

COMMERCIAL NET LEASE REALTY INC

Form S-3

May 29, 2003

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 29, 2003

Registration No. 333-  
Post-Effective Amendment No. 1 to Registration Statement No. 333-53796

---

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM S-3**  
REGISTRATION STATEMENT  
UNDER  
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

**COMMERCIAL NET LEASE REALTY, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Maryland  
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)  
56-1431377  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

450 South Orange Avenue, Suite 900  
Orlando, Florida 32801  
Telephone: (407) 265-7348  
(Address, including zip code and telephone number, including  
area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

Kevin B. Habicht, Chief Financial Officer  
Commercial Net Lease Realty, Inc.  
450 South Orange Avenue, Suite 900  
Orlando, Florida 32801  
Telephone: (407) 265-7348  
(Name, address, including zip code and telephone number,  
including area code of agent for service)

Copies to:  
John M. McDonald, Esq.  
Shaw Pittman LLP  
2300 N Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20037  
(202) 663-8000

**Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale of the securities to the public:**  
From time to time following 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, please check the following box.

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

Edgar Filing: COMMERCIAL NET LEASE REALTY INC - Form S-3

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act of 1933, please check the following box and list the Securities Act of 1933 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 of 1933, check the following box and list the

---

Edgar Filing: COMMERCIAL NET LEASE REALTY INC - Form S-3

Securities Act of 1933 registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. [ ]

If delivery of the prospectus is expected to be made pursuant to Rule 434 of the Securities Act of 1933, please check the following box. [ ]

**CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE**

Type of Each Class of Securities to be Registered(1)	Amount Being Registered	Proposed Maximum Offering Price	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price(2)(4)	Amount of Registration Fee(3)(4)
Debt Securities	(6)			
Preferred Stock, \$0.01 par value	(6)			
Depository Shares	(6)			
Common Stock, \$0.01 par value(5)	\$ 510,363,500	(6)	\$ 510,363,500	\$ 41,289(7)
Common Stock Warrants	(6)			

- (1) Offered securities registered hereunder may be sold separately, together or as units with other offered securities registered hereunder.
- (2) In U.S. dollars or the equivalent thereof at the time of sale for any debt security denominated in one or more foreign currencies or units of two or more foreign currencies or composite currencies (such as European currency units).
- (3) Estimated solely for purposes of calculating the registration fee. No separate consideration will be received for shares of common stock that are issued upon conversion of debt securities or shares of preferred stock. The aggregate maximum public offering price of all offered securities issued pursuant to this registration statement will not exceed \$600,000,000. Debt securities may be issued with original issue discount such that the aggregate initial public offering price will not exceed \$600,000,000.
- (4) Does not include \$89,636,500 of unissued offered securities previously registered by the company under Registration Statement No. 333-53796 initially filed on January 16, 2001. Pursuant to Rule 429, an indeterminate number of debt securities, preferred stock, depository shares, common stock and common stock warrants are being carried forward. A registration fee of \$7,252 was previously paid with respect to an aggregate of \$89,636,500 of securities previously registered.
- (5) Including such indeterminate number of shares of common stock as may from time to time be issued at indeterminate prices or issuable upon exercise of the common stock warrants to purchase common stock registered hereunder, as the case may be.
- (6) Omitted pursuant to General Instruction II.D of Form S-3 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.
- (7) Calculated pursuant to Rule 457(o) of the rules and regulations under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

**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.**

Pursuant to Rule 429 of the General Rules and Regulations under the Securities Act of 1933, the prospectus included herein also relates to Registration Statement No. 333-53796.

Commercial Net Lease Realty, Inc.  
A Real Estate Investment Trust

**\$600,000,000**  
*Commercial Net Lease Realty, Inc.*  
**Debt Securities, Preferred Stock, Depositary Shares,  
Common Stock and Common Stock Warrants**

---

We, Commercial Net Lease Realty, Inc., may from time to time offer, in one or more series, separately or together, the following:

- our debt securities which may be either senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities;
- shares of our preferred stock;
- shares of our preferred stock represented by depositary shares;
- shares of our common stock; and/or
- warrants to purchase shares of our common stock.

We will offer such securities at an aggregate initial public offering price of up to \$600,000,000. Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the trading symbol NNN.

We will offer our securities in amounts, at prices and on terms to be determined at the time we offer such securities.

When we sell a particular series of securities, we will prepare a prospectus supplement describing the offering and the terms of that series of securities. Such terms may include limitations on direct or beneficial ownership and restrictions on transfer of our securities being offered that we believe are appropriate to preserve our status as a real estate investment trust for federal income tax purposes.

We may offer our securities directly, through agents we may designate from time to time, or to or through underwriters or dealers. If any agents or underwriters are involved in the sale of any of our securities, their names and any applicable purchase price, fee, commission or discount arrangement between or among them will be set forth or will be calculable from the information set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. See Plan of Distribution. None of our securities may be sold without delivery of the applicable prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the offering of such class or series of the securities.

---

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

---

**THE DATE OF THIS PROSPECTUS IS May 29, 2003.**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
About this Prospectus	5
Where You Can Find More Information	6
Commercial Net Lease Realty, Inc.	7
Use of Proceeds	7
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges and Preferred Stock Dividends	7
Description of Debt Securities	8
Description of Preferred Stock	18
Description of Depositary Shares	22
Description of Common Stock	25
Description of Common Stock Warrants	27
Federal Income Tax Considerations	28
Plan of Distribution	34
Legal Matters	35
Experts	35

**ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS**

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission using a shelf registration process. Under this shelf process, we may sell:

debt securities,

preferred stock,

preferred stock represented by depositary shares,

common stock, and

warrants to purchase shares of common stock

either separately or in units, in one or more offerings. This prospectus provides you with a general description of those securities. Each time we 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. You should read this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement together with the additional information described under the heading **Where You Can Find More Information**.

The registration statement that contains this prospectus (including the exhibits to the registration statement) contains additional information about Commercial Net Lease Realty, Inc. and the securities offered under this prospectus. That registration statement can be read at the SEC's web site or at the SEC offices mentioned under the heading **Where You Can Find More Information**.

**WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION**

We file annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy statements and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC. You may read and copy any document that we have filed at the SEC's public reference rooms at 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549; Seven World Trade Center, 13th Floor, New York, New York 10048; and Suite 1400, Northwestern Atrium Center, 500 West Madison Street, Chicago, Illinois 60661. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference room. Our filings are available to the public at the web site at <http://www.sec.gov>. Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol NNN. You may inspect our reports, proxy statements and other information at the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement (of which this prospectus is a part) on Form S-3 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, with respect to our securities. This prospectus does not contain all of the information set forth in the registration statement, including the exhibits and schedules thereto, certain parts of which are omitted as permitted by the rules and regulations of the SEC.

We are incorporating by reference the information we file with the SEC, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information we incorporate by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus, except for any information superseded by information in this prospectus. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below which we have filed with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (Exchange Act file number 0-12989).

Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002, filed with the SEC on March 28, 2003.

Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A for the 2003 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, filed with the SEC on April 18, 2003.

Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on May 6, 2003.

Quarterly Report for the quarter ended March 31, 2003, filed with the SEC on May 7, 2003.

The description of our common stock contained in the Registration Statement on Form 8-A, filed with the SEC.

All documents that we file after the date of this prospectus but before we terminate the offering of our securities shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus and will be part of the prospectus from the date we file that document. Any information in that document that is meant to supersede or modify any existing statement in this prospectus will so supersede or modify the statement as appropriate.

You may request a copy of any or all of the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus, except the exhibits to such documents (unless such exhibits are specifically incorporated by reference in such documents), at no cost, by writing or telephoning our offices at the following address:

Commercial Net Lease Realty, Inc.  
450 South Orange Avenue, Suite 900  
Orlando, Florida 32801  
Attention: Kevin B. Habicht  
(telephone number (407) 265-7348)



**COMMERCIAL NET LEASE REALTY, INC.**

We are a fully integrated self-administered real estate investment trust ( REIT ), incorporated in Maryland, formed in 1984. We acquire, own, develop and manage a diversified portfolio of high-quality properties that are generally leased to major retail businesses under full-credit, long-term commercial net leases. As of March 31, 2003, we owned 335 properties and had a 20% ownership interest in nine additional properties held in an unconsolidated partnership. Our properties were acquired for an aggregate purchase price of approximately \$890.8 million.

Our strategy is to invest in properties with purchase prices generally up to \$10 million, which typically are located along intensive commercial corridors near traffic generators, such as regional malls, business developments and major thoroughfares. Management believes that these types of properties when leased to high-quality tenants with significant market presence provide attractive opportunities for a stable current return and the potential for capital appreciation. In management's view, these types of properties also provide us with flexibility in use and tenant selection when the properties are re-let.

We generally acquire properties that are subject to a lease in order to avoid the risks of not finding a tenant on a timely basis and to provide an immediate revenue stream. Our leases typically provide that the tenant bears responsibility for substantially all property costs and expenses associated with ongoing maintenance and operation, including utilities, property taxes and insurance, and generally also provide that the tenant is responsible for roof and structural repairs. Our leases typically do not limit our recourse against the tenant and any guarantor in the event of a default and for this reason are considered full-credit leases. Our properties are leased on a long-term basis, generally 10 to 20 years, with renewal options for an additional 10 to 20 years. As of March 31, 2003, the average remaining initial lease term of our properties was approximately 12 years. Leases representing approximately 71.2% of annualized base rental income from our properties, as of March 31, 2003, have initial terms extending until at least December 31, 2012.

Our principal office is located at 450 South Orange Avenue, Suite 900, Orlando, Florida 32801 and our telephone number is (407)265-7348.

**USE OF PROCEEDS**

Unless otherwise described in the applicable prospectus supplement, we intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of our securities for general corporate purposes, which may include the repayment of certain indebtedness outstanding at such time, the acquisition of properties as suitable opportunities arise and the expansion and improvement of certain properties in our portfolio.

**RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS**

Our consolidated ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the three months ended March 31, 2003 was 2.50 and for the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001, 2000, 1999 and 1998 was 2.80, 2.09, 2.34, 2.44 and 3.05, respectively. Our consolidated ratio of earnings to fixed charges and preferred distributions was 2.18 for the three months ended March 31, 2003 and 2.44 for the year ended December 31, 2002. Prior to 2002, we did not have preferred distributions.

For the purposes of computing these ratios, earnings have been calculated by adding fixed charges (excluding capitalized interest) to income before taxes and extraordinary items. Fixed charges consist of interest costs, whether expensed or capitalized, and amortization of debt expense and discount or premium relating to any indebtedness, whether expensed or capitalized. The ratios of earnings to fixed charges and preferred distributions were computed by dividing our earnings by fixed charges and preferred distributions.

## DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

The following is a general description of the debt securities that we may offer from time to time. The particular terms of the debt securities being offered and the extent to which such general provisions may apply will be set forth in the applicable indenture or in one or more indenture supplements and described in the applicable prospectus supplement. Therefore, you should read both the applicable prospectus supplement and the description of the debt securities set forth in this prospectus for a description of the terms of any series of our debt securities.

### General

Our debt securities will be secured or unsecured direct obligations and may be senior or subordinated to our other indebtedness. Our debt securities may be issued under one or more indentures that will be put into place prior to the date on which debt securities to which it relates are issued. The indenture will be filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. Each indenture will be entered into between us and a trustee. A trustee may serve as trustee under more than one indenture. Each indenture will be subject to, and governed by, the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended. Any statements made in this prospectus, which relate to the indenture and our debt securities are only summaries of those provisions and are not meant to replace or modify those provisions. Capitalized terms used but not defined in this prospectus shall have the respective meanings set forth in the indenture.

Except as set forth in any prospectus supplement, the indenture will permit that:

the debt securities may be issued without limits as to aggregate principal amount,

the debt securities may be issued in one or more series, in each case as established from time to time by our Board of Directors or as set forth in the applicable indenture or one or more indentures supplemental to the indenture,

all debt securities of one series need not be issued at the same time, and

a series may be reopened, without the consent of the holders of the debt securities of such series, for issuance of additional debt securities of such series.

We may, but need not, designate more than one trustee in connection with an indenture, each with respect to one or more series of debt securities. Any trustee under an indenture may resign or be removed with respect to one or more series of debt securities, and a successor trustee may be appointed to act with respect to such series. If two or more persons are acting as trustee with respect to different series of debt securities, each of those trustees will be considered a trustee of a trust under the applicable indenture separate and apart from the trust administered by any other trustee. Unless this prospectus states otherwise, a trustee will only be permitted to take action with respect to the one or more series of debt securities for which it is trustee under the applicable indenture.

The following summaries set forth certain general terms and provisions of the indenture and our debt securities. The prospectus supplement relating to the series of debt securities being offered will contain further terms of the debt securities of that series, including the following specific terms:

(1) the title of the debt securities;

(2) the aggregate principal amount of the debt securities and any limit on the aggregate principal amount;

(3) the percentage of the principal amount at which the debt securities will be issued and, if applicable, the portion of the principal amount that is payable upon declaration of acceleration of the maturity of the debt securities, the portion of the principal amount of the debt securities which is convertible into shares of our common stock or other equity securities, or the method by which any such portion shall be determined;

(4) if such debt securities are convertible into equity, any limitation to the ownership or transferability of shares of our common stock or other equity securities into which such debt securities are convertible in connection with the preservation of our status as a REIT;

## Edgar Filing: COMMERCIAL NET LEASE REALTY INC - Form S-3

- (5) the date or dates, or the method for determining the date or dates, on which the principal of such debt securities will be payable;
- (6) the rate or rates (which may be fixed or variable), or the method by which such rate or rates shall be determined, at which such debt securities will bear interest, if any;
- (7) the date or dates, or the method for determining the date or dates, from which any interest will accrue, the interest payment dates, the record dates for interest payment, the persons to whom interest shall be payable, and how interest will be calculated if other than that of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months;
- (8) the place or places where the principal of (and premium, if any) or interest, if any, on the debt securities will be payable, where the debt securities may be surrendered for conversion or registration of transfer or exchange, and where notices or demands to or upon us in respect to the debt securities and the applicable indenture may be served;
- (9) the period or periods within which, the price or prices at which, and the terms and conditions upon which the debt securities may be redeemed, as a whole or in part, at our option, if we have such an option;
- (10) our obligation, if any, to redeem, repay or purchase the debt securities, in whole or in part, pursuant to any sinking fund or analogous provision or at the option of a holder of the debt securities, and the periods, the prices, and other terms and conditions of such redemption, repayment or purchase;
- (11) if other than U.S. dollars, the currency or currencies, including terms and conditions, in which the debt securities are denominated and payable, which may be a foreign currency or units of two or more foreign currencies or a composite currency or currencies;
- (12) whether the amount of payments of principal (and premium, if any) or interest, if any, on the debt securities may be determined with reference to an index, formula or other method (which index, formula or method may, but need not be, based on a currency, currencies, currency unit or units or composite currency or currencies) and the manner in which any amounts shall be determined;
- (13) any additions to, modifications of or deletions from the terms of the debt securities with respect to the events of default or covenants set forth in the applicable indenture;
- (14) whether the debt securities will be issued in certificated or book-entry form;
- (15) whether the debt securities will be in registered or bearer form or both and, if and to the extent in registered form, the denominations of the debt securities if other than \$1,000 or any integral multiple of \$1,000 and, if and to the extent in bearer form, the denominations and their terms and conditions;
- (16) the applicability (or modification), if any, of the defeasance and covenant defeasance provisions described in this prospectus or in the applicable indenture;
- (17) the terms (and the class), if any, upon which such debt securities may be convertible into shares of our common stock or other equity securities and the terms and conditions upon which such conversion will be effected, including, without limitation, the initial conversion price or rate and the conversion period;
- (18) whether and under what circumstances we will pay additional amounts on the debt securities in respect of any tax, assessment or governmental charge and, if so, whether we will have the option to redeem the debt securities in lieu of making a payment;
- (19) the provisions, if any, relating to the security provided for the debt securities; and
- (20) any other terms of the debt securities not inconsistent with the provisions of the applicable indenture.

Certain of our debt securities may provide that if the maturity date is accelerated, we will be required to pay less than the entire principal amount. These securities are referred to as original issue discount securities. The prospectus supplement relating to these

securities will describe any material U.S. federal income tax, accounting and other considerations that apply.

Except as may be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, our debt securities will not contain any provisions that would limit our ability to incur indebtedness or that would afford holders of our debt securities protection in the event of:

- (1) a highly leveraged or similar action involving us;
- (2) a change of control of us.

However, the requirements for an entity to qualify as a REIT include certain restrictions on ownership and transfers of our shares of common stock and other equity securities. These restrictions may act to prevent or hinder a change of control. See Description of Common Stock Restrictions on Ownership. Provided below is a general description of the events of default and covenants contained in our indentures. You should refer to the applicable prospectus supplement for information on any variances from this general description.

### **Denominations, Interest, Registration and Transfer**

Unless otherwise described in the applicable prospectus supplement, our debt securities of any series will be issuable in denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest on any series of debt securities will be payable at the applicable trustee's corporate trust office, the address of which will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. We will retain the option to make interest payments by check, mailed to the address of the person entitled to the interest as it appears in the applicable register for such debt securities. We can also pay by wire transfer of funds to that person at an account maintained within the United States.

Any interest not paid or otherwise provided for when due with respect to a debt security will not be payable to the holder in whose name the debt security is registered on the date we have specified as the date a registered holder of the debt security as of that date would be entitled to receive the interest payment due (the record date). Instead, the interest may be paid to the person in whose name such debt security is registered at the close of business on the date the trustee has set as the date on which a registered holder as of that date would be entitled to receive the defaulted interest payment (the special record date). Notice of the payment will be given to the holder of that debt security not less than 10 days before the special record date. It may also be paid at any time in any other lawful manner, all as more completely described in the applicable indenture. If interest is not paid within 30 days of the due date, the trustee or holders of not less than 25% of the principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series may accelerate the securities. See Events of Default, Notice and Waiver.

Subject to certain limitations applicable to debt securities issued in book-entry form, our debt securities of any series:

will be exchangeable for other debt securities of the same series and of a like aggregate principal amount and tenor of different authorized denominations upon surrender of such debt securities at the corporate trust office of the applicable trustee; and

may be surrendered for conversion or registration of transfer at the corporate trust office of the applicable trustee.

Every debt security surrendered for conversion, registration of transfer or exchange must be duly endorsed or accompanied by a written instrument of transfer. No service charge will be made for any registration of transfer or exchange of any debt securities, but we may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection with the registration or exchange. We may at any time change transfer agents or approve a change in the location through which any transfer agent acts. However, we will be required to maintain a transfer agent in each place of payment for such series. We may at any time designate additional transfer agents with respect to any series of debt securities.

Neither we nor any trustee will be required:

to issue, exchange or register the transfer of any debt securities of any series during a period beginning at the opening of business 15 days before any selection of debt securities of that series to be redeemed and ending at the close of business on the day of mailing of the relevant notice of redemption;

to exchange or register the transfer of any debt security, or portion of the security, called for redemption, except the unredeemed portion of any debt security being redeemed in part; or

to issue, exchange or register the transfer of any debt security which has been surrendered for repayment at the option of the holder, except the portion, if any, of such debt security not to be so repaid.

**Merger, Consolidation or Sale**

Each indenture will provide that we may consolidate with, or sell, lease or convey all or substantially all of our assets to, or merge with or into, any other corporation. Those transactions are permitted if:

we are the continuing corporation, or, if not, the resulting or acquiring entity assumes all of our responsibilities and liabilities under the indenture, including the payment of all amounts due on the debt securities and performance of the covenants and conditions contained in the applicable indenture;

immediately after giving effect to such transaction and treating any indebtedness which becomes our obligation or an obligation of any of our subsidiaries as a result thereof as having been incurred by us or such subsidiary at the time of such transaction, no event of default under the applicable indenture, and no event which, after notice or the lapse of time, or both, would become such an event of default, shall have occurred and be continuing; and

an officer's certificate and legal opinion covering these conditions are delivered to the trustee.

**Certain Covenants**

*Existence.* Except as permitted under Merger, Consolidation or Sale, the indenture will require that we do or cause to be done all things necessary to preserve and keep in full force and effect our corporate existence, rights (by articles of incorporation, bylaws or statute) and franchises. We may, however, dispose of any right or franchise if we determine that the right or franchise is no longer desirable in the conduct of our business.

*Maintenance of Properties.* As required in the indenture, we will maintain, keep in good condition and make all necessary repairs, renewals, replacements, betterments and improvements of our, or our subsidiaries' properties that we deem necessary so that the business carried on in connection with those properties may be properly and advantageously conducted at all times. We, or our subsidiaries may, however, sell or otherwise dispose for value our properties in the ordinary course of business.

*Insurance.* We, and our subsidiaries, will maintain the customary policies of insurance with responsible companies, taking into consideration prevailing market conditions and availability, for all of our properties and operations.

*Payment of Taxes and Other Claims.* We will pay or discharge or cause to be paid or discharged (or, if applicable, cause to be transferred to bond or other security), before the same shall become delinquent,

all taxes, assessments and governmental charges levied or imposed upon us or any of our subsidiaries or upon our income, profits or property or any of our subsidiaries, and

all lawful claims for labor, materials and supplies which, if unpaid, might by law become a lien upon our property or the property of any of our subsidiaries.

We will not however, pay or discharge (or transfer to bond or other security) or cause to be paid or discharged any such tax, assessment, charge or claim whose amount, applicability or validity is being contested in good faith by appropriate proceedings.

*Provision of Financial Information.* Whether or not we are subject to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the indenture will require that we, within 15 days after each of the respective dates by which we would have been required to file annual reports, quarterly reports and other documents with the SEC if we were so subject,

transmit by mail to all holders of debt securities, as their names and addresses appear in the applicable register for such debt securities, without cost to such holders, copies of the annual reports, quarterly reports and other documents that we would have been required to file with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange

Act of 1934, as amended if we were subject to such Sections,

file with the trustee copies of the annual reports, quarterly and other documents that we would have been required to file with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended if we were subject to such Sections, and

supply promptly upon written request and payment of the reasonable cost of duplication and delivery, copies of such documents to any prospective holder of debt securities.

*Additional Covenants.* If we make any additional covenants with respect to any series of debt securities we will describe those covenants in the applicable prospectus supplement.

### **Events of Default, Notice and Waiver**

Unless otherwise indicated, an indenture will provide that the following events are Events of Default with respect to any series of debt securities issued:

failure to pay interest on any debt security of that series for 30 days after the payment is due;

failure to pay the principal of or any premium on any debt security of that series at its maturity;

failure to deposit any sinking fund payment when due on debt securities of that series;

failure to perform any of our other covenants in the applicable indenture (unless the covenant applies to a different series of debt securities issued under the same indenture), for 60 days after we receive written notice as provided in such indenture;

default under any evidence of our indebtedness or any mortgage, indenture or other instrument under which such indebtedness is issued or by which such indebtedness is secured which results in the acceleration of indebtedness in an aggregate principal amount exceeding \$10,000,000, but only if such indebtedness is not discharged or such acceleration is not rescinded or annulled as provided in the applicable indenture;

any case, proceeding or other action under bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization or relief of debtors laws is initiated by or against us (or any of our Significant Subsidiaries) in which the entity initiating the case, proceeding or other action seeks to have an order for relief entered with respect to it, or seeks to adjudicate us (or any of our Significant Subsidiaries) bankrupt or insolvent, or seeks reorganization, arrangement, adjustment, winding-up, liquidation, dissolution, composition or other relief with respect to our (or any of our Significant Subsidiaries ) debts;

a court grants relief in connection with any of the cases, proceedings or other actions described above;

we (or any of our Significant Subsidiaries) seek appointment of a receiver, trustee, custodian, conservator or other similar official for us (or any of our Significant Subsidiaries) or for all or any substantial part of our (or any of our Significant Subsidiaries ) assets, or we (or any of our Significant Subsidiaries) make a general assignment for the benefit of our (or any of our Significant Subsidiaries ) creditors; and

any other event of default provided with respect to that series of debt securities.

The term Significant Subsidiary means each of our significant subsidiaries (as defined in Regulation S-X promulgated under the Securities Act of 1933) which, in general, meets any of the following tests:

- (i) our investments in the subsidiary or advances to it exceed 10% of our total assets; or
- (ii) our proportionate share of the subsidiary s total assets exceeds 10% of our total assets; or
- (iii) our equity in the income from the subsidiary s continuing operations exceeds 10% of our income.

If an Event of Default for any series of our outstanding debt securities occurs and is continuing, then the applicable trustee or the

holders of at least 25% of the principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series may declare the principal amount (or, where applicable such portion of the principal amount as may be specified in the terms) of all of the debt securities of that series to be due and payable immediately by written notice to us (and to the applicable trustee if given by the holders). However, at any time after a declaration of acceleration has been made, the holders of a majority of the principal amount of debt securities of that series (or of each series of debt securities then outstanding under such indenture, as the case may be) can rescind and annul the declaration and its consequences if:

we have deposited with the applicable trustee all required payments of the principal, premium and interest on the debt securities of such series (or of all debt securities then outstanding under such indenture, as the case may be), plus certain fees, expenses, disbursements and advances of the applicable trustee; and

all events of default, other than the nonpayment of accelerated principal (or specified portion thereof), with respect to debt securities of such series (or of all debt securities then outstanding under the applicable indenture, as the case may be) have been cured or waived as provided in such indenture.

The indenture will also provide that the holders of not less than a majority in principal amount of the debt securities of any series (or of each series of debt securities then outstanding under the applicable indenture, as the case may be) may waive any past default with respect to such series and its consequences, except a default:

in the payment of the principal, any premium or interest on any debt security of the series or

in respect of a covenant or provision contained in the indenture that cannot be modified or amended without the consent of the holder of each outstanding debt security affected by that default.

The indenture will provide that the trustee is required to give notice to the holders of the debt securities within 90 days of a default under the indenture unless such default shall have been cured or waived. *However*, the trustee may withhold notice to the holders of any such series of debt securities of any default with respect to that series (except a default in the payment of the principal, any premium or interest on any debt security of that series or in the payment of any sinking fund installment in respect of any debt security of that series) if specified responsible officers of the trustee consider such withholding to be in the interest of the holders.

The indenture will provide that no holder of our debt securities of any series may institute any proceeding, judicial or otherwise, with respect to that indenture or for any remedy, except in the case of the failure of the applicable trustee, for 60 days, to act after it has received a written request to institute proceedings in respect of an event of default from the holders of not less than 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of the series, as well as an offer of reasonable indemnity. This provision will not prevent, however, any holder of debt securities from instituting suit for the enforcement of payment of the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest on the debt securities held by that holder at the respective due dates.

Subject to provisions in the indenture relating to its duties in case of default, the trustee is under no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers under such indenture at the request or direction of any holders of any series of debt securities then outstanding under such indenture, unless those holders have offered to the trustee reasonable security or indemnity. The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series (or of each series of debt securities then outstanding under such indenture, as the case may be) shall have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee, or of exercising any trust or power conferred upon the trustee. However, the trustee may refuse to follow any direction which is in conflict with any law or the indenture, which may involve such trustee in personal liability or which may be unduly prejudicial to the holders of debt securities of such series not involved.

Within 120 days after the close of each fiscal year, we are required to deliver to each trustee under the indentures a certificate, signed by one of several specified officers, stating whether such officer has knowledge of any default under the indenture and, if so, specifying the nature and status of each such default.

#### **Modification of the Indentures**

Modifications and amendments of any indenture may be made only with the consent of the holders of a majority in principal amount of all of our outstanding debt securities issued which are affected by such modification or amendment. The following modifications or amendments will not be effective against a holder without its consent:

## Edgar Filing: COMMERCIAL NET LEASE REALTY INC - Form S-3

a change in the stated maturity of the principal of, installment of interest or premium (if any) on the debt security;

a reduction in the principal amount of, or the rate of amount of interest on, or any premium payable upon redemption of, the debt security;

a reduction in the principal amount of an original issue discount security that would be due and payable upon declaration of acceleration of the maturity thereof or would be provable in bankruptcy, or adversely affect any right of repayment of the holder of any such debt security;

a change in the place of payment, or the currency or currencies, for payment of principal of, or premium, if any, or interest on any such debt security;

an impairment of the right to institute suit for the enforcement of any payment on or with respect to any such debt security;

a reduction in the percentage of outstanding debt securities of any series necessary to modify or amend the applicable indenture, to waive compliance with certain provisions of or certain defaults and consequences under, or to reduce the quorum or voting requirements set forth in the indenture; or

a modification of any of the foregoing provisions or any of the provisions relating to the waiver of certain past defaults or certain covenants, except to increase the required percentage to effect such action or to provide that certain other provisions may not be modified or waived without the consent of the holder of such debt security.

The holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of outstanding debt securities of each series may, on behalf of all holders of debt securities of that series, waive, insofar as that series is concerned, our compliance with certain of our covenants in the applicable indenture, including those described in Certain Covenants.

We, and the trustee may modify or amend the indenture without the consent of any holder of debt securities for any of the following purposes:

to evidence the succession of another person to us as obligor under such indenture;

to add to our covenants for the benefit of the holders of all or any series of debt securities issued or to surrender any right or power conferred upon us in such indenture;

to add events of default for the benefit of the holders of all or any series of debt securities issued;

to add or change any provisions of such indenture to facilitate the issuance of, or to liberalize certain terms of, debt securities issued in bearer form, or to permit or facilitate the issuance of debt securities in uncertificated form, provided that such action shall not adversely affect the interests of the holders of such debt securities of any series in any material respect;

to change or eliminate any provision of such indenture, provided that any such change or elimination shall become effective only when there are no debt securities outstanding of any previously created series issued which are entitled to the benefit of such provision;

to secure the debt securities issued;

to establish the form or terms of debt securities of any series issued, including the provisions and procedures, if applicable, for the conversion of such debt securities into shares of our common stock;

to provide for the acceptance of appointment by a successor trustee or facilitate the administration of the trusts under such indenture by more than one trustee;

to cure any ambiguity, defect or inconsistency in the indenture, provided that such action shall not adversely affect in any material respect the interests of holders of debt securities of any series issued; or

to supplement any of the provisions of such indenture to the extent necessary to permit or facilitate defeasance and discharge of



any series of such debt securities issued, provided that such action shall not adversely affect in any material respect the interests of the holders of the debt securities of any series issued.

The indenture will provide that in determining whether the holders of the requisite principal amount of outstanding debt securities of a series have given any request, demand, authorization, direction, notice, consent or waiver or whether a quorum is present at a meeting of holders of the debt securities,

the principal amount of an original issue discount security that shall be deemed to be outstanding shall be the amount of the principal that would be due and payable as of the date of such determination if the maturity were to be accelerated;

the principal amount of a debt security denominated in a foreign currency that shall be deemed outstanding shall be the U.S. dollar equivalent, determined on the issue date for such debt security, of the principal amount (or, in the case of an original issue discount security, the U.S. dollar equivalent on the issue date of such debt security of the amount determined as provided above);

the principal amount of an indexed security that shall be deemed outstanding shall be the principal face amount of such indexed security at original issuance, unless the indenture otherwise provides; and

debt securities we own or any other obligor upon the debt securities or any of our affiliates or of such other obligor shall be disregarded.

#### **Meetings of the Holders of Debt Securities**

The indenture will contain provisions for convening meetings of the holders of an issued series of debt securities. A meeting may be called at any time by the trustee and also, upon our request, or the request of holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of such series, in any such case upon notice given as provided in the applicable indenture. Except for any consent that must be given by the holder of each debt security affected by certain modifications and amendments of the indenture, any resolution presented at a meeting or adjourned meeting duly reconvened at which a quorum is present may be adopted by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series. *However*, except as referred to above, any resolution with respect to any request, demand, authorization, direction, notice, consent, waiver or other action that may be made, given or taken by the holders of a specified percentage which is less than a majority, in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of a series may be adopted at a meeting or adjourned meeting duly reconvened. Such resolution must be adopted at a meeting or adjourned meeting at which a quorum is present by the affirmative vote of the holders of that specified percentage in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series. Any resolution passed or decision taken at any meeting of holders of debt securities of any series duly held in accordance with the indenture will be binding on all holders of debt securities of that series. The quorum at any meeting called to adopt a resolution, and at any reconvened meeting, will be persons holding or representing a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of a series. *However*, if any action is to be taken at such meeting with respect to a consent or waiver which may be given by the holders of not less than a specified percentage in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of a series, the persons holding or representing such specified percentage in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of such series will constitute a quorum.

Notwithstanding the provisions described above, if any action is to be taken at a meeting of holders of debt securities of any series with respect to any request, demand, authorization, direction, notice, consent, waiver or other action that the applicable indenture expressly provides may be made, given or taken by the holders of a specified percentage in principal amount of all outstanding debt securities affected thereby, or of the holders of such series and one or more additional series:

there shall be no minimum quorum requirement for such meeting and

the principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of such series that vote in favor of such request, demand, authorization, direction, notice, consent, waiver or other action shall be taken into account in determining whether such request, demand, authorization, direction, notice, consent, waiver or other action has been made, given or taken under the indenture.

#### **Discharge, Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance**

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we may discharge certain obligations to holders of any series of debt securities that have not already been delivered to the trustee for cancellation and that either have become due and payable or will become due and payable within one year (or scheduled for redemption within one year) by irrevocably depositing with the trustee,

## Edgar Filing: COMMERCIAL NET LEASE REALTY INC - Form S-3

in trust, funds in such currency or currencies, currency unit or units or composite currency or currencies in which such debt securities are payable in an amount sufficient to pay the entire indebtedness on such debt securities in respect of principal (and premium, if any) and interest to the date of such deposit (if such debt securities have become due and payable) or to the stated maturity or redemption date, as the case may be.

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we may elect either:

to defease and be discharged from any and all obligations (except for the obligation to pay additional amounts, if any, upon the occurrence of certain events of tax, assessment or governmental charge with respect to payments on such debt securities and the obligations to register the transfer or exchange of such debt securities, to replace temporary or mutilated, destroyed, lost or stolen debt securities, to maintain an office or agency in respect of such debt securities and to hold moneys for payment in trust) with respect to such debt securities ( defeasance ) or

to be released from our obligations with respect to those debt securities under the applicable indenture (being the restrictions described under the caption Certain Covenants ) or if provided in the applicable prospectus supplement, our obligations with respect to any other covenant, and any omission to comply with such obligations shall not constitute a default or an event of default with respect to such debt securities ( covenant defeasance ), in either case upon our irrevocable deposit with the applicable trustee, in trust, of an amount, in such currency or currencies, currency unit or units or composite currency or currencies in which such debt securities are payable at stated maturity, or Government Obligations (as defined below), or both, applicable to such debt securities which through the scheduled payment of principal and interest in accordance with their terms will provide money in an amount sufficient to pay the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest on such debt securities, and any mandatory sinking fund or analogous payments thereon, on the scheduled due dates.

Such a trust may only be established if, among other things, we have delivered to the applicable trustee an opinion of counsel (as specified in the applicable indenture) confirming that:

the holders of such debt securities will not recognize income, gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a result of such defeasance or covenant defeasance, and

the holders will be subject to U.S. federal income tax on the same amounts, in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if such defeasance or covenant defeasance had not occurred.

The opinion of counsel, in the case of defeasance, must refer to and be based upon a ruling of the Internal Revenue Service or a change in applicable U.S. federal income tax law occurring after the date of the indenture. In the event of such defeasance, the holders of such debt securities would thereafter be able to look only to such trust fund for payment of principal (and premium, if any) and interest.

Government Obligations means securities which are:

of the same government which issued the currency in which the series of debt securities are denominated and in which interest is payable; or

of government agencies backed by the full faith and credit of such government.

Unless otherwise provided in the applicable prospectus supplement, if after we have deposited funds and/or Government Obligations to effect defeasance or covenant defeasance with respect to debt securities of any series,

the holder of a debt security of such series is entitled to, and does, elect pursuant to the applicable indenture or the terms of such debt security to receive payment in a currency, currency unit or composite currency other than that in which such deposit has been made in respect of such debt security, or

a conversion event (as described below) occurs in respect of the currency, currency unit or composite currency in which such deposit has been made, the indebtedness represented by such debt security shall be deemed to have been, and will be, fully discharged and satisfied through the payment of the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest on such debt security as they become due out of the proceeds yielded by converting the amount so deposited in respect of such debt security into the currency, currency unit or composite currency in which such debt security becomes payable as a result of such election or such cessation of

usage based on the applicable market exchange rate.

A conversion event is the cessation of use of:

a currency, currency unit or composite currency both by the government of the country which issued such currency and for the settlement of actions by a central bank or other public institution of or within the international banking community,

the ECU both within the European Monetary System and for the settlement of transactions by public institutions of or within the European Communities or

any currency unit or composite currency other than the ECU for the purposes for which it was established.

Unless otherwise described in the applicable prospectus supplement, all payments of principal of (and premium, if any) and interest on any debt security that is payable in a Foreign Currency that ceases to be used by its government of issuance shall be made in U.S. dollars.

In the event we effect covenant defeasance with respect to any debt securities and such debt securities are declared due and payable because of the occurrence of any event of default, other than the event of default described in the fourth clause under Events of Default, Notice and Waiver with respect to the specified sections in the applicable indenture (which Sections would no longer be applicable to such debt securities) or the ninth clause with respect to any other covenants as to which there has been covenant defeasance, the amount in such currency, currency unit or composite currency in which such debt securities are payable and Government Obligations on deposit with the applicable trustee, will be sufficient to pay amounts due on such debt securities at the time of their stated maturity but may not be sufficient to pay amounts due on such debt securities at the time of the acceleration resulting from such event of default. In any such event, we would remain liable to make payments of such amounts due at the time of acceleration.

The applicable prospectus supplement may further describe the provisions, if any, permitting such defeasance or covenant defeasance, including any modifications to the provisions described above, with respect to the debt securities of or within a particular series.

#### **Convertible Debt Securities**

The terms and conditions, if any, upon which the debt securities are convertible into shares of our common stock will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. Such terms will include:

whether such debt securities are convertible into shares of common stock,

the conversion price (or manner of calculation thereof),

the conversion period,

provisions as to whether conversion will be at our option or at the option of the holders,

the events requiring an adjustment of the conversion price and provisions affecting conversion in the event of the redemption of such debt securities and any restrictions on conversion, including restrictions directed at maintaining our REIT status.

Reference is made to the section captioned Description of Common Stock for a general description of shares of our common stock to be acquired upon the conversion of debt securities, including a description of certain restrictions on the ownership of shares of our common stock.

#### **Book-Entry Debt Securities**

The debt securities of a series may be issued in whole or in part in the form of one or more global securities that will be deposited with, or on behalf of, a depository identified in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to such series. Global securities may be issued in either registered or bearer form. The specific terms of the depository arrangement with respect to a series of debt securities will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to such series.

### DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED STOCK

The following is a general description of the preferred stock that we may offer from time to time. The particular terms of the preferred stock being offered and the extent to which such general provisions may apply will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. The statements below describing our preferred stock are in all respects subject to and qualified in their entirety by reference to the applicable provisions of our articles of incorporation and our bylaws.

Our authorized capital stock consists of 90,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, 15,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$0.01 per share, and 105,000,000 shares of excess stock, par value \$0.01 per share, issuable in exchange for capital stock as described below under Description of Common Stock Restrictions on Ownership. At March 31, 2003, we had 1,781,645 shares of 9% Non-Voting Series A Preferred Stock outstanding, all of which was issued in connection with our merger with Captec Net Lease Realty, Inc. in December 2001.

#### General

Under our articles of incorporation, our Board of Directors may from time to time establish and issue one or more series of preferred stock without shareholder approval. Our Board of Directors may, subject to the express provisions of any other series of preferred stock then outstanding, alter the designation, classify or reclassify any unissued preferred stock by setting or changing the number, designation, preference, conversion or other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends, qualifications and terms or conditions of redemption of such series. The issuance of preferred stock could adversely affect the voting power, dividend rights and other rights of holders of common stock. Preferred stock will, when issued, be fully paid and nonassessable.

The prospectus supplement relating to any preferred stock offered under it will contain the specific terms, including:

the number of shares, designation or title of the shares and offering price of the shares;

the dividend rate on the shares of the series, if any, whether any dividends shall be cumulative and, if so, from which date or dates, and the relative rights of priority, if any, of payment of dividends on shares of the series;

the date from which dividends on the preferred stock will accumulate, if applicable;

the redemption rights, including conditions and the price(s), if any, for shares of the series;

the terms and amounts of any sinking fund for the purchase or redemption of shares of the series;

the rights of the shares of the series in the event of any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our affairs, and the relative rights of priority, if any, of payment of shares of the series;

whether the shares of the series will be convertible into shares of any other class or series, or any of our other securities, or securities of any other corporation or other entity, and, if so, the specification of the other class or series of the other security, the conversion price(s) or dates on which the shares will be convertible and all other terms and conditions upon which the conversion may be made;

restrictions on the issuance of shares of the same series or of any other class or series;

the voting rights, if any, of the holders of shares of the series; and

any other relative rights, preferences and limitations on that series.

#### Rank

Unless otherwise specified in the prospectus supplement, our preferred stock, of a particular series, being issued will, with respect to dividend rights and rights upon our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, rank:

senior to all classes or series of our common stock, and to all equity securities ranking junior to preferred stock we have issued,

on a parity with all equity securities we have issued the terms of which specifically provide that such equity securities rank on a parity with the preferred stock; and

junior to all preferred stock of a different series that we have issued the terms of which specifically provide that such equity securities rank senior to preferred stock of another series.

The term "equity securities" does not include convertible debt securities.

## **Dividends**

Holders of preferred stock of each series will be entitled to receive, when, as and if declared by our Board of Directors, out of our assets legally available for payment, cash dividends (or dividends in kind or in other property if expressly permitted and described in the applicable prospectus supplement) at such rates and on such dates as will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. Each such dividend shall be payable to holders of record as they appear on our share transfer books on such record dates as shall be fixed by our Board of Directors.

Dividends on any series of preferred stock may be cumulative or non-cumulative, as provided in the applicable prospectus supplement. Dividends, if cumulative, will be cumulative from and after the date set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. If our Board of Directors fails to declare a dividend payable on a dividend payment date on any series of preferred stock for which dividends are noncumulative, then the holders of such series of preferred stock will have no right to receive a dividend in respect of the dividend period ending on such dividend payment date. We will have no obligation to pay the dividend accrued for such period, whether or not dividends on such series are declared payable on any future dividend payment date.

If preferred stock of any series is outstanding, we will not pay or declare a full dividend on a series of parity or junior preferred stock or common stock unless:

for preferred stock with cumulative dividends, we have declared and paid, or declared and set apart a sum sufficient to pay full cumulative dividends on the preferred stock through the then-current dividend period or

for preferred stock lacking cumulative dividends, we have declared and paid, or declared and set apart a sum sufficient to pay full dividends for the then-current dividend period.

If dividends are not paid in full (or if a sum sufficient has not been set aside for full payment), then dividends for both that series and any parity series will be declared pro rata. Therefore, the amount of dividends declared per share of both series will maintain the same ratio that accrued dividends per share of each series bear to each other. Accrued dividends will not include any accumulation in respect of unpaid dividends for prior dividend periods if such shares of preferred stock do not have a cumulative dividend. No interest, or sum of money in lieu of interest, shall be payable for any dividend payment or payments on preferred stock of such series which may be in arrears.

Except as provided in the immediately preceding paragraph, unless we have paid, or declared and set apart a sum sufficient to pay the then current dividend (including dividend payments in arrears if dividends are cumulative) for a series of preferred stock, we will not declare dividends (other than in common stock or preferred stock ranking junior to the preferred stock of such series as to dividends and upon liquidation) or pay or set aside for payment or declare or make any other distribution upon shares of the common stock, junior stock or parity stock as to dividends or upon liquidation. Additionally, we shall not redeem, purchase or otherwise acquire for any consideration (or any moneys be paid to or made available for a sinking fund for the redemption of any such shares) any shares of common stock, junior stock or parity stock as to dividends or upon liquidation. However, we may convert or exchange those shares into junior stock as to dividends and upon liquidation.

## **Redemption**

If so provided in the applicable prospectus supplement, any series of our preferred stock will be subject to mandatory redemption or redemption at our option, in whole or in part, in each case upon the terms, at the times and at the redemption prices set forth in such prospectus supplement.

The prospectus supplement relating to a series of our preferred stock that is subject to mandatory redemption will specify:

the number of shares of such preferred stock that we will redeem in each year,

the year the redemption will commence,

the redemption price per share, together with an amount equal to all accrued and unpaid dividends to the date of redemption, and

whether the redemption price may be payable in cash or other property.

If the redemption price for our preferred stock of any series is payable only from the net proceeds of the issuance of our capital stock, the terms of such preferred stock may provide that, if we have not issued capital stock or to the extent the net proceeds from any issuance are insufficient to pay in full the aggregate redemption price then due, such preferred stock shall automatically and mandatorily be converted into the applicable class or series of our capital stock pursuant to conversion provisions specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

We can not redeem, purchase or otherwise acquire shares of a series of preferred stock unless:

for preferred stock with cumulative dividends, we have declared and paid, or declared and set apart a sum sufficient to pay full cumulative dividends on the preferred stock through the then-current dividend period or

for preferred stock lacking cumulative dividends, we have declared and paid, or declared and set apart a sum sufficient to pay full dividends for the then-current dividend period.

The foregoing shall not prevent the purchase or acquisition of preferred stock of such series to preserve our REIT status or pursuant to a purchase or exchange offer made on the same terms to holders of all outstanding preferred stock of such series.

If fewer than all of our outstanding preferred stock of any series are to be redeemed, we will determine the number of shares to be redeemed. We may redeem the shares on a pro rata basis from the holders of record of those shares in proportion to the number of those shares held or for which redemption is requested by the holder (with adjustments to avoid redemption of fractional shares) or by lot in a manner we determine.

Notice of redemption will be mailed at least 30 days but not more than 60 days before the redemption date to each holder of record of preferred stock of any series to be redeemed at the address shown on our share transfer books. Each notice shall state:

the redemption date;

the number of shares and the series of preferred stock to be redeemed;

the redemption price;

the place or places where certificates for such shares are to be surrendered for payment of the redemption price;

that dividends on the shares to be redeemed will cease to accrue on such redemption date; and

the date upon which the holder's conversion rights, if any, as to such shares shall terminate.

If fewer than all of the preferred stock of any series are to be redeemed, the notice mailed to each holder shall also specify the number of shares of preferred stock to be redeemed from each holder. If notice of redemption of any preferred stock has been given and if we have set aside the funds necessary for such redemption in trust for the benefit of the holders of any of our preferred stock so called for redemption, then from and after the redemption date dividends will cease to accrue on the preferred stock, and all rights of the holders of the redeemable shares will terminate, except the right to receive the redemption price.

### **Liquidation Preference**

Upon any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our affairs, then, before any distribution or payment will be made to the holders of any shares of common stock or any other class or series of preferred stock ranking junior to the

preferred stock in the distribution of assets upon any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of us, the holders of each series of preferred stock will be entitled to receive out of our assets legally available for distribution to shareholders liquidating distributions in the amount of the liquidation preference per share (set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement), plus an amount equal to all dividends accrued and unpaid (which shall not include any accumulation in respect of unpaid dividends for prior dividend periods if such preferred stock does not have a cumulative dividend). After payment of the full amount of the liquidating distributions to which they are entitled, the holders of preferred stock will have no right or claim to any of our remaining assets. In the event that, upon any such voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up, our available assets are insufficient to pay the amount of the liquidating distributions on all our outstanding preferred stock and the corresponding amounts payable on all shares of other classes or series of our capital stock ranking on a parity with the preferred stock in the distribution of assets, then the holders of the preferred stock and all other such classes or series of capital stock shall share ratably in any such distribution of assets in proportion to the full liquidating distributions to which they would otherwise be respectively entitled.

If liquidating distributions shall have been made in full to all holders of preferred stock, our remaining assets will be distributed among the holders of any other classes or series of capital stock ranking junior to the preferred stock upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up, according to their respective rights and preferences and in each case according to their respective number of shares. For such purposes, our consolidation or merger with or into any other corporation, trust or entity, or the sale, lease or conveyance of all or substantially all of our property or business, shall not be deemed to constitute a liquidation, dissolution or winding up of us.

### **Voting Rights**

Holders of preferred stock will not have any voting rights, except as set forth below or as otherwise from time to time required by law or as indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Unless provided otherwise for any series of preferred stock, so long as any shares of preferred stock remain outstanding, we will not, without the affirmative vote or consent of the holders of at least two-thirds of each series of preferred stock outstanding at the time, given in person or by proxy, either in writing or at a meeting (such series voting separately as a class),

authorize or create, or increase the authorized or issued amount of, any class or series of our capital stock ranking senior to such series of preferred stock with respect to the payment of dividends or the distribution of assets upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up or reclassify any of our authorized capital shares into such shares, or create, authorize or issue any obligation or security convertible into or evidencing the right to purchase any such shares; or

amend, alter or repeal the provisions of our articles of incorporation or the designating amendment for such series of preferred stock, whether by merger, consolidation or otherwise (an Event ), so as to materially and adversely affect any right, preference, privilege or voting power of such series of preferred stock or the holders thereof.

However, with respect to the occurrence of any of the Events set forth above, so long as the preferred stock remains outstanding with the terms materially unchanged, taking into account that upon the occurrence of an Event, we may not be the surviving entity, the occurrence of any such Event shall not be deemed to materially and adversely affect such rights, preferences, privileges or voting power of holders of preferred stock. Further,

any increase in the amount of the authorized preferred stock or the creation or issuance of any other series of preferred stock, or

any increase in the amount of authorized shares of such series or any other series of preferred stock, in each case ranking on a parity with or junior to the preferred stock of such series with respect to payment of dividends or the distribution of assets upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up,

shall not be deemed to materially and adversely affect such rights, preferences, privileges or voting powers.

The foregoing voting provisions will not apply if, at or prior to the time when the act with respect to which such vote would otherwise be required shall be effected, all outstanding shares of preferred stock of such series shall have been redeemed or called for redemption and sufficient funds shall have been deposited in trust to effect such redemption.

### **Conversion Rights**

The terms and conditions, if any, upon which any series of preferred stock is convertible into shares of our common stock will be

set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. Such terms will include:

- the number of shares of common stock into which the shares of preferred stock are convertible,
- the conversion price (or manner of calculation),
- the conversion period,
- provisions as to whether conversion will be at the option of the holders of preferred stock or us,
- the events requiring an adjustment of the conversion price and
- provisions affecting conversion in the event of the redemption of such series of preferred stock.

#### **Restrictions on Ownership**

As discussed below under Description of Common Stock Restrictions on Ownership, for us to qualify as a REIT under the U.S. Internal Revenue Code (the Code), not more than 50% in value of our outstanding equity securities of all classes may be owned, directly or indirectly, by five or fewer individuals (as defined in the Code to include certain entities) during the last half of a taxable year. To assist us in meeting this requirement, we may take certain actions to limit the beneficial ownership, directly or indirectly, by a single person of our outstanding equity securities, including any of our preferred stock. Therefore, the designating amendment for each series of preferred stock may contain provisions restricting the ownership and transfer of preferred stock.

#### **Book-Entry Preferred Stock**

The preferred stock of a series may be issued in whole or in part in the form of one or more global securities that will be deposited with, or on behalf of, a depositary identified in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to such series. Global securities may be issued in either registered or bearer form and in either temporary or permanent form. The specific terms of the depositary arrangement with respect to a series of preferred stock will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to such series.

#### **Registrar and Transfer Agent**

The registrar and transfer agent for the preferred stock will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

### **DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES**

The following is a general description of the depositary shares that we may offer from time to time. The particular terms of the depositary shares being offered and the extent to which such general provisions may apply will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

#### **General**

We may issue receipts for depositary shares, each of which will represent a fractional interest of a share of a particular series of a class of our preferred stock, as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. We will deposit shares of preferred stock of each series represented by depositary shares under a separate deposit agreement among us, the applicable depositary and the holders from time to time of the depositary receipts. Generally, each owner of a depositary receipt will be entitled, in proportion to the fractional interest of a share of the particular series of shares of preferred stock represented by the appropriate depositary shares, to all the rights and preferences of those shares of preferred stock (including dividend, voting, conversion, redemption and liquidation rights). At March 31, 2003, we had no depositary shares issued or outstanding.

The depositary shares will be evidenced by depositary receipts issued pursuant to the applicable deposit agreement. Immediately following our issuance and delivery of our preferred stock to the depositary, we will cause the preferred stock depositary to issue, on our behalf, the depositary receipts. Upon request we will provide you with copies of the applicable form of deposit agreement and depositary receipt.



### **Dividends and Other Distributions**

The depositary will distribute all cash dividends or other cash distributions received in respect of the preferred stock to the record holders of the applicable depositary receipts in proportion to the number of depositary receipts owned by such holder.

In the event of a distribution other than in cash, the depositary will distribute property received by it to the appropriate record holders of depositary receipts. If the depositary determines that it is not feasible to make such distribution, then it may, with our approval, sell such property and distribute the net proceeds to the record holders.

### **Withdrawal of Shares**

Generally, if a holder surrenders depositary receipts at the corporate trust office of the preferred stock depositary (unless the related depositary shares have previously been called for redemption), the holder will be entitled to receive at that office the number of whole or fractional shares of preferred stock and any money or other property represented by the depositary shares. Holders of depositary receipts will be entitled to receive whole or fractional shares of the related preferred stock on the basis of the proportion of shares of preferred stock represented by each depositary share as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. Thereafter, holders of such preferred stock will not be entitled to receive depositary shares for the preferred stock. If a holder seeks to withdraw more depositary shares than are available, then the preferred stock depositary will deliver to such holder at the same time a new depositary receipt evidencing such excess number of depositary shares.

### **Redemption of Depositary Shares**

Whenever we redeem preferred stock held by the preferred stock depositary, the depositary will redeem as of the same redemption date the appropriate number of depositary shares, provided we shall have paid in full to the depositary the redemption price of the preferred stock to be redeemed plus an amount equal to any accrued and unpaid dividends (except, with respect to noncumulative shares of preferred stock, dividends for the current dividend period only) to the date fixed for redemption. The redemption price per depositary share will be equal to the redemption price and any other amounts per share payable with respect to the preferred stock specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. If less than all the depositary shares are to be redeemed, the amount redeemed will be selected by the depositary by lot.

After the date fixed for redemption, the depositary shares called for redemption will no longer be outstanding. All rights of the holders will cease, except the right to receive money or other property that the holders of the depositary shares were entitled to receive upon such redemption. Payments will be made when holders surrender their depositary receipts to the depositary.

### **Voting of the Underlying Preferred Stock**

Upon receipt of notice of any meeting at which the holders of shares of preferred stock are entitled to vote, the depositary will mail the information contained in such notice of meeting to the record holders of the applicable depositary receipts. Each record holder of depositary receipts on the record date (which will be the same date as the record date for the preferred stock) will be entitled to instruct the depositary as to the exercise of the voting rights pertaining to the amount of shares of preferred stock represented by such holder's depositary shares. The depositary will vote in accordance with such instructions, and we will agree to take all reasonable action that may be deemed necessary by the depositary in order to enable the depositary to do so. The depositary will abstain from voting to the extent it does not receive specific instructions from the depositary receipts holders.

### **Liquidation Preference**

In the event of our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, whether voluntary or involuntary, each holder of a depositary receipt will be entitled to the fraction of the liquidation preference accorded each share of applicable preferred stock, as set forth in the appropriate prospectus supplement.

### **Conversion of Preferred Stock**

Our depositary shares, as such, are not convertible into shares of our common stock or any of our other securities or property. Nevertheless, if so specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the depositary receipts may be surrendered by their holders to the depositary with written instructions to the depositary to instruct us to cause conversion of the shares of represented preferred stock

into whole shares of common stock or preferred stock, as the case may be, and we will agree that upon receipt of such instructions and any amounts payable, we will convert the depositary shares utilizing the same procedures as those provided for delivery of shares of preferred stock to effect such conversion. If the depositary shares are to be converted in part only, one or more new depositary receipts will be issued for any depositary shares not to be converted. No fractional shares of common stock will be issued upon conversion, and if such conversion will result in a fractional share being issued, we will pay an amount in cash equal to the value of the fractional interest based upon the closing price of the common stock on the last business day prior to the conversion.

#### **Amendment and Termination of the Deposit Agreement**

We and the depositary may, at any time, agree to amend the form of depositary receipt and any provision of the deposit agreement. However, any amendment that materially and adversely alters the rights of the holders of depositary receipts will not be effective unless that amendment has been approved by the existing holders of at least a majority of the depositary shares.

We may terminate the deposit agreement upon not less than 30 days prior written notice to the preferred stock depositary if:

the termination is to preserve our status as a REIT or

a majority of each class of preferred stock affected by the termination consents to the termination,

whereupon the depositary will deliver or make available to each holder of depositary receipts, upon surrender of the depositary receipts held by such holder, such number of whole or fractional shares of preferred stock as are represented by the depositary shares evidenced by such depositary receipts.

In addition, the deposit agreement will automatically terminate if:

all outstanding depositary shares shall have been redeemed,

there shall have been a final distribution in respect of the related preferred stock in connection with our liquidation, dissolution or winding up and such distribution shall have been distributed to the holders of the applicable depositary receipts or

each share of related preferred stock shall have been converted into capital stock not so represented by depositary shares.

#### **Charges of Preferred Stock Depositary**

We will pay all transfer and other taxes and governmental charges arising solely from the existence of the deposit agreement. In addition, we will pay the fees and expenses of the depositary in connection with the performance of its duties under the deposit agreement. However, unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, holders of depositary receipts will pay the fees and expenses of the depositary for any duties requested by such holders to be performed which are outside of those expressly provided for in the deposit agreement.

#### **Resignation and Removal of Depositary**

The depositary may resign at any time by delivering to us notice of its election to do so. We may at any time remove the depositary. Any such resignation or removal will take effect upon the appointment of a successor depositary, which must be appointed within 60 days after delivery of the notice of resignation or removal and, as in the case of the original preferred stock depositary, must be a bank or trust company having its principal office in the United States and having a combined capital and surplus of at least \$50,000,000.

#### **Miscellaneous**

The depositary will forward to holders of depositary receipts any reports and communications from us, including our annual reports and Exchange Act filings, which are received by the depositary with respect to the related preferred stock.

We, as well as the depositary, will not be liable if either of us is prevented from or delayed in, by law or any circumstances beyond its control, performing its obligations under the deposit agreement. Our obligations and those of the depositary under the deposit agreement will be limited to performing our respective duties in good faith and without negligence, gross negligence or willful

misconduct, and neither of us will be obligated to prosecute or defend any legal proceeding relating to any depositary receipts, depositary shares or shares of preferred stock unless satisfactory indemnity is furnished. We and the depositary may rely on written advice of counsel or accountants, or information provided by persons presenting shares of preferred stock represented by depositary receipts, holders of depositary receipts or other persons believed to be competent to give such information, and on documents believed to be genuine and signed by a proper party.

If the depositary shall receive conflicting claims, requests or instructions from any holders of depositary receipts, on the one hand, and us, on the other hand, the depositary shall be entitled to act on our claims, requests or instructions.

### DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK

The following description of our common stock sets forth certain general terms and provisions of the common stock to which any prospectus supplement may relate, including a prospectus supplement providing that common stock will be issuable upon conversion of our debt securities or our preferred stock or upon the exercise of our warrants to purchase common stock. The statements below describing the common stock are in all respects subject to and qualified in their entirety by reference to the applicable provisions of our articles of incorporation and bylaws.

#### General

Our authorized capital stock consists of 90,000,000 shares of common stock and 15,000,000 shares of preferred stock. There also is authorized 105,000,000 shares of excess stock, issuable in exchange for capital stock, as described below under Restrictions on Ownership. At March 31, 2003, we had outstanding 40,489,296 shares of common stock. All issued and outstanding shares of common stock are duly authorized, validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

The holders of common stock elect all directors and are entitled to one vote per share on all matters submitted to a vote of the stockholders. Stockholders are entitled to receive dividends when, as and if declared by our Board of Directors out of funds legally available for that purpose. Upon our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, holders of common stock are entitled to share pro rata in any distribution to stockholders. Holders of common stock have no preemptive, subscription or conversion rights. The common stock will, when issued, be fully paid and nonassessable and will not be subject to preemptive or other similar rights.

We purchased from six limited partnerships and one general partnership 14 properties in July 1992, and purchased from a trust one property in August 1993, in exchange for the issuance to the partnerships and the trust of an aggregate of 346,172 restricted shares of common stock. All of the shares issued in connection with these acquisitions are subject to piggyback registration rights under certain circumstances.

#### Restrictions on Ownership

For us to qualify as a REIT, not more than 50% in value of our outstanding capital stock may be owned, directly or indirectly, by five or fewer individuals (as defined in the Code to include certain entities) during the last half of a taxable year. The shares must be beneficially owned (without reference to any rules of attribution) by 100 or more persons during at least 335 days of a taxable year of 12 months or during a proportionate part of a shorter taxable year; and certain other requirements must be satisfied. See Federal Income Tax Considerations Taxation of Commercial Net Lease Realty, Inc.

To ensure that five or fewer individuals do not own more than 50% in value of the outstanding common stock, our articles of incorporation provide that, subject to certain exceptions, no holder may own, or be deemed to own by virtue of the attribution provisions of the Code, more than 9.8% in value of the outstanding capital stock. Our Board of Directors may waive this ownership limit if evidence satisfactory to us and our tax counsel is presented that such ownership will not then or in the future jeopardize our status as a REIT. As a condition of such waiver, our Board of Directors may require opinions of counsel satisfactory to it and/or an undertaking from the applicant with respect to preserving our status as a REIT.

This ownership limit will not be automatically removed even if the REIT provisions of the Code are changed so as to no longer contain any ownership concentration limitation or if the ownership concentration limitation is increased. In addition to preserving our status as a REIT, this ownership limit may prevent any person or small group of persons from acquiring unilateral control of us.

If the ownership, transfer or acquisition of shares of common stock, or change in our capital structure or other event or transaction would result in:

any person owning (applying certain attribution rules) capital stock in excess of the ownership limit,

fewer than 100 persons owning our capital stock,

our being closely held within the meaning of Section 856(h) of the Code, or

our otherwise failing to qualify as a REIT,

then the ownership, transfer or acquisition, or change in capital structure or other event or transaction that would have such effect will be void as to the purported transferee or owner, and the purported transferee or owner will not have or acquire any rights to the capital stock to the extent required to avoid such a result. Capital stock owned, transferred or proposed to be transferred in excess of the ownership limit or which would otherwise jeopardize our status as a REIT will automatically be converted to excess stock. A holder of excess stock is not entitled to distributions, voting rights, and other benefits with respect to such shares except for the right to payment of the purchase price for the shares (or, in the case of a devise or gift or similar event which results in the issuance of excess stock, the fair market value at the time of such devise or gift or event) and the right to certain distributions upon liquidation. Any dividend or distribution paid to a proposed transferee or holder of excess stock shall be repaid to us upon demand. Excess stock shall be subject to our repurchase at our election. The purchase price of any excess stock shall be equal to the lesser of:

the price paid in such purported transaction (or, in the case of a devise or gift or similar event resulting in the issuance of excess stock, the fair market value at the time of such devise or gift or event), or

the fair market value of such common stock on the date on which we or our designee determines to exercise its repurchase right.

If the foregoing transfer restrictions are determined to be void or invalid by virtue of any legal decision, statute, rule or regulation, then the purported transferee of any excess stock may be deemed, at our option, to have acted as an agent on our behalf in acquiring such excess stock and to hold such excess stock on our behalf.

For purposes of our articles of incorporation, the term person shall mean an:

individual,

corporation,

partnership,

estate,

trust (including a trust qualified under Section 401(a) or 501(c)(17) of the Code),

portion of a trust permanently set aside to be used exclusively for the purposes described in Section 642(c) of the Code,

association,

private foundation within the meaning of Section 509(a) of the Code,

joint stock company or other entity, or

group as that term is used for purposes of Section 13(d)(3) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; but does not include an underwriter which participated in a public offering of our capital stock for a period of sixty (60) days following the purchase by such underwriter of capital stock therein, provided that the foregoing exclusions shall apply only if the ownership of such capital stock by such underwriter would not cause us to fail to qualify as a REIT by reason of being closely held within the meaning of Section 856(a) of the Code or otherwise cause us to fail to qualify as a REIT.

All certificates representing capital stock will bear a legend referring to the restrictions described above.

Our articles of incorporation provide that all persons who own, directly or by virtue of the attribution provisions of the Code, more than 5.0% of the outstanding capital stock, or such lower percentage as may be required pursuant to regulations under the Code or as may be requested by our Board of Directors, must file a written notice with us no later than January 31 of each year with respect to the prior year containing:

the name and address of such owner,

the number of shares of capital stock owned by such holder and

a description of how such shares are held.

In addition, each stockholder shall be required to disclose, upon demand, to us in writing such information that we may request in good faith in order to determine our status as a REIT or to comply with the requirements of any taxing authority or governmental agency.

The ownership limitations described above may have the effect of precluding acquisitions of control of us by a third party.

#### **Transfer Agent**

Wachovia Bank, N.A. is the transfer agent of the common stock.

#### **DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK WARRANTS**

We may issue common stock warrants for the purchase of common stock. Common stock warrants may be issued independently or together with any of our other securities offered by any prospectus supplement and may be attached to or separate from such securities offered. Each series of common stock warrants will be issued under a separate warrant agreement to be entered into between us and a warrant agent specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. The warrant agent will act solely as our agent in connection with the common stock warrants of such series and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any holders or beneficial owners of common stock warrants. The following sets forth certain general terms and provisions of the common stock warrants we offer. Further terms of the common stock warrants and the applicable warrant agreements will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. As of March 31, 2003 there were no warrants or rights outstanding.

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms of the common stock warrants, including, where applicable, the following:

the title of the common stock warrants;

the aggregate number of the common stock warrants;

the price(s) at which the common stock warrants will be issued;

the number of shares of common stock purchasable upon exercise of the common stock warrants;

the designation and terms of the other securities offered with which the common stock warrants are issued and the number of the common stock warrants issued with each security offered;

the date, if any, on and after which the common stock warrants and the related common stock will be separately transferable;

the price at which each share of common stock purchasable upon exercise of the common stock warrants may be purchased;

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

any provisions for changes to or adjustments in the exercise price of the common stock warrants;

the minimum or maximum amount of the common stock warrants which may be exercised at any one time;

information with respect to book-entry procedures, if any;

any limitations on the acquisition or ownership of the common stock warrants which may be required in order to maintain our status as a REIT;

a discussion of certain federal income tax considerations; and

any other terms of the common stock warrants, including terms, procedures and limitations relating to the exchange and exercise of the common stock warrants.

Reference is made to the section captioned "Description of Common Stock" for a general description of the common stock to be acquired upon the exercise of the common stock warrants, including a description of certain restrictions on the ownership of common stock.

## FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

### Introduction

The following is a summary of the material federal income tax consequences of the ownership of our capital stock, prepared by Shaw Pittman LLP, our tax counsel. This discussion is based upon the laws, regulations, and reported rulings and decisions in effect as of the date of this prospectus (or, in the case of certain regulations, proposed as of such date), all of which are subject to change, retroactively or prospectively, and to possibly differing interpretations. This discussion does not purport to deal with the federal income tax consequences applicable to all investors in light of their particular investment circumstances, or to all categories of investors, some of whom may be subject to special rules (including, for example, insurance companies, tax-exempt organizations, financial institutions, broker-dealers, foreign corporations and persons who are not citizens or residents of the United States). No ruling on the federal, state or local tax considerations relevant to our operation, or to the purchase, ownership or disposition of our common stock or our preferred stock has been requested from the Internal Revenue Service or other tax authority. Shaw Pittman LLP has rendered certain opinions discussed herein and believes that if the Internal Revenue Service were to challenge the conclusions of Shaw Pittman LLP, such conclusions should prevail in court. However, opinions of counsel are not binding on the Internal Revenue Service or on the courts, and no assurance can be given that the conclusions reached by Shaw Pittman LLP would be sustained in court. Investors should consult their own tax advisors in determining the federal, state, local, foreign and other tax consequences to them of the purchase, ownership and disposition of our common stock or preferred stock, the tax treatment of a REIT and the effect of potential changes in applicable tax laws.

### Taxation of Commercial Net Lease Realty, Inc.

*General.* Since our inception, we have elected, and believe we have qualified, to be taxed as a REIT for federal income tax purposes, as defined in Sections 856 through 860 of the Code. The provisions of the Code pertaining to REITs are highly technical and complex. If various conditions imposed by the Code are met, a REIT is, with limited exceptions, not taxed at the corporate level on income that is currently distributed to the REIT's stockholders. Undistributed income is taxed at regular corporate rates and may be subject to a 4% excise tax. In addition, a REIT may be subject to the alternative minimum tax on its items of tax preference and is subject to income tax at the highest corporate rate on income from foreclosure property and to penalty taxes on excessive unqualified income and prohibited transactions.

If we fail to qualify as a REIT for any taxable year and certain relief provisions do not apply, we will be subject to federal income tax (including alternative minimum tax) as an ordinary corporation on our taxable income at regular corporate rates without any deduction or adjustment for distributions to holders of common stock or preferred stock. To the extent that we would, as a consequence, be subject to tax liability for any such year, the amount of cash available for satisfaction of our liabilities and for distribution to holders of common stock or preferred stock would be reduced. Distributions to holders of common stock or preferred stock generally would be taxable as ordinary income to the extent of current and accumulated earnings and profits and, subject to certain limitations, would be eligible for the corporate dividends received deduction, but there can be no assurance that any such distributions would be made. We would not be eligible to elect REIT status for the four subsequent taxable years, unless our failure to qualify was due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect and unless certain other requirements were satisfied.

*Opinion of Shaw Pittman LLP.* Based upon representations made by our officers with respect to relevant factual matters, upon the

existing Code provisions, rules and regulations promulgated thereunder (including proposed regulations) and reported administrative and judicial interpretations thereof, upon Shaw Pittman LLP's independent review of such documents and other information as Shaw Pittman LLP deemed relevant in the circumstances and upon the assumption that we will operate in the manner described in this prospectus, Shaw Pittman LLP has advised us that, in its opinion, (a) we have, for the years 1984 through 2002, met the requirements for qualification and taxation as a REIT and (b) our proposed method of operation will enable us to meet the requirements for qualification and taxation as a REIT for 2003. It must be emphasized, however, that our ability to qualify as a REIT is dependent upon our actual operating results and future actions and events and no assurance can be given that the actual results of our operations and the future actions and events will enable us to satisfy in any given year the requirements for qualification and taxation as a REIT.

*Requirements for Qualification as a REIT.* As discussed more fully below, the Code defines a REIT as a corporation:

which is managed by one or more trustees or directors;

the beneficial ownership of which is evidenced by transferable shares, or by transferable certificates of beneficial interest;

which would be taxable, but for Sections 856 through 860 of the Code, as a domestic corporation;

which is neither a financial institution nor an insurance company;

the beneficial ownership of which is held by 100 or more persons;

which is not closely held; and

which meets certain other tests regarding the nature of its assets and income and the amount of its distributions.

*Corporate Subsidiaries and Partnerships.* We currently have several direct corporate subsidiaries and may have additional corporate subsidiaries in the future. A corporation that is a qualified REIT subsidiary is not treated as a corporation separate from its parent REIT. All assets, liabilities, and items of income, deduction, and credit of a qualified REIT subsidiary are treated as assets, liabilities, and items of income, deduction, and credit of the REIT. A qualified REIT subsidiary is a corporation, all of the capital stock of which is owned by the parent REIT, unless we and the subsidiary have jointly elected to have it treated as a taxable REIT subsidiary (TRS), in which case it is treated separately from us and will be subject to federal corporate income taxation. Thus, in applying the requirements described herein, any qualified REIT subsidiary of ours will be ignored, and all assets, liabilities, and items of income, deduction, and credit of such subsidiary will be treated as our assets, liabilities, and items of income, deduction, and credit. We believe our direct corporate subsidiaries are qualified REIT subsidiaries, except for those which are TRSs. Accordingly, the direct corporate subsidiaries are not subject to federal corporate income taxation, though they may be subject to state and local taxation.

A REIT is treated as owning its proportionate share of the assets of any partnership in which it is a partner and as earning its allocable share of the gross income of the partnership for purposes of the applicable REIT qualification tests. Thus, our proportionate share of the assets, liabilities and items of income of any partnership (or limited liability company treated as a partnership) in which we have acquired or will acquire an interest, directly or indirectly, are treated as our assets and gross income for purposes of applying the various REIT qualification requirements.

*Ownership Tests.* More specifically, the ownership requirements that we must satisfy as a REIT are that (a) during the last half of each taxable year not more than 50% of our outstanding shares may be owned, directly or indirectly, by five or fewer individuals and (b) there must be at least 100 stockholders on at least 335 days of such 12-month taxable year (or a proportionate number of days of a short taxable year). In order to meet these requirements, or to otherwise obtain, maintain or reestablish REIT status, and for no other purpose, our articles of incorporation empower our Board of Directors to redeem, at its option, a sufficient number of shares or to restrict the transfer thereof to bring or to maintain the ownership of our shares in conformity with the requirements of the Code. The redemption price to be paid will be fair market value as reflected in the latest quotations, or, if no quotations are available, the net asset value of the shares as determined by our Board of Directors.

Under our articles of incorporation, each holder of our capital stock is required, upon demand, to disclose to our Board of Directors in writing such information with respect to direct and indirect ownership of our shares as the Board of Directors deems necessary to comply with provisions of the Code applicable to us, or to comply with the requirements of any other appropriate taxing authority. Certain Treasury regulations govern the method by which we are required to demonstrate compliance with these stock ownership requirements and the failure to satisfy such regulations could subject us to substantial penalties. We have represented that we have

met, and expect to meet, these stock ownership requirements for each taxable year.

*Asset Tests.* At the end of each quarter of our taxable year, at least 75% of the value of our total assets must consist of real estate assets, cash and cash items (including receivables) and government securities. The balance of our assets generally may be invested without restriction, except that holdings of securities not within the 75% class of assets generally must not, with respect to any issuer except a TRS, exceed 5% of the value of our assets or 10% of the voting power or value of the issuer's outstanding securities. In addition, our combined securities holdings in TRSs cannot exceed 20% of our total assets. The term real estate assets includes real property, interests in real property, leaseholds of land or improvements thereon, and any property attributable to the temporary investment of new capital (but only if such property is stock or a debt instrument and only for the one-year period beginning on the date we receive such capital). We have represented that at the end of each quarter we have met, and expect in the future to continue to meet, this asset test.

*Income Tests.* We currently must meet two separate tests with respect to our sources of income for each taxable year. In general, at least 75% of our gross income (excluding income from prohibited transactions) for each taxable year must be from rents from real property, interest on obligations secured by mortgages on real property, gains from the sale or other disposition of real property and certain other sources. In addition, we must derive at least 95% of our gross income (excluding income from prohibited transactions) for each taxable year from any combination of the items of income which qualify under the 75% test, from dividends and interest and from gains from the sale, exchange or other disposition of certain stocks and securities.

Rents received by us will qualify as rents from real property in satisfying the gross income requirements described above only if several conditions are met. First, the amount of rent must not be based in whole or in part on the income or profits of any person. However, an amount received or accrued generally will not be excluded from the term rents from real property solely by reason of being based on a fixed percentage or percentages of receipts of sales. Our leases provide for either fixed rent, sometimes with scheduled escalations, or a fixed minimum rent and a percentage of gross receipts in excess of some threshold. Second, the Code provides that rents received from a tenant will not qualify as rents from real property in satisfying the gross income tests if we, or an owner of 10% or more of our aggregate capital stock, directly or constructively own 10% or more of such tenant (referred to as a related party tenant). Third, if rent attributable to personal property, leased in connection with a lease of real property, is greater than 15% of the total rent received under the lease, then the portion of rent attributable to such personal property will not qualify as rents from real property. We anticipate that none of our gross annual income will be considered attributable to rents that are based in whole or in part on the income or profits of any person; that no more than a *de minimis* amount of our gross annual income will be considered attributable to the rental of personal property; and that none of our gross annual income will be from related party tenants. Finally, for rents received to qualify as rents from real property, we generally must not operate or manage the property or furnish or render services to tenants, other than through an independent contractor from whom we derive no revenue or a TRS. The independent contractor or TRS requirement, however, does not apply to the extent the services provided by us are usually or customarily rendered in connection with the rental of space for occupancy only and are not otherwise considered rendered to the occupant. In addition, we are currently permitted to earn up to one percent of our gross income from tenants, determined on a property-by-property basis, by furnishing services that are noncustomary or provided directly to the tenants, without causing the rental income to fail to qualify as rents from real property. We will provide certain services with respect to our properties. We do not anticipate that any of these services will be (a) of a type other than those usually or customarily rendered in connection with the rental space for occupancy only or (b) of a type considered rendered to any of the occupants of our properties.

Should we fail to satisfy either or both of the 75% or 95% tests for any taxable year, we may still qualify as a REIT if:

such failure is due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect;

we report the nature and amount of each item of our income on a schedule attached to our tax return for such year; and

the reporting of any incorrect information is not due to fraud with intent to evade tax.

However, even if these three requirements were met and we were not disqualified, a penalty tax of 100% would be imposed by reference to the amount by which we failed the 75% or 95% test (whichever amount is greater).

*Distribution Requirements.* We must distribute annually to our stockholders ordinary income dividends in an amount equal to at least:

90% of the sum of (i) our real estate investment trust taxable income (before deduction of dividends paid and excluding any net



capital gains) and (ii) the excess of net income from foreclosure property over the tax on such income, minus

certain excess non-cash income.

Real estate investment trust taxable income generally is our taxable income computed as if we were an ordinary corporation, with certain adjustments. Distributions must be made in the taxable year to which they relate or, if declared before the timely filing of our tax return for such year and paid not later than the first regular dividend payment after such declaration, in the following taxable year. To the extent that we do not distribute all of our net capital gain or distribute at least 90%, but less than 100%, of our real estate investment trust taxable income, as adjusted, we will be subject to tax thereon at regular ordinary and capital gain corporate tax rates. Furthermore, if we should fail to distribute during each calendar year at least the sum of:

85% of our ordinary income,

95% of our net capital gain net income for such year and

any undistributed taxable income from prior periods,

we would be subject to a 4% excise tax on the excess of such required distribution over the amounts actually distributed.

We have represented that we have made and intend to make distributions to stockholders that will be sufficient to meet the annual distribution requirements. Under some circumstances, however, it is possible that we may not have sufficient funds from our operations to pay cash dividends to satisfy these distribution requirements. If the cash available to us is insufficient, we might raise cash in order to make the distributions by borrowing funds, issuing new securities or selling assets. If we ultimately were unable to satisfy the 90% distribution requirement, we would fail to qualify as a REIT and, as a result, would be subject to federal income tax as an ordinary corporation without any deduction or adjustment for distributions to holders of common stock or preferred stock.

If we were to fail to meet the 90% distribution requirement as a result of an adjustment to our tax returns by the Internal Revenue Service, we could maintain our qualification as a REIT by paying a deficiency dividend (plus a penalty and interest) within a specified period which will be permitted as a deduction in the taxable year with respect to which the adjustment is made.

*Distributions to Holders of Preferred Stock.* Distributions with respect to our preferred stock will be taxable as described below in Taxation of Taxable Domestic Stockholders, Taxation of Tax-Exempt Stockholders and Taxation of Foreign Stockholders.

*Redemption or Conversion of Preferred Stock to Common Stock.* Assuming that preferred stock will not be redeemed or converted at a time when there are distributions in arrears, in general, no gain or loss will be recognized for federal income tax purposes upon the redemption or conversion of our preferred stock at the option of the holder solely into common stock. The basis that a holder will have for tax purposes in the common stock received will be equal to the adjusted basis the holder had in the preferred stock so redeemed or converted and, provided that the preferred stock was held as a capital asset, the holding period for the common stock received will include the holding period for the preferred stock redeemed or converted. A holder, however, will generally recognize gain or loss on the receipt of cash in lieu of a fractional share of common stock in an amount equal to the difference between the amount of cash received and the holder's adjusted basis in such fractional share.

If a redemption or conversion occurs when there is a dividend arrearage on the preferred stock and the fair market value of the common stock exceeds the issue price of the preferred stock, a portion of the common stock received might be treated as a dividend distribution taxable as ordinary income.

*Adjustments to Conversion Price.* Under section 305 of the Code, holders of preferred stock may be deemed to have received a constructive distribution of stock that is taxable as a dividend where the conversion ratio is adjusted to reflect a cash or property distribution with respect to the common stock into which it is convertible. An adjustment to the conversion price made pursuant to a bona fide, reasonable adjustment formula that has the effect of preventing dilution of the interest of the holders, however, will generally not be considered to result in a constructive distribution of stock. Certain of the possible adjustments provided in the preferred stock may not qualify as being pursuant to a bona fide, reasonable adjustment formula. If a nonqualifying adjustment were made, the holders of preferred stock might be deemed to have received a taxable stock dividend.

*Taxation of Taxable Domestic Stockholders.* For any taxable year in which we qualify as a REIT for federal income tax purposes,

our distributions to our stockholders that are United States persons (generally, any person other than a nonresident alien individual, a foreign trust or estate or a foreign partnership or corporation) generally will be taxed as ordinary income. Amounts received by such United States persons that we have properly designated as capital gain dividends generally will be taxed as long-term capital gain (to the extent that they do not exceed our actual net capital gain for the taxable year) without regard to the period for which the stockholder has held his common stock or preferred stock. However, corporate stockholders may be required to treat up to 20% of certain capital gain dividends as ordinary income. Such ordinary income and capital gain are not eligible for the dividends received deduction allowed to corporations. Distributions to such United States persons in excess of our current or accumulated earnings and profits will be considered first a tax-free return of capital, reducing the tax basis of each stockholder's common stock or preferred stock and then, to the extent the distribution exceeds each stockholder's basis, a gain realized from the sale of common stock or preferred stock. We will notify each stockholder as to the portions of each distribution which, in our judgment, constitute ordinary income, capital gain or return of capital. Any dividend that is (a) declared by us in October, November or December of any calendar year and payable to stockholders of record on a specified date in such months and (b) actually paid by us in January of the following year, shall be deemed to have been both paid by us and received by the stockholders on December 31 of such calendar year and, as a result, will be includable in gross income of the stockholders for the taxable year which includes such December 31.

Stockholders may not deduct on their income tax returns any net operating or net capital losses we may have. We may carry forward net operating losses for 20 years and may use such losses to reduce taxable income and the amounts that we will be required to distribute in order to remain qualified as a REIT. We may carry forward net capital losses for five years and we may use such losses to reduce capital gains. Losses not used within the relevant period expire.

Upon the sale or other disposition of our common stock or preferred stock, a stockholder generally will recognize capital gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized on the sale or other disposition and the adjusted basis of the shares involved in the transaction. Such gain or loss will be long-term capital gain or loss if, at the time of sale or other disposition, the shares involved have been held for more than one year. In addition, if a stockholder receives a capital gain dividend with respect to a share of common stock or preferred stock which he has held for six months or less at the time of sale or other disposition, any loss recognized by the stockholder will be treated as long-term capital loss to the extent of the amount of the capital gain dividend that was treated as long-term capital gain.

Distributions from us and gain from the disposition of common stock or preferred stock will not be treated as passive activity income and, therefore, stockholders will not be able to apply any passive activity losses against such income. Dividends from us (to the extent they do not constitute a return of capital or capital gain dividends) and, on an elective basis, capital gain dividends and gain from the disposition of common stock or preferred stock generally will be treated as investment income for purposes of the investment income limitation.

The state and local income tax treatment of us and our stockholders may not conform to the federal income tax treatment described above. (For example, in most states, individual stockholders who are residents of the state will be subject to state income tax on dividends and gains on their shares in us, but the state of Delaware unlike most, if not all, other states also taxes nonresident stockholders of a REIT on dividends and gains from the REIT to the extent, if any, that such income is attributable to property located in Delaware.) As a result, investors should consult their own tax advisors for an explanation of how other state and local tax laws would affect their investment in common stock or preferred stock.

*Backup Withholding.* We will report to our stockholders and the Internal Revenue Service the amount of distributions paid during each calendar year, and the amount of tax withheld, if any. Under the backup withholding rules, a stockholder may be subject to backup withholding at a rate of 30% for 2003 and lesser rates in future years with respect to distributions paid unless such holder (i) is a corporation or comes within certain other exempt categories and, when required, demonstrates this fact, or (ii) provides a taxpayer identification number, certifies as to no loss of exemption from backup withholding and otherwise complies with applicable requirements of the backup withholding rules. A stockholder that does not provide us with his correct taxpayer identification number also may be subject to penalties imposed by the Internal Revenue Service. Any amount paid as backup withholding will be creditable against the stockholder's income tax liability. In addition, we may be required to withhold a portion of capital gain distributions to any shareholders who fail to certify their non-foreign status to us.

*Taxation of Tax-Exempt Stockholders.* Distributions by us to a stockholder that is a tax-exempt entity generally will not constitute unrelated business taxable income (UBTI) as defined in Section 512(a) of the Code, provided that the tax-exempt entity has not financed the acquisition of its shares with acquisition indebtedness within the meaning of the Code and the shares are not otherwise used in an unrelated trade or business of the tax-exempt entity. However, qualified trusts that hold more than 10% (by value) of the shares of certain REITs may be required to treat a certain percentage of the distributions of such REITs as UBTI. The conditions

which trigger this requirement do not currently exist, and we do not anticipate that they will ever exist. This requirement will apply only if (a) we would not qualify as a REIT for federal income tax purposes but for the application of a look-through exception to the five or fewer requirement applicable to shares being held by qualified trusts and (b) we are predominantly held by qualified trusts. A REIT is predominantly held if either (i) a single qualified trust holds more than 25% by value of the REIT interests or (ii) one or more qualified trusts, each owning more than 10% by value of the REIT interests, hold in the aggregate more than 50% of the REIT interests. The percentage of any REIT dividend treated as UBTI is equal to the ratio of (i) the UBTI earned by the REIT (treating the REIT as if it were a qualified trust and therefore subject to tax on UBTI) to (ii) the total gross income (less certain associated expenses of the REIT). A *de minimis* exception applies where the ratio set forth in the preceding sentence is less than 5% for any year. For these purposes, a qualified trust is any trust described in Section 401(a) of the Code and exempt from tax under Section 501(a) of the Code. The provisions requiring qualified trusts to treat a portion of REIT distributions as UBTI will not apply if we are able to satisfy the five or fewer requirements without relying upon the look-through exception. The existing restrictions on ownership of shares in our articles of incorporation will prevent the application of the provisions treating a portion of the REIT distributions as UBTI to tax-exempt entities purchasing shares pursuant to the offering, absent a waiver of the restrictions by our Board of Directors.

*Taxation of Foreign Stockholders.* The rules governing United States federal income taxation of nonresident alien individuals, foreign corporations, foreign participants and other foreign stockholders (collectively, Non-U.S. Stockholders) are complex, and no attempt will be made herein to provide more than a summary of such rules. The following discussion assumes that the income from investment in the capital stock will not be effectively connected with the Non-U.S. Stockholders' conduct of a United States trade or business. Prospective Non-U.S. Stockholders should consult with their own tax advisors to determine the impact of federal, state and local laws with regard to an investment in capital stock, including any reporting requirements.

Distributions that are not attributable to gain from sales or exchanges by us of United States real property interests and not designated by us as capital gain dividends will be treated as dividends of ordinary income to the extent that they are made out of our current and accumulated earnings and profits. Such dividends ordinarily will be subject to a withholding tax equal to 30% of the gross amount of the dividend, unless an applicable tax treaty reduces or eliminates that tax. A number of U.S. tax treaties that reduce the rate of withholding tax on corporate dividends do not reduce, or reduce to a lesser extent, the rate of withholding applied to dividends from a REIT. We expect to withhold U.S. income tax at the rate of 30% on the gross amount of any such distributions paid to a Non-U.S. Stockholder unless (i) a lower treaty rate applies and the Non-U.S. Stockholder files IRS Form W-8BEN with us and, if the capital stock is not traded on an established securities market, acquires a taxpayer identification number from the Internal Revenue Service or (ii) the Non-U.S. Stockholder files IRS Form W-8ECJ with us with our claim that the distribution is effectively connected income. Distributions in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits will not be taxable to a stockholder to the extent that such distributions do not exceed the adjusted basis of the stockholder's shares, but rather will reduce the adjusted basis of such shares. To the extent that distributions in excess of current and accumulated earnings and profits exceed the adjusted basis of a Non-U.S. Stockholders' shares, such distributions will give rise to tax liability if the Non-U.S. Stockholder would otherwise be subject to tax on any gain from the sale or disposition of the shares, as described below. If it cannot be determined at the time a distribution is paid whether or not such distribution will be in excess of current and accumulated earnings and profits, the distribution will be subject to withholding at the rate of 30%. However, a Non-U.S. Stockholder may seek a refund of such amounts from the Internal Revenue Service if it is subsequently determined that such distribution was, in fact, in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits. We are permitted, but not required, to make reasonable estimates of the extent to which distributions exceed current or accumulated earnings and profits. Such distributions will generally be subject to a 10% withholding tax, which may be refunded to the extent it exceeds the shareholder's actual U.S. tax liability, provided the required information is furnished to the Internal Revenue Service.

For any year in which we qualify as a REIT, distributions that are attributable to gain from sales or exchanges by us of United States real property interests will be taxed to a Non-U.S. Stockholder under the provisions of the Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act of 1980, as amended (FIRPTA). Under FIRPTA, distributions attributable to gain from sales of United States real property interests are taxed to a Non-U.S. Stockholder as if such gain were effectively connected with a United States business. Non-U.S. Stockholders would thus be taxed at the normal capital gain rates applicable to U.S. Stockholders (subject to applicable alternative minimum tax and a special alternative minimum tax in the case of nonresident alien individuals). Also, distributions subject to FIRPTA may be subject to a 30% branch profits tax in the hands of a foreign corporate stockholder not entitled to treaty exemption or rate reduction. We are required by applicable Treasury Regulations to withhold 35% of any distribution that could be designated by us as a capital gain dividend. This amount is creditable against the Non-U.S. Stockholder's FIRPTA tax liability.

Gain recognized by a Non-U.S. Stockholder upon a sale of shares generally will not be taxed under FIRPTA if we are a domestically controlled REIT, defined generally as a REIT in which at all times during a specified testing period less than 50% in value of the stock was held directly or indirectly by foreign persons. We currently believe that we are, and expect to continue to be, a

domestically controlled REIT, and in such case the sale of shares would not be subject to taxation under FIRPTA. However, gain not subject to FIRPTA nonetheless will be taxable to a Non-U.S. Stockholder if (i) investment in the shares is treated as effectively connected with the Non-U.S. Stockholders U.S. trade or business, or (ii) the Non-U.S. Stockholder is a nonresident alien individual who was present in the United States for 183 days or more during the taxable year and certain other conditions are met. Effectively connected gain realized by a foreign corporate shareholder may be subject to an additional 30% branch profits tax, subject to possible exemption or rate reduction under an applicable tax treaty. If the gain on the sale of shares were to be subject to taxation under FIRPTA, the Non-U.S. Stockholder would be subject to the same treatment as U.S. Stockholders with respect to such gain (subject to applicable alternative minimum tax and a special alternative minimum tax in the case of nonresident alien individuals), and the purchaser of the shares would be required to withhold and remit to the Internal Revenue Service 10% of the purchase price.

#### PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell our securities to one or more underwriters for public offering and sale by them or may sell the offered securities to investors directly or through agents. Any such underwriter or agent involved in the offer and sale of the offered securities will be named in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Underwriters may offer and sell our securities at a fixed price or prices, which may be changed, related to the prevailing market prices at the time of sale, or at negotiated prices. We also may, from time to time, authorize underwriters acting as our agents to offer and sell our securities upon the terms and conditions set forth in an applicable prospectus supplement. In connection with the sale of our securities, underwriters may be deemed to have received compensation from us in the form of underwriting discounts or commissions and may also receive commissions from purchasers of our securities for whom they may act as agent. Underwriters may sell our securities to or through dealers, and such dealers may receive compensation in the form of discounts, concessions from the underwriters or commissions from the purchasers for whom they may act as agent.

Any underwriting compensation we pay to underwriters or agents in connection with the offering of our securities and any discounts, concessions or commissions allowed by underwriters to participating dealers will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. Underwriters, dealers and agents participating in the distribution of the offered securities may be deemed to be underwriters, and any discounts and commissions received by them and any profit realized by them on resale of the our securities may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act of 1933. Underwriters, dealers and agents may be entitled, under agreements entered into with us, to indemnification against and contribution toward certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933.

If so indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will authorize dealers acting as our agents to solicit offers by certain institutions to purchase our securities from us at the public offering price set forth in such prospectus supplement pursuant to delayed delivery contracts providing for payment and delivery on the date or dates stated in such prospectus supplement. Each contract will be for an amount not less than, and the aggregate principal amount of securities sold pursuant to contracts shall be not less or more than, the respective amounts stated in the applicable prospectus supplement. Institutions with whom contracts, when authorized, may be made include commercial and savings banks, insurance companies, pension funds, investment companies, educational and charitable institutions, and other institutions, but will in all cases be subject to our approval. Contracts will not be subject to any conditions except (i) the purchase by an institution of the offered securities covered by its contracts shall not at the time of delivery be prohibited under the laws of any jurisdiction in the United States to which such institution is subject and (ii) if the offered securities are being sold to underwriters, we shall have sold to such underwriters the total principal amount of our securities less the principal amount thereof covered by contracts.

Certain of the underwriters and their affiliates may be customers of, engage in transactions with and perform services for us and our subsidiaries in the ordinary course of business.

The securities may or may not be listed on a national securities exchange or traded in the over-the-counter market. No assurance can be given as to the liquidity of the trading market for any such securities.

If underwriters or dealers are used in the sale, until the distribution of the securities is completed, the SEC rules may limit the ability of any such underwriters and selling group members to bid for and purchase the securities. As an exception to these rules, representatives of any underwriters are permitted to engage in certain transactions that stabilize the price of the securities. Such transactions may consist of bids or purchases for the purpose of pegging, fixing or maintaining the price of the securities. If the underwriters create a short position in the securities in connection with the offerings (in other words, if they sell more securities than are set forth on the cover page of the prospectus supplement) the representatives of the underwriters may reduce that short position by

purchasing securities in the open market. The representatives of the underwriters may also elect to reduce any short position by exercising all or part of any over-allotment option described in the prospectus supplement. The representatives of the underwriters may also impose a penalty bid on certain underwriters and selling group members. This means that if the representatives purchase securities in the open market to reduce the underwriters' short position or to stabilize the price of the securities, they may reclaim the amount of the selling concession from the underwriters and selling group members who sold those shares as part of the offering. In general, purchases of a security for the purpose of stabilization or to reduce a short position could cause the price of the security to be higher than it might be in the absence of such purchases. The imposition of a penalty bid might also have an effect on the price of the securities to the extent that it discourages resales of the securities. We make no representation or prediction as to the direction or magnitude of any effect that the transactions described above may have on the price of the securities. In addition, the representatives of any underwriters may determine not to engage in such transactions or that such transactions, once commenced, may be discontinued without notice.

#### **LEGAL MATTERS**

The validity of our securities will be passed upon for us by Shaw Pittman LLP, Washington, D.C., a law partnership including professional corporations. In addition, the description of federal income tax consequences contained in this Prospectus is based upon the opinion of Shaw Pittman LLP.

#### **EXPERTS**

The consolidated balance sheets and financial statement schedules of Commercial Net Lease Realty, Inc. as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, and the related consolidated statements of earnings, stockholders' equity and statements of cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2002, have been incorporated by reference herein, and in the Registration Statement in reliance upon the reports of KPMG LLP, independent certified public accountants, incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

**PART II****INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS****Item 14. Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution**

Set forth below are the amounts of fees and expenses (other than underwriting discounts and commissions) we will pay in connection with the offering of our securities. All amounts set forth below, with the exception of the SEC Registration Fee, are estimated.

SEC Registration Fee	\$ 48,541(1)
Printing and Mailing Costs	\$ 200,000
Accounting Fees and Expenses	\$ 50,000
Legal Fees and Expenses	\$ 150,000
Miscellaneous	\$ 10,000
	<hr/>
Total	\$458,541(1)
	<hr/>

(1) Includes registration fees of \$7,252 which were previously paid with respect to securities registered under Registration Statement No. 333-53796.

**Item 15. Indemnification of Directors and Officers**

Our articles of incorporation provide that the liability of our directors and officers for money damages shall be eliminated to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law. Under current Maryland law, the directors are liable to us or our stockholders for money damages only for liability resulting from (i) acts or omissions committed in bad faith involving active and deliberate dishonesty that were material to the cause of action adjudicated, as established by a final judgment or (ii) actual receipt of an improper benefit or profit in money, property or services. Our articles of incorporation also provide that no amendment thereto may limit or eliminate this limitation of liability with respect to events occurring prior to the effective date of such amendment.

Our articles of incorporation and bylaws require us to indemnify our directors and officers to the fullest extent permitted by Maryland law. Under current Maryland law, we will indemnify (i) any director or officer who has been successful, on the merits or otherwise, in the defense of a proceeding to which he was made a party by reason of his service in that capacity, against reasonable expense incurred by him in connection with the proceeding and (ii) any present or former director or officer against any claim or liability unless it is established that (a) his act or omission was material to the matter giving rise to the proceeding and was committed in bad faith or was the result of active and deliberate dishonesty; (b) he actually received an improper personal benefit in money, property or services; or (c) in the case of a criminal proceeding, he had reasonable cause to believe that his act or omission was unlawful. In addition, our bylaws require us to pay or reimburse, in advance of the final disposition of a proceeding, reasonable expenses incurred by a present or former director or officer or any person who is or was serving at our request as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, who is made a party to a proceeding by reason of his status as a director, officer, employee or agent, to the fullest extent provided by Maryland law. Current Maryland law provides that we shall have received, before providing any such payment or reimbursement, (i) a written affirmation by the director or officer of his good faith belief that he has met the standard of conduct necessary for indemnification by us as authorized by Maryland law and our bylaws and (ii) a written undertaking by or on his behalf to repay the amount paid or reimbursed by us if it shall ultimately be determined that the standard of conduct was not met. Our bylaws also permit us to provide indemnification, payment or reimbursement of expenses to any of our employees or agents in such capacity.

**Item 16. Exhibits**

The following exhibits, as noted, are filed herewith, previously have been filed, or will be filed by amendment.

Exhibit No. (Per Exhibit Tables in Item 601 of Regulation S-K)	Description
1.1	Form of Underwriting Agreement for Debt Securities*
1.2	Form of Underwriting Agreement for Equity Securities*
3.1	First Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Registrant (filed as Exhibit 3.1 to the Registrant's Registration Statement No. 333-64511 on Form S-3 and incorporated herein by reference).
3.2	Articles of Amendment to the First Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Registrant (filed as Exhibit 3.6 to the Registrant's Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2002 and incorporated herein by reference).
4.1	Specimen Certificate of Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share, of the Registrant (filed as Exhibit 3.4 to the Registrant's Registration Statement No. 1-11290 on Form 8-B, and incorporated herein by reference)
4.2	Form of Indenture dated March 25, 1998, by and among Registrant and First Union National Bank, Trustee, relating to \$100,000,00 of 7.125% Notes due 2008.
4.3	Form of Debt Security (included in Exhibit 4.2)
4.4	Form of Common Stock Warrant Agreement*
4.5	Form of Certificate for Preferred Stock*
4.6	Form of Deposit Agreement and Depositary Receipt*
5	Opinion of Shaw Pittman LLP, including consent
8	Opinion of Shaw Pittman LLP regarding Tax Matters, including Consent
12	Statement of Computation of Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges and Preferred Stock Dividends
23.1	Consent of KPMG LLP (filed herewith)
23.2	Consent of Shaw Pittman LLP (included in Exhibits 5 and 8)
24	Power of Attorney (contained on the signature page hereto)
25	Statement of Eligibility of Trustee on Form T-1*

\* To be filed by amendment or incorporated by reference in connection with the offering of the offered securities

Previously filed

**Item 17. Undertakings.**

(a) The 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 Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the Calculation of Registration Fee table in the effective registration statement; and

(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 (a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended that are incorporated by reference in 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 therein, 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.

(b) We hereby undertake that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of our annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, 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 our directors, officers and controlling persons pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, we have been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 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 us 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, we will, unless in the opinion of our counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by us is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

(d) We hereby undertake to file an application for the purpose of determining the eligibility of the trustee to act under subsection (a) of Section 310 of the Trust Indenture Act in accordance with the rules and regulations prescribed by the Commission under Section 305(b)(2) of the Act.



**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant 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 City of Orlando, State of Florida on May 29, 2003.

COMMERCIAL NET LEASE REALTY, INC.  
(Registrant)

By:           /s/ JAMES M. SENEFF, JR.          

**James M. Seneff, Jr.**  
**Chairman of the Board**

**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

Each person whose signature appears below hereby constitutes and appoints James M. Seneff, Jr. as his attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power of substitution and resubstitution for him in any and all capacities, to sign any or all amendments or post-effective amendments to this Registration Statement, or any Registration Statement for the same offering that is to be effective upon filing pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and to file the same, with exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith or in connection with the registration of the securities under the Securities Act of 1934, as amended, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto such attorney-in-fact and agent full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary in connection with such matters and hereby ratifying and confirming all that such attorney-in-fact and agent or his substitutes may 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 indicated on May 29, 2003.

<u>Signature</u>	<u>Title</u>
<u>/s/ JAMES M. SENEFF, JR.</u> James M. Seneff, Jr.	Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer)
<u>/s/ GARY M. RALSTON*</u> Gary M. Ralston	President and Chief Operating Officer and Director Executive Vice President,
<u>/s/ KEVIN B. HABICHT*</u> Kevin B. Habicht	Chief Financial Officer, Secretary and Treasurer (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer) and Director
<u>/s/ ROBERT A. BOURNE*</u> Robert A. Bourne	Vice Chairman of the Board
<u>/s/ CLIFFORD R. HINKLE*</u> Clifford R. Hinkle	Director
<u>/s/ RICHARD B. JENNINGS*</u>	Director

Edgar Filing: COMMERCIAL NET LEASE REALTY INC - Form S-3

Richard B. Jennings

/s/ TED B. LANIER\*

---

Director

Ted B. Lanier

/s/ ROBERT C. LEGLER\*

---

Director

Robert C. Legler

39

---

**Signature**

**Title**

---

/s/ ROBERT MARTINEZ\*

---

Director

---

Robert Martinez

---

\*By: /s/ JAMES M. SENEFF, JR.

---

Attorney-in-Fact

---

James M. Seneff, Jr.

40

---

**EXHIBITS**

Exhibit No.	Document
1.1	Form of Underwriting Agreement for Debt Securities*
1.2	Form of Underwriting Agreement for Equity Securities*
3.1	First Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Registrant (filed as Exhibit 3.1 to the Registrant's Registration Statement No. 333-64511 on Form S-3 and incorporated herein by reference).
3.2	Articles of Amendment to the First Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Registrant (filed as Exhibit 3.6 to the Registrant's Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2002 and incorporated herein by reference).
4.1	Specimen Certificate of Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share, of the Registrant (filed as Exhibit 3.4 to the Registrant's Registration Statement No. 1-11290 on Form 8-B, and incorporated herein by reference)
4.2	Form of Indenture dated March 25, 1998, by and among Registrant and First Union National Bank, Trustee, relating to \$100,000,00 of 7.125% Notes due 2008.
4.3	Form of Debt Security (included in Exhibit 4.2)
4.4	Form of Common Stock Warrant Agreement*
4.5	Form of Certificate for Preferred Stock*
4.6	Form of Deposit Agreement and Depositary Receipt*
5	Opinion of Shaw Pittman LLP, including consent
8	Opinion of Shaw Pittman LLP regarding Tax Matters, including Consent
12	Statement of Computation of Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges and Preferred Stock Dividends
23.1	Consent of KPMG LLP (filed herewith)
23.2	Consent of Shaw Pittman LLP (included in Exhibits 5 and 8)
24	Power of Attorney (contained on the signature page hereto)
25	Statement of Eligibility of Trustee on Form T-1*

\* To be filed by amendment or incorporated by reference in connection with the offering of the offered securities

Previously filed