

Horizon Technology Finance Corp  
Form POS 8C  
April 19, 2012

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 19, 2012

Securities Act Registration No. 333-178516

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20549

## Form N-2

REGISTRATION STATEMENT

UNDER

THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

Pre-Effective Amendment No.

Post-Effective Amendment No. 3

## Horizon Technology Finance Corporation

*(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)*

312 Farmington Avenue

Farmington, Connecticut 06032

*(Address of Principal Executive Offices)*

(860) 676-8654

*(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)*

Robert D. Pomeroy, Jr.

Chief Executive Officer

Horizon Technology Finance Corporation

312 Farmington Avenue

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Farmington, Connecticut 06032

*(Name and Address of Agent for Service)*

*Copies to:*

**Stephen C. Mahon, Esq.**

**Toby D. Merchant, Esq.**

**Squire Sanders (US) LLP**

**221 East Fourth Street, Suite 2900**

**Cincinnati, Ohio 45202**

**(513) 361-1200**

**(513) 361-1201 Facsimile**

**APPROXIMATE DATE OF PROPOSED PUBLIC OFFERING:**

**From time to time after the effective date of this Registration Statement.**

If any securities being registered on this form will be offered on a delayed or continuous basis in reliance on Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered in connection with a dividend reinvestment plan, check the following box.

It is proposed that this filing will become effective (check the appropriate box)

When declared effective pursuant to section 8(c)

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

**The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.**

**Subject to completion, dated April 19, 2012**

**\$250,000,000**

## **Horizon Technology Finance Corporation**

**Common Stock**

**Preferred Stock**

**Subscription Rights**

**Debt Securities**

**Warrants**

**and**

**1,322,669 Shares of Common Stock Offered by the Selling Stockholders**

We are a non-diversified closed-end management investment company that has elected to be regulated as a business development company ( "BDC" ) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "1940 Act" ). We are externally managed by Horizon Technology Finance Management LLC, a registered investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (the "Advisers Act" ). Our investment objective is to maximize our investment portfolio's return by generating current income from the loans we make and capital appreciation from the warrants we receive when making such loans. We make secured loans to development-stage companies in the technology, life science, healthcare information and services and cleantech industries.

We may offer, from time to time, in one or more offerings or series, together or separately, up to \$250,000,000 of our common stock, preferred stock, subscription rights, debt securities or warrants representing rights to purchase shares of our common stock, preferred stock or debt securities which we refer to, collectively, as the "securities". In addition, certain of our stockholders may offer for resale, from time to time, up to an aggregate of 1,322,669 shares of common stock under this prospectus. We will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of shares of our common stock by any selling stockholders. Sales of common stock by the selling stockholders may negatively impact the price of our common stock.

We and/or the selling stockholders may sell our securities through underwriters or dealers, "at-the-market" to or through a market maker into an existing trading market or otherwise directly to one or more purchasers or through agents or through a combination of methods of sale. The identities of such underwriters, dealers, market makers or agents, as the case may be, will be described in one or more supplements to this prospectus. The securities may be offered at prices and on terms to be described in one or more supplements to this prospectus. In the event we offer common stock or warrants or rights to acquire such common stock hereunder, the offering price per share of our common stock less any underwriting commissions or discounts will not be less than the net asset value per share of our common stock at the time we make the offering except (1) in connection with the exercise of certain warrants, options or rights whose issuance has been approved by our stockholders at an exercise or conversion price not less than the market value of our common stock at the date of issuance (or, if no such market value exists, the net asset value per share of our common stock as of such date); (2) to the extent such an offer or sale is approved by a majority of our stockholders and by our board of directors (our "Board" ); or (3) under such other circumstances as may be permitted under the 1940 Act or by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC" ). We intend to seek stockholder approval to offer our shares below net asset value in the future. The selling stockholders will not be restricted from selling their shares when the market price is below net asset value.

The shares of our common stock which are offered for resale by this prospectus are offered for the accounts of one or more of the selling stockholders named herein, who acquired such shares as described under "Selling Stockholders". We have agreed to bear specific expenses in connection with the registration and sale of the common stock being offered by the selling stockholders.

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Our common stock is listed on The NASDAQ Global Select Market ( NASDAQ ) under the symbol HRZN. On April 17, 2012, the last reported sale price of a share of our common stock on NASDAQ was \$16.83. The net asset value per share of our common stock at December 31, 2011 (the last date prior to the date of this prospectus on which we determined net asset value) was \$17.01. Shares of our common stock sold by the selling stockholders will generally be freely tradable. Sales of substantial amounts of our common stock, including by the selling stockholders, or the availability of such common stock for sale, whether or not sold, could adversely affect the prevailing market prices for our common stock.

**Shares of closed-end investment companies, including BDCs, frequently trade at a discount to their net asset value. If our shares trade at a discount to net asset value, it may increase the risk of loss for purchasers in this public offering. See Risk Factors Risks Related to Offerings Under This Prospectus Shares of closed-end investment companies, including BDCs, frequently trade at a discount to their net asset value, and we cannot assure you that the market price of our common stock will not decline following an offering on page 39 for more information.**

This prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement contain important information you should know before investing in our securities and should be retained for future reference. We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information about us with the SEC. We maintain a website at [www.horizontechnologyfinancecorp.com](http://www.horizontechnologyfinancecorp.com) and intend to make all of the foregoing information available, free of charge, on or through our website. You may also obtain such information by contacting us at 312 Farmington Avenue, Farmington, Connecticut 06032, or by calling us at (860) 676-8654. The SEC maintains a website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov) where such information is available without charge. Information contained on our website is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus, and you should not consider information contained on our website to be part of this prospectus.

**Investing in our securities is highly speculative and involves a high degree of risk, and you could lose your entire investment if any of the risks occur. For more information regarding these risks, please see Risk Factors beginning on page 21. The individual securities in which we invest will not be rated by any rating agency. If they were, they would be rated as below investment grade or junk. Indebtedness of below investment grade quality has predominantly speculative characteristics with respect to the issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal.**

**Neither the SEC 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.**

This prospectus may not be used to consummate sales of securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

The date of this prospectus is \_\_\_\_\_, 2012

You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus or any accompanying supplement to this prospectus. We have not, and the selling stockholders have not, authorized any other person to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are not, and the selling stockholders are not, making an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. This prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement do not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of any offer to buy any security other than the registered securities to which they relate. You should assume that the information in this prospectus is accurate only as of the date of this prospectus. Our business, financial condition and prospects may have changed since that date. We will update this prospectus to reflect material changes to the information contained herein.

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### **ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS**

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we have filed with the SEC using the shelf registration process. Under the shelf registration process, we may offer, from time to time, up to \$250,000,000 of our common stock, preferred stock, subscription rights, debt securities or warrants representing rights to purchase shares of our common stock, preferred stock or debt securities on terms to be determined at the time of the offering, and the selling stockholders may offer for resale up to 1,322,669 shares of our common stock. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities that we and/or one or more of the selling stockholders may offer. Each time we and/or one or more of the selling stockholders use this prospectus to offer securities, 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. Please carefully read this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement together with the additional information described under [Where You Can Find More Information](#) and [Risk Factors](#) before you make an investment decision. During an offering, we will disclose material amendments to this prospectus through a post-effective amendment or prospectus supplement.

## PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

*This summary highlights some of the information in this prospectus. It is not complete and may not contain all of the information that you may want to consider before investing in our common stock. You should read the entire prospectus and any prospectus supplement carefully, including Risk Factors, Selected Consolidated Financial and Other Data, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and the financial statements contained elsewhere in this prospectus.*

*Horizon Technology Finance Corporation, a Delaware corporation, was formed on March 16, 2010 for the purpose of acquiring, continuing and expanding the business of its wholly-owned subsidiary, Compass Horizon Funding Company LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, which we refer to as Compass Horizon, raising capital in its initial public offering, or IPO, and operating as an externally managed BDC under the 1940 Act. Except where the context suggests otherwise, the terms we, us, our and Company refer to Compass Horizon and its consolidated subsidiary prior to our IPO and to Horizon Technology Finance Corporation and its consolidated subsidiaries after the IPO. In addition, we refer to Horizon Technology Finance Management LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, as HTFM, our Advisor or our Administrator.*

### **Our Company**

We are a specialty finance company that lends to and invests in development-stage companies in the technology, life science, healthcare information and services and cleantech industries (collectively, our Target Industries). Our investment objective is to generate current income from the loans we make and capital appreciation from the warrants we receive when making such loans. We make secured loans ( Venture Loans ) to companies backed by established venture capital and private equity firms in our Target Industries ( Venture Lending ). We also selectively lend to publicly traded companies in our Target Industries. Venture Lending is typically characterized by, among other things, (i) the making of a secured loan after a venture capital or equity investment in the portfolio company has been made, which investment provides a source of cash to fund the portfolio company's debt service obligations under the Venture Loan, (ii) the senior priority of the Venture Loan which requires repayment of the Venture Loan prior to the equity investors realizing a return on their capital, (iii) the relatively rapid amortization of the Venture Loan and (iv) the lender's receipt of warrants or other success fees with the making of the Venture Loan.

We are an externally managed, closed-end, non-diversified management investment company that has elected to be regulated as a BDC under the 1940 Act. As a BDC, we are required to comply with regulatory requirements, including limitations on our use of debt. We are permitted to, and expect to, finance our investments through borrowings. However, as a BDC, we are only generally allowed to borrow amounts such that our asset coverage, as defined in the 1940 Act, equals at least 200% after such borrowing. The amount of leverage that we employ will depend on our assessment of market conditions and other factors at the time of any proposed borrowing.

We have elected to be treated for federal income tax purposes as a regulated investment company ( RIC ), under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code ). As a RIC, we generally will not have to pay corporate-level federal income taxes on any net ordinary income or capital gains that we distribute to our stockholders if we meet certain source-of-income, distribution, asset diversification and other requirements.

We are externally managed and advised by our Advisor. Our Advisor manages our day-to-day operations and also provides all administrative services necessary for us to operate.

### **Our Advisor**

Our investment activities are managed by our Advisor and we expect to continue to benefit from our Advisor's ability to identify attractive investment opportunities, conduct diligence on and value prospective investments, negotiate investments and manage our diversified portfolio of investments. In addition to the experience gained from the years that they have worked together both at our Advisor and prior to the formation

by our Advisor of the Company, the members of our investment team have broad lending backgrounds, with substantial experience at a variety of commercial finance companies, technology banks and private debt funds, and have developed a broad network of contacts within the venture capital and private equity community. This network of contacts provides a principal source of investment opportunities.

Our Advisor is led by five senior managers, including its two co-founders, Robert D. Pomeroy, Jr., our Chief Executive Officer, and Gerald A. Michaud, our President. The other senior managers include Christopher M. Mathieu, our Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, John C. Bombara, our Senior Vice President, General Counsel, Chief Compliance Officer and Secretary and Daniel S. Devorsetz, our Senior Vice President and Chief Credit Officer.

### **Our Strategy**

Our investment objective is to maximize our investment portfolio's total return by generating current income from the loans we make and capital appreciation from the warrants we receive when making such loans. To further implement our business strategy, our Advisor will continue to employ the following core strategies:

*Structured Investments in the Venture Capital and Private Equity Markets.* We make loans to development-stage companies within our Target Industries typically in the form of secured amortizing loans. The secured amortizing debt structure provides a lower risk strategy, as compared to equity investments, to participate in the emerging technology markets because the debt structures we typically utilize provide collateral against the downside risk of loss, provide return of capital in a much shorter timeframe through current pay interest and amortization of loan principal and have a senior position in the capital structure to equity in the case of insolvency, wind down or bankruptcy. Unlike venture capital and private equity investments, our investment returns and return of our capital do not require equity investment exits such as mergers and acquisitions or initial public offerings. Instead, we receive returns on our loans primarily through regularly scheduled payments of principal and interest and, if necessary, liquidation of the collateral supporting the loan. Only the potential gains from warrants are dependent upon exits.

*Enterprise Value Lending.* We and our Advisor take an enterprise value approach to the loan structuring and underwriting process. We secure a senior or subordinated lien position against the enterprise value of a portfolio company.

*Creative Products with Attractive Risk-Adjusted Pricing.* Each of our existing and prospective portfolio companies has its own unique funding needs for the capital provided from the proceeds of our Venture Loans. These funding needs include, but are not limited to, funds for additional development runways, funds to hire or retain sales staff or funds to invest in research and development in order to reach important technical milestones in advance of raising additional equity. Our loans include current pay interest, commitment fees, final payments, pre-payment fees and non-utilization fees. We believe we have developed pricing tools, structuring techniques and valuation metrics that satisfy our portfolio companies' requirements while mitigating risk and maximizing returns on our investments.

*Opportunity for Enhanced Returns.* To enhance our loan portfolio returns, in addition to interest and fees, we obtain warrants to purchase the equity of our portfolio companies as additional consideration for making loans. The warrants we obtain generally include a cashless exercise provision to allow us to exercise these rights without requiring us to make any additional cash investment. Obtaining warrants in our portfolio companies has allowed us to participate in the equity appreciation of our portfolio companies, which we expect will enable us to generate higher returns for our investors.

*Direct Origination.* We originate transactions directly with technology, life science, healthcare information and services and cleantech companies. These transactions are referred to our Advisor from a number of sources, including referrals from, or direct solicitation of, venture capital and private equity firms, portfolio company management teams, legal firms, accounting firms, investment banks



and other lenders that represent companies within our Target Industries. Our Advisor has been the sole or lead originator in substantially all transactions in which the funds it manages have invested.

*Disciplined and Balanced Underwriting and Portfolio Management.* We use a disciplined underwriting process that includes obtaining information validation from multiple sources, extensive knowledge of our Target Industries, comparable industry valuation metrics and sophisticated financial analysis related to development-stage companies. Our Advisor's due diligence on investment prospects includes obtaining and evaluating information on the prospective portfolio company's technology, market opportunity, management team, fund raising history, investor support, valuation considerations, financial condition and projections. We seek to balance our investment portfolio to reduce the risk of down market cycles associated with any particular industry or sector, development-stage or geographic area. Our Advisor employs a hands on approach to portfolio management requiring private portfolio companies to provide monthly financial information and to participate in regular updates on performance and future plans.

*Use of Leverage.* We currently use leverage to increase returns on equity through revolving credit facilities provided by WestLB AG (the WestLB Facility) and Wells Fargo Capital Finance, LLC (the Wells Facility) and collectively with the WestLB Facility, the Credit Facilities) and through our 7.375% senior notes due 2019 (the Senior Notes). See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Liquidity and Capital Resources for additional information about the Credit Facilities. In addition, we may issue additional debt securities or preferred stock in one or more series in the future, the specific terms of which will be described in the particular prospectus supplement relating to that series. See Description of Debt Securities that We May Issue and Description of Preferred Stock that We May Issue for additional information about the debt securities or preferred stock we may issue.

### **Market Opportunity**

We focus our investments primarily in four key industries of the emerging technology market: technology, life science, healthcare information and services and cleantech. The technology sectors we focus on include communications, networking, wireless communications, data storage, software, cloud computing, semiconductor, internet and media and consumer-related technologies. The life science sectors we focus on include biotechnology, drug delivery, bioinformatics and medical devices. The healthcare information and services sectors we focus on include diagnostics, medical record services and software and other healthcare related services and technologies that improve efficiency and quality of administered healthcare. The cleantech sectors we focus on include alternative energy, water purification, energy efficiency, green building materials and waste recycling.

We believe that Venture Lending has the potential to achieve enhanced returns that are attractive notwithstanding the high degree of risk associated with lending to development-stage companies. Potential benefits include:

interest rates that typically exceed rates that would be available to portfolio companies if they could borrow in traditional commercial financing transactions;

the loan support provided by cash proceeds from equity capital invested by venture capital and private equity firms;

relatively rapid amortization of loans;

senior ranking to equity and collateralization of loans to minimize potential loss of capital; and

potential equity appreciation through warrants.

We believe that Venture Lending also provides an attractive financing source for portfolio companies, their management teams and their equity capital investors, as it:

is typically less dilutive to the equity holders than additional equity financing;

extends the time period during which a portfolio company can operate before seeking additional equity capital or pursuing a sale transaction or other liquidity event; and

allows portfolio companies to better match cash sources with uses.

### **Competitive Strengths**

We believe that we, together with our Advisor, possess significant competitive strengths, which include the following:

*Consistently Execute Commitments and Close Transactions.* Our Advisor and its senior management and investment professionals have an extensive track record of originating, underwriting and closing Venture Loans. Our Advisor has directly originated, underwritten and managed more than 130 Venture Loans with an aggregate original principal amount over \$840 million since it commenced operations in 2004. In our experience, prospective portfolio companies prefer lenders that have demonstrated their ability to deliver on their commitments.

*Robust Direct Origination Capabilities.* Our Advisor's managing directors each have significant experience originating Venture Loans in our Target Industries. This experience has given each managing director a deep knowledge of our Target Industries and an extensive base of transaction sources and references. Our Advisor's brand name recognition in our market has resulted in a steady flow of high quality investment opportunities that are consistent with the strategic vision and expectations of our Advisor's senior management.

*Highly Experienced and Cohesive Management Team.* Our Advisor has had the same senior management team of experienced professionals since its inception. This consistency allows companies, their management teams and their investors to rely on consistent and predictable service, loan products and terms and underwriting standards.

*Relationships with Venture Capital and Private Equity Investors.* Our Advisor has developed strong relationships with venture capital and private equity firms and their partners. The strength and breadth of our Advisor's venture capital and private equity relationships would take considerable time and expense to develop.

*Well-Known Brand Name.* Our Advisor has originated Venture Loans to more than 130 companies in our Target Industries under the Horizon Technology Finance brand. Each of these companies is backed by one or more venture capital or private equity firms. We believe that the Horizon Technology Finance brand, as a competent, knowledgeable and active participant in the Venture Lending marketplace, will continue to result in a significant number of referrals and prospective investment opportunities in our Target Industries.

### **Our Portfolio**

Since our inception and through December 31, 2011, we have funded 66 portfolio companies and have invested \$357.4 million in loans (including 28 loans that have been repaid). As of December 31, 2011, our total investment portfolio consisted of 38 loans which totaled \$173.3 million and our net assets were \$129.9 million. All of our existing loans are secured by all or a portion of the tangible and intangible assets of the applicable portfolio company. The loans in our loan portfolio will generally not be rated by any rating agency. If the individual loans in our portfolio companies were rated, they would be rated below investment grade because they are subject to many risks, including volatility, intense competition, shortened product life cycles and periodic downturns.



For the year ended December 31, 2011, our loan portfolio had a dollar-weighted average annualized yield of approximately 14.6% (excluding any yield from warrants). As of December 31, 2011, our loan portfolio had a dollar-weighted average term of approximately 41 months from inception and a dollar-weighted average remaining term of approximately 30 months. In addition, we held warrants to purchase either common stock or preferred stock in 47 portfolio companies. As of December 31, 2011, substantially all of our loans had an original committed principal amount of between \$1 million and \$12 million, repayment terms of between 30 and 48 months and bore current pay interest at annual interest rates of between 9% and 14%.

### **Risk Factors**

The values of our assets, as well as the market price of our shares, fluctuate. Our investments may be risky, and you may lose all or part of your investment in us. Investing in us involves other risks, including the following:

We have a limited operating history and may not be able to achieve our investment objective or generate sufficient revenue to make or sustain distributions to our stockholders and your investment in us could decline substantially;

We and our Advisor have limited experience operating under the constraints imposed on a BDC or managing an investment company, which may affect our ability to manage our business and impair your ability to assess our prospects;

We are dependent upon key personnel of our Advisor and our Advisor's ability to hire and retain qualified personnel;

We operate in a highly competitive market for investment opportunities, and if we are not able to compete effectively, our business, results of operations and financial condition may be adversely affected and the value of your investment in us could decline;

If we are unable to satisfy the requirements under the Code for qualification as a RIC, we will be subject to corporate-level federal income tax;

Regulations governing our operation as a BDC affect our ability to, and the way in which we, raise additional capital, which may expose us to additional risks;

We have not yet identified many of the potential investment opportunities for our portfolio that we will invest in with the proceeds of an offering under this registration statement;

If our investments do not meet our performance expectations, you may not receive distributions;

Most of our portfolio companies will need additional capital, which may not be readily available;

Economic recessions or downturns could adversely affect our business and that of our portfolio companies which may have an adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition;

Our investment strategy focuses on investments in development-stage companies in our Target Industries, which are subject to many risks, including volatility, intense competition, shortened product life cycles and periodic downturns, and would be rated below investment grade ;

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We cannot assure you that the market price of shares of our common stock will not decline following an offering;

Subsequent sales in the public market of substantial amounts of our common stock by the selling stockholders may have an adverse effect on the market price of our common stock and the registration of a substantial amount of insider shares, whether or not actually sold, may have a negative impact on the market price of our common stock;

Our common stock price may be volatile and may decrease substantially;

We may allocate the net proceeds from an offering in ways with which you may not agree;

Your interest in us may be diluted if you do not fully exercise subscription rights in any rights offering. In addition, if the subscription price is less than our net asset value per share, then you will experience an immediate dilution of the aggregate net asset value of your shares;

Investors in offerings of our common stock may incur immediate dilution upon the closing of such offering;

If we sell common stock at a discount to our net asset value per share, stockholders who do not participate in such sale will experience immediate dilution in an amount that may be material;

There is a risk that investors in our equity securities may not receive dividends or that our dividends may not grow over time, and that a portion of distributions paid to you may be a return of capital;

Shares of closed-end investment companies, including BDCs, frequently trade at a discount to their net asset value, and we cannot assure you that the market price of our common stock will not decline following an offering;

Stockholders will experience dilution in their ownership percentage if they do not participate in our dividend reinvestment plan;

The trading market or market value of publicly issued debt securities that we may issue may fluctuate;

The securities in which we invest generally will have no market price and we value them based on estimates. Our valuations are inherently uncertain and may differ materially from the values that would be assessed if a ready market for these securities existed;

Terms relating to redemption may materially adversely affect return on any debt securities that we may issue;

Credit ratings provided by third party credit rating agencies may not reflect all risks of an investment in any debt securities that we may issue; and

Shares of our common stock sold by the selling stockholders will generally be freely tradable. Sales of substantial amounts of our common stock, including by the selling stockholders, or the availability of such common stock for sale, whether or not sold, could adversely affect the prevailing market prices for our common stock.

See **Risk Factors** beginning on page 21 and the other information included in this prospectus for a more detailed discussion of the material risks you should carefully consider before deciding to invest in our securities.

### **Recent Developments**

In March 2012, we issued and sold \$30 million aggregate principal amount of 7.375% senior notes due 2019 (the **Senior Notes** ) and in April 2012 we issued and sold an additional \$3 million aggregate principal amount of Senior Notes pursuant to an exercise by the underwriters of the offering of their over-allotment option. The Senior Notes will mature on March 15, 2019 and may be redeemed in whole or in part at our option at any time or from time to time on or after March 15, 2015 at a redemption price of \$25 per security plus accrued and unpaid interest. The Senior Notes bear interest at a rate of 7.375% per year payable quarterly on March 15, June 15, September 15 and December 15 of each year, commencing on June 15, 2012. The Senior Notes are our direct unsecured obligations and rank (i) *pari passu* with our future senior unsecured indebtedness; (ii) senior to any of our future indebtedness that expressly provides it is subordinated to the Senior Notes; (iii) effectively

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subordinated to all of our existing and future secured indebtedness (including indebtedness that is initially unsecured to which we subsequently grant security), to the extent of the value of the assets securing such indebtedness, including without limitation, borrowings under our Credit Facilities and (iv) structurally subordinated to all existing and future indebtedness and other obligations of any of our subsidiaries.

**Company Information**

Our administrative and executive offices and those of our Advisor are located at 312 Farmington Avenue, Farmington, Connecticut 06032, and our telephone number is (860) 676-8654. Our corporate website is located at [www.horizontechnologyfinancecorp.com](http://www.horizontechnologyfinancecorp.com). Information contained on our website is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus, and you should not consider information contained on our website to be part of this prospectus.



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## OFFERINGS

We may offer, from time to time, up to \$250,000,000 of our common stock, preferred stock, subscription rights, debt securities and/or warrants representing rights to purchase shares of our common stock, preferred stock or debt securities on terms to be determined at the time of the offering. Any debt securities, preferred stock, warrants and subscription rights offered by means of this prospectus may be convertible or exchangeable into shares of our common stock, on terms to be determined at the time of the offering. We will offer our securities at prices and on terms to be set forth in one or more supplements to this prospectus. The selling stockholders may offer, from time to time, up to 1,322,669 shares of our common stock for resale at prices and on terms to be set forth in one or more supplements to this prospectus.

We and/or one or more of the selling stockholders may offer our securities directly to one or more purchasers, including existing stockholders in a rights offering, through agents that we designate from time to time or to or through underwriters or dealers. The prospectus supplement relating to each offering will identify any agents or underwriters involved in the sale of our securities and will set forth any applicable purchase price, fee, commission or discount arrangement between us and our agents or underwriters or among our underwriters or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated. See Plan of Distribution. We and/or the selling stockholders may not sell any of our securities through agents, underwriters or dealers without delivery of a prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the offering of our securities.

Set forth below is additional information regarding offerings of our securities:

### Use of proceeds

We intend to use the net proceeds from selling our securities to make new investments in portfolio companies in accordance with our investment objective and strategies as described in this prospectus and for working capital and general corporate purposes. We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of our common stock by the selling stockholders.

### Listing

Our common stock is traded on NASDAQ under the symbol HRZN.

### Dividends and Distributions

We pay quarterly dividends to our stockholders out of assets legally available for distribution. Our dividends, if any, will be determined by our Board. Our ability to declare dividends depends on our earnings, our overall financial condition (including our liquidity position), maintenance of RIC status and such other factors as our Board may deem relevant from time to time.

To the extent our taxable earnings fall below the total amount of our distributions for any given fiscal year, a portion of those distributions may be deemed to be a return of capital to our common stockholders for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Thus, the source of a distribution to our stockholders may be the original capital invested by the stockholder rather than our income or gains. Stockholders should read any written disclosure accompanying a dividend payment carefully and should not assume that the source of any distribution is our ordinary income or gains.

Taxation	<p>We have elected to be treated as a RIC. Accordingly, we generally will not pay corporate-level federal income taxes on any net ordinary income or capital gains that we distribute to our stockholders as dividends. To maintain RIC tax treatment, we must meet specified source-of-income and asset diversification requirements and distribute annually at least 90% of our net ordinary income and realized net short-term capital gains in excess of realized net long-term capital losses, if any.</p>
Leverage	<p>We borrow funds to make additional investments. We use this practice, which is known as leverage, to attempt to increase returns to our stockholders, but it involves significant risks. See Risk Factors. With certain limited exceptions, we are only allowed to borrow amounts such that our asset coverage, as defined in the 1940 Act, equals at least 200% after such borrowing.</p>
Trading at a Discount	<p>Shares of closed-end investment companies frequently trade at a discount to their net asset value. This risk is separate and distinct from the risk that our net asset value per share may decline. We cannot predict whether our common stock will trade above, at or below net asset value.</p>
Dividend Reinvestment Plan	<p>We have a dividend reinvestment plan for our stockholders. The dividend reinvestment plan is an opt out dividend reinvestment plan. As a result, if we declare a dividend, then stockholders cash dividends will be automatically reinvested in additional shares of our common stock, unless they specifically opt out of the dividend reinvestment plan so as to receive cash dividends. Stockholders who receive distributions in the form of stock will be subject to the same federal, state and local tax consequences as stockholders who elect to receive their distributions in cash. See Dividend Reinvestment Plan.</p>
Sales of Common Stock Below	<p>In the event we offer common stock or warrants or rights to acquire such common stock, the offering price per share of our common stock less any underwriting commissions or discounts will not be less than the net asset value per share of our common stock at the time we make the offering except (1) in connection with the exercise of certain warrants, options or rights whose issuance has been approved by our stockholders at an exercise or conversion price not less than the market value of our common stock at the date of issuance (or, if no such market value</p>
Net Asset Value	

exists, the net asset value per share of our common stock as of such date); (2) to the extent such an offer or sale is approved by a majority of our stockholders and our Board; or (3) under such other circumstances as may be permitted under the 1940 Act or by the SEC. For purposes of (2) above, a majority of outstanding securities is defined in the 1940 Act as (i) 67% or more of the voting securities present at a stockholders meeting if the holders of more than 50% of the outstanding voting securities of the Company are present or represented by proxy; or (ii) 50% of the outstanding voting securities of the Company, whichever is less. Restrictions on selling below net asset value are not applicable to the selling stockholders.

#### Selling Stockholders

The selling stockholders are Compass Horizon Partners LP and HTF-CHF Holdings LLC. HTF-CHF Holdings LLC is substantially owned by the Company's officers, as described under the sections entitled Control Persons and Principal Stockholders and Selling Stockholders. Prior to completion of our IPO, the owners of membership interests in Compass Horizon exchanged their membership interests for shares of our common stock and we entered into a registration rights agreement with respect to those shares. Pursuant to the terms of the registration rights agreement, we have agreed to bear specific expenses of the selling stockholders in connection with the registration and sale of such shares. HTF-CHF Holdings LLC does not currently intend to sell its shares within a year of the effective date of this Registration Statement. All contractual lock-ups and other restrictions applicable to sales by insiders have expired.

#### Certain Anti-Takeover Provisions

Once the shares of the selling stockholders are sold under this registration statement, the shares will be freely tradable in the hands of persons other than our affiliates. See Certain Relationships and Related Transactions and Shares Eligible for Future Sale. Our certificate of incorporation and bylaws, as well as certain statutory and regulatory requirements, contain certain provisions that may have the effect of discouraging a third party from making an acquisition proposal for us. These anti-takeover provisions may inhibit a change in control in circumstances that could give the holders of our common stock the opportunity to realize a premium over the market price for our common stock. See Description of Common Stock That We May Issue.

Investment Management Agreement

We have entered into an investment management agreement (the Investment Management Agreement ) with our Advisor, under which our Advisor, subject to the overall supervision of our Board, manages our day-to-day operations and provides investment advisory services to us. For providing these services, our Advisor receives a base management fee from us, paid monthly in arrears, at an annual rate of 2% of our gross assets, including any assets acquired with the proceeds of leverage. The Investment Management Agreement also provides that our Advisor or its affiliates may be entitled to an incentive fee under certain circumstances. The incentive fee has two parts, which are independent of each other, with the result that one part may be payable even if the other is not. Under the first part, we will pay our Advisor each quarter 20% of the amount by which our accrued net income for the quarter after expenses and excluding the effect of any realized capital gains and losses and any unrealized appreciation and depreciation for the quarter exceeds 1.75% (which is 7% annualized) of our average net assets at the end of the immediately preceding calendar quarter, subject to a catch-up feature. Under the second part of the incentive fee, we will pay our Advisor at the end of each calendar year 20% of our realized capital gains from inception through the end of that year, computed net of all realized capital losses and all unrealized depreciation on a cumulative basis, less the aggregate amount of any previously paid capital gain incentive fees. The second part of the incentive fee is not subject to any minimum return to stockholders. The Investment Management Agreement may be terminated by either party without penalty by delivering written notice to the other party upon not more than 60 days written notice. See Investment Management and Administration Agreements Investment Management Agreement. We reimburse our Administrator for the allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by our Administrator in performing its obligations under an administration agreement (the Administration Agreement ), including furnishing rent, the fees and expenses associated with performing compliance functions and our allocable portion of the costs of compensation and related expenses of our chief compliance officer and chief financial officer and their respective staffs. See Investment Management and Administration Agreements Administration Agreement.

Administration Agreement

Available Information

We are required to file periodic reports, current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. This information is available on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). You can also inspect any materials we file with the SEC, without charge, at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the Public Reference Room. You may also obtain such information by contacting us at 312 Farmington Avenue, Farmington, Connecticut 06032 or by calling us at (860) 676-8654. We intend to provide much of the same information on our website at [www.horizontechnologyfinancecorp.com](http://www.horizontechnologyfinancecorp.com). Information contained on our website is not part of this prospectus or any prospectus supplement and should not be relied upon as such.

**FEES AND EXPENSES**

The following table is intended to assist you in understanding the costs and expenses that an investor will bear directly or indirectly. However, we caution you that some of the percentages indicated in the table below are estimates and may vary. The following table and example should not be considered a representation of our future expenses. Actual expenses may be greater or less than shown. Except where the context suggests otherwise, whenever this prospectus contains a reference to fees or expenses paid by you or us or that we will pay fees or expenses, stockholders will indirectly bear such fees or expenses as investors in the Company.

<b>Stockholder Transaction Expenses</b>	
Sales Load (as a percentage of offering price)	% <sup>(1)</sup>
Offering Expenses (as a percentage of offering price)	% <sup>(2)</sup>
Dividend Reinvestment Plan Fees	None <sup>(3)</sup>
<b>Total Stockholder Transaction Expenses (as a percentage of offering price)</b>	