Anheuser-Busch InBev S.A. Form F-3ASR December 21, 2015 <u>Table of Contents</u>

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on 21 December 2015

**Registration No. 333-**

### **UNITED STATES**

### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

### FORM F-3

### **REGISTRATION STATEMENT**

### **UNDER**

THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

# **ANHEUSER-BUSCH INBEV SA/NV**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Not Applicable

(Translation of registrant s name into English)

### Edgar Filing: Anheuser-Busch InBev S.A. - Form F-3ASR

Belgium (State or Other Jurisdiction of

**Incorporation or Organization**)

Brouwerijplein 1,

Not Applicable (I.R.S. Employer

Identification No.)

3000 Leuven, Belgium

Telephone: +32 16 27 61 11

(Address and Telephone Number of Registrant s Principal Executive Offices)

Augusto Lima

Anheuser-Busch InBev Services, LLC

250 Park Avenue

New York, New York 10177

Telephone: (212) 503-2891

(Name, Address and Telephone Number of Agent for Service)

(FOR CO-REGISTRANTS, PLEASE SEE TABLE OF CO-REGISTRANTS ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE)

Copies to:

George H. White

Sullivan & Cromwell LLP

**1 New Fetter Lane** 

London EC4A 1AN, United Kingdom

Tel. No: +44-20-7959-8900

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

### Edgar Filing: Anheuser-Busch InBev S.A. - Form F-3ASR

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of each Class of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price Per Unit	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price	Amount of Registration Fee
Guaranteed Debt Securities	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Guarantees of Debt Securities	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)

(1) An indeterminate aggregate initial offering price or number of securities of each identified class is being registered as may from time to time be issued at indeterminate prices. In accordance with Rules 456(b) and 457(r) under the Securities Act, the Registrant is deferring payment of the entire registration fee.

(2) Pursuant to Rule 457(n), no separate fee for the Guarantees (as defined below) is payable.

#### TABLE OF CO-REGISTRANTS

Exact Name as Specified in its Charter Anheuser-Busch InBev Finance Inc. *	State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization Delaware, United States	Primary Standard Industrial Classification Number 2082	I.R.S. Employer Identification Number 38-3893771	Address, Including Zip Code and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Principal Executive Offices 250 Park Avenue, New York, New York, U.S.A. 10177 Tel: +1 (212) 573-8800
Anheuser-Busch InBev Worldwide Inc. *	Delaware, United States	2082	90-0427472	One Busch Place, St. Louis, Missouri 63118, U.S.A. Tel: +1 (314) 577-2000
Cobrew NV	Belgium	2082	N/A	Brouwerijplein 1, 3000 Leuven, Belgium Tel: +32 16 27 61 11
Brandbrew S.A.	Luxembourg	2082	N/A	5 Rue Gabriel Lippmann, Münsbach, L-5365, Luxembourg Tel: +352 26 15 96 23
Brandbev S.à r.l.	Luxembourg	2082	N/A	5 Rue Gabriel Lippmann, Münsbach, L-5365, Luxembourg Tel: +352 26 15 96 23
Anheuser-Busch Companies, LLC	Delaware, United States	2082	43-1162835	One Busch Place, St. Louis, Missouri 63118, U.S.A. Tel: +1 (314) 577-2000

\* Anheuser-Busch InBev Finance Inc. and/or Anheuser-Busch InBev Worldwide Inc. will be the issuer of the debt securities offered hereby. The other listed registrants are guarantors of the debt securities. Anheuser-Busch InBev Finance Inc. or Anheuser-Busch InBev Worldwide Inc. may be a guarantor with respect to debt securities for which it is not the issuer.

PROSPECTUS

# Anheuser-Busch InBev Finance Inc. Anheuser-Busch InBev Worldwide Inc.

**Guaranteed Debt Securities** 

Fully and unconditionally guaranteed by

### Anheuser-Busch InBev SA/NV

### Anheuser-Busch InBev Finance Inc.

### Anheuser-Busch InBev Worldwide Inc.

Brandbev S.à r.l.

# Brandbrew S.A.

### Cobrew NV

# Anheuser-Busch Companies, LLC

This prospectus describes some of the general terms that may apply to these securities and the general manner in which they may be offered.

We will give you the specific terms of the securities, and the manner in which they are offered, in supplements to this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and the prospectus supplements carefully before you invest. We may offer and sell these securities to or through one or more underwriters, dealers and agents, or directly to purchasers, on a delayed or continuous basis. We will indicate the names of any underwriters in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Anheuser-Busch InBev Finance Inc. or Anheuser-Busch InBev Worldwide Inc. may use this prospectus to offer from time to time guaranteed debt securities.

This prospectus may not be used to sell securities unless it is accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

We have not applied to list the debt securities on any securities exchange. However, we may apply to list any particular issue of debt securities on a securities exchange. If we choose to do so, we would disclose the listing of such debt securities in the applicable prospectus supplement. We are under no obligation to list any issued debt securities and may in fact not list any.

### Investing in our securities involves certain risks. See <u>Risk Factors</u> beginning on page 2.

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

The date of this prospectus is 21 December 2015.

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#### ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

In this prospectus, references to:

we, us and our are, as the context requires, to Anheuser-Busch InBev SA/NV or Anheuser-Busch InBev SA/NV and the group of companies owned and/or controlled by Anheuser-Busch InBev SA/NV;

Parent Guarantor are to Anheuser-Busch InBev SA/NV;

Issuers are to Anheuser-Busch InBev Finance Inc. and Anheuser-Busch InBev Worldwide Inc. and either may be referred to as an Issuer ;

Guarantors are to the Parent Guarantor and Subsidiary Guarantors;

Subsidiary Guarantors are to one or more of Anheuser-Busch Companies, LLC, Brandbev S.à r.l., Brandbrew S.A., Cobrew NV, Anheuser-Busch InBev Worldwide Inc. (in respect of debt securities for which it is not the Issuer) and Anheuser-Busch InBev Finance Inc. (in respect of debt securities for which it is not the Issuer), which are providing additional guarantees of a particular series of debt securities, as indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement; and

AB InBev Group are to Anheuser-Busch InBev SA/NV and the group of companies owned and/or controlled by Anheuser-Busch InBev SA/NV.

Anheuser-Busch InBev Finance Inc. or Anheuser-Busch InBev Worldwide Inc. will be the issuer in an offering of debt securities. Anheuser-Busch InBev SA/NV will be the guarantor in an offering of debt securities of Anheuser-Busch InBev Finance Inc. or Anheuser-Busch InBev Worldwide Inc., which are referred to as guaranteed debt securities. The guaranteed debt securities may also be guaranteed by one or more of Anheuser-Busch Companies, LLC, Brandbev S.à r.l., Brandbrew S.A., Cobrew NV, Anheuser-Busch InBev Worldwide Inc. (in respect of debt securities for which it is not the Issuer) and Anheuser-Busch InBev Finance Inc. (in respect of debt securities for which it is not the Issuer) as indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement. We refer to the guaranteed debt securities issued by Anheuser-Busch InBev Finance Inc. or Anheuser-Busch InBev Worldwide Inc. collectively as the debt securities or as the securities.

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the **SEC**), using a shelf registration process. Under this shelf process, the securities described by this prospectus may be sold in one or more offerings. Each time we offer securities under the registration statement, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. Before you invest in any securities offered under this prospectus, you should read this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement together with the additional information described under the headings Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference and Where You Can Find More Information.

#### **RISK FACTORS**

Investing in the securities offered using this prospectus involves risk. We urge you to carefully review the risks described below, together with the risks described in the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus and any risk factors included in the prospectus supplement, before you decide to buy our securities. If any of these risks actually occur, our business, financial condition and results of operations could suffer, and the trading price and liquidity of the securities offered using this prospectus could decline, in which case you may lose all or part of your investment.

#### **Risks Relating to Our Business**

You should read Risk Factors in our Annual Report on Form 20-F for the fiscal year ended 31 December 2014 (the **Annual Report**), which is incorporated by reference in this prospectus, or similar sections in subsequent filings incorporated by reference in this prospectus (including in our Report on Form 6-K filed with the SEC on 21 December 2015), for information on risks relating to our business.

#### **Risks Relating to the Debt Securities**

Since Anheuser-Busch InBev Finance Inc. is a finance subsidiary and Anheuser-Busch InBev Worldwide Inc. and the Parent Guarantor are holding companies that conduct their operations through subsidiaries, your right to receive payments on the debt securities and the Guarantees is subordinated to the other liabilities of the subsidiaries of the Parent Guarantor which are not Subsidiary Guarantors.

Anheuser-Busch InBev Finance Inc. is a finance subsidiary, and its principal source of income will consist of payments on intra-group receivables from the Parent Guarantor. Anheuser-Busch InBev Worldwide Inc. and the Parent Guarantor are organized as holding companies, and substantially all of their operations are carried on through their subsidiaries. The principal sources of income of Anheuser-Busch InBev Worldwide Inc. and the Parent Guarantor are the dividends and distributions they receive from their subsidiaries. On an unconsolidated basis, the Parent Guarantor had guaranteed a total of USD 50.4 billion of debt as of 30 June 2015.

The ability of Anheuser-Busch InBev Worldwide Inc. and the Parent Guarantor to meet their financial obligations is dependent upon the availability of cash flows from their domestic and foreign subsidiaries and affiliated companies through dividends, intercompany advances, management fees and other payments. The subsidiaries and affiliated companies of Anheuser-Busch InBev Worldwide Inc. and the Parent Guarantor are not required and may not be able to pay dividends to Anheuser-Busch InBev Worldwide Inc. or the Parent Guarantor. Only certain subsidiaries of the Parent Guarantor may be guarantors of the debt securities. To the extent specified in the applicable prospectus supplement for a particular series of debt securities of that series will only benefit from the guarantees of the Subsidiary Guarantors. Claims of the creditors of the Issuers or the Parent Guarantor. Consequently, holders will be structurally subordinated, on an Issuer s or the Parent Guarantor s insolvency, to the prior claims of the creditors of the Parent Guarantors.

# The Guarantees to be provided by the Parent Guarantor and any of the Subsidiary Guarantors will be subject to certain limitations that may affect the validity or enforceability of the Guarantees.

Enforcement of each Guarantee will be subject to certain generally available defenses. Local laws and defenses may vary, and may include those that relate to corporate benefit (*ultra vires*), fraudulent conveyance or transfer (*actio pauliana*), voidable preference, financial assistance, corporate purpose, subordination and capital maintenance or similar laws and concepts. They may also include regulations or defenses which affect the rights of creditors generally.

In particular, Article 629 of the Belgian Company Code provides that a company may not advance funds, grant loans or grant security with a view to the acquisition of its shares, save in limited circumstances not

applicable to the debt securities and the Guarantees described herein. A guarantee granted in violation of this rule may be declared null and void. While it may be possible to argue that the Guarantee granted by the Parent Guarantor may constitute unlawful financial assistance for purposes of article 629 of the Belgian Company Code in view of the envisaged merger of the Parent Guarantor into Newco, a newly-formed Belgian SA/NV, in connection with the combination with SABMiller plc (**SABMiller**), the Parent Guarantor has been advised by its Belgian counsel that the Guarantee granted by the Parent Guarantor should not constitute unlawful financial assistance because (i) the merger between the Parent Guarantor and Newco is entered into for reasons unrelated to financial assistance and (ii) mergers are not mentioned in article 629 of the Belgian Company Code and should therefore not be covered by the restrictions set out in that article. In the absence of case law, however, the position under Belgian law remains somewhat uncertain.

If a court were to find a Guarantee given by a Guarantor, or a portion thereof, void or unenforceable as a result of such local laws or defenses, or to the extent that agreed limitations on Guarantees apply (see Description of Debt Securities and Guarantees Guarantee Limitations ), Holders would cease to have any claim in respect of that Guarantor and would be creditors solely of the relevant Issuer and any remaining Guarantors and, if payment had already been made under the relevant Guarantee, the court could require that the recipient return the payment to the relevant Guarantor.

#### Any Guarantee to be provided by Brandbrew S.A. or Brandbev S.à r.l. is subject to certain limitations pursuant to Luxembourg law.

Pursuant to restrictions imposed by Luxembourg law, for the purposes of any Guarantees to be provided by Brandbrew S.A. or Brandbev S.à r.l. (each, a **Luxembourg Guarantor**), the maximum aggregate liability of such Luxembourg Guarantor under its Guarantee (including any actual or contingent liabilities as a guarantor of the Other Guaranteed Facilities (as defined below)) shall not exceed an amount equal to the aggregate of (without double counting): (A) the aggregate amount of all moneys received by such Luxembourg Guarantor and its subsidiaries as a borrower or issuer under the Other Guaranteed Facilities; (B) the aggregate amount of all outstanding intercompany loans made to such Luxembourg Guarantor and its Subsidiaries by other members of the AB InBev Group which have been directly or indirectly funded using the proceeds of borrowings under the debt securities issued under each indenture (as defined below) and the Other Guaranteed Facilities; and (C) an amount equal to 100% of the greater of the sum of such Luxembourg Guarantor s own capital (*capitaux propres*) and its subordinated debt (*dettes subordonnées*) (both as referred to in the Law of 2002) (I) as reflected in such Luxembourg Guarantor s then most recent annual accounts approved by the competent organ of such Luxembourg Guarantor (as audited by its statutory auditor (*réviseur d entreprises agréé*), if required by law) at the date of enforcement of such Luxembourg Guarantor s Guarantee; and (II) as reflected in its most recent annual accounts available as of the dates of the applicable indenture.

In addition, the obligations and liabilities of Brandbrew S.A. under its Guarantee and under any of the Other Guaranteed Facilities shall not include any obligation which, if incurred, would constitute a breach of the provisions on unlawful financial assistance as contained in article 49-6 of the Luxembourg Law on Commercial Companies dated 10 August 1915, as amended, to the extent such or an equivalent provision is applicable to Brandbrew S.A.

For further details on such the limitations, see Description of Debt Securities and Guarantees Guarantee Limitations.

Brandbrew S.A. and Brandbev S.à r.l., the Subsidiary Guarantors whose Guarantees are subject to limitations, accounted in aggregate for less than 0.5% of the total consolidated EBITDA, as defined, of AB InBev Group for the six month period ended 30 June 2015 and approximately 2.6% of the total consolidated debt of AB InBev Group as of 30 June 2015.

#### Any Guarantees to be provided by the Subsidiary Guarantors (but not the Parent Guarantor) may be released in certain circumstances.

Each of the Subsidiary Guarantors may terminate its Guarantee at substantially the same time that (i) the relevant Subsidiary Guarantor is released from its guarantee of both the 2010 Senior Facility Agreement (as defined in the Annual Report under the heading Item 5. Operating and Financial Review G. Liquidity and Capital Resources and as it may be amended from time to time) and the 2015 Senior Facilities Agreement (as defined below) or is no longer a guarantor under either facility and (ii) the aggregate amount of indebtedness for borrowed money for which the relevant Subsidiary Guarantor is an obligor (as a guarantor or borrower) does not exceed 10% of the consolidated gross assets of the Parent Guarantor as reflected in the balance sheet included in its most recent publicly released interim or annual consolidated financial statements. In addition, each Subsidiary Guarantor whose Guarantee is subject to the limitations described below under Description of Debt Securities and Guarantees Guarantee Limitations may terminate its Guarantee in the event that under the rules, regulations or interpretations of the SEC such Subsidiary Guarantor determines that it would be required to include its financial statements in any registration statement filed with the SEC with respect to any series of debt securities or guarantees issued under each indenture or in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the SEC (by reason of such limitations or otherwise). For more information see Description of Debt Securities and Guarantees.

In relation to any of our future periodic or other filings with the SEC, the rules and regulations of the SEC require that the Guarantees be full and unconditional obligations of each of the Subsidiary Guarantors; otherwise, in connection with such filing, separate financial statements of the Subsidiary Guarantors would be required to be filed as well. As discussed below under Description of Debt Securities and Guarantees Guarantee Limitations, any Guarantee that is subject to limitations may be terminated or amended or modified in order to ensure compliance with the SEC s rules and regulations and to ensure that separate financial statements of such Subsidiary Guarantor need not be provided. It may not be possible to amend the limitations on the Guarantees in a manner that would meet the SEC s requirements for full and unconditional guarantees and be consistent with local law requirements for guarantees. For more information see Description of Debt Securities and Guarantees Guarantees.

If the Guarantees by the Subsidiary Guarantors are released, the Issuers and the Parent Guarantor are not required to replace them, and the debt securities will have the benefit of fewer or no Subsidiary guarantees for the remaining maturity of the debt securities.

#### Since the debt securities are unsecured, your right to receive payments may be adversely affected.

The debt securities that the Issuers are offering will be unsecured. The debt securities issued by an Issuer will not be subordinated to any of such Issuer s other debt obligations, and therefore, they will rank equally with all its other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness. If an Issuer defaults on the debt securities or the Guarantors default on the Guarantees, or after bankruptcy, examinership, liquidation or reorganization, then, to the extent that such Issuer or the Guarantors have granted security over their assets, the assets that secure their debts will be used to satisfy the obligations under that secured debt before such Issuer or the Guarantors can make payment on the debt securities or the Guarantees. There may only be limited assets available to make payments on the debt securities or the Guarantees in the event of an acceleration of the debt securities. If there is not enough collateral to satisfy the obligations of the secured debt, then the remaining amounts on the secured debt would share equally with all unsubordinated unsecured indebtedness.

#### Your rights as a holder may be inferior to the rights of holders of debt securities issued under a different series pursuant to each indenture.

The debt securities are governed by indentures, which are described below under the heading Description of Debt Securities and Guarantees . The Issuers may issue as many distinct series of debt securities under each indenture (or other indentures entered into from time to time) as they wish. The Issuers may also issue series of notes under each

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indenture that provide holders of those notes with rights superior to the rights already granted or that may be granted in the future to holders of another series. You should read carefully the specific terms of any particular series of debt securities we may offer contained in the prospectus supplement relating to such debt securities.

### Should the Guarantors default on their Guarantees, your right to receive payments on the Guarantees may be adversely affected by the insolvency laws of the jurisdiction of organization of the defaulting Guarantors.

The Parent Guarantor and Subsidiary Guarantors are organized under the laws of various jurisdictions, and it is likely that any insolvency proceedings applicable to a Guarantor would be governed by the law of its jurisdiction of organization. The insolvency laws of the various jurisdictions of organization of the Guarantors may vary as to treatment of unsecured creditors and may contain prohibitions on the Guarantors ability to pay any debts existing at the time of the insolvency.

### Since the Parent Guarantor and Cobrew NV are Belgian companies, Belgian insolvency laws may adversely affect a recovery by the Holders of amounts payable under the debt securities.

There are two main types of insolvency procedures under Belgian law: (i) the judicial restructuring (*réorganisation judiciaire/gerechtelijke reorganisatie*) procedure and (ii) the bankruptcy (*faillite/faillissement*) procedure, each of which is described below. A third type of restructuring proceeding exists (liquidation in deficit), which will not be further discussed.

#### Judicial restructuring

A proceeding for a judicial restructuring may be commenced if the continuation of the debtor s business is, either immediately or in the future, at risk. The continuation of the debtor s business is, in any event, deemed to be at risk if, as a result of losses, the debtor s net assets have declined to less than 50% of its stated capital.

A request for a judicial restructuring is filed on the initiative of the debtor by a petition or in limited circumstances, by a third party, by summons. The court can consider a preliminary suspension of payments during an initial period of six months, which can be extended by up to a maximum period of six months at the request of the company. In exceptional circumstances and to the extent the interests of the creditors allow the same, there may be an additional extension of six months. In principle, during the initial suspension period, the debtor cannot be dissolved or declared bankrupt. However, the initial suspension period can be terminated if it becomes manifestly clear that the debtor will not be able to continue its business. Following early termination of the initial suspension period, the debtor can be dissolved or declared bankrupt. As a rule, creditors cannot enforce their rights against the debtor s assets during the period of the preliminary suspension of payments, except in limited circumstances, including but not limited to the following: (i) failure by the debtor to pay interest or charges falling due in the course of the initial suspension period, (ii) failure by the debtor to pay any new debts (e.g., debts which have arisen after the date of the preliminary suspension of payments) or (iii) enforcement by a creditor of security (or certain netting arrangements and relating accelerated termination arrangements) pursuant to the Belgian Act of 15 December 2004 on financial collateral, subject to certain exceptions (e.g. a pledge over cash (save in the case of a payment default or if certain other conditions are met)).

During the initial suspension period, the debtor must draw up a restructuring plan which must be approved by a majority of its creditors who were present at a meeting of creditors and whose aggregate claims represent over half of all outstanding claims of the debtor. The restructuring plan must have a maximum duration of five years. The plan may include measures such as the reduction or rescheduling of liabilities and interest obligations and the swap of debt into equity. The plan may be based on a differentiated treatment of the various creditors. This plan will be approved by the court provided the plan does not violate the formalities required by the judicial restructuring legislation nor public policy. The plan will be binding on all creditors listed in the plan. Enforcement rights of creditors secured by certain types of *in rem* rights are not bound by the plan. Such creditors may, as a result, enforce their security from the beginning of the final suspension period. Under certain conditions, and subject to certain exceptions, enforcement by such creditors can be suspended for up to

24 months (as from the filing of the request for a judicial restructuring with the relevant court). Under further conditions, this period of 24 months may be extended by a further 12 months.

Any provision providing that an agreement would be terminated as the result of a debtor entering a judicial restructuring is ineffective, subject to the limited exceptions set forth in the Belgian Act of 15 December 2004 on financial collateral.

The above essentially describes the so-called judicial restructuring by collective agreement of the creditors. The judicial restructuring legislation also provides for alternative judicial restructuring procedures, including (i) by amicable settlement between the debtor and two or more of its creditors and (ii) by court-ordered transfer of part or all of the debtor s business.

#### Bankruptcy

A company which, on a sustained basis, has ceased to make payments and whose credit is impaired will be deemed to be in a state of bankruptcy. Within one month after the cessation of payments, the company must file for bankruptcy. If the company is late in filing for bankruptcy, its directors could be held liable for damages to creditors as a result thereof. Bankruptcy procedures may also be initiated on the request of unpaid creditors or on the initiative of the public prosecutor.

Once the court decides that the requirements for bankruptcy are met, the court will establish a date before which claims for all unpaid debts must be filed by creditors. A bankruptcy trustee will be appointed to assume the operation of the business and to organize a sale of the debtor s assets, the distribution of the proceeds thereof to creditors and the liquidation of the debtor.

Payments or other transactions (as listed below) made by a company during a certain period of time prior to that company being declared bankrupt (the suspect period ) (période suspecte/verdachte periode) can be voided for the benefit of the creditors. The court will determine the date of commencement and the duration of the suspect period. This period starts on the date of sustained cessation of payment of debts by the debtor. The court can only determine the date of sustained cessation of payment of debts if it has been requested to do so by a creditor proceeding for a bankruptcy judgment or if proceedings are initiated to that effect by the bankruptcy trustee or by any other interested party. This date cannot be earlier than six months before the date of the bankruptcy judgment, unless a decision to dissolve the company was made more than six months before the date of the bankruptcy judgment, in which case the date could be the date of such decision to dissolve the company. The ruling determining the date of commencement of the suspect period or the bankruptcy judgment itself can be opposed by third parties, such as other creditors, within 15 days following the publication of that ruling in the Belgian Official Gazette. The transactions which can or must be voided under the bankruptcy rules for the benefit of the bankrupt estate include (i) any transaction entered into by a Belgian company during the suspect period if the value given to creditors significantly exceeded the value the company received in consideration, (ii) any transaction entered into by a company which has stopped making payments if the counterparty to the transaction was aware of the suspension of payments, (iii) security interests granted during the suspect period if they intend to secure a debt which existed prior to the date on which the security interest was granted, (iv) any payments (in whatever form, i.e. money or in kind or by way of set-off) made during the suspect period of any debt which was not yet due, as well as all payments made during the suspect period other than with money or monetary instruments (i.e. checks, promissory notes, etc.) and (v) any transaction or payment effected with fraudulent intent irrespective of its date.

Following a judgment commencing a bankruptcy proceeding, enforcement rights of individual creditors are suspended (subject to certain exceptions, including but not limited to the exceptions set forth in the Belgian Act of 15 December 2004 on financial collateral). Creditors secured by *in rem* rights, such as share pledges, will regain their ability to enforce their rights under the security after the bankruptcy trustee has verified the creditors claims.

The above applies to both the Parent Guarantor and to Cobrew NV.

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# The debt securities lack a developed trading market, and such a market may never develop. The trading price for the debt securities may be adversely affected by credit market conditions.

Unless specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the Issuers do not intend to list the debt securities on any securities exchange. There can be no assurance that an active trading market will develop for the debt securities, nor any assurance regarding the ability of holders to sell their debt securities or the price at which such holders may be able to sell their debt securities, even if we were to list a particular issue of debt securities on a securities exchange. If a trading market were to develop, the debt securities could trade at prices that may be higher or lower than the initial offering price depending on many factors, including, among other things, prevailing interest rates, the relevant Issuer s or the Parent Guarantor s financial results, any decline in the relevant Issuer s or the Parent Guarantor s creditworthiness and the market for similar securities. The trading market for the debt securities will be affected by general credit market conditions, which in recent periods have been marked by significant volatility and price reductions, including for debt issued by investment-grade companies.

Any underwriters, broker-dealers or agents that participate in the distribution of the debt securities may make a market in the debt securities as permitted by applicable laws and regulations but will have no obligation to do so, and any such market-making activities may be discontinued at any time. Therefore, there can be no assurance as to the liquidity of any trading market for the debt securities or that an active public market for the debt securities will develop. See Plan of Distribution .

# As a foreign private issuer in the United States, we are exempt from a number of rules under the U.S. securities laws and are permitted to file less information with the SEC.

As a foreign private issuer, we are exempt from certain rules under the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the **Exchange Act**), that impose certain disclosure obligations and procedural requirements for proxy solicitations under Section 14 of the Exchange Act. In addition, our officers, directors and principal shareholders are exempt from the reporting and short-swing profit recovery provisions under Section 16 of the Exchange Act. Moreover, we are not required to file periodic reports and financial statements with the SEC as frequently or as promptly as U.S. companies whose securities are registered under the Exchange Act. Accordingly, there may be less publicly available information concerning us than there is for U.S. public companies.

#### Risks Relating to Debt Securities Denominated or Payable in or Linked to a Non-U.S. Dollar Currency

If you intend to invest in non-U.S. dollar debt securities e.g., debt securities whose principal and/or interest are payable in a currency other than U.S. dollars or that may be settled by delivery of or reference to a non-U.S. dollar currency or property denominated in or otherwise linked to a non-U.S. dollar currency you should consult your own financial and legal advisors as to the currency risks entailed by your investment. Securities of this kind may not be an appropriate investment for investors who are unsophisticated with respect to non-U.S. dollar currency transactions.

The information in this prospectus is directed primarily to investors who are U.S. residents. Investors who are not U.S. residents should consult their own financial and legal advisors about currency-related risks particular to their investment.

#### An investment in non-U.S. dollar debt securities involves currency-related risks.

An investment in non-U.S. dollar debt securities entails significant risks that are not associated with a similar investment in debt securities that are payable solely in U.S. dollars and where settlement value is not otherwise based on a non-U.S. dollar currency. These risks include the possibility of significant changes in rates of exchange between the U.S. dollar and the various non-U.S. dollar currencies or composite currencies and the possibility of the imposition or modification of foreign exchange controls or other conditions by either the United States or non-U.S.

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governments. These risks generally depend on factors over which we have no control, such as economic and political events and the supply of and demand for the relevant currencies in the global markets.

#### Changes in currency exchange rates can be volatile and unpredictable

Rates of exchange between the U.S. dollar and many other currencies have been highly volatile, and this volatility may continue and perhaps spread to other currencies in the future. Fluctuations in currency exchange rates could adversely affect an investment in debt securities denominated in, or whose value is otherwise linked to, a specified currency other than U.S. dollars. Depreciation of the specified currency against the U.S. dollar could result in a decrease in the U.S. dollar-equivalent value of payments on the debt securities, including the principal payable at maturity or settlement value payable upon exercise. That in turn could cause the market value of the debt securities to fall. Depreciation of the specified currency against the U.S. dollar could result in a loss to the investor on a U.S. dollar basis.

#### Government policy can adversely affect currency exchange rates and an investment in non-U.S. dollar debt securities.

Currency exchange rates can either float or be fixed by sovereign governments. From time to time, governments use a variety of techniques, such as intervention by a country's central bank or imposition of regulatory controls or taxes, to affect the exchange rate of their currencies. Governments may also issue a new currency to replace an existing currency or alter the exchange rate or exchange characteristics by devaluation or revaluation of a currency. Thus, a special risk in purchasing non-U.S. dollar debt securities is that their yields or payouts could be significantly and unpredictably affected by governmental actions. Even in the absence of governmental action directly affecting currency exchange rates, political or economic developments in the country issuing the specified currency for non-U.S. dollar debt securities or elsewhere could lead to significant and sudden changes in the exchange rate between the U.S. dollar and the specified currency. These changes could affect the value of the debt securities as participants in the global currency markets move to buy or sell the specified currency or U.S. dollars in reaction to these developments.

Governments have imposed from time to time and may in the future impose exchange controls or other conditions, including taxes, with respect to the exchange or transfer of a specified currency that could affect exchange rates as well as the availability of a specified currency for a debt security at its maturity or on any other payment date. In addition, the ability of a holder to move currency freely out of the country in which payment in the currency is received or to convert the currency at a freely determined market rate could be limited by governmental actions.

# Non-U.S. dollar debt securities may permit us to make payments in U.S. dollars or delay payment if we are unable to obtain the specified currency.

Debt securities payable in a currency other than U.S. dollars may provide that, if the other currency is subject to convertibility, transferability, market disruption or other conditions affecting its availability at or about the time when a payment on the debt securities comes due because of circumstances beyond our control, we will be entitled to make the payment in U.S. dollars or delay making the payment. These circumstances could include the imposition of exchange controls or our inability to obtain the other currency because of a disruption in the currency markets. If we made payment in U.S. dollars, the exchange rate we would use would be determined in the manner described under Description of Debt Securities and Guarantees . A determination of this kind may be based on limited information and would involve significant discretion on the part of our foreign exchange agent. As a result, the value of the payment in U.S. dollars an investor would receive on the payment date may be less than the value of the payment the investor would have received in the other currency if it had been available, or may be zero. In addition, a government may impose extraordinary taxes on transfers of a currency. If that happens, we will be entitled to deduct these taxes from any payment on debt securities payable in that currency.

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#### We will not adjust non-U.S. dollar debt securities to compensate for changes in currency exchange rates.

Except as described above, we will not make any adjustment or change in the terms of non-U.S. dollar debt securities in the event of any change in exchange rates for the relevant currency, whether in the event of any devaluation, revaluation or imposition of exchange or other regulatory controls or taxes or in the event of other developments affecting that currency, the U.S. dollar or any other currency. Consequently investors in non-U.S. dollar debt securities will bear the risk that their investment may be adversely affected by these types of events.

#### In a lawsuit for payment on non-U.S. dollar debt securities, an investor may bear currency exchange risk.

Our debt securities will be governed by New York law. Under Section 27 of the New York Judiciary Law, a state court in the State of New York rendering a judgment on a security denominated in a currency other than U.S. dollars would be required to render the judgment in the specified currency; however, the judgment would be converted into U.S. dollars at the exchange rate prevailing on the date of entry of the judgment. Consequently, in a lawsuit for payment on a debt security denominated in a currency other than U.S. dollars, investors would bear currency exchange risk until judgment is entered, which could be a long time.

In courts outside New York, investors may not be able to obtain judgment in a specified currency other than U.S. dollars. For example, a judgment for money in an action based on a non-U.S. dollar debt security in many other U.S. federal or state courts ordinarily would be enforced in the United States only in U.S. dollars. The date used to determine the rate of conversion of the currency in which any particular security is denominated into U.S. dollars will depend upon various factors, including which court renders the judgment.

#### Information about exchange rates may not be indicative of future exchange rates.

If we issue non-U.S. dollar securities, we may include in the applicable prospectus supplement a currency supplement that provides information about historical exchange rates for the relevant non-U.S. dollar currency or currencies. Any information about exchange rates that we may provide will be furnished as a matter of information only, and you should not regard the information as indicative of the range of, or trends in, fluctuations in currency exchange rates that may occur in the future. That rate will likely differ from the exchange rate used under the terms that apply to a particular security.

#### Determinations made by the exchange rate agent.

All determinations made by the exchange rate agent will be made in its sole discretion (except to the extent expressly provided in this prospectus or in the applicable prospectus supplement that any determination is subject to approval by us). In the absence of manifest error, its determinations will be conclusive for all purposes and will bind all holders and us. The exchange rate agent will not have any liability for its determinations.

# Additional risks, if any, specific to particular debt securities issued under this prospectus will be detailed in the applicable prospectus supplements.

#### FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus, including documents that are filed with the SEC and incorporated by reference herein, and the related prospectus supplement, may contain statements that include the words or phrases *will likely result*, *are expected to*, *will continue*, *is anticipated*, *anticipate*, *estimate*, *project*, *may*, *might*, *could*, *believe*, *expect*, *plan*, *potential* or similar expressions that are forward-looking statements. These statements ubject to certain risks and uncertainties. Actual results may differ materially from those suggested by these statements due to, among others, the risks or uncertainties listed below. *See also* Risk Factors for further discussion of risks and uncertainties that could impact our business.

These forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance. Rather, they are based on current views and assumptions and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, many of which are outside our control and are difficult to predict, that may cause actual results or developments to differ materially from any future results or developments expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements include, among others:

local, regional, national and international economic conditions, including the risks of a global recession or a recession in one or more of our key markets, and the impact they may have on us and our customers and our assessment of that impact;

financial risks, such as interest rate risk, foreign exchange rate risk (in particular as against the U.S. dollar, our reporting currency), commodity risk, asset price risk, equity market risk, counterparty risk, sovereign risk, liquidity risk, inflation or deflation;

continued geopolitical instability, which may result in, among other things, economic and political sanctions and currency exchange rate volatility, and which may have a substantial impact on the economies of one or more of our key markets;

changes in government policies and currency controls;

tax consequences of restructuring and our ability to optimize our tax rate;

continued availability of financing and our ability to achieve our targeted coverage and debt levels and terms, including the risk of constraints on financing in the event of a credit rating downgrade;

the monetary and interest rate policies of central banks, in particular the European Central Bank, the Board of Governors of the U.S. Federal Reserve System, the Bank of England, the Central Bank of China, *Banco Central do Brasil* and the *Banco Central de la República Argentina*;

changes in applicable laws, regulations and taxes in jurisdictions in which we operate, including the laws and regulations governing our operations and changes to tax benefit programs, as well as actions or decisions of courts and regulators;

limitations on our ability to contain costs and expenses;

our expectations with respect to expansion plans, premium growth, accretion to reported earnings, working capital improvements and investment income or cash flow projections;

our ability to continue to introduce competitive new products and services on a timely, cost-effective basis;

the effects of competition and consolidation in the markets in which we operate, which may be influenced by regulation, deregulation or enforcement policies;

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changes in consumer spending;

changes in pricing environments;

volatility in the prices of raw materials, commodities and energy;

difficulties in maintaining relationships with employees;

regional or general changes in asset valuations;

greater than expected costs (including taxes) and expenses;

the risk of unexpected consequences resulting from acquisitions, including the combination with Grupo Modelo, joint ventures, strategic alliances, corporate reorganizations or divestiture plans, and our ability to successfully and cost-effectively implement these transactions and integrate the operations of businesses or other assets that we acquired, and the extraction of synergies from the Grupo Modelo combination;

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the outcome of pending and future litigation, investigations and governmental proceedings;

natural and other disasters;

any inability to economically hedge certain risks;

inadequate impairment provisions and loss reserves;

technological changes and threats to cybersecurity;

other statements included in this prospectus or the documents incorporated by reference herein that are not historical; and

our success in managing the risks involved in the foregoing.

This prospectus, including documents that are filed with the SEC and incorporated by reference herein, includes statements relating to our proposed combination with SABMiller and related transactions (collectively, the **Transaction**), including the expected effects of the combination on us and/or SABMiller and the expected timing of the combination. These forward-looking statements may include statements relating to: the expected characteristics of the combined company; expected ownership of the combined company by our shareholders and SABMiller shareholders; expected customer reach of the combined company; the expected benefits of the proposed transaction; and the financing of the proposed combination.

All statements regarding the combination other than statements of historical facts are forward-looking statements. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which reflect the current views of our management, are subject to numerous risks and uncertainties about us and SABMiller and are dependent on many factors, some of which are outside of our control. There are important factors, risks and uncertainties that could cause actual outcomes and results to be materially different, including the satisfaction of the pre-conditions and the conditions to the Transaction; the ability to realize the anticipated benefits and synergies of the acquisition of SABMiller, including as a result of a delay in completing the acquisition or difficulty in integrating the businesses of the companies involved; the ability to obtain the regulatory approvals related to the Transaction, the ability to satisfy any conditions required to obtain such approvals and the impact of any conditions imposed by various regulatory authorities on AB InBev, Newco and SABMiller; the potential costs associated with the complex cross-border structure of the Transaction; the financial and operational risks in refinancing the Transaction and due to AB InBev s increased level of debt; any change of control or restriction on merger provisions in agreements to which AB InBev or SABMiller is a party that might be triggered by the Transaction; the impact of foreign exchange rates; the performance of the global economy; the capacity for growth in beer, alcoholic beverage markets and non-alcoholic beverage markets; the consolidation and convergence of the industry, its suppliers and its customers; the effect of changes in governmental regulations; disruption from the Transaction making it more difficult to maintain relationships with customers, employees, suppliers, associates or joint venture partners as well as governments in the territories in which the SABMiller group and the AB InBev Group operate; the impact of any potential impairments of goodwill or other intangible assets on the financial condition and results of operations of the combined group; the impact that the size of the combined group, contractual limitations it is subject to and its position in the markets in which it operates may have on its ability to successfully carry out further acquisitions and business integrations and the success of AB InBev and/or Newco in managing the risks involved in the foregoing.

Our statements regarding financial risks, including interest rate risk, foreign exchange rate risk, commodity risk, asset price risk, equity market risk, counterparty risk, sovereign risk, inflation and deflation, are subject to uncertainty. For example, certain market and financial risk disclosures are dependent on choices about key model characteristics and assumptions and are subject to various limitations. By their nature, certain of the market or financial risk disclosures are only estimates and, as a result, actual future gains and losses could differ materially from those that have been estimated.

We caution that the forward-looking statements in this prospectus are further qualified by the risks described above in Risk Factors, elsewhere in this prospectus, in documents incorporated herein by reference

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or in the 2014 Annual Report on Form 20-F incorporated by reference herein, that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements. Subject to our obligations under Belgian and U.S. law in relation to disclosure and ongoing information, we undertake no obligation to update publicly or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

#### INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information we file with them, which means we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The most recent information that we file with the SEC automatically updates and supersedes earlier information.

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form F-3 relating to the securities covered by this prospectus. This prospectus is a part of the registration statement and does not contain all the information in the registration statement. Whenever a reference is made in this prospectus to a contract or other document of the company, the reference is only a summary and you should refer to the exhibits that are a part of the registration statement for a copy of the contract or other document. You may review a copy of the registration statement at the SEC s public reference room in Washington, D.C., as well as through the SEC s internet site, as discussed below.

We filed our Annual Report on Form 20-F for the fiscal year ended 31 December 2014 (the **Annual Report**) with the SEC on 24 March 2015. We are incorporating the Annual Report by reference into this prospectus. We are also incorporating by reference into this prospectus the Forms 6-K we filed with the SEC on each of the following dates:

29 April 2015, relating to dividend payments and changes to the board of directors of the Parent Guarantor;

6 May 2015, relating to a capital increase and changes to the articles of association of the Parent Guarantor;

6 May 2015, containing our unaudited interim report for the three-month period ended 31 March 2015;