

FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT



MERLIN FRANCHISOR SPV LLC a Delaware limited liability company 440 South Church Street, Suite 700 Charlotte, North Carolina 28202 <u>www.merlins.com</u> wecare@merlins.com (704) 377-8855

The franchise offered is for the operation of a MERLIN 200,000 MILES SHOP® which specializes in vehicle longevity, preventive maintenance, and in the repair and replacement of brake systems and components, motor vehicle muffler and exhaust systems, ride control components, tires, and other motor vehicle services.

The total investment necessary to begin operation of a MERLIN 200,000 MILES SHOP® franchise is \$236,200 to \$398,000. This includes \$33,250 to \$82,800 that must be paid to the franchisor or affiliate.

This Disclosure Document summarizes certain provisions of your franchise agreement and other information in plain English. Read this Disclosure Document and all accompanying agreements carefully. You must receive this Disclosure Document at least 14 calendar days before you sign a binding agreement with, or make any payment to the franchisor or an affiliate in connection with the proposed franchise sale. Note, however, that no government agency has verified the information contained in this document.

You may wish to receive your Disclosure Document in another format that is more convenient for you. To discuss the availability of disclosures in different formats, contact the Development Department at 440 South Church Street, Suite 700, Charlotte, North Carolina 28202, or via e-mail at wecare@merlins.com.

The terms of your contract will govern your franchise relationship. Don't rely on the Disclosure Document alone to understand your contract. Read all of your contract carefully. Show your contract and this Disclosure Document to an advisor, like a lawyer or accountant.

Buying a franchise is a complex investment. The information in this Disclosure Document can help you make up your mind. More information on franchising, such as "<u>A Consumer's Guide to Buying a Franchise</u>," which can help you understand how to use this Disclosure Document, is available from the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC"). You can contact the FTC at 1-888-FTC-HELP or by writing to the FTC at 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580. You can also visit the FTC's home page at <u>www.ftc.gov</u> for additional information. Call your state agency or visit your public library for other sources of information on franchising.

There may also be laws on franchising in your state. Ask your state agencies about them.

Issuance Date of this Franchise Disclosure Document: April 26, 2019



STATE COVER PAGE

Your state may have a franchise law that requires a franchisor to register or file with a state franchise administrator before offering or selling in your state. REGISTRATION OF A FRANCHISE BY A STATE DOES NOT MEAN THAT THE STATE RECOMMENDS THE FRANCHISE OR HAS VERIFIED THE INFORMATION IN THIS DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT.

Call the state franchise administrator listed in Exhibit D for information about the franchisor, or about franchising in your state.

MANY FRANCHISE AGREEMENTS DO NOT ALLOW YOU TO RENEW UNCONDITIONALLY AFTER THE INITIAL TERM EXPIRES. YOU MAY HAVE TO SIGN A NEW AGREEMENT WITH DIFFERENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS IN ORDER TO CONTINUE TO OPERATE YOUR BUSINESS. BEFORE YOU BUY, CONSIDER WHAT RIGHTS YOU HAVE TO RENEW YOUR FRANCHISE, IF ANY, AND WHAT TERMS YOU MIGHT HAVE TO ACCEPT IN ORDER TO RENEW.

Please consider the following RISK FACTORS before you buy this franchise.

1. THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT REQUIRES YOU TO RESOLVE DISPUTES WITH US BY ARBITRATION ONLY IN NORTH CAROLINA. OUT-OF-STATE ARBITRATION MAY FORCE YOU TO ACCEPT A LESS FAVORABLE SETTLEMENT FOR DISPUTES. IT MAY ALSO COST YOU MORE TO ARBITRATE WITH US IN NORTH CAROLINA THAN IN YOUR OWN STATE.

2. THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT STATES THAT NORTH CAROLINA LAW GOVERNS THE AGREEMENT, AND THIS LAW MAY NOT PROVIDE THE SAME PROTECTIONS AND BENEFITS AS LOCAL LAW. YOU MAY WANT TO COMPARE THESE LAWS.

3 PLEASE NOTE THAT 99.5% OF DRIVEN SYSTEMS LLC'S ASSETS ARE INTANGIBLE. YOU MAY WANT TO TAKE THIS INTO CONSIDERATION WHEN MAKING A DECISION TO PURCHASE THIS FRANCHISE OPPORTUNITY.

4. YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE AN EXCLUSIVE TERRITORY. YOU MAY FACE COMPETITION FROM OTHER FRANCHISEES, FROM OUTLETS THAT WE OWN, OR FROM OTHER CHANNELS OF DISTRIBUTION OR COMPETITIVE BRANDS THAT WE CONTROL.

5. IF YOU ARE A CORPORATION, PARTNERSHIP, OR OTHER LEGAL ENTITY, YOUR PRINCIPAL OWNERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO EXECUTE PERSONAL GUARANTEES. THIS REQUIREMENT PLACES THE PERSONAL ASSETS OF THE FRANCHISE OWNER(S) AT RISK.

6. THERE MAY BE OTHER RISKS CONCERNING THIS FRANCHISE.

Effective Dates: See the next page for state effective dates.



MERLIN FRANCHISOR SPV LLC

STATE EFFECTIVE DATES

The following states require that the Franchise Disclosure Document be registered or filed with the state or be exempt from registration: California, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin.

This Franchise Disclosure Document is registered, on file, or exempt from registration in the following states having franchise registration and disclosure laws, with the following effective dates:

California	Pending
Hawaii	Pending
Illinois	April 26, 2019 (Exempt)
Indiana	May 1, 2019
Maryland	Pending
Michigan	April 26, 2019
Minnesota	Pending
New York	April 26, 2019 (Exempt)
	April 20, 2019 (Exempt)
North Dakota	Pending
North Dakota	Pending
North Dakota Rhode Island	Pending Pending
North Dakota Rhode Island South Dakota	Pending Pending May 1, 2019

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