

SWEDISH MATCH CORP
Form 6-K
July 21, 2004

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 6-K

Report of Foreign Issuer

Persuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Report on Form 6-K dated July 21, 2004

Swedish Match AB

(Translation of Registrant's Name into English)

Rosenlundsgatan 36

S-118 85 Stockholm, Sweden

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.)

Edgar Filing: SWEDISH MATCH CORP - Form 6-K

Form 20-F Form 40-F

(Indicate by check whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.)

Yes No

(If is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b);82-_____)

Enclosure: Swedish Match Interim Report January - June 2004

SIGNATURES

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

Swedish Match AB

Date: July 21, 2004

By: /s/ Bertil Raihle

Bertil Raihle
Vice President Corporate Control

Interim Report

January June 2004

Sales in Swedish crowns increased by 2% and amounted to 6,377 MSEK (6,280). In local currencies, sales were up 5%

Operating income excluding item affecting comparability amounted to 988 MSEK (1,069) after a restructuring charge of 160 MSEK

A gain from the UST settlement of 1,521 MSEK is reported as an item affecting comparability, including 104 MSEK in the second quarter

Net profit for the period amounted to 1,440 MSEK (850)

EPS increased to 4.39 SEK (2.52), of which settlement with UST accounts for 2.68 SEK

Sales for the first six months increased to 6,377 MSEK (6,280), an increase of 2 percent. In local currency terms, sales were up by 5 percent.

Operating income includes restructuring costs of 160 MSEK, of which 85 MSEK has impacted the second quarter. Restructuring costs include 105 MSEK for the match operations in Europe, 29 MSEK for charges related to severance pay etc to the former CEO, 15 MSEK for the closure of a distribution center in Sweden and 11 MSEK relating to restructuring of the cigar operations in Europe. These costs have impacted operating income in accordance with present accounting principles.

During the first six months a gain from the settlement with UST of 1,521 MSEK is included as an item affecting comparability, of which 104 MSEK is booked during the second quarter.

Excluding the item affecting comparability and the restructuring costs mentioned above, operating income for the first six months reached 1,148 MSEK (1,069), an increase of 7 percent. Operating income was affected by the weaker US dollar and the negative effect from translating subsidiaries' results into Swedish crowns impacted results by 49 MSEK.

For snuff, sales and operating income increased on all major markets. Operating income increased by 9 percent to 717 MSEK and operating margin improved to 45.8 percent (45.3).

Sales of cigars increased by 10 percent, to 1,533 MSEK and operating income grew by 41 percent, to 235 MSEK. Strong volume growth for mass market cigars in the US and also for premium cigars in the US contributed to the improved result.

EPS increased to 4.39 SEK (2.52) of which settlement with UST accounts for 2.68 SEK. EPS for the first six months a year ago was positively affected by one time gains in interest net and taxes.

Summary of Consolidated Income Statement

	January	June	Full
	2004	2003	year
<i>MSEK</i>			
Sales	6,377	6,280	13,036
Operating income excluding item affecting comparability	988*	1,069	2,224
Operating income including item affecting comparability	2,509*	1,069	2,224
Profit before tax	2,436	1,119	2,174
Net income for the period	1,440	850	1,558

* After a charge of restructuring costs of 160 MSEK

Sales by product area

	April - June		January - June		Change	12 months	Full	Change
	2004	2003	2004	2003		ended	year	
<i>MSEK</i>					%	Jun 30, -04	2003	%
Snuff	814	758	1,565	1,447	8	3,113	2,995	4
Chewing Tobacco	282	294	536	589	(9)	1,093	1,146	(5)
Cigars	846	751	1,533	1,395	10	3,146	3,008	5
Pipe Tobacco & Accessories	214	214	425	428	(1)	906	909	0
Matches	340	343	664	691	(4)	1,368	1,395	(2)
Lighters	145	154	292	305	(4)	586	599	(2)
Other operations	734	760	1,362	1,425	(4)	2,921	2,984	(2)
Total	3,375	3,274	6,377	6,280	2	13,133	13,036	1

Operating income by product area

	April - June		January - June		Change	12 months	Full	Change
	2004	2003	2004	2003		ended	year	
<i>MSEK</i>					%	Jun 30, -04	2003	%
Snuff	364	350	717	655	9	1,448	1,386	4
Chewing Tobacco	81	86	154	170	(9)	320	336	(5)
Cigars	131	87	235	167	41	461	393	17
Pipe Tobacco & Accessories	44	45	96	91	5	206	201	2
Matches	(51)	31	(81)	69		(67)	83	

Edgar Filing: SWEDISH MATCH CORP - Form 6-K

Lighters	7	0	14	9	56	19	14	36
Other operations	(48)	(46)	(147)	(92)		(244)	(189)	
Subtotal	528	553	988	1,069	(8)	2,143	2,224	(4)
Items affecting comparability	104		1,521			1,521		
Total	632	553	2,509	1,069	135	3,664	2,224	65

Operating margin by product area

	April - June		January - June		12 months	Full
	2004	2003	2004	2003	ended	year
<i>PERCENT</i>					Jun 30, -04	2003
Snuff	44.7	46.2	45.8	45.3	46.5	46.3
Chewing Tobacco	28.7	29.3	28.7	28.9	29.3	29.3
Cigars	15.5	11.6	15.3	12.0	14.7	13.1
Pipe Tobacco & Accessories	20.6	21.0	22.6	21.3	22.7	22.1
Matches	(15.0)	9.0	(12.2)	10.0	(4.9)	5.9
Lighters	4.8	0.0	4.8	3.0	3.2	2.3
Group	15.6	16.9	15.5	17.0	16.3	17.1

Smokeless Tobacco

Swedish Match has a broad presence in smokeless tobacco (Snuff and Chewing Tobacco), with significant positions in the Nordic countries, the US, and South Africa. The main organic growth is within the snuff operations in North America and North Europe. The growth is based, among other things, on consumers being influenced by the fact that smokeless tobacco products are increasingly recognized as having significantly lower health consequences than cigarettes.

Snuff

Swedish Match is the only global producer of snuff, and has a leading position on the Nordic snuff market. In the US, the Company is well positioned in the fast-growing value price segment. Some of the best known brands include General, Ettan, and Grov in Sweden, Timber Wolf in the US and Taxi in South Africa.

Sales for the first six months amounted to 1,565 MSEK (1,447), an increase of 8 percent. In Scandinavia, volume grew by 2 percent, and in the US, volume grew by 6 percent, measured in number of cans. Swedish Match total market share in the growing US market amounted to 8.9 percent year-to-date, compared to 9.0 for the same period previous year (Nielsen estimates).

Last year, a new brand, Longhorn was introduced on the North American market within the value price segment. The product has been well received on the market, and during the second quarter the launch of Longhorn was expanded to include most states.

Operating income improved to 717 MSEK (655), up 9 percent due to higher volume, price increases and productivity improvements, but was negatively affected by currency translation. Operating margin improved to 45.8 percent from 45.3 percent versus year ago.

Edgar Filing: SWEDISH MATCH CORP - Form 6-K

During the second quarter, sales grew by 7 percent versus the previous year, to 814 MSEK, and operating income grew by 4 percent, to 364 MSEK.

Chewing Tobacco

Chewing tobacco is sold primarily in the North American market. Well known brands include Red Man and Southern Pride. Swedish Match is the leading producer of chewing tobacco in the US. The chewing tobacco segment is characterized by annual volume declines around 5 percent per year. Swedish Match market share in the US is stable at 43 percent (Nielsen estimates).

Sales for the first six months declined to 536 MSEK (589), or by 9 percent due to the weaker US dollar. Operating income declined by 9 percent to 154 MSEK (170) but was flat in local currency.

During the second quarter, sales declined by 4 percent versus the previous year, to 282 MSEK, and operating income declined by 6 percent, to 81 MSEK.

In Japan, Swedish Match has been test marketing a gum based chewing tobacco, FIREBREAK® for the past nine months. This product is designed to meet the needs of cigarette smokers looking for a convenient smokeless tobacco alternative.

Cigars and Pipe Tobacco

Swedish Match is one of the world's largest cigar and pipe tobacco companies with a broad presence globally. Cigars provide long-term growth opportunities.

Cigars

Swedish Match is one of the largest producers of cigars and cigarillos in the world and is the second biggest in sales value. The main markets are North America and West Europe. These two markets together make up about 75 percent of the world market for cigars. Swedish Match offers a full range of products worldwide, with both premium and machine made cigars. Well known brands include Macanudo, La Gloria Cubana, White Owl, Garcia y Vega, La Paz, Justus van Maurik, and Wings.

Sales for the first six months amounted to 1,533 MSEK (1,395), an increase of 10 percent. Sales in local currency increased by 18 percent.

In the US, volumes for mass market cigars increased driven by a number of successful new product launches as well as a growing market. Sales also increased for premium cigars on the North American market. In Europe, volume development differed between countries but with a total volume somewhat ahead of year ago levels.

Operating income for the first six months increased by 68 MSEK to 235 MSEK (167), an increase of 41 percent primarily attributable to increased sales in the US, but was negatively affected by the weaker dollar.

During the second quarter, sales of cigars grew by 13 percent versus year ago, to 846 MSEK, and operating income grew by 51 percent, to 131 MSEK. Volumes were up versus year ago in both the US and Europe, with the most significant gains coming from the US mass market. Operating income in the second quarter includes costs of 11 MSEK relating to rationalizations in the European cigar operations.

Pipe Tobacco and Accessories

Edgar Filing: SWEDISH MATCH CORP - Form 6-K

Swedish Match is one of the largest pipe tobacco companies in the world and the products are marketed worldwide. Well known brands include Borkum Riff, Half and Half, and Boxer. The Company has a significant presence in South Africa, North America and West Europe. The world market for pipe tobacco decreases by 6-10 percent per year, but varies between different markets.

Sales for the first six months amounted to 425 MSEK (428). Operating income improved to 96 MSEK (91). Operating income was favorably affected by increased prices, efficiency in production and strengthening of the South African Rand offset by lower volumes on most markets.

During the second quarter, sales were flat, at 214 MSEK, while operating income declined by 2 percent versus year ago, to 44 MSEK.

Lights

Swedish Match produces and markets matches and lighters globally. These products are sold in over 140 countries.

Matches

Swedish Match is number one in the world market for matches. The brands are mostly local, and have leading positions in their home countries. Major brands include Swan, Solstickan, Three Stars, and Redheads.

Sales for the first six months amounted to 664 MSEK (691), a decline of 4 percent. Sales volumes declined overall.

Operating income declined to a negative 81 MSEK (69), after charges of 105 MSEK relating to the restructuring in match operations in Europe.

During the second quarter, sales of matches declined by 1 percent versus year ago, to 340 MSEK, while operating income declined to a negative 51 MSEK (31), of which restructuring costs amounted to 59 MSEK.

Lighters

Swedish Match produces and distributes disposable lighters and the main brand is Cricket.

Sales for the first six months were 292 MSEK (305), a decrease of 4 percent. In local currency terms sales increased somewhat as a result of higher volumes partially offset by lower prices. Operating income grew to 14 MSEK (9) as a result of improved efficiency and cost savings.

The lighter business is faced with an intensely competitive situation. Operating margin for export of lighters produced in Europe has decreased as a result of a stronger euro.

Edgar Filing: SWEDISH MATCH CORP - Form 6-K

During the second quarter, sales declined by 6 percent versus year ago, to 145 MSEK, and operating income grew to 7 MSEK (0).

Other Operations

Other operations include the distribution of tobacco products on the Swedish market, sales and distribution of advertising and other products in Europe, as well as corporate overheads and costs for business development and certain legal expenses. For the first six months, net expenses for other operations were 147 MSEK (expense 92). The result includes charges of 29 MSEK related to severance pay etc. to the former CEO and high legal expenses during the first quarter and during the second quarter expenses of 15 MSEK relating to the closure of a distribution center in Sweden. After the closure Swedish Match will manage the distribution of tobacco products in Sweden from two distribution centers.

Items affecting comparability

Swedish Match in March announced an agreement regarding the resolution of the complaint in *Swedish Match North America, Inc. v. U.S. Smokeless Tobacco Company, and its affiliates (UST)*.

According to the settlement, Swedish Match received a cash payment corresponding to 1,417 MSEK, net after special legal expenses, in the first quarter from UST. Further, UST had agreed to cause the transfer of its cigar business to Swedish Match and the transfer went into effect on June 18th and the gain assignable to this part of the settlement amounted to 104 MSEK after special legal expenses.

The effect of the settlement with UST is reported as an item affecting comparability amounting to 1,521 MSEK.

The net result after tax for the item affecting comparability amounts to 881 MSEK. The tax charge includes, besides American company tax of 39 percent, also withholding tax of 5 percent relating to dividends to the parent company in Sweden.

Financing and net financial expense

At the close of the period the Group net debt amounted to 1,489 MSEK, as compared to 2,715 MSEK on December 31, 2003, a decrease of 1,226 MSEK.

Cash flow from operations, before taxes paid and the effect of changes in operating capital, was 2,761 MSEK compared with 1,433 MSEK a year ago. Tax payments have impacted cash flow from operations by 639 MSEK (255). Cash flow from changes in operating capital was a negative 118 MSEK (47) primarily due to purchase of leaf tobacco in the first quarter as well as certain inventory build-up prior to the vacation period. In total, cash flow from operations was 2,004 MSEK compared with 1,225 MSEK a year ago.

During the period shares amounting to 121 MSEK were repurchased, net of sales of treasury shares.

Cash and bank balances, including short term investments, amounted to 3,234 MSEK at the end of the period, compared with 2,666 MSEK at the beginning of the year.

Net interest expense for the first six months amounted to a negative 81 MSEK (40). Other financial items, net, amounted to an income of 8 MSEK (10). Net interest expense for the six first months year ago included a gain of 120 MSEK from liquidating certain interest rate swaps.

Taxes

Edgar Filing: SWEDISH MATCH CORP - Form 6-K

Total tax for the first six months amounted to 971 MSEK (251), corresponding to an average tax rate of 40 percent. The tax rate has increased due to a 42 percent tax burden on the gain from the UST settlement. Furthermore, the tax rate has increased temporarily due to the fact that the restructuring expense for the match operation in Europe are not deemed to be tax deductible. Tax expense for the first six months year ago was favorably impacted by one time items.

Earnings per share

Earnings per share for the first six months amounted to 4.39 (2.52). This includes a gain of 2.68 per share as a result of the UST settlement.

Capital expenditure, depreciation and amortization

The Group's direct investments in tangible fixed assets amounted to 220 MSEK (284). Total depreciation and amortization amounted to 330 MSEK (316), of which depreciation on tangible assets amounted to 173 MSEK (164) and amortization of intangible assets amounted to 157 MSEK (152). Amortizations of intangibles are divided into 65 MSEK (53) on trademarks etc. and 92 MSEK (99) on goodwill.

Tobacco tax

During the past 12 months, total tobacco tax and value-added tax on tobacco tax paid by Swedish Match in Sweden amounted to 10,072 MSEK (10,155).

Average number of Group employees

The average number of employees in the Group during the first six months was 14,660 compared with 15,115 for the full year 2003. The decrease in number of employees is primarily attributed to the match operations in India.

Share structure

During the first six months 2,466,500 shares have been repurchased at an average price of 74.59 SEK. As at June 30, 2004 Swedish Match holds 23,927,052 shares in its treasury, corresponding to 6.8 percent of the total amount of shares. Total shares bought back by Swedish Match since the buyback program started have been repurchased at an average price of 47.29 SEK. The number of shares outstanding, net after repurchase, and after the sale of treasury shares, as per June 30, 2004 amounts to 327,469,129. In addition, the Company has call options issued and outstanding on its treasury shares corresponding to 5,264,761 shares exercisable in gradual stages from 2004-2009.

At the Annual General Meeting on April 26, 2004 the shareholders voted to authorize the reduction of the share capital by 36 MSEK through cancellation of 15,000,000 shares with transfer to unrestricted reserve. The Board of Directors also received renewed authorization of the mandate to repurchase up to a maximum of 10 percent of all shares in the Company.

Other events

Edgar Filing: SWEDISH MATCH CORP - Form 6-K

During the first quarter the sales of the clothing portion of Swedish Match's advertising products business to New Wave Group AB was completed. The divestment was made at book value and had no impact on earnings and resulted in a cash flow of 117 MSEK to the Company from the sales proceeds and repayment of loans.

On June 8th, The European Court of Justice (ECJ) held a hearing related to the ban of certain oral tobacco products (i.e. snus) within the European Union. Two cases originated separately before the High Court in the UK and the Landrat of the Herford Local Authority (a regional administrative court) in Germany, but were each referred to the ECJ to decide on the legality on the EU-ban on sale of snus (oral moist snuff). Due to the similarities in the cases, they were heard together at the ECJ. The Advocate General's opinion will be presented on September 7, 2004 and a final judgment is expected before the end of the year.

In March a judge in New York ruled in favor of the Cuban cigar company Cubatabaco in its lawsuit against General Cigar over trademark ownership of the Cohiba brand in the United States. In June, the 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals granted General Cigar a stay and consequently allowed General Cigar to continue to sell and market the Cohiba brand pending final judgment in the case.

Swedish Match has appealed a judgment made against the Company to the High Court of India in which Securities and Exchange Board of India have put before Swedish Match to make a public offer to buy 20 percent of the shares in Wimco Ltd. The price per share should, according to the injunction, not be below 35 rupies plus 15 percent yearly interest from 27 January 2001. The total purchase sum would then amount to about 60 MSEK plus interest. There is a risk that shares bought in Wimco pursuant to such order would be bought at a cost substantially higher than the written downcost of Swedish Match's shares in Wimco. The judgment from the High Court is expected within the next few months.

Accounting principles

This interim report has been prepared in accordance with the recommendation RR 20 Interim Reports from the Swedish Financial Accounting Standards Council.

New accounting principles 2004

As of January 1, 2004 Swedish Match changed its accounting principles for pensions etc. according to the Swedish Financial Accounting Standards Council's recommendation RR 29, Employee Benefits. The recommendation implies, among other things, that deficits or surpluses in funded defined benefit plans are to be accounted for in the consolidated balance sheet as liabilities or assets, respectively.

The transition to the new recommendation led to an increased liability of 257 MSEK, net after deferred taxes, in the consolidated balance sheet, with a corresponding reduction of opening shareholders' equity. Pursuant to the rules on transition of the recommendation prior year has not been restated.

In connection with the change to the new accounting principle on pensions Swedish Match has also changed its definition of operating capital. From January 1, 2004 pension liabilities and pension assets are included in operating capital. Comparable figures for prior year have been restated. After restatement of shareholders' equity of 257 MSEK according to above all expenses relating to pensions and the change of pension liabilities are included in operating income. The new rules for accounting for pensions have not had a material effect on the results. The changed definition of operating capital results in a decrease of operating capital and higher return.

Additional information

This report has not been reviewed by the Company's auditors. The interim report for the first nine months 2004 report will be released October 26.

Stockholm, July 21, 2004

Sven Hindrikes

President and Chief Executive Officer

Key data

	January - June		12 months ended	Full year
	2004	2003	June 30, 2004	2003
Operating margin, % ¹⁾	15.5	17.0	16.3	17.1
Operating capital, MSEK	8,167	9,213	8,167	8,377
Return on operating capital, % ¹⁾			24.8	24.9
Return on shareholders' equity, %			51.8	38.9
Net debt, MSEK	1,489	3,817	1,489	2,715
Net debt/equity ratio, %	28.0	89.5	28.0	58.9
Equity/assets ratio, %	33.1	27.6	33.1	30.5
Investments in tangible assets, MSEK	220	284	487	551
EBITDA, MSEK ¹⁾	1,404	1,385	2,908	2,889
<i>Share data</i>				
Earnings per share, SEK				
Basic	4.39	2.52	6.55	4.68
Diluted	4.37	2.51	6.52	4.66
Excluding items affecting comparability, diluted	1.69	2.51	3.84	4.66
Excluding amortization and items affecting comparability, diluted ²⁾	2.11	2.90	4.71	5.50
Shareholders' equity per share, SEK	14.31	10.90	14.31	12.21
Number of shares outstanding at end of period	327,469,129	331,163,181	327,469,129	328,333,181
Average number of shares outstanding	328,361,947	336,700,406	328,832,753	332,679,210
Average number of shares outstanding, diluted	329,865,181	338,438,926	330,198,708	334,162,492

1) Excluding items affecting comparability

2) Reported net income adjusted for items affecting comparability and amortization (net of taxes) divided by the average number of shares outstanding, diluted

Consolidated Income Statement in summary*MSEK*

	April	June	January	June	Change	12 months ended	Full year	Change
	2004	2003	2004	2003		%	June 30, -04	
Sales, including tobacco tax	5,626	5,531	10,598	10,482	1	21,957	21,841	1
Less tobacco tax	(2,251)	(2,257)	(4,221)	(4,202)	0	(8,824)	(8,805)	0
Sales	3,375	3,274	6,377	6,280	2	13,133	13,036	1
Cost of goods sold	(1,870)	(1,769)	(3,458)	(3,386)	2	(7,175)	(7,103)	1
Gross profit	1,505	1,505	2,919	2,894	1	5,958	5,933	0
Sales and administrative expenses	(893)	(878)	(1,773)	(1,684)	5	(3,499)	(3,410)	3
Amortization, intangible assets	(84)	(77)	(157)	(152)	3	(324)	(319)	2
Shares in earnings of associated co.	0	3	(1)	11		8	20	

Edgar Filing: SWEDISH MATCH CORP - Form 6-K

	528	553	988	1,069	(8)	2,143	2,224	(4)
Items affecting comparability	104		1,521			1,521		
Operating income	632	553	2,509	1,069	135	3,664	2,224	65
Net interest expense	(39)	78	(81)	40		(175)	(54)	
Other financial items, net	12	(9)	8	10		2	4	
Net financial items	(27)	69	(73)	50		(173)	(50)	
Income after financial items	605	622	2,436	1,119	118	3,491	2,174	61
Taxes	(239)	(102)	(971)	(251)		(1,292)	(572)	
Minority interests	(17)	(7)	(25)	(18)		(51)	(44)	
Net income for the period	349	513	1,440	850	69	2,148	1,558	38
Earnings per share, basic, SEK	1.07	1.53	4.39	2.52		6.55	4.68	
Earnings per share, diluted, SEK	1.06	1.52	4.37	2.51		6.52	4.66	

Consolidated Balance Sheet in summary*MSEK*

	<u>June 30, 2004</u>	<u>Dec 31, 2003</u>
Intangible fixed assets	3,682	3,648
Tangible fixed assets	2,884	2,862
Financial fixed assets	693	616
Current operating assets	5,564	5,310
Liquid Funds	3,234	2,666
	<u>16,057</u>	<u>15,102</u>
Total assets	16,057	15,102
Shareholders' equity	4,685	4,010
Minority interests	637	597
Provisions	2,708	2,119
Long-term loans	4,357	4,535
Other long-term liabilities	22	66
Short-term loans	366	846
Other current liabilities	3,282	2,929
	<u>16,057</u>	<u>15,102</u>
Total shareholders' equity, provisions and liabilities	16,057	15,102

Change in Shareholders' equity

	<u>January</u>	<u>June</u>
	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
<i>MSEK</i>		
Shareholders' equity, opening balance as per December 31	4,010	4,007
Effect due to change in accounting principle	(257)	—
Adjusted shareholders' equity, opening balance	3,753	4,007
Repurchase of own shares	(184)	(792)
Sale of treasury shares	63	55
Dividend paid	(558)	(535)
Translation difference for the period	171	26
Net income for the period	1,440	850
	<u>4,685</u>	<u>3,611</u>
Total shareholders' equity at end of period	4,685	3,611

Consolidated Cash Flow Statement in summary

MSEK

	<u>June 30, 2004</u>	<u>June 30, 2003</u>
Cash flow from operations before changes in Working Capital	2,122	1,178
Cash flow from changes of Working Capital	(118)	47
Cash flow from operations	2,004	1,225
<i>Investments</i>		
Investments in property, plant and equipment	(220)	(284)
Sales of property, plant and equipment	29	16
Investments in intangibles	(14)	(19)
Investments in consolidated companies	(53)	(55)
Investments in other companies	(4)	
Divestment of business operations	117	
Changes in financial receivables etc.	14	(9)
Cash flow from investments	(131)	(351)
<i>Financing</i>		
Changes in loans	(673)	431
Dividend paid	(558)	(535)
Repurchase of own shares	(184)	(845)
Sale of treasury shares	63	55
Other	31	137
Cash flow from financing	(1,321)	(757)
Cash flow for the period	552	117
Liquid funds at the beginning of the period	2,666	2,016
Translation difference attributable to liquid funds	16	(3)
Liquid funds at the end of the period	3,234	2,130

Quarterly data

MSEK

	<u>Q2/02</u>	<u>Q3/02</u>	<u>Q4/02</u>	<u>Q1/03</u>	<u>Q2/03</u>	<u>Q3/03</u>	<u>Q4/03</u>	<u>Q1/04</u>	<u>Q2/04</u>
Sales, including tobacco tax	5,981	5,897	5,496	4,951	5,531	5,788	5,571	4,972	5,626
Less tobacco tax	(2,448)	(2,430)	(2,170)	(1,945)	(2,257)	(2,376)	(2,227)	(1,970)	(2,251)
Sales	3,533	3,467	3,326	3,006	3,274	3,412	3,344	3,002	3,375
Cost of goods sold	(1,921)	(1,939)	(1,826)	(1,617)	(1,769)	(1,833)	(1,884)	(1,588)	(1,870)

— a person
• holding our

stock as part
of a
"straddle,"
"hedge,"
"conversion
transaction,"
"synthetic
security," or
other
integrated
investment;

and, except to the extent discussed below:

- a tax-exempt organization; and
- a foreign investor.

This summary assumes that you will hold our stock as a capital asset, which generally means as property held for investment.

The federal income tax treatment of holders of our stock depends in some instances on determinations of fact and interpretations of complex provisions of federal income tax law for which no clear precedent or authority may be available. In addition, the tax consequences of holding our stock to any particular stockholder will depend on the stockholder's particular tax circumstances. You are urged to consult your tax advisor regarding the specific tax consequences (including the federal, state, local, and foreign tax consequences) to you in light of your particular investment or tax circumstances of acquiring, holding, exchanging, or otherwise disposing of our stock.

Taxation of Global Signal

We elected to be taxed as a REIT, commencing with our initial taxable year ended December 31, 1995. We believe that we were organized and have operated in such a manner as to qualify for taxation as a REIT, and intend to continue to operate in such a manner.

The law firm of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, "Skadden Arps", has acted as our special tax counsel in connection with our election to be taxed as a REIT. We expect to receive an opinion of Skadden Arps to the effect that we are organized in conformity with the requirements for qualification as a REIT under the Code, and that our actual method of operation has enabled, and our proposed method of operation will enable us to meet the requirements for qualification and taxation as a REIT. It must be emphasized that the opinion of Skadden Arps will be based on various assumptions relating to our organization and operation, and is conditioned upon representations and covenants made by our

27

management regarding our organization, assets, and the past, present, and future conduct of our business operations. While we intend to operate so that we will qualify as a REIT, given the highly complex nature of the rules governing REITs, the ongoing importance of factual determinations, and the possibility of future changes in our circumstances, no assurance can be given by Skadden Arps or us that we will so qualify for any particular year. We have asked Skadden Arps to assume for purposes of its opinion that any prior legal opinions we received to the effect that we

were taxable as a REIT are correct. The opinion of Skadden Arps, a copy of which will be filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, will be expressed as of the date issued, and will not cover subsequent periods. The opinions of counsel impose no obligation on them to advise us or the holders of our stock of any subsequent change in the matters stated, represented or assumed, or of any subsequent change in the applicable law. You should be aware that opinions of counsel are not binding on the IRS, and no assurance can be given that the IRS will not challenge the conclusions set forth in such opinions.

Qualification and taxation as a REIT depends on our ability to meet, on a continuing basis, through actual operating results, asset ownership, distribution levels, and diversity of stock ownership, various qualification requirements imposed on REITs by the Code, compliance with which will not be reviewed by tax counsel. In addition, our ability to qualify as a REIT depends in part on the operating results, organizational structure, and entity classification for federal income tax purposes of certain affiliated entities, the status of which may not be reviewed by tax counsel. Our ability to qualify as a REIT also requires that we satisfy certain asset tests, some of which depend upon the fair market values of assets directly or indirectly owned by us. Such values may not be susceptible to a precise determination. Accordingly, no assurance can be given that the actual results of our operations for any taxable year satisfy such requirements for qualification and taxation as a REIT.

Taxation of REITs in General

As indicated above, qualification and taxation as a REIT depends upon our ability to meet, on a continuing basis, various qualification requirements imposed upon REITs by the Code. The material qualification requirements are summarized below under "— Requirements for Qualification — General." While we intend to operate so that we qualify as a REIT, no assurance can be given that the IRS will not challenge our qualification, or that we will be able to operate in accordance with the REIT requirements in the future. See "— Failure to Qualify."

Provided that we qualify as a REIT, we will generally be entitled to a deduction for dividends that we pay and therefore will not be subject to federal corporate income tax on our net income that is currently distributed to our stockholders. This deduction for dividends paid substantially eliminates the "double taxation" of corporate income (i.e., taxation at both the corporate and stockholder levels) that generally results from an investment in a corporation. Thus, income generated by a REIT and distributed to its stockholders generally is taxed only at the stockholder level upon the distribution of that income.

The Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003 (the "2003 Act") reduced the rate at which individual stockholders are taxed on corporate dividends from a maximum of 38.6% (as ordinary income) to a maximum of 15% (the same as long-term capital gains) for the 2003 through 2008 tax years. With limited exceptions, however, dividends received by stockholders from us, or from other entities that are taxed as REITs, are generally not eligible for the reduced rates, and will continue to be taxed at rates applicable to ordinary income, which, pursuant to the 2003 Act, will be as high as 35% through 2010. See "Taxation of Stockholders — Taxation of Taxable Domestic Stockholders — Distributions."

Net operating losses, foreign tax credits and other tax attributes of a REIT generally do not pass through to the stockholders of the REIT, subject to special rules for certain items such as capital gains recognized by REITs. See "Taxation of Stockholders."

If we qualify as a REIT, we will nonetheless be subject to federal tax in the following circumstances:

- We will be taxed at regular corporate rates on any undistributed income, including undistributed net capital gains.
- We may be subject to the "alternative minimum tax" on our items of tax preference, including any deductions of net operating losses.

- If we earn net income from prohibited transactions, which are, in general, sales or other dispositions of property held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business, other than foreclosure property, such income will be subject to a "prohibited transactions" 100% tax. We intend to conduct our operations so that no asset owned by us or our pass-through subsidiaries will be held for sale to customers, and that a sale of any such asset will not be in our ordinary course of our business. Whether property is held "primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of a trade or business" depends, however, on the particular facts and circumstances. No assurance can be given that any property in which we hold a direct or indirect interest will not be treated as property held for sale to customers, or that we can comply with certain safe-harbor provisions of the Code that would prevent such treatment.
- If we elect to treat property that we acquire in connection with a foreclosure of a mortgage loan or certain leasehold terminations as "foreclosure property," we may thereby avoid the 100% prohibited transactions tax on gain from a resale of that property (if the sale would otherwise constitute a prohibited transaction), but the income from the sale or operation of the property may be subject to corporate income tax at the highest applicable rate (currently 35%). We do not anticipate receiving any income from foreclosure property.
- If we should fail to satisfy the 75% gross income test or the 95% gross income test, as discussed below, but nonetheless maintain our qualification as a REIT because other requirements are met, we will be subject to a 100% tax on an amount based on the magnitude of the failure, adjusted to reflect the profit margin associated with our gross income.
- Similarly, pursuant to provisions in recently enacted legislation that take effect in 2005, if we should fail to satisfy the asset or other requirements applicable to REITs, as described below, yet nonetheless maintain our qualification as a REIT because there is reasonable cause for the failure and other applicable requirements are met, we may be subject to an excise tax. In that case, the amount of the tax will be at least \$50,000 per failure, and, in the case of certain asset test failures, will be determined as the amount of net income generated by the assets in question multiplied by the highest corporate tax rate (currently 35%) if that amount exceeds \$50,000 per failure.
- If we should fail to distribute during each calendar year at least the sum of (1) 85% of our REIT ordinary income for such year, (2) 95% of our REIT capital gain net income for such year, and (3) any undistributed taxable income from prior periods, we would be subject to a 4% excise tax on the excess of the required distribution over the sum of (a) the amounts actually distributed, plus (b) retained amounts on which income tax is paid at the corporate level.
- We may be required to pay monetary penalties to the IRS in certain circumstances, including if we fail to meet record keeping requirements intended to monitor our compliance with rules relating to the composition of a REIT's stockholders, as described below in "— Requirements for Qualification — General."
- A 100% tax may be imposed on some items of income and expense that are directly or constructively paid between a REIT and a taxable REIT subsidiary (as described below) if and to the extent that the IRS successfully adjusts the reported amounts of these items.
- If we acquire appreciated assets from a corporation that is not a REIT (i.e., a corporation taxable under subchapter C of the Code) in a transaction in which the adjusted tax basis of the assets in our hands is determined by reference to the adjusted tax basis of the assets in the hands of the subchapter C corporation, we may be subject to tax on such appreciation at the highest corporate income tax rate then applicable if we subsequently recognize gain on a disposition of any such assets during the ten-year period following their acquisition from the subchapter C corporation.
-

Certain of our subsidiaries are subchapter C corporations, the earnings of which could be subject to federal corporate income tax.

In addition, we and our subsidiaries may be subject to a variety of taxes, including payroll taxes and state, local, and foreign income, property, and other taxes on their assets and operations. We could also be subject to tax in situations and on transactions not presently contemplated.

29

Requirements for Qualification — General

The Code defines a REIT as a corporation, trust or association:

- (1) that is managed by one or more trustees or directors;
- (2) the beneficial ownership of which is evidenced by transferable shares, or by transferable certificates of beneficial interest;
- (3) that would be taxable as a domestic corporation but for the special Code provisions applicable to REITs;
- (4) that is neither a financial institution nor an insurance company subject to specific provisions of the Code;
- (5) the beneficial ownership of which is held by 100 or more persons;
- (6) in which, during the last half of each taxable year, not more than 50% in value of the outstanding stock is owned, directly or indirectly, by five or fewer "individuals" (as defined in the Code to include specified tax-exempt entities); and
- (7) that meets other tests described below, including with respect to the nature of its income and assets.

The Code provides that conditions (1) through (4) must be met during the entire taxable year, and that condition (5) must be met during at least 335 days of a taxable year of 12 months, or during a proportionate part of a shorter taxable year. Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides restrictions regarding transfers of its shares, which are intended to assist us in satisfying the share ownership requirements described in conditions (5) and (6) above.

To monitor compliance with the share ownership requirements, we are generally required to maintain records regarding the actual ownership of our shares. To do so, we must demand written statements each year from the record holders of significant percentages of our stock in which the record holders are to disclose the actual owners of the shares, i.e., the persons required to include in gross income the dividends paid by us. A list of those persons failing or refusing to comply with this demand must be maintained as part of our records. Failure to comply with these record keeping requirements could subject us to monetary penalties. A stockholder that fails or refuses to comply with the demand is required by Treasury regulations to submit a statement with its tax return disclosing the actual ownership of the shares and other information.

In addition, a corporation generally may not elect to become a REIT unless its taxable year is the calendar year. We satisfy this requirement.

The Code provides relief from violations of the REIT gross income requirements, as described below under "— Income Tests," in cases where a violation is due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect, and other requirements are met, including the payment of a penalty tax that is based upon the magnitude of the violation. In addition, the recently

enacted American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 (the "2004 Act") includes provisions that extend similar relief in the case of certain violations of the REIT asset requirements (see "— Asset Tests" below) and other REIT requirements, again provided that the violation is due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect, and other conditions are met, including the payment of a penalty tax. These provisions of the 2004 Act become effective beginning with the 2005 tax year. If we fail to satisfy any of the various REIT requirements, there can be no assurance that these relief provisions would be available to enable us to maintain our qualification as a REIT, and, if available, the amount of any resultant penalty tax could be substantial.

Effect of Subsidiary Entities

Ownership of Partnership Interests. In the case of a REIT that is a partner in a partnership, such as our operating partnership, Treasury regulations provide that the REIT is deemed to own its proportionate share of the partnership's assets, and to earn its proportionate share of the partnership's income for purposes of the asset and gross income tests applicable to REITs as described below. Similarly, the assets

30

and gross income of the partnership are deemed to retain the same character in the hands of the REIT. Thus, our proportionate share of the assets, liabilities, and items of income of our future investment in the operating partnership will be treated as our assets, liabilities, and items of income for purposes of applying the REIT requirements described below. A summary of certain rules governing the federal income taxation of partnerships and their partners is provided below in "Tax Aspects of Investments in an Operating Partnership."

Disregarded Subsidiaries. If a REIT owns a corporate subsidiary that is a "qualified REIT subsidiary," that subsidiary is generally disregarded for federal income tax purposes, and all assets, liabilities, and items of income, deduction, and credit of the subsidiary are treated as assets, liabilities, and items of income, deduction, and credit of the REIT itself, including for purposes of the gross income and asset tests applicable to REITs as summarized below. A qualified REIT subsidiary is any corporation, other than a "taxable REIT subsidiary" as described below, that is wholly owned by a REIT, or by one or more disregarded subsidiaries of the REIT, or by a combination of the two. Other entities that are wholly owned by a REIT, including single member limited liability companies, are also generally disregarded as separate entities for federal income tax purposes, including for purposes of the REIT income and asset tests. Disregarded subsidiaries, along with partnerships in which we hold an equity interest, are sometimes referred to herein as "pass-through subsidiaries."

In the event that a disregarded subsidiary of ours ceases to be wholly owned — for example, if any equity interest in the subsidiary is acquired by a person other than us or another disregarded subsidiary of ours — the subsidiary's separate existence would no longer be disregarded for federal income tax purposes. Instead, it would have multiple owners and would be treated as either a partnership or a taxable corporation. Such an event could, depending on the circumstances, adversely affect our ability to satisfy the various asset and gross income requirements applicable to REITs, including the requirement that REITs generally may not own, directly or indirectly, more than 10% of the securities of another corporation. See "— Asset Tests" and "— Income Tests."

Taxable Subsidiaries. A REIT, in general, may jointly elect with subsidiary corporations, whether or not wholly owned, to treat the subsidiary corporation as a taxable REIT subsidiary ("TRS") of the REIT. The separate existence of a TRS or other taxable corporation, unlike a disregarded subsidiary as discussed above, is not ignored for federal income tax purposes. Accordingly, such an entity would generally be subject to corporate income tax on its earnings, which may reduce the cash flow generated by us and our subsidiaries in the aggregate, and our ability to make

distributions to our stockholders.

A parent REIT is not treated as holding the assets of a taxable subsidiary corporation or as receiving any income that the subsidiary earns. Rather, the stock issued by the subsidiary is an asset in the hands of the parent REIT, and the REIT recognizes as income, the dividends, if any, that it receives from the subsidiary. This treatment can affect the income and asset test calculations that apply to the REIT, as described below. Because a parent REIT does not include the assets and income of such subsidiary corporations in determining the parent's compliance with the REIT requirements, such entities may be used by the parent REIT to indirectly undertake activities that the REIT rules might otherwise preclude it from doing directly or through pass-through subsidiaries (for example, activities that give rise to certain categories of income such as management fees or foreign currency gains). As noted above, we have 5 TRS entities, Global Signal REIT Savings TRS, Inc., Pinnacle Towers IV Inc., Pinnacle Towers V Inc., Shaffer and Associates, Inc., and Sierra Towers, Inc.

Income Tests

In order to maintain our qualification as a REIT, we annually must satisfy two gross income requirements. First, at least 75% of our gross income for each taxable year, excluding gross income from sales of inventory or dealer property in "prohibited transactions," must be derived from investments relating to real property or mortgages on real property, including "rents from real property," dividends received from other REITs, interest income derived from mortgage loans secured by real property, and gains from the sale of real estate assets, as well as income from some kinds of temporary investments. Second, at least 95% of our gross income in each taxable year, excluding gross income from prohibited transactions, must be derived from some combination of such income from investments in real property

31

(i.e., income that qualifies under the 75% income test described above), as well as other dividends, interest, and gain from the sale or disposition of stock or securities, which need not have any relation to real property.

Rents received by us will qualify as "rents from real property" in satisfying the gross income requirements described above, only if several conditions, including the following, are met. If rent is partly attributable to personal property leased in connection with a lease of real property, the portion of the total rent that is attributable to the personal property will not qualify as "rents from real property" unless it constitutes 15% or less of the total rent received under the lease. We have reviewed our properties and have determined that rents attributable to personal property do not exceed 15% of the total rent with respect to any particular lease. Due to the specialized nature of our properties, however, there can be no assurance that the IRS will not assert that rent attributable to personal property with respect to a particular lease is greater than 15% of the total rent with respect to such lease. If the amount of any such non-qualifying income, together with other non-qualifying income, exceeds 5% of our taxable income, we may fail to qualify as a REIT. Moreover, for rents received to qualify as "rents from real property," the REIT generally must not operate or manage the property or furnish or render services to the tenants of such property, other than through an "independent contractor" from which the REIT derives no revenues. We and our affiliates are permitted, however, to perform services that are "usually or customarily rendered" in connection with the rental of space for occupancy only and are not otherwise considered rendered to the occupant of the property. In addition, we and our affiliates may directly or indirectly provide non-customary services to tenants of our properties without disqualifying all of the rent from the property if the payment for such services does not exceed 1% of the total gross income from the property. For purposes of this test, the income received from such non-customary services is deemed to be at least 150% of the direct cost of providing the services. Furthermore, we are generally permitted to provide services to tenants or others

through a TRS without disqualifying the rental income received from tenants for purposes of the REIT income requirements. In addition, we generally may not, and will not, charge rent that is based in whole or in part on the income or profits of any person, except for rents that are based on a percentage of the tenant's gross receipts or sales. Also, rental income will qualify as rents from real property only to the extent that we do not directly or constructively hold a 10% or greater interest, as measured by vote or value, in the tenant's equity.

We may indirectly receive distributions from TRSs or other corporations that are not REITs or qualified REIT subsidiaries. These distributions will be classified as dividend income to the extent of the earnings and profits of the distributing corporation. Such distributions will generally constitute qualifying income for purposes of the 95% gross income test, but not under the 75% gross income test. Any dividends received by us from a REIT will be qualifying income in our hands for purposes of both the 95% and 75% income tests.

Any income or gain we or our pass-through subsidiaries derive from instruments that hedge certain risks, such as the risk of changes in interest rates, will not be treated as non-qualifying income for purposes of the 95% gross income test, provided that specified requirements are met, but generally will constitute non-qualifying income for purposes of the 75% gross income test. Such requirements include that the instrument hedges risks associated with indebtedness issued or to be issued by us or our pass-through subsidiaries incurred to acquire or carry "real estate assets" (as described below under "— Asset Tests"), and, effective beginning in 2005, the instrument is properly identified as a hedge, along with the risk that it hedges, within prescribed time periods.

We believe that substantially all of our gross income will be treated for purposes of the REIT gross income tests as rents from real property (i.e. rents received by us from wireless providers in respect of leases that entitle such providers to mount transmission equipment on such towers). On July 18, 2000 the IRS issued a private letter ruling to one of our non-wholly owned corporate subsidiaries in which we now own a 100% interest. In that ruling, the IRS concluded that the entity's lease and license interests in certain rooftops constituted real estate assets for purposes of the REIT assets tests as described below, and that the income received by the entity in respect of subleases of tower space mounted on those rooftops represented rents from real property for purposes of the REIT gross income tests. It should be noted that this private letter ruling may only be relied upon by the entity to which it was issued and is not binding on the IRS as to the tax treatment of Global Signal or any other subsidiary of ours. Nonetheless, private

32

letter rulings often reflect the current thinking of the IRS. We do not intend to seek an IRS ruling or opinion of counsel concerning the treatment of our tower lease income for purposes of the REIT income tests.

If we fail to satisfy one or both of the 75% or 95% gross income tests for any taxable year, we may still qualify as a REIT for the year if we are entitled to relief under applicable provisions of the Code. These relief provisions will be generally available if our failure to meet these tests was due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect, we attach to our tax return a schedule of the sources of our income, and, with respect to our taxable years beginning before 2005, any incorrect information on the schedule was not due to fraud with intent to evade tax. It is not possible to state whether we would be entitled to the benefit of these relief provisions in all circumstances. If these relief provisions are inapplicable to a particular set of circumstances involving us, we will not qualify as a REIT. As discussed above under "— Taxation of REITs in General," even where these relief provisions apply, a tax would be imposed based upon the amount by which we fail to satisfy the particular gross income test.

Asset Tests

We, at the close of each calendar quarter, must also satisfy four tests relating to the nature of our assets. First, at least 75% of the value of our total assets must be represented by some combination of "real estate assets," cash, cash items, U.S. government securities, and, under some circumstances, stock or debt instruments purchased with new capital. For this purpose, the term "real estate" assets includes interests in real property, such as land, buildings, leasehold interests in real property, stock of other corporations that qualify as REITs, and some kinds of mortgage-backed securities and mortgage loans. Securities that do not qualify for purposes of this 75% test are subject to the additional asset tests described below, while securities that do qualify for purposes of the 75% asset test are generally not subject to the additional asset tests.

Second, the value of any one issuer's securities owned by us may not exceed 5% of the value of our total assets.

Third, we may not own more than 10% of any one issuer's outstanding securities, as measured by either voting power or value. The 5% and 10% asset tests do not apply to securities of TRSs and qualified REIT subsidiaries, and for taxable years beginning prior to December 31, 2000, the 10% value test does not apply to "straight debt" having specified characteristics.

Fourth, the aggregate value of all securities of TRSs held by a REIT may not exceed 20% of the value of the REIT's total assets.

Notwithstanding the general rule, as noted above, that for purposes of the REIT income and asset tests, a REIT is treated as owning its share of the underlying assets of a subsidiary partnership, if a REIT holds indebtedness issued by a partnership, the indebtedness will be subject to, and may cause a violation of, the asset tests, unless it is a qualifying mortgage asset, satisfies the rules for "straight debt," or is sufficiently small so as not to otherwise cause an asset test violation. Similarly, although stock of another REIT is a qualifying asset for purposes of the REIT asset tests, non-mortgage debt held by us that is issued by another REIT may not so qualify.

The 2004 Act contains a number of provisions applicable to REITs, including relief provisions that make it easier for REITs to satisfy the asset requirements, or to maintain REIT qualification notwithstanding certain violations of the asset and other requirements. These provisions are generally effective beginning with the 2005 tax year, except as otherwise noted below.

One such provision allows a REIT which fails one or more of the asset requirements to nevertheless maintain its REIT qualification if (a) it provides the IRS with a description of each asset causing the failure, (b) the failure is due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect, (c) the REIT pays a tax equal to the greater of (i) \$50,000 per failure, and (ii) the product of the net income generated by the assets that caused the failure multiplied by the highest applicable corporate tax rate (currently 35%), and (d) the REIT either disposes of the assets causing the failure within 6 months after the last day of the quarter in which it identifies the failure, or otherwise satisfies the relevant asset tests within that time frame.

A second relief provision contained in the 2004 Act applies to de minimis violations of the 10% and 5% asset tests. A REIT may maintain its qualification despite a violation of such requirements if (a) the

33

value of the assets causing the violation do not exceed the lesser of 1% of the REIT's total assets, and \$10,000,000, and (b) the REIT either disposes of the assets causing the failure within 6 months after the last day of the quarter in which it identifies the failure, or the relevant tests are otherwise satisfied within that time frame.

The 2004 Act also provides that certain securities will not cause a violation of the 10% value test described above. Such securities include instruments that constitute "straight debt," which now has an expanded definition and includes securities having certain contingency features. A newly enacted restriction, however, precludes a security from qualifying as "straight debt" where a REIT (or a controlled taxable REIT subsidiary of the REIT) owns other securities of the issuer of that security which do not qualify as straight debt, unless the value of those other securities constitute, in the aggregate, 1% or less of the total value of that issuer's outstanding securities. In addition to straight debt, the 2004 Act provides that certain other securities will not violate the 10% value test. Such securities include (a) any loan made to an individual or an estate, (b) certain rental agreements in which one or more payments are to be made in subsequent years (other than agreements between a REIT and certain persons related to the REIT), (c) any obligation to pay rents from real property, (d) securities issued by governmental entities that are not dependent in whole or in part on the profits of (or payments made by) a non-governmental entity, (e) any security issued by another REIT, and (f) any debt instrument issued by a partnership if the partnership's income is of a nature that it would satisfy the 75% gross income test described above under "— Income Tests." The 2004 Act also provides that in applying the 10% value test, a debt security issued by a partnership is not taken into account to the extent, if any, of the REIT's proportionate equity interest in that partnership. Each of the changes described in this paragraph that were made by the 2004 Act have retroactive effect beginning with the 2001 tax year.

We believe that our holdings of assets comply, and will continue to comply, with the foregoing REIT asset requirements, including the provisions as modified by the 2004 Act, and we intend to monitor compliance on an ongoing basis. No independent appraisals have been obtained, however, to support our conclusions as to the value of our total assets, or the value of any particular security or securities. The IRS has ruled in a published revenue ruling that transmitting and receiving communications towers similar to those currently owned by us and which are built on pilings or foundations similar to those upon which our towers are built, as well as ancillary buildings and heating and air conditioning systems, constitute inherently permanent structures and are therefore regarded as real estate assets for purposes of the REIT asset tests. In addition, on July 18, 2000, the IRS issued a private letter ruling to one of our then non-wholly owned corporate subsidiaries in which we now own a 100 percent interest. In that ruling, the IRS concluded that the entity's lease and license interests in certain rooftops constituted real estate assets for purposes of the REIT assets tests and that the income received by the entity in respect of subleases of tower space mounted on those rooftops represented rents from real property for purposes of the REIT gross income tests. It should be noted that this private letter ruling may only be relied upon by the entity to which it was issued and is not binding on the IRS as to our tax treatment or any other subsidiary of ours. Nonetheless, private letter rulings often reflect the current thinking of the IRS. We do not intend to seek an IRS ruling or an opinion of counsel as to the classification of our rooftop leases or our towers for purposes of the REIT asset tests. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that the IRS will not contend that our interests in our subsidiaries or in the securities of other issuers cause a violation of the REIT asset requirements.

If we should fail to satisfy the asset tests at the end of a calendar quarter, such a failure would not cause us to lose our REIT status if we (1) satisfied the asset tests at the close of the preceding calendar quarter and (2) the discrepancy between the value of our assets and the asset test requirements was not wholly or partly caused by an acquisition of non-qualifying assets, but instead arose from changes in the market value of our assets. If the condition described in (2) were not satisfied, we still could avoid disqualification by eliminating any discrepancy within 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter in which it arose.

Annual Distribution Requirements

In order to qualify as a REIT, we are required to distribute dividends, other than capital gain dividends, to our stockholders in an amount at least equal to:

- (a) the sum of
- (1) 90% of our "REIT taxable income" (computed without regard to our deduction for dividends paid and net capital gains); and
 - (2) 90% of the net income, if any, (after tax) from foreclosure property (as described below);
- minus
- (b) the sum of specified items of noncash income.

These distributions must be paid in the taxable year to which they relate, or in the following taxable year if they are declared in October, November, or December of the taxable year, are payable to stockholders of record on a specified date in any such month, and are actually paid before the end of January of the following year. Such distributions are treated as both paid by us and received by each stockholder on December 31 of the year in which they are declared. In addition, a distribution for a taxable year may be declared before we timely file our tax return for the year and if paid with or before the first regular dividend payment after such declaration, provided such payment is made during the 12-month period following the close of such taxable year. In order for distributions to be counted for this purpose, and to give rise to a tax deduction by us, they must not be "preferential dividends." A dividend is not a preferential dividend if it is pro rata among all outstanding shares of stock within a particular class, and is in accordance with the preferences among different classes of stock as set forth in our organizational documents.

To the extent that we distribute at least 90%, but less than 100%, of our "REIT taxable income," as adjusted, we will be subject to tax at ordinary corporate tax rates on the retained portion. We may elect to retain, rather than distribute, our net long-term capital gains and pay tax on such gains. In this case, we could elect to have our stockholders include their proportionate share of such undistributed long-term capital gains in income, and to receive a corresponding credit for their share of the tax paid by us. Stockholders of ours would then increase the adjusted basis of their Global Signal stock by the difference between the designated amounts included in their long-term capital gains and the tax deemed paid with respect to their shares. To the extent that a REIT has available net operating losses carried forward from prior tax years, such losses may reduce the amount of distributions that it must make in order to comply with the REIT distribution requirements. Such losses, however, will generally not affect the character, in the hands of stockholders, of any distributions that are actually made by the REIT, which are generally taxable to stockholders to the extent that the REIT has current or accumulated earnings and profits. See "Taxation of Stockholders — Taxation of Taxable Domestic Stockholders — Distributions."

If we should fail to distribute during each calendar year at least the sum of (1) 85% of our REIT ordinary income for such year, (2) 95% of our REIT capital gain net income for such year, and (3) any undistributed taxable income from prior periods, we would be subject to a 4% excise tax on the excess of such required distribution over the sum of (a) the amounts actually distributed and (b) the amounts of income retained on which we have paid corporate income tax. We intend to make timely distributions so that we are not subject to the 4% excise tax.

It is possible that we, from time to time, may not have sufficient cash to meet the distribution requirements due to timing differences between (1) the actual receipt of cash, including receipt of distributions from our subsidiaries, and (2) our inclusion of items in income for federal income tax purposes. Other sources of non-cash taxable income include real estate and securities that are financed through securitization structures, which require some or all of available cash flows to be used to service borrowings, loans held by us as assets that are issued at a discount and require the accrual of taxable economic interest in advance of its receipt in cash, loans on which the borrower is permitted to defer cash payments of interest, and distressed loans on which we may be required to accrue taxable interest income even though the borrower is unable to make current servicing payments in cash. In the event that such timing differences occur, in order to meet the distribution requirements, it might be necessary to arrange for short-term, or possibly long-term, borrowings, or to pay dividends in the form of taxable in-kind distributions of property.

We may be able to rectify a failure to meet the distribution requirements for a year by paying "deficiency dividends" to stockholders in a later year, which may be included in our deduction for

35

dividends paid for the earlier year. In this case, we may be able to avoid losing our REIT status or being taxed on amounts distributed as deficiency dividends. However, we will be required to pay interest and a penalty based on the amount of any deduction taken for deficiency dividends.

Failure to Qualify

If we fail to qualify for taxation as a REIT in any taxable year, and the relief provisions described above do not apply, we would be subject to tax, including any applicable alternative minimum tax, on our taxable income at regular corporate rates. Distributions to stockholders in any year in which we are not a REIT would not be deductible by us, nor would they be required to be made. In this situation, to the extent of current and accumulated earnings and profits, all distributions to stockholders that are individuals will generally be taxable at a rate of 15% (through 2008) pursuant to the 2003 Act, and, subject to limitations of the Code, corporate distributees may be eligible for the dividends received deduction. Unless we are entitled to relief under specific statutory provisions, we would also be disqualified from re-electing to be taxed as a REIT for the four taxable years following the year during which qualification was lost. It is not possible to state whether, in all circumstances, we would be entitled to this statutory relief.

Loss Carryovers

We have substantial net operating loss ("NOL") carryovers from prior taxable years. In connection with the consummation of our 2002 restructuring, we realized significant cancellation of indebtedness income, all of which was excluded from our gross income for federal income tax purposes. Under the Code, the amount of cancellation of indebtedness income so excluded substantially reduced our NOL carryovers accumulated prior to November 1, 2002. In addition, we expect that our depreciation deductions will be reduced for a period of five years after the date on which we received the capital investment from our new investors in the restructuring. Furthermore, our ability to utilize our NOLs to offset our future income has been limited significantly as a result of our restructuring. The effect of such reductions of, and limitations on our ability to utilize, our cumulative NOL carryovers and such reduction of our depreciation deductions will be either to reduce our future NOLs or to increase our REIT taxable income that must be distributed to our stockholders.

REITs generally pay little federal income tax because of the distribution requirements and the deduction for dividends paid to which REITs are generally entitled. A REIT's NOLs are not deductible by its stockholders, and, in general, do not affect the tax treatment to stockholders of distributions received from the REIT. If a REIT uses its NOLs to offset its taxable income and thus reduce its distribution requirements, it may nonetheless be subject to the alternative minimum tax because a portion of the deduction for NOLs is denied for that purpose.

If we undergo an "ownership change" within the meaning of the Code and the Treasury regulations, our ability to subsequently use our existing NOLs, and any other NOLs generated prior to the time of that ownership change, may be limited. In that case, the amount of the NOLs that we may use would generally be limited to the lower of our current NOL limitation, as discussed above, or the product of the value of our stock at the time of the ownership change multiplied by the long-term tax-exempt rate, which is a measure of interest rates on long-term tax-exempt bonds. To the extent our ability to use NOLs decreases, our REIT taxable income may increase. That increase may reduce the portion of our distributions that can be classified as a tax-free return of capital and, consequently, may

increase the extent to which our distributions become taxable to our stockholders. See "— Taxation of Taxable Domestic Stockholders — Distributions" below. In general, an ownership change occurs if one or more large stockholders, known as "5% stockholders," including groups of stockholders that may be aggregated and treated as a single 5% stockholder, increase their aggregate percentage interest in us by more than 50 percentage points over their lowest ownership percentage during the preceding three-year period. Accordingly, no assurance can be given that an ownership change will not occur. Investors are therefore cautioned that our NOLs may not be available to us in their entirety and without limitation.

Prohibited Transactions

Net income derived from a prohibited transaction is subject to a 100% excise tax. The term "prohibited transaction" generally includes a sale or other disposition of property (other than foreclosure

36

property) that is held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of a trade or business. We intend to conduct our operations so that no asset owned by us or our pass-through subsidiaries will be held for sale to customers, and that a sale of any such asset will not be in the ordinary course of our business. Whether property is held "primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of a trade or business" depends, however, on the particular facts and circumstances. No assurance can be given that any property we sell will not be treated as property held for sale to customers, or that we can comply with certain safe-harbor provisions of the Code that would prevent the imposition of the 100% excise tax. The 100% tax does not apply to gains from the sale of property that is held through a taxable REIT subsidiary or other taxable corporation, although such income will be subject to tax in the hands of that corporation at regular corporate tax rates.

Foreign Investments

We and our subsidiaries currently hold and may acquire additional investments, and accordingly pay taxes, in foreign countries. Taxes paid by us in foreign jurisdictions may not be passed through to, or used by, our stockholders as a foreign tax credit or otherwise. Our foreign investments may also generate foreign currency gains and losses. Foreign currency gains are treated as income that does not qualify under the 95% or 75% income tests, unless certain technical requirements are met. No assurance can be given that these technical requirements will be met in the case of any foreign currency gains recognized by us directly or through pass-through subsidiaries, and will not adversely affect our ability to satisfy the REIT qualification requirements.

Hedging Transactions

We and our subsidiaries from time to time enter into hedging transactions with respect to interest rate exposure on one or more of our assets or liabilities. Any such hedging transactions could take a variety of forms, including the use of derivative instruments such as interest rate swap contracts, interest rate cap or floor contracts, futures or forward contracts, and options. For taxable years beginning prior to 2005, to the extent that we or a pass-through subsidiary enters into such a contract to reduce interest rate risk on indebtedness incurred or to be incurred to acquire or carry real estate assets, any periodic income from the instrument, or gain from the disposition of it, would be qualifying income for purposes of the REIT 95% gross income test, but not for the 75% gross income test. To the extent that we hedge with other types of financial instruments or in other situations (for example, hedges against fluctuations in the value of foreign currencies), the resultant income will be treated as income that does not qualify under the 95% or 75% income tests unless certain technical requirements are met.

For taxable years beginning in 2005, the 2004 Act exempts from the 95% REIT income test, income of a REIT, including income from a pass-through subsidiary, arising from "clearly identified" hedging transactions that are entered into to manage the risk of interest rate or price changes or currency fluctuations with respect to borrowings, including gain from the disposition of such hedging transactions, to the extent the hedging transactions hedge indebtedness incurred, or to be incurred, by the REIT to acquire or carry real estate assets. In general, for a hedging transaction to be "clearly identified," (a) it must be identified as a hedging transaction before the end of the day on which it is acquired or entered into, and (b) the items or risks being hedged must be identified "substantially contemporaneously" with entering into the hedging transaction (generally, not more than 35 days after entering into the hedging transaction).

We intend to structure any hedging transactions in a manner that does not jeopardize our status as a REIT. We may conduct some or all of our hedging activities (including hedging activities relating to currency risk) through a TRS or other corporate entity, the income from which may be subject to federal income tax, rather than participating in the arrangements directly or through pass-through subsidiaries. No assurance can be given, however, that our hedging activities will not give rise to income that does not qualify for purposes of either or both of the REIT income tests, and will not adversely affect our ability to satisfy the REIT qualification requirements.

37

Tax Aspects of Investments in an Operating Partnership

General

We currently hold our real estate assets through pass-through subsidiaries. In the future, we may consolidate our pass-through subsidiaries underneath a single "operating partnership." In general, a partnership is a "pass-through" entity that is not subject to federal income tax. Rather, partners are allocated their proportionate shares of the items of income, gain, loss, deduction, and credit of a partnership, and are potentially subject to tax on these items, without regard to whether the partners receive a distribution from the partnership. Thus, we would include in our income our proportionate share of these partnership items for purposes of the various REIT income tests and in the computation of our REIT taxable income. Moreover, for purposes of the REIT asset tests, we would include our proportionate share of the assets held by the operating partnership. Consequently, to the extent that we hold an equity interest in an operating partnership, the partnership's assets and operations may affect our ability to qualify as a REIT.

Entity Classification

Our investment in an operating partnership involves special tax considerations, including the possibility of a challenge by the IRS of the tax status of such partnership. If the IRS were to successfully treat an operating partnership as an association, as opposed to a partnership, for federal income tax purposes, the operating partnership would be taxable as a corporation and therefore could be subject to an entity-level tax on its income. In such a situation, the character of our assets and items of our gross income would change and could preclude us from satisfying the REIT asset tests or the gross income tests as discussed in "Taxation of Global Signal — Asset Tests" and "— Income Tests," and in turn could prevent us from qualifying as a REIT unless we are eligible for relief from the violation pursuant to relief provisions described above. See "Taxation of Global Signal — Failure to Qualify," above, for a discussion of the effect of our failure to meet these tests for a taxable year, and of the relief provisions. In addition, any change in the status of an operating partnership for tax purposes could be treated as a taxable event, in which case we could have taxable income that is subject to the REIT distribution requirements without receiving any cash.

Tax Allocations with Respect to Partnership Properties

Under the Code and the Treasury regulations, income, gain, loss, and deduction attributable to appreciated or depreciated property that is contributed to an operating partnership in exchange for an interest in the partnership must be allocated for tax purposes in a manner such that the contributing partner is charged with, or benefits from, the unrealized gain or unrealized loss associated with the property at the time of the contribution. The amount of the unrealized gain or unrealized loss is generally equal to the difference between the fair market value of the contributed property at the time of contribution, and the adjusted tax basis of such property at the time of contribution (a "book-tax difference"). Such allocations are solely for federal income tax purposes and do not affect the book capital accounts or other economic or legal arrangements among the partners. These rules may apply to a contribution of property by us to an operating partnership. To the extent that the operating partnership acquires appreciated (or depreciated) properties by way of capital contributions from its partners, allocations would need to be made in a manner consistent with these requirements. Where a partner contributes cash to a partnership at a time at which the partnership holds appreciated (or depreciated) property, the Treasury regulations provide for a similar allocation of these items to the other (i.e. non-contributing) partners. These rules may apply to the contribution by us to the operating partnership of the cash proceeds received in offerings of our stock. As a result, partners, including us, could be allocated greater or lesser amounts of depreciation and taxable income in respect of the partnership's properties than would be the case if all of the partnership's assets (including any contributed assets) had a tax basis equal to their fair market values at the time of any contributions to that partnership. This could cause us to recognize taxable income in excess of cash flow from the partnership, which might adversely affect our ability to comply with the REIT distribution requirements discussed above.

38

Sale of Properties

Our share of any gain realized by the Operating Partnership or any other subsidiary partnership on the sale of any property held as inventory or primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business will be treated as income from a prohibited transaction that is subject to a 100% excise tax. See "— Taxation of REITs in General" and "— Prohibited Transactions." Under existing law, whether property is held as inventory or primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of a trade or business depends upon all of the facts and circumstances of the particular transaction. The Operating Partnership and our other subsidiary partnerships generally intend to hold their interests in properties for investment with a view to long-term appreciation, to engage in the business of acquiring, developing, owning, operating, financing and leasing the properties, and to make occasional sales of the properties, including peripheral land, as are consistent with our investment objectives.

Taxation of Stockholders

Taxation of Taxable Domestic Stockholders

Distributions. Provided that we qualify as a REIT, distributions made to our taxable domestic stockholders out of current or accumulated earnings and profits, and not designated as capital gain dividends, will generally be taken into account by them as ordinary income and will not be eligible for the dividends received deduction for corporations. With limited exceptions, dividends received from REITs are not eligible for taxation at the preferential income tax rates (15% maximum federal rate through 2008) for qualified dividends received by individuals from taxable C corporations pursuant to the 2003 Act. Stockholders that are individuals, however, are taxed at the preferential rates on dividends designated by and received from REITs to the extent that the dividends are attributable to (1) income

retained by the REIT in the prior taxable year on which the REIT was subject to corporate level income tax (less the amount of tax), (2) dividends received by the REIT from TRSs or other taxable C corporations, or (3) income in the prior taxable year from the sales of "built-in gain" property acquired by the REIT from C corporations in carryover basis transactions (less the amount of corporate tax on such income).

Distributions from us that are designated as capital gain dividends will generally be taxed to stockholders as long-term capital gains, to the extent that they do not exceed our actual net capital gain for the taxable year, without regard to the period for which the stockholder has held its stock. A similar treatment will apply to long-term capital gains retained by us, to the extent that we elect the application of provisions of the Code that treat stockholders of a REIT as having received, for federal income tax purposes, undistributed capital gains of the REIT, while passing through to stockholders a corresponding credit for taxes paid by the REIT on such retained capital gains. Corporate stockholders may be required to treat up to 20% of some capital gain dividends as ordinary income. Long-term capital gains are generally taxable at maximum federal rates of 15% (through 2008) in the case of stockholders who are individuals, and 35% in the case of stockholders that are corporations. Capital gains attributable to the sale of depreciable real property held for more than 12 months are subject to a 25% maximum federal income tax rate for taxpayers who are individuals, to the extent of previously claimed depreciation deductions.

In determining the extent to which a distribution constitutes a dividend for tax purposes, our earnings and profits generally will be allocated first to distributions with respect to preferred stock, and then to common stock. If we have net capital gains and designate some or all of our distributions as capital gain dividends to that extent, the capital gain dividends will be allocated among different classes of stock in proportion to the allocation of earnings and profits as described above.

Distributions in excess of current and accumulated earnings and profits will not be taxable to a stockholder to the extent that they do not exceed the adjusted basis of the stockholder's shares in respect of which the distributions were made, but rather, will reduce the adjusted basis of these shares. To the extent that such distributions exceed the adjusted basis of a stockholder's shares, they will be included in income as long-term capital gain, or short-term capital gain if the shares have been held for one year or less. In addition, any dividend we declare in October, November, or December of any year and payable to a stockholder of record on a specified date in any such month will be treated as both paid by Global

39

Signal and received by the stockholder on December 31 of such year, provided that the dividend is actually paid by us before the end of January of the following calendar year.

Dispositions of Global Signal Stock. In general, a domestic stockholder will realize gain or loss upon the sale, redemption, or other taxable disposition of our stock in an amount equal to the difference between the sum of the fair market value of any property received and the amount of cash received in such disposition, and the stockholder's adjusted tax basis in the stock at the time of the disposition. In general, a stockholder's tax basis will equal the stockholder's acquisition cost, increased by the excess of net capital gains deemed distributed to the stockholder (discussed above), less tax deemed paid on it, and reduced by returns of capital. In general, capital gains recognized by individuals upon the sale or disposition of shares of our stock will, pursuant to the 2003 Act, be subject to a maximum federal income tax rate of 15% (through 2008) if our stock is held for more than 12 months, and will be taxed at ordinary income rates (of up to 35% through 2010) if our stock is held for 12 months or less. Gains recognized by stockholders that are corporations are subject to federal income tax at a maximum rate of 35%, whether or not classified as long-term capital gains. Capital losses recognized by a stockholder upon the disposition of our

stock held for more than one year at the time of disposition will be considered long-term capital losses, and are generally available only to offset capital gain income of the stockholder but not ordinary income (except in the case of individuals, who may offset up to \$3,000 of ordinary income each year). In addition, any loss upon a sale or exchange of shares of our stock by a stockholder who has held the shares for six months or less, after applying holding period rules, will be treated as a long-term capital loss to the extent of distributions received from us that are required to be treated by the stockholder as long-term capital gain.

If an investor recognizes a loss upon a subsequent disposition of our stock in an amount that exceeds a prescribed threshold, it is possible that the provisions of recently adopted Treasury regulations involving "reportable transactions" could apply, with a resulting requirement to separately disclose the loss generating transaction to the IRS. While these regulations are directed towards "tax shelters," they are written quite broadly and apply to transactions that would not typically be considered tax shelters. In addition, the 2004 Act imposes significant penalties for failure to comply with these requirements. You should consult your tax advisor concerning any possible disclosure obligation with respect to the receipt or disposition of our stock, or transactions that might be undertaken directly or indirectly by us. Moreover, you should be aware that we and other participants in the transactions involving us (including their advisors) might be subject to disclosure or other requirements pursuant to these regulations.

Passive Activity Losses and Investment Interest Limitations. Distributions made by us and gain arising from the sale or exchange by a domestic stockholder of our stock will not be treated as passive activity income. As a result, stockholders will not be able to apply any "passive losses" against income or gain relating to our stock. Distributions made by us, to the extent they do not constitute return of capital, generally will be treated as investment income for purposes of computing the investment interest limitation.

Taxation of Foreign Stockholders

The following is a summary of certain U.S. federal income and estate tax consequences of the ownership and disposition of our stock applicable to non-U.S. holders of our stock. A "non-U.S. holder" is any person other than:

- (a) a citizen or resident of the United States;
- (b) a corporation or partnership created or organized in the United States or under the laws of the United States, or of any state thereof, or the District of Columbia;
- (c) an estate, the income of which is includable in gross income for U.S. federal income tax purposes regardless of its source; or
- (d) a trust if a United States court is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of such trust and one or more United States fiduciaries have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust.

The discussion is based on current law and is for general information only. It addresses only selected, and not all, aspects of U.S. federal income and estate taxation.

40

Ordinary Dividends. The portion of dividends received by non-U.S. holders payable out of our earnings and profits which are not attributable to our capital gains and which are not effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business of the non-U.S. holder will be subject to U.S. withholding tax at the rate of 30%, unless reduced by an income tax treaty.

In general, non-U.S. holders will not be considered to be engaged in a U.S. trade or business solely as a result of their ownership of our stock. In cases where the dividend income from a non-U.S. holder's investment in our stock is, or is treated as, effectively connected with the non-U.S. holder's conduct of a U.S. trade or business, the non-U.S. holder generally will be subject to U.S. tax at graduated rates, in the same manner as domestic stockholders are taxed with respect to such dividends, such income must generally be reported on a U.S. income tax return filed by or on behalf of the non-U.S. holder, and the income may also be subject to the 30% branch profits tax in the case of a non-U.S. holder that is a corporation.

Non-Dividend Distributions. Unless our stock constitutes a U.S. real property interest (a "USRPI"), distributions by us which are not dividends out of our earnings and profits will not be subject to U.S. income tax. If it cannot be determined at the time at which a distribution is made whether or not the distribution will exceed current and accumulated earnings and profits, the distribution will be subject to withholding at the rate applicable to dividends. However, the non-U.S. holder may seek a refund from the IRS of any amounts withheld if it is subsequently determined that the distribution was, in fact, in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits. If our stock constitutes a USRPI, as described below, distributions by us in excess of the sum of our earnings and profits plus the stockholder's basis in its Global Signal stock will be taxed under the Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act of 1980 ("FIRPTA") at the rate of tax, including any applicable capital gains rates, that would apply to a domestic stockholder of the same type (for example, an individual or a corporation, as the case may be), and the collection of the tax will be enforced by a refundable withholding at a rate of 10% of the amount by which the distribution exceeds the stockholder's share of our earnings and profits.

Capital Gain Dividends. Under FIRPTA, a distribution made by us to a non-U.S. holder, to the extent attributable to gains from dispositions of USRPIs held by us directly or through pass-through subsidiaries ("USRPI capital gains"), will, except as discussed below, be considered effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business of the non-U.S. holder and will be subject to U.S. income tax at the rates applicable to U.S. individuals or corporations, without regard to whether the distribution is designated as a capital gain dividend. In addition, we will be required to withhold tax equal to 35% of the amount of dividends to the extent the dividends constitute USRPI capital gains. Distributions subject to FIRPTA may also be subject to a 30% branch profits tax in the hands of a non-U.S. holder that is a corporation. A distribution is not a USRPI capital gain if we held the underlying asset solely as a creditor. Capital gain dividends received by a non-U.S. holder from a REIT attributable to dispositions by that REIT of assets other than USRPIs are generally not subject to U.S. income or withholding tax.

Pursuant to the 2004 Act, a capital gain dividend by us that would otherwise have been treated as a USRPI capital gain will not be so treated or be subject to FIRPTA, will generally not be treated as income that is effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business, and will instead be treated the same as an ordinary dividend from us (see "— Taxation of Foreign Stockholders — Ordinary Dividends"), provided that (1) the capital gain dividend is received with respect to a class of stock that is regularly traded on an established securities market located in the United States, and (2) the recipient non-U.S. holder does not own more than 5% of that class of stock at any time during the taxable year in which the capital gain dividend is received. This provision of the 2004 Act is effective for tax years beginning after December 31, 2004.

Dispositions of Global Signal Stock. Unless our stock constitutes a USRPI, a sale of the stock by a non-U.S. holder generally will not be subject to U.S. taxation under FIRPTA. The stock will be treated as a USRPI if 50% or more of our assets throughout a prescribed testing period consist of interests in real property located within the United States, excluding, for this purpose, interests in real property solely in a capacity as a creditor. Even if the foregoing test is met, our stock nonetheless will not constitute a USRPI if we are a "domestically controlled REIT." A domestically controlled REIT is a REIT in which, at all times during a specified testing period, less than 50% in value of its shares is held directly or

indirectly by non-U.S. holders. We believe that we are, and we expect to continue to be, a domestically controlled REIT and, therefore, the sale of our stock by a non-U.S. holder should not be subject to taxation under FIRPTA. Because our stock is publicly traded, however, no assurance can be given that we will be a domestically controlled REIT.

In the event that we do not constitute a domestically controlled REIT, a non-U.S. holder's sale of stock nonetheless will generally not be subject to tax under FIRPTA as a sale of a USRPI, provided that (1) the stock owned is of a class that is "regularly traded," as defined by applicable Treasury Department regulations, on an established securities market, and (2) the selling non-U.S. holder held 5% or less of our outstanding stock of that class at all times during a specified testing period.

If gain on the sale of our stock were subject to taxation under FIRPTA, the non-U.S. holder would be subject to the same treatment as a U.S. stockholder with respect to such gain, subject to applicable alternative minimum tax and a special alternative minimum tax in the case of non-resident alien individuals, and the purchaser of the stock could be required to withhold 10% of the purchase price and remit such amount to the IRS.

Gain from the sale of our stock that would not otherwise be subject to FIRPTA will nonetheless be taxable in the United States to a non-U.S. holder in two cases: (1) if the non-U.S. holder's investment in our stock is effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business conducted by such non-U.S. holder, the non-U.S. holder will be subject to the same treatment as a U.S. stockholder with respect to such gain, or (2) if the non-U.S. holder is a nonresident alien individual who was present in the United States for 183 days or more during the taxable year and has a "tax home" in the United States, the nonresident alien individual will be subject to a 30% tax on the individual's capital gain.

Estate Tax. Global Signal stock owned or treated as owned by an individual who is not a citizen or resident (as specially defined for U.S. federal estate tax purposes) of the United States at the time of death will be includable in the individual's gross estate for U.S. federal estate tax purposes, unless an applicable estate tax treaty provides otherwise, and may therefore be subject to U.S. federal estate tax.

Taxation of Tax-Exempt Stockholders

Tax-exempt entities, including qualified employee pension and profit sharing trusts and individual retirement accounts, generally are exempt from federal income taxation. However, they are subject to taxation on their unrelated business taxable income ("UBTI"). Provided that (1) a tax-exempt stockholder has not held our stock as "debt financed property" within the meaning of the Code (i.e. where the acquisition or holding of the property is financed through a borrowing by the tax-exempt stockholder), and (2) our stock is not otherwise used in an unrelated trade or business, distributions from us and income from the sale of our stock should not give rise to UBTI to a tax-exempt stockholder.

Tax-exempt stockholders that are social clubs, voluntary employee benefit associations, supplemental unemployment benefit trusts, and qualified group legal services plans exempt from federal income taxation under sections 501(c)(7), (c)(9), (c)(17) and (c)(20) of the Code, respectively, are subject to different UBTI rules, which generally will require them to characterize distributions from us as UBTI.

In certain circumstances, a pension trust that owns more than 10% of our stock could be required to treat a percentage of the dividends from us as UBTI, if we are a "pension-held REIT." We will not be a pension-held REIT unless either (1) one pension trust owns more than 25% of the value of our stock, or (2) a group of pension trusts, each individually holding more than 10% of the value of our stock, collectively owns more than 50% of such stock. Certain restrictions

on ownership and transfer of our stock should generally prevent a tax-exempt entity from owning more than 10% of the value of our stock, or our becoming a pension-held REIT.

Tax-exempt stockholders are urged to consult their tax advisors regarding the federal, state, local and foreign tax consequences of owning our stock.

Other Tax Considerations

Legislative or Other Actions Affecting REITs

The American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 contains a number of provisions that affect the tax treatment of REITs and their stockholders. As discussed above, the 2004 Act includes provisions that

42

generally ease compliance with certain REIT asset requirements, with the REIT 95% gross income requirement (in connection with income from hedging activities), and which grant relief in cases involving violations of the REIT asset and other requirements, provided that specified conditions are met. See "Taxation of Global Signal — Requirements for Qualification — General," "— Asset Tests" and "— Income Tests." The 2004 Act also alters the tax treatment of capital gain dividends received by foreign stockholders in some cases. See "Taxation of Stockholders — Taxation of Foreign Stockholders — Capital Gain Dividends." These changes are generally effective beginning in 2005, except that the provisions relating to the 10% asset (value) requirement have retroactive effect to 2001.

The 2003 Act reduced the maximum tax rates at which individuals are taxed on capital gains from 20% to 15% (from May 6, 2003 through 2008) and on dividends payable by taxable subchapter C corporations from 38.6% to 15% (from January 1, 2003 through 2008). While gains from the sale of the stock of REITs are eligible for the reduced tax rates, dividends payable by REITs are not eligible for the reduced tax rates except in limited circumstances. See "Taxation of Stockholders — Taxation of Taxable Domestic Stockholders — Distributions." As a result, dividends received from REITs generally will continue to be taxed at ordinary income rates (now at a maximum rate of 35% through 2010). The more favorable tax rates applicable to regular corporate dividends could cause investors who are individuals to perceive investments in REITs to be relatively less attractive than investments in the stocks of non-REIT corporations that pay dividends, which could adversely affect the value of the stock of REITs, including our stock.

The rules dealing with federal income taxation are constantly under review by persons involved in the legislative process and by the IRS and the U.S. Treasury Department. No assurance can be given as to whether, or in what form, the proposals described above (or any other proposals affecting REITs or their stockholders) will be enacted. Changes to the federal tax laws and interpretations thereof could adversely affect an investment in our securities.

State, Local and Foreign Taxes

We and our subsidiaries and stockholders may be subject to state, local or foreign taxation in various jurisdictions, including those in which it or they transact business, own property or reside. We own properties located in a number of jurisdictions, and may be required to file tax returns in some or all of those jurisdictions. The state, local or foreign tax treatment of us and our stockholders may not conform to the federal income tax treatment discussed above. We will pay foreign property taxes, and dispositions of foreign property or operations involving, or investments in, foreign property may give rise to foreign income or other tax liability in amounts that could be substantial. Any foreign taxes incurred by us do not pass through to stockholders as a credit against their U.S. federal income tax liability.

Prospective investors should consult their tax advisors regarding the application and effect of state, local and foreign income and other tax laws on an investment in stock or other securities of ours.

43

LEGAL MATTERS

Certain tax matters and the validity of the securities offered hereby are being passed upon for us by Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP. Certain partners of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP and their respective family members hold an aggregate of less than 1.0% of our outstanding shares of common stock.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements and schedules of Global Signal Inc. at December 31, 2004 and 2003, and for the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003, the two months ended December 31, 2002 and the ten months ended October 31, 2002, incorporated in this prospectus by reference to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2004 and the statement of revenue and certain expenses of Lattice Acquisition for the year ended December 31, 2003, incorporated in this prospectus by reference to our Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed on June 6, 2005, have been so incorporated in reliance on the reports of Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered certified public accountants, given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The Statement of Revenue and Certain Expenses of Sprint Sites USA for the year ended December 31, 2004, has been incorporated by reference herein in reliance upon the report of KPMG LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The Statement of Revenue and Certain Expenses of ForeSite 2005 Acquisition for the year ended December 31, 2004, incorporated in this prospectus by reference to our Current Report on Form 8-K filed on June 6, 2005, have been incorporated in reliance on the report of Dixon Hughes PLLC, independent registered public accounting firm, given on the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The audited statement of revenue and direct operating expenses of SunCom Acquisition for the year ended December 31, 2004, incorporated in this prospectus by reference to our Current Report on Form 8-K dated June 6, 2005, have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

44

PART II

INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS

Item 14. Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution.

Edgar Filing: SWEDISH MATCH CORP - Form 6-K

The expenses relating to the registration of the securities will be borne by the Registrant. The following expenses, with the exception of the Securities and Exchange Commission Registration Fee, are estimates.

Securities and Exchange Commission Registration Fee	\$	111,074.46
Printing and Engraving Fees and Expenses	\$	10,000.00*
Accounting Fees and Expenses	\$	150,000.00*
Legal Fees	\$	50,000.00*
Miscellaneous	\$	5,000.00*
Total	\$	326,074.46*

* Estimated

Item 15. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Section 102 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, as amended, allows a corporation to eliminate the personal liability of a director of a corporation to the corporation or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, except where the director breached his or her duty of loyalty to the corporation or its stockholders, failed to act in good faith, engaged in intentional misconduct or knowingly violated a law, authorized the payment of a dividend or approved a stock purchase or redemption in violation of Delaware corporate law or obtained an improper personal benefit.

Section 145 of the Delaware General Corporation Law provides, among other things, that a corporation may indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation) by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the corporation's request as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses, including attorneys' fees, judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with the action, suit or proceeding. The power to indemnify applies (1) if such person is successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action, suit or proceeding or (2) if such person acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his conduct was unlawful. The power to indemnify applies to actions brought by or in the right of the corporation as well, but only to the extent of defense expenses (including attorneys' fees but excluding amounts paid in settlement) actually and reasonably incurred and not to any satisfaction of judgment or settlement of the claim itself, and with the further limitation that in such actions no indemnification shall be made in the event of any adjudication of negligence or misconduct in the performance of his duties to the corporation, unless a court believes that in light of all the circumstances indemnification should apply.

Section 174 of the Delaware General Corporation Law provides, among other things, that a director who willfully and negligently approves of an unlawful payment of dividends or an unlawful stock purchase or redemption may be held liable for such actions. A director who was either absent when the unlawful actions were approved or dissented at the time, may avoid liability by causing his or her dissent to such actions to be entered in the books containing the minutes of the meetings of the board of directors at the time the action occurred or immediately after the absent director receives notice of the unlawful acts.

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation states that no director shall be liable to us or any of our stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as director, except for breaches

of the duty of loyalty, and for acts or omissions in bad faith or involving intentional misconduct or knowing violation of law. Directors are also not exempt from liability for any transaction from which he or she derived an improper personal benefit, or for violations of Section 174 of the Delaware Corporation Law. To the maximum extent permitted under Section 145 of the Delaware Corporation Law, our amended and restated certificate of incorporation authorizes us to indemnify any and all persons whom we have the power to indemnify under the law.

Our amended and restated bylaws indemnify, to the fullest extent permitted by the Delaware Corporation Law, each person who was or is made a party or is threatened to be made a party in any legal proceeding by reason of the fact that he or she is or was our director or officer. However, such indemnification is permitted only if such person acted in good faith, lawfully and not against our best interests. Indemnification is authorized on a case-by-case basis by (1) our board of directors by a majority vote of disinterested directors, (2) by a committee of the disinterested directors, (3) by independent legal counsel in a written opinion if (1) and (2) are not available, or if disinterested directors so direct, or (4) by the stockholders. Indemnification of former directors or officers shall be determined by any person authorized to act on the matter on our behalf. Expenses incurred by a director or officer in defending against such legal proceedings are payable before the final disposition of the action, provided that the director or officer undertakes to repay us if later determined that he or she is not entitled to indemnification.

We have entered into indemnification agreements (the "Indemnification Agreements") with certain of our directors and officers (individually, the "Indemnitee"). The Indemnification Agreements, among other things, provide for indemnification to the fullest extent permitted by law and our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated by-laws against any and all expenses, judgments, fines, penalties and amounts paid in settlement of any claim. The Indemnification Agreements provide for the advancement or payment of all expenses to the Indemnitee and for reimbursement to us if it is found that such Indemnitee is not entitled to such indemnification under applicable law and our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated by-laws.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers or persons controlling the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, the registrant has been informed that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is therefore unenforceable.

We maintain directors' and officers' liability insurance for our officers and directors.

The partnership agreement of Global Signal OP provides that neither we, as special limited partner, nor Global Signal GP LLC, as managing general partner, nor any of our directors and officers or the directors and officers of Global Signal GP are liable to the partnership or to any of its partners as a result of errors in judgment or mistakes of fact or law or of any act or omission, if we, Global Signal GP, our director or our officer or a director or officer of Global Signal GP act in good faith.

In addition, the partnership agreement requires our operating partnership to indemnify and hold us, as special limited partner, and our directors, officers and any other person we designate, and Global Signal GP LLC, as managing general partner, and its directors, officers and any other person it designates from and against any and all claims arising from operations of the operating partnership in which any such indemnitee may be involved, or is threatened to be involved, as a party or otherwise, unless it is established that:

- indemnitee acted with willful misconduct or a knowing violation of the law, or

- the indemnitee actually received an improper personal benefit in violation or breach of any provision of the Partnership Agreement.

The partnership agreement provides that no indemnitee may subject any partner of our operating partnership to personal liability with respect to the indemnification obligation.

II-2

Item 16. List of Exhibits.

The Exhibits to this registration statement are listed in the Index to Exhibits beginning on page II-7 and are incorporated herein by reference.

Item 17. Undertakings.

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in the effective registration statement;

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement;

Provided, however, that paragraphs 1(i) and 1(ii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities

Exchange Act of 1934 that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered herein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the provisions set forth in Item 15, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each post-effective amendment that contains a form of prospectus shall be

II-3

deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, the information omitted from the form of prospectus filed as part of this registration statement in reliance upon Rule 430A and contained in a form of prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(1) or (4) or 497(h) under the Securities Act shall be deemed to be part of this registration statement as of the time it was declared effective.

II-4

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Sarasota, State of Florida on June 6, 2005.

GLOBAL SIGNAL INC.

By: /s/ Wesley R. Edens

Name: Wesley R. Edens

Title: Chief Executive Officer

SIGNATURES AND POWERS OF ATTORNEY

Each person whose signature appears below authorizes, constitutes and appoints Wesley R. Edens, David J. Grain, William T. Freeman and Greerson G. McMullen, and each of them acting alone, his true and lawful attorney-in-fact, with full power of substitution, to execute and cause to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act, any and all amendments and post-effective amendments to this registration statement, with exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith, and any related registration statement and its amendments and post-effective amendments filed pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Act, with exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith, and hereby ratifies and confirms all that said attorney-in-fact or his substitute or substitutes may do or cause to be done by virtue thereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this registration statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Name	Title	Date
<u>/s/ Wesley R. Edens</u> Wesley R. Edens	Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board	June 6, 2005
<u>/s/ David J. Grain</u> David J. Grain	President	June 6, 2005
<u>/s/ William T. Freeman</u> William T. Freeman	Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Assistant Secretary	June 6, 2005
<u>/s/ Jeffrey H. Foster</u> Jeffrey H. Foster	Chief Accounting Officer	June 6, 2005
<u>/s/ David Abrams</u> David Abrams	Director	June 6, 2005
<u>/s/ Robert Niehaus</u> Robert Niehaus	Director	June 6, 2005
<u>/s/ Robert Gidel</u> Robert Gidel	Director	June 6, 2005
<u>/s/ Howard Rubin</u> Howard Rubin	Director	June 6, 2005

II-5

Name	Title	Date
<u>/s/ Mark Whiting</u> Mark Whiting	Director	June 6, 2005

/s/ Douglas Jacobs
Douglas Jacobs

Director

June 6, 2005

II-6

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No.	Exhibit
2.1	Order Confirming Second Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Pinnacle Towers III Inc., Pinnacle Holdings Inc., Pinnacle Towers Inc. and Pinnacle San Antonio LLC, dated October 9, 2002 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-11 (No. 333-112839) filed on February 13, 2004)
2.2.1	First Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Pinnacle Holdings Inc., Pinnacle Towers Inc., Pinnacle Towers III Inc. and Pinnacle San Antonio LLC, dated June 27, 2002 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.2 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-11 (No. 333-112839) filed on February 13, 2004) (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.2 to the Company's Form 8-K (No. 001-32168) filed on July 1, 2004)
2.2.2	Amendment to Debtors' First Amended Disclosure Statement and First Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization, dated September 18, 2002 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.3 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-11 (No. 333-112839) filed on February 13, 2004)
2.3	Asset Purchase Agreement by and between Lattice Communications, LLC and Pinnacle Towers Acquisition LLC, dated as of July 29, 2004 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.2 of the Company's Form 10-Q (No. 001-32168) filed on August 13, 2004)+
2.4	Membership Interest Purchase Agreement by and among Pinnacle Towers Acquisition LLC, as Purchaser, and Billy Orgel, Lee Holland, Craig Weiss, Jay H. Lindy and Majestic Communications, Inc., as Sellers, dated as of April 22, 2004 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.4 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-11 (Amendment No. 2) (No. 333-112839) filed on April 29, 2004)+
2.4.1	First Amendment to Membership Interest Purchase Agreement by and among Pinnacle Towers Acquisition LLC, as Purchaser, and Billy Orgel, Lee Holland, Craig Weiss, Jay H. Lindy and Majestic Communications, Inc., as Sellers, dated as of June 30, 2004 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (No. 001-32168) filed on July 1, 2004)
2.5	Purchase and Sale Agreement by and among VSS-Goldenstate, LLC, Goldenstate Towers, LLC, and Pinnacle Towers Acquisition LLC and, for the limited purposes set forth therein, VS&A Communications Partners III, L.P., dated September 29, 2004 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to the Company's Form 10-Q (No. 001-32168) filed on November 9, 2004)+
4.1	Form of Certificate for common stock (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-11 (Amendment No. 3) (No. 333-112839) filed on May 19, 2004)
4.2	Amended and Restated Investor Agreement dated as of March 31, 2004 among Global Signal Inc., Fortress Pinnacle Acquisition LLC, Greenhill Capital Partners, L.P., and its related

Edgar Filing: SWEDISH MATCH CORP - Form 6-K

partnerships named therein, and Abrams Capital Partners II, L.P. and certain of its related partnerships named therein, and other parties named therein (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-11 (Amendment No. 1) (No. 333-112839) filed on April 2, 2004)

- 4.3 Warrant Agreement between Pinnacle Holdings Inc. and Wachovia Bank, N.A., dated November 1, 2002 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-11 (No. 333-112839) filed on February 13, 2004)
- 5.1 Opinion of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP as to legality

II-7

Exhibit

- | No. | Exhibit |
|------|---|
| 8.1 | Opinion of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP as to certain tax matters |
| 23.1 | Consent of Ernst & Young LLP – Tampa, Florida |
| 23.2 | Consent of Ernst & Young LLP – Cincinnati, Ohio |
| 23.3 | Consent of KPMG LLP |
| 23.4 | Consent of Dixon Hughes PLLC |
| 23.5 | Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP |
| 23.6 | Consent of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1 and Exhibit 8.1) |
| 24.1 | Powers of Attorney (included on the signature pages hereto) |

+Certain information omitted pursuant to a request for confidential treatment filed separately with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

II-8
