Use these links to rapidly review the document <u>TABLE OF CONTENTS</u> TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents

This document is excerpted from the complete Form S-4 as available from the Johnson Controls International website SEC Filings: "Registration Statement for securities to be issued in business combination transactions" May 17, 2016

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 4, 2016

The complete document is available at: http://otp.investis.com/clients/us/johnson_controls/SEC/sec-show.aspx?FilingId=11393061&Cik=0000833444&Type=PDF&hasPdf=1

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-4

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER

THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

TYCO INTERNATIONAL PLC

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Ireland (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) 7380 (Primary Standard Industrial Classification Code Number) 98-0390500 (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

1 Albert Quay Cork, Ireland 353-21-426-0000

(Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Registrant's Principal Executive Offices)

Judith A. Reinsdorf Executive Vice President and General Counsel Tyco International plc 9 Roszel Road Princeton, New Jersey 08540 (609) 720-4200

(Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Agent for Service)

Copies to:

Alan M. Klein, Esq. Elizabeth A. Cooper, Esq. Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP 425 Lexington Avenue New York, New York 10017 (212) 455-2000 Brian J. Cadwallader Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel Johnson Controls, Inc. 5757 North Green Bay Avenue Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53209 (414) 524-1200 Andrew R. Brownstein, Esq. David K. Lam, Esq. Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz 51 West 52nd Street New York, New York 10019 (212) 403-1000

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale of the securities to the public: As soon as practicable after this registration statement becomes effective and upon consummation of the merger.

If the securities being registered on this Form are being offered in connection with the formation of a holding company and there is compliance with General Instruction G, check the following box:

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act 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(d) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Representations and Warranties	<u>182</u>
No Survival of Representations and Warranties	<u>184</u>
Covenants and Agreements	<u>185</u>
Conditions to the Consummation of the Merger	202
Termination of the Merger Agreement; Termination Fees; Expense Reimbursement	<u>204</u>
Limitation on Remedies	209
Fees and Expenses	209
Indemnification; Directors' and Officers' Insurance	209
Amendment and Waiver	210
Governing Law	210
Assignment	$\frac{210}{210}$
Specific Performance	$\frac{210}{211}$
CERTAIN TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE MERGER	$\frac{211}{212}$
U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations	212
Irish Tax Considerations	<u>224</u>
UNAUDITED PRO FORMA COMBINED FINANCIAL INFORMATION	<u>231</u>
<u>COMPARISON OF THE RIGHTS OF HOLDERS OF JOHNSON CONTROLS COMMON STOCK AND TYCO</u>	
ORDINARY SHARES	<u>258</u>
DESCRIPTION OF TYCO ORDINARY SHARES	<u>294</u>
Capital Structure	<u>294</u>
Dividends	296
Preemptive Rights and Advance Subscription Rights	297
Share Repurchases and Redemptions	297
Lien on Shares, Calls on Shares and Forfeiture of Shares	298
Consolidation and Division; Subdivision	299
Reduction of Share Capital	$\frac{299}{299}$
General Meetings of Shareholders	$\frac{299}{299}$
Voting	$\frac{299}{300}$
Variation of Class Rights Attaching to Shares	<u>301</u>
Quorum for General Meetings	<u>301</u>
Inspection of Books and Records	<u>301</u>
Acquisitions and Appraisal Rights	<u>302</u>
Disclosure of Interests in Shares	<u>302</u>
Anti-Takeover Provisions	<u>303</u>
General Principles	<u>304</u>
Voluntary Bid; Requirements to Make a Cash Offer and Minimum Price Requirements	<u>305</u>
Substantial Acquisition Rules	306
Frustrating Action	306
Corporate Governance	306
Duration; Dissolution; Rights upon Liquidation	307
Stock Exchange Listing	307
Uncertificated Shares	$\frac{307}{307}$
Transfer and Registration of Shares	$\frac{307}{307}$
Legal Name; Formation; Fiscal Year; Registered Office	308
No Sinking Fund	<u>308</u> 309
No Liability for Further Calls or Assessments	<u>309</u>
STOCK OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT/DIRECTORS OF JOHNSON	
CONTROLS	<u>310</u>
SHARE OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT/DIRECTORS OF TYCO	<u>312</u>
EXPERTS	<u>315</u>

iii

Information Reporting and Backup Withholding

In general, information reporting requirements will apply to cash received by U.S. holders of Johnson Controls common stock and Tyco ordinary shares in the merger and the Tyco share consolidation (including cash in lieu of fractional combined company ordinary shares received by such U.S. holders), dividends received by U.S. holders of combined company ordinary shares, and the proceeds received on the disposition of combined company ordinary shares effected within the United States (and, in certain cases, outside the United States), in each case other than U.S. holders that are exempt recipients (such as corporations). Backup withholding (currently at a rate of 28%) may apply to such amounts if the U.S. holder fails to provide an accurate taxpayer identification number (generally on an IRS Form W-9 provided to the paying agent or the U.S. holder's broker) or is otherwise subject to backup withholding.

Certain U.S. holders holding specified foreign financial assets with an aggregate value in excess of the applicable dollar threshold are required to report information to the IRS relating to combined company ordinary shares, subject to certain exceptions (including an exception for combined company ordinary shares held in accounts maintained by U.S. financial institutions), by attaching a complete IRS Form 8938, Statement of Specified Foreign Financial Assets, with their tax return, for each year in which they hold combined company ordinary shares. Such U.S. holders should consult their tax advisors regarding information reporting requirements relating to their ownership of combined company ordinary shares.

Information returns may be filed with the IRS in connection with, and non-U.S. holders may be subject to backup withholding on, cash received by a non-U.S. holder in the merger or Tyco share consolidation (including cash in lieu of fractional combined company ordinary shares received by such non-U.S. holders), unless the non-U.S. holder furnishes to the applicable withholding agent the required certification as to its non-U.S. status, such as by providing a valid IRS Form W-8BEN, IRS Form W-8BEN-E or IRS Form W-8ECI, or otherwise establishes an exemption. Dividends paid with respect to combined company ordinary shares and proceeds from the sale or other disposition of combined company ordinary shares received in the United States by a non-U.S. holder through certain U.S.-related financial intermediaries may be subject to information reporting and backup withholding unless such non-U.S. holder requirements of the backup withholding rules.

Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules may be allowed as a refund or credit against a holder's U.S. federal income tax liability, if any, provided that the required information is timely furnished to the IRS.

Irish Tax Considerations

Scope of Discussion

The following is a summary of the material Irish tax consequences of the merger to certain beneficial owners of Johnson Controls common stock and the ownership and disposal of combined company ordinary shares received upon the consummation of the merger by such owners. The summary does not purport to be a comprehensive description of all of the tax considerations that may be relevant to each of the Johnson Controls shareholders or combined company shareholders. The summary is based upon Irish tax laws and the practice of the Irish Revenue Commissioners in effect on the date of this joint proxy statement/prospectus and correspondence with the Irish Revenue Commissioners. Changes in law and/or administrative practice may result in alteration of the tax considerations described below, possibly with retrospective effect.

The summary does not constitute tax advice and is intended only as a general guide. The summary is not exhaustive and Johnson Controls shareholders or combined company shareholders should consult their tax advisors about the Irish tax consequences (and tax consequences under the laws of other relevant jurisdictions) of the merger and of the acquisition, ownership and disposal of combined company ordinary shares. The summary applies only to Johnson Controls shareholders or combined company shareholders who hold their Johnson Controls common stock, and will own combined company ordinary shares, as capital assets and does not apply to other categories of shareholders or shareholders, such as dealers in securities, trustees, insurance companies, collective investment schemes and shareholders or shareholders who acquired their Johnson Controls common stock or who have, or who are deemed to have, acquired their combined company ordinary shares by virtue of an Irish office or employment (performed or carried on in Ireland).

Irish Tax on Chargeable Gains

The current rate of tax on chargeable gains (where applicable) in Ireland is 33%.

Non-Irish Resident Shareholders

Johnson Controls shareholders that are not resident or ordinarily resident in Ireland for Irish tax purposes and do not hold their Johnson Controls common stock in connection with a trade carried on by such shareholders through an Irish branch or agency will not be within the charge to Irish CGT on the cancellation of their Johnson Controls common stock, or on the receipt of combined company ordinary shares and/or cash pursuant to the merger.

Any subsequent disposal of combined company ordinary shares will not be within the charge to Irish CGT provided the holder of such shares is not resident or ordinarily resident in Ireland for Irish tax purposes and does not hold his or her shares in connection with a trade carried on by such shareholder through an Irish branch or agency.

Irish Resident Shareholders

Johnson Controls shareholders that are resident or ordinarily resident in Ireland for Irish tax purposes, or Johnson Controls shareholders that hold their Johnson Controls common stock in connection with a trade carried on by such persons through an Irish branch or agency, will, subject to the availability of any exemptions and reliefs, generally be within the charge to Irish CGT arising on the cancellation of their Johnson Controls common stock pursuant to the merger. Such shareholders should consult their own tax advisors as to the Irish tax consequences of the merger.

A subsequent disposal of combined company ordinary shares by a shareholder who is resident or ordinarily resident in Ireland for Irish tax purposes or who holds his or her shares in connection with a trade carried on by such person through an Irish branch or agency will, subject to the availability of any exemptions and reliefs, generally be within the charge to Irish CGT.

A shareholder of the combined company who is an individual and who is temporarily not resident in Ireland may, under Irish anti-avoidance legislation, still be liable to Irish tax on any chargeable gain realized upon subsequent disposal of combined company ordinary shares during the period in which such individual is a non-resident.

Stamp Duty

The rate of stamp duty (where applicable) on transfers of shares of Irish incorporated companies is 1% of the price paid or the market value of the shares acquired, whichever is greater. Where Irish stamp duty arises it is generally a liability of the transferee.

No stamp duty should be payable on the cancellation of the Johnson Controls common stock or the issue of combined company ordinary shares pursuant to the merger.

Irish stamp duty may, depending on the manner in which the shares in the combined company are held, be payable in respect of transfers of combined company ordinary shares.

Shares Held Through DTC

A transfer of combined company ordinary shares effected by means of the transfer of book-entry interests in DTC will not be subject to Irish stamp duty. On the basis that most ordinary shares of the combined company are expected to be held through DTC, it is anticipated that most transfers of ordinary shares will be exempt from Irish stamp duty.

Shares Held Outside of DTC or Transferred Into or Out of DTC

A transfer of combined company ordinary shares where any party to the transfer holds such shares outside of DTC may be subject to Irish stamp duty. Shareholders wishing to transfer their shares into (or out of) DTC may do so without giving rise to Irish stamp duty provided that:

- there is no change in the beneficial ownership of such shares as a result of the transfer; and
- the transfer into (or out of) DTC is not effected in contemplation of a sale of such shares by a beneficial owner to a third party.

Due to the potential Irish stamp charge on transfers of combined company ordinary shares held outside of DTC, it is strongly recommended that those Johnson Controls shareholders who do not hold their Johnson Controls common stock through DTC (or through a broker who in turn holds such shares through DTC) should arrange for the transfer of their Johnson Controls common stock into DTC as soon as possible and before the merger is consummated.

Withholding Tax on Dividends (DWT)

Distributions made by the combined company will, in the absence of one of many exemptions, be subject to DWT currently at a rate of 20%.

For DWT purposes, a distribution includes any distribution that may be made by the combined company to its shareholders, including cash dividends, non-cash dividends and additional stock taken in lieu of a cash dividend. Where an exemption does not apply in respect of a distribution made to a particular shareholder, the combined company is responsible for withholding DWT prior to making such distribution.

General Exemptions

Irish domestic law provides that a non-Irish resident shareholder is not subject to DWT on dividends received from the combined company if such shareholder is beneficially entitled to the dividend and is either:

- a person (not being a company) resident for tax purposes in a Relevant Territory (including the U.S.) and is neither resident nor ordinarily resident in Ireland (for a list of Relevant Territories for DWT purposes, see Annex F to this joint proxy statement/prospectus);
- a company resident for tax purposes in a Relevant Territory, provided such company is not under the control, whether directly or indirectly, of a person or persons who is or are resident in Ireland;



- a company that is controlled, directly or indirectly, by persons resident in a Relevant Territory and who is or are (as the case may be) not controlled by, directly or indirectly, persons who are not resident in a Relevant Territory;
- a company whose principal class of shares (or those of its 75% direct or indirect parent) is substantially and regularly traded on a stock exchange in Ireland, on a recognized stock exchange in a Relevant Territory or on such other stock exchange approved by the Irish Minister for Finance; or
- a company that is wholly owned, directly or indirectly, by two or more companies where the principal class of shares of each of such companies is substantially and regularly traded on a stock exchange in Ireland, on a recognized stock exchange in a Relevant Territory or on such other stock exchange approved by the Irish Minister for Finance;

and provided, in all cases noted above (but subject to "*—Shares Held by U.S. Resident Shareholders*" below), the combined company or, in respect of shares held through DTC, any qualifying intermediary appointed by the combined company, has received from the shareholder, where required, the relevant DWT Forms prior to the payment of the dividend. In practice, in order to ensure sufficient time to process the receipt of relevant DWT Forms, the shareholder where required should furnish the relevant DWT Forms to:

- its broker (and the relevant information is further transmitted to any qualifying intermediary appointed by the combined company) before the record date for the dividend (or such later date before the dividend payment date as may be notified to the shareholder by the broker) if its shares are held through DTC, or
- the combined company's transfer agent at least seven business days before the record date for the dividend if its shares are held outside of DTC.

Links to the various DWT Forms are available at: http://www.revenue.ie/en/tax/dwt/forms/index.html. The information contained on this website is not incorporated by reference into this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

Shareholders that are required to file DWT Forms in order to receive dividends free of DWT should note that such forms are generally valid, subject to a change in circumstances, until December 31 of the fifth year after the year in which such forms were completed.

For non-Irish resident combined company shareholders that cannot avail themselves of one of Ireland's domestic law exemptions from DWT, it may be possible for such shareholders to rely on the provisions of a double tax treaty to which Ireland is party to reduce the rate of DWT.

Shares Held by U.S. Resident Shareholders

Dividends paid in respect of combined company ordinary shares that are owned by a U.S. resident and held through DTC will not be subject to DWT provided the address of the beneficial owner of such shares in the records of the broker holding such shares is in the United States (and such broker has further transmitted the relevant information to a qualifying intermediary appointed by the combined company). It is strongly recommended that such shareholders, including Johnson Controls shareholders who are U.S. residents and who receive combined company ordinary shares pursuant to the merger, ensure that their information is properly recorded by their brokers (so that such brokers can further transmit the relevant information to a qualifying intermediary appointed by the combined company).

Dividends paid in respect of combined company ordinary shares that are held outside of DTC and are owned by a former Johnson Controls shareholder who is a resident of the United States will not be subject to DWT if such shareholder satisfies the conditions of one of the exemptions referred to above



under the heading "—*General Exemptions*," including the requirement to provide a completed IRS issued Form 6166 or a valid DWT Form to the combined company's transfer agent at least seven business days before the record date for the dividend to confirm its U.S. residence and claim an exemption. It is strongly recommended that Johnson Controls shareholders who are U.S. residents and who receive combined company ordinary shares (which are to be held outside of DTC) pursuant to the merger complete the appropriate IRS Form 6166 or a DWT Form and provide them to the combined company's transfer agent as soon as possible after receiving their combined company ordinary shares.

If any shareholder that is resident in the United States receives a dividend from which DWT has been withheld, the shareholder should generally be entitled to apply for a refund of such DWT from the Irish Revenue Commissioners, provided the shareholder is beneficially entitled to the dividend.

Shares Held by Residents of Relevant Territories Other Than the United States

Shareholders who are residents of Relevant Territories, other than the United States, must satisfy the conditions of one of the exemptions referred to above under the heading "*General Exemptions*," including the requirement to furnish valid DWT Forms, in order to receive dividends without suffering DWT. If such shareholders hold their shares through DTC, they must provide the appropriate DWT Forms to their brokers (so that such brokers can further transmit the relevant information to a qualifying intermediary appointed by the combined company) before the record date for the dividend (or such later date before the dividend payment date as may be notified to the shareholder by the broker). If such shareholders hold their shares outside of DTC, they must provide the appropriate DWT Forms to the combined company's transfer agent at least seven business days before the record date for the dividend. It is strongly recommended that such shareholders, including Johnson Controls shareholders who are residents of Relevant Territories other than the U.S. and who receive combined company ordinary shares pursuant to the merger, complete the appropriate DWT Forms and provide them to their brokers or the combined company's transfer agent, as the case may be, as soon as possible after receiving their shares.

If any shareholder who is resident in a Relevant Territory receives a dividend from which DWT has been withheld, the shareholder may be entitled to a refund of DWT from the Irish Revenue Commissioners provided the shareholder is beneficially entitled to the dividend.

Shares Held by Residents of Ireland

Most Irish tax resident or ordinarily resident shareholders (other than Irish resident companies that have completed the appropriate DWT Forms) will be subject to DWT in respect of dividends paid on their combined company ordinary shares.

Shareholders that are residents of Ireland, but are entitled to receive dividends without DWT, must complete the appropriate DWT Forms and provide them to their brokers (so that such brokers can further transmit the relevant information to a qualifying intermediary appointed by the combined company) before the record date for the dividend (or such later date before the dividend payment date as may be notified to the shareholder by the broker) (in the case of shares held through DTC), or to the combined company's transfer agent at least seven business days before the record date for the dividend (in the case of shares held outside of DTC).

Combined company shareholders who are resident or ordinarily resident in Ireland or are otherwise subject to Irish tax should consult their own tax advisors.

Shares Held by Other Persons

Combined company shareholders that do not fall within any of the categories specifically referred to above may nonetheless fall within other exemptions from DWT. If any shareholders are exempt from



DWT, but receive dividends subject to DWT, such shareholders may apply for refunds of such DWT from the Irish Revenue Commissioners.

Dividends paid in respect of combined company ordinary shares held through DTC that are owned by a partnership formed under the laws of a Relevant Territory and where all the underlying partners are residents in a Relevant Territory will be entitled to exemption from DWT if all of the partners complete the appropriate DWT Forms and provide them to their brokers (so that such brokers can further transmit the relevant information to a qualifying intermediary appointed by the combined company) before the record date for the dividend (or such later date before the dividend payment date as may be notified to the shareholder by the broker). If any partner is not a resident of a Relevant Territory, no partner is entitled to exemption from DWT.

Qualifying Intermediary

Prior to paying any dividend, the combined company will put in place an agreement with an entity that is recognized by the Irish Revenue Commissioners as a "qualifying intermediary," which will provide for certain arrangements relating to distributions in respect of shares of the combined company that are held through DTC (the "deposited securities"). The agreement will provide that the qualifying intermediary shall distribute or otherwise make available to Cede & Co., as nominee for DTC, any cash dividend or other cash distribution with respect to the deposited securities after the combined company delivers or causes to be delivered to the qualifying intermediary the cash to be distributed.

The combined company will rely on information received directly or indirectly from its qualifying intermediary, brokers and its transfer agent in determining where shareholders reside, whether they have provided the required U.S. tax information and whether they have provided the required DWT Forms.

Income Tax on Dividends Paid on Combined Company Ordinary Shares

Irish income tax may arise for certain persons in respect of distributions received from Irish resident companies.

A combined company shareholder that is not resident or ordinarily resident in Ireland and that is entitled to an exemption from DWT generally has no liability to Irish income tax or the universal social charge on a dividend from the combined company. An exception to this position may apply where such shareholder holds combined company ordinary shares through a branch or agency in Ireland through which a trade is carried on.

A combined company shareholder that is not resident or ordinarily resident in Ireland and that is not entitled to an exemption from DWT generally has no additional Irish income tax liability or liability to the universal social charge. The DWT deducted by the combined company discharges the liability to income tax and the universal social charge. An exception to this position may apply where the shareholder holds combined company ordinary shares through a branch or agency in Ireland through which a trade is carried on.

Irish resident or ordinarily resident shareholders may be subject to Irish tax and (in the case of an individual) the universal social charge and/or Pay Related Social Insurance on dividends received from the combined company. Such combined company shareholders should consult their own tax advisors.

Capital Acquisitions Tax (CAT)

CAT comprises principally gift tax and inheritance tax. CAT could apply to a gift or inheritance of combined company ordinary shares irrespective of the place of residence, ordinary residence or domicile of the parties. This is because combined company ordinary shares are regarded as property

229

situated in Ireland for Irish CAT purposes as the share register of the combined company must be held in Ireland. The person who receives the gift or inheritance has primary liability for CAT.

CAT is currently levied at a rate of 33% above certain tax-free thresholds. The appropriate tax-free threshold is dependent upon (i) the relationship between the donor and the donee and (ii) the aggregation of the values of previous gifts and inheritances received by the donee from persons within the same group threshold. Gifts and inheritances passing between spouses are exempt from CAT. Children have a tax-free threshold of \in 280,000 in respect of taxable gifts or inheritances received from their parents. Combined company shareholders should consult their own tax advisors as to whether CAT is creditable or deductible in computing any domestic tax liabilities.

There is also a "small gift exemption" from CAT whereby the first \notin 3,000 of the taxable value of all taxable gifts taken by a donee from any one donor, in each calendar year, is exempt from CAT and is also excluded from any future aggregation. This exemption does not apply to an inheritance.

THE IRISH TAX CONSIDERATIONS SUMMARIZED ABOVE ARE FOR GENERAL INFORMATION ONLY. JOHNSON CONTROLS SHAREHOLDERS AND COMBINED COMPANY SHAREHOLDERS SHOULD CONSULT WITH THEIR TAX ADVISORS REGARDING THE TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE MERGER AND OF THE ACQUISITION, OWNERSHIP AND DISPOSAL OF COMBINED COMPANY ORDINARY SHARES.

230