

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN
Form 424B3
November 03, 2004

FILED PURSUANT TO RULE 424(B)(3)
REGISTRATION NO. 333-107573

PROSPECTUS

400,000 SHARES OF
KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN
4.25% REDEEMABLE CUMULATIVE CONVERTIBLE PERPETUAL PREFERRED STOCK, SERIES C
(LIQUIDATION PREFERENCE \$500 PER SHARE)
AND
13,389,120 SHARES OF COMMON STOCK (PAR VALUE \$0.01 PER SHARE)
ISSUABLE UPON CONVERSION OF THE
REDEEMABLE CUMULATIVE CONVERTIBLE PERPETUAL PREFERRED STOCK, SERIES C

This prospectus relates to the offering for resale of Kansas City Southern's 4.25% Redeemable Cumulative Convertible Perpetual Preferred Stock, Series C (liquidation preference \$500 per share), or "Series C Preferred Stock," and the shares of our common stock (including attached preferred stock purchase rights) issuable upon conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock. The Series C Preferred Stock was offered to qualified institutional buyers in reliance on Rule 144A in transactions exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, through the initial purchasers, Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated and Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. This prospectus will be used by selling securityholders to resell their shares of Series C Preferred Stock and shares of our common stock issuable upon conversion of their Series C Preferred Stock. We will not receive any proceeds from sales by the selling securityholders.

CONVERTIBILITY OF THE SERIES C PREFERRED STOCK

Holders may convert their Series C Preferred Stock into 33.4728 shares of our common stock only under certain circumstances related to: (i) the trading price of our common stock; (ii) a credit rating downgrade; (iii) the trading price per share of the Series C Preferred Stock; (iv) redemption of the Series C Preferred Stock; and (v) the occurrence of certain corporate transactions. The conversion rate may be adjusted upon the occurrence of certain events. There is no established trading market for the Series C Preferred Stock and we do not intend to list the Series C Preferred Stock on any national securities exchange. Our common stock is listed and traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "KSU." On October 26, 2004, the closing sale price of our common stock was \$16.25.

REDEMPTION OR REPURCHASE OF SERIES C PREFERRED STOCK

Subject to certain conditions, on or after May 20, 2008, we will have the option to redeem some or all of the shares of Series C Preferred Stock at a redemption price of 100% of the liquidation preference, plus accumulated and unpaid dividends, including special dividends, if any, to the redemption date. Under certain circumstances, we may be required to purchase shares of the Series C Preferred Stock at the option of the holder at a price equal to 100% of the liquidation preference plus any accumulated and unpaid dividends, including special dividends, if any, to, but excluding, the purchase date.

INVESTING IN OUR SERIES C PREFERRED STOCK OR COMMON STOCK INVOLVES RISKS.

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY THE SECTION ENTITLED "RISK FACTORS" BEGINNING ON PAGE 12.

NEITHER THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION NOR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION HAS APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED OF THESE SECURITIES OR DETERMINED IF THIS PROSPECTUS IS TRUTHFUL OR COMPLETE. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

THE DATE OF THIS PROSPECTUS IS OCTOBER 29, 2004

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. You should not assume that the information contained in this prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of this prospectus.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | PAGE |
|--|------|
| About this Prospectus..... | i |
| Prospectus Summary..... | 1 |
| Risk Factors..... | 12 |
| Use of Proceeds..... | 29 |
| Business | 29 |
| Description of the Acquisition..... | 31 |
| Description of the Series C Preferred Stock..... | 48 |
| Description of KCS Capital Stock..... | 65 |
| Description of The Class A Convertible Common Stock..... | 69 |
| Certain United States Federal Tax Considerations..... | 73 |
| Selling Securityholders..... | 76 |
| Plan of Distribution..... | 80 |
| Financial Statements of Grupo TFM..... | 83 |
| Pro Forma Financial Information..... | 84 |
| Legal Matters..... | 96 |
| Experts | 96 |
| Where You Can Find More Information..... | 96 |
| Forward-Looking Statements..... | 97 |

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, utilizing a "shelf" registration process or continuous offering process. Under this shelf registration process, the selling securityholders may, from time to time, sell the securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities which may be offered by the selling securityholders. Each time a selling securityholder sells securities, the selling securityholder is required to provide you with this prospectus and, in certain cases, a prospectus supplement containing specific information about the selling securityholder and the terms of the securities being offered. That prospectus supplement may include additional risk factors or other special considerations applicable to those securities. Any prospectus supplement may also add, update, or change information in this prospectus. If there is any inconsistency between the information in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information in that prospectus supplement. You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

additional information described under "Where You Can Find More Information."

UNLESS WE HAVE INDICATED OTHERWISE, REFERENCES IN THIS PROSPECTUS TO "KCS" MEAN KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN (FORMERLY KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN INDUSTRIES, INC.) AND REFERENCES TO THE "COMPANY," "WE," "US," "OUR," AND SIMILAR TERMS REFER TO KCS AND OUR CONSOLIDATED SUBSIDIARIES, EXCLUDING THE DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS OF ITS FORMER FINANCIAL SERVICES BUSINESS STILWELL FINANCIAL, INC. (NOW KNOWN AS JANUS CAPITAL GROUP INC. ("JANUS")). UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES, REFERENCES IN THIS PROSPECTUS TO "KCSR" MEAN THE KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY, THE PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARY OF KCS, AND INCLUDES FOR ALL PERIODS PRESENTED THE GATEWAY WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY, WHICH WAS MERGED INTO KCSR EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2001. REFERENCES TO "GRUPO TFM" MEAN GRUPO TRANSPORTACION FERROVIARIA MEXICANA, S.A. DE C.V., THE PARENT COMPANY OF TFM, S.A. DE C.V. AND AN AFFILIATE OF KCS. REFERENCES TO "TFM" MEAN TFM, S.A. DE C.V., THE RAILWAY OPERATING SUBSIDIARY OF GRUPO TFM AND AN AFFILIATE OF KCS. REFERENCES TO "MEXRAIL" MEAN MEXRAIL, INC, THE 51% OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF KCS, THE SHARES OF WHICH ARE CURRENTLY HELD IN A TRUST PENDING SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD APPROVAL OF KCS' COMMON CONTROL OF KCSR, THE GATEWAY EASTERN RAILWAY COMPANY AND THE TEXAS MEXICAN RAILWAY COMPANY. REFERENCES TO "TEX-MEX" MEAN THE TEXAS MEXICAN RAILWAY COMPANY, A WHOLLY OWNED RAILWAY OPERATING SUBSIDIARY OF MEXRAIL, INC. . REFERENCES TO "GRUPO TMM" MEAN GRUPO TMM, S.A. (THE SURVIVING ENTITY IN A MERGER OF TRANSPORTACION MARITIMA MEXICANA, S.A. DE

C.V. AND THE FORMER GRUPO SERVIA, S.A. DE C.V. AND WHICH, AFTER A REORGANIZATION THAT ELIMINATED THE VARIABLE PORTION OF GRUPO TMM, S.A. DE C.V. CAPITAL STOCK, BECAME A FIXED CAPITAL CORPORATION WITH THE NAME GRUPO TMM, S.A.), CURRENTLY THE LARGEST SHAREHOLDER OF GRUPO TFM. REFERENCES TO "TMM HOLDINGS" AND " MULTIMODAL" MEAN TMM HOLDINGS, S.A. DE C.V. AND TMM MULTIMODAL, S.A. DE C.V., RESPECTIVELY, SUBSIDIARIES OF GRUPO TMM. REFERENCES TO "KARA SUB" MEAN KARA SUB, INC., A WHOLLY-OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF KCS. REFERENCES TO "NAFTA" MEAN THE NORTH AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT 7

PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary may not contain all the information that may be important to you. You should read this entire prospectus and the documents to which we have referred you before making an investment decision. You should carefully consider the information set forth under "Risk Factors." In addition, certain statements include forward-looking information that involves risks and uncertainties. See "Forward-Looking Statements."

OUR COMPANY

We, along with our subsidiaries and affiliates, own and operate a uniquely positioned North American rail network strategically focused on the growing north/south freight corridor that connects key commercial and industrial markets in the central United States with major industrial cities in Mexico. KCS's principal subsidiary, KCSR, which was founded in 1887, is one of seven Class I railroads in the United States (railroads with annual revenues of at least \$272 million, as indexed for inflation). Our rail network (KCSR, an equitable interest in TFM, and a controlling interest in Tex-Mex that is currently subject to a trust)) comprises approximately 6,000 miles of main and branch lines extending from the midwest portions of the United States south into Mexico. We have further expanded our rail network through marketing alliances and a strategic alliance.

Our expanded network includes:

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

- o KCSR, which operates approximately 3,100 miles of main and branch lines running on a north/south axis from Kansas City, Missouri to the Gulf of Mexico and on an east/west axis from Meridian, Mississippi to Dallas, Texas (our "Meridian Speedway") and from Kansas City to East St. Louis, Illinois and Springfield, Illinois, and 1,250 miles of other tracks in a ten state region that includes Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, Louisiana, Texas and Illinois;
- o our affiliate, TFM, which operates approximately 2,650 miles of main and branch lines running from the U.S./Mexico border at Laredo, Texas to Mexico City and serves most of Mexico's principal industrial cities and three of its major shipping ports;
- o our indirect subsidiary Tex-Mex, which operates a 157-mile rail line extending from Laredo to the port city of Corpus Christi, Texas and through trackage rights over the Union Pacific Railroad between Robbstown and Beaumont, Texas connects the operations of KCSR with TFM;
- o marketing agreements with Norfolk Southern Railway Company ("Norfolk Southern") that allows us to gain incremental traffic volume between the southeast and the southwest United States and a marketing agreement with I&M Rail Link, now known as the Iowa, Chicago & Eastern Railroad Corporation ("IC&E"), that provides us with access to Minneapolis, Minnesota and Chicago, Illinois and to the origination of corn and other grain in Iowa, Minnesota and Illinois;
- o a strategic alliance with Canadian National Railway Company ("CN") and Illinois Central Corporation ("IC," and together with CN, "CN/IC"), through which we have access to a contiguous rail network of approximately 25,000 miles of main and branch lines connecting Canada, the United States and Mexico;
- o a joint marketing alliance, entered into in April 2002 with The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company ("BNSF") aimed at promoting cooperation, revenue growth and extending market reach, principally to enhance chemical, grain and forest product traffic for

both railroads in the United States and Canada. The marketing alliance is also expected to improve operating efficiencies for both carriers in key market areas, as well as provide customers with expanded service options; and

- o our affiliate, the Panama Canal Railway Company ("PCRC"), which holds the concession to operate the Panama Canal Railway, a 47-mile coast-to-coast railroad located adjacent to the Panama Canal. This railroad has been reconstructed for the purpose of performing freight and passenger operations. Its wholly-owned subsidiary, Panarail Tourism Company ("Panarail"), operates a commuter and tourist railway service over the lines of the Panama Canal Railway.

COMPANY INFORMATION

KCS is incorporated in Delaware. Our principal executive offices are located at 427 West 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64105. Our telephone number is 816-983-1303.

PROPOSED ACQUISITION

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

GENERAL

Since 1997, pursuant to a joint venture agreement, and other agreements, entered into by KCS and Grupo TMM, subsidiaries of KCS and Grupo TMM have owned, along with Mexican governmental agencies, interests in Grupo TFM, which is the owner of 80% of the voting stock of TFM. TFM holds the concession to operate, and operates, a major rail system in Mexico, formerly known as the "Northeast Rail Lines". In 1995, KCS acquired from Grupo TMM 49% of the stock of Mexrail, owner of 100% of the voting stock of Tex-Mex. Mexrail also owns the northern half of the international railway bridge at Laredo, Texas. Tex-Mex operates a 157 mile rail line from Laredo to Corpus Christi, Texas, which connects with the KCSR through trackage rights over the Union Pacific Railroad between Robbstown, Texas and Beaumont, Texas. In March, 2002, KCS and Grupo TMM sold their interests in Mexrail to TFM, with KCS receiving approximately \$31.4 million for its 49% interest in Mexrail. On August 16, 2004, KCS purchased from TFM 51% of the shares of Mexrail and placed them into a trust pending Surface Transportation Board approval of KCS' petition to exercise common control over KCSR, the Gateway Eastern Railway Company ("Gateway Eastern") and Tex-Mex. The structure of this ownership prior to the execution of the Acquisition Agreement (defined below) (with intermediate subsidiaries, other than KCSR, eliminated), including imputed ownership from TFM's ownership of 24.6% of Grupo TFM, appears in the following diagram:

[Organizational chart type diagram appears here showing ownership of Grupo TFM by KCS (46.6%, indirectly through its 100% ownership of KCSR) and Grupo TMM (48.5%) (including in both cases imputed ownership from TFM's ownership of 24.6% of Grupo TFM), Grupo TFM's ownership of 80% of TFM (with the other 20% held by the Mexican Government), TFM's ownership of 100% of Mexrail and Mexrail's ownership of 100% of Tex-Mex]

On April 20, 2003, KCS entered into an agreement (the "Acquisition Agreement") with Grupo TMM and other parties to ultimately acquire control of TFM through the purchase of Grupo TMM's shares of Grupo TFM (the "Acquisition"). Under the terms of the Acquisition Agreement, KCS would acquire all of the interest of Grupo TMM (held by its subsidiary, Multimodal) in Grupo TFM for \$200 million in cash and 18,000,000 shares of a new class of common securities of KCS, to be designated "Class A Convertible Common Stock." Grupo TFM owns an 80% economic interest in TFM and all of the shares of stock with full voting rights of TFM (the "TFM Voting Stock"). KCS has the right to elect to pay up to \$80 million of the cash portion of the purchase price by delivering up to 6,400,000 shares of KCS Class A Convertible Common Stock or KCS common stock. KCS and Grupo TMM have been in dispute over Grupo TMM's attempt to terminate the Acquisition Agreement. See "--Recent Developments," "Description of the Acquisition--Recent Developments."

The following diagram illustrates the ownership structure resulting if the Acquisition of TFM is completed (eliminating intermediate subsidiaries)

[Organizational chart type diagram appears here showing ownership by KCS (to be renamed "NAFTA Rail") of 100% of Grupo TFM, as well as KCS's 100% ownership of KCSR); Grupo TFM's ownership of 80% of TFM (with the other 20% held by the Mexican Government and footnoted with the information in (1) below), TFM's ownership of 100% of Mexrail and Mexrail's ownership of 100% of Tex-Mex]

(1) Limited Voting. Mexican government has certain "put" rights discussed under

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

"Risk Factors--KCS Risk Factors--Risks Related to Our Business--We may be required to make additional investments in TFM" and "Description of the Acquisition--Summary of the Acquisition Agreement and Related Agreements--Agreement of Assignment and Assumption of Rights, Duties and Obligations."

In addition, provided the Acquisition has occurred and neither KCS nor any of its subsidiaries has purchased TFM shares held by the Mexican government upon exercise of the Mexican government's right to compel purchase of those shares (referred to as the "Put"), KCS would be obligated to pay to Grupo TMM an additional amount (referred to as the "VAT Contingency Payment") of up to \$180 million in cash in the event that a pending Value Added Tax claim (referred to as the "VAT Claim") against the Mexican government by TFM is successfully resolved and the amount received is greater than the purchase price of the Put. See "Description of the Acquisition--Summary of the Acquisition Agreement and Related Agreements--The Acquisition Agreement--VAT Contingency Payment." Upon completion of the Acquisition, KCS will assume Grupo TMM's obligations to make any payment upon the exercise by the Mexican government of the Put and will indemnify Grupo TMM and its affiliates, and their respective officers, directors, employees and shareholders, against obligations or liabilities relating thereto. See "Description of the Acquisition--Summary of the Acquisition Agreement and Related Agreements--Agreement of Assignment and Assumption of Rights, Duties and Obligations."

In connection with the Acquisition, KCS would enter into a consulting agreement with a consulting company organized by Jose Serrano Segovia, Chairman of the Board of Grupo TMM, Grupo TFM and TFM, pursuant to which it would provide consulting services to KCS in connection with the portion of the business of KCS in Mexico for a period of three years. As consideration for these services, the consulting company would receive an annual fee of \$600,000 per year and a grant of 2,100,000 shares of restricted stock of KCS. The restricted stock would vest over a period of time subject to certain conditions. The consulting agreement may be extended for an additional year at the option of KCS, upon delivery of an additional 525,000 shares of common stock. The consulting agreement also provides for up to an additional 1,350,000 common shares to be issued contingent upon the achievement of certain objectives. See "Description of the Acquisition--Summary of the Acquisition Agreement and Related Agreements--Consulting Agreement."

The obligations of KCS and Grupo TMM to complete the Acquisition are subject to a number of conditions. See "Description of the Acquisition--Summary of the Acquisition Agreement and Related Agreements--The Acquisition Agreement--Conditions to Obligations to Complete the Acquisition."

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

CLOSING ON NEW CREDIT FACILITY

During March 2004, the Company used cash on-hand to repay approximately \$98.5 million relating to the Company's former credit facility. On March 30, 2004, the Company closed on a new credit facility ("2004 Credit Facility"). The 2004 Credit Facility consists of a \$100 million revolving credit facility ("2004 Revolving Credit Facility") maturing on March 30, 2007 and a \$150 million Term B loan facility ("Term B Loan Facility") maturing on March 30, 2008. The Term B Loan Facility was fully funded on the closing date and the proceeds are expected to be used to pay transaction costs, and for other general corporate purposes, including additional investments in the Company's Mexican affiliates. There were no funds drawn under the previous revolving credit facility and the full \$100 million borrowing capacity under the 2004 Revolving Credit Facility is currently available to the Company. Up to \$25 million of the 2004 Revolving Credit Facility is available for letters of credit and up to \$15 million is available for swing line loans. The proceeds from future borrowings under the 2004

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

Revolving Credit Facility may be used for working capital and for general corporate purposes, including additional investments in our Mexican affiliates. The letters of credit may be used for general corporate purposes. Borrowings under the 2004 Credit Facility are secured by substantially all of the Company's assets and are guaranteed by the majority of its subsidiaries.

DISPUTE OVER ACQUISITION AGREEMENT

On August 18, 2003, Grupo TMM shareholders voted not to approve the sale of Grupo TMM's interests in Grupo TFM to KCS. On August 23, 2003, Grupo TMM sent a notice to KCS claiming to terminate the Acquisition Agreement, because the Grupo TMM shareholders had failed to approve the Acquisition Agreement. KCS's position has been and remains that the Acquisition Agreement does not provide that a negative shareholder vote by Grupo TMM shareholders is a basis for termination. KCS maintains that the Acquisition Agreement is still valid and remains in effect until December 31, 2004 (unless otherwise validly terminated in accordance with its terms).

KCS has taken actions to resolve this dispute and to preserve the parties' positions while it seeks to resolve the dispute. In August 2003, KCS initiated the dispute resolution process, which included an informal 60-day negotiation period between the parties. The parties were unable to resolve the dispute within that period of time. KCS filed a complaint in the Delaware Chancery Court alleging that Grupo TMM had breached the Acquisition Agreement and seeking a preliminary injunction requiring Grupo TMM not to take any action in violation of the terms of the Acquisition Agreement. KCS also filed in the Delaware Court of Chancery a motion for a preliminary injunction, which was granted, to preserve the parties' positions while KCS seeks to resolve its dispute over Grupo TMM's attempt to terminate the Acquisition Agreement.

On October 31, 2003, KCS initiated binding arbitration in accordance with the terms of the Acquisition Agreement. In its Arbitration Demand, KCS seeks a determination that the Acquisition Agreement is in full force and effect, specific performance of the Acquisition Agreement, and damages for Grupo TMM's breach of the terms of the Acquisition Agreement and failure to negotiate in good faith during the 60-day negotiation period. By the agreement of the parties, the arbitration has been bifurcated. The first stage of the arbitration only addressed the question of whether Grupo TMM's purported negative shareholder vote gave Grupo TMM the right to terminate the Acquisition Agreement. On March 22, 2004, the Company announced that the panel of the American Arbitration Association International Centre for Dispute Resolution hearing the dispute between the Company and Grupo TMM issued its interim award on March 19, 2004 finding that the Acquisition Agreement remains in force and is binding on KCS and Grupo TMM in accordance with its terms. The arbitration panel concluded that the rejection of the Acquisition Agreement by Grupo TMM's shareholders did not authorize Grupo TMM's purported termination of the Acquisition Agreement. The second phase of the arbitration will decide the remaining issues, including remedies and damages. On April 7, 2004, KCS and Grupo TMM announced that they have agreed not to move immediately in to the next phase of arbitration. Both KCS and Grupo TMM have reserved the right to proceed with the next phase of arbitration at any time.

In connection with certain actions taken by Grupo TMM, KCS filed a motion to enforce injunction and hold Grupo TMM in contempt in the dispute between KCS and Grupo TMM over the Acquisition Agreement. In January 2004, the Delaware Court of Chancery issued a ruling, which held Grupo TMM in contempt of court for taking action inconsistent with the court's previous order granting KCS's motion for preliminary injunction. The court held that by Grupo TMM causing its subsidiary Grupo TFM to revoke powers of attorney requiring the signature of a KCS representative for transactions in excess of \$2.5 million and in granting

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

new powers of attorney to Grupo TMM directors, Jose Serrano and Mario Mohar to act on behalf of the company, Grupo TMM violated provisions of the Acquisition Agreement. The previous order of the court required Grupo TMM to cause Grupo TFM to conduct its business in accordance with past practices and not to directly or indirectly amend its organizational documents. The court ordered Grupo TMM to take the actions necessary to revoke the new powers of attorney, to re-enact the original powers of attorney, and to pay KCS its costs and attorneys fees for bringing the motion for contempt.

On April 4, 2004, KCS and Grupo TMM agreed to and signed, and the arbitration panel approved, a stipulation agreement in which KCS and Grupo TMM have agreed to discharge in good faith

all of the obligations of the Acquisition Agreement. On September 16, 2004, KCS and Grupo TMM announced their agreement to extend the ultimate termination date of the Acquisition Agreement to June 15, 2005.

For a more detailed description of actions taken in this dispute, see "Description of the Acquisition--Recent Developments--Dispute Over Acquisition Agreement."

MCC AND MNFIC AUTHORIZATION

On October 7, 2004, KCS and GTMM announced that KCS was notified by the MCC that the MCC had extended KCS' authority to purchase TMM's interest in Grupo Transportacion Ferroviaria Mexicana, S.A. de C.V. for an additional 180 days. MCC originally authorized the purchase in a ruling dated May 19, 2003, and the new ruling extends that authorization to April 5, 2005. On October 5, 2004, the Mexican National Foreign Investment Commission ("MNFIC") notified KCS of its decision authorizing KCS' acquisition of Grupo TMM's interest in Grupo TFM and exercise control over TFM. MNFIC's authorization will expire on October 5, 2005, unless the authorization is renewed by the MNFIC or the transaction is consummated prior to that date. The authorization of the MCC and MNFIC are the only Mexican governmental approvals necessary to consummate the Acquisition Agreement.

STB REVIEW STATUS

KCS filed with the STB a Railroad Control Application, seeking permission to exercise common control over KCSR, Gateway Eastern Railway Company ("Gateway Eastern") and Tex-Mex. The STB issued its decision, effective June 13, 2003, finding that the transaction proposed in KCS's application is a "minor transaction" under 49 CFR 1180.2(c), although KCS was required to supplement its application as discussed in the decision, to address some of the implications of KCS's acquisition of control of TFM. The STB also outlined a procedural schedule for consideration of KCS's application to exercise common control over KCSR, the Gateway Eastern and Tex-Mex. The STB has issued an order suspending the procedural schedule pending a resolution of the uncertainties that now surround KCS's efforts to acquire control of Tex-Mex, and requiring KCS to file status reports regarding developments in its efforts to acquire control of TFM and Tex-Mex. In accordance with the STB order, KCS filed its first status report on November 3, 2003 and follow-up status reports were filed on February 2, 2004 and March 23, 2004. On August 16, 2004, KCS filed a status report notifying the STB of KCS, TFM and Grupo TMM's entry into a new agreement for the sale of 51% of Mexrail to KCS and of the closure of that sale and the placement of the shares into a trust pending approval by the STB. KCS requested in its notice that the STB reactivate the proceeding and establish a new procedural schedule. In its order dated August 30, 2004, the STB established a new procedural schedule requiring the submission of comments by interested parties by September 30, 2004. In accordance with the procedural schedule, KCS submitted its replies to

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

the comments on October 15, 2004. The STB must rule on KCS' petition within 45 days after the final pleading in this case is filed, which would be on or before November 29, 2004.

DECLARATION OF DIVIDEND ON SERIES C PREFERRED STOCK

The KCS Board of Directors has declared a cash dividend of \$5.3125 per share on the outstanding Series C Preferred Stock. This dividend will be payable on November 15, 2004, to stockholders of record at the close of business on November 1, 2004.

THE OFFERING

On May 5, 2003, we completed a private offering of the Series C Preferred Stock. We entered into a registration rights agreement with the initial purchasers in the private offering in which we agreed, for the benefit of the holders of the Series C Preferred Stock, to file a registration statement with the SEC by August 3, 2003 with respect to resales of the Series C Preferred Stock and common stock issued upon the conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock. We also agreed to use our best efforts to cause the shelf registration statement to be declared effective under the Securities Act of 1933 by November 1, 2003 and to keep the shelf registration statement effective until the earlier of (i) the sale to the public pursuant to Rule 144 (or any similar provision then in force, but not Rule 144A) under the Securities Act or the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part of all the securities registered thereunder, and (ii) the expiration of the holding period applicable to such securities held by persons that are not our affiliates under Rule 144(k) under the Securities Act or any successor provision, subject to permitted exceptions.

Securities

offered..... 400,000 shares of Series C Preferred Stock.

Liquidation

preference..... \$500 per share of Series C Preferred Stock.

Dividends.....

Holders of Series C Preferred Stock are entitled to receive, when, as and if, declared by our board of directors, out of funds legally available therefor, cash dividends at the rate of 4.25% per annum, payable quarterly in arrears on February 15, May 15, August 15 and November 15 of each year, commencing August 15, 2003. Dividends on the Series C Preferred Stock will be cumulative from the date of initial issuance. Accumulated but unpaid dividends cumulate dividends at the annual rate of 4.25%.

We will also pay "special dividends" if we fail to comply with certain obligations under the registration rights agreement discussed above.

For so long as the Series C Preferred Stock remains outstanding, (1) we will not declare, pay or set apart funds for the payment of any dividend or other distribution with respect to any junior stock or parity stock and (2) neither we, nor any of our subsidiaries will, subject to certain exceptions, redeem, purchase or otherwise acquire for consideration junior stock or parity stock through a sinking fund or otherwise, in each case unless we have paid or set apart funds for the payment of all accumulated and unpaid dividends, including special dividends, if any, with respect to the shares of Series C Preferred Stock and any parity

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

stock for all preceding dividend periods. See "Description of the Series C Preferred Stock--Dividends."

Conversion..... A holder may convert its Series C Preferred Stock into a number of shares of our common stock equal to the conversion rate only under the following circumstances:

- o in any fiscal quarter commencing after June 30, 2003 if the closing sale price of our common stock for at least 20 trading days in a period of 30 consecutive trading days ending on the last trading day of the preceding fiscal quarter is more than 110% of the initial conversion price (initially 110% of \$14.9375, or \$16.4313);
- o after the earlier of (1) the date the Series C Preferred Stock is assigned a credit rating by both Standard & Poor's Rating Services, a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. and its successors ("S&P") and Moody's Investor Services and its successors ("Moody's") and (2) May 31, 2003, during any period in which the credit rating assigned to the Series C Preferred Stock by S&P is below CCC, or the credit rating assigned to the Series C Preferred Stock by Moody's is below Caa3, or no rating is assigned to the Series C Preferred Stock by either S&P or Moody's or any rating is suspended or withdrawn by either S&P or Moody's;
- o during the five business day period after any five consecutive trading day period in which the trading price per share of Series C Preferred Stock for each day of that period was less than 98% of the product of the closing sale price of our common stock and the conversion rate on each such day;
- o if the Series C Preferred Stock has been called for redemption; or
- o upon the occurrence of certain corporate transactions described under "Description of the Series C Preferred Stock--Conversion Rights--Conversion Upon Occurrence of Certain Corporate Transactions."

For each share of Series C Preferred Stock surrendered for conversion, a holder will receive 33.4728 shares of our common stock. This represents an initial conversion price of \$14.9375 per share of common stock. The conversion rate may be adjusted for certain reasons, but will not be adjusted for accumulated and unpaid dividends or special dividends, if any. Upon conversion, holders will not receive any cash payment representing accumulated dividends, if any. Instead, accumulated dividends, if any, will be deemed paid by the common stock received by holders on conversion.

Optional redemption..... We may not redeem any shares of Series C Preferred Stock at any time before May 20, 2008. On or after May 20, 2008, we may redeem some or all of the Series C Preferred Stock at a

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

redemption price equal to 100% of the liquidation preference, plus accumulated but unpaid dividends, including special dividends, if any, to the redemption date, but only if the closing sale price of our common stock for 20 trading days within a

period of 30 consecutive trading days ending on the trading day before the date we give the redemption notice exceeds 135% of the conversion price of the Series C Preferred Stock, subject to adjustment in a number of circumstances as described under "Description of the Series C Preferred Stock--Adjustments to the Conversion Rate." We may choose to pay the redemption price in cash, common stock, or a combination of cash and common stock. If we elect to pay all or a portion of the redemption price in shares of common stock, the common stock will be valued at a discount of 2.5% below the average of the closing sale prices for the five trading days ending on the third trading day prior to the redemption date. The terms of our debt instruments and/or bank facilities currently restrict our ability to redeem shares of Series C Preferred Stock for cash.

If full cumulative dividends on the Series C Preferred Stock have not been paid, the Series C Preferred Stock may not be redeemed and we may not purchase or acquire any shares of Series C Preferred Stock otherwise than pursuant to a purchase or exchange offer made on the same terms to all holders of Series C Preferred Stock.

The Series C Preferred Stock is not subject to any mandatory redemption or sinking fund provision.

Fundamental
change.....

If we become subject to a fundamental change, each holder of shares of Series C Preferred Stock will have the right to require us to purchase any or all of its shares at a purchase price equal to 100% of the liquidation preference, plus accumulated and unpaid dividends, including special dividends, if any, to the date of purchase. We may choose to pay the purchase price in cash, common stock, or a combination of cash and common stock. If we elect to pay all or a portion of the purchase price in shares of common stock, the common stock will be valued at a discount of 2.5% below the average of the closing sale prices for the five trading days ending on the third trading day prior to the purchase date. Our ability to purchase all or a portion of Series C Preferred Stock for cash is subject to our obligation to repay or repurchase any outstanding debt required to be repaid or repurchased in connection with a fundamental change and to any contractual restrictions then contained in our debt. If, following a fundamental change, we are prohibited from paying the purchase price of the Series C Preferred Stock in cash under the terms of our debt instruments, but are not prohibited under applicable law from paying such purchase price in shares of our common stock, we will pay the purchase price of the Series C Preferred Stock in shares of our common stock.

Voting rights.....

Holders of Series C Preferred Stock do not have any voting rights except as set forth below, as specifically provided

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

for in our restated certificate of incorporation or as otherwise from time to time required by law. Whenever (1) dividends on the

Series C Preferred Stock or any other class or series of stock ranking on a parity with the Series C Preferred Stock with respect to the payment of dividends are in arrears for dividend periods, whether or not consecutive, containing in the aggregate a number of days equivalent to six calendar quarters, or (2) we fail to pay the redemption price on the date shares of Series C Preferred Stock are called for redemption or the purchase price on the purchase date for shares of Series C Preferred Stock following a fundamental change, then, in each case, the holders of Series C Preferred Stock (voting separately as a class with all other series of Series C Preferred Stock upon which like voting rights have been conferred and are exercisable) will be entitled to vote for the election of two of the authorized number of our directors at the next annual meeting of stockholders and at each subsequent meeting until all dividends accumulated on the Series C Preferred Stock have been fully paid or set apart for payment. The term of office of all directors elected by the holders of Series C Preferred Stock will terminate immediately upon the termination of the rights of the holder of Series C Preferred Stock to vote for directors. Holders of shares of Series C Preferred Stock will have one vote for each share of Series C Preferred Stock held.

Ranking..... The Series C Preferred Stock are, with respect to dividend rights and rights upon liquidation, winding up or dissolution:

- o junior to all our existing and future debt obligations;
- o junior to our \$25 par value preferred stock and each other class or series of our capital stock other than (a) our common stock and any other class or series of our capital stock the terms of which provide that such class or series will rank junior to the Series C Preferred Stock and (b) any other class or series of our capital stock the terms of which provide that such class or series will rank on a parity with the Series C Preferred Stock;
- o on a parity with any other class or series of our capital stock the terms of which provide that such class or series will rank on a parity with the Series C Preferred Stock;
- o senior to our common stock and any other class or series of our capital stock the terms of which provide that such class or series will rank junior to the Series C Preferred Stock; and
- o effectively junior to all of our subsidiaries' (i) existing and future liabilities and (ii) capital stock held by others.

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

Trading..... We do not intend to list the Series C Preferred Stock on any national securities exchange.

NYSE symbol for our common stock.. Our common stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "KSU."

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED DIVIDENDS

For purposes of determining the ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred dividends, earnings are defined as (i) the sum of (a) pretax income from continuing operations before adjustment for minority interests in consolidated subsidiaries or income or loss from equity investees, (b) fixed charges, (c) amortization of capitalized interest, (d) distributed income of equity investees, and (e) our share of pretax losses of equity investees for which charges arising from guarantees are included in fixed charges, less (ii) the sum of (x) interest capitalized, (y) preference security dividend requirements of consolidated subsidiaries, and (z) the minority interest in pretax income of subsidiaries that have not incurred fixed charges. Fixed charges consist of interest (whether expensed or capitalized), amortized premiums, discounts and capitalized expenses related to indebtedness, and estimate of the interest within rental expense, and preference security dividend requirements of consolidated subsidiaries. Preference security dividend consists of the amount of pretax earnings that is required to pay the dividends on outstanding preference securities.

| | SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, | YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, | | |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------|------|------|
| | 2004 | 2003 | 2002 | 2001 |
| Ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred dividends | 1.41 | -- (1) | 1.28 | 1.07 |

 (1) For the year ended December 31, 2003, the ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred dividends was less than 1:1. The ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred dividends would have been 1:1 if a deficiency of \$18.2 million was eliminated.

RISK FACTORS

An investment in the Series C Preferred Stock or the underlying common stock involves certain risks that a potential investor should carefully evaluate prior to making an investment in the Series C Preferred Stock. See "Risk Factors."

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

RISK FACTORS

KCS RISK FACTORS

RISKS RELATED TO THE SERIES C PREFERRED STOCK

THE SERIES C PREFERRED STOCK RANKS JUNIOR TO ALL OF OUR LIABILITIES AND TO OUR \$25 PAR VALUE PREFERRED STOCK.

The Series C Preferred Stock ranks junior to all of our liabilities. The Series C Preferred Stock also ranks junior to our \$25 par value preferred stock ("Preferred Stock"). In the event of our bankruptcy, liquidation or winding-up, our assets will be available to pay obligations on the Series C Preferred Stock, including the purchase of your shares of the Series C Preferred Stock for cash upon a change in control, only after all our indebtedness and other liabilities and our Preferred Stock have been paid. In addition, the Series C Preferred Stock will effectively rank junior to all existing and future liabilities of our subsidiaries and any capital stock of our subsidiaries held by others. The rights of holders of the Series C Preferred Stock to participate in the distribution of assets of our subsidiaries will rank junior to the prior claims of that subsidiary's creditors and any other equity holders. As of June 30, 2004, we had total consolidated liabilities of approximately \$1.25 billion. Consequently, if we are forced to liquidate our assets to pay our creditors, we may not have sufficient assets remaining to pay amounts due on any or all of the Series C Preferred Stock then outstanding. We and our subsidiaries may incur substantial amounts of additional debt and other obligations that will rank senior to the Series C Preferred Stock.

WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO PAY THE PURCHASE PRICE OF THE SERIES C PREFERRED STOCK IN CASH UPON A FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE. WE ALSO COULD BE PREVENTED FROM PAYING DIVIDENDS ON SHARES OF THE SERIES C PREFERRED STOCK.

In the event of a fundamental change you will have the right to require us to purchase your shares of Series C Preferred Stock. We may pay the purchase price in cash, shares of our common stock, or a combination thereof. We may not have sufficient cash to purchase your shares of Series C Preferred Stock upon a fundamental change or may in certain circumstances either be forced to pay the purchase price in shares of our common stock or may be unable to pay the purchase price in cash or may be legally prohibited from paying the purchase price in shares of our common stock.

Under the terms of our current debt instruments we are prohibited from paying the purchase price of the Series C Preferred Stock in cash. Even if the terms of the instruments governing our indebtedness allow us to pay cash dividends and to redeem and purchase the Series C Preferred Stock in cash, we can only make such payments from legally available funds, as determined by our board of directors, and such funds may not be available to pay cash dividends to you or to redeem or purchase your shares of Series C Preferred Stock.

In addition, because we are a holding company, our ability to purchase the Series C Preferred Stock for cash or to pay dividends on the Series C Preferred Stock may be limited by restrictions on our ability to obtain funds for such repurchase through dividends from our subsidiaries.

YOU MAY BE UNABLE TO CONVERT THE SERIES C PREFERRED STOCK INTO OUR COMMON STOCK AND, IF YOU ARE ABLE AND DO CONVERT, YOU WILL EXPERIENCE IMMEDIATE DILUTION.

You may convert your shares of Series C Preferred Stock into common stock only if (1) the closing sale price of our common stock reaches, or the trading price of the Series C Preferred Stock falls below, specified thresholds, (2) the Series C Preferred Stock is called for redemption, (3) specified corporate

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

transactions have occurred or (4) upon certain credit downgrade events. Your inability to convert the Series C Preferred Stock may adversely affect its value.

If you convert your shares of Series C Preferred Stock into shares of common stock, you will experience immediate dilution because the per share conversion price of the Series C Preferred Stock immediately after this offering will be higher than the net tangible book value per share of the outstanding common stock. In addition, you will also experience dilution when and if we issue additional shares of common stock, which we may be required to issue pursuant to the Acquisition or related ancillary agreements or otherwise issue pursuant to options, warrants, our stock option plan or other employee or director compensation plans.

THE PRICE OF OUR COMMON STOCK, AND THEREFORE OF THE SERIES C PREFERRED STOCK, MAY FLUCTUATE SIGNIFICANTLY, WHICH MAY MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR YOU TO RESELL THE SERIES C PREFERRED STOCK, OR COMMON STOCK ISSUABLE UPON CONVERSION OF THE SERIES C PREFERRED STOCK, WHEN YOU WANT OR AT PRICES YOU FIND ATTRACTIVE.

The price of our common stock on the New York Stock Exchange constantly changes. We expect that the market price of our common stock will continue to fluctuate. Because the Series C Preferred Stock is convertible into our common stock, volatility or depressed prices for our common stock could have a similar effect on the trading price of the Series C Preferred Stock. Holders who have received common stock upon conversion will also be subject to the risk of volatility and depressed prices.

Our stock price can fluctuate as a result of a variety of factors, many of which are beyond our control. These factors include:

- o quarterly variations in our operating results;
- o operating results that vary from the expectations of management, securities analysts and investors;
- o changes in expectations as to our future financial performance, including financial estimates by securities analysts and investors;
- o developments generally affecting our industry;
- o announcements by us or our competitors of significant contracts, acquisitions, joint marketing relationships, joint ventures or capital commitments;
- o announcements by third parties of significant claims or proceedings against us;
- o our dividend policy;
- o future sales of our equity or equity-linked securities;
- o our dispute with Grupo TMM over Grupo TMM's attempt to terminate the Acquisition Agreement;
- o the Mexican Government's audit of Grupo TFM's past tax returns and its preliminary determination to disallow Grupo TFM's and its consolidated subsidiaries right to depreciate the concession and other assets purchased by TFM from the Mexican Government as part of the privatization of the Mexican National railway system; and

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

- o general domestic and international economic conditions.

In addition, the stock market in general has experienced extreme volatility that has often been unrelated to the operating performance of a particular company. These broad market fluctuations may adversely affect the market price of our common stock.

THE TRADING PRICE FOR THE SERIES C PREFERRED STOCK WILL BE DIRECTLY AFFECTED BY THE TRADING PRICES FOR OUR COMMON STOCK, WHICH IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PREDICT.

The price of our common stock could be affected by possible sales of our common stock by investors who view the Series C Preferred Stock as a more attractive means of equity participation in KCS and by hedging or arbitrage activity that may develop involving the common stock. The arbitrage could, in turn, affect the trading prices of the Series C Preferred Stock.

OUR RIGHTS AGREEMENT AND AMENDED CHARTER DOCUMENTS MAY MAKE IT HARDER FOR OTHERS TO OBTAIN CONTROL OF US EVEN IF SOME STOCKHOLDERS MIGHT CONSIDER SUCH A DEVELOPMENT FAVORABLE, WHICH MAY ADVERSELY AFFECT OUR STOCK PRICE.

Our rights agreement and provisions of our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and our by-laws may delay, inhibit or prevent someone from gaining control of us through a tender offer, business combination, proxy contest or some other method even if some of our stockholders might believe a change in control is desirable.

ISSUANCE OF CLASS A CONVERTIBLE COMMON STOCK AND COMMON STOCK IN CONNECTION WITH THE ACQUISITION COULD CAUSE THE PRICE OF OUR COMMON STOCK TO FALL.

Under the terms of the Acquisition Agreement, KCS, at its option, may elect to pay up to \$80 million of the \$200 million cash consideration for the Grupo TFM shares by delivering a number of shares of common stock or Class A Convertible Common Stock determined by dividing the amount that KCS elects to pay other than in cash by \$12.50. Assuming KCS elects to pay \$80 million in this manner, KCS would deliver 6,400,000 shares. In addition, shares of KARA Sub purchased by Multimodal during the course of the Acquisition would be automatically converted into 18,000,000 shares of our Class A Convertible Common Stock upon the successful completion of the Acquisition. The Class A Convertible Common Stock would be convertible into an equal number of shares of common stock at any time, upon the option of holders, and mandatorily, upon the occurrence of certain conditions.

In connection with the Acquisition, KCS would enter into a consulting agreement pursuant to which 2,100,000 shares of restricted common stock would be granted to the consulting firm. The restricted common stock, subject to certain performance conditions under the consulting agreement, would vest over the course of three years following the date the Acquisition is consummated. If KCS, in its sole discretion, chooses to extend the consulting agreement at the end of its three-year term, an additional 525,000 shares of restricted common stock would be granted and would immediately vest.

KCS would, pursuant to a registration rights agreement, be obligated to register the shares of common stock issued upon conversion of the Class A Convertible Common Stock, pursuant to the Acquisition Agreement to the extent that KCS elects to pay a portion of the cash consideration through the issuance of shares of common stock, pursuant to the consulting agreement, or otherwise acquired by Grupo TMM, TMM Holdings, Multimodal, certain Grupo TMM stockholders or any of their respective affiliates upon the exercise of pre-emptive rights in compliance with the Stockholders' Agreement.

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

We cannot predict whether any actual or potential increase in availability of our common stock for sale as a result of these transactions will adversely affect the market price of our common stock.

OUR ABILITY TO PAY DIVIDENDS MAY BE LIMITED, AND WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE PAYING CASH DIVIDENDS ON OUR COMMON STOCK IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

We are restricted in our ability to pay dividends to the holders of our common stock by the terms of our outstanding Series C Preferred Stock and our credit facilities and senior notes. In the future, we may agree to further restrictions on our ability to pay dividends. In addition, to maintain our credit ratings, we may be limited in our ability to pay dividends so that we can maintain an appropriate level of debt. During the first quarter of 2000, our board of directors suspended our common stock dividends. We do not anticipate making any cash dividend payments to our common stockholders for the foreseeable future.

SUBSTANTIAL SALES OF OUR COMMON STOCK COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT OUR STOCK PRICE. SALES OF SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNTS OF OUR COMMON STOCK IN THE PUBLIC MARKET COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE PREVAILING MARKET PRICE OF OUR COMMON STOCK.

As of June 30, 2004, we had 828,736 remaining shares of common stock reserved for issuance under our stock option plan. Sales of common stock by stockholders upon exercise of their options, sales by our executive officers and directors subject to compliance with Rule 144 under the Securities Act of 1933, or the perception that such sales could occur, may adversely affect the market price of our common stock.

WE HAVE PROVISIONS IN OUR CHARTER, BYLAWS AND RIGHTS AGREEMENT THAT COULD DETER, DELAY OR PREVENT A THIRD PARTY FROM ACQUIRING US AND THAT COULD DEPRIVE YOU OF AN OPPORTUNITY TO OBTAIN A TAKEOVER PREMIUM FOR SHARES OF OUR COMMON STOCK.

We have provisions in our charter and bylaws that may delay or prevent unsolicited takeover bids from third parties. These provisions may deprive our stockholders of an opportunity to sell their shares at a premium over prevailing market prices. For example, our restated certificate of incorporation provides for a classified board of directors. It further provides that the vote of 70% of the shares entitled to vote in the election of directors is required to amend our restated certificate of incorporation to increase the number of directors to more than eighteen, abolish cumulative voting for directors and abolish the classification of the board. The same vote requirement is imposed by our restated certificate of incorporation on certain transactions involving mergers, consolidations, sales or leases of assets with or to certain owners of more than 5% of our outstanding stock entitled to vote in the election of directors. Our bylaws provide that a stockholder must provide us with advance written notice of its intent to nominate a director or raise a matter at an annual meeting. In addition, we have adopted a rights agreement which under certain circumstances would significantly impair the ability of third parties to acquire control of us without prior approval of our board of directors.

RISKS RELATED TO OUR BUSINESS

WE COMPETE AGAINST OTHER RAILROADS AND OTHER TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS.

We are subject to competition from other railroads, many of which are much larger and have significantly greater financial and other resources. In addition, we are subject to competition from truck carriers and from barge lines and other maritime shipping. Increased competition has resulted in downward pressure on freight rates. Competition with other railroads and other modes of

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

transportation is generally based on the rates charged, the quality and reliability of the service provided and the quality of the carrier's equipment for certain commodities. While we must build or acquire and maintain our infrastructure, truck carriers and maritime shippers and barges are able to use public rights-of-way. Continuing competitive pressures and declining margins, future improvements that increase the quality of alternative modes of transportation in the locations in which we operate, or legislation that provides motor

carriers with additional advantages, such as increased size of vehicles and less weight restrictions, could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial condition and liquidity.

WE MAY BE REQUIRED TO MAKE ADDITIONAL INVESTMENTS IN TFM.

The Mexican government has put rights with respect to the shares of TFM it holds to compel the purchase of those shares by Grupo TFM. The Mexican government provided Grupo TFM with notice of its intention to sell its interest in TFM. Grupo TFM has responded to the Mexican government's notice reaffirming its right and interest in purchasing the Mexican government's remaining interest in TFM, but also advising the Mexican government that it would not take any action until its lawsuit seeking a declaratory judgment was resolved. Grupo TFM filed a lawsuit seeking a declaratory judgment concerning its interpretation of its obligation to purchase the Mexican government's shares of TFM, and that lawsuit is ongoing. KCS and Grupo TMM have been made parties to the lawsuit. In the event that Grupo TFM does not purchase the Mexican government's 20% interest in TFM and Grupo TFM's lawsuit is resolved in favor of Mexican government, then Grupo TMM and KCS, or either of Grupo TMM or KCS alone, would, following notification by the Mexican government in accordance with the terms of the applicable agreements, be obligated to purchase the Mexican government's remaining interest in TFM. If the Acquisition is completed prior to the purchase of the Mexican government's interest in TFM, KCS will be solely responsible for purchasing the Mexican government's 20% interest in TFM. If KCS had been required to purchase this interest as of June 30, 2004, the total purchase price would have been approximately \$464 million. Based upon public disclosures made by Grupo TMM, it is not in a position to make this purchase.

WE MAY BE UNABLE TO COMPLETE THE ACQUISITION.

KCS and Grupo TMM have been in a dispute over the Acquisition Agreement. KCS has initiated binding arbitration with respect to the dispute and has filed pleadings and obtained rulings from the Delaware Court of Chancery to preserve the parties' positions pending resolution of the dispute. However, there can be no assurance that the parties will resolve their disputes relating to the Acquisition Agreement, or that the arbitrators or the courts will resolve the disputes, in favor of KCS. The American Arbitration Association International Centre for Dispute Resolution hearing the dispute between the Company and Grupo TMM issued its interim award on March 19, 2004 finding that the Acquisition Agreement remains in force and is binding on KCS and Grupo TMM in accordance with its terms. The second phase of the arbitration will decide the remaining issues, including remedies and damages. Although KCS and Grupo TMM entered into a stipulation agreement on April 4, 2004 under which they agreed to discharge in good faith all of the obligations of the Acquisition Agreement, the consummation of the Acquisition is subject to a number of conditions. There can be no assurance that all of the conditions to the Acquisition will be satisfied. If the Acquisition is not consummated, the value of the Company's investment in Grupo TFM may become impaired.

As of June 30, 2004 and December 31, 2003, costs of approximately \$13.0 million and \$9.3 million, respectively, related to the Acquisition have been

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

deferred , which have been reflected in our consolidated balance sheet pending completion of the Acquisition. We expect that we will incur and defer additional costs related to the Acquisition. If we are unable to complete the Acquisition, these deferred costs would be reflected as a charge to earnings in our consolidated income statement in the period in which such determination is made.

IF THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT'S PRELIMINARY FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS ARISING FROM ITS TAX AUDIT OF TFM'S 1997 TAX RETURNS ARE SUSTAINED, IT COULD HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON THE FINANCIAL CONDITION, RESULTS OF OPERATIONS AND BUSINESS OF TFM. AS A RESULT, THE VALUE OF OUR INVESTMENT IN GRUPO TFM COULD BE MATERIALLY ADVERSELY affected.

On January 19, 2004, TFM received a Special Certificate from the Mexican Federal Treasury in the amount of 2.1 billion pesos (the same amount as the value added tax ("VAT") refund claimed by TFM in 1997). On January 20, 2004, TFM was served with an official letter notifying TFM of the Mexican government's preliminary findings and conclusions arising from its tax audit of TFM's 1997 tax returns (the "Tax Audit Summary"). In the Tax Audit Summary, the Mexican government notified TFM of its preliminary conclusion that the documentation provided by TFM in support of the VAT refund credit shown on the 1997 tax return and TFM's basis in the Concession title, locomotives and rail equipment, and capital leases purchased by TFM's predecessor in interest prior to Grupo TFM's purchase of 80% of the shares of TFM, do not comply with the formalities required by the applicable tax legislation. If sustained, the conclusions of the Tax Audit Summary would prevent TFM from depreciating the Concession title, locomotives and rail equipment, and capital leases that represent the majority of the value of the assets owned by TFM. The Tax Audit Summary also attached the Special Certificate pending resolution of the audit, as a potential asset to be used to satisfy any tax obligations owed by TFM as a result of the audit. If TFM is unable to depreciate the Concession title and the other assets reported on its 1997 tax return, this could have a material adverse effect on the financial condition, results of operations and business of TFM. As a result, the value of our investment in Grupo TFM could be materially adversely affected. See "Description of the Acquisition--Summary of the Acquisition Agreement and Related Agreements--The Acquisition Agreement--VAT Contingency Payment" below.

OUR BUSINESS STRATEGY, OPERATIONS AND GROWTH RELY SIGNIFICANTLY ON JOINT VENTURES AND OTHER STRATEGIC ALLIANCES.

Operation of our integrated rail network and our plans for growth and expansion rely significantly on joint ventures and other strategic alliances. Unless the Acquisition is consummated, we will continue to hold an indirect minority interest TFM. As a minority shareholder, we are not in a position to control operations, strategies or financial decisions without the concurrence of Grupo TMM, the largest shareholder in Grupo TFM. In addition, conflicts currently exist and may arise in the future between our business objectives and those of Grupo TMM. We have been in a dispute with Grupo TMM over Grupo TMM's attempt to terminate the Acquisition Agreement. Although we have entered into a stipulation agreement with Grupo TMM, as discussed above, we cannot assure that the Acquisition will be consummated. If the Acquisition is not consummated, resolution of any future conflicts in our favor may be difficult or impossible given our minority ownership position.

In addition, our operations are dependent on interchange, trackage rights, haulage rights and marketing agreements with other railroads and third parties that enable us to exchange traffic and utilize trackage we do not own. Our ability to provide comprehensive rail service to our customers depends in large part upon our ability to maintain these agreements with other railroads and third parties. The termination of, or the failure to renew, these agreements could adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

operations. We are also dependent in part upon the financial health and efficient performance of other railroads. For example, much of Tex-Mex's traffic moves over the UP's lines via trackage rights, a significant portion of our grain shipments originate with IC&E pursuant to our marketing agreement with it, and BNSF is our largest partner in the interchange of rail traffic. There can be no assurance that we will not be materially affected adversely by operational or financial difficulties of other railroads.

OUR MEXICAN AND PANAMANIAN INVESTMENTS SUBJECT US TO POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC RISKS.

Our investment in Grupo TFM involves a number of risks. The Mexican government exercises significant influence over the Mexican economy and its actions could have a significant impact on TFM. Our Mexican investment may also be adversely affected by currency fluctuations, price instability, inflation, interest rates, regulations, taxation, cultural differences, social instability, labor disputes and other political, social and economic developments in or affecting Mexico. Moreover, TFM's commercial success is heavily dependent on expected increases in U.S.-Mexico trade and will be strongly influenced by the effect of NAFTA on such trade. Downturns in either of the U.S. or Mexican economies or in trade between the United States and Mexico would be likely to adversely impact TFM's business, financial condition and results of operations. Additionally, the Mexican government may revoke the exclusivity of TFM's Concession after 20 years if it determines that there is insufficient competition and may terminate the Concession as a result of certain conditions or events. TFM's assets and its rights under the Concession may also be seized temporarily by the Mexican government. Revocation or termination of the Concession would materially adversely affect TFM's operations and its ability to make payments on its debt. Our investment in PCRC has risks associated with operating in Panama, including, among others, cultural differences, varying labor and operating practices, political risk and differences between the U.S. and Panamanian economies. There can be no assurances that the various risks associated with operating in Mexico can be effectively and economically mitigated by TFM or that the risks associated with operating in Panama can be effectively and economically mitigated by PCRC.

OUR LEVERAGE COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT OUR ABILITY TO FULFILL OBLIGATIONS UNDER VARIOUS DEBT INSTRUMENTS AND OPERATE OUR BUSINESS. WE ARE LEVERAGED AND WILL HAVE SIGNIFICANT DEBT SERVICE OBLIGATIONS. IN ADDITION, GRUPO TFM IS ALSO LEVERAGED AND THE ACQUISITION OF A CONTROLLING INTEREST IN GRUPO TFM WOULD INCREASE OUR CONSOLIDATED INDEBTEDNESS AND LEVERAGE.

Our level of debt could make it more difficult for us to borrow money in the future, will reduce the amount of money available to finance our operations and other business activities, exposes us to the risk of increased interest rates, makes us more vulnerable to general economic downturns and adverse industry conditions, could reduce our flexibility in planning for, or responding to, changing business and economic conditions, and may prevent us from raising the funds necessary to repurchase all of certain senior notes that could be tendered upon the occurrence of a change of control, which would constitute an event of default, or all of the Series C Preferred Stock that could be put to us under certain circumstances. Our failure to comply with the financial and other restrictive covenants in our debt instruments, which, among other things, require us to maintain specified financial ratios and limit our ability to incur debt and sell assets, could result in an event of default that, if not cured or waived, could have a material adverse effect on our business or prospects. If we do not have enough cash to service our debt, meet other obligations and fund other liquidity needs, we may be required to take actions such as reducing or delaying capital expenditures, selling assets, restructuring or refinancing all or part of our existing debt or seeking additional equity capital. We cannot

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

assure that any of these remedies can be effected on commercially reasonable terms or at all. In addition, the terms of existing or future debt agreements may restrict us from adopting any of these alternatives.

WE MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY CHANGES IN GENERAL ECONOMIC, WEATHER OR OTHER CONDITIONS.

Our operations may be adversely affected by changes in the economic conditions of the industries and geographic areas that produce and consume the freight that we transport. The relative strength or weakness of the United States economy as well as various international and regional economies also affects the businesses served by us. Grupo TFM, Panama Canal Railway Company and Panarail Tourism Company are more directly affected by their respective local economy. Historically, a stronger economy has resulted in improved results for our rail transportation operations. Conversely, when the economy has slowed, results have been less favorable. Our revenues may be affected by prevailing economic conditions and, if an economic slowdown or recession occurs in our key markets, the volume of rail

shipments is likely to be reduced. Additionally, our operations may be affected by adverse weather conditions. A weak harvest in the Midwest, for example, may substantially reduce the volume of business handled for agricultural products customers. Additionally, many of the goods and commodities we transport experience cyclical demand. Our results of operations can be expected to reflect this cyclical demand because of the significant fixed costs inherent in railroad operations. Our operations may also be affected by natural disasters or terrorist acts. Significant reductions in our volume of rail shipments due to economic, weather or other conditions could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

WE ARE SUBJECT TO REGULATION BY FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL REGULATORY AGENCIES. OUR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL REGULATIONS COULD HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR OPERATIONS.

We are subject to governmental regulation by federal, state and local regulatory agencies with respect to our railroad operations, as well as a variety of health, safety, labor, environmental, and other matters. Government regulation of the railroad industry is a significant determinant of the competitiveness and profitability of railroads. Our failure to comply with applicable laws and regulations could have a material adverse effect on our operations, including limitations on our operating activities until compliance with applicable requirements is completed. These government agencies may change the legislative or regulatory framework within which we operate without providing any recourse for any adverse effects on our business that occurs as a result of this change. Additionally, some of the regulations require us to obtain and maintain various licenses, permits and other authorizations, and we cannot assure that we will continue to be able to do so.

WE ARE SUBJECT TO ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS THAT COULD REQUIRE US TO INCUR MATERIAL COSTS AND TEMPORARILY SUSPEND ANY OPERATIONS THAT ARE FOUND TO VIOLATE ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS.

Our operations are subject to extensive federal, state and local environmental laws and regulations concerning, among other things, emissions to the air, discharges to waters, the handling, storage, transportation and disposal of waste and other materials and cleanup of hazardous material or petroleum releases, decommissioning of underground storage tanks and soil and groundwater contamination. We incur, and expect to continue to incur, environmental compliance costs, including, in particular, costs necessary to maintain compliance with requirements governing chemical and hazardous material

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

shipping operations, refueling operations and repair facilities. New laws and regulations, stricter enforcement of existing requirements, new spills, releases or violations or the discovery of previously unknown contamination could require us to incur costs or become the basis for new or increased liabilities that could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, financial condition and cash flows.

WE ARE VULNERABLE TO RISING FUEL COSTS AND DISRUPTIONS IN FUEL SUPPLIES. ANY SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN THE COST OF FUEL, OR SEVERE DISRUPTION OF FUEL SUPPLIES, WOULD HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR BUSINESS, RESULTS OF OPERATIONS AND FINANCIAL CONDITION.

We incur substantial fuel costs in our railroad operations and these costs represent a significant portion of our transportation expenses. During the three-year period ended December 31, 2003, and the six months ended June 30, 2004, locomotive fuel expenses represented an average of 8.1% and 9.8%, respectively, of KCSR's total operating costs. Fuel represented 8.6% of our total operating costs in 2003. Fuel costs are affected by traffic levels, efficiency of operations and equipment, and petroleum market conditions. The supply and cost of fuel is subject to market conditions and is influenced by numerous factors beyond our control, including general economic conditions, world markets, government programs and regulations and competition. Significant price increases for fuel may have a material adverse effect on our operating results. Additionally, fuel prices and supplies could also be affected by any limitation in the fuel supply or by any imposition of mandatory allocation or rationing regulations. In the event of a

severe disruption of fuel supplies resulting from supply shortages, political unrest, a disruption of oil imports, war or otherwise, the resulting impact on fuel prices and subsequent price increases could materially adversely affect our operating results, financial condition and cash flows.

A MAJORITY OF THE COMPANY'S EMPLOYEES BELONG TO LABOR UNIONS, AND STRIKES OR WORK STOPPAGES COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE COMPANY'S OPERATIONS.

We are a party to collective bargaining agreements with various labor unions in the United States. Approximately 84% of KCSR employees are covered under these agreements. We may be subject to, among other things, strikes, work stoppages or work slowdowns as a result of disputes with regard to the terms of these collective bargaining agreements or our potential inability to negotiate acceptable contracts with these unions. Moreover, because such agreements are generally negotiated on an industry-wide basis, determination of the terms and conditions of future labor agreements could be beyond our control and, as a result, we may be subject to terms and conditions in amended or future labor agreements that could have a material adverse affect on our results of operations, financial position and cash flows. If the unionized workers were to engage in a strike, work stoppage or other slowdown, or other employees were to become unionized or the terms and conditions in future labor agreements were renegotiated, we could experience a significant disruption of our operations and higher ongoing labor costs.

ONE OF OUR COAL CUSTOMERS ACCOUNTS FOR APPROXIMATELY 10% OF OUR TOTAL REVENUES.

Our largest coal customer, Southwestern Electric Power Company ("SWEPCO"), a subsidiary of American Electric Power Company, Inc., accounted for approximately 61.7% of our coal revenues and approximately 9.8% of our total revenues for the year ended December 31, 2003. The loss of all or a significant part of SWEPCO's business, or a service outage at one or both of SWEPCO's facilities that KCSR serves, could materially adversely affect our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

WE MAY BE SUBJECT TO VARIOUS CLAIMS AND LAWSUITS.

The nature of the railroad business exposes us to the potential for various claims and litigation related to labor and employment, personal injury and property damage, environmental and other matters. We maintain insurance (including self-insurance) consistent with the industry practice against accident-related risks involved in the operation of the railroad. However, there can be no assurance that such insurance would be sufficient to cover the cost of damages suffered or that such insurance will continue to be available at commercially reasonable rates. Any material changes to current litigation trends could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows.

WE MAY BE AFFECTED BY FUTURE ACTS OF TERRORISM OR WAR.

Terrorist attacks, such as those that occurred on September 11, 2001, any government response thereto and war or risk of war may adversely affect our results of operations, financial condition, and cash flows. These acts may also impact our ability to raise capital or our future business opportunities. Our rail lines and facilities could be direct targets or indirect casualties of an act or acts of terror, which could cause significant business interruption and result in increased costs and liabilities and decreased revenues. These acts could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial condition, and cash flows. In addition, insurance premiums charged for some or all of the coverage currently maintained by us could increase dramatically or certain coverage may not be available in the future.

TFM RISK FACTORS

TFM'S SUBSTANTIAL INDEBTEDNESS COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT ITS BUSINESS AND, CONSEQUENTLY, ITS ABILITY TO PAY INTEREST AND REPAY ITS INDEBTEDNESS.

TFM has a significant amount of indebtedness, which requires significant debt service. As of June 30, 2004, Grupo TFM, which owns an 80% economic interest in TFM and all of the shares of stock with full voting rights of TFM, had total outstanding indebtedness of \$959.6 million, consisting of TFM's senior unsecured indebtedness under its outstanding notes and debentures, obligations under capital leases and its new bank facilities (its commercial paper program and its term loan facility). TFM has no secured indebtedness. Under U.S. GAAP, Grupo TFM's shareholders' equity was \$822.5 million as of June 30, 2004, resulting in a debt to equity ratio of 116.6%. In addition, TFM may incur more debt, subject to the restrictions contained in the indentures governing the existing notes and the outstanding notes and the credit agreements governing its new commercial paper program and term loan facility.

The level of TFM's indebtedness could have important consequences. For example, it could:

- o limit cash flow available for capital expenditures, acquisitions, working capital and other general corporate purposes because a substantial portion of TFM's cash flow from operations must be dedicated to servicing debt;
- o increase TFM's vulnerability to general adverse economic and industry conditions;
- o expose TFM to risks inherent in interest rate fluctuations because some borrowings are at variable rates of interest, which could result in higher interest expenses in the event of increases in interest

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

rates;

- o expose TFM to risks in exchange rate fluctuations, because any devaluation of the peso would cause the cost of TFM's dollar-denominated debt to increase;
- o limit TFM's flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, competitive and other changes in its business and the industry in which it operates;
- o place TFM at a competitive disadvantage compared to its competitors that have less debt and greater operating and financing flexibility than TFM does; and
- o limit, through covenants in its indebtedness, TFM's ability to borrow additional funds.

TFM's ability to pay interest and to repay or refinance indebtedness will depend upon future operating performance, including the ability to increase revenues significantly and control expenses. Future operating performance depends upon prevailing economic, financial, competitive, legislative, regulatory, business and other factors that are beyond its control.

There can be no assurance that TFM's business will generate sufficient cash flow from operations, that currently anticipated revenues and operating performance will be realized or that future borrowings will be available to it in amounts sufficient to enable it to pay its indebtedness or to fund its other liquidity needs. If TFM is unable to meet its debt service obligations or fund its other liquidity needs, it could attempt to restructure or refinance its indebtedness, seek additional equity capital or sell assets. There can be no assurance that TFM will be able to accomplish those actions on satisfactory terms, if at all.

The indentures relating to TFM's debt securities contain a number of restrictive covenants and any additional financing arrangements it enters into may contain additional restrictive covenants. These covenants restrict or prohibit many actions, including TFM's ability to:

- o incur debt;
- o create or suffer to exist liens;
- o make prepayments of particular debt;
- o pay dividends;
- o make investments;
- o engage in transactions with stockholders and affiliates;
- o use assets as security in other transactions;
- o create any unrestricted subsidiary;
- o sell assets; and
- o engage in mergers and consolidations or in sale-leaseback transactions.

If TFM fails to comply with these restrictive covenants, its obligation to

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

repay its debt may be accelerated.

TFM'S BUSINESS IS VERY CAPITAL INTENSIVE AND IT MUST MAKE ADDITIONAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES; FAILURE TO MAKE SUCH CAPITAL EXPENDITURES COULD RESULT IN THE REVOCATION OF TFM'S CONCESSION.

TFM's business is capital intensive and requires substantial ongoing expenditures for, among other things, improvements to roadway, structures and technology, acquisitions, leases and repair of equipment, and maintenance of its rail system. TFM's failure to make necessary capital expenditures could impair its ability to accommodate increases in traffic volumes or service its existing customers. In addition, TFM's railroad concession from the Mexican government requires TFM to make investments and undertake capital projects, including capital projects described in a business plan filed every five years with the Mexican government. TFM may defer capital expenditures with respect to its five-year business plan with the permission of the Ministry of Communications and Transports ("Ministry of Transportation"). However, the Ministry of Transportation may not grant this permission, and TFM's failure to comply with the commitments in its business plan could result in the Mexican government revoking the Concession.

TFM'S CONCESSION IS SUBJECT TO REVOCATION OR TERMINATION IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.

The Mexican government may terminate the Concession granted to TFM as a result of TFM's surrender of its rights under the Concession, or for reasons of public interest, by revocation or upon TFM's liquidation or bankruptcy. The Mexican government may also temporarily seize TFM's assets and its rights under the Concession. The Mexican railroad services law and regulations provide that the Ministry of Transportation may revoke the Concession upon the occurrence of specified events, some of which will trigger automatic revocation. Revocation or termination of the Concession would prevent TFM from operating its railroad and would materially adversely affect TFM's operations and its ability to make payments on its debt. In the event that the Concession is revoked by the Ministry of Transportation, TFM

will receive no compensation, and its interest in its rail lines and all other fixtures covered by the Concession, as well as all improvements made by it, will revert to the Mexican government.

TFM'S RESULTS FROM OPERATIONS ARE HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON FUEL EXPENSES.

Approximately 98% of the locomotives TFM operates are diesel-powered, and TFM's fuel expenses are significant. TFM currently meets, and expects to continue to meet, its fuel requirements almost exclusively through purchases at market prices from Petroleos Mexicanos, the national oil company of Mexico ("PEMEX"), a government-owned entity exclusively responsible for the distribution and sale of diesel fuel in Mexico. TFM is party to a fuel supply contract with PEMEX of indefinite duration. Either party may terminate the contract upon 30 days written notice to the other at any time. If the fuel contract is terminated and TFM is unable to acquire diesel fuel from alternate sources on acceptable terms, TFM's operations could be materially adversely affected. In addition, instability in the Middle East may result in an increase in fuel prices. Since TFM's fuel expense represents a significant portion of its operating expenses, significant increases in the price of diesel fuel could have a material adverse effect on TFM's results of operations.

TFM MAY BE UNABLE TO GENERATE SUFFICIENT CASH TO SERVICE OR REFINANCE ITS DEBT.

TFM's ability to satisfy its obligations under its debt in the future will

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

depend upon TFM's future performance, including its ability to increase revenues significantly and control expenses. TFM's future operating performance depends upon prevailing economic, financial, business and competitive conditions and other factors, many of which are beyond its control.

If TFM's cash flow from operations is insufficient to satisfy its obligations, TFM may take specific actions, including delaying or reducing capital expenditures, attempting to refinance its debt at or prior to its maturity or, in the absence of such refinancing, attempting to sell assets quickly in order to make up for any shortfall in payments under circumstances that might not be favorable to getting the best price for the assets, or seeking additional equity capital. TFM's ability to refinance its debt and take other actions will depend on, among other things, its financial condition at the time, the restrictions in the instruments governing its debt and other factors, including market conditions, beyond TFM's control. TFM may be unable to take any of these actions on satisfactory terms or in a timely manner. Further, any of these actions may not be sufficient to allow TFM to meet its debt obligations. TFM's indentures and commercial paper credit agreement limit its ability to take certain of these actions. TFM's failure to successfully undertake any of these actions or to earn enough revenues to pay its debts, or significant increases in the peso cost to service its dollar-denominated debt, could materially and adversely affect TFM's business or operations.

TFM HAS SOUGHT WAIVERS UNDER ITS CREDIT AGREEMENTS AND MAY REQUIRE ADDITIONAL WAIVERS IN THE FUTURE.

TFM would not have met certain required maintenance covenants under its bank credit facilities during 2003. Accordingly, TFM sought and received waivers from the lenders under its bank credit facilities for such expected non-compliance. It is possible that TFM may require additional waivers under its bank credit facilities. If TFM requires such waivers in the future, there can be no assurance that such waivers will be obtained. If such waivers are not obtained, TFM would be in default under its bank credit facilities and such default could result in acceleration of amounts due under the bank credit facilities and in cross-defaults under other obligations.

CERTAIN REGULATORY AND MARKET FACTORS COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT TFM'S ABILITY TO EXPAND ITS RAIL TRANSPORTATION OPERATIONS.

The trucking industry is TFM's primary competition. In February 2001, a North American Free Trade Agreement ("NAFTA") tribunal ruled in an arbitration between the United States and Mexico that the United States must allow Mexican trucks to cross the border and operate on U.S. highways. NAFTA called for Mexican trucks to have unrestricted access to highways in U.S. border states by 1995 and full access to all U.S. highways by January 2000. However, the United States has not followed the timetable because of concerns over Mexico's trucking safety standards. On March 14, 2002, as part of its agreement under NAFTA, the U.S. Department of Transportation issued safety rules that allow Mexican truckers to apply for operating authority to transport goods beyond the 20-mile commercial zones along the U.S.-Mexico border. These safety rules require Mexican carriers seeking to operate in the United States to pass, among other things, safety inspections, obtain valid insurance with a U.S. registered insurance company, conduct alcohol and drug testing for drivers and to obtain a U.S. Department of Transportation identification number. Mexican commercial vehicles with authority to operate beyond the commercial zones will be permitted to enter the United States only at commercial border crossings and only when a certified motor carrier safety inspector is on duty. The Supreme Court of the United States ruled June 7, 2004 that President Bush can open United States highways to Mexican trucks, bringing the United States into compliance with a provision of NAFTA. Given these recent developments, there can be no assurance

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

that truck transport between Mexico and the United States will not increase substantially in the future. Such an increase could affect TFM's ability to continue converting traffic to rail from truck transport because it may result in an expansion of the availability, or an improvement of the quality, of the trucking services offered in Mexico.

In recent years, there has been significant consolidation among major North American rail carriers. The resulting merged railroads could attempt to use their size and pricing power to block other railroads' access to efficient gateways and routing options that are currently and have been historically available. There can be no assurance that further consolidation will not have an adverse effect on TFM.

Approximately 50% of TFM's expected revenue growth during the next few years is expected to result from increased truck-to-rail conversion. If the railroad industry in general, and TFM in particular, are unable to preserve their competitive advantages VIS-A-VIS the trucking industry, TFM's business plan may not be achieved and its projected revenue growth could be adversely affected. Additionally, TFM's revenue growth could be affected by, among other factors, its inability to grow its existing customer base, negative macroeconomic developments impacting the United States and Mexican economies, and failure to capture additional cargo transport market share from the shipping industry and other railroads.

SIGNIFICANT COMPETITION COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT TFM'S FUTURE FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE.

TFM faces significant competition from trucks and other rail carriers as well as limited competition from the shipping industry in its freight operations. TFM faces significant competition from some industry segments from other railroads, in particular Ferrocarril Mexicano, S.A. de C.V. ("Ferromex"), which operates the Pacific-North Rail Lines. In particular, TFM has experienced, and continues to experience, competition from Ferromex with respect to the transport of grain, minerals and steel products. The rail lines operated by Ferromex run from Guadalajara and Mexico City to four U.S. border crossings west of Laredo, Texas, providing a potential alternative to TFM's routes for the transport of freight from those cities to the U.S. border. Ferromex directly competes with TFM in some areas of its service territory, including Tampico, Saltillo, Monterrey and Mexico City. Ferrocarril del Sureste, S.A. de C.V. ("Ferrosur"), which operates the Southeast Rail Lines, also competes directly with TFM for traffic to and from southeastern Mexico. Ferrosur, like TFM, serves Mexico City, Puebla and Veracruz. Ferromex and Ferrosur are privately owned companies that may have greater financial resources than TFM. Among other things, this advantage may give them greater ability to reduce freight prices. Price reductions by

competitors would make TFM's freight services less competitive and we cannot assure you that TFM would be able to match these rate reductions.

Under TFM's Concession, TFM must grant to Ferromex the right to operate over a north-south portion of its rail lines between Ramos Arizpe near Monterrey and the city of Queretaro that constitutes over 600 kilometers of TFM's main track. Using these trackage rights, Ferromex may be able to compete with TFM over its rail lines for traffic between Mexico City and the United States. TFM's Concession also requires it to grant rights to use certain portions of its tracks to Ferrosur and the "belt railroad" operated in the greater Mexico City area by the FERROCARRIL Y TERMINAL DEL VALLE DE MEXICO, S.A. DE C.V. (the Mexico City Railroad and Terminal), thereby providing Ferrosur with more efficient access to certain Mexico City industries. As a result of having to grant trackage rights to other railroads, TFM incurs additional maintenance costs and

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

also loses the flexibility of using its tracks at all times.

In February 2002, Ferromex and Ferrosur announced that they agreed to the acquisition of Ferrosur by Ferromex. TFM filed a notice with the Mexican Antitrust Commission ("MAC") objecting to the proposed acquisition on the grounds that it would limit competition. The acquisition was reviewed by the MAC and on May 16, 2002 the MAC announced that it notified Ferromex that it had denied authorization to consummate the acquisition on antitrust grounds. Ferromex subsequently filed an appeal for review of the order, and on September 18, 2002, the MAC confirmed its prior ruling denying authorization to consummation of the acquisition. Ferromex requested that the Federal Courts in Mexico review the decision of the MAC. TFM also requested a Federal Court in Mexico to review its complaint against the acquisition, requesting to be recognized as a party to the proceedings of the MAC, and obtained a favorable ruling. Ferromex and Ferrosur subsequently withdrew their petition before the MAC, which terminated the acquisition request in October 2003.

THE RATES FOR TRACKAGE RIGHTS SET BY THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION MAY NOT ADEQUATELY COMPENSATE TFM.

Pursuant to TFM's Concession, TFM is required to grant rights to use portions of its tracks to Ferromex, Ferrosur and the Mexico City Railroad and Terminal. Applicable law stipulates that Ferromex, Ferrosur and the Mexico City Railroad and Terminal are required to grant to TFM rights to use portions of their tracks. Applicable law provides that the Ministry of Transportation is entitled to set the rates in the event that TFM and the party to whom it is granting the rights cannot agree on a rate. TFM and Ferromex have not been able to agree upon the rates each of them is required to pay the other for interline services and haulage and trackage rights. Therefore, in accordance with TFM's rights under the Mexican railroad services law and regulations, in February 2001, TFM initiated an administrative proceeding requesting a determination of such rates by the Ministry of Transportation, which subsequently issued a ruling establishing rates using the criteria set forth in the Mexican railroad services law and regulations. TFM and Ferromex appealed the rulings before the Mexican Federal Courts due to, among other things, a disagreement with the methodology employed by the Ministry of Transportation in calculating the trackage rights and interline rates. TFM and Ferromex also requested and obtained a suspension of the effectiveness of the ruling pending resolution of this appeal. We cannot predict whether TFM will ultimately prevail in this proceeding and whether the rates TFM is ultimately allowed to charge will be adequate to compensate it.

TERRORIST ACTIVITIES AND GEOPOLITICAL EVENTS AND THEIR CONSEQUENCES COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT TFM'S OPERATIONS.

As a result of the terrorist attacks in the United States on September 11, 2001, and the continuation of armed hostilities involving, among others, the United States and Iraq, there has been increased short-term market volatility, and there may be long-term effects on U.S. and world economies and markets.

Terrorist attacks may negatively affect TFM's operations. The continued threat of terrorism within the United States and abroad and the potential for military action and heightened security measures in

response to such threat may cause significant disruption to commerce throughout the world, including restrictions on cross-border transport and trade. In addition, related political events may cause a lengthy period of uncertainty that may adversely affect TFM's business. Political and economic instability in other regions of the world, including the United States and Canada, may also result and could negatively impact TFM's operations. The consequences of terrorism and the responses thereto are unpredictable and could have an adverse

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

effect on TFM's operations.

DOWNTURNS IN THE U.S. ECONOMY OR IN TRADE BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO AND FLUCTUATIONS IN THE PESO-DOLLAR EXCHANGE RATE WOULD LIKELY HAVE ADVERSE EFFECTS ON TFM'S BUSINESS AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.

The level and timing of TFM's business activity is heavily dependent upon the level of U.S.-Mexican trade and the effects of NAFTA on such trade. Downturns in the U.S. or Mexican economy or in trade between the United States and Mexico would likely have adverse effects on TFM's business and results of operations. TFM's business depends on the U.S. and Mexican markets for the products TFM transports, the relative position of Mexico and the United States in these markets at any given time and tariffs or other barriers to trade. TFM's revenues were affected by the downturn in U.S. economy in the first six months of 2003. However, the U.S. economy started to reflect a recovery in the third quarter of 2003, and confirmed its up-trend in the latter part of 2003. Any future downturn in the U.S. economy could have a material adverse effect on TFM's results of operations and its ability to meet its debt service obligations as described above. Also, fluctuations in the peso-dollar exchange rate could lead to shifts in the types and volumes of Mexican imports and exports. Although a decrease in the level of exports of some of the commodities that TFM transports to the United States may be offset by a subsequent increase in imports of other commodities TFM hauls into Mexico and vice versa, any offsetting increase might not occur on a timely basis, if at all. Future developments in U.S.-Mexican trade beyond TFM's control may result in a reduction of freight volumes or in an unfavorable shift in the mix of products and commodities TFM carries.

DOWNTURNS IN CERTAIN CYCLICAL INDUSTRIES IN WHICH TFM'S CUSTOMERS OPERATE COULD HAVE ADVERSE EFFECTS ON ITS RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.

The transportation industry is highly cyclical, generally tracking the cycles of the world economy. Although transportation markets are affected by general economic conditions, there are numerous specific factors within each particular market segment that may influence operating results. Some of TFM's customers do business in industries that are highly cyclical, including the oil and gas, automotive and agricultural sectors. Any downturn in these sectors could have a material adverse effect on TFM's operating results. Also, some of the products TFM transports have had a historical pattern of price cyclicality which has typically been influenced by the general economic environment and by industry capacity and demand. For example, global steel and petrochemical prices have decreased in the past. We cannot assure you that prices and demand for these products will not decline in the future, adversely affecting those industries and, in turn, TFM's financial results.

TFM FACES POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL LIABILITY.

TFM's operations are subject to Mexican federal and state laws and regulations relating to the protection of the environment. The primary environmental law in Mexico is the General Law of Ecological Balance and Environmental Protection (the "Ecological Law"). The Mexican federal agency in charge of overseeing compliance with and enforcement of the federal environmental law is the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources ("Semarnat"). As part of its enforcement powers, Semarnat is empowered to bring administrative and criminal proceedings and impose economic sanctions against companies that violate environmental laws, and temporarily or even permanently close non-

complying facilities. Under the Ecological Law, the Mexican government has implemented a program to protect the environment by promulgating rules

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

concerning water, land, air and noise pollution, and hazardous substances. TFM is also subject to the laws of various jurisdictions and international conferences with respect to the discharge of materials into the environment. We cannot predict the effect, if any, that the adoption of additional or more stringent environmental laws and regulations would have on TFM's results of operations, cash flows or financial condition.

TFM's railroad operations are subject to the provisions of the Ecological Law. The regulations issued under the Ecological Law and technical environmental requirements issued by the Semarnat have promulgated standards for, among other things, water discharge, water supply, emissions, noise pollution, hazardous substances and transportation and handling of hazardous and solid waste.

In addition, TFM's ownership of Mexrail may also create certain environmental liabilities with respect to U.S. environmental laws. The U.S. Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act ("CERCLA" or "Superfund") and similar state laws (known as Superfund laws) impose liability for the cost of remedial or removal actions, natural resources damages and related costs at certain sites identified as posing a threat to the environment or public health. CERCLA imposes strict liability on the owners and operators of facilities in which hazardous waste and other hazardous substances are deposited or from which they are released or are likely to be released into the environment. Liability may be imposed, without regard to fault or the legality of the activity, on certain classes of persons, including the current and certain prior owners or operators of a site and persons that arranged for the disposal or treatment of hazardous substances. Liability is imposed on a joint and several basis. In addition, other potentially responsible parties, adjacent landowners or other third parties may initiate cost recovery actions or toxic tort litigation against sites subject to CERCLA or similar state laws.

FACTORS RELATING TO MEXICO

MEXICO IS AN EMERGING MARKET ECONOMY, WITH ATTENDANT RISKS TO TFM'S RESULTS OF OPERATIONS AND FINANCIAL CONDITION.

The Mexican government has exercised, and continues to exercise, significant influence over the Mexican economy. Accordingly, Mexican governmental actions concerning the economy and state-owned enterprises could have a significant impact on Mexican private sector entities in general and on TFM in particular, as well as on market conditions, prices and returns on Mexican securities, including TFM's outstanding notes and debentures. The national elections held on July 2, 2000 ended 71 years of rule by the Institutional Revolutionary Party ("PRI") with the election of President Vicente Fox Quesada, a member of the National Action Party ("PAN"), and resulted in the increased representation of opposition parties in the Mexican Congress and in mayoral and gubernatorial positions. Although there have not yet been any material adverse repercussions resulting from this political change, multiparty rule is still relatively new in Mexico and could result in economic or political conditions that could materially and adversely affect TFM's operations. We cannot predict the impact that this new political landscape will have on the Mexican economy. Furthermore, TFM's financial condition, results of operations and prospects and, consequently, the market price for TFM's outstanding notes and debentures, may be affected by currency fluctuations, inflation, interest rates, regulation, taxation, social instability and other political, social and economic developments in or affecting Mexico.

The Mexican economy in the past has suffered balance of payment deficits and shortages in foreign exchange reserves. There are currently no exchange controls in Mexico. However, Mexico has imposed foreign exchange controls in the past. Pursuant to the provisions of NAFTA, if Mexico experiences serious balance of payment difficulties or the threat thereof in the future, Mexico would have the right to impose foreign exchange controls on investments made in Mexico,

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

including those made by U.S. and Canadian investors. Any restrictive exchange control policy could adversely affect TFM's ability to obtain dollars or to convert pesos into dollars for purposes of making interest and principal payments due

on its indebtedness, to the extent that it may have to effect those conversions. This could have a material adverse effect on TFM's business and financial condition.

Securities of companies in emerging market countries tend to be influenced by economic and market conditions in other emerging market countries. Emerging market countries, including Argentina and Brazil, have recently been experiencing significant economic downturns and market volatility. These events have had an adverse effect on the economic conditions and securities markets of emerging market countries, including Mexico.

ANY DEVALUATION OF THE PESO WOULD CAUSE THE PESO COST OF TFM'S DOLLAR-DENOMINATED DEBT TO INCREASE, ADVERSELY AFFECTING ITS ABILITY TO MAKE PAYMENTS ON ITS INDEBTEDNESS.

After a five-year period of controlled devaluation of the peso, on December 19, 1994, the value of the peso dropped sharply as a result of pressure against the currency. Although the peso had been appreciating relative to the dollar over the past few years, the peso depreciated 8.2% against the dollar in 2003. Any additional devaluation in the peso would cause the peso cost of TFM's dollar-denominated debt to increase. In addition, currency instability may affect the balance of trade between the United States and Mexico.

MEXICO MAY EXPERIENCE HIGH LEVELS OF INFLATION IN THE FUTURE WHICH COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT TFM'S RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.

Mexico has a history of high levels of inflation, and may experience inflation in the future. During most of the 1980s and during the mid- and late-1990s, Mexico experienced periods of high levels of inflation. The annual rates of inflation for the last five years, as measured by changes in the National Consumer Price Index, as provided by Banco de Mexico, were:

| | |
|------|---------|
| 1997 | 15.72 % |
| 1998 | 18.61 % |
| 1999 | 12.32 % |
| 2000 | 8.96 % |
| 2001 | 4.40 % |
| 2002 | 5.70 % |
| 2003 | 3.98 % |

In 2003, the Mexican inflation rate hit its lowest levels in over 30 years. We cannot give any assurance that the Mexican inflation rate will continue to decrease or maintain its current level for any significant period of time. A substantial increase in the Mexican inflation rate would have the effect of increasing some of TFM's costs, which could adversely affect its results of operations and financial condition. High levels of inflation may also affect the balance of trade between Mexico and the United States, and other countries, which could adversely affect TFM's results of operations.

USE OF PROCEEDS

We will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of the Series C Preferred Stock or the common stock contemplated by this prospectus. Please read

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

"Selling Securityholders" for a list of the persons receiving proceeds from the sale of the Series C Preferred Stock or the underlying common stock.

BUSINESS

We, along with our subsidiaries and affiliates, own and operate a uniquely positioned North American rail network strategically focused on the growing north/south freight corridor that connects key commercial and industrial markets in the central United States with major industrial cities in Mexico. Our principal subsidiary, KCSR, which was founded in 1887, is one of seven Class I railroads in the United States (railroads with annual revenues of at least \$272 million, as indexed for inflation). KCSR serves a ten-state region in the midwest and southern parts of the United States and has the shortest north/south rail route between Kansas City, Missouri and several key ports along the Gulf of Mexico in Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas.

Our rail network also includes an equity investment in Grupo TFM, a 46.6% owned unconsolidated affiliate, which owns 80% of the stock of TFM. TFM operates a strategically significant corridor between Mexico and the United States, and has as its core route a key portion of the shortest, most direct rail passageway between Mexico City and Laredo, Texas. TFM serves most of Mexico's principal industrial cities and three of its major shipping ports. TFM's rail lines are the only ones which serve Nuevo Laredo, the largest rail freight exchange point between the United States and Mexico.

TFM owns 49% of Mexrail. The remaining 51% of Mexrail is owned by KCS, but it is currently under the control of a trustee pending STB approval. Mexrail owns 100% of Tex-Mex. Tex-Mex operates a 157-mile rail line extending from Laredo to the port city of Corpus Christi, Texas and connects the operations of KCSR with TFM. Tex-Mex connects with TFM at Laredo and connects to KCSR through trackage rights at Beaumont, Texas. TFM, through its concession with the Mexican government, has the right to control and operate the southern half of the rail-bridge at Laredo, which spans the Rio Grande River between the United States and Mexico. Mexrail owns the northern half of the bridge. Laredo is a principal international gateway through which more than 50% of all rail and truck traffic between the United States and Mexico crosses the border.

Together, our rail network (KCSR, Tex-Mex (subject to STB approval of KCS' petition to exercise common control over KCSR, Gateway Eastern and Tex-Mex) and an equitable interest in TFM) comprises approximately 6,000 miles of main and branch lines extending from the midwest portions of the United States south into Mexico. Additionally, through a strategic alliance with CN/IC, we have access to a contiguous rail network of approximately 25,000 miles of main and branch lines connecting Canada, the United States and Mexico. The CN/IC alliance connects Canadian markets with major midwestern and southern markets in the United States as well as with major markets in Mexico through KCSR's connections with Tex-Mex and TFM. Management believes that, as a result of the strategic position of our rail network, we are poised to continue to benefit from the growing north/south trade between the United States, Mexico and Canada promoted by NAFTA.

KCS's rail network is further expanded through marketing agreements with Norfolk Southern, BNSF and the IC&E (formerly I&M Rail Link, LLC). Marketing agreements with Norfolk Southern allow the Company to capitalize on its Meridian Speedway to gain incremental traffic volume between the southeast and the southwest. The marketing alliance with BNSF was developed to promote cooperation, revenue growth and extend market reach for both railroads in the United States and Canada. It is also designed to improve operating efficiencies for both KCSR and BNSF in key market areas, as

well as provide customers with expanded service options. KCSR's marketing

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

agreement with IC&E provides access to Minneapolis, Minnesota and Chicago, Illinois and to the origination of corn and other grain traffic in Iowa, Minnesota and Illinois.

Our rail network interconnects with all other Class I railroads and provides shippers with an effective alternative to other railroad routes, giving direct access to Mexico and the southeastern and southwestern United States through less congested interchange hubs.

We also own 50% of the common stock (or a 42% equity interest) of the PCRC, which holds the concession to operate a 47-mile coast-to-coast railroad located adjacent to the Panama Canal. The railroad handles containers in freight service across the isthmus. Panarail, a wholly owned subsidiary of PCRC, operates a commuter and tourist railway service over the lines of the Panama Canal Railway. Passenger and freight service commenced during 2001.

Additional information concerning us is included in our reports and other documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus. Please read "Where You Can Find More Information."

DESCRIPTION OF THE ACQUISITION

OVERVIEW

On April 20, 2003, KCS entered into the Acquisition Agreement with Grupo TMM under which KCS ultimately would acquire control of TFM through the purchase of shares of common stock of Grupo TFM. Grupo TFM holds an 80% economic interest in TFM and all of the TFM Voting Stock. The remaining 20% economic interest in TFM is owned by the Mexican government in the form of shares with limited voting rights. KCS currently owns a 46.6% economic interest in Grupo TFM and 49.0% of the shares of common stock of Grupo TFM entitled to full voting rights. On February 27, 2002, KCS, Grupo TMM, and certain of Grupo TMM's affiliates entered into a stock purchase agreement with TFM to sell to TFM all of the common stock of Mexrail. The sale closed on March 27, 2002 and KCS received approximately \$31.4 million for its 49% interest in Mexrail. On May 9, 2003, KCS acquired from TFM for \$32.7 million in cash 51% of the shares of Mexrail, which owns 100% of Tex-Mex. KCS deposited the Mexrail shares into a voting trust pending resolution of KCS's application to the STB seeking authority to exercise common control over Tex-Mex and KCS's other rail companies, KCSR and Gateway Eastern. However, on September 30, 2003, in accordance with the terms of the Stock Purchase Agreement, TFM repurchased from KCS the 51% interest in Mexrail acquired by KCS in May 2003. Upon this repurchase by TFM, the Stock Purchase Agreement automatically terminated. The repurchase price was the price paid by KCS for these shares in May 2003. On August 16, 2004, pursuant to the terms of a new Mexrail Stock Purchase Agreement of that date, KCS once again acquired from TFM, for approximately \$32.7 million in cash, 51% of the shares of Mexrail. KCS deposited the Mexrail shares into a voting trust pending resolution of KCS's application to the STB seeking authority to exercise common control over Tex-Mex and KCS's other rail companies, KCSR and Gateway Eastern.

According to the terms of the Acquisition Agreement and certain related agreements (described in detail below), KCS would issue:

- o 18,000,000 shares of Class A Convertible Common Stock to Multimodal upon the closing of the Acquisition;
- o at KCS's option, up to 6,400,000 shares of Class A Convertible Common Stock or Common Stock in lieu of a portion of the \$200 million consideration to be paid in cash at the closing of the Acquisition Agreement; and

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

- o up to 2,625,000 shares of restricted Common Stock pursuant to the Consulting Agreement.

The securities to be issued in connection with the Acquisition represent in the aggregate more than 20% of the issued and outstanding shares of KCS Common Stock.

SUMMARY OF THE ACQUISITION AGREEMENT AND RELATED AGREEMENTS

The following summary of the terms and provisions of the Acquisition Agreement, First Amendment to Rights Agreement, Stockholders' Agreement, Registration Rights Agreement, Consulting Agreement, Marketing and Services Agreement, Agreement of Assignment and Assumption of Rights, Duties and Obligations and Stock Purchase Agreement is qualified in its entirety by reference to each of those documents, each of which are exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part. You should read these agreements carefully for more details regarding the provisions described below and for other provisions that may be important to you.

THE ACQUISITION AGREEMENT

Upon the terms and subject to the conditions of the Acquisition Agreement, dated April 20, 2003, by and among KCS, KARA Sub, Grupo TMM, TMM Holdings and Multimodal, KCS would acquire all of the interest of Multimodal in Grupo TFM for consideration to Multimodal of \$200 million and 18 million shares of KCS Class A Convertible Common Stock. The Acquisition would be accomplished in three steps, the Stock Purchase, the Subsidiary Investment and the Merger described below (and together comprising the Acquisition), all occurring sequentially and virtually simultaneously as follows:

(1) THE STOCK PURCHASE. KARA Sub would purchase from Multimodal all Grupo TFM shares held by Multimodal, consisting of 25,500 shares of Series "A" fixed capital stock of Grupo TFM and 3,842,901 shares of Series "A" variable capital stock of Grupo TFM. The purchase price to be paid by KARA Sub to Multimodal at the closing for the purchase of the Grupo TFM shares is: (i) \$200 million (up to \$80 million of which may be paid, at KCS's option, in shares of KCS Common Stock or KCS Class A Convertible Common Stock); and (ii) a subordinated promissory note of KARA Sub in the principal amount of \$25 million. KCS would provide KARA Sub with the funds and securities to make these payments.

(2) THE SUBSIDIARY INVESTMENT. Immediately following the Stock Purchase, Multimodal would purchase 10% of the issued and outstanding shares of KARA Sub common stock, in consideration for delivery by Multimodal to KARA Sub of the KARA Sub subordinated promissory note.

(3) THE MERGER. KARA Sub would then be merged into KCS in accordance with the Delaware Corporation Law. The Merger would be consummated by filing a certificate of merger with the Delaware Secretary of State in accordance with the Delaware Corporation Law. At such time, the shares of KARA Sub held by Multimodal would be converted into and exchanged for 18 million shares of KCS Class A Convertible Common Stock. As a result of the Merger, the separate corporate existence of KARA Sub would cease and KCS would continue as the surviving corporation. Subject to approval by KCS stockholders, upon the date and time of the filing of the Certificate of Merger, KCS would change its name to "NAFTA Rail" and the capital stock of KCS (including the KCS common stock, the \$25 par value preferred stock and the Series C Preferred Stock) would continue to be issued and outstanding as the capital stock of NAFTA Rail without further action by any holder

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

thereof. Subject to listing approval by the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE"), the NAFTA Rail Common Stock and \$25 par value preferred stock would trade on the NYSE.

The closing of the Acquisition is dependent upon the closing of each of the Stock Purchase, the Subsidiary Investment and the Merger. If the Acquisition is consummated, two new directors, Jose Serrano Segovia, Chairman of Grupo TMM and Javier Segovia Serrano, President of Grupo TMM, would be appointed to the NAFTA Rail Board of Directors to serve until the first Annual Meeting of Stockholders of NAFTA Rail following consummation of the Acquisition. At that meeting, Jose Serrano Segovia would be nominated for election to the class of directors serving until the annual meeting of stockholders in 2006 and Javier Segovia Serrano would be nominated for election to the class of directors serving until the annual meeting of stockholders in 2005.

KCS and Grupo TMM have been in a dispute over Grupo TMM's attempt to terminate the Acquisition Agreement. For a discussion of recent developments in connection with the Acquisition, see "--Recent Developments" below.

CONDITIONS TO OBLIGATIONS TO COMPLETE THE ACQUISITION

The obligations of KCS and Grupo TMM to complete the Acquisition are subject to a number of conditions, including, among others:

- o KCS must have obtained approval of KCS stockholders of the amendments to KCS's restated certificate of incorporation and the issuance of Class A Convertible Common Stock and common stock;
- o All consents, waivers, authorizations and approvals required from all governmental authorities to consummate the Acquisition must have been obtained and remain effective as of the closing date of the Acquisition Agreement;
- o The common stock to be issued must have been approved for listing by the NYSE;
- o Each of the Ancillary Agreements must have been duly executed and delivered by or on behalf of KCS and each of Grupo TMM, TMM Holdings and Multimodal, as the case may be;
- o Grupo TMM must have received consents from the holders of its outstanding Notes due 2003 and Notes due 2006; and
- o There must not be any insolvency or bankruptcy proceeding pending against Multimodal, TMM Holdings or TFM that has been pending for more than 60 days, and certain material adverse effects shall not have occurred.

TERMINATION

The Acquisition Agreement may be terminated prior to the closing of the Acquisition as follows:

- o By written consent of KCS and Grupo TMM;
- o By KCS or Grupo TMM if any order of any governmental authority permanently prohibiting the consummation of the Acquisition has become final and non-appealable or if any of the approvals of any governmental authority to perform the transactions contemplated by the Acquisition Agreement imposes any condition or requirement, the

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

satisfaction of which is reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on either KCS or Grupo TMM;

- o By KCS if any conditions to the obligations of KCS under the Acquisition Agreement becomes incapable of fulfillment through no fault of KCS and is not waived by KCS;
- o By Grupo TMM if any condition to the obligations of Grupo TMM, Multimodal and TMM Holdings (collectively, the "Sellers") under the Acquisition Agreement becomes incapable of fulfillment through no fault of Sellers and is not waived by Grupo TMM;
- o By KCS if Grupo TMM has experienced a change of control, or by Grupo TMM if KCS has experienced a change of control; and
- o By KCS or Grupo TMM if the closing of the Acquisition does not occur on or prior to June 15, 2005 (the "Termination Date"); provided, however, that the Termination Date may be extended by KCS and Grupo TMM by written agreement.

A termination fee of \$18 million is payable in the event of termination of the Acquisition Agreement due to (i) a change of control of either KCS or Grupo TMM, in which case the party experiencing the change of control shall pay the termination fee to the other party, or (ii) the failure of the stockholders of KCS or of Grupo TMM to approve the Acquisition if at or prior to the meeting of such stockholders to approve the Acquisition, the Board of Directors of KCS, in the case of the KCS stockholders' meeting, or the Board of Directors of Grupo TMM, in the case of the Grupo TMM

stockholders' meeting, has failed to recommend or has withdrawn and not reinstated its recommendation of the Acquisition, then the party whose stockholders shall not have approved the Acquisition shall pay the termination fee to the other party.

REQUIRED REGULATORY AND OTHER CONSENTS, APPROVALS AND FILINGS

Certain regulatory approvals and filings and other consents are required in connection with the closing of the Acquisition. These include, among others:

- o Prior approval of the Mexican National Foreign Investments Commission of control of Grupo TFM by a non-Mexican entity;
- o Clearance by the Mexican Antitrust Commission of anti-competitive concerns;
- o Notice to the Mexican Ministry of Communications and Transportation;
- o Filing with NYSE for listing of common stock issuable upon conversion of Class A Convertible Common Stock;
- o Grupo TMM note holder consents;
- o Notice filing under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976 ("HSR") filing and clearance of investment by Multimodal in KCS; and
- o KCS stockholder approval of amendments to its restated certificate of incorporation and issuance of KCS equity.

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

KCS has obtained an amendment to its Amended and Restated Credit Agreement allowing:

- o KCS (NAFTA Rail) investment in further equity interests of Grupo TFM;
- o KCS (NAFTA Rail) investment in equity interests representing 51% of Mexrail's issued and outstanding capital stock;
- o Use of KCS cash to acquire Mexrail.

For a discussion of the filings made and the status of such filings, see "--Regulatory Matters" below.

VAT CONTINGENCY PAYMENT

The VAT Claim, which has been pending in the Mexican courts since 1997, arose out of the Mexican Treasury's delivery of a VAT credit certificate to a Mexican governmental agency rather than to TFM. On September 25, 2002, the Mexican appellate court issued a judgment in favor of TFM on the VAT Claim, vacating a prior judgment of the Mexican Fiscal Court and remanding the case to the Fiscal Court with specific instructions to enter a new decision consistent with the guidance provided by the Mexican appellate court's ruling. The Mexican appellate court's ruling required the fiscal authorities to issue the VAT credit certificate only in the name of TFM. On December 6, 2002, the upper chamber of the Fiscal Court issued a ruling denying TFM's right to receive a VAT refund from the Mexican Federal Government. On January 8, 2003, TFM was officially notified of the new judgment of the Fiscal Court and on January 29, 2003, filed the appropriate appeal. On June 11, 2003, the Mexican appellate court issued a judgment in favor of TFM against the ruling of the Fiscal Court. The judgment granted TFM

constitutional protection against the ruling of the Fiscal Court issued on December 6, 2002 denying TFM's right to receive the VAT refund. The judgment ordered the Fiscal Court to vacate its December 6, 2002 resolution and to issue a new resolution following the guidelines of the Mexican appellate court's judgment. The Mexican appellate court found that the VAT refund certificate had not been delivered to TFM, and confirmed the Fiscal Court's determination that TFM has the right to receive the VAT refund certificate. The Mexican appellate court's ruling states that the Treasury's decision denying delivery of the VAT refund certificate to TFM violated the law, and it instructs that the VAT reimbursement certificate be issued to TFM on the terms established by Article 22 of the Federal Fiscal Code in effect at that time. As a result of the Mexican appellate court's ruling, the case was remanded to the Mexican Fiscal Court. On August 14, 2003, Grupo TMM announced that in a public session held August 13, the Mexican Fiscal Court issued a resolution regarding TFM's VAT Claim vacating its previous resolution of December 6, 2002, and, in strict compliance with the ruling issued on June 11, 2003 by the Mexican appellate court, resolved that TFM has proved its case, and that a "ficta denial" occurred, declaring such denial null and void as ordered by the Mexican appellate court. On October 3, 2003, Grupo TMM announced that the Tax Attorney of the Mexican Government had filed for a review of the ruling.

On January 20, 2004, KCS announced that TFM received, on January 19, 2004, a Special Certificate from the Mexican Federal Treasury in the amount of 2,111,111,790 pesos. The Special Certificate has the same face amount as the VAT refund claimed by TFM. On January 21, 2004, KCS announced that TFM was served on January, 20, 2004 with an official letter notifying TFM of the Mexican Government's findings and conclusions arising from its Tax Audit Summary. In the Tax Audit Summary, the Mexican Government notified TFM of its conclusion that the documentation provided by TFM in support of the value added tax payment and

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

depreciation of the TFM concession title and the assets reported on TFM's 1997 tax return do not comply with the formalities required by the applicable tax legislation. The Tax Audit Summary also seized the Special Certificate received by TFM on January 19, 2004 from the Mexican Federal Treasury in the amount of 2,111,111,790 pesos pending resolution of the audit, as a potential asset to be used to satisfy any tax obligations owed by TFM as a result of the audit. TFM has advised that it has, within the time allowed by the Tax Audit Summary, contested the conclusions of the Mexican tax authorities, and it has filed a constitutional appeal against the Tax Audit Summary, alleging the process followed by the Mexican government violated TFM's constitutional rights. TFM has initiated and continues to pursue appropriate legal proceedings seeking to have the amount of the Special Certificate adjusted to reflect interest and penalties in accordance with Mexican law.

Provided the Acquisition has occurred and neither KCS nor any of its subsidiaries has purchased the TFM "Class III" shares (representing 20% of the capital stock of TFM) currently held by the Mexican government upon exercise by the Mexican government of its Put to compel purchase of the shares of TFM held by it, as compensation for Grupo TMM's services in obtaining the final settlement or resolution of TFM's VAT Claim against the Mexican Treasury for the refund of a VAT payment in the original principal amount of 2,111,111,790 pesos, KCS will make or cause TFM to make the VAT Contingency Payment to Grupo TMM as set forth below, following the date of final resolution of the VAT Claim, and the receipt by TFM or its designee of shares or cash compensation received by TFM or its designee from the Mexican government on the VAT Claim (the "VAT Payment"). The VAT Payment must consist of at least (i) all of the TFM "Class III" shares currently held by the Mexican government or (ii) a cash payment or other property acceptable to the parties which has a fair value equal to or greater than the Put Purchase Price (as defined in the Acquisition Agreement) as calculated on the date the VAT Payment is received. In such event, KCS will, at its option, pay or cause TFM to pay to Grupo TMM (iii) \$100 million within 90 days thereafter or (iv) \$50 million within 90 days thereafter and an additional \$55 million within 365 days thereafter. If the VAT Payment exceeds the Put Purchase Price as calculated on the date the VAT Payment is received, KCS will pay or cause TFM to pay to Grupo TMM within 90 days after the VAT Payment and final resolution of the VAT Claim the first \$25 million received above the Put Purchase Price, and 15% of any additional amount received above the Put Purchase Price beyond the first \$25 million, not to exceed \$50 million. The VAT Contingency Payment shall be made after reducing the

value of the VAT Payment by the amount of all expenses incurred by or on behalf of TFM in effecting final resolution of the VAT Claim and receipt of the VAT Payment.

THIRD PARTY MATTERS

Until the filing of the Certificate of Merger for the Merger, neither KCS nor Sellers can seek or entertain other offers with respect to acquisitions, mergers or business combinations of KCS or KCSR, and TMM Holdings, Multimodal, Grupo TFM or any of their respective subsidiaries, respectively. In addition, Grupo TMM will not enter into any agreement concerning any acquisition or purchase of a controlling equity interest in Grupo TMM by any competitor. These limitations are subject to the fiduciary duties of the respective Board of Directors of KCS and Grupo TMM.

INDEMNIFICATION

The representations and warranties of the Sellers and KCS survive for three

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

to five years. The Sellers have jointly and severally agreed to indemnify KCS, the surviving corporation and each of their subsidiaries, and their respective officers, directors, employees, members, stockholders, agents and representatives harmless from and against all losses, damages, liabilities, claims, demands, obligations, deficiencies, payments, judgments, settlements, costs and expenses of any nature whatsoever ("Losses") resulting from or arising out of any inaccuracy or misrepresentation in, or breach of, any representation or warranty of Sellers in connection with the Acquisition Agreement, or any breach or nonfulfillment of any covenant or agreement of any of the Sellers in connection with the Acquisition Agreement, or any claims, causes of actions, rights asserted or demands made by any third parties arising from or relating to any of the foregoing. The Sellers' indemnification obligations for any inaccuracy or misrepresentation in, or breach of, any representation or warranty regarding Grupo TFM or its subsidiaries is limited to 51% of Losses aggregating \$5 million or more. This limitation is not applicable to any Losses arising out of or resulting from any action or omission on the part of any Seller or its affiliate that involved a crime, fraud, willful misconduct or gross negligence.

KCS has agreed to indemnify the Sellers, each of their subsidiaries and each of their respective officers, directors, employees, members, stockholders, agents and representatives from and against all Losses resulting from or arising out of any inaccuracy or misrepresentation in, or breach of, any representation or warranty of KCS in connection with the Acquisition Agreement, or any breach or nonfulfillment of any covenant of KCS in connection with the Acquisition Agreement, or any claims, causes of actions, rights asserted or demands made by any third parties arising from or relating to any of the foregoing. KCS's indemnification obligations are limited to Losses aggregating \$10 million or more. This limitation is not applicable to any Losses arising out of or resulting from any action or omission on the part of KCS or its affiliate that involved a crime, fraud, willful misconduct or gross negligence.

Additionally, KCS's Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws would be amended to reflect the agreements contained in the Acquisition Agreement and certain Ancillary Agreements. A number of Ancillary Agreements have been, or will be prior to the closing of the Acquisition, entered into to carry out certain objectives of the Acquisition Agreement and the Acquisition. Each of these Ancillary Agreements is described below.

FIRST AMENDMENT TO RIGHTS AGREEMENT

In connection with the Acquisition, KCS and Harris Trust & Savings Bank, as Rights Agent would enter into a First Amendment to Rights Agreement (the "Rights Agreement") dated as of September 19, 1995. The Rights Agreement would be amended to prevent any TMM Holder from

becoming an Acquiring Person (as defined in the Rights Agreement), which would otherwise cause a Triggering Event (as defined in the Rights Agreement) as a result of the Acquisition. Accordingly, the First Amendment to Rights Agreement would amend Section 1(a), the definition of Acquiring Person, to provide that no person or affiliate of such person shall become an "Acquiring Person" as a result of the acquisition of beneficial ownership of (i) shares of Class A Convertible Common Stock, (ii) shares of Common Stock issued or issuable upon conversion of the Class A Convertible Common Stock, (iii) any shares of Common Stock or Class A Convertible Common Stock acquired pursuant to Section 1.2 of the Acquisition Agreement, (iv) any shares of Common Stock or Class A Convertible Common Stock acquired pursuant to the Consulting Agreement, and (v) shares of Common Stock or Class A Convertible Common Stock acquired in compliance with the Stockholders' Agreement, including upon exercise of pre-emptive rights as provided therein.

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

The definition of "Substantial Block" found at Section 1(z) of the Rights Agreement would also be amended to lower the threshold beneficial ownership that constitutes a "Triggering Event" from 20% to 15% (and from 15% to 13% in the event the Acquiring Person is declared by the Board of Directors to be an Adverse Person (as defined in the Rights Agreement)).

In order to conform to the foregoing amendments, subsection (iii) of Section 3(e) regarding Restrictions on transfer of Rights to Acquiring Persons would be deleted and amended to provide that no Right (as defined in the Rights Agreement) shall be transferable or transferred other than as permitted under Section 1(a) of the Rights Agreement, as amended, to any person who, as a result of such transfer, would beneficially own 15% or more of the Rights.

Finally, Section 7(e) of the Rights Agreement would be amended to correct a clerical error.

STOCKHOLDERS' AGREEMENT

KCS, Grupo TMM, TMM Holdings, Multimodal and the Principal Stockholders plan to enter into a Stockholders' Agreement, which would set forth the rights and duties of the parties thereto arising out or and in connection with the Acquisition Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby.

STANDSTILL PROVISIONS

For a period of seven years from the date of the Stockholders' Agreement, Grupo TMM, TMM Holdings, Multimodal and each of the Principal Stockholders agrees that, unless specifically invited in writing to do so by the Board of Directors, such Person (as defined in the Stockholders' Agreement) will not, and will cause each of its affiliates not to, among other things:

- o acquire or agree to acquire aggregate beneficial ownership of more than 20% of the Total Voting Power of KCS (as defined in the Stockholders' Agreement);
- o initiate or propose any matter for submission to a vote of stockholders of KCS or participate in the making of, or solicit stockholders for the approval of, any stockholder proposal;
- o grant any proxy with respect to any Voting Securities to any Person not approved in writing by KCS;
- o except through its representatives on the Board of Directors (or any committee thereof) of KCS, otherwise act, alone or in concert with others, to seek to control or influence the management, Board of Directors or policies of KCS.

The standstill provisions terminate upon the earliest to occur of (i) a Change of Control of KCS (as defined in the Stockholders' Agreement), or (ii) the first date the TMM Holders beneficially own in the aggregate less than 15% of the outstanding Voting Securities of KCS for at least 30 consecutive days.

TRANSFER RESTRICTIONS

The TMM Holders may not sell, assign, transfer, pledge, hypothecate, otherwise subject to any lien, grant an option with respect to or otherwise dispose of any interest in (or enter into an agreement or understanding with respect to the foregoing) any Voting Securities beneficially owned by them (a

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

"Disposition") except in accordance with the terms of the Stockholders' Agreement. For a period of five years from the date of the Stockholders' Agreement, the TMM Holders may not effect a Disposition:

- o to a Competitor (as defined in the Stockholders' Agreement);
- o to an Affiliate unless such Affiliate agrees in writing to be bound by the terms of the Stockholders' Agreement and provided that the TMM Holders shall remain responsible, jointly and severally, for any breaches of the Stockholders' Agreement by such Affiliate;
- o that in the aggregate represents 5% or more of the outstanding Voting Securities to any Person other than an 13G Filer (as defined in the Stockholders' Agreement), and no disposition shall be made to any 13G Filer unless such 13G Filer would continue to be eligible to file reports pursuant to Section 13G under the Exchange Act with respect to the Voting Securities after giving effect to the proposed acquisition and KCS has been provided the right (but not the obligation) to purchase such Voting Securities;
- o to any Person that would, together with such person's Affiliates or Associates (as defined in the Stockholders' Agreement) and after giving effect to the acquisition of such Voting Securities, beneficially own or have the right to acquire 15% of the Total Voting Power; and
- o of any capital stock or Voting Securities or control of any Person that, directly or indirectly, beneficially owns any Voting Securities of KCS to a Competitor.

Subject to the provisions contained in the Stockholders' Agreement, a TMM Holder may pledge or hypothecate as security for any indebtedness or other obligations any or all Voting Securities beneficially owned by such Person provided that KCS shall have a right to purchase the pledged Voting Securities upon the occurrence of a Foreclosure Event (as defined in the Stockholders' Agreement).

The TMM Holders may participate in a tender or exchange offer made by an unaffiliated third party, provided the TMM Holders did not solicit the tender or exchange offer and (i) the same consideration is offered to all holders of the securities tendered in the tender offer; (ii) the transaction is approved by a majority of other KCS stockholders; (iii) the tender or exchange offer is not conditioned on financing; and (iv) the TMM Holders do not tender, or publicly disclose their intention to tender, prior to the last day before expiration of the offer.

The transfer restrictions contained in the Stockholders' Agreement terminate upon the earliest to occur of (i) a Change of Control of KCS, or (ii) the first date the TMM Holders beneficially own in the aggregate less than 15% of the outstanding Voting Securities of KCS for at least 30 consecutive days.

PRE-EMPTIVE RIGHTS

TMM Holders have the right to purchase additional shares of Class A Convertible Common Stock to maintain their percentage ownership in the event KCS authorizes the issuance or sale of any shares of Common Stock or any securities containing options or rights to acquire shares of Common Stock, except for issuances of Common Stock (including for this purpose, options, warrants and other securities convertible into or exercisable for Common Stock) issued:

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

- o to KCS's employees, directors, consultants, agents, independent contractors or other service providers in connection with a Plan (as defined in the Stockholders' Agreement) existing as of the date of the Stockholders' Agreement or a Plan approved by the Board of Directors and adopted by KCS after the date of the Stockholders' Agreement;
- o upon the conversion of Class A Convertible Common Stock;
- o upon the exercise of any options, warrants, convertible or exchangeable securities which are outstanding as of the date hereof;
- o in connection with the acquisition (by merger, consolidation, acquisition of assets or equity interests or otherwise) of the equity interests or assets of another Person; or
- o in the event KCS issues additional equity in lieu of up to \$80 million in cash at Closing.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Stockholders' Agreement provides for the Board of Directors to be comprised of eleven directors, to be selected as follows: (i) the chief executive officer of KCS and another person selected by him; (ii) two persons elected by the holders of the Class A Convertible Common Stock (reduced to one in the event the TMM Holders' ownership falls below 75% of the Voting Securities initially acquired pursuant to the Merger and reduced to zero in the event the TMM Holders' ownership falls below 40% of the Voting Securities initially acquired pursuant to the Merger); and (iii) seven independent directors designated by the chief executive officer of KCS. The Nominating Committee of the Board of Directors will consist of three Independent Directors designated by the chief executive officer of KCS. The Compensation Committee will consist of three Independent Directors designated by the chief executive officer of KCS and one Independent Director designated by the chief executive officer of Grupo TMM. The Executive Committee will consist of three Directors designated by the chief executive officer of KCS and one Director designated by the chief executive officer of Grupo TMM.

Each TMM Holder shall vote all of the Voting Securities beneficially owned by such Person and entitled to vote in the election of directors: (i) in favor of all nominees of the Nominating Committee; and (ii) against any proposal to remove any director nominated by the Nominating Committee and elected to the Board of Directors.

The TMM Holders' rights and duties under the corporate governance provisions of the Stockholders' Agreement terminate upon the earliest to occur of (i) the first date the TMM Holders beneficially own in the aggregate at least 40% of the outstanding Voting Securities initially acquired pursuant to the Merger, or (ii) a Change of Control of Grupo TMM or any of the TMM Holders.

TERMINATION

Subject to specific termination provisions contained in the Stockholders' Agreement, the entire Agreement (with a few exceptions) terminates when the TMM Holders ownership falls below 40% of the Voting Securities initially acquired pursuant to the Merger, or in the event the Class A nominees are not elected to the KCS Board of Directors (except for good cause).

REGISTRATION RIGHTS AGREEMENT

The Registration Rights Agreement to be entered into by KCS, Grupo TMM, TMM

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

Holdings, Multimodal and certain principal stockholders of Grupo TMM, will provide Grupo TMM, TMM Holdings, Multimodal, such principal stockholders of Grupo TMM, and any Permitted Transferee (as defined in the Registration Rights Agreement) who acquires shares of Class A Convertible Common Stock or shares of Registrable Stock (as defined in the Registration Rights Agreement) and agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions of the Registration Rights Agreement (collectively, the "Holders") with certain registration rights with respect to the shares of KCS Common Stock (i) issuable upon conversion of the KCS Class A Convertible Common Stock, (ii) issued in lieu of cash at closing, (iii) issued pursuant to the Consulting Agreement and (iv) acquired on pre-emptive exercises.

REQUIRED AND INCIDENTAL REGISTRATIONS

Beginning on the 180th day following the consummation of the Acquisition, the Holders shall have the right to request, and KCS shall use commercially reasonable efforts to effect, six demand registrations. In the event KCS issues additional equity in lieu of up to \$80 million in cash at Closing, the Holders shall be entitled to one additional shelf registration. Holders shall also be entitled to unlimited incidental, or "piggy-back," registrations. KCS can delay filing registrations upon the occurrence of certain events, including situations in which KCS is not eligible to use Form S-3 to effect such registration or in the event that KCS furnishes to the Holders a resolution adopted by the Board of Directors to the effect that in the good faith judgment of KCS it would be seriously detrimental for a registration statement to be filed at that time.

In the event the managing underwriters of a public offering furnish a written opinion that the amount of securities to be included in an offering exceed the maximum amount which can be marketed without materially and adversely affecting such offering, then the Holders, KCS and all other holders of KCS securities having the right to include such securities in the registration shall be subject to certain underwriting cut-backs. Holders are also subject to certain market standoff provisions during the ten days prior to and up to, but not exceeding, 90 days following the effective date of a registration statement to the same extent that KCS or its officers or directors are subject to such market standoff provisions.

REGISTRATION EXPENSES

With respect to the first four demand registrations and any incidental registrations, KCS shall pay all registration expenses, including all registration, qualification and filing fees, printing expenses, escrow fees, fees and disbursements or counsel for KCS and blue sky fees and expenses. With respect to demand registrations effected beyond the first four, the Holders whose shares are included in the applicable registration shall pay all registration expenses.

CONSULTING AGREEMENT

KCS and the consulting firm controlled by Jose Serrano Segovia ("Consulting Firm") plan to enter into a Consulting Agreement, which calls for Consulting Firm to provide certain consulting services to the KCS Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer relating to the Mexican portion of KCS's rail network operations, including its customers and suppliers, regulatory matters and regarding the Mexican railroad industry in general. Jose Serrano Segovia is required under the terms of the Consulting Agreement to be personally involved in the provision of services by the Consulting Firm. Jose Serrano Segovia is the current Chairman of the Board of Directors of Grupo TMM and certain of its subsidiaries, including TFM and Grupo TFM, and will become a director and Vice-Chairman of KCS.

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

TERM

The Consulting Agreement has an initial term of three years beginning on the closing date of the Acquisition Agreement. KCS has the option of extending the term of the Consulting Agreement for an additional year. In the event of a Change of Control (as defined in the Consulting Agreement), Consulting Firm agrees to continue its engagement with KCS for a period equal to the longer of (i) one year from the date of such Change of Control; or (ii) the remainder of the term and KCS agrees to continue to engage Consulting Firm during the remainder of the term.

Notwithstanding the initial three-year term, the Consulting Agreement and Consulting Firm's engagement shall terminate automatically upon the death or disability of Jose Serrano Segovia or dissolution or bankruptcy of Consulting Firm. Consulting Firm may terminate the Consulting Agreement at any time by giving at least 30 days' advance written notice to KCS or in the event of a material breach, and failure to cure the same, by KCS. Additionally, KCS may terminate the Consulting Agreement and Consulting Firm's engagement for cause, or other than for cause, subject to certain conditions specified in the Consulting Agreement.

COMPENSATION

Under the Consulting Agreement, KCS will pay to Consulting Firm an annual fee of \$600,000. In addition, KCS will grant to Consulting Firm 2,100,000 shares of KCS restricted Common Stock (the "Consulting Firm Stock"), subject to the following vesting provisions:

- o 525,000 shares shall become vested with ten days after TFM enters into a renegotiated or extended labor agreement with the El Sindicato de Trabajadores Ferrocarrileros de la Republica Mexicana;
- o 250,000 shares shall become vested on each of the first, second and third anniversary dates of the Consulting Agreement;
- o 125,000 shares shall become vested in the event KCS or any subsidiary receives the Certificate of Devolution of Taxes (Certificado de Devolucion de Impuestos) issued by the Treasury of the Mexican Federation (Tesoreria de la Federacion) in the term of Article 22 of the Tax Code of the Mexican Federation (Codigo Fiscal de la Federacion); and
- o 700,000 shares shall become vested in the event KCS or any subsidiary receives the shares or cash compensation from the Mexican government as a result of TFM's claim against the Mexican Treasury for the refund of a value added tax payment. See Section 6(i) of the Consulting Agreement attached as Appendix F to the proxy statement filed June 26, 2003 and Section 7.13 of the Acquisition Agreement attached as Appendix B to such proxy statement.

As a condition to the vesting of Consulting Firm Stock on the first, second and third anniversary dates, KCS's Board of Directors shall review the compliance, good faith performance and existence of triggering events that would terminate the Agreement. If the Board determines that the Consulting Firm has not satisfied the requisite standard during any one-year period, the Consulting Firm Stock subject to vesting at such one-year period shall be forfeited.

If KCS extends the initial term of the Consulting Agreement, KCS will grant to Consulting Firm on the first day of the extended term an additional 525,000 shares of KCS restricted Common Stock which will vest immediately upon issuance.

TRANSFER RESTRICTIONS

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

Consulting Firm may not sell, transfer, assign, pledge or otherwise dispose of (whether with or without consideration and whether voluntary or involuntary or by operation of law) any interest in any shares of Consulting Firm Stock, except in accordance with the terms of the Stockholders' Agreement (described above).

MARKETING AND SERVICES AGREEMENT

The Marketing and Services Agreement to be entered into by Grupo TMM (together with its subsidiaries and affiliates), TFM and KCS (together with its subsidiaries and affiliates), provides for the parties to enter into various most favored nations provisions, requiring, among other things, (i) KCS to provide certain services to Grupo TMM on terms which are no less favorable than the terms provided to third or fourth party logistics companies; (ii) that Grupo TMM shall have the right to be the exclusive provider of Road-Railer freight services over TFM's rail system within Mexico; (iii) Grupo TMM shall have the right, but not the obligation, to operate KCS's intermodal terminals to the extent that KCS determines to utilize a third party to operate such within Mexico, the terms of such operations subject to mutual agreement of Grupo TMM and KCS; and (iv) that Grupo TMM shall have the right to make a bid for the provision of certain specified transportation related services normally provided by Grupo TMM or its affiliates, if TFM determines to have such services provided by any unaffiliated third party in Mexico or the United States. The relationships among KCS and Grupo TMM shall be those of independent contractors and neither KCS nor Grupo TMM shall be or represent itself to be an agent, employee or joint venturer of the other. Neither KCS nor Grupo TMM shall have or represent itself to have any power or authority to act for, bind or commit the other party.

The initial term of the Marketing and Services Agreement is five years from the Effective Date (as defined in the Acquisition Agreement), subject to automatic renewal for periods of one year unless terminated by Grupo TMM or KCS. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Marketing and Services Agreement shall terminate automatically in the event that (i) TMM Logistics, a subsidiary of Grupo TMM, files any voluntary proceeding under any bankruptcy laws, or if TMM Logistics has filed against it any involuntary proceeding under any bankruptcy law which is not dismissed or stayed within 30 days or (ii) a change of control of Grupo TMM occurs and the party effecting such change of control is a Competitor (as defined in the Marketing and Services Agreement).

AGREEMENT OF ASSIGNMENT AND ASSUMPTION OF RIGHTS, DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS.

This agreement is to be entered into by and among Grupo TMM, KCS, and Grupo TFM (a form of which is attached as Exhibit C to the Acquisition Agreement), by which Grupo TMM will assign and transfer to KCS, and KCS will accept and assume, all of Grupo TMM's rights, duties and obligations with respect to the purchase of the Put Shares (defined below) under the Put Agreement described below. KCS shall have the right to designate another party to be the purchaser of the Put Shares, however, no such designation shall relieve KCS of its obligation to pay the purchase price for such Put Shares or to indemnify Grupo TMM or its Affiliates.

According to the terms of the original share purchase agreement for the Northeast Rail lines and an Agreement, dated June 9, 1997, by and among the Federal Government of the Mexican States, Grupo TFM, Grupo TMM and KCS (the "Put Agreement"), the Mexican government had the right to sell its 20% interest in TFM through a public offering on October 31, 2003 (or prior to October 31, 2003, with the consent of Grupo TFM). If on October 31, 2003, the Mexican government had not sold all of its capital stock in TFM, Grupo TFM was obligated under the

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

Put Agreement following receipt of notice from the Mexican government to purchase the Mexican government's 20% interest in TFM (the "Put Shares"). As of October 31, 2003, the Mexican government had not sold any of its remaining 20% interest in TFM. Prior to October 31, 2003, Grupo TFM filed suit in the Federal District Court of Mexico

City seeking, among other things, a declaratory judgment interpreting whether Grupo TFM was obligated to honor its obligation under the Put Agreement, as the Mexican government had not made any effort to sell its 20% interest in TFM through a public offering prior to October 31, 2003. We, along with Grupo TMM, have been named as additional necessary parties in the suit, but we have not yet been served with Grupo TFM's complaint. The Mexican government has provided Grupo TFM with notice of its intention to sell its interest in TFM. Grupo TFM responded to the Mexican government's notice, reaffirming its right and interest in purchasing the Mexican government's remaining interest in TFM, but also advising the Mexican government that it would not take any action until its lawsuit seeking a declaratory judgment was resolved. In the event that Grupo TFM does not purchase the Put Shares and the Acquisition has not been consummated, then Grupo TMM and KCS, are jointly and severally obligated to purchase the Mexican government's remaining interest in TFM. Should the Mexican government cause Grupo TMM to purchase any of the Put Shares after consummation of the Acquisition Agreement, KCS would be obligated to purchase such shares from Grupo TMM.

THE STOCK PURCHASE AGREEMENT

Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Stock Purchase Agreement, dated as of April 20, 2003, by and among KCS, Grupo TMM and TFM, on May 9, 2003, KCS purchased from TFM 51% of the outstanding shares of Mexrail, a wholly-owned subsidiary of TFM, for \$32,680,000. TFM had the right to repurchase all of the shares of Mexrail capital stock acquired by KCS at any time for the purchase price paid by KCS, subject to any STB orders or directions. TFM made a demand in August 2003 to repurchase from KCS the shares of Mexrail sold to KCS in May 2003. On September 23, 2003, the STB issued a decision finding no need to rule on the transfer back to TFM of the 51% interest in Mexrail that KCS acquired on May 9, 2003. The effect of the STB decision was to allow TFM to reacquire the shares in accordance with the Stock Purchase Agreement. On September 30, 2003, TFM repurchased the Mexrail shares from KCS at the price KCS paid TFM in May 2003, and TFM now owns 100% of Mexrail. Under the terms of the Stock Purchase Agreement, upon this repurchase, the Stock Purchase Agreement automatically terminated.

KCS, Grupo TMM and TFM entered into a new Stock Purchase Agreement dated as of August 16, 2004 ("New Mexrail Stock Purchase Agreement"). Pursuant to the terms of that Agreement, KCS purchased from TFM 51% of the outstanding shares of Mexrail, a wholly-owned subsidiary of TFM, for \$32,680,000, and placed those shares into trust pending STB approval to exercise common control over KCSR, Gateway Eastern and Tex-Mex. The terms of the new Mexrail Stock Purchase Agreement are substantially similar to the Stock Purchase Agreement, but TFM does not have any right to repurchase the Mexrail shares sold to KCS and KCS is obligated to purchase the remaining shares of Mexrail owned by TFM on or before October 31, 2005. KCS filed a Status Report with the STB on August 16, 2004 notifying the STB of the purchase of 51% of the shares of Mexrail and asking it to reinstate the Procedural Schedule that the STB had previously established and suspended. The STB on August 30, 2004 issued a scheduling order giving interested parties until September 30, 2004 an opportunity to file comments. In accordance with the procedural schedule, KCS submitted its replies to the comments on October 15, 2004. The STB must decide the matter within 45 days following the date on which the last pleading is filed in the matter. KCS expects a decision on its application from the STB on or before November 29,

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

2004.

REGULATORY MATTERS

As discussed in "--Summary of the Acquisition Agreement and Related Agreements--The Acquisition Agreement" and "--Summary of the Acquisition Agreement and Related Agreements--The Stock Purchase Agreement" above, certain regulatory approvals and filings are required in connection with the closing of the Acquisition. The following actions have occurred to date:

- o KCS's solicitation for permission as a foreign investor to control TFM, through Grupo TFM, was filed with the Mexican National Foreign Investments Commission ("MNFIC") on April 25, 2003. On August 27, 2003, KCS announced that it received notice from the MNFIC of that Commission's decision to close the proceeding with respect to KCS's application to acquire control of Grupo TFM and, through Grupo TFM, of TFM, without prejudice to refile in the event the dispute is resolved between KCS and Grupo TMM over whether the Acquisition Agreement remains in effect. KCS filed a renewed application seeking authorization from the MNFIC on June 23, 2004. In a decision dated September 13, 2004, the MNFIC denied KCS' application, but invited KCS to reapply for authorization at anytime. KCS filed an amended application seeking authorization from the MNFIC on September 17, 2004. On October 6, 2004, KCS announced that it had received notice from the MNFIC approving its application. KCS must complete the transactions described in the Acquisition Agreement and the Related Agreements on or before October 5, 2005, or seek renewed authority from the MNFIC. See "--Recent Developments";
- o KCS's Notification with respect to the acquisition of the Grupo TFM shares from Multimodal was filed with the Mexican Competition Commission ("MCC") on April 21, 2003. KCS received formal written notice that the MCC has approved the proposed consolidation, without conditions. On September 26, 2003, KCS announced this approval was extended for an additional 180 days. On April 5, 2004, KCS announced that on April 2, 2004, the MCC granted an extension of 180 calendar days from the April 2, 2004 date of notice for its ruling issued on May 19, 2003 granting authority for the sale of Grupo TMM's interest in Grupo TFM to KCS. On October 7, 2004, KCS was notified by the MCC that the MCC had extended KCS' authority to purchase TMM's interest in Grupo Transportacion Ferroviaria Mexicana, S.A. de C.V. for an additional 180 days. MCC originally authorized the purchase in a ruling dated May 19, 2003, and the new ruling extends that authorization to April 5, 2005.
- o TFM formerly notified the Secretary of Communications and Transportation of the proposed transactions on May 2, 2003;
- o On August 6, 2004 Grupo TMM announced the successful completion of its exchange offer and consent solicitation for its 9 1/2 percent Notes due 2003 and its 10 1/4 percent Senior Notes due 2006. Grupo TMM announced that holders of at least 95.3% of the aggregate principal amount of 2003 notes and 97.3 percent of the aggregate principal amount of the 2006 notes had accepted the exchange offer and tendered their notes. Grupo TMM announced at that time that it expected to complete the exchange of the 2003 and 2006 notes for new Senior Secured Notes due in 2007 on or about August 10, 2004.
- o KCS filed with the STB on May 13, 2003 a Railroad Control Application,

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

seeking permission to exercise common control over KCSR, Gateway Eastern and Tex-Mex. On June 9, 2003, the STB issued its decision, effective June 13, 2003, finding that the transaction proposed in KCS's application is a "minor transaction" under 49 CFR 1180.2(c), although KCS was required to supplement its application as discussed in the decision, to address some of the implication of KCS's acquisition of control of TFM. KCS filed the supplement on June 23, 2003, as required by the decision. The STB also outlined a procedural schedule for consideration of KCS's application to exercise common control over KCSR, Gateway Eastern and Tex-Mex. On September 23, 2003, the STB entered an order asking all interested parties to file comments by September 30, 2003 addressing whether "in light of recent developments" the STB should

continue with the procedural schedule, which calls for a decision on the merits to be issued by October 17, 2003. On September 30, 2003, KCS filed comments with the STB suggesting that STB precedent establishes that the STB has sufficient jurisdiction to rule on control applications even where closing on the underlying transaction has been put in doubt. In the alternative, KCS argued that the matter should be held in abeyance, rather than dismissed, until the arbitration is completed. On October 8, 2003, the STB issued an order suspending the procedural schedule pending a resolution of the uncertainties that now surround KCS's efforts to acquire control of Tex-Mex, and requiring KCS to file status reports regarding developments in its efforts to acquire control of TFM and Tex-Mex. In accordance with the STB's order, KCS filed its first status report on November 3, 2003 and follow-up status reports were filed thereafter in accordance with the STB's order. KCS filed a status report with the STB on August 16, 2004 notifying the STB of the purchase of 51% of the shares of Mexrail and asking it to reinstate the Procedural Schedule that the STB had previously established and suspended. The STB on August 30, 2004 issued a scheduling order giving interested parties until September 30, 2004 an opportunity to file comments. In accordance with the procedural schedule, KCS submitted its replies to the comments on October 15, 2004. The STB must decide the matter within 45 days following the date on which the last pleading is filed in the matter. KCS expects a decision on its application from the STB on or before November 29, 2004;

- o KCS filed its Hart-Scott-Rodino notification on May 19, 2003. Grupo TMM filed its HSR notification on July 1, 2003. Under the HSR process, the United States Department of Justice ("DOJ") has 30 days after notice is filed to issue a second request asking for various documents and information from the HSR parties. The waiting period under the HSR officially expired on July 31, 2003, with no request for additional information from the DOJ. As more than one year has passed since the expiration of the waiting period, Grupo TMM and KCS will need to refile with the DOJ and restart the HSR process prior to consummating the transactions contemplated by the Acquisition Agreement.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

DISPUTE OVER ACQUISITION AGREEMENT

On August 18, 2003, Grupo TMM announced that at its General Ordinary Shareholders meeting that day, the shareholders did not approve the sale of Grupo TMM's interest in Grupo TFM to KCS. Grupo TMM further announced that as a result of the stockholder vote, Grupo TMM's Board of Directors intended to meet to review Grupo TMM's options and that Grupo TMM was proceeding to inform the

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

authorities at the Ministry of Communications and Transportacion, the Ministry of Finance, other relevant authorities and stakeholders at Grupo TMM and subsidiaries of the Grupo TMM shareholders' decision. On August 23, 2003, Grupo TMM sent a notice to KCS claiming to terminate the Acquisition Agreement, because the Grupo TMM shareholders had failed to approve the Acquisition Agreement.

On August 29, 2003, KCS delivered to Grupo TMM the Notice of Dispute pursuant to the Acquisition Agreement. This initiated a 60-day negotiation period between the parties. The parties were unable to resolve the dispute within that period of time. In addition, on August 29, 2003, KCS filed a complaint in the Delaware Chancery Court alleging that Grupo TMM had breached the Acquisition Agreement and seeking a final order requiring Grupo TMM not to sell Grupo TFM or take other actions outside of the ordinary course of business, so as to preserve the assets and business of TFM while the parties follow the dispute resolution procedures provided for in the Acquisition Agreement. The Notice of Dispute and complaint point out that the Acquisition Agreement does not provide that a negative shareholder vote by Grupo TMM shareholders is a basis for termination, and KCS maintains that the Acquisition Agreement is still valid and remains in effect until December 31, 2004.

On September 2, 2003, KCS filed in the Delaware Court of Chancery a motion for a preliminary injunction to preserve the parties' positions while KCS seeks to resolve its dispute over Grupo TMM's attempt to terminate the Acquisition Agreement. On September 2, 2003, KCS filed in the Delaware Court of Chancery a motion for a preliminary injunction to preserve the parties' positions while KCS seeks to resolve its dispute over Grupo TMM's attempt to terminate the Acquisition Agreement.

On October 28, 2003, Chancellor William B. Chandler III of the Delaware Court of Chancery entered a written order granting KCS' motion seeking a preliminary injunction to preserve the parties' positions pending resolution of the dispute between KCS and Grupo TMM over the Acquisition Agreement.

On October 31, 2003, KCS initiated binding arbitration in accordance with the terms of the Acquisition Agreement by serving an Arbitration Demand on Grupo TMM and the American Arbitration Association. In its Arbitration Demand, KCS seeks a determination that the Acquisition Agreement is in full force and effect, specific performance of the Acquisition Agreement, and damages for Grupo TMM's breach of the terms of the Acquisition Agreement and failure to negotiate in good faith during the 60-day negotiation period. By the agreement of the parties, the arbitration has been bifurcated. The first stage of the arbitration only addressed the question of whether Grupo TMM's purported negative shareholder vote gave Grupo TMM the right to terminate the Acquisition Agreement. On March 22, 2004, KCS announced that the panel of the American Arbitration Association International Center for Dispute Resolution hearing the dispute between KCS and Grupo TMM issued its interim award on March 19, 2004 finding that the Acquisition Agreement remains in force and is binding on KCS and Grupo TMM in accordance with its terms. The arbitration panel concluded that the rejection of the Acquisition Agreement by Grupo TMM's shareholders did not authorize Grupo TMM's purported termination of the Acquisition Agreement. The second phase of the arbitration will decide the remaining issues, including remedies and damages. On April 7, 2004, KCS and Grupo TMM announced that they have agreed not to move immediately into the next phase of arbitration. Both KCS and Grupo TMM have reserved the right to proceed with the next phase of arbitration at any time.

On January 6, 2004, KCS announced that in a ruling by the Delaware Court of Chancery regarding a motion to enforce injunction and hold Grupo TMM in contempt in the dispute between KCS and Grupo TMM over the Acquisition Agreement, the

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

court held Grupo TMM in contempt of court for taking action inconsistent with the court's October 29, 2003 order discussed above. The court held that by Grupo TMM causing its subsidiary Grupo TFM to revoke powers of attorney requiring the signature of a KCS representative for transactions in excess of \$2.5 million and in granting new powers of attorney to Grupo TMM directors, Jose Serrano and Mario Mohar to act on behalf of the company, Grupo TMM violated provisions of the Acquisition Agreement. The previous order of the court required Grupo TMM to cause Grupo TFM to conduct its business in accordance with past practices and not to directly or indirectly amend its organizational documents. The court ordered Grupo TMM to take the actions necessary to revoke the new powers of attorney, to re-enact the original powers of attorney, and to pay KCS its costs and attorneys fees for bringing the motion for contempt.

On April 4, 2004, KCS and Grupo TMM agreed to and signed, and the arbitration panel approved, a stipulation agreement in which KCS and Grupo TMM have agreed to discharge in good faith all of the obligations of the Acquisition Agreement. On September 16, 2004, KCS and Grupo TMM announced that they had agreed to extend the deadline under the Acquisition Agreement to June 15, 2005, to provide additional time to complete the transaction.

REPURCHASE OF MEXRAIL SHARES BY KCS

KCS, Grupo TMM and TFM entered into a new Stock Purchase Agreement dated as of August 16, 2004 ("New Mexrail Stock Purchase Agreement"). Pursuant to the terms of that Agreement, KCS purchased from TFM 51% of the outstanding shares of Mexrail, a wholly-owned subsidiary of TFM, for \$32,680,000, and placed those shares into trust pending STB approval to exercise common control over KCSR, Gateway Eastern and Tex-Mex. The terms of the new Mexrail Stock Purchase Agreement are substantially similar to the Stock Purchase Agreement, but TFM does not have any right to repurchase the Mexrail shares sold to KCS and KCS is obligated to purchase the remaining shares of Mexrail owned by TFM on or before October 31, 2005. KCS filed a Status Report with the STB on August 16, 2004 notifying the STB of the purchase of 51% of the shares of Mexrail and asking it to reinstate the Procedural Schedule that the STB had previously established and suspended. The STB on August 30, 2004 issued a scheduling order giving interested parties until September 30, 2004 an opportunity to file comments. In accordance with the procedural schedule, KCS submitted its replies to the comments on October 15, 2004. The STB must decide the matter within 45 days following the date on which the last pleading is filed in the matter. KCS expects a decision on its application from the STB on or before November 29, 2004.

NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF JOINT VENTURE AGREEMENT

In addition, KCS acknowledged receipt from Grupo TMM of a notice to terminate a joint venture agreement between the parties entered into in 1995. Pursuant to such notice, the joint venture agreement terminated on December 1, 2003.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SERIES C PREFERRED STOCK

The following is a summary of certain provisions of the certificate of designations for our 4.25% Redeemable Cumulative Convertible Perpetual Preferred Stock, Series C, which we refer to as the "Series C Preferred Stock." A copy of the certificate of designations and the form of Series C Preferred Stock share certificate are available upon request from us at the address set forth under "Where You Can Find More Information." The following summary of the terms of the

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

Series C Preferred Stock does not purport to be complete and is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by reference to, the provisions of the certificate of designations, including the definitions of terms used in the certificate of designations. Wherever particular provisions or defined terms of the certificate of designations or form of Series C Preferred Stock are referred to, these provisions or defined terms are incorporated by reference in this prospectus by reference. We urge you to read the certificate of designations because it, and not this description, defines your rights as a holder of shares of Series C Preferred Stock. As used in this section, the terms the "KCS," "us," "we" or "our" refer to Kansas City Southern and not any of its subsidiaries.

GENERAL

Under our restated certificate of incorporation, our board of directors is authorized, without further stockholder action, to issue up to 2,000,000 shares of New Series Preferred Stock, par value \$1.00 per share, in one or more series, with such voting powers or without voting powers, and with such designations, preferences and relative, participating, optional or other special rights, and qualifications, limitations or restrictions, as shall be set forth in the resolutions providing therefor. We have 450,000 shares of authorized New Series Preferred Stock which are undesignated. Of the 2,000,000 shares of New Series Preferred Stock, (1) 150,000 shares are designated as New Series Preferred Stock Series A, of which no shares are currently outstanding, (2) 1,000,000 shares are designated as Series B Convertible Preferred Stock, of which no shares are currently outstanding and (3) 400,000 shares are designated as 4.25% Redeemable Cumulative Convertible Perpetual Preferred Stock, Series C, of which 400,000 shares are currently outstanding. We also have outstanding 242,170 shares of Preferred Stock out of 840,000 authorized shares.

The holders of the shares of Series C Preferred Stock will have no preemptive rights or preferential rights to purchase or subscribe for stock, obligations, warrants or any other of our securities.

RANKING

The Series C Preferred Stock, with respect to dividend rights and upon liquidation, winding up and dissolution, ranks:

- o junior to all our existing and future debt obligations;
- o junior to "senior stock," which is our Preferred Stock, and each class or series of our capital stock other than (a) our common stock and any other class or series of our capital stock the terms of which provide that such class or series will rank junior to the Series C Preferred Stock and (b) any other class or series of our capital stock the terms of which provide that such class or series will rank on a parity with the Series C Preferred Stock;
- o on a parity with "parity stock," which is (a) our New Series Preferred Stock, Series A, (b) our Series B Convertible Preferred Stock and (c) any other class or series of our capital stock that has terms which provide that such class or series will rank on a parity with the Series C Preferred Stock;
- o senior to "junior stock," which is our common stock and each class or series of our capital stock that has terms which provide that such class or series will rank junior to the Series C Preferred Stock; and
- o effectively junior to all of our subsidiaries' (i) existing and future liabilities and (ii) capital stock held by others.

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

The term "senior stock" includes warrants, rights, calls or options exercisable for or convertible into that type of stock.

DIVIDENDS

Holders of the shares of Series C Preferred Stock are entitled to receive, when, as and if declared by our board of directors, out of funds legally available for payment, cumulative cash dividends on each outstanding share of Series C Preferred Stock at the annual rate of 4.25% of the liquidation preference per share. The dividend rate is initially equivalent to \$21.25 per share annually. The right of holders of the shares of Series C Preferred Stock to receive dividend payments is subject to the rights of any holders of shares of senior stock and parity stock.

Dividends are payable quarterly in arrears on February 15, May 15, August 15 and November 15 of each year, beginning on August 15, 2003. If any of those dates is not a business day, then dividends will be payable on the next succeeding business day. Dividends will accumulate from the most recent date as to which dividends will have been paid or, if no dividends have been paid, from the date of original issuance of the Series C Preferred Stock. Dividends are payable to holders of record as they appear in our stock records at the close of business on February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1 of each year or on a record date that may be fixed by our board of directors and that will be not more than 60 days nor fewer than 10 days before the applicable quarterly dividend payment date. Dividends will be cumulative from each quarterly dividend payment date, whether or not we have funds legally available for the payment of those dividends.

Dividends payable on the shares of Series C Preferred Stock for any period shorter than a full quarterly period will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months. Dividends on the shares of Series C Preferred Stock, including special dividends, if any, will be payable in cash. Accumulated unpaid dividends cumulate dividends at the annual rate of 4.25% and are payable in the manner provided above.

For so long as the Series C Preferred Stock is outstanding, (1) we will not declare, pay or set apart funds for the payment of any dividend or other distribution with respect to any junior stock or parity stock and (2) neither we, nor any of our subsidiaries, will redeem, purchase or otherwise acquire for consideration junior stock or parity stock through a sinking fund or otherwise, unless we have paid or set apart funds for the payment of all accumulated and unpaid dividends, including special dividends, if any, with respect to the shares of the Series C Preferred Stock and any parity stock for all preceding dividend periods. As an exception to clause (2), we will be able to redeem, purchase or otherwise acquire for consideration parity stock pursuant to a purchase or exchange offer made on the same terms to all holders of Series C Preferred Stock and such parity stock.

Holders of the Series C Preferred Stock will not have any right to receive dividends that we may declare on our common stock. The right to receive dividends declared on our common stock will be realized only after conversion of such holder's shares of Series C Preferred Stock into shares of our common stock.

CONVERSION RIGHTS

GENERAL

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

Each share of Series C Preferred Stock will be convertible at any time and from time to time, on or after the occurrence of the conversion triggering events described below at the option of the holder, into fully paid and nonassessable shares of our common stock at a conversion rate of 33.4728 shares, subject to adjustments as described under "--Adjustments to the Conversion Rate."

A holder of shares of the Series C Preferred Stock may convert any or all of those shares by surrendering to us at our principal office or at the office of the transfer agent, as may be designated by our board of directors, the certificate or certificates for those shares of the Series C Preferred Stock accompanied by a written notice stating that the holder elects to convert all or a specified whole number of those shares in accordance with the provisions described in this prospectus and specifying the name or names in which the holder wishes the certificate or certificates for shares of common stock to be issued. In case the notice specifies a name or names other than that of the holder, the notice will be accompanied by payment of all transfer taxes payable upon the issuance of shares of common stock in that name or names. Other than those taxes, we will pay any documentary, stamp or similar issue or transfer taxes that may be payable in respect of any issuance or delivery of shares of common stock upon conversion of shares of the Series C Preferred Stock. As promptly as practicable after the surrender of that certificate or certificates and the receipt of the notice relating to the conversion and payment of all required transfer taxes, if any, or the demonstration to our satisfaction that those taxes have been paid, we will deliver or cause to be delivered (a) certificates representing the number of validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable full shares of our common stock to which the holder, or the holder's transferee, of shares of the Series C Preferred Stock being converted will be entitled and (b) if less than the full number of shares of Series C Preferred Stock evidenced by the surrendered certificate or certificates is being converted, a new certificate or certificates, of like tenor, for the number of shares evidenced by the surrendered certificate or certificates less the number of shares being converted. This conversion will be deemed to have been made at the close of business on the date of giving the notice and of surrendering the certificate or certificates representing the shares of Series C Preferred Stock to be converted so that the rights of the holder thereof as to the shares being converted will cease except for the right to receive shares of common stock, and the person entitled to receive the shares of common stock will be treated for all purposes as having become the record holder of those shares of common stock at that time.

In lieu of the foregoing procedures, if the Series C Preferred Stock is held in global form, you must comply with The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") procedures to convert your beneficial interest in respect of Series C Preferred Stock evidenced by a global share of Series C Preferred Stock.

If a holder of shares of Series C Preferred Stock exercises conversion rights, upon delivery of the shares for conversion, those shares will cease to cumulate dividends as of the end of the day immediately preceding the date of conversion. Holders of shares of Series C Preferred Stock who convert their shares into our common stock will not be entitled to, nor will the conversion rate be adjusted for, any accumulated and unpaid dividends. Accordingly, shares of Series C Preferred Stock surrendered for conversion after the close of business on any record date for the payment of dividends declared and before the opening of business on the dividend payment date relating to that record date must be accompanied by a payment in cash of an amount equal to the dividend payable in respect of those shares for the dividend period in which the shares are converted. A holder of shares of Series C Preferred Stock on a dividend payment record date who converts such shares into shares of our common stock on the corresponding dividend payment date will be entitled to receive the dividend payable on such shares of Series C Preferred Stock on such dividend payment date, and the converting holder need not include payment of the amount of such

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

dividend upon surrender of shares of Series C Preferred Stock for conversion.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if shares of Series C Preferred Stock are converted during the period between the close of business on any dividend payment record date and the opening of business on the corresponding dividend payment date, and we have called such shares of Series C Preferred Stock for redemption during such period or we have specified a fundamental change purchase date during such period, the holder who tenders such shares for conversion will receive the dividend payable on such dividend payment date and need not include payment of the amount of such dividend upon surrender of shares of Series C Preferred Stock for conversion.

In case any shares of Series C Preferred Stock are to be redeemed, the right to convert those shares of the Series C Preferred Stock will terminate at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the business day immediately preceding the date fixed for redemption unless we default in the payment of the redemption price of those shares.

In connection with the conversion of any shares of Series C Preferred Stock, no fractional shares of common stock will be issued, but we will pay a cash adjustment in respect of any fractional interest in an amount equal to the fractional interest multiplied by the closing sale price of our common stock (as defined below under "--Conversion Rights--Events Triggering Conversion Rights--Conversion Rights Based on Trading Price of Our Common Stock") on the date the shares of Series C Preferred Stock are surrendered for conversion. If more than one share of Series C Preferred Stock will be surrendered for conversion by the same holder at the same time, the number of full shares of common stock issuable on conversion of those shares will be computed on the basis of the total number of shares of Series C Preferred Stock so surrendered.

We will at all times reserve and keep available, free from preemptive rights, for issuance upon the conversion of shares of Series C Preferred Stock a number of our authorized but unissued shares of common stock that will from time to time be sufficient to permit the conversion of all outstanding shares of Series C Preferred Stock.

Before the delivery of any securities that we will be obligated to deliver upon conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock, we will comply with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations that require action to be taken by us. All shares of common stock delivered upon conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock will upon delivery be duly and validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable, free of all liens and charges and not subject to any preemptive rights.

EVENTS TRIGGERING CONVERSION RIGHTS

A holder's right to convert its shares of Series C Preferred Stock will arise only upon the occurrence of the events specified in this section.

CONVERSION RIGHTS BASED ON TRADING PRICE OF OUR COMMON STOCK. Commencing after June 30, 2003, a holder may surrender shares of Series C Preferred Stock for conversion into shares of our common stock in any fiscal quarter (and only during such fiscal quarter), if, as of the last day of the preceding fiscal quarter, the closing sale price of our common stock for at least 20 trading days in a period of 30 consecutive trading days ending on the last trading day of such preceding fiscal quarter is more than 110% of the "conversion price" as of the last day of such preceding fiscal quarter. The "conversion price" as of any day will equal the liquidation preference divided by the conversion rate in effect on such date.

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

"Trading day" means a day during which trading in securities generally occurs on the New York Stock Exchange or, if our common stock is not listed on the New York Stock Exchange, on the principal other national or regional securities exchange on which our common stock is then listed or, if our

common stock is not listed on a national or regional securities exchange, on the National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation System ("Nasdaq") or, if our common stock is not quoted on Nasdaq, on the principal other market on which our common stock is then traded.

The "closing sale price" of our common stock on any date means the closing sale price per share (or if no closing sale price is reported, the average of the closing bid and ask prices or, if more than one in either case, the average of the average closing bid and the average closing ask prices) on such date as reported on the principal United States securities exchange on which our common stock is traded or, if our common stock is not listed on a United States national or regional securities exchange, as reported by Nasdaq or by the National Quotation Bureau Incorporated. In the absence of such a quotation, we will determine the closing sale price on the basis we consider appropriate.

CONVERSION RIGHTS UPON CREDIT RATING DOWNGRADE. After the earlier of (a) the date the Series C Preferred Stock is assigned a credit rating by both S&P and Moody's and (b) May 31, 2003, during a period in which (1) the credit rating assigned to the Series C Preferred Stock by S&P is below CCC, (2) the credit rating assigned to the Series C Preferred Stock by Moody's is below Caa3 (3) either S&P or Moody's does not assign a credit rating to the Series C Preferred Stock, or (4) any rating is suspended or withdrawn by either S&P or Moody's, holders may also surrender Series C Preferred Stock for conversion into shares of our common stock.

CONVERSION UPON SATISFACTION OF TRADING PRICE CONDITION. Holders may surrender their shares of Series C Preferred Stock for conversion into shares of our common stock during the five business day period after any five consecutive trading-day period in which the trading price of the Series C Preferred Stock for each day of that five trading-day period was less than 98% of the product of the closing sale price of our common stock and the conversion rate in effect on each such day.

The "trading price" of the Series C Preferred Stock on any date of determination means the average of the secondary market bid quotations obtained by us or a calculation agent for 50,000 shares of Series C Preferred Stock at approximately 3:30 p.m., New York City time, on such determination date from three independent nationally recognized securities dealers that we or a calculation agent selects; provided that if three such bids cannot reasonably be obtained by us or a calculation agent, but two such bids are obtained, then the average of the two bids shall be used, and if only one such bid can reasonably be obtained by us or the calculation agent, that one bid shall be used. If we or a calculation agent cannot reasonably obtain at least one bid for 50,000 shares of Series C Preferred Stock from a nationally recognized securities dealer, or in our reasonable judgment, the bid quotations are not indicative of the secondary market value of the Series C Preferred Stock, then the trading price per share of Series C Preferred Stock will be deemed to be less than 98% of the product of the closing sale price of our common stock and the conversion rate.

CONVERSION RIGHTS UPON NOTICE OF REDEMPTION. A holder may surrender for conversion any or all shares of Series C Preferred Stock that have been called for redemption at any time prior to 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the business day immediately preceding the date of redemption, even if the Series C Preferred Stock is not otherwise convertible at that time.

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

CONVERSION RIGHTS UPON OCCURRENCE OF CERTAIN CORPORATE TRANSACTIONS. If we are party to a consolidation, merger or binding share exchange pursuant to which shares of our common stock would be converted into cash, securities or other property, a holder may surrender shares of Series C Preferred Stock for conversion into shares of our common stock at any time from and after the date that is 15 days prior to the anticipated effective date of the transaction until 15 days after the actual date of such transaction and, at the effective time, the right to convert shares of Series C Preferred Stock into shares of our common stock will be changed into a right to convert such Series C Preferred Stock into the kind and amount of cash, securities or other property of us or another person that the holder would have received if

the holder had converted the holder's Series C Preferred Stock immediately prior to the transaction. If such transaction also constitutes a fundamental change, the holder will be able to require us to purchase all or a portion of such holder's Series C Preferred Stock as described under "--Fundamental Change Requires Us to Purchase Shares of Series C Preferred Stock at the Option of the Holder."

If we elect to:

- o distribute to all holders of our common stock rights or warrants entitling them to purchase, for a period expiring within 45 days of the record date for such distribution, our common stock at less than the average closing sale price for the 10 trading days preceding the declaration date for such distribution; or
- o distribute to all holders of our common stock, cash, assets, debt securities or rights to purchase our securities, which distribution has a per share value exceeding 5% of the closing sale price of our common stock on the day immediately preceding the declaration date for such distribution;

we must notify you at least 20 days prior to the ex-dividend date for such distribution. Once we have given such notice, you may surrender your shares of Series C Preferred Stock for conversion at any time until the earlier of the close of business on the business day immediately preceding the ex-dividend date or any announcement by us that such distribution will not take place. No adjustment to the conversion rate or your ability to convert will be made if you will otherwise participate in the distribution without conversion.

Upon determination that Series C Preferred Stock holders are or will be entitled to convert their Series C Preferred Stock into shares of our common stock in accordance with any of the foregoing provisions, we will issue a press release and publish such information on our website on the World Wide Web.

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE CONVERSION RATE

The conversion rate is subject to adjustment from time to time if any of the following events occur:

- o dividends or distributions on shares of our common stock payable in shares of our common stock;
- o subdivisions, combinations or certain reclassifications of shares of our common stock;
- o distributions to all holders of shares of our common stock of rights or warrants entitling them to purchase, for a period expiring within 45 days of the record date for such distribution, our common stock at

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

less than the average closing sale price for the 10 trading days preceding the declaration date for such distribution;

- o distributions to all holders of shares of our common stock of shares of our capital stock, evidences of indebtedness or assets, including securities but excluding:
 - o rights or warrants specified above;
 - o dividends or distributions specified above; and
 - o cash distributions.

In the event that we make a distribution to all holders of our common stock consisting of capital stock of, or similar equity interest in, a subsidiary or other business unit of ours, the

conversion rate will be adjusted based on the market value of the securities so distributed relative to the market value of our common stock, in each case based on the average closing sale prices of those securities for the 10 trading days commencing on and including the fifth trading day after the date on which "ex-dividend trading" commences for such dividend or distribution on the New York Stock Exchange or such other national or regional exchange or market on which the securities are then listed or quoted.

- o distributions to all holders of shares of our common stock of cash, excluding any dividend or distribution in connection with our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, to the extent that the aggregate cash dividends per share of common stock in any twelve month period exceeds the greater of:
 - o the annualized amount per share of common stock of the next preceding quarterly cash dividend on the common stock to the extent that the preceding quarterly dividend did not require an adjustment of the conversion rate pursuant to this clause, as adjusted to reflect subdivisions or combinations of the common stock; and
 - o 5% of the average of the closing sale price of the common stock during the ten trading days immediately prior to the declaration date of the dividend.

If an adjustment is required to be made under this clause as a result of a distribution that is a quarterly dividend, the adjustment would be based upon the amount by which the distribution exceeds the amount of the quarterly cash dividend permitted to be excluded pursuant to this clause. If an adjustment is required to be made under this clause as a result of a distribution that is not a quarterly dividend, the adjustment would be based upon the full amount of the distribution;

- o we or one of our subsidiaries makes a payment in respect of a tender offer or exchange offer for our common stock to the extent that the cash and value of any other consideration included in the payment per share of common stock exceeds the closing sale price per share of common stock on the trading day next succeeding the last date on which tenders or exchanges may be made pursuant to such tender or exchange offer; and
- o someone other than us or one of our subsidiaries makes a payment in

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

respect of a tender offer or exchange offer in which, as of the closing date of the offer, our board of directors is not recommending rejection of the offer. The adjustment referred to in this clause will only be made if:

- o the tender offer or exchange offer is for an amount that increases the offeror's ownership of common stock to more than 25% of the total shares of common stock outstanding; and
- o the cash and value of any other consideration included in the payment per share of common stock exceeds the closing sale price per share of common stock on the business day next succeeding the last date on which tenders or exchanges may be made pursuant to the tender or exchange offer.

However, the adjustment referred to in this clause will generally not be made if as of the closing of the offer, the offering documents disclose a plan or an intention to cause us to engage in a consolidation or merger or a sale of all or substantially all of our assets.

We have adopted a Rights Agreement dated September 19, 1995, pursuant to which certain rights were issued with respect to our shares of common stock. You will receive, upon conversion of your Series C Preferred Stock, in addition to the common stock, the rights under the rights agreement or any other rights plan then in effect unless, prior to conversion, the rights have expired, terminated or been

redeemed or unless the rights have separated from the common stock at the time of conversion, in which case the conversion rate will be adjusted at the time of separation as if we had distributed to all holders of our common stock, shares of our capital stock, evidences of indebtedness or assets as described under the fourth bullet point above, subject to readjustment in the event of the expiration, termination or redemption of such rights.

In the event of:

- o any reclassification of our common stock;
- o a consolidation, merger or combination involving us; or
- o a sale or conveyance to another person or entity of all or substantially all of our property and assets;

in which holders of our common stock would be entitled to receive stock, other securities, other property, assets or cash for their common stock, upon conversion of your Series C Preferred Stock you will be entitled to receive the same type of consideration that you would have been entitled to receive if you had converted the Series C Preferred Stock into our common stock immediately prior to any of these events.

The proposed Acquisition and transactions described under "Description of the Acquisitions" including the Merger, and the renaming of KCS to NAFTA Rail are not, as proposed, expected to trigger any adjustments to the conversion rate.

You may in certain situations be deemed to have received a distribution subject to United States federal income tax as a dividend in the event of any taxable distribution to holders of common stock or in certain other situations requiring a conversion rate adjustment. See "Certain United States Federal Tax

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

Considerations."

We may, from time to time, increase the conversion rate if our board of directors has made a determination that this increase would be in our best interests. Any such determination by our board will be conclusive. In addition, we may increase the conversion rate if our board of directors deems it advisable to avoid or diminish any income tax to holders of common stock resulting from any stock or rights distribution. See "Certain United States Federal Tax Considerations."

We will not be required to make an adjustment in the conversion rate unless the adjustment would require a change of at least 1% in the conversion rate. However, we will carry forward any adjustments that are less than 1% of the conversion rate. Except as described above in this section, we will not adjust the conversion rate for any issuance of our common stock or convertible or exchangeable securities or rights to purchase our common stock or convertible or exchangeable securities.

OPTIONAL REDEMPTION

We may not redeem any shares of Series C Preferred Stock before May 20, 2008. On or after May 20, 2008, we will have the option to redeem some or all the shares of Series C Preferred Stock at a redemption price of 100% of the liquidation preference, plus accumulated and unpaid dividends, including special dividends, if any, to the redemption date, but only if the closing sale price of our common stock for 20 trading days within a period of 30 consecutive trading days ending on the trading day before the date we give the redemption notice exceeds 135% of the conversion price in effect on each such day. If full cumulative dividends on the Series C Preferred Stock have not been paid, the Series C Preferred Stock may not be redeemed and we may not purchase or acquire any shares of Series C Preferred Stock otherwise than pursuant to a purchase or exchange offer made on the same terms to all holders of Series C Preferred Stock and any parity stock.

We may elect to pay the redemption price in cash, common stock, or a combination of cash and common stock. The number of shares of common stock a holder will receive will equal the relevant amount of the redemption price divided by 97.5% of the average of the closing sale prices of our common stock for the five trading days ending on the third trading day prior to the redemption date. However, we may not pay the purchase price in common stock or a combination of common stock and cash unless we satisfy certain conditions prior to the redemption date as provided in the certificate of designations, including:

- o registration of the shares of our common stock to be issued upon redemption under the Securities Act and the Exchange Act, if required;
- o qualification of the shares of our common stock to be issued upon redemption under applicable state securities laws, if necessary, or the availability of an exemption therefrom; and
- o listing of our common stock on a United States national securities exchange or quotation thereof in an inter-dealer quotation system of any registered United States national securities association.

In the event of an optional redemption, we will send a written notice by first class mail to each holder of record of the Series C Preferred Stock at such holder's registered address, not fewer than 30 nor more than 90 days prior to the redemption date, stating, among other things, whether the redemption price will be paid in cash or common stock, or a combination and, if a

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

combination, specifying the portions payable in cash and common stock. In addition, we will (i) publish such information once in a daily newspaper printed in the English language and of general circulation in the Borough of Manhattan, City of New York, (ii) issue a press release containing such information, and (iii) publish such information on our website on the World Wide Web.

Because the average closing sale price of our common stock will be determined prior to the redemption date, holders of Series C Preferred Stock bear the market risk that our common stock will decline in value between the date the average closing sale price is calculated and the redemption date. In addition, because the number of shares of our common stock that you will receive upon any redemption for shares is based on the average closing sale price for a 5 trading day period, the market value of those shares on the date of receipt may be less than the value of those shares based on the average closing sale price.

If we give notice of redemption, then, by 12:00 p.m., New York City time, on the redemption date, to the extent funds are legally available, we shall, with respect to:

- o shares of Series C Preferred Stock held by DTC or its nominees, deposit or cause to be deposited, irrevocably with DTC cash or common stock sufficient to pay the redemption price and will give DTC irrevocable instructions and authority to pay the redemption price to holders of such shares of Series C Preferred Stock; and
- o shares of Series C Preferred Stock held in certificated form, deposit or cause to be deposited, irrevocably with the transfer agent cash or common stock sufficient to pay the redemption price and will give the transfer agent irrevocable instructions and authority to pay the redemption price to holders of such shares of Series C Preferred Stock upon surrender of their certificates evidencing their shares of Series C Preferred Stock.

If on the redemption date DTC and the transfer agent hold cash or common stock sufficient to pay the redemption price for the shares of Series C Preferred Stock delivered for redemption in accordance with the terms of the certificate of designations, dividends will cease to accumulate on those shares of Series C Preferred Stock called for redemption and all rights of holders of such shares will terminate except for the right to receive the redemption price.

Payment of the redemption price for the shares of Series C Preferred Stock is conditioned upon book-entry transfer of or physical delivery of certificates representing the Series C Preferred Stock, together with necessary endorsements, to the transfer agent, or to the transfer agent's account at DTC, at any time after delivery of the redemption notice. Payment of the redemption price for the Series C Preferred Stock will be made (i) if book-entry transfer of or physical delivery of the Series C Preferred Stock has been made by or on the redemption date, on the redemption date, or (ii) if book-entry transfer of or physical delivery of the Series C Preferred Stock has not been made by or on such date, at the time of book-entry transfer of or physical delivery of the Series C Preferred Stock.

If the redemption date falls after a dividend payment record date and before the related dividend payment date, holders of the shares of Series C Preferred Stock at the close of business on that dividend payment record date will be entitled to receive the dividend payable on those shares on the corresponding dividend payment date. The redemption price payable on such redemption date will include only the liquidation preference, but will not include any amount in respect of dividends declared and payable on such

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

corresponding dividend payment date.

In the case of any partial redemption, we will select the shares of Series C Preferred Stock to be redeemed on a pro rata basis, by lot or any other method that we, in our discretion, deem fair and appropriate.

Our restated certificate of incorporation provides that we may not redeem the Series C Preferred Stock if, (i) as of the date of the mailing of the redemption notice, such redemption would, if such date were the date fixed for redemption, reduce our net assets remaining after such redemption below twice the aggregate amount payable upon voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up or (ii) we have not paid or set apart for payment all accumulated dividends for the current and prior dividend periods in respect of shares which have a right to cumulative dividends.

FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE REQUIRES US TO PURCHASE SHARES OF SERIES C PREFERRED STOCK AT THE OPTION OF THE HOLDER

In the event of a fundamental change, you will have the right, at your option, subject to the terms and conditions of the certificate of designations, to require us to purchase any or all of your shares of Series C Preferred Stock. We will purchase the Series C Preferred Stock at a price equal to 100% of the liquidation preference of the Series C Preferred Stock to be purchased plus any accumulated and unpaid dividends, including special dividends, if any, to, but excluding, the fundamental change purchase date, unless such fundamental change purchase date falls after a record date and on or prior to the corresponding dividend payment date, in which case (i) we will pay the full amount of accumulated and unpaid dividends payable on such dividend payment date only to the holder of record at the close of business on the corresponding record date and (ii) the purchase price payable on the fundamental change purchase date will include only the liquidation preference, but will not include any amount in respect of dividends declared and payable on such corresponding payment date. We will be required to purchase the Series C Preferred Stock as of the date that is not less than 20 nor more than 35 business days after the occurrence of such fundamental change, which we refer to as a fundamental change purchase date.

We will pay the purchase price of the Series C Preferred Stock, at our option, in cash, in shares of our common stock or any combination thereof. The number of shares of common stock a holder will receive will equal the purchase price divided by 97.5% of the average closing sale prices for the five trading days ending on the third trading day prior to the fundamental change purchase date. However, we may not pay the purchase price in common stock, unless we satisfy certain conditions prior to the fundamental change purchase date as provided in the certificate of designations including:

- o registration of the shares of the applicable common stock or securities to be issued upon repurchase under the Securities Act and the Exchange Act, if required;
- o qualification of the shares of common stock to be issued upon repurchase under applicable state securities laws, if necessary, or the availability of an exemption therefrom; and
- o listing of the shares of common stock on a United States national securities exchange or quotation thereof in an inter-dealer quotation system of any registered United States national securities association.

If we pay the purchase price in shares of common stock, we will notify you of such payment in our notice regarding the fundamental change. Because the

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

average closing sale price of our common stock will be determined prior to the fundamental change purchase date, holders of Series C Preferred Stock bear the market risk that our common stock will decline in value between the date the average closing sale price is calculated and the purchase date. In addition, because the number of shares of our common stock that you will receive is based on the average closing sale price for a five trading day period, the market value of those shares on the date of receipt may be less than the value of those shares based on the average closing sale price.

A "fundamental change" is any transaction or event (whether by means of an exchange offer, liquidation, tender offer, consolidation, merger, combination, reclassification, recapitalization or otherwise) in connection with which all or substantially all of our common stock is exchanged for, converted into, acquired for or constitutes solely the right to receive consideration which is not all or substantially all common stock that:

- o is listed on, or immediately after the transaction or event will be listed on, a United States national securities exchange, or
- o is approved, or immediately after the transaction or event will be approved, for quotation on the Nasdaq National Market or any similar United States system of automated dissemination of quotations of securities prices.

Within 15 business days after the occurrence of a fundamental change, we are obligated to mail to all holders of Series C Preferred Stock at their addresses shown in the register of the registrar and to beneficial owners as required by applicable law (and issue a press release and publish on our website on the World Wide Web) a notice regarding the fundamental change, stating, among other things:

- o the events causing a fundamental change;
- o the date of such fundamental change;
- o the last date on which the purchase right may be exercised;
- o the fundamental change purchase price and whether that price will be paid in cash or shares of our common stock or any specified combination thereof;
- o the fundamental change purchase date;
- o the name and address of the paying agent and the conversion agent;
- o the conversion rate and any adjustments to the conversion rate;
- o that the Series C Preferred Stock with respect to which a fundamental change purchase notice is given by the holder may be converted only if the fundamental change purchase notice has been withdrawn in accordance with the terms of the Series C Preferred Stock; and
- o the procedures that holders must follow to exercise these rights.

To exercise this right, you must deliver a written notice to the transfer agent prior to the close of business on the business day immediately before the fundamental change purchase date. The required purchase notice upon a fundamental change must state:

- o if certificated shares of Series C Preferred Stock have been issued,

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

the Series C Preferred Stock certificate numbers, or if not, such information as may be required under applicable DTC procedures;

- o the number of preferred shares to be purchased; and
- o that we are to purchase such Series C Preferred Stock pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Series C Preferred Stock and certificate of designations.

You may withdraw any fundamental change purchase notice by a written notice of withdrawal delivered to the transfer agent prior to the close of business on the business day before the fundamental change purchase date. The notice of withdrawal must state:

- o the number of the withdrawn shares of Series C Preferred Stock;
- o if certificated shares of Series C Preferred Stock have been issued, the Series C Preferred Stock certificate numbers, or if not, such information as may be required under applicable DTC procedures; and
- o the number, if any, of shares of Series C Preferred Stock that remain subject to your fundamental change purchase notice.

A holder must either effect book-entry transfer or deliver the Series C Preferred Stock to be purchased, together with necessary endorsements, to the office of the transfer agent after delivery of the fundamental change purchase notice to receive payment of the fundamental change purchase price. You will receive payment in cash or shares of common stock, as applicable, on the later of the fundamental change purchase date or the time of book-entry transfer or the delivery of the Series C Preferred Stock. If the transfer agent holds money or securities sufficient to pay the fundamental change purchase price of the Series C Preferred Stock on the business day following the fundamental change purchase date, then, immediately after the fundamental change purchase date:

- o the shares of Series C Preferred Stock will cease to be outstanding;
- o dividends will cease to accrue; and
- o all other rights of the holder will terminate.

This will be the case whether or not book-entry transfer of the Series C Preferred Stock is made or whether or not the Series C Preferred Stock is delivered to the transfer agent.

The fundamental change purchase feature of the Series C Preferred Stock may in certain circumstances make more difficult or discourage a takeover of KCS. The fundamental change purchase feature, however, is not the result of our knowledge of any specific effort:

- o to accumulate shares of common stock;
- o to obtain control of KCS by means of a merger, tender offer, solicitation or otherwise; or
- o by management to adopt a series of anti-takeover provisions.

Instead, the terms of the fundamental change purchase feature resulted from negotiations between the Initial Purchasers and us.

We could, in the future, enter into certain transactions, including certain

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

recapitalizations, that would not constitute a fundamental change with respect to the fundamental change purchase feature of the Series C Preferred Stock but that would increase the amount of our (or our subsidiaries') outstanding indebtedness.

Our ability to purchase shares of Series C Preferred Stock upon the occurrence of a fundamental change is subject to important limitations. Because we are a holding company, our ability to purchase the Series C Preferred Stock for cash may be limited by restrictions on our ability to obtain funds for such repurchase through dividends from our subsidiaries and the terms of our then existing borrowing agreements. If a fundamental change were to occur, we may not have sufficient legally available funds to pay the purchase price in cash for all tendered shares of Series C Preferred Stock. Any future credit agreements or other agreements relating to our indebtedness may contain provisions prohibiting the purchase of the Series C Preferred Stock under certain circumstances, or expressly prohibit our purchase of the Series C Preferred Stock upon a fundamental change or may provide that a fundamental change constitutes an event of default under that agreement. If a fundamental change occurs at a time when we are prohibited from purchasing shares of Series C Preferred Stock for cash, we could seek the consent of our lenders to purchase the Series C Preferred Stock or attempt to refinance this debt. If we do not obtain consent, we would not be permitted to purchase the Series C Preferred Stock, except as described below.

If, following a fundamental change, we are prohibited from paying the purchase price of the Series C Preferred Stock in cash under the terms of our credit agreements or other agreements relating to our indebtedness, we will, if permitted under those agreements and under applicable law, elect to pay the purchase price of the Series C Preferred Stock in shares of our common stock or, in the case of a merger in which we are not the surviving corporation, common stock of the surviving corporation or its direct or indirect parent corporation.

VOTING RIGHTS

Unless otherwise determined by our board of directors, holders of shares of Series C Preferred Stock will not have any voting rights except as described below, as provided in our restated certificate of incorporation, or as otherwise required from time to time by law. Whenever (1) dividends on any shares of Series C Preferred Stock or any other class or series of stock ranking on a parity with the Series C Preferred Stock with respect to the payment of dividends shall be in arrears for dividend periods, whether or not consecutive, containing in the aggregate a number of days equivalent to six calendar quarters or (2) we fail to pay the redemption price on the date shares of Series C Preferred Stock are called for redemption or the purchase price on the purchase date for shares of Series C Preferred Stock following a fundamental change, then, in each case, the holders of shares of Series C Preferred Stock (voting separately as a class with all other series of other preferred stock on parity with the Series C Preferred Stock upon which like voting rights have been conferred and are exercisable) will be entitled to vote for the election of two of the authorized number of our directors at the next annual meeting of stockholders and each subsequent meeting until all dividends accumulated on the Series C Preferred Stock have been fully paid or set aside for payment. The term of office of all directors elected by the holders of Series C Preferred Stock will terminate immediately upon the termination of the right of the holders of Series C Preferred Stock to vote for directors. Each holder of shares of the Series C Preferred Stock will have one vote for each share of Series C Preferred Stock held.

So long as any shares of the Series C Preferred Stock remain outstanding, we will not, without the consent of the holders of at least two-thirds of the shares of Series C Preferred Stock outstanding at the time, voting separately as

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

a class with all other series of Series C Preferred Stock upon which like voting rights have been conferred and are exercisable (1) issue or increase the authorized amount of any class or

series of stock ranking senior to the outstanding Series C Preferred Stock as to dividends or upon liquidation or (2) amend, alter or repeal provisions of our restated certificate of incorporation or of the resolutions contained in the certificate of designations, whether by merger, consolidation or otherwise, so as to amend, alter or affect any power, preference or special right of the outstanding Series C Preferred Stock or the holders thereof without the affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of the issued and outstanding Series C Preferred Stock; provided, however, that any increase in the amount of the authorized common stock or authorized Series C Preferred Stock or the creation and issuance of other series of common stock or Series C Preferred Stock ranking on a parity with or junior to the Series C Preferred Stock as to dividends and upon liquidation will not be deemed to materially and adversely affect such powers, preference or special rights.

LIQUIDATION PREFERENCE

Upon any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our company resulting in a distribution of assets to the holders of any class or series of our capital stock, each holder of shares of Series C Preferred Stock will be entitled to payment out of our assets available for distribution of an amount equal to the liquidation preference per share of Series C Preferred Stock held by that holder, plus all accumulated and unpaid dividends, on those shares to the date of that liquidation, dissolution, winding up, before any distribution is made on any junior stock, including our common stock, but after any distributions on any of our indebtedness or senior stock. After payment in full of the liquidation preference and all accumulated and unpaid dividends to which holders of shares of Series C Preferred Stock are entitled, holders will not be entitled to any further participation in any distribution of our assets. If, upon any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our company, the amounts payable with respect to shares of Series C Preferred Stock and all other parity stock are not paid in full, holders of shares of Series C Preferred Stock and holders of the parity stock will share equally and ratably in any distribution of our assets in proportion to the liquidation preference and all accumulated and unpaid dividends to which each such holder is entitled.

Neither the voluntary sale, conveyance, exchange or transfer, for cash, shares of stock, securities or other consideration, of all or substantially all of our property or assets nor the consolidation, merger or amalgamation of our company with or into any corporation or the consolidation, merger or amalgamation of any corporation with or into our company will be deemed to be a voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our company.

We are not required to set aside any funds to protect the liquidation preference of the shares of Series C Preferred Stock, although the liquidation preference will be substantially in excess of the par value of the shares of the Series C Preferred Stock.

TRANSFER AGENT

The transfer agent, registrar, dividend disbursing agent, calculation agent and redemption agent for the Series C Preferred Stock is UMB Bank, N.A.

BOOK-ENTRY SYSTEM

The Series C Preferred Stock has been issued in the form of a global

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

security held in book-entry form. DTC's nominee, Cede & Co. is the sole registered holder of the Series C Preferred Stock. Owners of beneficial interests in the Series C Preferred Stock represented by the global security will hold their interests pursuant to the procedures and practices of DTC. As a result, beneficial interests in any such securities will be shown on, and transfers will be effected only through, records maintained by DTC and its direct and indirect participants and any such interest may not be exchanged for certificated securities, except in limited circumstances. Owners of beneficial interests must exercise any rights in respect of their interests, including any right to convert or require repurchase of their interests in the Series C Preferred Stock, in accordance with the procedures and practices of DTC. Beneficial owners will not be holders and will not be entitled to any rights provided to the holders of the Series C Preferred Stock under the global

security or the certificate of designations. Our company and any of our agents may treat DTC as the sole holder and registered owner of the global securities.

DTC has advised us as follows: DTC is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a "banking organization" within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a "clearing agency" registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Exchange Act. DTC facilitates the settlement of transactions among its participants through electronic computerized book-entry changes in participants' accounts, eliminating the need for physical movement of securities certificates. DTC's participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations. DTC is owned by a number of its participants and by the New York Stock Exchange, Inc., the American Stock Exchange LLC, and the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. Access to DTC's book-entry system is also available to others, such as banks, brokers, dealers and trust companies that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a participant, either directly or indirectly.

EXCHANGE OF GLOBAL SECURITIES

The Series C Preferred Stock, represented by the global security, will be exchangeable for certificated securities with the same terms only if:

- o DTC is unwilling or unable to continue as depository or if DTC ceases to be a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act and a successor depository is not appointed by us within 90 days; or
- o we decide to discontinue use of the system of book-entry transfer through DTC (or any successor depository).

REGISTRATION RIGHTS

This summary of certain provisions of the registration rights agreement does not purport to be complete and is subject to, and is qualified in its entirety by reference to, all the provisions of the registration rights agreement, a copy of which we will make available upon written request as described under "Where You Can Find More Information."

We have agreed under the registration rights agreement, at our expense, for the benefit of the holders, to file with the SEC a shelf registration statement covering resale of the Series C Preferred Stock and the shares of our common stock issuable upon conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock by August 3, 2003. We have agreed to use our best efforts to cause the shelf registration statement to become effective by November 1, 2003, and to keep the shelf registration statement effective until the earlier of (i) the sale pursuant to Rule 144 under the Securities Act or the shelf registration statement of all the

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

securities registered thereunder, and (ii) the expiration of the holding period applicable to such securities held by persons that are not affiliates of ours under Rule 144(k) under the Securities Act or any successor provision, subject to permitted exceptions.

We may suspend the use of the prospectus under certain circumstances relating to pending corporate developments, public filings with the SEC and similar events. Any suspension period shall not:

- o exceed 30 days in any three-month period; or
- o exceed an aggregate of 90 days for all periods in any 12-month period.

We will pay predetermined liquidated damages as described herein in the form of "special dividends" to holders of transfer restricted Series C Preferred Stock and in the form of "liquidated damages payments" to holders of transfer restricted common stock issued upon conversion of such Series C Preferred Stock, if a shelf registration statement is not timely declared effective or if the prospectus is unavailable for the periods in excess of those permitted above. Such special dividends or liquidated

damages payments shall accumulate until such failure to file or become effective or unavailability is cured:

- o on the Series C Preferred Stock at an annual rate equal 0.50% of the aggregate liquidation preference of Series C Preferred Stock; and
- o on the common stock that has been issued on conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock, at an annual rate equal to 0.50% of an amount equal to the conversion price.

So long as the failure to become effective or unavailability continues, we will pay special dividends or make liquidated damages payments, as applicable, in cash on each dividend payment date for the Series C Preferred Stock to the holder of record of such transfer restricted Series C Preferred Stock or common stock on the record date immediately preceding the applicable dividend payment date. When such registration default is cured, accumulated and unpaid special dividends or liquidated damages payments will be paid in cash to the record holder as of the date of such cure.

A holder who sells Series C Preferred Stock or shares of our common stock issued upon conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock pursuant to the shelf registration statement generally will be required to:

- o be named as a selling securityholder in the related prospectus;
- o deliver a prospectus to purchasers; and
- o be bound by certain provisions of the registration rights agreement that are applicable to such holder, including certain indemnification provisions, and will be subject to certain civil liability provisions under the Securities Act.

Under the registration rights agreement we will:

- o pay all of our expenses of the shelf registration statement;
- o provide copies of such prospectus to each holder that has notified us of its acquisition of Series C Preferred Stock or shares of our common stock issued upon conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock;

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

- o notify each such holder when the shelf registration statement has become effective; and
- o take certain other actions as are required to permit, subject to the foregoing, unrestricted resales of the Series C Preferred Stock and the shares of our common stock issued upon conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock.

We have agreed in the registration rights agreement to give notice to all holders of the filing and effectiveness of the shelf registration statement by release made to Reuters Economic Services and Bloomberg Business News or other reasonable means of distribution. A notice and questionnaire (the "questionnaire") must be completed and delivered by a holder to us at least three business days prior to any intended distribution of Series C Preferred Stock or shares of our common stock issuable upon conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock pursuant to the shelf registration statement. Holders are required to complete and deliver the questionnaire at least ten business days prior to the effectiveness of the shelf registration statement in order to be named as a selling security holder in the related prospectus at the time of effectiveness. Upon receipt of a completed questionnaire after that time, together with such other information as we may reasonably request from a holder, we will, within five business days, file such amendments to the shelf registration statement or supplements to a related prospectus as are necessary to permit such holder to deliver such prospectus to purchasers of Series C Preferred Stock or shares of our common stock issuable upon conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock, subject to our right

to suspend the use of the prospectus as described above. We will pay the special dividends or liquidated damages payments described above to the holder if we fail to make the filing in the time required or, if such filing is a post-effective amendment to the shelf registration statement required to be declared effective under the Securities Act, if such amendment is not declared effective within 45 days of the filing. Any holder that does not complete and deliver a questionnaire or provide such other information will not be named as a selling security holder in the prospectus and therefore will not be permitted to sell the Series C Preferred Stock or shares of our common stock issuable upon conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock pursuant to the shelf registration statement.

DESCRIPTION OF KCS CAPITAL STOCK

The description of our capital stock set forth below is not complete and is qualified by reference to our restated certificate of incorporation (including the certificate of designations for the Series C Preferred Stock) and bylaws. Copies of our restated certificate of incorporation (including the certificate of designations for the Series C Preferred Stock) and bylaws are available from us upon request. These documents have also been filed with the SEC. Please read "Where You Can Find More Information."

AUTHORIZED CAPITAL STOCK

Under our restated certificate of incorporation, KCS is authorized to issue (i) 400,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, (ii) 840,000 shares of Preferred Stock, par value \$25.00 per share, and (iii) 2,000,000 shares of New Series Preferred Stock, par value \$1.00 per share, of which 150,000 shares are designated as New Series Preferred Stock, Series A ("Series A Preferred Stock"), 1,000,000 shares are designated as Series B Convertible

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

Preferred Stock ("Series B Preferred Stock") and 400,000 shares are designated as 4.25% Redeemable Cumulative Convertible Perpetual Preferred Stock, Series C. As of June 30, 2004, 62,674,103 shares of common stock were issued and outstanding (excluding 10,695,013 treasury shares), 242,170 shares of Preferred Stock were issued and outstanding, 400,000 shares of Series C Preferred Stock were issued and outstanding and no other shares of New Series Preferred Stock were outstanding. In connection with the Acquisition, upon obtaining stockholder approval, KCS intends to amend its restated certificate of incorporation to, among other things, authorize the issuance of the Class A Convertible Common Stock. See "Description of the Class A Convertible Common Stock." No other classes of capital stock are authorized under KCS's restated certificate of incorporation. The issued and outstanding shares of common stock, Preferred Stock and Series C Preferred Stock are duly authorized, validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable. Our common stock and Preferred Stock are listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

COMMON STOCK

Holders of common stock are entitled to receive dividends when, as and if declared by the board of directors out of funds legally available therefor, provided that, if any shares of New Series Preferred Stock or Preferred Stock are outstanding, no dividends or other distributions may be made with respect to the common stock unless full required dividends on the shares of New Series Preferred Stock and Preferred Stock have been paid, including accumulated dividends in the case of any series of New Series Preferred Stock designated to receive cumulative dividends.

Holders of common stock are entitled to one vote per share multiplied by the number of directors to be elected in an election of directors, which may be cast cumulatively, and to one vote per share on any other matter, voting as a single class. In certain instances, holders of New Series Preferred Stock or Preferred Stock may have special class voting rights. Holders of Preferred Stock are entitled to one vote per share multiplied by the number of directors to be elected in an election of directors, which may be cast cumulatively, and to one vote per share on other matters. Holders of Preferred Stock vote as a single class with the holders of common stock and any series of New Series Preferred Stock having voting rights; however, whenever dividends are in arrears on the Preferred Stock for six quarters, the holders of Preferred Stock have the right to vote as a class to elect two directors at the next annual stockholders' meeting at which directors are elected and have such right until dividends have been paid on the Preferred Stock for four consecutive quarters. The vote of the holders of two-thirds of Preferred Stock voting together as a class is required for any amendment to KCS's restated certificate of incorporation which would materially and adversely alter or change the powers, preferences or special rights of such stock. See "Description of the Series C Preferred Stock--Voting Rights" for a discussion of the voting rights of holders of the Series C Preferred Stock.

In the event of the voluntary or involuntary dissolution, liquidation or winding up of KCS, holders of common stock are entitled to receive pro rata, after satisfaction in full of the prior rights of creditors (including holders of KCS's indebtedness) and holders of New Series Preferred Stock and Preferred Stock, all the remaining assets of KCS available for distribution. The issuance of additional shares of New Series Preferred Stock or Preferred Stock may result in a dilution of the voting power and relative equity interests of the holders of common stock and would subject the common stock to the prior dividend and liquidation rights of the New Series Preferred Stock and Preferred Stock issued. The common stock is not redeemable and has no preemptive rights.

PREFERRED STOCK

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

We have 840,000 shares of authorized Preferred Stock, of which 242,170 shares are issued and outstanding. Holders of Preferred Stock are entitled to receive, in the discretion of our board of directors, noncumulative dividends declared by our board of directors of up to \$1 per share per year, and no more, before dividends may be declared or paid with respect to our common stock or any series of New Series Preferred Stock.

Holders of Preferred Stock are entitled to one vote per share multiplied by the number of directors to be elected in an election of directors, which may be cast cumulatively, and to one vote per share on other matters. Holders of Preferred Stock vote as a single class with the holders of our common stock and any series of New Series Preferred Stock having voting rights. However, whenever dividends are in arrears on the Preferred Stock for six quarters, the holders of Preferred Stock have the right to vote as a class to elect two directors at the next annual stockholders' meeting at which directors are elected and have such right until dividends have been paid on the Preferred Stock for four consecutive quarters. The vote of the holders of two-thirds of Preferred Stock voting together as a class is required for any amendment to our restated certificate of incorporation which would materially and adversely alter or change the powers, preferences or special rights of the Preferred Stock.

In the event of our voluntary or involuntary dissolution, liquidation or winding up, holders of Preferred Stock are entitled to receive payment in the amount of the par value of their Preferred Stock and any declared and unpaid dividends before any payment is made upon the New Series Preferred Stock or our common stock. The Preferred Stock is not redeemable by us and has no preemptive rights.

NEW SERIES PREFERRED STOCK

Under our restated certificate of incorporation, our board of directors is authorized without further stockholder action, to issue up to 2,000,000 shares of New Series Preferred Stock in one or more series, with such designations, powers, preferences, rights, qualifications, limitations or restrictions, as shall be set forth in a certificate of designations filed pursuant to the Delaware Corporation Law, subject to the powers, preferences and rights of the Preferred Stock.

If any series of New Series Preferred Stock entitles the holders thereof to dividends, such dividends may be paid following the payment or setting apart for payment of dividends on the Preferred Stock and prior to the payment or setting apart for payment of dividends on our common stock. If specified, dividends may be cumulative. In the event of a liquidation, dissolution or winding up of KCS, holders of each series of New Series Preferred Stock are subordinate to the holders of Preferred Stock, but have preference and priority over the holders of our common stock, for payments of amounts as set forth in a certificate of designations. The New Series Preferred Stock has no preemptive rights. We have 450,000 shares of authorized New Series Preferred Stock which are undesignated.

SERIES A PREFERRED STOCK

Our board of directors established the Series A Preferred Stock, consisting of 150,000 shares, for issuance pursuant to our Stockholder Rights Agreement (the "Rights Agreement"). No shares of Series A Preferred Stock have been issued. See "--Anti-Takeover Provisions--Rights Agreement" below.

The shares of Series A Preferred Stock purchasable upon exercise of the Rights will have a cumulative quarterly dividend rate set by our board of directors or equal to 1,000 times the dividend declared on our common stock for

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

such quarter. Each share will have the voting rights of one vote on all matters voted at a meeting of the stockholders for each 1/1,000th share of Series A Preferred Stock held by such stockholder. In the event of any merger, consolidation or other transaction in which our common shares are exchanged, each share of Series A Preferred Stock will be entitled to receive an amount equal to 1,000 times the amount to be received per common share. In the event of a liquidation, the holders of Series A Preferred Stock will be entitled to receive \$1,000 per share or an amount per share equal to 1,000 times the aggregate amount to be distributed per share to holders of our common stock. The shares will not be redeemable. The vote of holders of a majority of the Series A Preferred Stock, voting together as a class, will be required for any amendment to the our restated certificate of incorporation that would materially and adversely alter or change the powers, preferences or special rights of such shares.

SERIES B PREFERRED STOCK

In 1993, our board of directors authorized the establishment of the Series B Preferred Stock, consisting of 1,000,000 shares, for issuance to the trustee of a grantor trust formed by us entitled "Employee Plan Funding Trust" (the "Trust") for the purpose of holding shares of Series B Preferred Stock for the benefit of various KCS employee benefit plans, including the Employee Stock Ownership Plan, stock option plans and Employee Stock Purchase Plan. On October 1, 1993, we sold 1,000,000 shares of Series B Preferred Stock to the Trust for \$200 million with funds borrowed from us, secured by a pledge of the securities. The Trust was administered by an independent bank trustee. The Series B Preferred Stock could only be held by the trustee of the Trust or on behalf of any employee benefit plan designated as a beneficiary of the Trust. Effective September 30, 1998, we terminated the Trust. In accordance with the Agreement to terminate the Trust, we received 872,362 shares of Series B Preferred Stock in full repayment of the indebtedness from the Trust. In addition, the remaining 127,638 shares of Series B Preferred Stock were converted by the Trustee into our common stock, at the rate of 6 to 1, resulting in the issuance to the Trust of 765,828 shares of our common stock. The Trustee then transferred this common stock to us and we have set these shares aside for use in connection with the KCS 1991 Amended and Restated Stock Option and Performance Award Plan, as amended and restated effective May 5, 2004. No shares of Series B Preferred Stock remain outstanding.

SERIES C PREFERRED STOCK

For a detailed discussion of the Series C Preferred Stock, see "Description of the Series C Preferred Stock."

ANTI-TAKEOVER PROVISIONS

CLASSIFIED BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our restated certificate of incorporation provides that our board of directors will be divided into three classes as nearly equal in number as possible. Each class of directors serves for a term of three years and such terms commence in three consecutive years so that one class of directors is elected at the annual stockholders' meeting each year. Our restated certificate of incorporation also provides that the vote of 70% of the shares entitled to vote in the election of directors is required to amend the restated

certificate of incorporation to increase the number of directors to more than eighteen, abolish cumulative voting for directors and abolish the classification of the board. The same vote requirement is imposed by our restated certificate of incorporation on certain transactions involving mergers, consolidations,

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

sales or leases of assets having a fair market value of \$2 million or more, with or to certain owners of more than 5% of our stock entitled to vote in the election of directors, unless our board of directors has approved a memorandum of understanding with any such owner prior to its becoming such a 5% holder. These provisions could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change in control of KCS.

RIGHTS AGREEMENT

To implement the Rights Agreement, in 1995 our board of directors declared and made a dividend distribution of one Series A Preferred Stock purchase right ("Right") for each outstanding share of our common stock. Each Right entitles the registered holder to purchase from us 1/1,000 of a share of Series A Preferred Stock, or in some circumstances, common stock, other securities, cash or other assets, as the case may be, at a price of \$210 per share, subject to adjustment.

The Rights, which are automatically attached to our common stock, are not exercisable or transferable apart from our common stock until the tenth calendar day following the earlier to occur of (unless extended by our board of directors and subject to the earlier redemption or expiration of the Rights):

- o the date of a public announcement that an acquiring person acquired, or obtained the right to acquire, beneficial ownership of 20% or more of the outstanding shares of our common stock (or 15% in the case that such person is considered an "adverse person"); or
- o the commencement or announcement of an intention to make a tender offer or exchange offer that would result in an acquiring person beneficially owning 20% or more of such outstanding shares of our common stock (or 15% in the case that such person is considered an "adverse person").

Until exercised, the Rights will have no rights as a stockholder of KCS, including, without limitation, the right to vote or receive dividends. In connection with certain business combinations resulting in the acquisition of KCS or dispositions of more than 50% of our assets or earnings power, each Right shall thereafter have the right to receive, upon the exercise of the Right at the then current exercise price of the Right, that number of shares of the highest priority voting securities of the acquiring company (or certain of its affiliates) that at the time of such transaction would have a market value of two times the exercise price of the Right. The Rights expire on October 12, 2005, unless earlier redeemed by us.

At any time prior to the tenth calendar day after the first date after the public announcement that an acquiring person has acquired beneficial ownership of 20% (or 15% in some instances) or more of the outstanding shares of our common stock, we may redeem the Rights in whole, but not in part, at a price of \$0.005 per Right. In addition, our right of redemption may be reinstated following an inadvertent trigger of the Rights (as determined by our board of directors) if an acquiring person reduces its beneficial ownership to 10% or less of the outstanding shares of our common stock in a transaction or series of transactions not involving us.

Under certain circumstances, the Rights Agreement could significantly impair the ability of third parties to acquire control of us without prior approval of our board of directors.

DESCRIPTION OF THE CLASS A CONVERTIBLE COMMON STOCK

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

Shares of Class A Convertible Common Stock are to be issued pursuant to the Acquisition Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby. Additional shares of Class A Convertible Common Stock may be issued pursuant to the Consulting Agreement. The Class A Convertible Common Stock and the shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of the Class A Convertible Common Stock will be subject to the rights and obligations contained in the amended and restated certificate of incorporation, to be filed upon occurrence of the Merger, and the Stockholders' Agreement.

All capitalized terms used in this "Description of the Class A Convertible Common Stock" section and not otherwise defined shall have the meanings set forth in the Stockholders' Agreement and form of the amended and restated certificate of incorporation attached as Exhibit A to the Acquisition Agreement.

DIVIDEND RIGHTS

When and as dividends or other distributions are declared, whether payable in cash, in property or in shares of our stock, the holders of the Class A Convertible Common Stock and common stock shall be entitled to share equally, share for share, in such dividends or other distributions as if all such shares were of a single class.

TERMS OF CONVERSION

The Class A Convertible Common Stock will be convertible into an equal number of shares of common stock at any time, upon the option of holders, and mandatorily, upon the occurrence of certain conditions. Shares of Class A Convertible Common Stock shall be converted automatically, without any action on the part of any Person, into an equal number of shares of common stock upon the occurrence of the following events: (i) a Transfer by any TMM Holder of any shares of Class A Convertible Common Stock to a Person other than Grupo TMM, TMM Holdings, Multimodal, or the stockholders of Grupo TMM who will have executed the Stockholders' Agreement ("Grupo TMM Principal Stockholders") (collectively, the "TMM Holders"), or an entity which is an Affiliate of any of the TMM Holders; (ii) on the first day on which the TMM Holders, in the aggregate, cease to beneficially own, in the aggregate, at least 40% of the Voting Securities initially acquired by Multimodal pursuant to the Merger contemplated by the Acquisition Agreement; (iii) a Change of Control of KCS; or (iv) a Change of Control of such TMM Holder, if after such Change of Control a Competitor has Beneficial Ownership of more than a majority of the Total Voting Power of such TMM Holder.

In order to facilitate optional conversions and transfers of Class A Convertible Common Stock (and, except for Transfers to Affiliates in accordance with the Stockholders' Agreement, the conversion of such shares into common stock), any TMM Holder shall, at its option, deliver written notice of the proposed conversion or transfer, together with the certificate or certificates representing such shares to be converted and/or transferred, to Conversion Agent. Following any automatic conversion, the share or shares of Class A Convertible Common Stock so converted shall cease to be outstanding (notwithstanding the fact that the holder or holders may not have surrendered the certificate or certificates representing such Class A Convertible Common Stock for conversion), and such certificate or certificates shall thereafter represent solely the right to receive a certificate or certificates for common stock issuable upon conversion of the Class A Convertible Common Stock so converted, upon surrender of such certificate or certificates to the Conversion Agent.

VOTING RIGHTS

Each holder of Class A Convertible Common Stock shall be entitled to one vote for each share of such stock held by such holder. Each outstanding share of

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

Class A Convertible Common Stock shall be

entitled to vote on each matter on which our stockholders shall be entitled to vote. However, with respect to the election of directors other than the Class A Directors (described below), the Class A Convertible Common Stock shall be voted in favor of nominees recommended by our board of directors who were nominated in compliance with Article V of the Stockholders' Agreement.

Voting separately as a class, the holders of the Class A Convertible Common Stock shall have the right to elect Class A Director(s) as follows: (i) from and after the effectiveness of the amended and restated certificate of incorporation until such time as the TMM Holders cease to beneficially own in the aggregate at least 75% of the Voting Securities initially acquired by MM pursuant to the Merger contemplated by the Acquisition Agreement (80% if a Change of Control of TMM or any TMM Holder shall have occurred), two members of our board of directors will be elected by the holders of the Class A Convertible Common Stock voting as a separate class; (ii) at such time as the TMM Holders cease to beneficially own in the aggregate at least 75% of the Voting Securities initially acquired by MM pursuant to the Merger contemplated by the Acquisition Agreement (80% if a Change of Control of TMM or any TMM Holder shall have occurred) and provided that such TMM Holders continue to beneficially own in the aggregate at least 40% of the Voting Securities initially acquired by MM pursuant to the Merger contemplated by the Acquisition Agreement, the number of directors which the holders of Class A Convertible Common Stock have the right to elect voting as a separate class will be decreased from two to one; and (iii) at such time as the TMM Holders cease to beneficially own in the aggregate at least 40% of the Voting Securities initially acquired by MM pursuant to the Merger contemplated by the Acquisition Agreement, the right of the holders of Class A Convertible Common Stock voting as a separate class to elect any member of our board of directors shall terminate. Notwithstanding any of the above to the contrary, if a Change of Control of Grupo TMM or any TMM Holder shall have occurred and the acquirer is a Competitor, the right of the holders of Class A Convertible Common Stock voting as a separate class to elect any member(s) of our board of directors shall immediately terminate.

LIQUIDATION RIGHTS

In the event of any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the affairs of KCS, holders of the Class A Convertible Common Stock and common stock shall be entitled to share ratably according to the number of shares held by them, in all of our assets available for distribution to our stockholders.

PREEMPTION RIGHTS

The holders of Class A Convertible Common Stock shall have preemptive rights to acquire additional shares of Class A Convertible Common Stock in the event we authorize the issuance or sale of any shares of common stock or any securities containing options or rights to acquire any shares of common stock (other than as a dividend on the outstanding common stock). Notwithstanding the foregoing, the holders of Class A Convertible Common Stock do not have preemptive rights with respect to issuances of common stock (including for this purpose, options, warrants and other securities into or exercisable for common stock) issued: (i) to our employees, directors, consultants, agents, independent contractors or other service providers in connection with a Plan existing on the date hereof or a Plan approved by our board of directors and adopted by us after the date hereof; (ii) upon the conversion of Class A Convertible Common Stock; (iii) upon the exercise of any options, warrants, or exchangeable securities which are outstanding as of the effective date of the amended and restated certificate of incorporation; or (iv) in connection with the acquisition (by

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

merger, consolidation, acquisition of assets or equity interests or otherwise) of the equity interests or assets of another Person.

We shall first notify then-existing TMM Holders of Class A Convertible Common Stock of any proposed transaction triggering preemptive rights of the Class A Convertible Common Stock and offer to sell to each such Person a number of shares of Class A Convertible Common Stock (or, as applicable,

options, warrants or other securities into or exercisable for Class A Convertible Common Stock) determined according to the formula specified in the amended and restated certificate of incorporation. To the extent that any TMM Holder elects not to participate in such preemptive rights, each of the other TMM Holders shall have a pro rata right to purchase at the same price and on the same terms and conditions the Voting Securities which such non-participating TMM Holder had the right but elected not to purchase.

The preemptive rights of the TMM Holders of Class A Convertible Common Stock shall immediately and irrevocably terminate on the date that the TMM Holders do not beneficially own in the aggregate at least 40% of the Voting Securities initially acquired by Multimodal pursuant to the Acquisition Agreement.

TRANSFER RESTRICTIONS

For a period of five years from and after the effectiveness of the amended and restated certificate of incorporation, the TMM Holders shall not, directly or indirectly, alone or in concert with others, sell, assign, transfer, pledge, hypothecate, otherwise subject to any lien, grant any option with respect to or otherwise dispose of any interest in (or enter into an agreement or understanding with respect to the foregoing) any Voting Securities (a "Disposition") to a Competitor. Disposition pursuant to a Public Offering or a Rule 144 Transaction will not be deemed to violate this prohibition if the selling TMM Holder(s) follow appropriate and reasonable procedures designed to prevent the sale of such Voting Securities to any Competitor. After the earliest of (i) five years following the date of the amended and restated certificate of incorporation, or (ii) the first date on which the TMM Holders beneficially own in the aggregate, directly or indirectly and alone or as part of a Group, less than 15% of the outstanding Voting Securities of KCS, a TMM Holder may propose to sell Voting Securities to a Competitor; provided we shall have the right (but not the obligation) to purchase, in whole but not in part, such Voting Securities at a per share cash purchase price equal to the purchase price in the agreement between the selling TMM Holder and a Competitor. This purchase right shall be assignable, in whole or in part, by us to any other Person, but no such assignment shall relieve us of our obligation to assure payment of the purchase price for any Voting Securities as to which a notice of election to exercise the Right of First Refusal is made by us or any such assignee.

For a period of five years from and after the effectiveness of the amended and restated certificate of incorporation, each of the TMM Holders shall not effect a Disposition of Voting Securities to any Affiliate of either Grupo TMM, TMM Holdings or Multimodal or any Affiliate of any Grupo TMM Principal Stockholders unless such Affiliate agrees in writing to be bound by the terms of the Stockholders' Agreement. The TMM Holders shall remain responsible, jointly and severally, for any breaches of the Stockholders' Agreement by such Affiliate (provided that any TMM Holder which is a Grupo TMM Principal Stockholder shall be severally responsible only for breaches by an Affiliate of the Grupo TMM Principal Stockholder to which such Grupo TMM Principal Stockholder effects a Distribution).

Subject to the foregoing transfer restrictions, TMM Holders may sell any or

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

all Voting Securities beneficially owned by such Person provided that: (i) no Disposition that in the aggregate represents 5% or more of the outstanding Voting Securities shall be made to any Person other than a Person who is eligible to file reports pursuant to Rule 13d-1 under the Exchange Act (a "13G Filer"), unless such Person would not be so eligible with respect to the Voting Securities acquired from the Disposition; and (ii) no Disposition of Voting Securities that in the aggregate represents 5% or more of the outstanding Voting Securities shall be made to any 13G Filer unless (a) such 13G Filer would continue to be eligible to file reports pursuant to Section 13G under the Exchange Act with respect to the Voting Securities after giving effect to the proposed acquisition of such Voting Securities; and (b) the selling TMM Holder shall have delivered a written notice to us advising us of the number of Voting Securities the seller desires to sell

and the terms, including price, of the proposed transaction and we have been provided the right (but not the obligation) to purchase, in whole or in part, such Voting Securities at a per share cash purchase price equal to the purchase price in the proposed transaction.

Notwithstanding any provision of the amended and restated certificate of incorporation to the contrary, no Disposition shall be made to any Person or Group that would, together with such Person's Affiliates and Associates and after giving effect to the acquisition of such Voting Securities, beneficially own or have the right to acquire more than 15% of the Total Voting Power of KCS.

TMM Holders shall be permitted to make a Disposition, notwithstanding any contrary provision in the amended and restated certificate of incorporation, in connection with any tender or exchange offer made by an unaffiliated third party to acquire KCS common stock so long as certain conditions are satisfied.

The transfer restrictions imposed by the amended and restated certificate of incorporation (with the exception of our right of first refusal in the event a TMM Holder intends to sell shares of Class A Convertible Common Stock to a Competitor, which shall survive indefinitely) shall immediately and irrevocably terminate upon the earlier of the first date the TMM Holders beneficially own in the aggregate less than 15% of the outstanding Voting Securities of KCS for at least 30 consecutive days, or the occurrence of a Change of Control of KCS.

PLEDGES

Subject to the transfer restrictions contained in the amended and restated certificate of incorporation, a TMM Holder may pledge or hypothecate as security for any indebtedness or other obligations any or all Voting Securities beneficially owned by such Person; provided that such TMM Holder obtains written consent from the pledgee that upon the occurrence of an event which gives the pledgee the right to foreclose on the pledged Voting Securities ("Foreclosure Event") such pledgee shall provide to us prompt written notice of such Foreclosure Event and provide us the right to purchase, in whole or in part, such Voting Securities at a price determined in accordance with such provision of the amended and restated certificate of incorporation. This purchase right shall be assignable, in whole or in part, by us to any other Person, but no such assignment shall relieve us of our obligation to assure payment of the purchase price for any Voting Securities as to which we have delivered such a written notice.

CERTAIN UNITED STATES FEDERAL TAX CONSIDERATIONS

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

The following is a discussion of the material U.S. federal income tax consequences of purchasing, owning and disposing of our Series C Preferred Stock, but it does not purport to be a comprehensive description of all of the tax considerations that may be relevant to a decision to acquire our Series C Preferred Stock. The discussion applies to you only if you are a United States holder (as defined below) and only if you hold our Series C Preferred Stock as a capital asset for federal income tax purposes. It does not address special classes of holders, such as:

- o certain financial institutions;
- o insurance companies;
- o dealers and traders in securities or foreign currencies;
- o persons holding Series C Preferred Stock as part of a short sale, wash sale, straddle or conversion transaction;
- o persons whose functional currency for U.S. federal income tax purposes is not the U.S. dollar;
- o partnerships or other entities classified as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes; or
- o tax-exempt organizations.

This discussion is based on the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), final, temporary and proposed Treasury regulations, administrative pronouncements and judicial decisions all as currently in effect. These authorities are subject to change, possibly on a retroactive basis. Please consult your own tax advisers concerning the U.S. federal, state, local and foreign tax consequences of purchasing, owning and disposing of shares of our Series C Preferred Stock in your particular circumstances.

As used herein, the term "United States Holder" means a beneficial owner of a share of Series C Preferred Stock that is, for United States federal income tax purposes:

- o a citizen or resident of the United States;
- o a corporation, or other entity taxable as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, created or organized in or under the laws of the United States or of any political subdivision thereof; or
- o an estate or trust the income of which is subject to United States federal income taxation regardless of its source.

The term "United States holder" also includes certain former citizens and residents of the United States.

TAXATION OF DISTRIBUTIONS

Distributions paid on our Series C Preferred Stock will be treated as dividends taxable to you as ordinary income to the extent of our current or accumulated earnings and profits (as determined under

U.S. federal income tax principles). Distributions in excess of our current or accumulated earnings and profits will be treated first as a tax free return of capital to the extent of your basis in our Series C Preferred Stock and then as capital gain. Distributions on our Series C Preferred Stock will be taxable when

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

received by you.

Distributions taxable as dividends received by corporate United States Holders will be eligible for the 70% dividends received deduction, subject to various limitations. The benefits of the dividends received deduction to a corporate United States Holder may, in effect, be reduced or eliminated by many exceptions and restrictions, including restrictions relating to the corporate United States Holder's taxable income, holding period of our Series C Preferred Stock, debt financing and the so-called "extraordinary dividend" provision of Section 1059 of the Code. The dividends received deduction is not a deduction for purposes of the computation of the adjusted current earnings for alternative minimum tax purposes.

CONSTRUCTIVE DIVIDENDS

Any increase to the conversion rate of our Series C Preferred Stock may, depending on the circumstances, be deemed to be a distribution to you. Any deemed distribution will be taxed in the same manner as an actual distribution. See "Taxation of Distributions" above.

CONVERSION INTO COMMON STOCK

Your conversion of our Series C Preferred Stock into our common stock will not be a taxable event, except that the receipt of cash in lieu of a fractional share of our common stock will result in capital gain or loss (measured by the difference between the cash received in lieu of the fractional share and your tax basis in the fractional share).

Your tax basis in common stock received upon a conversion of your Series C Preferred Stock will be the same as your basis in your Series C Preferred Stock at the time of conversion, reduced by any basis allocated to a fractional share. Your holding period for the common stock received will include your holding period for your converted Series C Preferred Stock.

REDEMPTION FOR CASH

You will generally recognize capital gain or loss on the redemption of your Series C Preferred Stock for cash, provided that the redemption meets at least one of the following requirements as determined under federal income tax principles:

- o the redemption is not essentially equivalent to a dividend;
- o the redemption results in a complete termination of your interest in our stock (preferred and common); or
- o the redemption is substantially disproportionate with respect to you.

In determining whether any of the above requirements applies, shares considered to be owned by you by reason of certain attribution rules must be taken into account. A redemption is not essentially equivalent to a dividend if the redemption results in a "meaningful reduction" in the shareholder's proportionate interest in the corporation. It may be more difficult for a person who owns, actually or constructively by operation of the attribution rules, any of our common stock to satisfy any of the above requirements, including the requirement that there be a meaningful reduction in the holder's proportionate interest in us.

If the redemption satisfies any of the above requirements, such capital gain or loss will be equal to the difference between the amount of cash received

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

by you and your tax basis in your redeemed Series C Preferred Stock. The capital gain or loss will be long-term if the holding period for our Series C Preferred Stock is more than one year.

If the redemption does not satisfy any of the above requirements, then the entire amount received (without offset for your tax basis in your Series C Preferred Stock redeemed) will be treated as a distribution taxable as described in "Taxation of Distributions" above. In such case, your tax basis in your redeemed Series C Preferred Stock will be allocated to your remaining stock, if any. Prospective investors should consult their own tax advisors as to the U.S. federal income tax consequences of a redemption of our Series C Preferred Stock.

REDEMPTION SOLELY FOR COMMON STOCK

You will not recognize gain or loss on our redemption of your Series C Preferred Stock solely for our common stock (except that you may recognize ordinary income to the extent that a portion of our common stock is determined to constitute a payment in respect of dividends in arrears on your Series C Preferred Stock). The tax basis of the common stock received will equal the tax basis of the Series C Preferred Stock redeemed, and the holding period for the common stock received will include the holding period of the Series C Preferred Stock redeemed (except that the portion, if any, of common stock received that constitutes a payment in respect of dividends in arrears will have a tax basis equal to its fair market value at the time of the redemption and a new holding period commencing on the day following the redemption).

REDEMPTION FOR A COMBINATION OF CASH AND COMMON STOCK

Upon a redemption of our Series C Preferred Stock for a combination of cash and our common stock, you will recognize gain, but not loss, equal to the lesser of (i) the excess of the fair market value of our common stock plus the cash received in redemption of our Series C Preferred Stock over your adjusted tax basis in your Series C Preferred Stock redeemed and (ii) the amount of cash received in the redemption. Notwithstanding the previous sentence, any shares of common stock that are determined to constitute a payment in respect of dividends in arrears on our Series C Preferred Stock will be taxable as ordinary income. Except as described below, the gain recognized upon such a redemption will be capital gain and will be long-term if the holding period for your Series C Preferred Stock redeemed is more than one year. Your basis for our common stock received will equal your basis in your Series C Preferred Stock redeemed plus any gain recognized and minus the cash received. Your holding period for the common stock will include your holding period in the Series C Preferred Stock redeemed.

If the redemption has the effect of the distribution of a dividend, then the gain recognized upon the redemption, as determined above, will be treated as a dividend taxable as ordinary income to the extent of your ratable share of our earnings and profits. The remainder of the gain will be capital gain and will be long-term if the holding period for your Series C Preferred Stock redeemed is more than one year. For purposes of determining whether your gain will be treated as a dividend, stock (including our common stock) owned by you actually and constructively through attribution rules, will be taken into account.

OTHER SALES AND DISPOSITIONS

Except as set forth above, gain or loss you realize on the sale or other disposition of shares of our Series C Preferred Stock will be capital gain or loss, and will be long-term capital gain or loss if you held the shares for more than one year. The amount of your gain or loss will be equal to the difference between your tax basis in the shares of our Series C Preferred Stock disposed of and the amount realized on the disposition.

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

INFORMATION REPORTING AND BACKUP WITHHOLDING

Payment of dividends and sales or redemption proceeds that are made within the United States or through certain U.S.-related financial intermediaries generally are subject to information reporting and to backup withholding unless (i) you are a corporation or other exempt recipient or (ii), in the case of backup withholding, you provide a correct taxpayer identification number and certify that no loss of exemption from backup withholding has occurred.

The amount of any backup withholding from a payment to you will be allowed as a credit against your U.S. federal income tax liability and may entitle you to a refund, provided that the required information is furnished to the Internal Revenue Service.

SELLING SECURITYHOLDERS

The Series C Preferred Stock, and any shares of our common stock issued upon conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock, is being offered by the selling securityholders listed in the table below. We issued and sold the Series C Preferred Stock in a private placement to the initial purchasers, Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated and Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. The selling securityholders purchased their Series C Preferred Stock from the initial purchasers or from subsequent holders in transactions exempt from registration under the Securities Act.

This prospectus covers sales, by the named selling securityholders, of Series C Preferred Stock and shares of common stock issued upon any conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock by the selling securityholder. This prospectus will not cover subsequent sales of our common stock received upon conversion of Series C Preferred Stock purchased from a selling securityholder named in this prospectus.

No offer or sale under this prospectus may be made by a securityholder unless that holder is listed in the table below, in a supplement to this prospectus or in an amendment to the related registration statement that has become effective. We will supplement or amend this prospectus to include additional selling securityholders upon request and upon provision of all required information to us, subject to the terms of the Registration Rights Agreement, dated as of May 5, 2003 between KCS and the initial purchasers.

The following table sets forth certain information, as of October 21, 2004 about the amount of Series C Preferred Stock beneficially owned by each selling security holder and the number of shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock that may be offered from time to time pursuant to this prospectus.

The percentage of Series C Preferred Stock outstanding beneficially owned by each selling security holder is based on 400,000 shares of Series C Preferred Stock outstanding. The number of shares of common stock owned prior to the offering does not include shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock. The number of shares of common stock shown in the table below assumes conversion of all shares of Series C Preferred Stock held by such holder at the initial conversion rate of 33.4728 shares of common stock per share of Series C Preferred Stock. This conversion rate is subject to adjustment as described under "Description of the Series C Preferred Stock--Adjustments to the Conversion Rate." Accordingly, the number of shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock may increase or decrease from time to time. Under the certificate of designations for the Series C Preferred Stock, fractional shares will not be issued upon conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock. Cash will be paid instead of fractional shares, if any.

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

The following table has been prepared based upon the information furnished to us by the selling security holders. The selling security holders identified below may have sold, transferred or otherwise

disposed of some or all of their Series C Preferred Stock since the date on which the information in the following table is presented in transactions exempt from or not subject to the registration requirements of the Securities Act of 1933. Information concerning the selling security holders may change from time to time and, if necessary, we will supplement this prospectus accordingly. We cannot give an estimate as to the amount of Series C Preferred Stock or common stock issuable upon conversion thereof that will be held by the selling security holders upon the termination of this offering because the selling security holders may offer some or all of their Series C Preferred Stock or common stock pursuant to the offering contemplated by this prospectus. See "Plan of Distribution."

Except as otherwise disclosed in footnotes to the table below, to our knowledge, other than their ownership of the securities described below, none of the selling security holders has, or has had within the past three years, any position, office or other material relationship with us or any of our predecessors or affiliates.

| NAME | NUMBER OF SHARES OF SERIES C PREFERRED STOCK BENEFICIALLY OWNED THAT MAY BE SOLD | PERCENTAGE OF SERIES C PREFERRED STOCK OUTSTANDING | NUMBER OF SHARES OF COMMON STOCK OWNED PRIOR TO THE OFFERING (1) | NUMBER OF SHARES OF COMMON STOCK THAT MAY BE SOLD (2) |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| ---- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Alexandra Global Master Fund LTD | 1,500 | * | 0 | 50,20 |
| Allstate Insurance Company | 2,000 | * | 16,300 | 66,94 |
| Bank Austria Cayman Islands, LTD | 2,000 | * | 0 | 66,94 |
| BNP Paribas Equity Strategies, SNC | 2,065 | * | 19,211 | 69,12 |
| BP Amoco PLC Master Trust | 2,026 | * | 0 | 67,81 |
| Clinton Multistrategy Master Fund, Ltd. | 375 | * | 0 | 12,55 |
| CNH CA Master Account, L.P. | 250 | * | 0 | 8,36 |
| Context Convertible Arbitrage Fund, L.P. | 8,350 | 2.09% | 0 | 279,49 |
| CooperNeff Convertible Strategies (Cayman) Master Fund, L.P. | 2,160 | * | 0 | 72,30 |
| DBAG London | 5,000 | 1.25% | 0 | 167,36 |
| Equitec Group LLC | 2,500 | * | 0 | 83,68 |
| Goldman Sachs & Co. | 12,500 | 3.13% | 35,853 | 418,41 |
| Guggenheim Portfolio Co. XV, LLC | 1,500 | * | 0 | 50,20 |
| Hotel Union & Hotel Industry of Hawaii Pension Plan | 732 | * | 0 | 24,50 |
| KD Convertible Arbitrage Fund L.P. | 5,735 | 1.43% | 0 | 191,96 |
| Lyxor/Convertible Arbitrage Fund, Ltd. | 140 | * | 0 | 4,68 |
| Lyxor Master Fund Ref.: Silverado | 1,750 | * | 0 | 58,57 |

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

| | | | | |
|---|---------|--------|---------|----------|
| McMahan Securities Co. L.P. | 350 | * | 0 | 11,71 |
| Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated(4) | 39,489 | 9.87% | 70,922 | 1,321,80 |
| Newport Alternative Income Fund | 411 | * | 0 | 13,75 |
| OIP Limited | 360 | * | 0 | 12,05 |
| Pacific Life Insurance Company | 250 | * | 0 | 8,36 |
| Putnam Convertible Income - Growth Trust | 13,000 | 3.25% | 0 | 435,14 |
| RCG Latitude Master Fund, LTD | 4,250 | 1.06% | 0 | 142,25 |
| RCG Multi Strategy Master Fund, LTD | 3,000 | * | 0 | 100,41 |
| Ramius Master Fund, LTD | 5,750 | 1.44% | 0 | 192,46 |
| Silverado Arbitrage Trading, LTD | 1,300 | * | 0 | 43,51 |
| Silverback Master, LTD | 30,000 | 7.50% | 0 | 1,004,18 |
| Silvercreek II Limited | 1,569 | * | 0 | 52,51 |
| Silvercreek Limited Partnership | 3,160 | * | 0 | 105,77 |
| Singlehedge U.S. Convertible Arbitrage Fund | 340 | * | 0 | 11,38 |
| Sphinx Convertible Arb Fund SPC | 711 | * | 0 | 23,79 |
| SSI Blended Market Neutral L.P. | 1,025 | * | 0 | 34,30 |
| SSI Hedged Convertible Market Neutral L.P. | 1,117 | * | 0 | 37,38 |
| Sturgeon Limited | 295 | * | 0 | 9,87 |
| TQA Master Plus Fund, Ltd. | 5,000 | 1.25% | 0 | 167,36 |
| UBS AG London Branch | 12,500 | 3.13% | 0 | 418,41 |
| UBS O'Connor LLC F/B/O O'Connor Global Convertible Portfolio | 500 | * | 0 | 16,73 |
| Viacom Inc. Pension Plan Master Trust | 66 | * | 0 | 2,20 |
| Xavex Convertible Arbitrage #5 | 1,000 | * | 0 | 33,47 |
| Windmill Master Fund, LP | 10,000 | 2.50% | 0 | 334,72 |
| Institutional Benchmarks Master Fund Ltd. (formerly Zurich Institutional Benchmarks Master Fund Ltd.) | 2,844 | * | 0 | 95,19 |
| All other beneficial owners(5) (6) | 10,250 | 2.56% | 0 | 343,09 |
| TOTAL(7) | 199,120 | 49.78% | 142,286 | 6,665,10 |

* Less than one percent.

- (1) Does not include shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock.
- (2) Consists of shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock, assuming a conversion rate of 33.4728 shares of common stock for each share of Series C Preferred Stock and a cash payment in lieu of any fractional share interest. The conversion rate is subject to adjustment as described under "Description of the Series C Preferred Stock--Adjustments to the Conversion Rate." Accordingly, the number of shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock may increase or decrease from time to time. Numbers have been rounded down to whole numbers due to fact that fractional shares will not be issued upon conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock. The "total" for number of shares of common stock that may be sold is based on the conversion rate applied to the total shares of Series C Preferred Stock remaining unsold under the registration statement.
- (3) Calculated based on Rule 13d-3(d) (1) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, using 62,702,450 shares of common stock outstanding on September 30, 2004. In calculating this amount, we treated as outstanding the number of shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock by the applicable holder. However, we did not assume the conversion of any other holder's Series C Preferred Stock.
- (4) Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc. was a lender under KCS's credit

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

facility. In addition, during the past three years, Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated and/or its affiliates have performed financial advisory and investment banking services for KCS. Morgan Stanley & Co., Incorporated was an initial purchaser of 80% of the Series C Preferred Stock in the private placement of these securities.

- (5) We will identify additional selling security holders, if any, by post-effective amendment before they offer or sell their securities.
- (6) Assumes that the unnamed holders of Series C Preferred Stock or any future transferees, pledgees or donees of or from any such unnamed holder do not beneficially own any common stock other than the common stock issuable upon conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock at the initial conversion rate.
- (7) Does not include 200,880 shares of Series C Preferred Stock sold by selling securityholders which shares are convertible into 6,723,997 shares of KCS common stock, assuming a conversion rate of 33.4728 shares of common stock for each share of Series C Preferred Stock and a cash payment in lieu of any fractional share interest.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

The Series C Preferred Stock and the common stock are being registered to permit public secondary trading of these securities by the holders thereof from time to time after the date of this prospectus. We have agreed, among other things, to bear all expenses (other than underwriting discounts and selling commissions) in connection with the registration and sale of the securities covered by this prospectus.

We will not receive any of the proceeds from the offering by the selling securityholders of Series C Preferred Stock or the common stock into which the Series C Preferred Stock is convertible. We have been advised by the selling securityholders that the selling securityholders may sell all or a portion of the Series C Preferred Stock and common stock beneficially owned by them and offered hereby from time to time on any exchange on which the securities are listed on terms to be determined at the times of such sales. The selling securityholders may also make private sales directly or through a broker or brokers. Alternatively, any of the selling securityholders may from time to time offer the Series C Preferred Stock or the common stock beneficially owned by them through underwriters, dealers or agents, who may receive compensation in the form of underwriting discounts, commissions or concessions from the selling securityholders and the purchasers of the Series C Preferred Stock and the common stock for whom they may act as agent. The aggregate proceeds to the selling securityholders from the sale of the Series C Preferred Stock or common stock offering by them hereby will be the purchase price of such Series C Preferred Stock or common stock less discounts and commissions, if any.

The Series C Preferred Stock and common stock may be sold from time to time in one or more transactions at fixed offering prices, which may be changed, or at varying prices determined at the time of sale or at negotiated prices. These prices will be determined by the holders of such securities or by agreement between these holders and underwriters or dealers who may receive fees or commissions in connection therewith.

These transactions may include block transactions or crosses. Crosses are transactions in which the same broker acts as an agent on both sides of the trade. These transactions may be effected (i) on any national securities exchange or quotation service on which the Series C Preferred Stock or common stock may be listed or quoted at the time of sale, (ii) in the over-the-counter market, (iii) in transactions otherwise than on such exchanges or services or in the over-the-counter market, (iv) through the writing of options (including the issuance by the selling securityholder of derivative securities), whether the options or such other derivative securities are listed on an options or other

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

exchange or otherwise, (v) through the settlement of short sales, or (vi) any combination of the foregoing.

In connection with the sales of the Series C Preferred Stock or our common stock or otherwise, the selling securityholder may enter into hedging transactions with broker-dealers or others, which may in turn engage in short sales of the Series C Preferred Stock or our common stock in the course of hedging the positions they assume. The selling securityholder may also sell Series C Preferred Stock or our common stock short and deliver Series C Preferred Stock or our common stock to close out short positions, or loan or pledge Series C Preferred Stock or our common stock to broker-dealers or others that in turn may sell such securities. The selling securityholder may enter into option or other transactions with broker-dealers or other financial institutions that require the delivery to the broker-dealer or other financial institutions of the Series C Preferred Stock or the common stock, which the broker-dealer or other financial institution may resell pursuant to the prospectus, or enter into transactions in which a broker-dealer makes purchases as a principal for resale for its own account or through other types of transactions. The selling securityholder may pledge or grant a security interest in some or all of the Series C Preferred Stock or our common stock issued upon conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock owned by it and if it defaults in the performance of its secured obligations, the pledgees or secured parties may offer and sell the Series C Preferred Stock or our common stock from time to time pursuant to this prospectus.

The selling securityholder also may transfer and donate Series C Preferred Stock or shares of our common stock issuable upon conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock in other circumstances in which case the transferees, donees, pledgees or other successors in interest will be the selling securityholder for purposes of the prospectus. The selling securityholder may sell short our common stock and may deliver this prospectus in connection with such short sales and use the shares of our common stock covered by the prospectus to cover such short sales. In addition, any Series C Preferred Stock or shares of our common stock covered by this prospectus that qualify for sale pursuant to Rule 144, Rule 144A or any other available exemption from registration under the Securities Act may be sold under Rule 144, Rule 144A or such other available exemption.

At the time a particular offering of Series C Preferred Stock or shares of our common stock issuable upon conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock is made, a prospectus supplement, if required, will be distributed which will set forth the aggregate amount of Series C Preferred Stock or number of shares of our common stock being offered and the terms of the offering, including the name or names of any underwriters, dealers, brokers or agents, if any, and any discounts, commissions or concessions allowed or reallocated to be paid to brokers or dealers.

Our outstanding common stock is listed for trading on the New York Stock Exchange.

The Series C Preferred Stock was issued and sold on May 5, 2003 in transactions exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act to persons reasonably believed by the Initial Purchasers to be "qualified institutional buyers" (as defined in Rule 144A under the Securities Act). We have agreed to indemnify each selling securityholder and each person, if any, who controls any selling securityholder (within the meaning of either Section 15 of the Securities Act or Section 20 of the Exchange Act), and each selling securityholder has agreed to indemnify us, our directors, our officers who sign the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part and each person, if any, who controls us (within the meaning of either Section 15 of the Securities Act or Section 20 of the Exchange Act), each underwriter and each

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

person who controls any underwriter within the meaning of the Securities Act (in the case of an underwritten offering) and each other selling securityholder against certain liabilities arising under the Securities Act.

Selling securityholders and any underwriters, dealers, brokers or agents who participate in the distribution of the Series C Preferred Stock or our common stock may be deemed to be "underwriters" within the meaning of the Securities Act and any profits on the sale of the Series C Preferred Stock and our common stock by them and any discounts, commissions or concessions received by any such underwriters, dealers, brokers or agents may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act.

The selling securityholders and any other person participating in such distribution will be subject to applicable provisions of the Exchange Act and the rules and regulations thereunder, including, without limitation, Regulation M which may limit the timing of purchases and sales of the Series C Preferred Stock and our common stock by the selling securityholders and any other such person. Furthermore, Regulation M under the Exchange Act may restrict the ability of any person engaged in a distribution of the Series C Preferred Stock and our common stock being distributed for a period of up to five business days prior to the commencement of such distribution. All of the foregoing may affect the marketability of the Series C Preferred Stock and our common stock and the ability of any person or entity to engage in market-making activities with respect to the Series C Preferred Stock and our common stock.

We will use our best efforts to keep the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part effective until the earliest of (i) the sale to the public pursuant to Rule 144 (or any similar provision then in force, but not Rule 144A) under the Securities Act or the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part of all the securities registered thereunder, and (ii) the expiration of the holding

period applicable to such securities held by persons that are not our affiliates under Rule 144(k) under the Securities Act or any successor provision, subject to permitted exceptions.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF GRUPO TFM

The combined and consolidated financial statements for Grupo TFM (including the notes thereto and the Report of Independent Accountants thereon) as of December 31, 2003 and 2002 and for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2003 are incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 99.1 to our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003.

PRO FORMA FINANCIAL INFORMATION

In April 2003, KCS completed the sale of 400,000 shares of its Series C Preferred Stock, resulting in net proceeds of approximately \$193.0 million. Annual preferred stock dividends related to these shares are approximately \$8.5 million, which will be reflected as a reduction of net earnings in determining earnings available to common stockholders and earnings per share in periods following the sale of the Series C Preferred Stock. Additionally, to the extent that the assumed conversion of these shares into 13,389,121 shares of common stock would have a dilutive impact on earnings per share, such shares will be

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

included in the computation of diluted earnings per share in future periods.

In April 2003, KCS and Grupo TMM announced a series of transactions that were approved by both respective boards of directors that would, following KCS shareholder approval and satisfaction of other conditions, place KCSR, Tex-Mex and TFM under the common control of a single transportation holding company, NAFTA Rail. Grupo TFM holds an 80% interest in TFM, which holds a 100% interest in Mexrail. Mexrail wholly-owns Tex-Mex.

Under the terms of the agreement, Multimodal, a subsidiary of Grupo TMM, would receive 18 million shares of NAFTA Rail representing approximately 22% (20% voting, 2% subject to voting restrictions) of NAFTA Rail outstanding shares, \$200 million in cash and a potential incentive payment of between \$100 million and \$180 million based upon the resolution of certain future contingencies. See Note 17 of the Notes to Pro Forma Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for further information.

There are a number of conditions to closing on the Acquisition. Accordingly, no assurance can be given that KCS will be able to consummate the Acquisition. Notwithstanding this uncertainty, the following pro forma condensed consolidated financial statements are presented to illustrate the impact of the Acquisition on KCS's historical financial statements and reflect the effect of the various transactions necessary to consummate the agreements as if the transaction had occurred on January 1, 2003 and January 1, 2004 for income statement purposes for the year ended December 31, 2003 and the six months ended June 30, 2004, respectively, and as of June 30, 2004 for balance sheet purposes. The historical financial statements of Grupo TFM are prepared under the principles of International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") and include a reconciliation between U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("US GAAP") and IFRS. The Grupo TFM historical financial information included in these pro forma financial statements is reflected under US GAAP and therefore no reconciliation of financial information between US GAAP and IFRS is required for these purposes.

The following summarizes selected pro forma financial information of KCS assuming the transaction acquiring a controlling interest in Grupo TFM has been completed as of June 30, 2004.

KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN
PRO FORMA CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AS OF JUNE 30, 2004
(DOLLARS IN MILLIONS, EXCEPT PER SHARE DATA)
(UNAUDITED)

| | KCS HISTORICAL ----- | GRUPO TFM HISTORICAL ----- | PRO FOR ADJUSTME DEBIT ----- ----- |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| ASSETS: | | | |
| Current Assets: | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 156.5 | \$ 5.3 | \$ 38.2 (4) |
| Accounts receivable, net | 114.4 | 188.1 | |
| Inventories | 44.7 | 17.8 | |
| Other current assets | 25.9 | 17.9 | |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS | 341.5 | 229.1 | 38.2 |

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

| | | | |
|--|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Investments | 446.8 | 8.5 | |
| Concession rights and related assets | - | 1,153.2 | 24.1 (2,8, |
| Properties, net | 1,401.6 | 659.6 | |
| Goodwill | 10.6 | - | |
| Deferred income taxes and employees statutory profit sharing | - | 266.1 | |
| Other assets | 31.4 | 29.1 | |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$2,231.9 | \$2,345.6 | \$ 62.3 |
| LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY: | | | |
| Current Liabilities: | | | |
| Debt due within one year | \$ 8.8 | \$ 131.8 | |
| Accounts and wages payable and accrued liabilities | 174.8 | 177.9 | 10.7 (11) |
| TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES | 183.6 | 309.7 | 10.7 |
| OTHER LIABILITIES: | | | |
| Long-term debt | 563.9 | 827.9 | |
| Deferred income taxes | 397.2 | - | |
| Other noncurrent liabilities and deferred credits | 109.1 | 28.2 | 6.0 (3) |
| TOTAL OTHER LIABILITIES | 1,070.2 | 856.1 | 6.0 |
| MINORITY INTEREST | - | 357.3 | - |
| STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY | | | |
| Preferred stock | 6.1 | - | - |
| Redeemable cumulative convertible perpetual preferred stock | 0.4 | - | - |
| Common / capital stock | 0.6 | 807.0 | 807.0 (6) |
| New issue, non-voting common, \$. 01 par | - | - | - |
| Treasury shares and effect on purchase of subsidiary shares | - | (222.0) | - |
| Retained earnings | 854.4 | 237.5 | 237.5 (6) |
| Capital surplus | 115.9 | - | - |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income | 0.7 | - | - |
| Total stockholders' equity | 978.1 | 822.5 | 1,044.5 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY | \$ 2,231.9 | \$2,345.6 | \$1,061.2 |

See notes to proforma condensed consolidated financial statements.

The following summarizes selected pro forma financial information of KCS assuming the transaction acquiring a controlling interest in Grupo TFM had been

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

completed as of January 1, 2004.

KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN
 PRO FORMA CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT
 FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 2004
 (DOLLARS IN MILLIONS, EXCEPT PER SHARE DATA)
 (UNAUDITED)

| | KCS HISTORICAL | GRUPO TFM HISTORICAL | PR ADJ DEBIT |
|---|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| REVENUES | \$301.7 | \$352.4 | |
| Costs and expenses | 238.9 | 248.5 | 2.2 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 25.9 | 44.5 | 0.3 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| OPERATING INCOME | 36.9 | 59.4 | 2.5 |
| Equity in net earnings of unconsolidated affiliates: | | | |
| Grupo Transportacion Ferroviaria Mexicana, S.A. de C.V. | 4.2 | - | 4.2 |
| Other | 0.4 | - | |
| Interest expense | (21.7) | (59.9) | 1.4 |
| Debt retirement costs | (4.2) | - | - |
| Other income (expense) | 3.2 | 0.1 | 0.5 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Income before income taxes | 18.8 | (0.4) | 8.6 |
| Income tax provision (benefit) | 6.2 | (12.0) | (1.7) |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| INCOME BEFORE MINORITY INTEREST | 12.6 | 11.6 | 6.9 |
| MINORITY INTEREST | - | (2.4) | 0.5 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| NET INCOME | 12.6 | 9.2 | 7.4 |
| PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS | 4.4 | - | - |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| NET INCOME AVAILABLE TO COMMON SHAREHOLDERS | \$ 8.2 | \$ 9.2 | \$ 7.4 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| BASIC EARNINGS PER COMMON SHARE: | | | |
| NET INCOME | \$ 0.13 | | |
| | ===== | | |
| Basic Weighted Average Common shares outstanding (IN THOUS) | 62,570 | | |
| | ----- | | |
| DILUTED EARNINGS PER COMMON SHARE: | | | |
| NET INCOME | \$ 0.13 | | |
| | ===== | | |
| Diluted Weighted Average Common shares outstanding (IN THOUS) | 63,812 | | |
| | ----- | | |

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

See notes to proforma condensed consolidated financial statements.

The following summarizes selected pro forma financial information of KCS assuming the transaction acquiring a controlling interest in Grupo TFM had been completed as of January 1, 2003.

KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN
PRO FORMA CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003
(DOLLARS IN MILLIONS, EXCEPT PER SHARE DATA)
(UNAUDITED)

| | KCS HISTORICAL ----- | GRUPO TFM HISTORICAL ----- | PR ADJ DEBIT -- ----- |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| REVENUES | \$581.3 | \$698.5 | |
| Costs and expenses | 487.9 | 503.7 | 4.2 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 64.3 | 87.2 | 0.8 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| OPERATING INCOME | 29.1 | 107.6 | 5.0 |
| Equity in net earnings of unconsolidated affiliates: | | | |
| Grupo Transportacion Ferroviaria Mexicana, S.A. de C.V. | 12.3 | - | 12.3 |
| Other | (1.3) | - | |
| Interest expense | (46.4) | (111.1) | 0.1 |
| Other income (expense) | 6.8 | (13.8) | 1.2 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Income before income taxes | 0.5 | (17.3) | 18.6 |
| Income tax provision (benefit) | (2.8) | (51.5) | (2.4) |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| INCOME BEFORE MINORITY INTEREST | 3.3 | 34.2 | 16.2 |
| MINORITY INTEREST | - | (6.9) | 1.4 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| INCOME BEFORE CUMULATIVE EFFECT OF ACCOUNTING CHANGE | 3.3 | 27.3 | 17.6 |
| CUMULATIVE EFFECT OF ACCOUNTING CHANGE, NET OF INCOME TAXES | 8.9 | - | - |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| NET INCOME | 12.2 | 27.3 | 17.6 |
| PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS | 5.9 | - | 2.8 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| NET INCOME AVAILABLE TO COMMON SHAREHOLDERS | \$ 6.3 | \$27.3 | \$ 20.4 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| BASIC EARNINGS PER COMMON SHARE: | | | |
| INCOME BEFORE ACCOUNTING CHANGE | \$ (0.04) | | |
| | ===== | | |
| NET INCOME | \$ 0.10 | | |
| | ===== | | |
| Basic Weighted Average Common shares outstanding (IN THOUS) | 61,725 | | |
| | ----- | | |

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

| | |
|---|-----------|
| DILUTED EARNINGS PER COMMON SHARE: | |
| INCOME BEFORE ACCOUNTING CHANGE | \$ (0.04) |
| | ===== |
| NET INCOME | \$ 0.10 |
| | ===== |
| Diluted Weighted Average Common shares outstanding (IN THOUS) | 61,725 |
| | ----- |

See notes to proforma condensed consolidated financial statements.

KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN NOTES TO PRO FORMA CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 1: REMOVAL OF THE EQUITY INVESTMENT IN GRUPO TFM & MEXRAIL

Pursuant to the Acquisition Agreement, Kansas City Southern (the "Company" or "KCS") would acquire a controlling interest in Grupo Transportacion Ferroviaria Mexicana, S.A. de C.V. ("Grupo TFM"), resulting in the full consolidation of Grupo TFM's balance sheet into NAFTA Rail, successor to KCS. Accordingly, the equity investment as of June 30, 2004 reflected on the Company's condensed consolidated balance sheet would be eliminated. KCS and Grupo TMM are in dispute over Grupo TMM's attempt to terminate the agreement entered into on April 20, 2003 by KCS and Grupo TMM and other parties under which KCS would acquire control of TFM.

On September 16, 2004, the Company closed on its 51% investment in Mexrail, Inc. ("Mexrail") for a total of approximately \$32.7 million. The Mexrail shares were placed in a voting trust while awaiting the approval of the Surface Transportation Board ("STB").

NOTE 2: CREATION OF IDENTIFIABLE INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Additional identifiable intangibles or goodwill may result from the Grupo TFM acquisition. The current value of the consideration to obtain a controlling interest in Grupo TFM exceeds the current book value of the underlying net assets by approximately \$3.9 million, which is reflected on the condensed consolidated pro forma balance sheet as an addition to concession assets. The Company has not completed a fair value appraisal or any associated allocation of excess purchase price to the fair value of tangible assets as of this date. At the time those processes are completed, the allocation of the purchase price could change and may include certain identifiable intangibles assets, such as customer contracts, customer relationships or similar items. For purposes of these pro forma financial statements, the Company has assumed the difference in value will be assigned to concession assets.

NOTE 3: RECOGNITION OF THE DEFERRED GAIN ON THE SALE OF MEXRAIL

On April 1, 2002, the Company sold its 49% interest in Mexrail to TFM for \$31.4 million resulting in a pre-tax gain of \$4.4 million, which was reported in the Company's Consolidated Statements of Income for the year ended December 31, 2002. In addition, the transaction resulted in the recognition of a deferred gain, of which \$6.0 million remained unamortized as of June 30, 2004. Assuming the transaction contemplated had occurred on June 30, 2004, the remaining unamortized gain on the April 2002 Mexrail transaction would be eliminated from the Company's long-term liabilities and reflected with an offsetting adjustment to concession assets as part of the transaction. Also see Note 2.

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

NOTE 4: TRANSACTION FINANCING

As described above, part of the transaction consideration includes a payment of \$200 million. This payment may be made by the Company, at its option, in a combination of additional common stock issuance to Grupo TMM and cash. For purposes of these pro forma financial statements, the Company has assumed that the entire payment of \$200 million will be made in cash with a combination of the net proceeds of the sale of 4.25% Redeemable Cumulative Convertible Perpetual Preferred Stock, Series C ("Convertible Preferred Stock") of approximately \$193.0 million, completed in April 2003, with the remainder funded from proceeds from borrowings under the Company's credit facility. The pro forma financial statements presented herein reflect the effect of these transactions. Also see Note 7.

The Convertible Preferred Stock is redeemable at the option of a holder only in the event of a "fundamental change", which is defined as "any transaction or event (whether by means of an exchange offer, liquidation, tender offer, consolidation, merger, combination, reclassification, recapitalization or otherwise) in connection with which all or substantially all of the Company's Common stock is exchanged for, converted into, acquired for or constitutes solely the right to receive common stock that is not listed on a United States national securities exchange or approved for quotation on the Nasdaq National Market or similar system. The practical effect of this provision is to limit the Company's ability to eliminate a holder's ability to convert the Convertible Preferred Stock into common shares of publicly traded security through a merger or consolidation transaction. In no other circumstances is the Company potentially obligated to redeem the Convertible Preferred Stock for cash. Accordingly, since the Company is in a position to control a "fundamental change" the Convertible Preferred Stock is classified as permanent equity capital.

NOTE 5: ADJUSTMENTS TO INTEREST INCOME AND INTEREST EXPENSE

The proforma condensed consolidated income statements for the year ended December 31, 2003 and the six months ended June 30, 2004 reflect a \$1.2 million and \$0.5 million reduction to interest income, respectively. These adjustments reflect the fact that, assuming the Acquisition had been consummated as of the beginning of each proforma income statement presented, the Company's cash balance that had arisen from the issuance of the Convertible Preferred Stock would have been used to fund the \$200 million payment described above, and thus, interest income relating to that cash balance would not have been realized. Similarly, had the Acquisition been consummated as of the beginning of each proforma income statement period presented, cash would not have been available to pay down \$49.3 million of debt during December 2003 and \$38.5 million during March 2004. Therefore, an adjustment has been made to the pro forma condensed consolidated income statements to increase interest expense by \$0.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2003 and \$1.4 million for the six months ended June 30, 2004.

NOTE 6: ELIMINATION OF GRUPO TFM STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

As a result of NAFTA Rail obtaining a controlling interest in Grupo TFM, its assets and liabilities would be consolidated with NAFTA Rail. Accordingly, Grupo TFM's stockholders' equity amounts would be eliminated in the consolidation process.

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

NOTE 7: ISSUANCE OF NEW SECURITIES

As noted above, Grupo TMM will receive as consideration for the transaction 18 million shares of NAFTA Rail. This pro forma adjustment reflects the addition to stockholders' equity of a total of \$202.7 million of equity based upon 18 million common shares as part of the initial agreement and assuming a stock price of \$11.26 per share. The assumed stock price was derived by averaging the closing price of the Company's common stock five days before and five days after the announcement of the transaction on April 21, 2003. The total allocation of the new capital is \$0.2 million, which is comprised of 18 million shares of new non-voting common stock with a par value of \$.01 per share and \$202.5 million, which is reflected as capital surplus representing the value of the stock issued in excess of par. Note the cost of the purchase would have increased by approximately \$70 million if a current stock price of \$15.16 per share was used. This stock price of \$15.16 was determined by averaging the closing price of the Company's common stock five days before and five days subsequent to June 30, 2004. In the event the terms of the Acquisition Agreement are substantively modified, the actual purchase price and resulting purchase accounting would be adjusted to reflect current prices.

In April 2003, the Company issued 400,000 shares of \$1.00 par value 4.25% Convertible Preferred Stock resulting in net proceeds of approximately \$193.0 million (net of fees of approximately \$7.0 million). This transaction is reflected in the accompanying KCS historical consolidated balance sheet as of June 30, 2004 as new capital of \$0.4 million, capital surplus of \$110.9 million and retained earnings of \$81.7 million.

Holders of the Convertible Preferred Stock are entitled to receive any dividends declared by the Company's board of directors at the rate of 4.25% per annum, payable quarterly in arrears on February 15, May 15, August 15 and November 15 of each year, commencing August 15, 2003. The dividends are cumulative from the date of initial issuance and accumulated but unpaid dividends cumulate dividends at the annual rate of 4.25%. In addition, the Company will also pay "special dividends" if it fails to comply with certain obligations under a registration rights agreement. A holder may convert its Convertible Preferred Stock into shares of the Company's Common Stock only under certain circumstances, relating to: (i) the trading price of the Company's Common Stock; (ii) a credit rating downgrade; (iii) the trading price per share of the Convertible Preferred Stock; (iv) redemption of the Convertible Preferred Stock; and (v) the occurrence of certain corporate transactions.

The conversion rate may be adjusted upon the occurrence of certain events. Subject to certain conditions, on or after May 20, 2008, the Company will have the option to redeem some or all of the shares of Convertible Preferred Stock at a redemption price of 100% of the liquidation preference, plus accumulated and unpaid dividends, if any, to the redemption date. In the event of a "fundamental change," the Company may be required to purchase shares of the Convertible Preferred Stock at the option of the holder at a price equal to 100% of the liquidation preference plus any accumulated and unpaid dividends, including special dividends, if any, to, but excluding, the purchase date.

The Company may elect to pay the purchase price in cash, Common Stock, or a combination of cash and Common Stock. If the Company elects to pay all or a portion of the purchase price in shares of Common Stock, the Common Stock will be valued at a specified discount. The Company agreed to file with the Securities and Exchange Commission a shelf registration statement with respect to the resale of the Convertible Preferred Stock and the Common Stock issuable upon conversion of the Convertible Preferred Stock and to keep the shelf registration statement effective for a specified period of time. In addition, the Company will be required to pay to holders of the Convertible Preferred Stock liquidated damages in the form of special dividends or liquidated damages

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

payments, as applicable, if the Company fails to register the Convertible Preferred Stock and the Common Stock issuable upon conversion of the Convertible Preferred Stock within, and to keep such registration statement effective during, the specified time periods.

NOTE 8: ELIMINATION OF EQUITY BASIS DIFFERENCE IN GRUPO TFM

The calculation of the Company's net equity in Grupo TFM's underlying net assets utilizing the Company's current ownership percentage of approximately 46.6% as compared to the amount recorded as an investment as of June 30, 2004 of approximately \$396.2 million results in a basis difference of approximately \$13.3 million. This difference in basis results from a number of factors, the most significant of which is the changing ownership interest in Grupo TFM, which produced a difference in investment basis that occurred when TFM acquired the Mexican Government's 24.6% interest in Grupo TFM during 2002. This basis difference would have been amortized over time; however, due to the contemplated transaction wherein the Company will obtain a controlling interest in Grupo TFM, the remaining basis difference will be recognized at the date of the transaction. The pro forma financial statements as stated herein recognize the elimination of this basis difference as an addition to concession assets on the condensed consolidated balance sheet. See Note 2.

NOTE 9: ELIMINATION OF EQUITY EARNINGS FROM GRUPO TFM

Assuming the contemplated transaction would have been consummated on January 1, 2003 or January 1, 2004, as applicable, the Company would have consolidated earnings of Grupo TFM and accordingly, the equity in earnings of Grupo TFM would be eliminated.

NOTE 10: PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES / DEFERRED INCOME TAXES

The pro forma condensed consolidated income statement reflects the income tax impacts of the pro forma adjustments utilizing an income tax rate of 38.25%, but excluding any consideration of the equity earnings of Grupo TFM, since the Company has not previously provided a tax provision on these amounts.

In addition, the recognition of additional identifiable intangible assets in the form of concession assets creates an additional deferred tax liability associated with those assets. The pro forma condensed consolidated balance sheet as of June 30, 2004 recognizes the deferred tax liability of approximately \$6.9 million using the tax rate noted above.

NOTE 11: CONSOLIDATION ELIMINATIONS

These pro forma adjustments reflect the elimination of intercompany amounts between the Company, Grupo TFM and Mexrail, assuming the three entities were consolidated for financial reporting purposes.

NOTE 12: COMPUTATION OF EARNINGS PER SHARE

Basic earnings per share for the purposes of the pro forma consolidated income statement reflect pro forma consolidated net income, less dividends on the Company's \$25 par preferred stock of approximately \$242,000 annually, less dividends on the Company's \$.01 par Convertible Preferred Stock of approximately \$8.5 million annually, divided by the weighted average outstanding shares as described in Note 13 below. Note the proforma adjustment includes only \$2.8 million for preferred dividends as the historical financial statements of the Company reflect \$5.7 million of dividends related to the Convertible Preferred

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

Stock for the year ended December 31, 2003 and \$0.2 million related to the \$25 par preferred stock.

Diluted earnings per share for the purposes of the pro forma consolidated condensed income statements reflect pro forma consolidated net income, less dividends on the Company's \$25 par preferred stock of approximately \$242,000 annually, divided by the weighted average diluted outstanding shares as described in Note 13 below.

The assumed conversion of the Company's \$1.00 par Convertible Preferred Stock (convertible into 13,389,121 common shares) would have been anti-dilutive to the pro forma diluted earnings per share computations in each of the periods presented. Accordingly, conversion of preferred shares into common shares was not assumed and these shares were not included in the pro forma diluted earnings per share computations. Total preferred dividends, however, were subtracted from net income in the computation of the pro forma diluted earnings per share.

NOTE 13: WEIGHTED AVERAGE SHARES OUTSTANDING

The weighted average basic shares outstanding are calculated beginning with Company historical average basic shares (61,725,000 for the year ended December 31, 2003 and 62,570,000 for the six months ended June 30, 2004) plus 18,000,000 assumed shares to be issued as described in Note 7 above.

For the six months ended June 30, 2004, the weighted average diluted shares outstanding are calculated beginning with Company historical average diluted shares of 63,812,000 plus 18,000,000 assumed shares to be issued as described in the Note 7 above, but excluding the 13,389,121 shares assuming full conversion of the Convertible Preferred Stock into common utilizing a conversion rate of 33.4728 for each share of preferred to common. As stated in Note 12 above, the inclusion of the 13,389,121 shares would have had an anti-dilutive effect on the computations of pro forma dilutive earnings per share.

For the year ended December 31, 2003, the weighted average diluted shares outstanding are calculated beginning with Company historical average diluted shares of 61,725,000 plus 1,375,000 shares assumed for the conversion of stock options that were treated as anti-dilutive for the calculation of the historical diluted earnings per share computation but would be dilutive under the pro forma dilutive earnings per share computation plus 18,000,000 assumed shares to be issued as described in the Note 7 above, but excluding the 13,389,121 shares assuming full conversion of the Convertible Preferred Stock into common utilizing a conversion rate of 33.4728 for each share of preferred to common.

NOTE 14: CONSULTING AGREEMENT

In connection with the transaction, the Company intends to enter into a consulting agreement with a consulting firm ("Consultant") controlled by Jose Serrano Segovia with an initial term of three years. In consideration of services provided, Consultant will receive an annual fee of \$0.6 million in cash, plus up to 2.1 million shares of restricted common stock of the Company. The restricted stock vests based upon the achievement of certain events as defined in the consulting agreement and/or ratably over the term of the

agreement in certain circumstances. The pro forma condensed consolidated financial statements herein reflect the effect of these transactions as follows. The restricted stock will be accounted for as compensation expense based upon the assumed fair market value at date of vesting and expensed in the period the stock vests.

The annual fee is reflected as additional operating costs and expenses of \$0.6

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

million for the year ended December 31, 2003 and \$0.3 million for the six months ended June 30, 2004. An initial 750,000 shares of restricted stock vest ratably over the term of the agreement. For purposes of the pro forma statements of income, the Company has assumed a calculated value of stock based upon the stock price of \$14.49 for the year ended December 31, 2003 and \$15.16 for the six months ended June 30, 2004, which are the stock prices derived by averaging of the closing price of the Company's common stock five days before and five days after December 31, 2003 and June 30, 2004, respectively. The resulting amounts are reflected as compensation expense and amortized on a straight line basis over three years. The additional compensation expense is approximately \$3.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2003 and \$1.9 million for the six months ended June 30, 2004. The Company recognizes that the prospective accounting for these shares will result in variable accounting treatment and the resulting expense will be dependent upon the Company's stock price at the actual time the stock vests. Since the Company cannot predict the future price of the Company's stock, the pro forma adjustments assume the stock prices as noted above.

The consulting agreement provides for additional vesting of restricted stock totaling 1,350,000 shares, in increments of 525,000, 125,000 and 700,000 shares depending on the achievement of certain events ("contingent shares"). These events include the completion of an agreement with TFM labor unions and events related to the VAT tax issue. While the Company cannot predict the ultimate timing of achievement of these events and thus their pro forma effect on the adjusted financial statements, the Company would intend to record compensation expense at the time and in the quarter or annual period in which these shares vest, at then fair value as determined by the Company's stock price. No adjustments for these contingent shares have been made in the attached pro forma financial statements due to the uncertainty of their realization and vesting.

The calculated value of these contingent shares is approximately \$20.5 million based upon the stock price of \$15.16 as noted above. The actual impact to the Company's financial statements related to the restricted stock is dependent upon the price of the Company's stock at the time the restricted stock vests and which the Company cannot predict. A \$1.00 per share change, either higher or lower, in the Company's stock price at the time the restricted stock vests could result in higher or lower compensation expense of approximately \$1.4 million, assuming all 1.35 million contingent shares vested at the same time.

NOTE 15: AMORTIZATION OF IDENTIFIABLE INTANGIBLES - CONCESSION ASSETS

The transactions as described above result in a net addition to concession assets of approximately \$18.1 million, including \$6.9 million of deferred income tax impact described in Note 10 above. For purposes of the pro forma income statements presented herein, this balance is amortized over the remaining amortizable life of the concession assets of 33 years. This results in additional amortization expense of approximately \$0.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2003 and \$0.3 million for the six months ended June 30, 2004.

NOTE 16: MINORITY INTEREST

As previously reported, TFM repurchased the Mexican Government's 24.6% interest in Grupo TFM in June 2002. Since the purchase of the Mexican Government 24.6% interest was completed by Grupo TFM's subsidiary, TFM, and the fact that the Mexican Government also continues to maintain a 20% minority interest in TFM, the Mexican Government retained an indirect 4.9448% minority interest in Grupo TFM through its ownership of TFM. The pro forma adjusting entries to minority interest reflect the continuing indirect minority ownership in Grupo TFM by the Mexican Government for the periods indicated. For the pro forma condensed consolidated balance sheet as of June 30, 2004, an additional \$40.7 million of minority interest was added to the pro forma balances representing 4.9448% of

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

Grupo TFM's net assets. For the pro forma condensed consolidated income statements, the amount of minority interest in Grupo TFM's US GAAP net income was computed for the periods presented resulting in approximately \$1.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2003 and \$0.5 million for the six months ended June 30, 2004.

NOTE 17: VAT RELATED MATTERS

The impact of any settlement of the VAT dispute between TFM and the Mexican Government on the Company's consolidated financial statements will be dependent upon the timing and amount of any such settlement.

It is expected that the value of any consideration received from the Mexican Government from the settlement of the VAT dispute will be recorded as income by TFM and Grupo TFM, net of related income taxes. If a binding agreement is reached before the consummation of the Acquisition, the Company would record its proportionate share of any such gain through its equity in earnings of Grupo TFM, based upon its existing ownership of 46.6%. If the Acquisition is subsequently consummated, the proceeds from any settlement received and retained by TFM, including the impacts of any additional consideration as may become payable as discussed below, would impact the Company's allocation of the purchase price to assets acquired and liabilities assumed, likely impacting amounts otherwise allocable to long-lived assets, including intangibles, as presented herein.

If the VAT dispute were settled following the consummation of the Acquisition, the Company would record in income its proportionate share of any such gain through its consolidation of the operating results of Grupo TFM, based upon its pre-acquisition ownership interest of 46.6%. The portion of any gain attributable to the acquired interest of Grupo TMM would likely constitute a pre-acquisition contingency and not impact the Company's operating results, but rather would be considered in the allocation of the purchase price to assets acquired and liabilities assumed, likely reducing amounts otherwise allocable to long-lived assets, including intangibles, as presented herein.

Pursuant to the terms of the Acquisition, if the value of the consideration received by TFM in connection with the settlement of the VAT dispute exceeds the amount payable pursuant to the Put Agreement in place between the Mexican Government, Grupo TFM, Grupo TMM and the Company, whereby the Mexican Government may put its ownership in TFM to the other parties, additional amounts will be payable by the Company or TFM to Grupo TMM, depending on the amount of such excess. Such payment would range from \$100 million to \$180 million. Any such payment would constitute additional consideration for the purchase of Grupo TMM's interest in Grupo TFM and as such would likely increase amounts allocable to long-lived assets, including intangibles, as presented herein.

NOTE 18: CONSIDERATION OF THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT'S PUT RIGHTS REGARDING ITS 20% MINORITY INTEREST IN TFM

The provisions of the "Put Agreement" obligate Grupo TFM or KCS to purchase the Mexican Government's 20% minority interest in TFM under certain conditions. As disclosed in the Company's Form 10-Q for the six months ended June 30, 2004, the total estimated purchase price of the Mexican Government's minority interest was approximately \$464 million. The calculation of the purchase price is dependent upon inflationary factors of the Mexican economy and foreign exchange rate factors, which the Company can not predict. While the Company along with Grupo TFM are currently exploring financing alternatives, the source and cost any such financing for this obligation is not reasonably determinable at this time. In addition, the acquisition of the Mexican Government's interest and funding of

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

this obligation could be affected by the outcome and settlement of TFM's VAT dispute with the Mexican Government.

Due to the uncertainties noted above, the accompanying pro forma financial statements do not reflect the impact of the acquisition of additional shares of TFM which could arise under the Put Agreement. If, following the consummation of the acquisition of Grupo TFM shares from Grupo TMM, the Company acquires the remaining shares of TFM held by the Mexican Government pursuant to the Put Agreement, the accompanying pro forma financial statements would be generally impacted as follows. The excess of the purchase price over the carrying value of minority interest would be allocated to the assets and liabilities of Grupo TFM, based upon their fair values, with the likely impact being an increase to recorded amounts for long-lived assets, including intangibles, as presented herein. Additionally, the minority interest in earnings of Grupo TFM would be eliminated from the pro forma income statement, offset by the costs of any debt financing incurred to finance the purchase and any increases in depreciation or amortization expense relating to the application of purchase accounting.

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the issuance of the Series C Preferred Stock and the validity of the common stock issuable upon conversion of the Series C Preferred Stock and tax matters have been passed upon for us by Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal LLP, Kansas City, Missouri.

EXPERTS

Our consolidated financial statements as of and for the years ended December 31, 2003, 2002 and 2001, incorporated in this prospectus by reference to our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003, have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of KPMG LLP, independent accountants, given and on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting. The audit report of KPMG indicates that KPMG did not audit the financial statements of Grupo TFM, a 46.6% owned investee company, as of December 31, 2003 or for the years ended December 31, 2003 and December 31, 2001. The financial statements of Grupo TFM as of and for the year ended December 31, 2003 and for the year ended December 31, 2001 were audited by other auditors whose reports have been furnished to KPMG, and KPMG's opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for Grupo TFM as of and for the year ended December 31, 2003 and for the year ended December 31, 2001, was based solely on the reports of the other auditors.

The combined and consolidated financial statements of Grupo TFM, as of December 31, 2003 and 2002 and for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2003, which are incorporated in this prospectus by reference to our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003, have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers, S.C., independent accountants, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and current reports and other information with the SEC. You may inspect and copy such material at the public reference facilities maintained by the SEC at 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for more information on the public reference room. You can also find our SEC filings at the SEC's website at www.sec.gov and on our website at www.kcsi.com. Information contained on our website is not part of this prospectus.

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

In addition, our reports and other information concerning us can be inspected at the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005, where our common stock is listed.

The following documents we filed with the SEC pursuant to the Exchange Act are incorporated herein by reference:

- o Our annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003;
- o Our definitive proxy statement filed April 5, 2004 (1)
- o Our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2004 and June 30, 2004;
- o Our current reports on Form 8-K filed on July 28, 2004, August 3, 2004, August 18, 2004, September 17, 2004, September 24, 2004, October 1, 2004, October 7, 2004 (dated October 6, 2004), and Item 8.01 and Exhibit 99.2 of our current report on Form 8-K filed on October 8, 2004.

(1) The information referred to in item 402(a)(8) of Regulation S-K and paragraph (d)(3) of Item 7 of Schedule 14A promulgated by the SEC shall not be deemed to be specifically incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

All documents subsequently filed by us pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act (excluding any information furnished pursuant to Item 9 or Item 12 on any current report on Form 8-K), prior to the termination of the offering, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus and to be a part hereof from the date of the filing of such document. In addition, all documents filed by us pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act (excluding any information furnished pursuant to Item 9 or Item 12 on any current report on Form 8-K) after the date of the initial registration statement and prior to effectiveness of the registration statement shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus and to be a part hereof from the date of the filing of such document. Any statement contained in a document incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for all purposes to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus or in any other subsequently filed document which is also incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference, modifies or supersedes such statement. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus.

We will provide without charge to each person to whom this prospectus is delivered, upon written or oral request of such person, a copy of any or all documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus. Requests for such copies should be directed to Kansas City Southern, P.O. Box 219335, Kansas City, Missouri 64121-9335 (or if by United Parcel Service or some other form of express delivery to 427 West 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64105), Attention: Corporate Secretary's Office, or if by telephone at (816) 983-1538.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus and the document incorporated in this prospectus by reference may contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act and Section 21E of the Exchange Act. In addition, management may make forward-looking statements orally or in other writings, including, but not limited to, in press releases, in the annual report to

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

shareholders and in our other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Readers can identify these forward-looking statements by the use of such verbs as expects, anticipates, believes or similar verbs or conjugations of such verbs. These forward-looking statements include, without limitation, statements regarding: expectations as to operational improvements; expectations as to cost savings, revenue growth and earnings; the time by which certain objectives will be achieved; estimates of costs relating to environmental remediation and restoration; proposed new products and services; expectations that claims, lawsuits, environmental costs, commitments, contingent liabilities, labor negotiations or agreements, or other matters will not have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial condition, results of operations or liquidity; and statements concerning projections, predictions, expectations, estimates or forecasts as to our business, financial and operational results, and future economic performance, statements of management's goals and objectives and other similar expressions concerning matters that are not historical facts. If any of management's assumptions prove incorrect or should unanticipated circumstances arise, our actual results could materially differ from those anticipated by such forward-looking statements. The differences could be caused by a number of factors or combination of factors including, but not limited to, the factors identified below and the factors discussed above under the heading "Risk Factors." Readers are strongly encouraged to consider these factors when evaluating any forward-looking statements concerning us.

- o whether we are fully successful in executing our business strategy, including capitalizing on NAFTA trade to generate traffic and increase revenues, exploiting our domestic opportunities, establishing new and expanding existing strategic alliances and marketing agreements and providing superior customer service;
- o whether we are successful in retaining and attracting qualified management personnel;
- o whether we are able to generate cash that will be sufficient to allow us to pay principal and interest on our debt and meet our obligations and to fund our other liquidity needs;
- o whether we are able to complete the Acquisition;
- o our ability to satisfy our contingent obligation to purchase shares of TFM, owned by the government of Mexico;
- o Material adverse changes in economic and industry conditions, both within the United States and globally;
- o the effects of adverse general economic conditions affecting customer demand and the industries and geographic areas that produce and consume commodities carried;
- o the effect of NAFTA on the level of U.S.-Mexico trade;
- o industry competition, conditions, performance and consolidation;
- o general legislative and regulatory developments, including possible enactment of initiatives to re-regulate the rail industry;
- o legislative, regulatory, or legal developments involving taxation, including enactment of new federal or state income tax rates, revisions of controlling authority, and the outcome of tax claims and litigation;

Edgar Filing: KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN - Form 424B3

- o changes in securities and capital markets;
- o natural events such as severe weather, fire, floods, earthquakes or other disruptions of our operating systems, structures and equipment;
- o any adverse economic or operational repercussions from terrorist activities and any governmental response thereto;
- o war or risk of war;
- o changes in fuel prices;
- o changes in labor costs and labor difficulties, including stoppages affecting either our operations or our customers' abilities to deliver goods to us for shipment; and
- o the outcome of claims and litigation, including those related to environmental contamination, personal o injuries and occupational illnesses arising from hearing loss, repetitive motion and exposure to asbestos and diesel fumes.

We will not update any forward-looking statements to reflect future events or developments. If we do update one or more forward-looking statements, no inference should be drawn that we will make additional updates with respect thereto or with respect to other forward-looking statements.