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

FORM 8-K

**CURRENT REPORT
PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

November 17, 2015
Date of Report
(Date of earliest event reported)

SYNCHRONY FINANCIAL

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
**(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)**

001-36560
**(Commission
File Number)**

51-0483352
**(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)**

777 Long Ridge Road, Stamford, Connecticut
(Address of principal executive offices)

06902
(Zip Code)

(203) 585-2400
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

N/A
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

- (b) On November 17, 2015, General Electric Company (“GE”) announced the completion of its offer to exchange shares of GE common stock for all of the common stock of Synchrony Financial (the “Company”) owned by GE (the “Exchange Offer”). Following the Exchange Offer, GE no longer owns any shares of the Company’s common stock. Accordingly, effective on November 17, 2015, GE’s designees on the Company’s Board of Directors (the “Board”), William H. Cary, Daniel O. Colao, Alexander Dimitrief, Thomas C. Gentile and Anne Kennelly Kratky (together, the “GE Designees”), resigned from the Board and the Board committees on which they served. Mr. Cary was formerly the Chair of the Management Development and Compensation Committee; Mr. Dimitrief was formerly a member of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee; and Ms. Kratky was formerly a member of the Risk Committee. The GE Designees’ decisions to resign did not involve any disagreement with the Company, the Company’s management or the Board.
- (d) On November 17, 2015, the Board, based on the recommendations of its Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, elected Paget L. Alves, Arthur W. Coviello, Jr., William W. Graylin, Laurel J. Richie and Olympia J. Snowe (together, the “New Directors”) as directors of the Company to fill the vacancies created by the resignations of the GE Designees. Senator Snowe has served as a non-voting observer to the Board since January 2015, and the other New Directors have served as non-voting observers to the Board since July 2015, all with the expectation that they would join the Board as independent directors following the completion of the Exchange Offer. As Board observers, they received an annual salary of \$160,000 payable quarterly and were reimbursed for their reasonable travel and other expenses in accordance with the Company’s expense reimbursement policy.

In addition, the Board, based on the recommendations of its Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, approved the following Board committee appointments:

- Mr. Alves as a member of each of the Audit Committee and the Management Development and Compensation Committee;
- Mr. Coviello, Jr. and Mr. Graylin as members of the Risk Committee;
- Ms. Richie as a member of each of the Management Development and Compensation Committee and the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee;
- Senator Snowe as a member and the chair of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and as a member of the Audit Committee; and
- Richard C. Hartnack as the chair of the Management Development and Compensation Committee.

The New Directors will participate in the same compensation program as each of the Company’s other independent, non-management directors. Under the program, each New Director will receive annual compensation of \$160,000, of which \$50,000 will be paid in cash and \$110,000 will be paid in Company restricted stock units. Separately, for each Board committee meeting attended, a New Director will receive \$2,000 in cash. Senator Snowe and Mr. Hartnack will each receive an additional \$20,000 in annual cash compensation as the chair of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the chair of the Management Development and Compensation Committee, respectively.

In connection with joining the Board, each of the New Directors entered into the Company’s standard form of indemnification agreement. The indemnification agreement provides the New Directors with contractual rights to indemnification and expense advancement rights under the Company’s bylaws, as well as contractual rights to additional indemnification as provided in the indemnification agreement. The form of indemnification agreement was previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 1, 2014 as Exhibit 10.89 of Amendment No. 1 to the Company’s Registration Statement on Form S-1 (333-197244).

Item 8.01 Other Events.

A copy of the press release announcing the completion of the Exchange Offer is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this report and is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

| <u>Exhibit No.</u> | <u>Description of Exhibit</u> |
|--------------------|--|
| 99.1 | Press Release issued by the Company, dated November 17, 2015 |

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

SYNCHRONY FINANCIAL

Date: November 17, 2015

By: /s/ Jonathan Mothner

Name: Jonathan Mothner

Title: Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary



News Release

Synchrony Financial Announces Completion of Separation from GE

GE completes exchange offer; Synchrony becomes a stand-alone company

STAMFORD, Conn. – November 17, 2015 – Synchrony Financial (NYSE: [SYF](#)), a premier consumer financial services company with 80 years of retail heritage, today announces its separation from General Electric Company, opening a new chapter in the company’s history.

“This is an historic day for Synchrony Financial,” stated Margaret Keane, president and CEO of Synchrony Financial. “Today we launch the next stage in our company’s future – pursuing a long-term strategy focused on Synchrony’s business objectives as a stand-alone company. I am very proud of our employees, who have prepared us for this day, while continuing to serve our partners and customers and to grow our business.”

Synchrony Financial will also become the newest member of the S&P 500®. S&P Dow Jones Indices announced its intent to add Synchrony Financial to the S&P 500 after the close of trading today, November 17, 2015.

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About Synchrony Financial

Synchrony Financial (NYSE: [SYF](#)) is one of the nation’s premier consumer financial services companies. Our roots in consumer finance trace back to 1932, and today we are the largest provider of private label credit cards in the United States based on purchase volume and receivables**. We provide a range of credit products through programs we have established with a diverse group of national and regional retailers, local merchants, manufacturers, buying groups, industry associations and healthcare service providers to help generate growth for our partners and offer financial flexibility to our customers. Through our partners’ over 300,000 locations across the United States and Canada, and their websites and mobile applications, we offer our customers a variety of credit products to finance the purchase of goods and services. Synchrony Financial (formerly GE Capital Retail Finance) offers private label and co-branded Dual Card credit cards, promotional financing and installment lending, loyalty programs and FDIC-insured savings products through Synchrony Bank.

**Source: The Nilson Report (April, 2015, Issue # 1062) – based on 2014 data.

For more information contact:

Synchrony Financial: (855) 791-8007 or media.relations@synchronyfinancial.com

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Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains certain forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements may be identified by words such as “outlook,” “expects,” “intends,” “anticipates,” “plans,” “believes,” “seeks,” “targets,” “estimates,” “will,” “should,” “may” or words of similar meaning, but these words are not the exclusive means of identifying forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are based on management’s current expectations and assumptions, and are subject to inherent uncertainties, risks and changes in circumstances that are difficult to predict. As a result, actual results could differ materially from those indicated in these forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause actual results to differ

materially include global political, economic, business, competitive, market, regulatory and other factors and risks, such as: the impact of macroeconomic conditions and whether industry trends we have identified develop as anticipated; retaining existing partners and attracting new partners, concentration of our platform revenue in a small number of Retail Card partners, promotion and support of our products by our partners, and financial performance of our partners; our need for additional financing, higher borrowing costs and adverse financial market conditions impacting our funding and liquidity, and any reduction in our credit ratings; our ability to securitize our loans, occurrence of an early amortization of our securitization facilities, loss of the right to service or subservice our securitized loans, and lower payment rates on our securitized loans; our reliance on dividends, distributions and other payments from Synchrony Bank; our ability to grow our deposits in the future; changes in market interest rates and the impact of any margin compression; effectiveness of our risk management processes and procedures, reliance on models which may be inaccurate or misinterpreted, our ability to manage our credit risk, the sufficiency of our allowance for loan losses and the accuracy of the assumptions or estimates used in preparing our financial statements; our ability to offset increases in our costs in retailer share arrangements; competition in the consumer finance industry; our concentration in the U.S. consumer credit market; our ability to successfully develop and commercialize new or enhanced products and services; our ability to realize the value of strategic investments; reductions in interchange fees; fraudulent activity; cyber-attacks or other security breaches; failure of third parties to provide various services that are important to our operations; disruptions in the operations of our computer systems and data centers; international risks and compliance and regulatory risks and costs associated with international operations; alleged infringement of intellectual property rights of others and our ability to protect our intellectual property; litigation and regulatory actions; damage to our reputation; our ability to attract, retain and motivate key officers and employees; tax legislation initiatives or challenges to our tax positions and state sales tax rules and regulations; significant and extensive regulation, supervision, examination and enforcement of our business by governmental authorities, the impact of the Dodd-Frank Act and the impact of the CFPB's regulation of our business; changes to our methods of offering our CareCredit products; impact of capital adequacy rules; restrictions that limit Synchrony Bank's ability to pay dividends; regulations relating to privacy, information security and data protection; use of third-party vendors and ongoing third-party business relationships; failure to comply with anti-money laundering and anti-terrorism financing laws; effect of General Electric Capital Corporation being subject to regulation by the Federal Reserve Board both as a savings and loan holding company and as a systemically important financial institution; GE's inability to obtain savings and loan holding company deregistration; any conditions of the Federal Reserve Board approval required for us to continue to be a savings and loan holding company; our need to establish and significantly expand many aspects of our operations and infrastructure; loss of association with GE's strong brand and reputation; limited right to use the GE brand name and logo and need to establish a new brand; terms of our arrangements with GE may be more favorable than what we will be able to obtain from unaffiliated third parties; obligations associated with being a public company; our incremental cost of operating as a standalone public company could be substantially more than anticipated; GE could engage in businesses that compete with us, and conflicts of interest may arise between us and GE; and failure caused by us of GE's distribution of our common stock to its stockholders in exchange for its common stock to qualify for tax-free treatment, which may result in significant tax liabilities to GE for which we may be required to indemnify GE.

For the reasons described above, we caution you against relying on any forward-looking statements, which should also be read in conjunction with the other cautionary statements that are included in our public filings. You should not consider any list of such factors to be an exhaustive statement of all of the risks, uncertainties, or potentially inaccurate assumptions that could cause our current expectations or beliefs to change. Further, any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date on which it is made, and we undertake no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances after the date on which the statement is made or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events, except as otherwise may be required by law.