 2011 were from our largest 25 suppliers. We believe our customers view us as an industry leader in part due to the formal processes we use to evaluate vendor performance and product quality. We employ individuals who specialize in conducting manufacturer assessments both domestically and internationally and who are certified by the International Registry of Certificated Auditors. Our Supplier Registration Process, which allows us to maintain the MRC ASL, serves as a significant strategic advantage to us in developing, maintaining and institutionalizing key supplier relationships. For our suppliers, inclusion on the MRC ASL represents an opportunity for them to increase their product sales to our customers. The SRP also adds value to our customers, as they collaborate with us regarding specific manufacturer performance, our past experiences with products and the results of our on-site manufacturer assessments.

IT Platform Focused on Customer Service. Our proprietary, integrated, scalable, customer-linked and highly customized information systems support our business. A wide area network links these systems and our more than 4,000 employees. We operate a single information and operating system (SIMS) for all of our North American locations and a separate, Oracle-based system for our other international locations (other than those we have recently acquired). This enables real-time access to our business resources, including customer order processing, purchasing and material requests, distribution requirements planning, warehousing and receiving, inventory control and accounting and financial functions. In 2011, we had over 1.6 million electronic data interchange customer transactions (including purchase orders, advance ship notices, electronic funds transfer and internet ordering), compared to less than 700,000 in 2000. We have over 4 million customer part numbers cross referenced and integrated into MRC s IT systems. Significant elements of our systems include firm-wide pricing controls, resulting in disciplined pricing strategies, advanced scanning and customized bar-coding capabilities, allowing for efficient warehousing activities at customer as well as our own locations, and significant levels of customer-specific integrations. We believe that the customized integration of our customers systems into our own information systems has increased customer retention by reducing our customers expenses, resulting in switching costs when our customers compare us to alternative sources of supply. Typically, smaller regional and local competitors do not have IT capabilities that are as advanced as ours, which we believe further differentiates us from our competition.

Highly Efficient, Flexible Operating Structure Drives Significant Free Cash Flow Generation. We place a particular emphasis on practicing financial discipline as evidenced by our strong focus on return on net assets, minimal maintenance capital expenditures and high free cash flow generation. Our disciplined cost control, coupled with our active asset management strategies and IT and services capabilities, result in a business model exhibiting a high degree of operating leverage. As is typical with the flexibility associated with a distribution operating model, our variable cost base includes substantially all of our cost of goods sold and a large portion of our operating costs. Furthermore, our total capital expenditures were approximately 0.4% of our sales for the year ended December 31, 2011. This cost structure allows us to adjust effectively to changing industry dynamics.

**Experienced and Motivated Management Team.** Our executive management team averages approximately 30 years of experience in the oilfield and industrial supply business, the majority of which has been with MRC or its predecessors. Employees own approximately 8% of our Company, including approximately 5% that is owned by executive and senior management, either directly or indirectly through their equity interests in PVF Holdings LLC ( PVF Holdings ), our largest shareholder.

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# **Our Strategy**

Our goal is to grow our market position as the largest global industrial distributor of PVF and related products to the energy industry.

Increase Market Share Organically and Grow Business with Current Customers. We are committed to expanding existing deep relationships with our current customer base while concurrently striving to secure new customers. To accomplish this, we are focused on providing a global one stop PVF procurement solution across the upstream, midstream and downstream sectors of the energy industry, maximizing bundling opportunities by leveraging our extensive product offering and increasing our penetration of existing customers new multi-year projects. Since 2000, we have retained in excess of 95% of our MRO contracts.

The migration of existing customer relationships to sole or primary sourcing arrangements is a core strategic focus. We seek to position ourselves as the sole or primary provider of a broad complement of PVF products and services for a particular customer, often by sector or region, or in certain instances across all of a customer s global upstream, midstream and downstream operations. Several of our largest customers have recently switched to sole or primary sourcing contracts with us. Additionally, we believe that other significant opportunities exist to expand our deep customer and supplier relationships and thereby increase our market share. There is also a significant opportunity to extend our current North American MRO contracts internationally as well as bundle certain products, most notably pipe, flanges, fittings and other products (PFF), into MRC Transmark s existing customer base, branch network and more valve-focused product platform.

We also aim to increase our penetration of our existing customers new projects. For example, while we often provide nearly 100% of the PVF products for certain customers under MRO contracts, increased penetration of those customers new downstream and midstream projects remains a strategic priority.

Increase Recurring Revenues through Integrated Supply and MRO Contracts. We have entered into, and continue to pursue, integrated supply and MRO contracts with certain of our customers. Under these arrangements, we are typically the sole or primary source provider of the upstream, midstream or downstream requirements of our customers. In certain instances, we are the sole or primary source provider for our customers across all the energy sectors or North American geographies within which the customer operates. We will seek to extend these contracts internationally.

In addition, our customers have, over time, increasingly moved toward centralized PVF procurement management at the corporate level rather than at individual local units. These developments are partly due to significant consolidation among our customer base. Sole or primary sourcing arrangements allow customers to focus on their core operations and provide economic benefits by generating immediate savings for the customer through administrative cost and working capital reductions, while providing for increased volumes, more stable revenue streams and longer term visibility for us. We believe we are well positioned to obtain these arrangements due to our leadership position and technical expertise, geographically diverse branch network, breadth of available product lines, value added services and scale in purchasing and existing deep relationships with customers and suppliers.

We also have both exclusive and non-exclusive MRO contracts in place. Our customers are increasing their capital and operating spending, which is being driven by aging infrastructure, increasing regulatory, safety and environmental requirements, the increased utilization of existing facilities and the decreasing quality of energy feedstocks. Our customers benefit from MRO arrangements through lower inventory investment and the reduction of transaction costs associated

with the elimination of the bid submission process, and our Company benefits from the recurring revenue stream that occurs with an MRO contract in place. We believe there are additional opportunities to utilize MRO arrangements through our one-stop PVF solution, both in North America and globally, for servicing the requirements of our customers. We are actively pursuing such opportunities.

Capitalize on Significant Growth in U.S. Shale Activity. The development of shale oil and gas in the U.S. has been rapid over the past several years. Natural gas is a major source of energy in the U.S., providing about 25% of total U.S. energy according to the Department of Energy. Shale gas, as a percentage of total natural gas production, has, in turn, rapidly increased from less than 2% of total U.S. natural gas production in 2001 to 30% in 2011 and is projected to increase to 49% by 2035 according to the EIA. Over the past ten years, technological advances in directional drilling and fracturing technologies have enabled the production of oil and natural gas products in previously underdeveloped U.S. oil and natural gas shale basins. As a result, unconventional E&P activity in shale regions has accelerated significantly and production levels have increased. We believe that PVF expenditures for unconventional shale plays can amount to as much as five times that required for comparable conventional plays and have positioned ourselves to benefit from this increase in unconventional E&P and midstream infrastructure activity by investing in these shale regions.

In addition, we are well positioned to continue to benefit from the more recent marked shift in E&P activity in the U.S. towards oil production. During 2007, approximately 17% of E&P activity in the U.S. consisted of oil drilling and 83% consisted of natural gas drilling. During the fourth quarter of 2011, approximately 55% of E&P activity in the U.S. consisted of oil drilling and 45% consisted of natural gas drilling. This is the highest percentage of oil drilling in the U.S. in approximately two decades.

Capitalize on Anticipated Midstream MRO Activity. Our major midstream customers face new safety regulations requiring additional inspection and hydro-testing requirements for U.S. pipelines. On January 3, 2012, the Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011 (the Pipeline Act ) was enacted into law. The Pipeline Act is expected to accelerate PVF testing and replacement as well as require midstream participants to install additional automatic or remote-controlled shut-off valves and excess flow valves in new or replaced transmission pipelines. In addition, approximately 60% of the 178,000 miles of pipeline in the U.S. is over 40 years old. Recent initiatives from several of our major customers suggest a longer term trend towards continued replacement of this aged pipeline infrastructure and related MRO spending. Our acquisition of LaBarge Pipe & Steel Company (LaBarge), along with our increased focus and investments in line pipe and its attendant PVF and industrial supply products, uniquely positions us to benefit from increased pipeline replacement and MRO spending in the midstream sector over the next 10 years.

Further Penetrate the Canadian Oil Sands, Particularly the Downstream Sector. The Canadian Oil Sands region and its attendant downstream sector represent long-term growth areas for our Company. The Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers and Energy Resources Conservation Board estimate that Oil Sands capital expenditures increased by approximately 18% in 2010 to \$13 billion and projects that expenditures will increase to approximately \$20 billion by 2016, a compound annual growth rate ( CAGR ) of 7.4%, which we believe will generate significant PVF expenditures. While MRC Midfield has historically focused on the upstream and midstream sectors in Canada, we believe that a significant opportunity exists to continue to penetrate the Canadian Oil Sands and downstream industries, which include the upgrader, refinery, petrochemical and other industrial processing sectors. Our sales to the Canadian Oil Sands region and downstream sectors increased by 45% to \$361 million from 2010 to 2011. Additionally, we believe there is also a significant opportunity to penetrate the Canadian Oil Sands extraction sector involving in-situ recovery methods. We have made targeted inventory and facility investments in Canada, including a 74,000 square foot distribution center located near Edmonton and a 16,000 square foot warehouse near Fort McMurray, to address this opportunity.

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Expanding Globally Through Positioning on EPC Projects. Projects are a growing part of our business and represent approximately one-third of our sales. In 2011, 15% of our revenue was derived from infrastructure projects through engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) firms and 19% was derived from drilling/production projects. These projects can be either brownfield or greenfield in nature, with the latter representing new construction and the former representing projects that are more refurbishment or replacement in scope. Infrastructure projects are an important part of all the sectors we serve but are typically more active in our downstream and midstream sectors. Due to our strong MRO position in these sectors, we are often our customers—choice for brownfield expansion in these facilities. We are actively looking to increase our participation in new greenfield projects both domestically and internationally by working closely with both end customers and EPC contractors.

**Expand into New Geographies and Adjacent Sectors.** We intend to continue to selectively establish new branches to facilitate our expansion into new geographies and enter adjacent sectors where extreme operating environments generate high PVF product replacement rates. We continue to evaluate establishing branches and service and supply centers in select domestic and international regions as well as identifying existing branches for overlap and strategic elimination.

We believe that an attractive opportunity exists to further expand our International operating segment. We continue to actively evaluate opportunities to selectively establish new branches in order to grow with our existing global customer base or to develop new customer relationships and extend our offering to key international markets, particularly in Asia, Europe, Australasia and the Middle East. The current installed base of energy infrastructure internationally, including the upstream, midstream and downstream sectors, is significantly larger than in North America, and, as a result, we believe represents an attractive long term opportunity for us. Since 2006, when 100% of our revenues were generated in the U.S., we have expanded into Canada, Europe, Asia and Australasia. In the year ended December 31, 2011, approximately 20% of our revenues were generated outside the U.S.

We also believe opportunities exist for expansion into new and under-penetrated sectors where PVF products are used in specialized or highly corrosive applications. These sectors include pulp and paper, waterworks, food and beverage and other general industrial sectors, in addition to other energy sectors such as power generation, mining and mineral processing, solar, LNG, coal, nuclear, ethanol and desalinization facilities.

Pursue Selective Strategic Acquisitions and Investments. We continue to seek opportunities to strengthen our franchise through selective acquisitions and strategic investments. In particular, we will consider investments that enhance our presence in the energy infrastructure sector and enable us to leverage our existing operations, either through acquiring new branches or by acquiring companies offering complementary products or geographic breadth. Our industry remains highly fragmented while our customers and suppliers continue to consolidate. We believe a significant number of small and larger acquisition opportunities remain that offer favorable synergy potential and attractive growth characteristics. We intend to focus on utilizing our global operating scale and integration capabilities to further realize important synergies while minimizing execution risk.

Continued Focus on Operational Efficiency. We strive for continued operational excellence. Our branch managers, regional management and corporate leadership team continually examine branch profitability, working capital management and return on managed assets and utilize this information to optimize global, regional and local strategies, reduce operating costs and maximize cash flow generation.

To improve efficiencies and profitability, we work to leverage operational best practices, optimize our vendor relationships, purchasing and inventory levels, and source inventory internationally when appropriate. As part of this strategy, we have integrated our purchasing functions into a central procurement function and believe we have developed strong relationships with vendors that value our international footprint, large sales force and volume purchasing capabilities. Because of this, we are often considered the preferred distribution channel.

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# **Recent Developments**

# Preliminary First Quarter 2012 Results

We expect to report the following results for each of sales, net income, Adjusted EBITDA and total indebtedness for the three months ending March 31, 2012 and as of March 31, 2012, as applicable:

Sales. We expect to report sales of between approximately \$1.30 billion and \$1.34 billion for the three months ending March 31, 2012, as compared to sales of \$991.8 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011.

**Net income**. We expect to report net income of between approximately \$30 million and \$36 million for the three months ending March 31, 2012, as compared to a net loss of \$(1.1) million for the three months ended March 31, 2011.

**Adjusted EBITDA**. We expect to report Adjusted EBITDA of between approximately \$101 million and \$111 million for the three months ending March 31, 2012, as compared to Adjusted EBITDA of \$60 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011.

**Total indebtedness**. We expect that our total indebtedness outstanding at March 31, 2012 will be approximately \$1.6 billion to \$1.7 billion, as compared to \$1.53 billion of total indebtedness as of December 31, 2011.

Expected results for the three months ending March 31, 2012 primarily reflect continued strength in each of the upstream, midstream and downstream sectors of our business, including strong drilling activity in North America, particularly in the shale and conventional oil regions. The results estimated above include an approximately \$1.7 million write-off of deferred financing costs, which we expect to record in the three months ending March 31, 2012 in connection with the refinancing of our ABL Credit Facility. The expected increase in total indebtedness at March 31, 2012 primarily reflects the acquisition of OneSteel Piping Systems and working capital growth.

Management has prepared the estimates presented above in good faith based upon our internal reporting and expectations as of and for the three months ending March 31, 2012. These estimated ranges are preliminary, unaudited, subject to completion, reflect our current good faith estimates and may be revised as a result of results posted during the remainder of the quarter and management s further review of our results. We and our auditors have not completed our normal quarterly review procedures as of and for the three months ending March 31, 2012, and there can be no assurance that our final results for this quarterly period will not differ from these estimates. Any such changes could be material. During the course of the preparation of our consolidated financial statements and related notes as of and for the three months ending March 31, 2012, we may identify items that would require us to make material adjustments to the preliminary financial information. These estimates should not be viewed as a substitute for full interim financial statements prepared in accordance with GAAP. In addition, these preliminary estimates as of and for the three months ending March 31, 2012 are not necessarily indicative of the results to be achieved for the remainder of 2012 or any future period. Our consolidated financial statements and related notes as of and for three months ending March 31, 2012 are not expected to be filed with the SEC until after this offering is completed.

Adjusted EBITDA is a non-GAAP measure within the rules of the SEC. The most closely comparable GAAP measure is net income. The following table reconciles Adjusted EBITDA to net income for the ranges presented above for the three months ending March 31, 2012 (estimated) and for the three months ended March 31, 2011 (actual). For more information about our use of Adjusted EBITDA, see footnote 2 to Summary Consolidated Financial Information included elsewhere in this prospectus.

	Three Months Ended March 31,				
	2012	2012 (Estimated High) (\$ in millions)		2011	
	(Estimated Low)			(Actual)	
Net income (loss)	\$ 30.0	\$	36.1	\$ (1.1)	
Income tax (benefit) expense	16.9		20.3	(0.7)	
Interest expense	33.5		33.9	33.5	
Depreciation and amortization	4.1		4.2	4.0	
Amortization of intangibles	12.1		12.2	12.4	
Change in fair value of derivative instruments	(2.1)		(1.9)	(1.9)	
Share based compensation expense	1.8		1.9	1.5	
Legal and consulting expenses	(1.1)		(0.9)	1.2	
Increase in LIFO Reserve	5.0		5.2	10.1	
Other noncash expenses (1)	(0.9)		(1.3)	1.0	
Deferred financing costs	1.7		1.7		
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 101.0	\$	111.4	\$ 60.0	