

Altra Holdings, Inc.
Form S-3
December 20, 2012
Table of Contents

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 20, 2012.

Registration No. 333-_____

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20549

FORM S-3
REGISTRATION STATEMENT

UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

ALTRA HOLDINGS, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction of
Incorporation or Organization)

61-1478870
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification Number)

Edgar Filing: Altra Holdings, Inc. - Form S-3

300 Granite Street

Suite 201

Braintree, Massachusetts 02184

(781) 917-0600

(Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Registrant's Principal Executive Offices)

Glenn E. Deegan, Esquire

Vice President, Legal & Human Resources, General Counsel and Secretary

Altra Holdings, Inc.

300 Granite Street

Suite 201

Braintree, Massachusetts 02184

(781) 917-0600

(Name, Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Agent For Service)

Copy to:

Rodney H. Bell, Esquire

Holland & Knight LLP

701 Brickell Ave., Suite 3000

Miami, Florida 33131

(305) 374-8500

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

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

Table of Contents

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.

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.D. 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.

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

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

| | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Large accelerated filer | <input type="checkbox"/> | Accelerated filer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Non-accelerated filer | <input type="checkbox"/> (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) | Smaller Reporting company | <input type="checkbox"/> |

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

| Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered | Amount to be Registered(1)(2) | Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Unit(2) | Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price(2) | Amount of Registration Fee(5) |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Common Stock, par value \$0.001 per share | | | | |
| Preferred Stock, par value \$0.001 per share | | | | |
| Depository Shares(3) | | | | |
| Warrants | | | | |
| Units(4) | | | | |
| Total | | | \$300,000,000 | \$(6) |

- (1) Such indeterminate number of shares of Common Stock and Preferred Stock and such indeterminate principal amount of Warrants and Units as may from time to time be issued at indeterminate prices, with an aggregate initial offering price not to exceed \$300,000,000. The securities registered also include such indeterminate number of shares of common stock and preferred stock as may be issued upon conversion or exchange for preferred stock that provides for conversion or exchange, upon exercise of warrants or rights or pursuant to the antidilution provisions of any such securities. The securities registered also include, pursuant to Rule 416 under the Securities Act, such additional number of shares of common stock and preferred stock that may become issuable as a result of any stock split, stock dividends, or similar event.
- (2) The amount to be registered, proposed maximum aggregate offering price per unit, and proposed maximum aggregate offering price are not specified as to each class of security pursuant to General Instruction II.D. of Form S-3 under the Securities Act.

Edgar Filing: Altra Holdings, Inc. - Form S-3

- (3) Each depositary share will be issued under a deposit agreement, will represent an interest in a fractional share or multiple shares of preferred stock and will be evidenced by a depositary receipt.
- (4) Each unit will be issued under a unit agreement and will represent an interest in two or more equity securities, which may or may not be separable from one another.

Table of Contents

- (5) Calculated pursuant to Rule 457(o).
- (6) All of the \$300,000,000 of securities registered pursuant to this registration statement (collectively, the **Unsold Securities**) consist of unsold securities previously registered by the Registrant on its Registration Statement on Form S-3 filed on October 15, 2009, amended by Pre-Effective Amendment No. 1 thereto filed on December 7, 2009 and Amendment No. 2 thereto filed on December 16, 2009 and declared effective on December 23, 2009 (File No. 333-162511) (the **Prior Registration Statement**). As of the date hereof, all of the **Unsold Securities** remain unsold. Pursuant to Rule 415(a)(6) under the Securities Act of 1933, the \$16,740.00 registration fee previously paid by the Registrant in connection with the **Unsold Securities** will continue to be applied to the **Unsold Securities**.

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

Table of Contents

The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We may not 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 it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED DECEMBER 20, 2012

PROSPECTUS

ALTRA HOLDINGS, INC.

\$300,000,000

of Common Stock

Preferred Stock

Depositary Shares

Warrants

Units

We may from time to time offer to sell common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares, warrants or units. We may offer the securities separately or together, in one or more series or classes and in amounts, at prices and on terms described in one or more offerings. We may also offer common stock upon conversion of preferred stock, or common stock or preferred stock upon the exercise of warrants. Such securities may be offered and sold by us in one or more offerings with a total aggregate principal amount or initial purchase price not to exceed \$300,000,000.

Our common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the trading symbol AIMC.

We will provide the specific terms of the securities in supplements to this prospectus.

Investing in these securities involves certain risks. See Risk Factors on page 4.

We urge you to carefully read this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement, together with the documents we incorporate by reference, which will describe the specific terms of these securities, before you make your investment decision.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

This prospectus may not be used to consummate sales of securities unless, to the extent required by applicable law, it is accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

The date of this prospectus is December , 2012

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | PAGE |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| <u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u> | 1 |
| <u>ALTRA HOLDINGS, INC.</u> | 2 |
| <u>RISK FACTORS</u> | 4 |
| <u>INFORMATION CONCERNING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u> | 4 |
| <u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u> | 5 |
| <u>RATIO OF COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERENCE DIVIDENDS TO EARNINGS</u> | 6 |
| <u>DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES TO BE OFFERED</u> | 6 |
| <u>DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK AND PREFERRED STOCK</u> | 6 |
| <u>DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES</u> | 9 |
| <u>DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS</u> | 10 |
| <u>DESCRIPTION OF UNITS</u> | 11 |
| <u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u> | 11 |
| <u>LEGAL MATTERS</u> | 14 |
| <u>EXPERTS</u> | 15 |
| <u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u> | 15 |
| <u>INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE</u> | 15 |

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

Unless the context requires otherwise, in this prospectus, the terms Altra Holdings, the Company, we, us and our refer to Altra Holdings, Inc. and its subsidiaries, except where the context otherwise requires or indicates.

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, utilizing a shelf registration process. Under the shelf registration process, we may offer to sell any combination of the securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings up to a total dollar amount of \$300,000,000. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we offer to sell 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. We may also add, update or change in any accompanying prospectus supplement or any free writing prospectus we may authorize to be delivered to you, any of the information contained in this prospectus. To the extent there is a conflict between the information contained in this prospectus and the prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information in the prospectus supplement, provided that if any statement in one of these documents is inconsistent with a statement in another document having a later date for example, a document incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement the statement in the document having the later date modifies or supersedes the earlier statement. You should carefully read both this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement together with additional information described under the heading Where You Can Find More Information before deciding to invest in any of the securities being offered.

We have filed or incorporated by reference exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part. You should read the exhibits carefully for provisions that may be important to you.

You should rely only on the information contained in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any related prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. You should not assume that the information contained in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of this prospectus. You should not consider this prospectus to be an offer or solicitation relating to the securities in any jurisdiction in which such an offer or solicitation relating to the securities is not authorized. Furthermore, you should not consider this prospectus to be an offer or solicitation relating to the securities if the person making the offer or solicitation is not qualified to do so, or if it is unlawful for you to receive such an offer or solicitation.

Table of Contents

ALTRA HOLDINGS, INC.

The Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, allows us to incorporate by reference certain information that we file with it, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus, and information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update, supplement and/or supersede the information in this prospectus. Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus or in any other document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus. You should read the following summary together with the more detailed information regarding our Company, our common stock and our financial statements and notes to those statements appearing elsewhere in this prospectus or incorporated herein by reference.

Altra Holdings, Inc. is the parent company of Altra Industrial Motion, Inc., or Altra Industrial, and owns 100% of Altra Industrial's outstanding capital stock. Altra Industrial, directly or indirectly, owns 100% of the capital stock of its 57 subsidiaries. The following chart illustrates a summary of our corporate structure:

We are a leading global designer, producer and marketer of a wide range of electro-mechanical power transmission and motion control products with a presence in over 70 countries. Our global sales and marketing network includes over 1,000 direct OEM customers and over 3,000 distributor outlets. Our product portfolio includes industrial clutches and brakes, enclosed gear drives, open gearing, couplings, engineered bearing assemblies, linear components and other related products. Our products serve a wide variety of end markets including energy, general industrial, material handling, mining, transportation and turf and garden. We primarily sell our products to a wide range of OEMs and through long-standing relationships with industrial distributors such as Motion Industries, Applied Industrial Technologies, Kaman Industrial Technologies and W.W. Grainger.

Table of Contents

Our products, principal brands and markets and sample applications are set forth below:

| Products | Principal Brands | Principal Markets | Sample Applications |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Clutches and Brakes | Warner Electric, Wichita Clutch, Formsprag Clutch, Stieber Clutch, Matrix, Inertia Dynamics, Twiflex, Industrial Clutch, Marland Clutch | Aerospace, energy, material handling, metals, turf and garden, mining | Elevators, forklifts, lawn mowers, oil well draw works, punch presses, conveyors |
| Gearing | Boston Gear, Nuttall Gear, Delroyd, Bauer Gear Motor | Food processing, material handling, metals, transportation | Conveyors, ethanol mixers, packaging machinery, metal processing equipment |
| Engineered Couplings | Ameridrives, Bibby Transmissions, TB Wood s, PowerFlex | Energy, metals, plastics, chemical | Extruders, turbines, steel strip mills, pumps |
| Engineered Bearing Assemblies | Kilian | Aerospace, material handling, transportation | Cargo rollers, seat storage systems, conveyors |
| Power Transmission Components | Warner Electric, Boston Gear, Huco Dynatork, Warner Linear, Matrix, TB Wood s | Material handling, metals, turf and garden | Conveyors, lawn mowers, machine tools |
| Engineered Belted Drives | TB Wood s | Aggregate, HVAC, material handling | Pumps, sand and gravel conveyors, industrial fans |

We are led by a highly experienced management team that has established a proven track record of execution, successfully completing and integrating major strategic acquisitions and delivering significant growth in both revenue and profits. We employ a comprehensive business process called the Altra Business System, or ABS, which focuses on eliminating inefficiencies from business processes to improve quality, delivery and cost.

Our principal executive offices are located at 300 Granite Street, Suite 201, Braintree, MA 02184 and our telephone number is (781) 917-0600. Our internet address is www.altramotion.com. We are not including the information contained on or available through our website as part of, or incorporating it by reference into, this prospectus.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

Investing in these securities involves certain risks. In addition to other information contained in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement, before investing in our securities, you should carefully consider the risks described under the heading "Risk Factors", and under the same or similar headings in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 and any subsequent Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, and in any other documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus, as updated by our future filings with the SEC, pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act. Without limitation, you should also carefully consider the risks noted under the caption "Information Concerning Forward-Looking Statements" in this prospectus. Additional risk factors may be included in a prospectus supplement relating to a particular offering of securities. Each of the risks described in these documents could materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects, and could result in a partial or complete loss of your investment. See "Where You Can Find More Information" section in this prospectus.

INFORMATION CONCERNING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus and our consolidated financial statements and other documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus contain forward-looking statements that are subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause our actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different than the results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements.

Forward-looking statements include, among other things, the information concerning our possible future results of operations including revenue, costs of goods sold, and gross margin, future profitability, future economic improvement, business and growth strategies, financing plans, our competitive position and the effects of competition, the projected growth of the industries in which we operate, and our ability to consummate strategic acquisitions and other transactions. Forward-looking statements include statements that are not historical facts and can be identified by forward-looking words such as anticipate, believe, could, estimate, expect, intend, plan, may, should, will, would, project, expressions. These forward-looking statements are based upon information currently available to us and are subject to a number of risks, uncertainties, and other factors that could cause our actual results, performance, prospects, or opportunities to differ materially from those expressed in, or implied by, these forward-looking statements. Important factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from the results referred to in the forward-looking statements include:

our access to capital, credit ratings, indebtedness, and ability to raise additional capital and operate under the terms of our debt obligations;

the risks associated with our debt;

the effects of intense competition in the markets in which we operate;

our ability to successfully execute, manage and integrate key acquisitions and mergers, including the Bauer Acquisition and the Lamiflex Acquisition;

our ability to obtain or protect intellectual property rights;

the effects of the loss or bankruptcy of or default by any significant customer, supplier, or other entity relevant to our operations;

our ability to successfully pursue our development activities and successfully integrate new operations and systems, including the realization of revenues, economies of scale, cost savings, and productivity gains associated with such operations;

Edgar Filing: Altra Holdings, Inc. - Form S-3

our ability to complete cost reduction actions and risks associated with such actions;

our ability to control costs;

failure of our operating equipment or information technology infrastructure;

our ability to achieve our business plans, including with respect to an uncertain economic environment;

the effects of unanticipated deficiencies, if any, in the disclosure controls and internal controls of Bauer;

changes in employment, environmental, tax and other laws and changes in the enforcement of laws;

Table of Contents

the accuracy of estimated forecasts of OEM customers and the impact of the current global and European economic environment on our customers;

fluctuations in the costs of raw materials used in our products;

our ability to attract and retain key executives and other personnel;

work stoppages and other labor issues;

changes in our pension and retirement liabilities;

our risk of loss not covered by insurance;

the outcome of litigation to which we are a party from time to time, including product liability claims;

changes in accounting rules and standards, audits, compliance with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, and regulatory investigations;

changes in market conditions that would result in the impairment of goodwill or other assets;

changes in market conditions in which we operate that would influence the value of our stock;

the effects of changes to critical accounting estimates;

changes in volatility of our stock price and the risk of litigation following a decline in the price of our stock;

the cyclical nature of the markets in which we operate;

the risks associated with the global recession and European economic downturn and volatility and disruption in the global and European financial markets;

political and economic conditions nationally, regionally, and in the markets in which we operate;

natural disasters, war, civil unrest, terrorism, fire, floods, tornadoes, earthquakes, hurricanes, or other matters beyond our control;

the risks associated with international operations, including currency risks;

the risks associated with our investment in a new manufacturing facility in China; and

other factors, risks, and uncertainties referenced in our filings with the SEC.

Except as required by applicable law, we undertake no obligation to publicly revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or for any other reason. However, you should carefully review the risk factors set forth in other reports or documents we file from time to time with the SEC.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless otherwise indicated in a prospectus supplement, we intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of the securities for general corporate purposes, including working capital, acquisitions, retirement of debt, and other business opportunities.

Table of Contents**RATIO OF COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERENCE DIVIDENDS TO EARNINGS**

The following table sets forth our ratio of combined fixed charges and preference dividends to earnings for each of the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008 and 2007, and the nine months ended September 29, 2012.

| | Nine Months Ended | Fiscal Year Ended December 31, | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|-------|------|-------|-------|
| | September 29, 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 | 2008 | 2007 |
| Ratio of combined fixed charges and preference dividends to earnings | 3.09x | 2.97x | 2.72x | * | 1.80x | 1.56x |

* Earnings were insufficient to cover fixed charges in the period December 1 to December 31, 2009 by \$4.7 million. For purposes of calculating the ratio of combined fixed charges and preference dividends to earnings:

Earnings is the amount of income before income taxes, discontinued operations, cumulative effect of change in accounting principle charges, and fixed charges.

Fixed charges is the sum of (i) interest expense and (ii) a portion of rental expense which we believe is representative of the interest component of rental expense.

For the periods indicated above, we had no outstanding shares of preferred stock with required dividend payments.

DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES TO BE OFFERED

This prospectus contains a summary of the securities that Altra Holdings may sell. These summaries are not meant to be a complete description of each security. However, this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement will contain the material terms of the securities being offered. We will describe in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to any securities the particular terms of the securities offered by that prospectus supplement. If we so indicate in the applicable prospectus supplement, the terms of the securities may differ from the terms we have summarized below. We will also include in the prospectus supplement information, where applicable, about material U.S. federal income tax considerations relating to the securities, and the securities exchange, if any, on which the securities will be listed.

We may sell from time to time, in one or more primary offerings, our common stock, preferred stock, depository shares, warrants, or units, or any combination of the foregoing.

In this prospectus, we refer to the common stock, preferred stock, depository shares, warrants, units, or any combination of the foregoing securities to be sold by us in a primary offering collectively as securities. The total dollar amount of all securities that we may issue under this prospectus will not exceed \$300,000,000.

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

DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK AND PREFERRED STOCK

The following summary of the terms of the common stock and preferred stock of Altra Holdings is not meant to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the relevant provisions of our second amended and restated certificate of incorporation and second amended and restated bylaws, and any amendments thereto. Copies of our certificate of incorporation and bylaws, and any amendments thereto, are incorporated herein by reference and will be sent to you at no charge upon request. See [Where You Can Find More Information](#) below.

Edgar Filing: Altra Holdings, Inc. - Form S-3

We will describe the specific terms of any common stock or preferred stock we may offer in more detail in a prospectus supplement relating to the offering of shares of common stock or preferred stock. If we so indicate in a prospectus supplement, the terms of any common stock or preferred stock offered under that prospectus supplement may differ from the terms described below.

Table of Contents

General

Our authorized capital stock consists of 100,000,000 shares of stock, of which: (i) 90,000,000 shares are designated as common stock, par value \$0.001 per share; and (ii) 10,000,000 shares are designated as undesignated preferred stock, par value \$0.001 per share. As of December 6, 2012, there were 26,889,177 shares of common stock outstanding. A description of the material terms and provisions of our certificate of incorporation affecting the relative rights of the common stock and any preferred stock is set forth below.

Common Stock

Voting Rights

The holders of our common stock are entitled to one vote per share on all matters submitted for action by the stockholders. The holders of our common stock have the exclusive right to vote for the election of our directors. There is no provision for cumulative voting with respect to the election of directors. Accordingly, a holder of more than 50% of the shares of our common stock can, if it so chooses, elect all of our directors. In that event, the holders of the remaining shares will not be able to elect any directors.

Dividend Rights

All shares of our common stock are entitled to share equally in any dividends our board of directors may declare from legally available sources, subject to the terms of any outstanding preferred stock.

Liquidation Rights

Upon liquidation or dissolution of our company, whether voluntary or involuntary, all shares of our common stock are entitled to share equally in the assets available for distribution to stockholders after payment of all of our prior obligations, including any then-outstanding preferred stock.

Other Matters

The holders of our common stock have no preemptive or conversion rights, and our common stock is not subject to further calls or assessments by us. There are no redemption or sinking fund provisions applicable to the common stock. All outstanding shares of our common stock, including the common stock offered in this offering, are fully paid and non-assessable.

Preferred Stock

Our board of directors has the authority, without any further vote or action by the stockholders, to issue 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock in one or more series and to fix the preferences, limitations, and rights of the shares of each series, including: dividend rates; conversion rights; voting rights; terms of redemption and liquidation preferences; redemption prices; and the number of shares constituting each series.

Certain Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws Provisions

Requirements for Advance Notification of Stockholder Nominations and Proposals

Our bylaws establish advance notice procedures with respect to stockholder proposals and the nomination of candidates for election as directors, other than nominations made by or at the direction of the board of directors or one of its committees or other matters properly brought by a stockholder under Rule 14a-8 promulgated under the Exchange Act.

Table of Contents

No Action without Meeting

Our certificate of incorporation and bylaws provide that action required or permitted to be taken by our stockholders at any special or annual meeting of stockholders must be effected at a duly called annual or special meeting of stockholders and may not be taken or effected by a written consent of stockholders in lieu of a duly called meeting.

Special Meetings

Our certificate of incorporation and bylaws provide that, except as otherwise required by statute or future rights, if any, of the holders of any series of preferred stock, special meetings of the stockholders may only be called by our board of directors acting pursuant to a resolution approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the directors then in office. Only those matters set forth in the notice of the special meeting may be considered or acted upon at a special meeting of stockholders.

No Cumulative Voting

The Delaware General Corporation Law provides that stockholders are denied the right to cumulate votes in the election of directors unless our certificate of incorporation provides otherwise. Our certificate of incorporation does not provide for cumulative voting of shares.

Delaware Anti-Takeover Law

We are a Delaware corporation subject to Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law. Under Section 203, certain business combinations between a Delaware corporation whose stock generally is publicly traded or held of record by more than 2,000 stockholders and an interested stockholder are prohibited for a three-year period following the date that such stockholder became an interested stockholder, unless:

the corporation has elected in its certificate of incorporation not to be governed by Section 203;

the business combination or the transaction which resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder was approved by the board of directors of the corporation before the date of the business combination or the date such stockholder became an interested stockholder, as applicable;

upon consummation of the transaction that made such stockholder an interested stockholder, the interested stockholder owned at least 85% of the voting stock of the corporation outstanding at the commencement of the transaction excluding voting stock owned by directors who are also officers or held in employee benefit plans in which the employees do not have a confidential right to tender stock held by the plan in a tender or exchange offer; or

the business combination is approved by the board of directors of the corporation and authorized at a meeting by two-thirds of the voting stock which the interested stockholder did not own.

The three-year prohibition also does not apply to some business combinations proposed by an interested stockholder following the announcement or notification of an extraordinary transaction involving the corporation and a person who had not been an interested stockholder during the previous three years or who became an interested stockholder with the approval of a majority of the corporation's directors. The term business combination is defined generally to include mergers or consolidations between a Delaware corporation and an interested stockholder, transactions with an interested stockholder involving the assets or stock of the corporation or its majority-owned subsidiaries, and transactions which increase an interested stockholder's percentage ownership of stock. The term interested stockholder is defined generally as those stockholders who become beneficial owners of 15% or more of a Delaware corporation's voting stock, together with the affiliates or associates of that stockholder.

Table of Contents

Limitation of Officer and Director Liability and Indemnification Arrangements

Our certificate of incorporation limits the liability of our directors to the maximum extent permitted by Delaware law.

Delaware law permits corporations to adopt provisions in their certificate of incorporation providing that directors will not be personally liable for monetary damages for breach of their fiduciary duties as directors, except liability for:

any breach of their duty of loyalty to the corporation or its stockholders;

acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law;

unlawful payments of dividends or unlawful stock repurchases or redemptions; or

any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit.

This charter provision has no effect on any non-monetary remedies that may be available to us or our stockholders, nor does it relieve us or our officers or directors from compliance with federal or state securities laws. Our certificate of incorporation and bylaws also generally provide that we shall indemnify, to the fullest extent permitted by law, any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit, investigation, administrative hearing, or any other proceeding by reason of the fact that he or she is or was a director or officer of ours, or is or was serving at our request as a director, officer, employee or agent of another entity, against expenses incurred by him or her in connection with such proceeding. An officer or director shall not be entitled to indemnification by us if:

the officer or director did not act in good faith and in a manner reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, our best interests; or

with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, the officer or director had reasonable cause to believe his conduct was unlawful. Further, we have entered into indemnification agreements with our directors and certain of our officers which require us, among other things, to indemnify them against certain liabilities to the fullest extent permitted by law which may arise by reason of the directors' or officers' status or service as a director or officer. We also maintain director and officer liability insurance. These charter and bylaw provisions, provisions of Delaware law, and indemnification agreements may have the effect of delaying, deterring, or preventing a change of control of Altra Holdings.

Listing

Our common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the trading symbol AIMC.

Transfer Agent and Registrar

The Transfer Agent and Registrar for our common stock is American Stock Transfer and Trust Company.

DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES

We may offer depositary shares (either separately or together with other securities) representing fractional shares of preferred stock of any series. In connection with the issuance of any depositary shares, we will enter into a deposit agreement with a bank or trust company, as depositary, which will be named in the applicable prospectus supplement. Depositary shares will be evidenced by depositary receipts issued pursuant to the related deposit agreement. Immediately following our issuance of the security related to the depositary shares, we will deposit the shares of preferred stock with the relevant depositary and will cause the depositary to issue, on our behalf, the related depositary receipts. Subject to the terms of the deposit agreement, each owner of a depositary receipt will be

Table of Contents

entitled, in proportion to the fraction of a share of preferred stock represented by the related depositary share, to all the rights, preferences and privileges of, and will be subject to all of the limitations and restrictions on, the preferred stock represented by the depositary receipt (including, if applicable, dividend, voting, conversion, exchange, redemption, sinking fund, repayment at maturity, subscription and liquidation rights).

DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS

We may issue warrants to purchase our securities or securities of third parties or other rights, including rights to receive payment in cash or securities based on the value, rate or price of one or more specified commodities, currencies, securities or indices, or any combination of the foregoing. Warrants may be issued independently or together with any other securities and may be attached to, or separate from, such securities. Each series of warrants will be issued under a separate warrant agreement to be entered into between us and a warrant agent. The terms of any warrants to be issued and a description of the material provisions of the applicable warrant agreement will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

The following summary of certain provisions of the warrants does not purport to be complete and is subject to, and is qualified in its entirety by reference to, all provisions of the warrant agreements.

Reference is made to the prospectus supplement and/or other offering material relating to the particular issue of warrants offered pursuant to such prospectus supplement and/or other offering material for the terms of and information relating to such warrants, including, where applicable:

the number of shares of common stock purchasable upon the exercise of warrants to purchase common stock and the price at which such number of shares of common stock may be purchased upon such exercise;

the number of shares and series of preferred stock purchasable upon the exercise of warrants to purchase preferred stock and the price at which such number of shares of such series of preferred stock may be purchased upon such exercise;

the designation and number of units of other securities purchasable upon the exercise of warrants to purchase other securities and the price at which such number of units of such other securities may be purchased upon such exercise;

the date on which the right to exercise such warrants shall commence and the date on which such right shall expire;

U.S. federal income tax consequences applicable to such warrants;

the number of warrants outstanding as of the most recent practicable date; and

any other terms of such warrants.

Warrants will be issued in registered form only. The exercise price for warrants will be subject to adjustment in accordance with the applicable prospectus supplement and/or other offering material.

Each warrant will entitle the holder thereof to purchase such number of our equity securities or securities of third parties or other rights at such exercise price as shall in each case be set forth in, or calculable from, the prospectus supplement and/or other offering material relating to the warrants, which exercise price may be subject to adjustment upon the occurrence of certain events as set forth in such prospectus supplement and/or other offering material. After the close of business on the expiration date, or such later date to which such expiration date may be extended by us, unexercised warrants will become void. The place or places where, and the manner in which, warrants may be exercised shall be specified in the prospectus supplement and/or other offering material relating to such warrants.

Edgar Filing: Altra Holdings, Inc. - Form S-3

Prior to the exercise of any warrants to purchase our securities or securities of third parties or other rights, holders of such warrants will not have any of the rights of holders of our securities or securities of third parties or other rights, as the case may be, purchasable upon such exercise, including the right to receive payments of dividends, if any, on the securities or other rights purchasable upon such exercise, or to exercise any applicable right to vote.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF UNITS

As specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, we may issue units consisting of one or more shares of common stock, shares of preferred stock, depositary shares, warrants, or any combination of such securities.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the securities offered by this prospectus from time to time in one or more transactions, including without limitation:

directly to purchasers;

to or through underwriters or dealers;

through agents; or

through a combination of any of these methods.

A distribution of the securities offered by this prospectus may also be effected through the issuance of derivative securities, including without limitation, warrants, subscriptions, exchangeable securities, forward delivery contracts and the writing of options.

In addition, the manner in which we may sell some or all of the securities covered by this prospectus includes, without limitation, through:

a block trade in which a broker-dealer will attempt to sell as agent, but may position or resell a portion of the block, as principal, in order to facilitate the transaction;

purchases by a broker-dealer, as principal, and resale by the broker-dealer for its account;

ordinary brokerage transactions and transactions in which a broker solicits purchasers; or

privately negotiated transactions.

We may also sell the securities offered by this prospectus in at the market offerings within the meaning of Rule 415(a)(4) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, to or through a market maker, or into an existing trading market, on an exchange or otherwise.

We may also enter into hedging transactions. For example, we may:

enter into transactions with a broker-dealer or affiliate thereof in connection with which such broker-dealer or affiliate will engage in short sales of the common stock pursuant to this prospectus, in which case such broker-dealer or affiliate may use shares of common stock received from us to close out its short positions;

sell securities short and redeliver such shares to close out our short positions;

enter into option or other types of transactions that require us to deliver common stock to a broker-dealer or an affiliate thereof, who will then resell or transfer the common stock under this prospectus; or

loan or pledge the common stock to a broker-dealer or an affiliate thereof, who may sell the loaned shares or, in an event of default in the case of a pledge, sell the pledged shares pursuant to this prospectus.

In addition, we may enter into derivative or hedging transactions with third parties, or sell securities not covered by this prospectus to third parties in privately negotiated transactions. In connection with such a transaction, the third parties may sell securities covered by and pursuant to this prospectus and an applicable prospectus supplement or pricing supplement, as the case may be. If so, the third party may use securities borrowed from us or

Table of Contents

others to settle such sales and may use securities received from us to close out any related short positions. We may also loan or pledge securities covered by this prospectus and an applicable prospectus supplement to third parties, who may sell the loaned securities or, in an event of default in the case of a pledge, sell the pledged securities pursuant to this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement or pricing supplement, as the case may be.

A prospectus supplement with respect to each series of securities will state the terms of the offering of the securities, including:

the name or names of any underwriters or agents and the amounts of securities underwritten or purchased by each of them, if any;

the public offering price or purchase price of the securities and the net proceeds to be received by us from the sale;

any delayed delivery arrangements;

any underwriting discounts or agency fees and other items constituting underwriters' or agents' compensation;

any discounts or concessions allowed or reallowed or paid to dealers; and

any securities exchange on which the securities may be listed.

The offer and sale of the securities described in this prospectus by us, the underwriters or the third parties described above may be effected from time to time in one or more transactions, including privately negotiated transactions, either:

at a fixed price or prices, which may be changed;

at market prices prevailing at the time of sale;

at prices related to the prevailing market prices; or

at negotiated prices.

General

Any public offering price and any discounts, commissions, concessions or other items constituting compensation allowed or reallowed or paid to underwriters, dealers, agents, or remarketing firms may be changed from time to time. Underwriters, dealers, agents, and remarketing firms that participate in the distribution of the offered securities may be underwriters as defined in the Securities Act. Any discounts or commissions they receive from us and any profits they receive on the resale of the offered securities may be treated as underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act. We will identify any underwriters, agents, or dealers and describe their commissions, fees or discounts in the applicable prospectus supplement or pricing supplement, as the case may be.

Underwriters and Agents

If underwriters are used in a sale, they will acquire the offered securities for their own account. The underwriters may resell the offered securities in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions. These sales may be made at a fixed public offering price or prices,

Edgar Filing: Altra Holdings, Inc. - Form S-3

which may be changed, at market prices prevailing at the time of the sale, at prices related to such prevailing market price or at negotiated prices. We may offer the securities to the public through an underwriting syndicate or through a single underwriter. The underwriters in any particular offering will be mentioned in the applicable prospectus supplement or pricing supplement, as the case may be.

Unless otherwise specified in connection with any particular offering of securities, the obligations of the underwriters to purchase the offered securities will be subject to certain conditions contained in an underwriting agreement that we will enter into with the underwriters at the time of the sale to them. The underwriters will be

Table of Contents

obligated to purchase all of the securities of the series offered if any of the securities are purchased, unless otherwise specified in connection with any particular offering of securities. Any initial offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed, reallocated or paid to dealers may be changed from time to time.

We may designate agents to sell the offered securities. Unless otherwise specified in connection with any particular offering of securities, the agents will agree to use their best efforts to solicit purchases for the period of their appointment. We may also sell the offered securities to one or more remarketing firms, acting as principals for their own accounts or as agents for us. These firms will remarket the offered securities upon purchasing them in accordance with a redemption or repayment pursuant to the terms of the offered securities. A prospectus supplement or pricing supplement, as the case may be, will identify any remarketing firm and will describe the terms of its agreement, if any, with us and its compensation.

In connection with offerings made through underwriters or agents, we may enter into agreements with such underwriters or agents pursuant to which we receive our outstanding securities in consideration for the securities being offered to the public for cash. In connection with these arrangements, the underwriters or agents may also sell securities covered by this prospectus to hedge their positions in these outstanding securities, including in short sale transactions. If so, the underwriters or agents may use the securities received from us under these arrangements to close out any related open borrowings of securities.

Dealers

We may sell the offered securities to dealers as principals. We may negotiate and pay dealers commissions, discounts, or concessions for their services. The dealer may then resell such securities to the public either at varying prices to be determined by the dealer or at a fixed offering price agreed to with us at the time of resale. Dealers engaged by us may allow other dealers to participate in resales.

Direct Sales

We may choose to sell the offered securities directly. In this case, no underwriters or agents would be involved.

Institutional Purchasers

We may authorize agents, dealers, or underwriters to solicit certain institutional investors to purchase offered securities on a delayed delivery basis pursuant to delayed delivery contracts providing for payment and delivery on a specified future date. The applicable prospectus supplement or pricing supplement, as the case may be, will provide the details of any such arrangement, including the offering price and commissions payable on the solicitations.

We will enter into such delayed contracts only with institutional purchasers that we approve. These institutions may include commercial and savings banks, insurance companies, pension funds, investment companies, and educational and charitable institutions.

Indemnification; Other Relationships

We may have agreements with agents, underwriters, dealers, and remarketing firms to indemnify them against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act. Agents, underwriters, dealers, and remarketing firms, and their affiliates, may engage in transactions with, or perform services for, us in the ordinary course of business. This includes commercial banking and investment banking transactions.

Market-Making, Stabilization and Other Transactions

There is currently no market for any of the offered securities, other than the common stock which is listed on The NASDAQ Global Market. If the offered securities are traded after their initial issuance, they may trade at a discount from their initial offering price, depending upon prevailing interest rates, the market for similar securities, and other factors. While it is possible that an underwriter could inform us that it intends to make a market in the

Table of Contents

offered securities, such underwriter would not be obligated to do so, and any such market-making could be discontinued at any time without notice. Therefore, no assurance can be given as to whether an active trading market will develop for the offered securities. We have no current plans for listing of the preferred stock, depository shares, warrants, or units on any securities exchange or on the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. automated quotation system; any such listing with respect to any particular preferred stock, depository shares, warrants, or units will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement or pricing supplement, as the case may be.

In connection with any offering of common stock, the underwriters may purchase and sell shares of common stock in the open market. These transactions may include short sales, syndicate covering transactions and stabilizing transactions. Short sales involve syndicate sales of common stock in excess of the number of shares to be purchased by the underwriters in the offering, which creates a syndicate short position. Covered short sales are sales of shares made in an amount up to the number of shares represented by the underwriters' over-allotment option. In determining the source of shares to close out the covered syndicate short position, the underwriters will consider, among other things, the price of shares available for purchase in the open market as compared to the price at which they may purchase shares through the over-allotment option. Transactions to close out the covered syndicate short involve either purchases of the common stock in the open market after the distribution has been completed or the exercise of the over-allotment option. The underwriters may also make naked short sales of shares in excess of the over-allotment option. The underwriters must close out any naked short position by purchasing shares of common stock in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of the shares in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering. Stabilizing transactions consist of bids for or purchases of shares in the open market while the offering is in progress for the purpose of pegging, fixing or maintaining the price of the securities.

In connection with any offering, the underwriters may also engage in penalty bids. Penalty bids permit the underwriters to reclaim a selling concession from a syndicate member when the securities originally sold by the syndicate member are purchased in a syndicate covering transaction to cover syndicate short positions. Stabilizing transactions, syndicate covering transactions and penalty bids may cause the price of the securities to be higher than it would be in the absence of the transactions. The underwriters may, if they commence these transactions, discontinue them at any time.

Fees and Commissions

In compliance with the guidelines of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (the "FINRA"), the aggregate maximum discount, commission or agency fees or other items constituting underwriting compensation to be received by any FINRA member or independent broker-dealer will not exceed 8% of any offering pursuant to this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement or pricing supplement, as the case may be.

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the securities in respect of which this prospectus is being delivered will be passed on for us by Holland & Knight LLP, Miami, Florida. The validity of the securities offered by this prospectus will be passed upon for any underwriters or agents by counsel named in the applicable prospectus supplement. The opinions of Holland & Knight LLP and counsel for any underwriters or agents may be conditioned upon and may be subject to assumptions regarding future action required to be taken by us and any underwriters, dealers or agents in connection with the issuance of any securities. The opinions of Holland & Knight LLP and counsel for any underwriters or agents may be subject to other conditions and assumptions, as indicated in the prospectus supplement and/or other offering materials.

Table of Contents

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements, and the related financial statement schedule, incorporated in this Prospectus by reference from the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, and the effectiveness of Altra Holdings Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their reports, which are incorporated herein by reference. Such financial statements and financial statement schedule have been so incorporated in reliance upon the reports of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC under the Exchange Act. You may read and copy this information at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You may obtain information on the operation of the SEC's Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC also maintains an Internet website that contains reports, proxy statements and other information about issuers, including Altra Holdings, who file electronically with the SEC. The address of the website is <http://www.sec.gov>.

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement (which term includes all amendments, exhibits, and schedules thereto) on Form S-3 under the Securities Act with respect to the securities offered by this prospectus. This prospectus is a part of the registration statement. This prospectus does not contain all the information set forth in the registration statement because certain information has been incorporated into the registration statement by reference in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. Please review the documents incorporated by reference for a more complete description of the matters to which such documents relate. The registration statement may be inspected at the public reference facilities maintained by the SEC at 100 F Street NE, Washington, D.C. 20549 and is available to you on the SEC's web site.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference information into this document. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be a part of this document, except for any information superseded by information that is included directly in this document or incorporated by reference subsequent to the date of this document.

This prospectus incorporates by reference the documents listed below, shall be deemed to incorporate by reference all filings filed by us pursuant to the Exchange Act after the date of the initial registration statement and prior to effectiveness of the registration statement, and incorporates by reference any future filings that we make with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act (other than information in the documents or filings that is deemed to have been furnished and not filed), until all the securities offered under this prospectus are sold; provided, however, that we are not incorporating any information furnished under Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of any current report on Form 8-K:

Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 filed on February 24, 2012;

Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2012 filed on April 30, 2012, for the quarter ended June 30, 2012 filed on August 9, 2012, and for the quarter ended September 29, 2012 filed on November 7, 2012;

Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on February 17, 2012, March 19, 2012, April 30, 2012, July 16, 2012 and November 20, 2012;

Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A (those portions incorporated by reference into Altra Holdings' Form 10-K only) filed on March 22, 2012; and

the description of our common stock contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A, filed on December 12, 2006, including any amendments or reports filed for the purpose of updating the description.

Table of Contents

Any statement contained in a document we incorporate by reference will be modified or superseded for all purposes to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus (or in any other document that is subsequently filed with the SEC and incorporated by reference) modifies or is contrary to that previous statement. Any statement so modified or superseded will not be deemed a part of this prospectus except as so modified or superseded.

Documents incorporated by reference are available from the SEC as described above or from Altra Holdings without charge, excluding any exhibits to those documents unless the exhibit is specifically incorporated by reference as an exhibit in this document. You can obtain documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus by requesting them in writing or by telephone at the following address:

Altra Holdings, Inc.

300 Granite Street

Suite 201

Braintree, Massachusetts 02184

(781) 917-0600

Attention: Investor Relations

You can also find the above-referenced filings on our website at www.altramotion.com. By following the link "Investor Relations" and then "SEC filings" on our Internet website, we make available, free of charge, our Annual Report on Form 10-K, our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, our Current Reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended as soon as reasonably practicable after such forms are filed with or furnished to the SEC. We are not including the information contained on or available through our website as a part of, or incorporating such information by reference into, this prospectus.

Table of Contents**PART II****INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS****Item 14. Other expenses of issuance and distribution**

The following table sets forth the costs and expenses to be borne by the Registrant in connection with the offerings described in this Registration Statement.

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|----------|
| SEC registration fee | \$ | 0 |
| Nasdaq filing fee | | * |
| Transfer agent fees and expenses | | * |
| Printing | | * |
| Accounting fees and expenses | | * |
| Legal fees and expenses | | * |
| Rating agency fees | | * |
| Miscellaneous | | * |
| Total | \$ | * |

* Not presently known.

** \$16,740 of which is offset, pursuant to Rule 457(p) under the Securities Act, by a credit from previously paid fees related to unsold securities registered as part of the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-3 (No. 333-162511) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 15, 2009.

Item 15. Indemnification of directors and officers

The following is a summary of the statutes, certificate of incorporation, and bylaw provisions or other arrangements under which the registrant's directors and officers are insured or indemnified against liability in their capacities as such. All the directors and officers of the registrants are covered by insurance policies maintained and held in effect by Altra Holdings against certain liabilities for actions taken in their capacities as such, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

Section 145 of Delaware General Corporation Law.

Altra Holdings is incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware. Section 145 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, or DGCL, provides that a corporation may indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation) by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee, or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by him in connection with such action, suit, or proceeding if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe the person's conduct was unlawful.

Section 145 also provides that a corporation may indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending, or completed action or suit by or in the right of the corporation to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of the fact that such person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation and except that no

Edgar Filing: Altra Holdings, Inc. - Form S-3

indemnification shall be made in respect of any claim, issue or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable to the corporation unless and only to the extent that the Court of Chancery of Delaware or the court in which such action or suit was brought shall determine upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all the circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses which the Court of Chancery of Delaware or such other court shall deem proper.

II-1

Table of Contents

To the extent that a present or former director or officer of a corporation has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action, suit, or proceeding referred to above, or in defense of any claim, issue, or matter therein, such person shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection therewith; provided that indemnification provided for by Section 145 or granted pursuant thereto shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which the indemnified party may be entitled; and a Delaware corporation shall have power to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against any liability asserted against such person and incurred by such person in any such capacity or arising out of such person's status as such whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify such person against such liabilities under Section 145.

Certificate of Incorporation Provisions on Indemnification.

Altra Holdings' Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation provides that a director of the Company shall not be personally liable to either the Company or any of its stockholders for monetary damages for a breach of fiduciary duty except for: (i) breaches of the duty of loyalty to the corporation or its stockholders; (ii) acts or omissions not in good faith or involving intentional misconduct or knowing violation of the law; (iii) as required by Section 174 of the DGCL; or (iv) a transaction resulting in an improper personal benefit. In addition the corporation has the power to indemnify any person serving as a director, officer or agent of the corporation to the fullest extent permitted by law.

Bylaws Provisions on Indemnification.

Altra Holdings' Second Amended and Restated Bylaws provide generally that the Company has the power to indemnify its directors, officers, employees, and agents who are or were a party, or threatened to be made a party, to any threatened, pending, or contemplated action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation), by reason of the fact that such person is or was the director, officer, employee, or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving in such a position at its request of any other corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, or other enterprise.

Other Provisions on Indemnification.

The Company is also a party to indemnification agreements with each of the Company's directors and certain of the Company's officers, including, Michael L. Hurt, Carl R. Christenson, Christian Storch, Glenn E. Deegan, Todd B. Patriacca and Craig Schuele. Consistent with the Company's bylaws, the indemnification agreements require the Company, among other things, to (i) maintain directors' and officers' liability insurance for each indemnitee, and (ii) indemnify each indemnitee to the fullest extent permitted by law for certain expenses incurred in a proceeding arising out of indemnitee's service to the Company or its subsidiaries. The indemnification agreements also provide for the advancement of such expenses to the indemnitee by the Company.

The above discussion of the certificate of incorporation and bylaws of the registrant and the indemnification agreements is not intended to be exhaustive and is qualified in its entirety by such certificate of incorporation, bylaws, and indemnification agreements.

Item 16. Exhibits

The exhibits listed in the accompanying Exhibit Index are filed or incorporated by reference as part of this Registration Statement.

Table of Contents

Item 17. Undertakings

(a) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the SEC pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20 percent change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the Calculation of Registration Fee table in the effective registration statement;

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement;

provided, however, that paragraphs (i), (ii) and (iii) above do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the SEC by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in this registration statement, or is contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of the registration statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered herein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(4) That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser:

(A) Each prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of the registration statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in the registration statement; and

(B) Each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5), or (b)(7) as part of a registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (vii), or (x) for the purpose of providing the information required by Section 10(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the earlier of the date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of the registration statement relating to the securities in the registration statement to which that prospectus relates, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof; provided, however, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such effective date, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such effective date.

Table of Contents

(5) That, for the purpose of determining liability of the registrant under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the securities:

The undersigned Registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the undersigned registrant pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:

(i) Any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;

(ii) Any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant or used or referred to by the undersigned registrant;

(iii) The portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about the undersigned registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant; and

(iv) any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned registrant to the purchaser.

(b) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(c) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the SEC such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

(d) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that:

(1) For purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, the information omitted from the form of prospectus filed as part of this registration statement in reliance upon Rule 430A and contained in a form of prospectus filed by the Registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(1) or (4) or 497(h) under the Securities Act shall be deemed to be part of this registration statement as of the time it was declared effective.

(2) For the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each post-effective amendment that contains a form of prospectus shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

Table of Contents**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant, Altra Holdings, Inc., certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the Town of Braintree, Massachusetts, on December 20, 2012.

ALTRA HOLDINGS, INC.

/s/ Carl R. Christenson
 By: Carl R. Christenson
 Title: President and Chief Executive Officer

NOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Carl R. Christenson and Christian Storch, and each of them, his true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this registration statement, including any related registration statement filed pursuant to Rules 413 or 462 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and all other documents in connection therewith, with the SEC, granting unto each said attorney-in-fact and agent full power and authority to do and perform each and every act in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents or either of them or their or his or her substitute or substitutes may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| /s/ Carl R. Christenson | President, Chief Executive Officer and Director | <u>December 20, 2012</u> |
| Carl R. Christenson | | Date |
| /s/ Christian Storch | Vice President and Chief Financial Officer | <u>December 20, 2012</u> |
| Christian Storch | | Date |
| /s/ Todd B. Patriacca | Chief Accounting Officer | <u>December 20, 2012</u> |
| Todd B. Patriacca | | Date |
| /s/ Michael J. Hurt P.E. | Executive Chairman and Director | <u>December 20, 2012</u> |
| Michael J. Hurt P.E. | | Date |
| /s/ Edmund M. Carpenter | Director | <u>December 20, 2012</u> |
| Edmund M. Carpenter | | Date |
| /s/ Lyle G. Ganske | Director | <u>December 20, 2012</u> |
| Lyle G. Ganske | | Date |
| /s/ Michael S. Lipscomb | Director | <u>December 20, 2012</u> |
| Michael S. Lipscomb | | Date |

Table of Contents

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| /s/ Larry McPherson | Director | <u>December 20, 2012</u> |
| Larry McPherson | | Date |
| /s/ James H. Woodward Jr. | Director | <u>December 20, 2012</u> |
| James H. Woodward Jr. | | Date |

Table of Contents

EXHIBIT INDEX

| Number | Description |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.1* | Form of Underwriting Agreement |
| 3.1(1) | Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant |
| 3.2(2) | Second Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Registrant |
| 4.1(1) | Form of Common Stock Certificate |
| 4.2* | Form of Warrant |
| 4.3* | Form of Warrant Agreement |
| 4.4* | Preferred Stock Certificate of Designation |
| 4.5* | Depository Agreement |
| 4.6* | Form of Depository Receipt |
| 4.7* | Form of Unit Agreement |
| 4.8* | Form of Unit Certificate |
| 5.1 | Legal Opinion of Holland & Knight LLP |
| 12.1 | Computation of Ratio of Combined Fixed Charges and Preference Dividends to Earnings |
| 23.1 | Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP |
| 23.2 | Consent of Holland & Knight LLP (filed as part of Exhibit 5.1) |
| 24.1 | Power of Attorney (included on the signature page of this Registration Statements) |

* To be filed by amendment or as an exhibit to a document to be incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement.

- (1) Incorporated by reference to Altra Holdings, Inc.'s Registration Statement on Form S-1/A (File No. 333-137660) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 4, 2006.
- (2) Incorporated by reference to Altra Holdings, Inc.'s Current Report on form 8-K filed on October 27, 2008.