

MCDONALDS CORP  
Form 424B3  
June 22, 2009

Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3)

Registration Statement No. 333-149952

**MCDirect Shares Prospectus**

We are pleased to offer MCDirect Shares, McDonald's direct stock purchase plan (the Plan).

The Plan is available only to residents of the U.S. and Canada.

Under the Plan, your cash dividends will be automatically reinvested in additional shares of McDonald's common stock (stock).

If you are not a shareholder, you may enroll by investing at least \$500 or by authorizing automatic ongoing investments of at least \$50. No cash, credit cards, third party checks, cashiers checks or travelers checks will be accepted. Computershare will only accept checks that clear through a U.S. bank and are payable in U.S. dollars.

If you hold at least 10 shares of McDonald's stock in your name, you may enroll.

If you hold less than 10 shares in your name, you may enroll by investing at least \$500 or by authorizing automatic ongoing investments of at least \$50.

In the U.S., you may open a custodial account for a minor child under the Uniform Gifts/Transfers To Minors Act by investing at least \$100, authorizing automatic ongoing investments of at least \$50 or transferring at least one share to the minor.

If you are a McDonald's System member in the U.S. or Canada, you may join the Plan and invest in McDonald's stock by authorizing payroll deduction contributions to the Plan, if, and on terms, offered by your employer.

You may enroll by mail or online at [www.computershare.com/mcdonalds](http://www.computershare.com/mcdonalds).

Once enrolled, you may make additional investments of \$50, or more, by mail, online, or by authorizing automatic ongoing investments.

If you are a shareholder, you may deposit your McDonald's stock certificates with our Plan Administrator, whether or not you participate in the Plan.

You may establish a Traditional IRA, Roth IRA or a Coverdell Educational Savings Account that invests in McDonald's stock through the Plan.

## Edgar Filing: MCDONALDS CORP - Form 424B3

There are fees associated with participating in the Plan. These fees are described in this prospectus. In addition to these fees, the IRA Trustee will charge IRA participants with applicable taxes, fees and expenses, which are described in a separate IRA trust and disclosure statement referenced in this prospectus.

Investing in McDonald's stock involves certain risks. See Risk Factors on page 2 for certain risks to consider before participating in the Plan or before purchasing shares of McDonald's stock.

**Neither the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, or any state, nor any non-U.S. securities commission has approved or disapproved of McDonald's stock or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.**

**The date of this prospectus is June 22, 2009**

**Table of Contents**

<u>MCDONALD S CORPORATION</u>	2
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	2
<u>MCDIRECT SHARES</u>	2
<u>TRANSACTION OR PLAN SERVICE FEES</u>	6
<u>U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAXATION</u>	7
<u>WHERE TO GET MORE INFORMATION</u>	8
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	9
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u>	9
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	9
<u>EXPERTS</u>	9
<u>INQUIRIES</u>	9

---

## McDonald's Corporation

McDonald's Corporation, together with its subsidiaries and affiliates (hereafter, referred to as either the Company or as McDonald's), franchises and operates McDonald's restaurants. These restaurants serve a varied, yet limited, value-priced menu. All restaurants are operated either by the Company or by franchisees, including conventional franchisees under franchise arrangements, and foreign affiliated markets and developmental licensees under license agreements. The Company's operations are designed to assure consistency and high quality at every restaurant. When granting franchises or licenses, the Company is selective and generally is not in the practice of franchising to passive investors.

We view ourselves primarily as a franchisor and continually review our mix of Company-operated and franchised (conventional franchised or developmental licensed and affiliated) restaurants to deliver a great customer experience and drive profitability. McDonald's is the leading global foodservice retailer with more than 32,000 local restaurants in more than 100 countries. About 80% of McDonald's restaurants worldwide are owned and operated by franchisees. Our principal executive offices are located at One McDonald's Plaza, Oak Brook, IL 60523; our telephone number is 1-630-623-3000.

### Risk Factors

We urge you to carefully consider the risk factors described in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus. Before making an investment decision, you should carefully consider these risks as well as other information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus.

### MCDirect Shares

#### *Purpose*

MCDirect Shares is a direct stock purchase plan that provides investors with a convenient and cost-effective way to begin and build their McDonald's share ownership and reinvest dividends.

#### *Administration*

The MCDirect Shares Plan Administrator is Computershare Trust Company, N.A. (hereafter, referred to as either Computershare, Plan Administrator or Administrator). The Plan Administrator purchases and holds shares purchased under the Plan, maintains records, sends account statements to participants, and performs other duties related to the Plan.

#### *Eligibility and Enrollment*

You are eligible to participate in the Plan if you reside in the U.S. or Canada. McDonald's has the right to restrict or terminate the participation of any individual. You will be charged transaction fees for participating in the Plan (including a \$5.00 enrollment fee), certain investment fees and, if applicable, additional IRA fees. The enrollment fee, as well as an investment fee, if applicable, will be deducted from your initial investment. See *Transaction or Plan Service Fees* on page 6.

Partial participation in the Plan is not available. By participating in the Plan, all shares of McDonald's stock held by you through Computershare, including shares held in the Plan, shares held through direct registration (book-entry) and shares that are certificated, will be considered Plan shares and all dividends paid on such shares will be automatically reinvested in additional shares of McDonald's stock. Shareholders can withdraw from the Plan at any time. See *Withdrawal from the Plan* on page 5.

*Shareholders.* If you hold at least 10 shares of McDonald's stock in your name, or one share registered in a custodial account for a minor, you or the minor, respectively, may join the Plan. If you hold fewer than 10 shares in your name, you may join the Plan by making an initial investment of at least \$500 (or \$100 for custodial accounts). You also may join the Plan by authorizing automatic ongoing investments of at least \$50. You can get started by submitting a completed enrollment form and the appropriate funds, if applicable, to the Plan Administrator or by enrolling online at [www.computershare.com/mcdonalds](http://www.computershare.com/mcdonalds). See *Methods of Investment* on page 3.

*Non-shareholders.* If you do not currently own McDonald's stock, you may join the Plan by making an initial investment of at least \$500 (or \$100 for custodial accounts) or by authorizing automatic ongoing investments of at least \$50. You can get started by submitting a completed enrollment form and the appropriate funds, if applicable, to the Plan Administrator or by enrolling online at [www.computershare.com/mcdonalds](http://www.computershare.com/mcdonalds). See *Methods of Investment* on page 3.



*McDonald's System Members.* If you are a McDonald's System member and payroll deductions are offered by your employer, you may also join the Plan by providing a completed enrollment form to your human resources representative and authorizing payroll deduction contributions to the Plan. The investment frequency and the minimum dollar amount of payroll deduction contributions will vary and are determined by your employer.

The McDonald's System members include McDonald's franchisees and suppliers, their employees and employee benefit plans, as well as employees of McDonald's. See *Eligibility and Enrollment* on page 2 and *Methods of Investment Payroll Deductions* on page 3.

*Street Name Holders.* If your shares are held by a bank, broker or trustee, you may join the Plan by directing your bank, broker or trustee to register at least 10 shares (or one share for custodial accounts) of McDonald's stock directly in your name or the custodial registration for a minor child. You can then get started by submitting a completed enrollment form to the Plan Administrator or by enrolling online at [www.computershare.com/mcdonalds](http://www.computershare.com/mcdonalds).

#### ***Individual Retirement Account (IRA)***

You can establish a Traditional IRA, Roth IRA, or Coverdell Educational Savings Account that invests in McDonald's stock by making an initial investment to the IRA of at least \$500, or by transferring at least 10 shares of McDonald's stock or \$500 or more from an existing IRA. You should be aware that the IRA Trustee administers IRAs in compliance with U.S. Internal Revenue Service requirements. The IRA trust agreement and disclosure statement describes how IRAs will be administered and as such, the terms described therein supersede the terms of MCDirect Shares. You can get started by submitting a completed IRA Enrollment Form and a completed IRA Funds Transfer Form to the Plan Administrator. These forms and an IRA trust agreement and disclosure statement, including information regarding fees, are available from the Plan Administrator by calling 1-800-564-1904. See *Individual Retirement Account (IRA) Fees/Expenses* on page 6.

#### ***Methods of Investment***

Investments cannot exceed \$250,000 per calendar year and must be made in U.S. dollars. For the purpose of applying this limit, all investments during any calendar year (including initial and ongoing investments, but excluding dividend reinvestments and share deposits) are aggregated. The Plan Administrator will arrange for the purchase of shares for your account, but will not pay interest on amounts pending investment. There are fees associated with investing in McDonald's stock under the Plan. See *Transaction or Plan Service Fees* on page 6.

*Optional Single Investments.* Once enrolled, you may make additional investments of \$50 or more through the Plan online at [www.computershare.com/mcdonalds](http://www.computershare.com/mcdonalds) or by mail. Please mail your check, payable to Computershare, and a completed transaction form located on your account statement or transaction advice to the address specified on the form. Any individual or entity (including McDonald's) may make additional cash investments for any participant or eligible investor as a gift, award or incentive for future performance.

*Automatic Ongoing Investments.* If you wish to make regular ongoing cash investments, you may authorize an automatic ongoing withdrawal of at least \$50 from your U.S. bank account. To get started, you must complete and submit the Direct Debit Authorization form or authorize automatic ongoing investments online at [www.computershare.com/mcdonalds](http://www.computershare.com/mcdonalds). Funds will be deducted from your account on the 15th of each month and/or the last day of each month (whichever date or dates you choose), or, if the date(s) fall on a bank holiday or weekend, the next business day. Please allow up to four weeks for the first automatic investment to begin. To change or terminate automatic investments, you must notify the Plan Administrator in writing at least six business days before the next automatic scheduled investment date.

*Payroll Deductions.* If you are a McDonald's System member and payroll deductions are offered by your employer, you may enroll and make ongoing investments through payroll deduction. Payroll deduction minimums and investment frequency vary by employer. You should contact your personnel department or human resources representative to determine if payroll deductions are available to you and what the procedures are for initiating, changing and terminating payroll deductions.

*Dividends.* By participating in the Plan, cash dividends paid on shares of McDonald's stock held by you through Computershare, including fractional shares held in the Plan, shares held through direct registration (book-entry) and shares that are certificated, will be automatically reinvested in additional shares of McDonald's stock. Cash dividends currently are declared and paid on a quarterly basis; however, the amount and frequency of any future dividends are at the discretion of McDonald's Board of Directors.

*Unpaid Checks/Rejected Electronic Funds Transfer.* In the event that any participant's check for a cash contribution is returned unpaid for any reason, or an authorized electronic funds transfer is not completed, the Plan Administrator will consider the request for investment of such funds null and void. The Plan Administrator shall immediately remove from the participant's account those shares, if any, purchased upon the prior credit of such funds. The Plan Administrator shall thereupon be entitled to sell shares to satisfy any uncollected amount plus any applicable taxes, sales and transaction fees. If the net proceeds of the sale of such shares are insufficient



to satisfy the balance of such uncollected amounts, the Plan Administrator shall be entitled to sell additional shares from the participant's account as may be necessary to satisfy the uncollected balance.

#### *Transfer of Shares from Street Name*

If a bank, broker, trustee or other agent holds your shares, you may transfer all or a portion of these shares to a Plan account by directing your agent to register these shares directly in your name, using the same name/registration as on your existing Plan account.

#### *Share Purchases*

Shares will be purchased by the Plan Administrator either on the open market or directly from McDonald's at the sole discretion of McDonald's. Share purchases on the open market may be made on any stock exchange in the U.S. where McDonald's stock is traded, on the over-the-counter market, or by negotiated transactions on terms the Plan Administrator reasonably determines at the time of purchase. In rare instances, purchases may be delayed to meet temporary curtailment or suspension of trading based on the actions of regulators and market administrators or emergency circumstances affecting receipt and execution of orders by brokers or market facilities. Any shares purchased by the Plan Administrator from McDonald's will be made in accordance with applicable requirements. Neither McDonald's nor any participant shall have any authority or power to control the timing or pricing of shares purchased, or the selection of the broker making the purchases. Therefore, you will not be able to precisely time your purchases through the Plan and will bear the market risk associated with fluctuations in the price of McDonald's stock. That is, if you send in an initial or optional single cash investment or authorize automatic ongoing investments or payroll deductions, it is possible that the market price of McDonald's stock could go up or down before shares are purchased with your funds. In addition, you will not earn interest on investments for the period before the shares are purchased. There are fees associated with purchasing shares of McDonald's stock under the Plan. See "Transaction or Plan Service Fees" on page 6.

Purchases generally will be made weekly, but may be made daily when practicable. The timing and frequency of purchases is at the sole discretion of the Administrator, provided that purchases will be made only on days when the stock exchanges in the U.S. where McDonald's stock is traded are open. When McDonald's stock is purchased on the open market, your price per share will be the weighted average purchase price of all shares purchased for Plan participants on that date. In the case of purchases from McDonald's, your price per share will be the average of the high and low sales prices of McDonald's stock, as reported on the New York Stock Exchange Composite Tape on that date.

#### *Sales of McDonald's Stock*

You may submit a request to sell shares in your Plan account in one of three ways: (i) by calling 1-800-621-7825, (ii) by accessing your account at [www.computershare.com/mcdonalds](http://www.computershare.com/mcdonalds) (which requires you to provide account identification and security information), or (iii) by completing and submitting the appropriate section of a transaction form to the Plan Administrator. For security purposes, phone sales are limited to \$25,000.

Sales of Plan shares may be executed in one of two ways, each is described below.

**Batch Order.** A batch order is a request to sell some or all of your Plan shares that will be accumulated with the sales requests of other Plan participants and the aggregated shares will be sold in a single sale transaction. Sale instructions for batch orders received by the Plan Administrator will be processed no later than five business days after the date on which the order is received (except where deferral is required under applicable federal or state laws or regulations), assuming the applicable market is open for trading and sufficient market liquidity exists. In every case of a batch order sale, the price each selling participant shall receive will be the weighted average sale price of all shares sold in such batch order by the Plan Administrator's broker, net of fees and applicable taxes. To maximize cost savings for batch order sale requests, the Plan Administrator will seek to sell shares in round lot transactions. For this purpose the Plan Administrator may combine each selling participant's shares with those of other selling participants. All sale requests received in writing will automatically be treated as batch order sale requests.

**Market Order.** A market order is a request to sell some or all of your Plan shares at or near the current market price. Market order sales may only be made online at [www.computershare.com/mcdonalds](http://www.computershare.com/mcdonalds) or by telephone by calling 1-800-621-7825. Market order sale requests will be placed promptly with a broker upon receipt during market (NYSE) hours (normally Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. EST). Any request for a market order sale received while the market is closed will be placed by the broker as soon as possible after the market opens. The amount you receive will be the market price of the sale obtained by the Plan Administrator's broker, net of fees and applicable taxes.

Batch orders and market orders are subject to different fees. Sales fees that are in effect under the Plan at the time a sales transaction is executed will apply regardless of when or how the shares sold were acquired. See "Transaction or Plan Service Fees" on page 6.



All sale instructions are final. Once the Plan Administrator receives your sale instructions, the request will not be stopped or cancelled. Sales processed on accounts lacking a valid Form W-9 certifying the accuracy of your taxpayer identification number for U.S. beneficial owners, or a Form W-8 BEN for non-U.S. beneficial owners, will be subject to backup withholding tax at the then effective tax rate. By furnishing the appropriate form to the Plan Administrator before the sale takes place, you will avoid subjecting your sales proceeds to backup withholding tax. See U.S. Federal Income Taxation on page 7.

Alternatively, you can choose to sell your shares through a stockbroker of your choice. In that case, you must request that your shares be moved to your broker. If you elect to move your shares and sell through a broker, you will pay whatever taxes, sales and transaction fees are charged by your broker, rather than the taxes and fees provided under the Plan.

#### ***Withdrawal from the Plan***

You can withdraw all of your shares from your Plan account by properly notifying the Plan Administrator. The Plan Administrator will transfer your shares to a Direct Registration System (DRS) account maintained by the Plan Administrator.

If your Plan account has a fractional share, a check for the value of the fractional share (less applicable taxes and fees) will be mailed to you.

Checks will be payable to the name(s) in which the account is registered, unless otherwise instructed. If the check is to be issued in a name or names other than the name(s) on your Plan or DRS account registration, the signature(s) on the instructions or stock power must be guaranteed by a financial institution participating in the Medallion Guarantee program.

The Plan Administrator will process notices of withdrawal and any uninvested funds will be returned to you as soon as practicable, without interest. If your request to withdraw from the Plan is received on or after a dividend record date, but before the dividend payment date, your withdrawal will be processed as soon as practicable, and a separate dividend check will be mailed to you within five business days after the dividend payment date. Future dividends will be paid in cash, unless you rejoin the Plan. Please allow three to five business days to process your withdrawal request.

#### ***Convert Your Stock Certificates***

McDonald's shareholders, including shareholders who do not participate in the Plan, may use DRS to convert their McDonald's stock certificates to book-entry at no cost. McDonald's and the Plan Administrator are responsible for the custody of McDonald's shares in DRS. Therefore, you no longer bear the risk and cost associated with the loss, theft or destruction of your stock certificates once the Plan Administrator receives the certificates. When you use this service, you can take advantage of the transfer and sale of shares features of the Plan. Shareholders using DRS will receive dividends in cash until they are enrolled in the Plan. See *Withdrawal from the Plan* on page 5.

To convert your certificates to book-entry, send them to the Plan Administrator via courier service with written instructions to deposit the certificated shares into your book-entry account. Do not endorse the certificates or complete the assignment section. Shareholders mailing their certificates to Computershare may wish to insure them to cover the cost of replacement in the event they are lost or stolen during mailing. You may contact Computershare at 1-800-621-7825 for an estimate of the cost to replace a lost or stolen certificate.

#### ***Gift/Transfer of Shares***

You may gift or transfer McDonald's shares held in your Plan account to anyone you choose. You will not be charged any fees to gift or transfer shares under the Plan. In order to transfer some or all of your Plan shares or shares held in Direct Registration, you must send the Plan Administrator signed transfer instructions. Your signature must be guaranteed by a bank or other financial institution participating in the Medallion Guarantee program. A General Transfer Package is available at [www.computershare.com/mcdonalds](http://www.computershare.com/mcdonalds), or by calling or writing to the Plan Administrator.

If you are opening a new Plan account, you must submit a completed enrollment form, a \$5.00 enrollment fee and instructions to transfer at least 10 shares or one share for a custodial account. Your letter of instruction or general transfer form must be signed and your signature guaranteed by a bank or other financial institution participating in the Medallion Guarantee program. If you transfer fewer than 10 shares for a non-custodial account, they will be held in Direct Registration, at no cost. See *Convert Your Stock Certificates* on page 5.

**Transaction or Plan Service Fees****Enrollment & Investment Fees:**

Enrollment Fee	Initial enrollment fee, per account	\$ 5.00
Investment Fees	Optional investment, per transaction	\$ 6.00
	Automatic ongoing investment, per transaction	\$ 1.50
	Payroll deduction, per transaction	\$ 0.00
	Dividend reinvestment, per transaction	\$ 0.00
Insufficient Funds fee	Rejected check, per transaction	\$ 25.00
	Rejected automatic investment, per transaction	\$ 25.00

**Batch Order Sales Fees\*:**

Batch Order per transaction	\$ 15.00
plus a per share fee (the per share fee is capped at \$35.00 within a single transaction).	\$ 0.15

**Market Order Sales Fees\*\*:**

Market Order per transaction	\$ 25.00
plus a per share fee (the per share fee is capped at \$35.00 within a single transaction).	\$ 0.15

**Optional Wire Transfer Fees**

Proceeds via wire	U.S. bank account, per transaction	\$ 25.00
	International bank account, per transaction	\$ 35.00

\* Batch Order: The maximum sales fee a participant will pay to sell shares through the Plan in a single transaction is \$50.00; a \$15.00 transaction fee plus a per share fee of \$0.15 capped at \$35.00. Optional wire transfer fees, or fees for additional optional services, if applicable, will be added to the maximum sales fee.

\*\* Market Order: The maximum sales fee a participant will pay to sell shares through the Plan in a single transaction is \$60.00; a \$25.00 transaction fee plus a per share fee of \$0.15 capped at \$35.00. Optional wire transfer fees, or fees for additional optional services, if applicable, will be added to the maximum sales fee.

The Plan Administrator will deduct the applicable taxes, sales and transaction fees from proceeds due from a sale or funds received for investment. Because of the structure of the Plan fees, the cost to participate in the Plan on a per share basis decreases with the number of shares bought and/or sold in a single transaction. For this reason, you should carefully consider the impact of the costs of participation in the Plan on your investment returns.

**Individual Retirement Account (IRA) Fees/Expenses**

In addition to the fees described above, the IRA Trustee will charge IRA participants applicable taxes, fees and expenses, including an annual IRA account fee.

These fees and any future fee increases are described in the IRA trust agreement and disclosure statement available by calling the Plan Administrator at 1-800-564-1904. See Individual Retirement Account (IRA) on page 3.

**Account Statements**

The Plan Administrator will establish and maintain a separate account under the Plan for you. Online access to your account information is available 24 hours a day/seven days a week at the secured website, [www.computershare.com/mcdonalds](http://www.computershare.com/mcdonalds). You will receive a transaction advice for account activity (except reinvested dividends and payroll deductions) and quarterly statements listing your account activity, if any. If you have a valid email address on file with the Plan Administrator, and have consented to electronic delivery, you will receive email notification when account statements or other shareholder communications are available online. You can consent to electronic delivery or change your electronic delivery options at any time either online at [www.computershare.com/mcdonalds](http://www.computershare.com/mcdonalds) or by contacting the Plan Administrator. For additional sources of account information, see Where To Get More Information on page 8.



***Stock Splits; Stock Dividends; Other Distributions***

In the event dividends are paid in additional shares of McDonald's stock, or if shares of McDonald's stock are distributed in connection with any stock split or similar transaction, your account will be adjusted accordingly.

***Voting of Proxies***

You will receive the information necessary to vote your shares of McDonald's stock. If you do not vote your shares by any of the methods indicated in such information, or if you return an unsigned proxy card prior to the fifth calendar day before a shareholder meeting, the Plan Administrator will vote your Plan shares in accordance with the majority of the Plan shares voted by participants.

***Responsibility of the Plan Administrator and McDonald's***

Neither McDonald's nor the Plan Administrator will be liable for any action they take in good faith or for any good faith omission to act. This includes, without limitation, liability for: the failure to terminate your account upon your death prior to receiving written notice; or any purchase or sale prices reflected in your Plan transactions or the dates of purchases or sales of your Plan shares; or any fluctuation in the market value after purchase or sale of shares.

Neither McDonald's nor the Plan Administrator can assure a profit or protect you against a loss on the shares you purchase under the Plan. The declaration and payment of dividends are at the discretion of the McDonald's Board of Directors. The Board may change the amount and timing of dividends at any time without notice.

***Modification or Termination of the Plan***

McDonald's may modify or terminate the Plan at any time. The Plan Administrator also reserves the right to change any administrative procedures of the Plan without notifying participants. The current MCDirect Shares prospectus is filed with the SEC and available on our website at [www.investor.mcdonalds.com](http://www.investor.mcdonalds.com) and any modifications to the Plan will be reflected in an updated prospectus on our website.

***Application of Modification or Termination***

Any modification made to, or termination of, the Plan will apply to a participant's holdings in the Plan at the time the modification or termination becomes effective and to transactions occurring thereafter, regardless of when or how the shares were acquired.

***Interpretation of the Plan***

McDonald's may interpret and regulate the Plan as deemed necessary or desirable in connection with the operation of the Plan and resolve questions or ambiguities concerning the various provisions of the Plan.

***Governing Law***

The Plan is governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Illinois without giving effect to any principles of conflicts of laws.

***Change of Eligibility; Termination from the Plan***

The Plan Administrator will from time to time review your Plan account to determine whether you continue to be eligible to participate in the Plan. If the Plan Administrator determines that you are no longer eligible to participate, or if the Plan is terminated, the Plan Administrator will notify you in writing or via email.

Upon termination of participation in the Plan, the Plan Administrator will transfer all of your whole shares of McDonald's stock in your Plan account to a DRS account maintained by the Plan Administrator and mail you a check for the value of any fractional share, unless otherwise instructed. Please allow up to 30 days for this transfer. You may request a certificate for your whole shares and a check for the value of any fractional share (based on the then current market price, less applicable taxes and fees). You may also request a sale of your shares. See "Sales of McDonald's Stock" on page 4. If your account consists of only a fractional share, the Plan Administrator may close your account by notifying you in writing and sending a check to you for the value of the fractional share based on the then current market price of McDonald's stock, less any applicable taxes and fees. See "Transaction or Plan Service Fees" on page 6.

**U.S. Federal Income Taxation**

*Tax consequences of participating in the Plan can vary depending on each participant's tax situation. This summary only addresses U.S. federal income taxation and is not a comprehensive summary of all tax considerations that may be relevant to your participation in the Plan. In addition, special tax considerations may apply to certain participants, such as those in Canada and*

*those participating through an IRA. Therefore, you are encouraged to consult your tax advisor regarding the consequences of participation in the Plan in light of current and proposed federal, state, local, foreign and other tax laws.*

Cash dividends reinvested under the Plan will be taxable as having been received by you even though you have not received them in cash. You will receive an annual statement (Form 1099-DIV or Form 1042-S, as applicable) from the Plan Administrator indicating the amount of the reinvested dividends reported to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service as dividend income.

You will not realize a gain or loss for U. S. federal income tax purposes upon a transfer of shares to the Plan or the withdrawal of whole shares from the Plan. You will, however, generally realize a gain or loss when shares are sold, including any fractional shares for which you receive cash upon termination of your participation in the Plan. The amount of gain or loss will be the difference between the amount that you receive for the shares sold and your tax basis for the shares. In order to determine the tax basis for shares in your account, you should retain all account and transaction statements.

If you are a nonresident foreign shareholder whose dividends are subject to U.S. federal income tax withholding, the amount of tax to be withheld will be deducted from the amount of dividends to determine the amount of dividends to reinvest.

Dividends paid on shares in the Plan accounts, and proceeds from a sale of shares, may be subject to the backup withholding provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. If you fail to furnish a properly completed Form W-9 or its equivalent or are otherwise subject to backup withholding, the Plan Administrator must withhold and pay over to the Internal Revenue Service a withholding tax at the required rate (currently 28%) from the amount of dividends, the proceeds of a sale of a fractional share, and the proceeds of a sale of whole shares, unless you are exempt from backup withholding.

#### **Where to Get More Information**

McDonald's files annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any reports, statements or other information filed by McDonald's at the SEC's public reference room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You can request copies of these documents, upon payment of a duplicating fee, by contacting the SEC. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the operation of the public reference room. SEC filings are also available to the public at the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). You can access SEC filings and sign up for e-mail notification of certain financial releases on McDonald's website at [www.investor.mcdonalds.com](http://www.investor.mcdonalds.com).

The following documents filed with the SEC are incorporated by reference into this prospectus and are considered a part of this prospectus:

- (a) our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008;
- (b) our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended March 31, 2009;
- (c) our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on January 23, 2009, January 26, 2009, February 18, 2009, April 13, 2009, April 22, 2009 and May 18, 2009; and
- (d) the description of our Common Stock contained in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A dated December 23, 1988, as amended in our Current Reports of Form 8-K dated May 25, 1989 and July 25, 1990.

In addition, all documents and reports subsequently filed by McDonald's pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment which indicates that all securities offered have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this registration statement and to be part hereof from the date of filing of such documents or reports. Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this Registration Statement to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this Registration Statement.

If requested, McDonald's will provide, at no cost, any of the above documents (including any exhibits that are specifically incorporated by reference in them) to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom a prospectus is delivered. Written or telephone requests should be directed to: McDonald's Shareholder Services, McDonald's Corporation, One McDonald's Plaza, #300, Oak Brook, Illinois 60523; telephone: 1-630-623-7428. McDonald's Annual Report, the MCDirect Shares brochure/prospectus and enrollment form, and financial information are available on our website at [www.investor.mcdonalds.com](http://www.investor.mcdonalds.com).

## Edgar Filing: MCDONALDS CORP - Form 424B3

You should rely only on the information incorporated by reference or provided in this prospectus or in any prospectus supplement. McDonald's has authorized no one to provide you with different information. McDonald's is not making an offer to sell stock in any state or country where the offer is not permitted. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus or the prospectus supplement, if any, is accurate as of any date other than the date of the document.

### **Use of Proceeds**

McDonald's will receive proceeds from the purchase of McDonald's shares under the Plan only if purchases are made directly from McDonald's and not from open market purchases by the Plan Administrator. Proceeds received by McDonald's from such purchases shall be used for general corporate purposes.

### **Plan of Distribution**

McDonald's shares offered pursuant to the Plan will be purchased in the open market or, at McDonald's option, directly from McDonald's. There are fees associated with participating in the Plan. See "Transaction or Plan Service Fees" on page 6. IRA participants will also be charged applicable taxes, fees and expenses as set forth in the IRA trust agreement and disclosure statement. See "Individual Retirement Account (IRA) Fees/Expenses" on page 6. McDonald's will pay all other costs related to the administration of the Plan.

### **Legal Matters**

Gloria Santona, Corporate Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary of McDonald's, has rendered her opinion regarding the legality of the shares of McDonald's stock covered by this prospectus. Ms. Santona owns shares of McDonald's stock.

### **Experts**

The consolidated financial statements of the Company included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008, have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in their report thereon incorporated herein by reference. Such consolidated financial statements are incorporated herein by reference in reliance upon such report given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

### **Inquiries**

*By Phone and IVR.* For information about your account or other questions, call the Plan Administrator at 1-800-621-7825 or 1-312-588-4110 for the hearing impaired. An interactive voice response system (IVR) providing account balance, stock prices and other information is available 24 hours, 7 days a week. Representatives are available weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Central Standard Time. For questions regarding McDonald's IRA program please call 1-800-564-1904.

*Via the Internet.* Account information and convenient online services are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on Computershare's Investor Centre website at [www.computershare.com/mcdonalds](http://www.computershare.com/mcdonalds). You will need to access your account using your user ID and password. For first time users and residents outside the U.S., please follow the online instructions for becoming a registered Investor Centre member.

*By Mail.* Send correspondence and enrollment forms to McDonald's Shareholder Services, c/o Computershare Trust Company, N.A., P.O. Box 43078, Providence, RI 02940-3078. After enrolling in the Plan, mail optional investments to McDonald's Shareholder Services, c/o Computershare Trust Company, N.A., P.O. Box 6006, Carol Stream, IL 60197-6006. Please include the optional cash purchase form, found at the bottom of your Plan statement or purchase allocation advice, or a letter that includes your McDonald's account number and your daytime telephone number. Please send any correspondence regarding your Computershare McDonald's IRA program to Computershare IRA Program, P.O. Box 173753, Denver, CO 80217-3753.

**This prospectus** should be read in conjunction with the documents incorporated by reference herein. There shall be no sale of these securities in any state or country in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such state or country.

*All trademarks used herein are the property of their respective owners and are used with permission.*



**[This page intentionally left blank]**

008FL60005