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## PROSPECTUS

## YAHOO! INC. 214,142 SHARES OF COMMON STOCK

# The shares offered in this prospectus involve a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the "Risk Factors" referenced on page 2 in determining whether to purchase the Yahoo! Common Stock.

The selling stockholders identified on page 18 are offering these shares of common stock. The selling stockholders may sell these shares of common stock being offered by them on the Nasdaq National Market, in market transactions, in negotiated transactions or otherwise, and at prices and at terms which will be determined by the then prevailing market price for the shares of common stock or at negotiated prices directly or through a broker or brokers, who may act as agent or as principal or by a combination of such methods of sale. The selling stockholders will receive all proceeds from the sale of the shares of our common stock being registered in this registration statement. For additional information on the methods of sale, you should refer to the section entitled "Plan of Distribution" on page 19. We will not receive any portion of the proceeds from the sale of these shares of common stock.

Our common stock is quoted on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol "YHOO". Our principal executive offices are located at 701 First Avenue, Sunnyvale, California 94089, and our telephone number is (408) 349-3300.

On June 26, 2003, the last sale price of the common stock on the Nasdaq National Market was \$32.90 per share.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is June 30, 2003.

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We have not authorized any dealer, salesperson or other person to give any information or represent anything not contained in this prospectus. You should not rely on any unauthorized information. This prospectus does not offer to sell or buy any shares in any jurisdiction in which it is unlawful. The information in this prospectus is current as of the date on the cover.

#### YAHOO! INC.

We are a leading provider of comprehensive Internet products and services, offering a comprehensive network of essential services for Web users around the globe as well as businesses of all sizes. We manage our business geographically. Our principal areas of measurement and decision-making are the United States and International.

Our basic properties and service offerings are available without charge to our users. We generate revenues from marketing services, fees and listings, and also offer fee-based premium services that provide our users access to additional content or services. Our properties and services for consumers and businesses reside in five vertical areas:

- Search and Marketplace, which includes Yahoo! Search, Sponsored Search, Sponsor Listings, Yahoo! Yellow Pages, Yahoo! Maps, Yahoo! CityGuides, Yahoo! Autos, Yahoo! Real Estate, Yahoo! Shopping, Yahoo! Auctions, Yahoo! Travel and HotJobs;
- **Information and Content**, which includes Yahoo! Sports, LAUNCH, Your Yahoo! Music Experience, Yahoo! Games, Yahoo! Movies, Yahoo! TV, Yahoo! News, Yahoo! Weather, Yahoo! Health, Yahoo! Education and Yahoo! Finance;
- Network and Platform Services, which includes Yahoo! Mail, Yahoo! Messenger, Yahoo! Mail Plus, Yahoo! Personals, Yahoo! Groups, Yahoo! Photos, Yahoo! Briefcase, Yahoo! Member Directory, Yahoo! People Search, Yahoo! Domains, Yahoo! Web Hosting, Yahoo! Business Mail,

Yahoo! Store, Yahoo! Ad Manager, Yahoo! Wallet, Yahoo! Companion and My Yahoo!;

- Enterprise Solutions, which includes Yahoo! Portal Solutions and Yahoo! Broadcast Solutions; and
- **Consumer Services**, which provides various communication and content services to consumers and small businesses through our access relationships, such as our recently introduced SBC Yahoo! DSL and SBC Yahoo! Dial offerings.

Yahoo! was incorporated on March 5, 1995 under the laws of California. Yahoo! was subsequently reincorporated on May 14, 1999 under the laws of Delaware. Our principal executive offices are located at 701 First Avenue, Sunnyvale, California 94089 and our telephone number is (408) 349-3300. Our web site is located at *http://www.yahoo.com*. As used in this prospectus, the words "we," "us," "our" and "Yahoo!" refer to Yahoo! Inc., a Delaware corporation, and its subsidiaries.

### **RISK FACTORS**

#### If our competitors are more successful in attracting and retaining customers and users, then our revenues could decline.

We compete with many other providers of online navigation, Web search, information, entertainment, business, recruitment, community, electronic commerce, Internet access and broadcast services. As we expand the scope of our Internet offerings, we will compete directly with a greater number of Internet sites, media companies, and companies providing business services across a wide range of different online services, including:

- companies offering communications, Web search, information, community and entertainment services and Internet access either on a stand alone basis or integrated into other products and media properties;
- vertical markets where competitors may have advantages in expertise, brand recognition, and other factors;
- online employment recruiting companies;
- online merchant hosting services; and
- online broadcasting of business events.

In order to compete effectively, we may need to expend significant internal engineering resources or acquire other technologies and companies to provide or enhance our capabilities. For example, our recent acquisition of Inktomi brings us leading technology in Web search, which is an important service we provide to our users. If we are unable to maintain or expand our customer and user base in the future, our revenues may decline.

## Companies such as AOL Time Warner and Microsoft may have a competitive advantage because they have greater access to content, maintain billing relationships with customers and have access to established distribution networks.

We face significant competition from AOL Time Warner ("AOL" or "America Online") and Microsoft ("Microsoft" or "MSN"). The combination of America Online and Time Warner provides America Online with content from Time Warner's movie and television, music, books and periodicals, news, sports and other media holdings; access to a network of cable and other broadband delivery technologies; and considerable resources for future growth and expansion. The America Online/Time Warner combination also provides America Online with access to a broad potential customer base consisting of Time Warner's current customers and subscribers of its various media properties. To a less significant extent, we also face competition from other companies that have combined a variety of services under one brand in a manner similar to Yahoo!. In certain of these cases, most notably AOL and MSN, our competition has a direct billing relationship with a greater number of their users through access and other services than we have with our users through certain of our premium services. This relationship permits our competitors to have several potential advantages including the potential to be more effective than us in targeting services and advertisements to the specific taste of their users.

#### Acquisitions could result in operating difficulties.

As part of our business strategy, we acquired Inktomi Corporation in March 2003 and have completed several other acquisitions (including the acquisition of HotJobs.com in February 2002). We expect to enter into additional business combinations and acquisitions in the future. Acquisitions may result in dilutive issuances of equity securities, use of our cash resources, incurrence of debt and

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amortization of expenses related to intangible assets. The acquisitions of HotJobs and Inktomi were accompanied by a number of risks, including:

- the difficulty of assimilating the operations and personnel of HotJobs, which are principally located in New York, with and into Yahoo!'s operations, which are headquartered in California;
- the potential disruption of our ongoing business and distraction of management;
- the difficulty of incorporating HotJobs' technology or content and rights into our products and media properties and unanticipated expenses related to such integration;

the failure to further successfully develop HotJobs' or Inktomi's technology resulting in the impairment of amounts currently capitalized as intangible assets;

- the impairment of relationships with employees and customers of HotJobs, Inktomi or our own business as a result of any integration of new management personnel; and
- the potential unknown liabilities associated with HotJobs and Inktomi.

We may experience similar risks in connection with our future acquisitions. We may not be successful in addressing these risks or any other problems encountered in connection with the acquisition of HotJobs and Inktomi or that we could encounter in future acquisitions, which would harm our business or cause us to fail to realize the anticipated benefits of our acquisitions.

### Our recent acquisition of Inktomi exposes our business to greater competition in the area of Web search.

In March 2003 we completed our acquisition of Inktomi Corporation, a provider of OEM Web search and paid inclusion services. As a result of our acquisition of Inktomi, we compete directly with other providers of Web search and related search services, including, among others, AltaVista, Fast Search & Transfer (both of which have recently been acquired by Overture), Google and Looksmart. Some of these competitors may have longer operating histories focusing on providing Web search services on an OEM basis, larger customer or user bases and greater brand recognition for their Web search businesses. In addition to the general acquisition risks highlighted in these risk factors, other companies with greater operational, strategic or financial resources may choose to enter the Web search or paid inclusion spaces by acquisition or internal development, and may create greater competition for customers and users.

### Our international segment competes with local Internet service providers that may have a competitive advantage.

On an international level, we compete directly with local providers; they may have several advantages, including greater knowledge about the particular country or local market and access to significant financial or strategic resources in such local markets. We must continue to obtain more knowledge about our users and their preferences, deepen our relationships with our users as well as increase our branding and other marketing activities in order to remain competitive and strengthen our market position internationally.

### Our intellectual property rights are valuable and any inability to protect them could dilute our brand image.

We regard our copyrights, patents, trademarks, trade dress, trade secrets, and similar intellectual property, including our rights to certain domain names, as important to Yahoo!'s success. Effective trademark, patent, copyright, and trade secret protection may not be available in every country in which our products and media properties are distributed or made available through the Internet. Further, the efforts we have taken to protect our proprietary rights may not be sufficient or effective. If we are unable to protect our trademarks from authorized use, our brand image may be harmed. While we attempt to ensure that the quality of our brand is maintained by our licensees, our licensees may take

actions that could impair the value of our proprietary rights or the reputation of our products and media properties. We are aware that third parties have, from time to time, copied significant content available on Yahoo! for use in competitive Internet services. Protection of the distinctive elements of Yahoo! may not be available under copyright law. Any impairment of our brand image could cause our stock price to drop. In addition, protecting our intellectual property and other proprietary rights can be expensive. Any increase in the unauthorized use of our intellectual property could make it more expensive to do business and consequently harm our operating results. In turn, this could harm the results of our business and lower our stock price.

## We may be subject to intellectual property infringement claims, which are costly to defend and could limit our ability to provide certain content or use certain technologies in the future.

Many parties are actively developing search, indexing, e-commerce and other Web-related technologies, as well as a variety of online business models and methods. We believe that these parties will continue to take steps to protect these technologies, including, but not limited to, seeking patent protection. As a result, disputes regarding the ownership of these technologies and rights associated with online business are likely to arise in the future. In addition to existing patents and intellectual property rights, we anticipate that additional third-party patents related to our services will be issued in the future. From time to time, parties assert patent infringement claims against us in the form of letters, lawsuits and other forms of communications. Currently, we are engaged in several lawsuits regarding patent issues and have been notified of a number of other potential disputes.

In addition to patent claims, third parties have asserted and most likely will continue to assert claims against us alleging infringement of copyrights, trademark rights, trade secret rights or other proprietary rights, or alleging unfair competition or violations of privacy rights. Currently, our subsidiary LAUNCH Media, Inc. ("LAUNCH") is engaged in a lawsuit regarding copyright issues that commenced prior to our entering into an agreement to acquire LAUNCH. In the event that we determine that licensing patents or other proprietary rights is appropriate, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to license such proprietary rights on reasonable terms or at all. We may incur substantial expenses in defending against third-party infringement claims regardless of the merit of such claims.

In the event that there is a determination that we have infringed third-party proprietary rights such as patents, copyrights, trademark rights, trade secret rights or other third party rights such as publicity and privacy rights, we could incur substantial monetary liability or be prevented from using the rights, which could require us to change our business practices in the future.

## Financial results for any particular period will not predict results for future periods.

There can be no assurance that the purchasing pattern of customers advertising on the Yahoo! network will not continue to fluctuate, that advertisers will not make smaller and shorter-term purchases, or that market prices for online advertising will not decrease due to competitive or other factors. As the percentage of revenues from sources other than advertising increases, it may become more difficult to predict our financial results based on historical performance. Because of the rapidly changing market we serve, period-to-period comparisons of operating results are not likely to be meaningful. You should not rely on the results for any period as an indication of future performance.

## We expect our operating expenses to continue to increase as we attempt to expand the Yahoo! brand, fund product development, develop media properties and acquire other businesses.

Yahoo! currently expects that its operating expenses will continue to increase as we expand our sales and marketing operations in areas of expected growth, continue to develop and extend the Yahoo! brand, fund greater levels of product development, develop and commercialize additional media properties and premium services, and acquire complementary businesses and technologies.

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### We may be required to record a significant charge to earnings if we must reassess our goodwill or amortizable intangible assets.

We are required under generally accepted accounting principles to review our amortizable intangible assets for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable. Goodwill is required to be tested for impairment at least annually. Factors that may be considered a change in circumstances indicating that the carrying value of our amortizable intangible assets may not be recoverable include a decline in stock price and market capitalization, and slower growth rates in our industry. If our stock price and market capitalization decline, we may be required to record a significant charge to earnings in our financial statements during the period in which any impairment of our goodwill or amortizable intangible assets is determined. At March 31, 2003, our goodwill and other amortizable intangible assets were \$775.1 million. In the first quarter of 2002, we recorded a transitional impairment charge of \$64.1 million as a cumulative effect of an accounting change, resulting from the adoption of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 142 "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets."

## Approximately 61% of our net revenues are derived from online advertising. Demand from our current and potential clients for online advertising is difficult to forecast accurately.

For the three months ended March 31, 2003, approximately 61% of our net revenues came from advertisements displayed on our online properties. Our ability to continue to achieve substantial advertising revenue depends upon:

- growth of our user base;
- broadening our relationships with advertisers to small and medium size businesses;
- our user base being attractive to advertisers;
- our ability to derive better demographic and other information from our users;
- acceptance of the Web by advertisers as an advertising medium; and
- our ability to transition and expand into other forms of advertising.

Our agreements with advertisers and sponsors generally have terms of three years or less and, in many cases, the terms are one year or less. The agreements often have payments contingent on usage or "click-through" levels. Some of our advertisers are Internet companies, which in certain cases, may lack financial resources to fulfill their commitments. Accordingly, it is difficult to forecast these revenues accurately. However, our expense levels are based in part on expectations of future revenues and are fixed over the short-term with respect to certain categories. We may be unable to adjust spending quickly enough to compensate for any unexpected revenue shortfall.

## If we are unable to continue to provide search and directory capabilities on terms which are acceptable to us, our revenue could significantly decline.

We also generate a significant amount of revenue from our search and directory capabilities through an advertiser's purchase of an enhanced placement in our results. Yahoo! Sponsor Results, offered through keyword search driven inquiries, is currently provided through an agreement with Overture Services, Inc., ("Overture") with an initial term ending in April 2005 and options for us to extend until April 2011. For the quarter ended March 31, 2003, our revenues from our agreement with Overture were approximately 19% of our total net revenues. If we are unable to provide search and directory services which generate significant traffic to our Web sites, to continue to secure an arrangement with a third party provider such as Overture on terms which are acceptable to us, or we are unable to develop our own ability to provide this service, our revenue could significantly decline.

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## The sources of our advertising revenue are changing and we must adapt to the needs of our changing mix of advertisers to maintain or increase our advertising revenues.

We are experiencing a shift in the source of our advertising revenues from Internet companies to companies in more traditional lines of business. These advertisers often have substantially different requirements and expectations than Internet companies with respect to advertising programs. In addition, companies in more traditional lines of business have only recently begun to increase their aggregate commitments to Internet advertising. If we are unsuccessful in adapting to the needs of our changing mix of advertisers, our revenues could decline.

### Decreases or delays in advertising spending due to general economic downturns could harm our ability to generate advertising revenue.

Expenditures by advertisers tend to be cyclical, reflecting overall economic conditions as well as budgeting and buying patterns. The overall market for advertising, including Internet advertising, has been generally characterized in recent quarters by softness of demand and the reduction of marketing and advertising budgets or the delay in spending of budgeted resources. As a result, advertising spending across traditional media, as well as the Internet, has decreased. Since Yahoo! derives a large part of its revenues from advertising fees, the decrease in or delay of advertising spending could reduce our revenues or

negatively impact our ability to grow our revenues. Even if economic conditions do improve, marketing budgets and advertising spending may not increase from current levels.

#### Due to intense competition, we may not be able to generate substantial revenues from the Internet access market.

In 2002 we announced the launch of SBC Yahoo! DSL and SBC Yahoo! Dial, an Internet access service provided through an alliance with SBC Communications Inc. This access service combines customized content and services from Yahoo! (including browser and other communications services) and DSL transport and Internet access from SBC Internet Services (an affiliate of SBC Communications Inc.). This Internet access service will compete with many large companies, some of which may have substantially greater market presence (including an existing user base), financial, technical, marketing or other resources than those committed to the product offerings with SBC. This service will primarily compete directly or indirectly with established Internet services, such as America Online and the Microsoft Network; national telecommunications companies and regional Bell operating companies (other than SBC); and broadband Internet access providers such as Earthlink, Comcast, and other cable broadband providers. As a result of these and other competitive factors, this service may not be able to attract, grow or retain a customer base, which would negatively impact our ability to sell customized content and services through this channel.

#### Our success in the Internet access market will depend on technical and customer service issues which we have a limited ability to control.

Internet access services, including SBC Yahoo! DSL and SBC Yahoo! Dial, are susceptible to natural or man-made disasters such as earthquakes, floods, fires, power loss, or sabotage, as well as interruptions from technology malfunctions, computer viruses or hacker attacks. Other potential service interruptions may result from unanticipated demands on network infrastructure, increased traffic or problems in customer service to our access customers. Our ability to control technical and customer service issues is further limited by our dependence on SBC for connectivity, customer service, joint marketing and technical integration of aspects of our access service. Significant disruptions in our access service could harm our goodwill, the Yahoo! brand and ultimately could significantly and negatively impact the amount of revenue we may earn from our service.

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### Some of our sponsorship arrangements may not generate anticipated revenues.

A key element of our strategy is to generate advertising revenues through sponsored services and placements by third parties in our online media properties in addition to banner advertising. We typically receive sponsorship fees or a portion of transaction revenues in return for minimum levels of user impressions to be provided by us. These arrangements expose us to potentially significant financial risks in the event our usage levels decrease, including the following:

- the fees we are entitled to receive may be adjusted downwards;
- we may be required to "make good" on our obligations by providing alternative services;
- the sponsors may not renew the arrangements or may renew at lower rates; and
- the arrangements may not generate anticipated levels of shared transaction revenues, or sponsors may default on the payment commitments in such agreements as has occurred in the past.

Accordingly, any leveling off or decrease of our user base (or usage by our existing base) or the failure to generate anticipated levels of shared transaction revenues could result in a significant decrease in our revenues.

## We have spent considerable amounts of money and resources to provide a variety of communications services, but such services may not prove to be successful in generating significant revenue for us.

Currently, a substantial portion of the traffic on our online properties is directed at our communications services, such as email, instant messaging and chat rooms, and we expect this trend to continue for the foreseeable future. We provide these and other basic communications services free of charge to users, as is the case with most of our competitors. We also offer fee-based enhancements to our email service and also depend on the use of other Yahoo! services to generate revenues from our communications service. This revenue model and alternative revenue models for our communications and electronic commerce services, such as subscription fees and commissions, are relatively unproven and may not generate sufficient revenues to be meaningful to us. As communications services become an increasingly important part of our total offering, we must continue to provide new communications applications that are compelling to users and utilize more sophisticated communications technologies to provide such applications to many types of access devices in addition to the personal computer, while continuing to develop an effective method for generating revenues for such services. In addition, the development of these technologies requires long development cycles and a more significant investment by us. If we cannot generate revenues from our communications services that are greater than the cost of providing such services, our operating results will be harmed.

#### We may not be successful in expanding the number of users of our electronic commerce services.

We have focused, and intend to continue to focus, significant resources on the development and enhancement of our electronic commerce properties. These properties, such as Yahoo! Shopping, link users with a network of retailers with whom we have relationships. Through our electronic commerce properties, we do not establish a direct billing relationship with our users as a result of any purchases they may make with the retailers. In addition, a large number of our users currently utilize Yahoo!'s online shopping services simply to gather information for future offline purchases. We will need to effectively induce information gatherers to make purchases in order for our electronic commerce properties to be successful. Finally, the success of our electronic commerce properties will also depend on, among other things, our ability to attract and retain well-known brands among our network of retailers. The revenue that we derive from our electronic commerce properties is typically in the form of a commission paid by the retailer from whom our user purchased a product. Users who had a favorable buying experience with a particular retailer may contact that retailer directly for future

purchases rather than through our service. If our users bypass our electronic commerce properties, such as Yahoo! Shopping, and contact retailers directly, we will not receive any revenue for purchases made through such direct contact. Competing providers of online shopping, including merchants with whom we have relationships, may provide a more convenient and comprehensive online shopping experience due to their singular focus on electronic commerce. As a result, we may have difficulty competing with those merchants for users of electronic commerce services and as a consequence our revenue could decline or we could fail to generate significant revenues from electronic commerce. In addition, a decrease in the number of users of Yahoo! Shopping could adversely affect demand for our Yahoo! Store service as a means to market and distribute products online, which could negatively impact the amount of revenue we generate from this service.

#### Our business and enterprise services, while costly to develop, may fail to gain increasing market acceptance.

We have invested a significant amount of money and resources in the creation of our Yahoo! Enterprise Solutions offerings, which is composed of our Portals and Broadcast Groups. These services may fail to gain increasing market acceptance. Because the market for business and enterprise services is new and evolving, it is difficult to predict the size of this market and its rate of growth, if any. In addition, it is uncertain whether businesses and other organizations will utilize the Internet to any significant degree as a means of broadcasting business conferences and other events. Potential business services customers must increasingly accept audio and video broadcast services over the Internet as a viable alternative to face-to-face meetings, television or audio, audio teleconferences and video conferencing. We cannot assure you that the market for business and enterprise services will continue to grow or be sustainable. In addition, with respect to Portal Solutions, we compete with many large, well capitalized companies offering a broader range of integrated products, which provides them with a competitive advantage. If the market fails to grow, grows more slowly than expected or becomes more competitive than is currently expected, our operating results could be harmed.

## We will continue to operate in international markets in which we have limited experience and are faced with relatively higher costs and are exposed to greater risks.

A key part of our strategy is to develop Yahoo!-branded online properties in international markets. We have developed, through joint ventures, subsidiaries and branch offices, Yahoo! properties localized for over 20 other countries. To date, we have only limited experience in developing localized versions of our products and marketing and operating our products and services internationally, and we rely on the efforts and abilities of our foreign business partners in such activities.

We believe that in light of substantial anticipated competition, we need to expand our operations in international markets quickly in order to obtain market share effectively. However, in a number of international markets, especially those in Europe, we face substantial competition from Internet Service Providers (ISPs) that offer or may offer their own navigational services. Many of these ISPs have a dominant market share in their territories. Further, foreign providers of competing online services may have a substantial advantage over us in attracting users in their country due to more established branding in that country, greater knowledge with respect to the tastes and preferences of users residing in that country and/or their focus on a single market. We have experienced and expect to continue to experience higher costs as a percentage of revenues in connection with the development and maintenance of our international online properties relative to our domestic experience. We have selected international markets that may not develop at a rate that supports our level of investment. In particular, international markets typically have been slower than domestic markets in adopting the Internet as an advertising and commerce medium.

### Our international operations are subject to greater risks.

In addition to uncertainty about our ability to continue to generate revenues from our foreign operations and expand our international presence, there are certain risks inherent in doing business on an international level, including:

- trade barriers and unexpected changes in regulatory requirements;
- difficulties in developing, staffing and simultaneously managing a large number of unique foreign operations as a result of distance, language and cultural differences;
- longer payment cycles;
- currency exchange rate fluctuations;
- political and economic instability and export restrictions;
- seasonal reductions in business activity;
- risks related to government regulation including those more fully described below; and
- potentially adverse tax consequences.

One or more of these factors could harm our future international operations and consequently, could harm our business, operating results, and financial condition.

#### If key personnel leave unexpectedly and are not replaced, we may not be able to execute our business plan.

We are substantially dependent on the continued services of our key personnel, including our two founders, our chief executive officer, chief financial officer, chief operating officer, chief technical officer, and our executive and senior vice presidents. These individuals have acquired specialized knowledge and skills with respect to Yahoo! and its operations. If any of these individuals were to leave Yahoo! unexpectedly, we could face substantial difficulty in hiring qualified successors and could experience a loss in productivity while any such successor obtains the necessary training and experience. Yahoo!'s chief product officer, chief marketing officer, and senior vice president of Enterprise Solutions departed from Yahoo! during 2002. We may experience similar departures from our domestic or international business units in the future. Many of our management personnel have reached or will soon reach the four-year anniversary of their Yahoo! hiring date and, as a result, have become or will shortly become fully vested in their initial stock option grants. While management personnel are typically granted additional stock options subsequent to their hire date, which will usually vest over a period of four years to provide additional incentive to remain at

Yahoo!, the initial option grant is typically the largest for a given position, and an employee may be more likely to leave Yahoo!'s employ upon completion of the vesting period for the initial option grant.

#### If we are unable to hire qualified personnel in designated growth areas, we may not be able to execute our business plan.

We expect that we will need to hire additional personnel in designated growth areas. The competition for qualified personnel can be intense, particularly in the San Francisco Bay Area, where our corporate headquarters are located. At times, we have experienced difficulties in hiring personnel with the right training or experience, particularly in technical areas. If we do not succeed in attracting new personnel, or retaining and motivating existing personnel, we may be unable to meet our business plan and as a result our stock price may drop.

### We may have difficulty scaling and adapting our existing architecture to accommodate increased traffic and technology advances or customer requirements.

Yahoo! is one of the most highly trafficked Websites on the Internet and is regularly serving numbers of users and delivering daily page views which are beyond previous standards for Internet usage. In addition, the services offered by Yahoo! and popular with users and customers have changed significantly in the past, are expected to change rapidly in the future, and are difficult to predict. Rapid increases in the levels or types of use of our online properties and services could result in delays or interruptions in our service. In particular, the architecture utilized for our email and certain other communication services is highly complex and may not provide satisfactory service in the future, especially as email and certain other communications services become an increasingly important service offering and as the rate of unsolicited email continues to increase in volume and complexity. In the future, we may be required to make significant changes to our architecture, including moving to a completely new architecture. If we are required to switch architectures, we may incur substantial costs and experience delays or interruptions in our service. These delays or interruptions in our services content and other rich media offerings increases, we will need to expand our infrastructure, including the capacity of our hardware servers and the sophistication of our software. This expansion is likely to be expensive and complex, and require additional technical expertise. If we fail to successfully scale our broadcasts to large audiences of simultaneous users, such failure could harm that portion of our business. As we acquire users who rely upon us for a wide variety of services, it becomes more technologically complex and costly to retrieve, store and integrate data that will enable us to track each user's preferences. An unanticipated loss of traffic, increased costs, inefficiencies or failures to adapt to new technologies or user requirements and the associated adjustments to our architecture could harm our opera

## Our competitors often provide Internet access or computer hardware to our users, and our competitors could make it difficult for our users to access our services, which in turn, could reduce the number of our users.

Our users must access our services through an Internet service provider, or ISP, with which the user establishes a direct billing relationship using a personal computer or other access device. To the extent that an access provider (other than SBC), such as AOL Time Warner or MSN, or a computer or computing device manufacturer offers online services or properties that are competitive with those of Yahoo!, the user may find it more convenient to use the services or properties of that access provider or manufacturer. In addition, the access provider or manufacturer may make it difficult to access our services by not listing them in the access provider's or manufacturer's own directory. Also, because the access provider gathers information from the user in connection with the establishment of the billing relationship, the access provider may be more effective than us in tailoring services and advertisements to the specific tastes of the user. To the extent that a user opts to use the services offered by an access provider (other than SBC Yahoo! DSL or SBC Yahoo! Dial) or those offered by computer or computing device manufacturers rather than the services provided by us, our revenues may decline.

## More individuals are utilizing non-PC devices to access the Internet, and we may not be successful in developing a version of our service that will gain widespread adoption by users of such devices.

In the coming years, the number of individuals who access the Internet through devices other than a personal computer, such as personal digital assistants, mobile telephones and television set-top devices, is expected to increase dramatically. Our services are designed for rich, graphical environments such as those available on personal and laptop computers. The lower resolution, functionality and memory associated with alternative devices may make the use of our services through such devices difficult, and we may be unsuccessful in our efforts to modify our online properties to provide a

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compelling service for users of alternative devices. As we have limited experience to date in operating versions of our service developed or optimized for users of alternative devices, it is difficult to predict the problems we may encounter in doing so, and we may need to devote significant resources to the creation, support and maintenance of such versions. If we are unable to attract and retain a substantial number of alternative device users to our online services, we will fail to capture a sufficient share of an increasingly important portion of the market for online services.

## We may not be successful in developing marketable advertising services suited for alternative devices.

As the majority of our revenues are derived through the sale of marketing services optimized for a personal computer screen, we may not be successful at developing a viable strategy for deriving substantial revenues from online properties that are directed at the users of alternative devices. Any failure to develop revenue-generating online properties that are adopted by a significant number of alternative device users could harm our business, operating results and financial condition.

### We rely on the value of the Yahoo! brand, and the costs of maintaining and enhancing our brand awareness are increasing.

We believe that maintaining and expanding the Yahoo! brand (and other vertical brands, including Inktomi and HotJobs) is an important aspect of our efforts to attract and expand our user and advertiser base. We also believe that the importance of brand recognition will increase due to the relatively low barriers to entry. We have spent considerable money and resources to date on the establishment and maintenance of the Yahoo! brands. We will spend increasing amounts of money on, and devote greater resources to advertising, marketing and other brand-building efforts to preserve and enhance consumer awareness of the Yahoo! brands. We may not be able to successfully maintain or enhance consumer awareness of the Yahoo! brands and, even if we are successful in our branding efforts,

such efforts may not be cost-effective. If we are unable to maintain or enhance customer awareness of the Yahoo! brands in a cost effective manner, our business, operating results and financial condition would be harmed.

## The successful operation of our business depends upon the supply of critical elements from other companies and any interruption in that supply could cause service interruptions or reduce the quality of our product offerings.

We depend upon third parties, to a substantial extent, for several critical elements of our business, including various technology, infrastructure, content development, software and distribution components.

**Technology and Infrastructure.** We rely on private third-party providers for our principal Internet connections, co-location of a significant portion of our data servers and network access. Any disruption in the Internet or network access or co-location services provided by these third-party providers or any failure of these third-party providers to handle current or higher volumes of use could significantly harm our business, operating results and financial condition. Any financial difficulties for our providers may have negative effects on our business, the nature and extent of which we cannot predict. We license technology and related databases from third parties for certain elements of our properties, including, among others, technology underlying the delivery of news, stock quotes and current financial information, chat services, street mapping and telephone listings, streaming capabilities and similar services. We have experienced and expect to continue to experience interruptions and delays in service and availability for such elements. We also rely on a third-party manufacturer for key components of our email service. Furthermore, we depend on hardware and software suppliers for prompt delivery, installation and service of servers and other equipment to deliver our products and services. Any errors, failures, interruptions, or delays experienced in connection with these third-party technologies and

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information services could negatively impact our relationship with users and adversely affect our brand and our business and could expose us to liabilities to third parties.

**Distribution Relationships.** In addition to our relationship with SBC, to increase traffic for our online properties and services and make them more available and attractive to advertisers and consumers, we have certain distribution agreements and informal relationships with leading Web browser providers, operators of online networks and leading Websites, software developers and computer manufacturers, and telecommunications companies. These distribution arrangements typically are not exclusive and do not extend over a significant amount of time. Further, some of our distributors are competitors or potential competitors who may not renew their distribution contracts with us. Potential distributors may not offer distribution of our properties and services on reasonable terms, or at all. In addition, as new methods for accessing the Web become available, including through alternative devices, we may need to enter into additional distribution relationships. If we fail to obtain distribution or to obtain distribution on terms that are reasonable, we may not be able to execute our business plan.

**Streaming Media Software.** We rely on the two leading providers of streaming media products, RealNetworks and Microsoft, to license the software necessary to broadcast streaming audio and video content to our users. There can be no assurance that these providers will continue to license these products to us on reasonable terms, or at all. Our users are currently able to electronically download copies of the software to play streaming media free of charge, but providers of streaming media products may begin charging users for copies of their player software or otherwise change their business model in a manner that slows the widespread acceptance of these products. In order for our broadcast services to be successful, there must be a large base of users of these streaming media products. We have limited or no control over the availability or acceptance of streaming media software, and to the extent that any of these circumstances occur, the broadcast services portion of our business will be materially adversely affected.

Content and Search Service. Our future success depends upon our ability to aggregate compelling content and deliver that content through our online properties. We license much of the content that attracts users to our online properties, such as news items, stock quotes, weather reports, maps and audio and video content from third parties such as Reuters. We also obtain important elements of our search service from our relationship with Google. In particular, Yahoo! Broadcast and our music and entertainment properties rely on major sports organizations, radio and television stations, record labels, cable networks, businesses, colleges and universities, film producers and distributors, and other organizations for a large portion of the content available on our properties. Our ability to maintain and build relationships with third-party content providers will be critical to our success. We may be unable to enter into or preserve relationships with the third parties whose content we seek to obtain. Many of our current licenses for third-party content extend for a period of less than two years and there can be no guarantee that they will be renewed upon their expiration. In addition, as competition for compelling content increases both domestically and abroad, our content providers may increase the prices at which they offer their content to us and potential content providers may not offer their content on terms agreeable to us. An increase in the prices charged to us by third-party content providers could harm our operating results and financial condition. Further, many of our content licenses with third parties are non-exclusive. Accordingly, other webcasters may be able to offer similar or identical content. Likewise, most sports and entertainment content available on our online properties are also available on other media like radio or television. These media are currently, and for the foreseeable future will be, much more widely adopted for listening or viewing such content than the Web. These factors also increase the importance of our ability to deliver compelling editorial content and personalization of this content for users in order to differentiate Yahoo! from other businesses. If we are unable to license or acquire compelling content, if other companies broadcast content that is similar to or the same as that provided by Yahoo!, or if we do not develop compelling editorial content

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or personalization services, the number of users on our online properties may not grow at all or at a slower rate than anticipated, which would decrease our revenue.

## As we provide more audio and video content, particularly music, we may be required to spend significant amounts of money on content acquisition and content broadcasts.

In the past, the majority of the content that we provided to our users was in print, picture or graphical format and was either created internally or licensed to us by third parties for little or no charge. However, we have been providing and intend to continue to provide increasing amounts of audio and video content to our users, such as the broadcast of music, film content, speeches, news footage, concerts and other special events, through our broadcast services and other media and entertainment properties. We believe that users of Internet services such as the Yahoo! online properties will increasingly demand high-quality audio and video content. Such content may require us to make substantial payments to third parties from whom we license or acquire such content.

For example, in order to broadcast music through our online properties, we are currently required to pay royalties both on the copyright in the musical compositions and the copyright in the actual sound recordings of the music to be broadcast. The revenue we receive as a result of our audio and video broadcasts may not justify the costs of providing such broadcasts.

#### Our failure to manage growth, consolidation and diversification of our business could harm us.

We have experienced dramatic growth in personnel in recent years and expect to continue to hire additional personnel in selected areas. We also consolidated our workforce in certain areas to decrease our costs and create greater operational efficiency. This growth and consolidation requires significant time and resource commitments from us and our senior management. Further, as a result of recent acquisitions and international expansion, more than one-half of our employees are based outside of our Sunnyvale, California headquarters. If we are unable to effectively manage a large and geographically dispersed group of employees, anticipate our future growth or manage our operational consolidations effectively, our business will be adversely affected.

In addition, our business has evolved in recent quarters to include, among other initiatives, a variety of fee-based premium services. Regulation of the Internet, including U.S. and foreign laws and regulations relating to user privacy, pricing, advertising, taxation, gambling, sweepstakes, promotions, financial market regulation, consumer protection, content regulation, quality of products and services and intellectual property ownership and infringement, may impact our evolving business in ways we have not yet anticipated. Such regulation may impose significant additional costs on our business or subject us to additional liabilities. Additionally, our business relies on our financial reporting and data systems (including our systems for billing users of our fee-based services), which have grown increasingly complex in recent quarters due to acquisitions and the diversification and complexity of our business. Our ability to operate our business efficiently depends on these systems and if we are unable to adapt to these changes, our business will be adversely affected.

### We are subject to U.S. and foreign government regulation of the Internet, the impact of which is difficult to predict.

There are currently few laws or regulations directly applicable to the Internet. The application of existing laws and regulations to Yahoo! relating to issues such as user privacy, defamation, pricing, advertising, taxation, gambling, sweepstakes, promotions, financial market regulation, consumer protection, content regulation, quality of products and services, and intellectual property ownership and infringement can be unclear. In addition, we will also be subject to new laws and regulations directly applicable to our activities. Any existing or new legislation applicable to us could expose us to

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substantial liability, including significant expenses necessary to comply with such laws and regulations, and dampen the growth in use of the Web.

Several federal laws, including the following, could have an impact on our business. The Digital Millennium Copyright Act is intended, in part, to limit the liability of eligible online service providers for listing or linking to third-party Websites that include materials that infringe copyrights or other rights of others. The Children's Online Protection Act and the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act are intended to restrict the distribution of certain materials deemed harmful to children and impose additional restrictions on the ability of online services to collect user information from minors. In addition, the Protection of Children From Sexual Predators Act of 1998 requires online service providers to report evidence of violations of federal child pornography laws under certain circumstances. Such legislation may impose significant additional costs on our business or subject us to additional liabilities.

We post our privacy policy and practices concerning the use and disclosure of user data. In addition, GeoCities, a company we acquired in 1999, is required to comply with a consent order between it and the Federal Trade Commission (the "FTC"), which imposes certain obligations and restrictions with respect to information collected from users. Any failure by us to comply with our posted privacy policy, the consent order, FTC requirements or other privacy-related laws and regulations could result in proceedings by the FTC or others which could potentially have an adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition. In this regard, there are a large number of legislative proposals before the United States Congress and various state legislative bodies regarding privacy issues related to our business. It is not possible to predict whether or when such legislation may be adopted, and certain proposals, if adopted, could materially and adversely affect our business through a decrease in user registrations and revenues. This could be caused by, among other possible provisions, the required use of disclaimers or other requirements before users can utilize our services.

Due to the nature of the Web, it is possible that the governments of other states and foreign countries might attempt to regulate Web transmissions or prosecute us for violations of their laws. We might unintentionally violate such laws, such laws may be modified and new laws may be enacted in the future. Any such developments (or developments stemming from enactment or modification of other laws) could increase the costs of regulatory compliance for us or force us to change our business practices.

#### We may be subject to legal liability for online services.

We host a wide variety of services that enable individuals to exchange information, generate content, conduct business and engage in various online activities on an international basis, including public message posting and services relating to online auctions and homesteading. The law relating to the liability of providers of these online services for activities of their users is currently unsettled both within the United States and abroad. Claims have been threatened and have been brought against us for defamation, negligence, copyright or trademark infringement, unlawful activity, tort, including personal injury, fraud, or other theories based on the nature and content of information that we provide links to or that may be posted online or generated by our users or with respect to auctioned materials. In addition, Yahoo! was the subject of a claim brought by certain entities in a French court regarding, among other things, the availability of certain content within our services which was alleged to violate French law. Due to the unsettled nature of the law in this area, we may be subject to similar actions in domestic or other international jurisdictions in the future. Our defense of any such actions could be costly and involve significant distraction of our management and other resources. In addition, we are aware that governmental agencies are currently investigating the conduct of online auctions.

We also periodically enter into arrangements to offer third-party products, services, or content under the Yahoo! brand or via distribution on various Yahoo! properties, including stock quotes and trading information. We may be subject to claims concerning these products, services or content by virtue of our involvement in marketing, branding, broadcasting or providing access to them, even if we do not ourselves host, operate, provide, or provide access to these products, services or content. While our agreements with these parties often provide that we will be indemnified against such liabilities, such indemnification may not be adequate.

It is also possible that, if any information provided directly by us contains errors or is otherwise negligently provided to users, third parties could make claims against us. For example, we offer Web-based email services, which expose us to potential risks, such as liabilities or claims resulting from unsolicited email, lost or misdirected messages, illegal or fraudulent use of email, or interruptions or delays in email service. Investigating and defending any of these types of claims is expensive, even to the extent that the claims do not ultimately result in liability.

## We issued \$750 million of zero coupon senior convertible notes due 2008 which we may not be able to repay in cash and could result in dilution of our earnings per share.

In April 2003, we issued \$750 million of zero coupon senior convertible notes due April 1, 2008. Each \$1,000 principal amount of the notes is convertible into 24.3902 shares of our common stock prior to April 1, 2008 if the sale price of our common stock issuable upon conversion of the notes reaches a specified threshold or specified corporate transactions have occurred. We may be required to repurchase all of the notes following a fundamental change of the Company, such as a change of control, prior to maturity. We may choose to pay the purchase price of the notes in cash, shares of our common stock, shares of common stock of the surviving corporation, or a combination of cash and shares of the applicable common stock. We may not have enough cash on hand or have the ability to access cash to pay the notes if presented on a fundamental change or at maturity. In addition, the purchase of our notes with shares of our common stock or the conversion of the notes into our common stock could result in dilution of our earnings per share.

### Our stock price has been volatile historically and may continue to be volatile.

The trading price of our common stock has been and may continue to be subject to wide fluctuations. During the first quarter of 2003, the closing sale prices of our common stock on the Nasdaq ranged from \$17.54 to \$24.76 per share and the closing sale price on June 26, 2003 was \$32.90 per share. Our stock price may fluctuate in response to a number of events and factors, such as quarterly variations in operating results, announcements of technological innovations or new products and media properties by us or our competitors, changes in financial estimates and recommendations by securities analysts, the operating and stock price performance of other companies that investors may deem comparable to us, and news reports relating to trends in our markets or general economic conditions.

In addition, the stock market in general, and the market prices for Internet-related companies in particular, have experienced extreme volatility that often has been unrelated to the operating performance of such companies. These broad market and industry fluctuations may adversely affect the price of our stock, regardless of our operating performance. Additionally, volatility or a lack of positive performance in our stock price may adversely affect our ability to retain key employees, all of whom have been granted stock options.

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### Our operations could be significantly hindered by the occurrence of a natural disaster or other catastrophic event.

Our operations are susceptible to outages due to fire, floods, power loss, telecommunications failures, break-ins and similar events. In addition, a significant portion of our network infrastructure is located in Northern California, an area susceptible to earthquakes. In the past, the western United States (and California in particular) has experienced repeated episodes of diminished electrical power supply. As a result of these episodes, certain of our operations or facilities may be subject to "rolling blackouts" or other unscheduled interruptions of electrical power. The prospect of such unscheduled interruptions may continue for the foreseeable future and we are unable to predict their occurrence, duration or cessation. We do not have multiple site capacity for all of our services in the event of any such occurrence. Despite our implementation of network security measures, our servers are vulnerable to computer viruses, physical and electronic break-ins, and similar disruptions from unauthorized tampering with our computer systems.

### Technological or other assaults on our service could harm our business.

We are vulnerable to coordinated attempts to overload our systems with data, resulting in denial or reduction of service to some or all of our users for a period of time. We have experienced a coordinated denial of service attack in the past, and may experience such attempts in the future. We do not carry sufficient business interruption insurance to compensate us for losses that may occur as a result of any of these events. Any such event could reduce our revenue and harm our operating results and financial condition.

## Anti-takeover provisions could make it more difficult for a third party to acquire us.

We have adopted a stockholder rights plan and declared a dividend distribution of one right for each outstanding share of common stock to stockholders of record as of March 20, 2001. Each right entitles the holder to purchase one unit consisting of one one-thousandth of a share of our Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock for \$250 per unit. Under certain circumstances, if a person or group acquires 15% or more of our outstanding common stock, holders of the rights (other than the person or group triggering their exercise) will be able to purchase, in exchange for the \$250 exercise price, shares of our common stock or of any company into which we are merged having a value of \$500. The rights expire on March 1, 2011 unless extended by our board of directors. Because the rights may substantially dilute the stock ownership of a person or group attempting to take us over without the approval of our board of directors, our rights plan could make it more difficult for a third party to acquire us (or a significant percentage of our outstanding capital stock) without first negotiating with our board of directors regarding such acquisition.

In addition, our board of directors has the authority to issue up to 10,000,000 shares of Preferred Stock (of which 2,000,000 shares have been designated as Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock) and to determine the price, rights, preferences, privileges and restrictions, including voting rights, of those shares without any further vote or action by the stockholders.

The rights of the holders of our common stock may be subject to, and may be adversely affected by, the rights of the holders of any Preferred Stock that may be issued in the future. The issuance of Preferred Stock may have the effect of delaying, deterring or preventing a change of control of Yahoo! without further action by the stockholders and may adversely affect the voting and other rights of the holders of our common stock. Further, certain provisions of our charter documents, including provisions eliminating the ability of stockholders to take action by written consent and limiting the ability of stockholders to raise matters at a meeting of stockholders without giving advance notice, may have the effect of delaying or preventing changes in control or management of Yahoo!, which could have an adverse effect on the market price of our stock. In addition, our charter documents do not

permit cumulative voting, which may make it more difficult for a third party to gain control of our Board of Directors. Further, we are subject to the anti-takeover provisions of Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, which will prohibit us from engaging in a "business combination" with an "interested stockholder" for a period of three years after the date of the transaction in which the person became an interested stockholder, even if such combination is favored by a majority of stockholders, unless the business combination is approved in a prescribed manner. The application of Section 203 also could have the effect of delaying or preventing a change of control or management.

## Terrorist attacks and the recent outbreak of hostilities in Iraq have contributed to economic instability in the United States and Internationally, which could lead to reduced advertising spending by our customers.

On September 11, 2001, the United States was the target of terrorist attacks of unprecedented scope, and in March 2003, the United States became involved in hostilities with Iraq. These events, coupled with political instability elsewhere in the world have caused volatility in the financial markets and uncertainty in the global economy. Under these circumstances, there is a risk that our existing and potential customers may decrease spending, particularly for marketing services. Because marketing services continue to constitute a majority or our revenues, any such decrease in expenditures could materially and adversely affect our operating results and financial condition. In addition, the political and economic conditions described above may contribute to increased volatility in stock prices, which may cause our stock price to decline.

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## **USE OF PROCEEDS**

The proceeds from the sale of the shares of common stock offered pursuant to this prospectus are solely for the account of the selling stockholders. Accordingly, we will not receive any proceeds from the sale of the shares of common stock offered by this prospectus.

## ISSUANCE OF COMMON STOCK TO SELLING STOCKHOLDERS

On November 19, 1999, we agreed to acquire Innovative Systems Services Group, Inc. ("ISSG") pursuant to a merger agreement among ISSG, the founders of ISSG and us. The selling stockholders were all of the stockholders of ISSG. Pursuant to the merger agreement, the selling stockholders are entitled to receive shares of Yahoo! common stock upon the achievement of milestones set forth in the merger agreement. On January 11, 2001, 55,786 shares of Yahoo! common stock were issued to the selling stockholders pursuant to our obligations under the merger agreement. On February 2, 2001, we filed a resale Registration Statement on Form S-3. On December 20, 2001, 267,330 additional shares of Yahoo! common stock were issued to the selling stockholders pursuant to our obligations under the merger agreement. On January 27, 2003, we issued 214,142 shares of Yahoo! common stock (the Shares") to the selling stockholders pursuant to our obligations under the merger agreement. We have agreed under the merger agreement to register the Shares for resale.

## SELLING STOCKHOLDERS

All of the Shares offered hereby were acquired by the selling stockholders in connection with our acquisition of ISSG as described above. Such Shares do not exceed one percent (1%) of our outstanding capitalization as of the date of this prospectus. Two of the selling stockholders, Madhu Yarlagadda and Patrick Loo, are current employees of Yahoo! and hold the positions of Senior Director Communications and Technical Yahoo!, respectively. Other than as set forth in the previous sentence and in their capacity as stockholders, the selling stockholders do not have a material relationship with us.

The following table sets forth certain information known to us with respect to the beneficial ownership of our common stock as of June 30, 2003 by the selling stockholders. The following table assumes that the selling stockholders sell all of the Shares. We are unable to determine the exact number of Shares that actually will be sold.

|                     | Shares Beneficially            | Shares                        | Shares Beneficially<br>Owned After the<br>Offering |         |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|---------|
| Selling Stockholder | Owned<br>Prior to the Offering | Offered by<br>This Prospectus | Shares   | Percent |
| Madhu Yarlagadda    | 386,065(1)                     | 128,119                       | 257,946  | *       |
| Patrick Loo         | 243,390(2)                     | 85,413                        | 157,977  | *       |
| Gordon Kin          | 1,873(3)                       | 610                           | 1,263  | *       |

\* represents less than 1%

(1) Includes options to purchase 157,268 shares of our common stock, which are exercisable within 60 days of the date of this prospectus.

(2) Includes options to purchase 87,977 shares of our common stock, which are exercisable within 60 days of the date of this prospectus.

(3) Reflects information known to us as of March 21, 2003.

We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of the securities covered by this prospectus. The Shares are being offered on behalf of the selling stockholders. The Shares covered hereby may be offered and sold from time to time by the selling stockholders. The selling stockholders will act independently of us in making decisions with respect to the timing, manner and size of each sale. The selling stockholders may sell the Shares being offered hereby: (i) on the Nasdaq National Market, or otherwise at prices and at terms then prevailing or at prices related to the then current market price; or (ii) in private sales at negotiated prices directly or through a broker or brokers, who may act as agent or as principal or by a combination of such methods of sale. The selling stockholders and any underwriter, dealer or agent who participate in the distribution of the Shares may be deemed to be "underwriters" under the Securities Act of 1933, and any discount, commission or concession received by such persons might be deemed to be an underwriting discount or commission under the Securities Act. We have agreed to indemnify the selling stockholders against certain liabilities arising under the Securities Act.

Any broker-dealer participating in such transactions as agent may receive commissions from the selling stockholders (and, if acting as agent for the purchaser of such shares, from such purchaser). Usual and customary brokerage fees will be paid by the selling stockholders. Broker-dealers may agree with the selling stockholders to sell a specified number of shares at a stipulated price per share, and, to the extent such a broker-dealer is unable to do so acting as agent for the selling stockholders, to purchase as principal any unsold shares at the price required to fulfill the broker-dealer commitment to the selling stockholders. Broker-dealers who acquire shares as principal may thereafter resell such shares from time to time in transactions (which may involve crosses and block transactions and which may involve sales to and through other broker-dealers, including transactions of the nature described above) in the over-the-counter market, in negotiated transactions or by a combination of such methods of sale or otherwise at market prices prevailing at the time of sale or at negotiated prices, and in connection with such resales may pay to or receive from the purchasers of such shares commissions computed as described above.

The anti-manipulation rules under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 may apply to sales of Shares in the market and to the activities of the selling stockholders and their affiliates. The selling stockholders have advised us that during such time as they may be engaged in the attempt to sell the Shares registered hereunder, they will not effect any sale or distribution of the Shares until after the prospectus has been appropriately amended or supplemented, if required.

The selling stockholders may indemnify any broker-dealer that participates in transactions involving the sale of the Shares against certain liabilities, including liabilities arising under the Securities Act. Any commissions paid or any discounts or concessions allowed to any such broker-dealers, and any profits received on the resale of such Shares, may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act if any such broker-dealers purchase Shares as principal.

In order to comply with the securities laws of certain states, if applicable, our common stock will be sold in such jurisdictions only through registered or licensed brokers or dealers. In addition, in certain states, our common stock may not be sold unless the shares have been registered or qualified for sale in the applicable state or an exemption from the registration or qualification requirement is available and is complied with. We have agreed, among other things, to bear all fees and expenses, other than selling expenses, commissions and discounts, and expenses of counsel to the selling stockholders, in connection with the registration and sale of the shares of common stock covered by this prospectus.

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### LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the shares of common stock has been passed upon for Yahoo! by Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, Palo Alto, California.

#### EXPERTS

The financial statements of Yahoo! Inc. incorporated in this Prospectus by reference to Yahoo! Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002, have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent accountants, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

The financial statements of Inktomi Corporation incorporated in this Prospectus by reference to Yahoo! Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed May 27, 2003 have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent accountants, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

### WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION ABOUT YAHOO!

This prospectus is part of a Registration Statement on Form S-3 that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). Certain information in the registration statement has been omitted from this prospectus in accordance with the rules of the SEC. We file our annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You can inspect and copy the registration statement as well as reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You can inspect and copy the registration statement as well as reports, proxy statements and other information we have filed with the SEC at the public reference room maintained by the SEC at 450 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20549. You can obtain copies from the public reference room of the SEC at 450 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20549 upon payment of certain fees. You can call the SEC at 1-800-732-0330 for further information about the public reference room. We are also required to file electronic versions of these documents with the SEC, which may be accessed through the SEC's World Wide Web site at *http://www.sec.gov*. Our common stock is quoted on the Nasdaq National Market. Reports, proxy and information statements and other information concerning Yahoo! Inc. may be inspected at the Nasdaq Stock Market at 1735 K Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20006. You may also obtain information about Yahoo! at our World Wide Web site at *http://www.yahoo.com*.

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference into this prospectus certain of our publicly-filed documents, which means that information included in these documents is considered part of this prospectus. Information that we file with the SEC subsequent to the date of this prospectus will automatically update and supersede this information. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and any future filings made with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, until the selling stockholders have sold all the shares of common stock.

The following documents filed with the SEC are incorporated by reference in this prospectus:

• Our Annual Report on Form 10-K (File No. 000-28018) for our fiscal year ended December 31, 2002;

- Our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q (File No. 000-28018) for the quarter ended March 31, 2003;
- The description of our common stock set forth in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A, filed on March 12, 1996 (File No. 000-28018), as updated by our Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on August 11, 2000 (File No. 812-11976), including associated preferred stock purchase rights described in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A, filed on March 19, 2001 (File No. 000-28018);

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- Our Current Reports on Form 8-K (File Nos. 000-28018) filed on January 16, 2003, February 13, 2003, April 7, 2003, April 9, 2003, April 10, 2003, April 18, 2003 and May 30, 2003; and
- Our Current Reports on Form 8-K, as amended (File Nos. 000-28018) filed on January 8, 2003, March 24, 2003 and May 27, 2003.

All documents subsequently filed by Yahoo! pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, after the date of this registration statement and prior to the effectiveness of this registration statement, shall be deemed to be incorporated herein by reference.

We will furnish without charge to you, on written or oral request, a copy of any or all of the documents incorporated by reference herein, other than exhibits to such documents that are not specifically incorporated by reference therein. You should direct any requests for documents to Paul Hollerbach, Investor Relations, Yahoo! Inc., 701 First Avenue, Sunnyvale, California 94089, telephone: (408) 349-3300.

## SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Some of the statements in this prospectus and/or incorporated by reference into this prospectus constitute forward-looking statements. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as "may," "will," "should," "intend," "expect," "plan," "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "predict," "potential," or "continue" or the negative of such terms or other comparable terminology. This prospectus includes, among others for fiscal 2003, statements regarding our:

- revenues for marketing services, fees and listings;
- primary operating costs and expenses;
- amortization of intangibles;
- estimated goodwill from the Inktomi acquisition;
- capital expenditures;
- use of funds from the sale of convertible notes, together with cash and investments;
- operating lease arrangements;
- evaluation of possible acquisitions of, or investments in business, products and technologies; and
- existing cash and investments being sufficient to meet operating requirements.

These statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other factors that may cause our or our industry's results, levels of activity, performance, or achievements to be materially different from any future results, levels of activity, performance, or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such factors include, among others, those listed in these "Risk Factors" and elsewhere in this prospectus. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot guarantee future results, levels of activity, performance, or achievements. We do not assume responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of the forward-looking statements. We do not intend to update any of the forward-looking statements after the date of this prospectus to conform them to actual results.

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## QuickLinks

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