

Credit Markets Update as of December 31, 2017

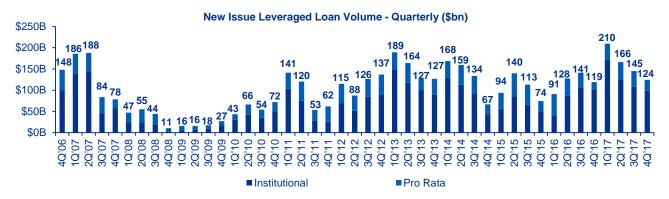
We are pleased to provide this summary update of the U.S credit markets through the fourth calendar quarter ending December 31, 2017 to our clients and friends:

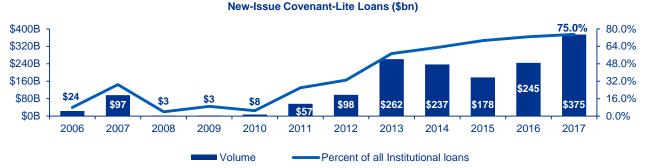
- Overall, credit market fundamentals remained healthy in the fourth quarter, as leveraged loan and high
 yield bond volume remained strong with terms continuing to favor issuers. 2017 was the busiest year ever for
 leveraged loans lead by M&A and repricing activity
- Newly issued leveraged loan volume in the fourth quarter of 2017 stood at \$124 billion, down from the blockbuster 1st quarter of 2017. On an annual basis, 2017 new-issue volume increased versus prior year, up 34.8% at \$645 billion versus \$478 billion in 2016
- New-issue covenant-lite loan volume increased to \$375 billion in 2017, a 53.0% increase from the previous year total of \$245 billion
- Number of LBO transactions and volume fell by 26.7% and 27.0%, respectively, from the fourth quarter of 2016 to reach \$22 billion and \$29 billion, respectively, in the fourth quarter. Full year 2017 transactions and volume numbers are up 44.8% and 11.3%, respectively, over 2016
- Purchase price multiples for middle market LBOs increased to 11.6x in 2017 from 10.2x in the previous year and continued to remain above the levels of 8.5x – 9.5x seen historically
- Debt multiples of middle market and large corporate LBO loans rose to 5.5x and 5.8x in 2017 from 5.3x and 5.5x in the prior year, respectively
- Equity contributions to LBOs increased to 41.3% of the purchase price in 2017
- Second lien loan issuance volume decreased to \$4 billion in the fourth quarter, lowest since the fourth quarter of 2016. Full year 2017 volume was 149.1% higher as compared to 2016
- The U.S. middle market ended 2017 on a strong note with \$9.2 billion in syndicated transactions of \$350 million or less in the fourth quarter of 2017 which was up 11% from the fourth quarter of 2016. Total volume in all of 2017 was \$38 billion, the most since 2014
 - Demand for middle market deals pushed the private debt asset class to its most successful fundraising year ever in 2017, with over \$180 billion raised
- High yield bond issuance volume increased in the fourth quarter and full year 2017 to \$68 billion and \$276 billion, respectively, from \$47 billion and \$229 billion in the corresponding quarter a year ago and the previous year, respectively
- High yield bond pricing increased to 6.4% in the fourth quarter of 2017 from 5.9% in the last quarter. For full year 2017, pricing was 6.3%, down 255 bps from 2016
- Flows into high yield bond funds remained negative in the fourth quarter with outflow exceeding the inflow by \$9 billion
- Funds flows into leveraged loan funds increased to \$31 billion in the fourth quarter of 2017 from \$29 billion in the previous quarter
- **CLO volume increased to \$118 billion in 2017**, up 63% from \$72 billion in 2016, and spreads tightened to L+109
- Distress indicators eased during the quarter, with the dollar amount and number of facilities of all
 outstanding first lien loans trading in the secondary market at prices of L+1000 or greater remaining flat at 4.2%
 and 3.8%, respectively
- Percentage of leveraged loans in default or in bankruptcy fell to 1.1% in 2017 from 1.6% last year, marking improvements in credit fundamentals

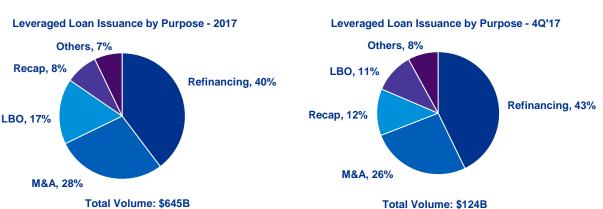


Leveraged Loans





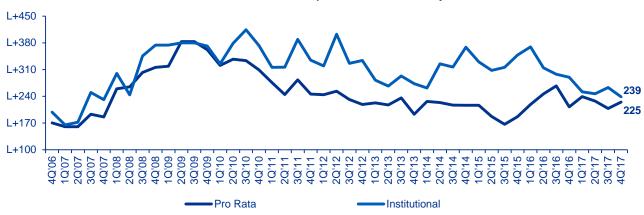






Leveraged Loans (continued)

New-Issue First Lien Spreads BB/BB - Quarterly



New-Issue First Lien Spreads B+/B - Quarterly



Average Spread Per Unit of Leverage (SPU) on LBO's





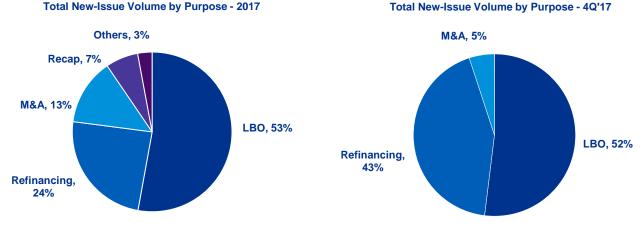
Leveraged Loans - Middle Market

Leveraged Loan Volume- Annual (\$bn)





Total New-Issue Volume by Purpose - 2017



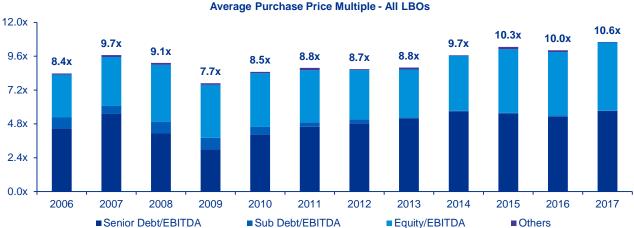
Total Volume: \$13B **Total Volume: \$2B**

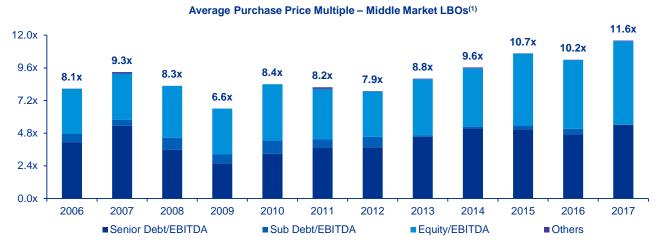
Source: Standard & Poor | Leveraged Commentary & Data Note: Middle market refers to companies with EBITDA of \$50 million or less



LBO Summary







Source: Standard & Poor | Leveraged Commentary & Data

(1) Middle market refers to companies with EBITDA of \$50 million or less



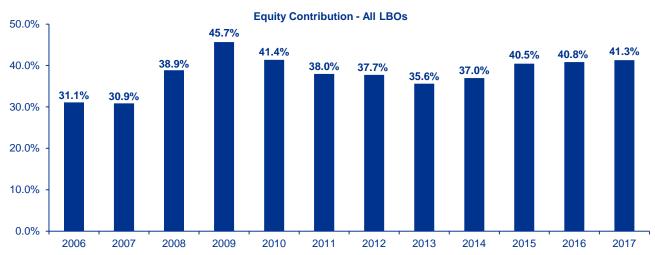
LBO Summary (continued)

Average Debt Multiples of Large Corporate LBO Loans(1)



Average Debt Multiples of Middle-Market LBO Loans(2)

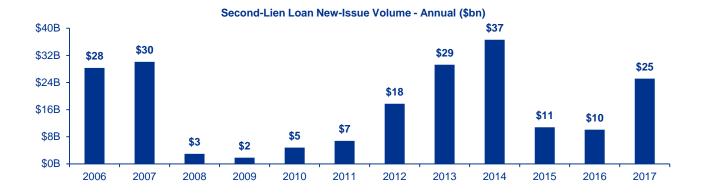




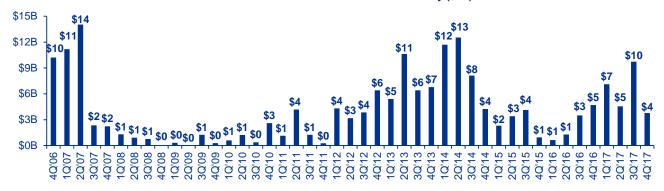
- (1) Large corporate refers to companies with EBITDA of more than \$50 million.
- (2) Middle market refers to companies with EBITDA of \$50 million or less.

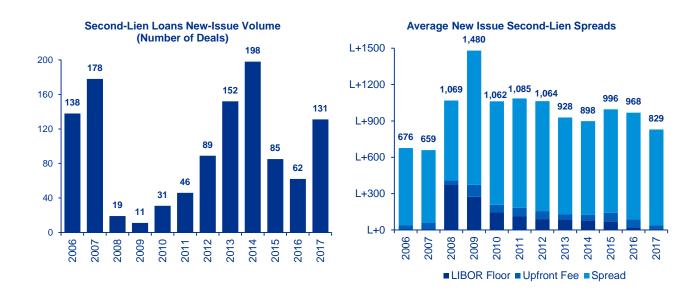


Second-Lien Loans



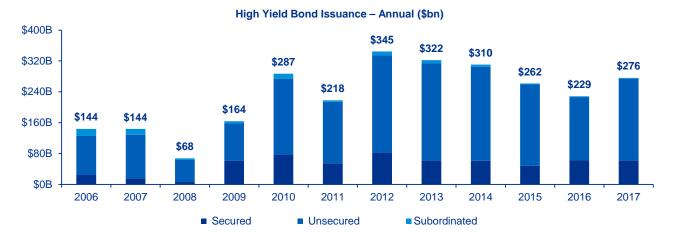
Second Lien Loan New-Issue Volume - Quarterly (\$bn)

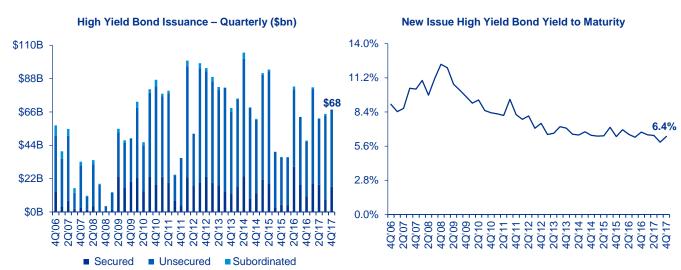


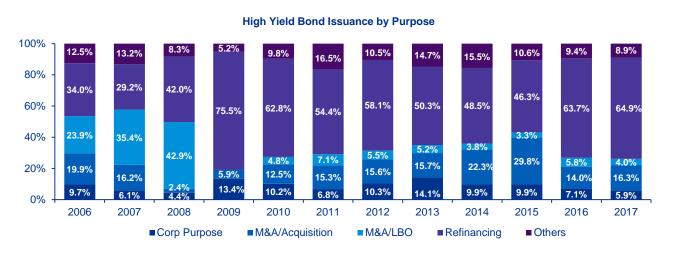




High Yield Bonds









Dividend Recapitalization

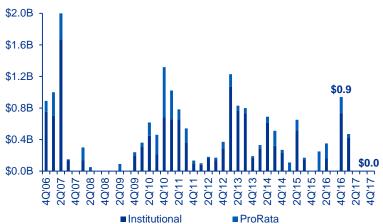




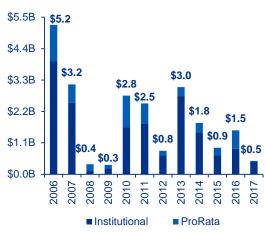
Dividend or Stock Repurchase Loan Volume-Quarterly (\$bn)



Middle-Market Dividend Related Volume- Quarterly (\$bn)

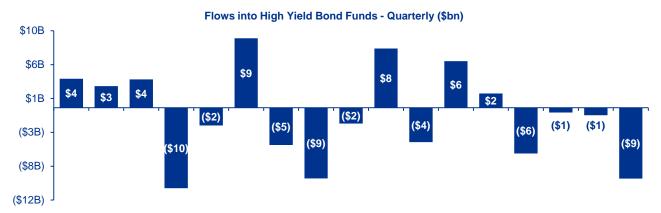


Middle-Market Dividend Related Volume- Annual (\$bn)

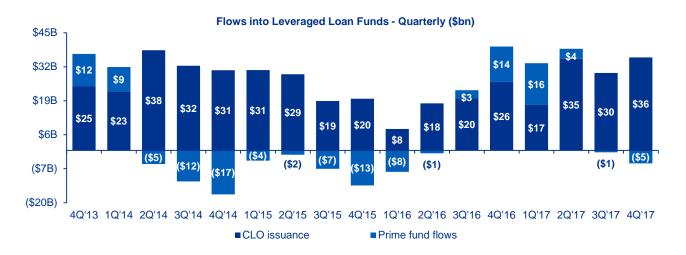




Funds Flows



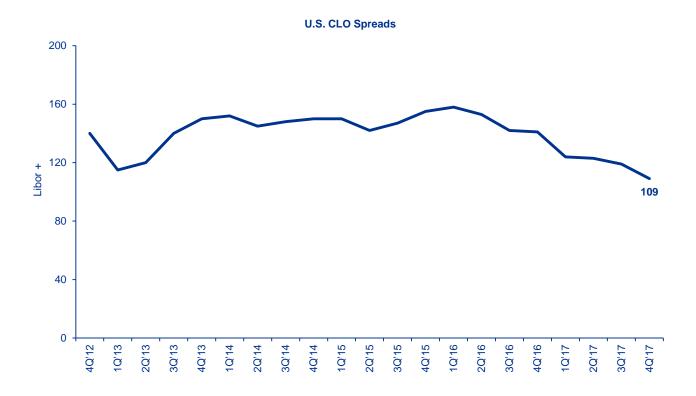
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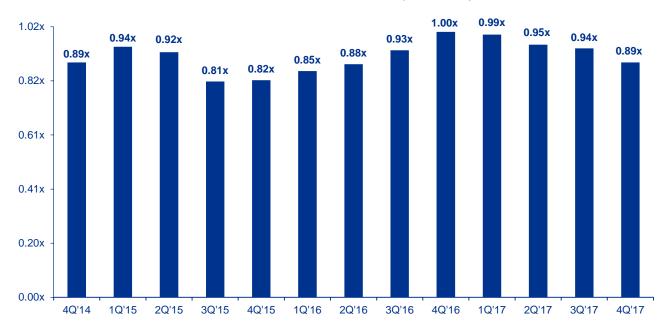




Funds Flows (continued)

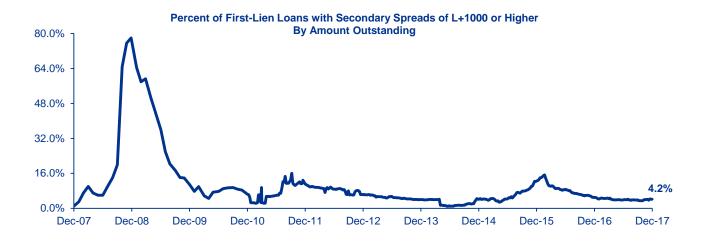


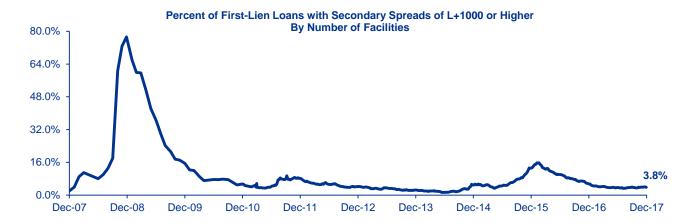






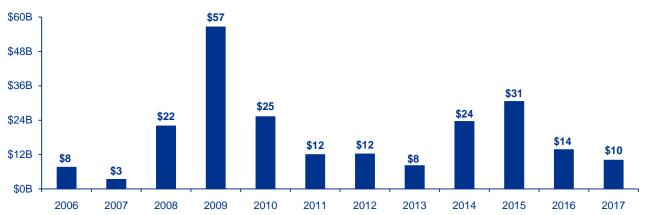
Distress and Defaults



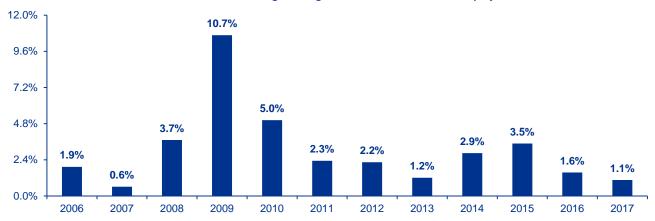


Distress and Defaults (continued)

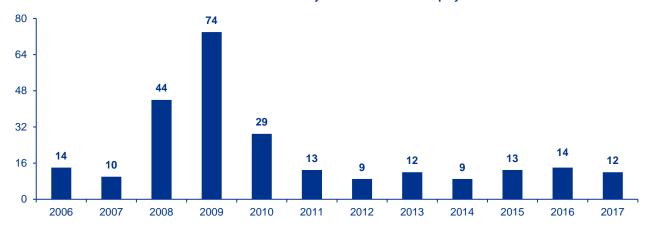
Par Amount of Leveraged Loans in Payment Default or Bankruptcy (\$bn)



Percent of Outstanding Leveraged Loans in Default or Bankruptcy



Number of Issuers in Payment Default or Bankruptcy





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- Dividend recapitalizations and minority buyouts
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Debt and equity capital raises

Capital for special situations, including bankruptcies

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