

A merger of the Company shall require the approval of the holders of a majority of seventy five percent (75%) of the voting power represented at the annual or special general meeting in person or by proxy or by written ballot, as shall be permitted, and voting thereon in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Law. Upon the request of a creditor of either party of the proposed merger, the court may delay or prevent the merger if it concludes that there exists a reasonable concern that as a result of the merger, the surviving company will be unable to satisfy the obligations of any of the parties to the merger. In addition, a merger may not be completed unless at least (i) 50 days have passed from the time that the requisite proposal for the merger has been filed by each party with the Israeli Registrar of Companies and (ii) 30 days have passed since the merger was approved by the shareholders of each party.

The Companies Law also provides that an acquisition of shares of a public company must be made by means of a tender offer if as a result of the acquisition the purchaser would become a 25% or greater shareholder of the company and there is no existing 25% or greater shareholder in the company. An acquisition of shares of a public company must be made by means of a tender offer if as a result of the acquisition the purchaser would become a 45% or greater shareholder of the company and there is no existing 45% or greater shareholder in the company. These requirements do not apply if the acquisition (i) occurs in the context of a private placement by the company that received shareholder approval, (ii) was from a 25% shareholder of the company and resulted in the acquirer becoming a 25% shareholder of the company or (iii) was from a 45% shareholder of the company and resulted in the acquirer becoming a 45% shareholder of the company. The tender offer must be extended to all shareholders, but the offerer is not required to purchase more than 5% of the company's outstanding shares, regardless of how many shares are tendered by shareholders. The tender offer may be consummated only if (i) at least 5% of the company's outstanding shares will be acquired by the offerer and (ii) the number of shares tendered in the offer exceeds the number of shares whose holders objected to the offer.

If as a result of an acquisition of shares the acquirer will hold more than 90% of a company's outstanding shares, the acquisition must be made by means of a tender offer for all of the outstanding shares. If as a result of a full tender offer the acquirer would own more than 95% of the outstanding shares, then all the shares that the acquirer offered to purchase will be transferred to it. The law provides for appraisal rights if any shareholder files a request in court within three months following the consummation of a full tender offer. If as a result of a full tender offer the acquirer would own 95% or less of the outstanding shares, then the acquirer may not acquire shares that will cause his shareholding to exceed 90% of the outstanding shares.

Material Contracts***Actimize Ltd. Acquisition***

On August 30, 2007, we acquired Actimize Ltd., a global provider of operational risk management software solutions that enable financial services institutions to manage the challenges of regulatory compliance, internal policy enforcement and fraud prevention and money laundering. Under the terms of the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated July 2, 2007 (the "Merger Agreement"), the consideration paid for Actimize was approximately \$281 million, approximately 80% of which was in cash and approximately 20% of which was satisfied through the issuance of 1,501,933 of our ordinary shares based on the market price of the securities a few days before and after the terms of the acquisition were agreed upon and announced. Pursuant to the terms of the Merger Agreement, we assumed the stock options and restricted shares granted by Actimize (for further information please see Item 6, "Directors, Senior Management and Employees" in this annual report). On August 29, 2007, we entered into an unsecured loan agreement and a letter of undertaking with Bank Hapoalim B.M., which provided for a term loan of \$120 million to finance a portion of the cash consideration for the Actimize transaction. The loan was repaid in one installment on September 28, 2007. On September 12, 2007, as required by the Merger Agreement, we filed a registration statement with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission to register for resale the securities issued pursuant to the Merger Agreement, which we maintained effective for approximately six months.

IEX Corporation Acquisition

In July 2006, pursuant to a share purchase agreement, we acquired all the outstanding shares of IEX Corporation, a worldwide provider of contact center workforce management, strategic planning and performance management solutions for the contact center market, for approximately \$205 million in cash.

FAST Video Security AG Acquisition

On January 4, 2006, pursuant to a share purchase agreement, we acquired all the outstanding shares of FAST Video Security AG, a Switzerland-based developer of innovative video systems for security and surveillance purposes, for approximately \$22 million in cash, plus earn-outs based on performance milestones of approximately \$6.2 million for 2006 and a potential maximum of \$5 million for 2008.

Exchange Controls

Holders of ADSs are able to convert dividends and liquidation distributions into freely repatriable non-Israeli currencies at the rate of exchange prevailing at the time of repatriation, pursuant to regulations issued under the Currency Control Law, 5738-1978, provided that Israeli income tax has been withheld by us with respect to amounts that are being repatriated to the extent applicable or an exemption has been obtained.

Our ADSs may be freely held and traded pursuant to the General Permit and the Currency Control Law. The ownership or voting of ADSs by non-residents of Israel, except with respect to citizens of countries that are in a state of war with Israel, are not restricted in any way by the our memorandum of association or articles of association or by the laws of the State of Israel.

Taxation

The following is a discussion of Israeli and United States tax consequences material to our shareholders. The discussion is not intended, and should not be construed, as legal or professional tax advice and does not exhaust all possible tax considerations.

Holders of our ADSs should consult their own tax advisors as to the United States, Israeli or other tax consequences of the purchase, ownership and disposition of our ADSs, including, in particular, the effect of any foreign, state or local taxes.

Israeli Tax Considerations

The following is a summary of the principal tax laws applicable to companies in Israel, with special reference to their effect on us. The following also contains a discussion of the material Israeli tax consequences to purchasers of our ordinary shares or ADSs. This summary does not discuss all the aspects of Israeli tax law that may be relevant to a particular investor in light of his or her personal investment circumstances or to some types of investors subject to special treatment under Israeli law. To the extent that the discussion is based on new tax legislation which has not been subject to judicial or administrative interpretation, we cannot assure you that the views expressed in the discussion will be accepted by the appropriate tax authorities or the courts. The discussion is not intended, and should not be construed, as legal or professional tax advice and is not exhaustive of all possible tax considerations.

General Corporate Tax Structure

Generally, Israeli companies are subject to Corporate Tax on taxable income at the rate of 29% for the 2007 tax year. Following an amendment to the Israeli Income Tax Ordinance [New Version], 1961 (the "Tax Ordinance"), which came into effect on January 1, 2006, the corporate tax rate is scheduled to decrease as follows: 27% for the 2008 tax year, 26% for the 2009 tax year and 25% for the 2010 tax year and thereafter. Israeli companies are generally subject to capital gains tax at a rate of 25% for capital gains (other than gains deriving from the sale of listed securities) derived after January 1, 2003. However, the effective tax rate payable by a company that derives income from an Approved or Privileged Enterprise may be considerably less.

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Tax Benefits Under the Law for the Encouragement of Capital Investments, 1959, as amended.

We derive and expect to continue to derive significant tax benefits in Israel relating to our "Approved and Privileged Enterprise" programs, pursuant to the Law for Encouragement of Capital Investments, 1959, or the Investments Law. To be eligible for these tax benefits, we must continue to meet certain conditions, including making certain specified investments in fixed assets. In the event of a failure to comply with these conditions, the benefits may be canceled and we may be required to refund the amount of the benefits, in whole or in part, including interest and certain inflation adjustments. As of December 31, 2007 we believe that we are in compliance with all the conditions required by the law.

Full details regarding our Approved and Privileged Enterprises may be found in Note 12(a)(2) of our Consolidated Financial Statements.

Other than by way of our complete liquidation, if we distribute dividends from the income of our "Approved Enterprises" which was exempted from taxes pursuant to our "Approved Enterprise" benefits, we will be taxed as if the exempt income was subject to the regular reduced corporate tax rate arising under our "Approved Enterprise" programs. Pursuant to the amendment to the Investment Law, the Company elected for 2006 to be the commencement year for its first Privileged Enterprise program under the amended law. Under the amendment, tax-exempt income generated under our Privileged Enterprise, will subject the Company to taxes upon dividend distribution or complete liquidation.

The Company does not intend to distribute any amounts of its undistributed tax-exempt income as dividends as it intends to reinvest its tax-exempt income within the Company. Accordingly, no deferred income taxes have been provided on income attributable to the Company's Approved or Privileged Enterprise programs as the undistributed tax exempt income is essentially permanent in duration.

Income from sources other than the "Approved or Privileged Enterprises" during the period of benefits will be taxable at regular corporate tax rates.

Tax Benefits and Grants for Research and Development

Israeli tax law allows, under specified conditions, a tax deduction for expenditures, including capital expenditures, for the year in which they are incurred. These expenses must relate to scientific research and development projects and must be approved by the relevant Israeli government ministry, determined by the field of research, and the research and development must be for the promotion of the company and carried out by or on behalf of the company seeking such deduction. However, the amount of such deductible expenses shall be reduced by the sum of any funds received through government grants for the finance of such scientific research and development projects. Expenditures not so approved are deductible over a three-year period.

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Tax Benefits Under the Law for the Encouragement of Industry (Taxes), 1969

Under the Law for the Encouragement of Industry (Taxes), 1969 (the "Industry Encouragement Law"), Industrial Companies (as defined below) are entitled to the following tax benefits, among others:

- deductions over an eight-year period for purchases of know-how and patents;
- deductions over a three-year period of expenses involved with the issuance and listing of shares on a stock market;
- the right to elect, under specified conditions, to file a consolidated tax return with other related Israeli Industrial Companies; and
- accelerated depreciation rates on equipment and buildings.

Eligibility for benefits under the Industry Encouragement Law is not subject to receipt of prior approval from any governmental authority. Under the Industry Encouragement Law, an "Industrial Company" is defined as a company resident in Israel, at least 90% of the income of which, in any tax year, determined in Israeli currency, exclusive of income from government loans, capital gains, interest and dividends, is derived from an "Industrial Enterprise" owned by it. An "Industrial Enterprise" is defined as an enterprise whose major activity in a given tax year is industrial production activity. We believe that we currently qualify as an Industrial Company within the definition of the Industry Encouragement Law. No assurance can be given that we will continue to qualify as an Industrial Company or that the benefits described above will be available in the future.

Special Provisions Relating to Taxation Under Inflationary Conditions

The Income Tax Law (Inflationary Adjustments), 1985, or the Inflationary Adjustments Law, represents an attempt to

overcome the problems presented to a traditional tax system by an economy undergoing rapid inflation. The Inflationary Adjustments Law is highly complex. Until December 31, 2001, we measured our Israeli taxable income in accordance with this law, but from January 1, 2002, we have elected to measure our Israeli taxable income in relation to changes in the U.S. dollar/NIS exchange rate rather than the Israeli inflation index. We were permitted to make such a change pursuant to regulations published by the Israeli Minister of Finance, which provide the conditions for so doing. A company that elects to measure its results for tax purposes based on the U.S. dollar/NIS exchange rate cannot change that election for a period of three years following the election. We believe that we meet the necessary conditions and as such, continue to measure our results for tax purposes based on the U.S. dollar/NIS exchange rate.

On February 26, 2008, the Israeli parliament approved an amendment to the Inflationary Adjustments Law which limits the applicability of such law so that it will cease to apply after the 2007 tax year.

Israeli Transfer Pricing Regulations

On November 29, 2006, Income Tax Regulations (Determination of Market Terms), 2006, promulgated under Section 85A of the Tax Ordinance, came into force (the "Transfer Pricing Regulations"). Section 85A of the Tax Ordinance and the Transfer Pricing Regulations generally require that all cross-border transactions carried out between related parties will be conducted on an arm's length principle basis and will be taxed accordingly. As the Transfer Pricing Regulations are broadly similar to transfer pricing regimes already in place in other jurisdictions in which we operate outside of Israel, we do not expect the Transfer Pricing Regulations to have a material impact on the Company.

Capital Gains Tax on Sales of Our Ordinary Shares

Israeli law generally imposes a capital gains tax on the sale of any capital assets by residents of Israel, as defined for Israeli tax purposes, and on the sale of assets located in Israel, including shares in Israeli companies, by both residents and non-residents of Israel, unless a specific exemption is available or unless a tax treaty between Israel and the shareholder's country of residence provides otherwise. The law distinguishes between real gain and inflationary surplus. The inflationary surplus is a portion of the total capital gain, which is equivalent to the increase of the relevant asset's purchase price, which is attributable to the increase in the Israeli consumer price index, or a foreign currency exchange rate, between the date of purchase and the date of sale. The real gain is the excess of the total capital gain over the inflationary surplus.

The following discussion refers to the sale of our ordinary shares. However, the same tax treatment would apply to the sale of our ADSs.

Taxation of Israeli Residents

As of January 1, 2006, the tax rate generally applicable to the capital gains derived from the sale of shares, whether listed on a stock market or not, is 20% for Israeli individuals, unless such shareholder claims a deduction for financing expenses in connection with such shares, in which case the gain will generally be taxed at a rate of 25%. Additionally, if such shareholder is considered a "significant shareholder" at any time during the 12-month period preceding such sale (i.e., such shareholder holds directly or indirectly, including jointly with others, at least 10% of any means of control in the company) the tax rate will be 25%. Israeli companies are subject to the corporate tax rate on capital gains derived from the sale of listed shares, unless such companies were not subject to the Adjustments Law (or certain regulations) as of August 10, 2005, in which case the applicable tax rate is 25%. However, different tax rates may apply to dealers in securities and shareholders who acquired their shares prior to an initial public offering.

The tax basis of our shares acquired prior to January 1, 2003, will generally be determined in accordance with the average closing share price in the three trading days preceding January 1, 2003. However, a request may be made to the tax authorities to consider the actual adjusted cost of the shares as the tax basis if it is higher than such average price.

Taxation of Non-Israeli Residents

Non-Israeli residents are generally exempt from Israeli capital gains tax on any gains derived from the sale of shares publicly traded on the TASE provided such gains did not derive from a permanent establishment of such shareholders in Israel. Non-Israeli residents are also exempt from Israeli capital gains tax on any gains derived from the sale of shares of Israeli companies publicly traded on a recognized stock market outside of Israel, provided such shareholders did not acquire their shares prior to the issuer's initial public offering and that the gains did not derive from a permanent establishment of such shareholders in Israel and that such shareholders are not subject to the Inflationary Adjustments Law. However, non-Israeli corporations will not be entitled to such exemption if Israeli residents (i) have a controlling interest of 25% or more in such non-Israeli corporation, or (ii) are the beneficiaries or are entitled to 25% or more of the revenues or profits of such non-Israeli corporation, whether directly or indirectly.

In addition, the sale, exchange or disposition of our ordinary shares by a shareholder who is a U.S. resident (for purposes of the U.S.-Israel Tax Treaty) and who holds ordinary shares as a capital asset is also exempt from Israeli capital gains tax under the U.S.-Israel Tax Treaty unless either (i) the shareholder holds, directly or indirectly, shares representing 10% or more of our voting power during any part of the 12-month period preceding such sale or (ii) the capital gains arising from such sale are attributable to a permanent establishment of the shareholder located in Israel. If the above conditions are not met, the U.S. resident would be subject to Israeli tax, to the extent applicable; however, under the U.S.-Israel Tax Treaty, the gain would be treated as foreign source income for United States foreign tax credit purposes and such U.S. resident would be permitted to claim a credit for such taxes against the United States income tax imposed on such sale, exchange or disposition, subject to the limitations under the United States federal income tax laws applicable to foreign tax credits.

Taxation of Dividends Paid on our Ordinary Shares

The following discussion refers to dividends paid on our ordinary shares. However, the same tax treatment would apply to dividends paid on our ADSs.

Taxation of Israeli Residents

Israeli resident individuals are generally subject to Israeli income tax on the receipt of dividends paid on our ordinary shares, other than bonus shares (share dividends) or stock dividends, which is withheld at the source at the rate of 20%, or 25% for a shareholder that is considered a significant shareholder at any time during the 12-month period preceding

such distribution. Dividends paid from income derived from our Approved Enterprise (or a Privileged Enterprise) are subject to withholding at the rate of 15%, although we cannot assure you that we will designate the profits that are being distributed in a way that will reduce shareholders' tax liability.

Taxation of Non-Israeli Residents

Non-residents of Israel are generally subject to Israeli income tax on the receipt of dividends paid on our ordinary shares, at the rates applicable to Israeli residents, which tax will be withheld at source, unless a different rate is provided in a treaty between Israel and the shareholder's country of residence.

Under the U.S.-Israel Treaty, the maximum Israeli withholding tax on dividends paid by us is 25%. Dividends of an Israeli company distributed from income of an Approved Enterprise (or Privileged Enterprise) are subject to a 15% withholding tax under the U.S.-Israel Tax Treaty. The U.S.-Israel Tax Treaty further provides for a 12.5% Israeli dividend withholding tax on dividends paid by an Israeli company to a United States corporation owning at least 10% or more of such Israeli company's issued voting power for, in general, the part of the tax year which precedes the date of payment of the dividend and the entire preceding tax year. The lower 12.5% rate applies only to dividends from income not derived from an Approved Enterprise (or Privileged Enterprise) in the applicable period and does not apply if the company has more than 25% of its gross income derived from certain types of passive income. Residents of the United States generally will have withholding tax in Israel deducted at source. They may be entitled to a credit or deduction for United States federal income tax purposes in the amount of the taxes withheld, subject to detailed rules contained in United States tax legislation.

A non-resident of Israel who has dividend income derived from or accrued in Israel, from which tax was withheld at source, is generally exempt from the duty to file tax returns in Israel in respect of such income, provided such income was not derived from a business conducted in Israel by the taxpayer.

U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations

The following is a summary of the material U.S. Federal income tax consequences that apply to U.S. holders who hold ADSs as capital assets for tax purposes. This summary is based on U.S. Federal income tax laws, regulations, rulings and decisions and the U.S.-Israel income tax treaty in effect as of the date of this annual report, all of which are subject to change at any time, possibly with retroactive effect. It is also based in part on representations by The Bank of New York, the depository for our ADSs, and assumes that each obligation under the Deposit Agreement between us and The Bank of New York and any related agreement will be performed in accordance with its terms. This summary does not address all U.S. Federal income tax matters that may be relevant to a particular prospective holder or all tax considerations that may be relevant with respect to an investment in ADSs.

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This summary does not address tax considerations applicable to a holder of an ADS that may be subject to special tax rules including, without limitation, the following:

- dealers or traders in securities, currencies or notional principal contracts;
- financial institutions;
- insurance companies;
- real estate investment trusts;
- banks;
- investors subject to the alternative minimum tax;
- tax-exempt organizations;
- regulated investment companies;
- investors that actually or constructively own 10 percent or more of our voting shares;
- investors that will hold the ADSs as part of a hedging or conversion transaction or as a position in a straddle or a part of a synthetic security or other integrated transaction for U.S. Federal income tax purposes;
- investors that are treated as partnerships or other pass through entities for U.S. Federal income tax purposes and persons who hold the ADSs through partnerships or other pass through entities; and
- investors whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar.

This summary does not address the effect of any U.S. Federal taxation other than U.S. Federal income taxation. In addition, this summary does not include any discussion of state, local or foreign taxation or the indirect effects on the holders of equity interests in a holder of an ADS.

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You are urged to consult your own tax advisor regarding the foreign and U.S. Federal, state and local and other tax consequences of an investment in ADSs.

For purposes of this summary, a "U.S. holder" is a beneficial owner of ADSs that is, for U.S. Federal income tax purposes:

- an individual who is a citizen or a resident of the United States;
- a corporation or other entity taxable as a corporation created or organized in or under the laws of the United States or any political subdivision thereof;
- an estate whose income is subject to U.S. Federal income tax regardless of its source; or

– a trust if:

- (a) a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over administration of the trust; and
- (b) one or more United States persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust.

For purposes of this section, a “non-U.S. holder” is any holder who is not a U.S. holder.

In general, if you hold ADSs, you will be treated as the holder of the underlying shares represented by those ADSs for U.S. Federal income tax purposes. Accordingly, no gain or loss will be recognized if you exchange ADSs for the underlying shares represented by those ADSs.

The U.S. Treasury has expressed concerns that parties to whom ADSs are released may be taking actions that are inconsistent with the claiming of foreign tax credits for U.S. holders of ADSs. Such actions would also be inconsistent with the claiming of the reduced rate of tax, described below, applicable to dividends received by certain non-corporate U.S. holders. Accordingly, the analysis of the creditability of Israeli taxes and the availability of the reduced tax rate for dividends received by certain non-corporate U.S. holders, each described below, could be affected by actions taken by parties to whom the ADSs are released.

U.S. Taxation of ADSs

Distributions

Subject to the discussion under “Passive Foreign Investment Companies” below, the gross amount of any distribution, including the amount of any Israeli taxes withheld from these distributions (see “Israeli Tax Considerations”), actually or constructively received by a U.S. holder with respect to ADSs will be taxable to the U.S. holder as a dividend to the extent of our current and accumulated earnings and profits as determined under U.S. Federal income tax principles. The U.S. holder will not, except as provided by Section 245 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), be eligible for any dividends received deduction in respect of the dividend otherwise allowable to corporations. Distributions in excess of earnings and profits will be non-taxable to the U.S. holder to the extent of, and will be applied against and reduce, the U.S. holder’s adjusted tax basis in the ADSs. Distributions in excess of earnings and profits and such adjusted tax basis will generally be taxable to the U.S. holder as capital gain from the sale or exchange of property. We do not maintain calculations of our earnings and profits under U.S. Federal income tax principles. If we do not report to a U.S. holder the portion of a distribution that exceeds earnings and profits, the distribution will generally be taxable as a dividend even if that distribution would otherwise be treated as a non-taxable return of capital or as capital gain under the rules described above. The amount of any distribution of property other than cash will be the fair market value of that property on the date of distribution.

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Under the Code, certain dividends received by non-corporate U.S. holders after December 31, 2002, will be subject to a maximum income tax rate of 15%. This reduced income tax rate is only applicable to dividends paid by a “qualified foreign corporation” that is not a “passive foreign investment company” and only with respect to shares held by a qualified U.S. holder (i.e., a non-corporate holder) for a minimum holding period (generally 61 days during the 121-day period beginning 60 days before the ex-dividend date). We should be considered a qualified foreign corporation because (i) we are eligible for the benefits of a comprehensive tax treaty between Israel and the U.S., which includes an exchange of information program, and (ii) the ADS is readily tradable on an established securities market in the U.S. In addition, based on our current business plans, we do not expect to be classified as a “passive foreign investment company” (see “Passive Foreign Investment Companies” below). Accordingly, dividends paid by us to individual U.S. holders on shares held for the minimum holding period should be eligible for the reduced income tax rate. The reduced tax rate for qualified dividends is scheduled to expire on December 31, 2010, unless further extended by Congress.

The amount of any distribution paid in a currency other than U.S. dollars (a “foreign currency”) including the amount of any withholding tax thereon, will be included in the gross income of a U.S. holder in an amount equal to the U.S. dollar value of the foreign currencies calculated by reference to the exchange rate in effect on the date of receipt, regardless of whether the foreign currencies are converted into U.S. dollars. If the foreign currencies are converted into U.S. dollars on the date of receipt, a U.S. holder generally should not be required to recognize foreign currency gain or loss in respect of the dividend. If the foreign currencies received in the distribution are not converted into U.S. dollars on the date of receipt, a U.S. holder will have a basis in the foreign currencies equal to its U.S. dollar value on the date of receipt. Any gain or loss on a subsequent conversion or other disposition of the foreign currencies will be treated as ordinary income or loss.

Dividends received by a U.S. holder with respect to ADSs will be treated as foreign source income for the purposes of calculating that holder’s foreign tax credit limitation. Subject to certain conditions and limitations, any Israeli taxes withheld on dividends at the rate provided by the U.S.-Israel income tax treaty may be deducted from taxable income or credited against a U.S. holder’s U.S. Federal income tax liability. The limitation on foreign taxes eligible for the U.S. foreign tax credit is calculated separately with respect to “passive” income and “general” income. The rules relating to foreign tax credits and the timing thereof are complex. U.S. holders should consult their own tax advisors regarding the availability of a foreign tax credit under their particular situation.

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Sale or Other Disposition of ADSs

If a U.S. holder sells or otherwise disposes of its ADSs, gain or loss will be recognized for U.S. Federal income tax purposes in an amount equal to the difference between the amount realized on the sale or other disposition and such holder’s adjusted tax basis in the ADSs. Subject to the discussion below under the heading “Passive Foreign Investment Companies,” such gain or loss generally will be capital gain or loss and will be long-term capital gain or loss if the holder had held the ADSs for more than one year at the time of the sale or other disposition. Long-term capital gains realized by individual U.S. holders generally are subject to a lower marginal U.S. Federal income tax rate (currently 15%) than ordinary income. Under most circumstances, any gain that a holder recognizes on the sale or other disposition of ADSs will be U.S. source for purposes of the foreign tax credit limitation and any recognized losses will be allocated against U.S. source income.

If a U.S. holder receives foreign currency upon a sale or exchange of ADSs, gain or loss, if any, recognized on the subsequent sale, conversion or disposition of such foreign currency will be ordinary income or loss, and will generally be income or loss from sources within the United States for foreign tax credit limitation purposes. However, if such foreign currency is converted into U.S. dollars on the date received by the U.S. holder, the U.S. holder generally should not be required to recognize any gain or loss on such conversion.

For U.S. Federal income tax purposes, we will be considered a passive foreign investment company ("PFIC") for any taxable year in which either 75% or more of our gross income is passive income, or at least 50% of the average value of all of our assets for the taxable year produce or are held for the production of passive income. For this purpose, passive income includes dividends, interest, royalties, rents, annuities and the excess of gain over losses from the disposition of assets which produce passive income. If we were determined to be a PFIC for U.S. Federal income tax purposes, highly complex rules would apply to U.S. holders owning ADSs. Accordingly, U.S. holders are urged to consult their own tax advisors regarding the application of such rules.

If we are treated as a PFIC for any taxable year,

- a U.S. holder would be required to allocate income recognized upon receiving certain dividends or gain recognized upon the disposition of ADSs ratably over its holding period for such ADSs,
- the amount allocated to each year during which we are considered a PFIC other than the year of the dividend payment or disposition would be subject to tax at the highest individual or corporate tax rate, as the case may be, and an interest charge would be imposed with respect to the resulting tax liability allocated to each such year,

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- the amount allocated to the year of the dividend payment or disposition would be taxable as ordinary income, and
 - a U.S. holder would be required to make an annual return on IRS Form 8621 regarding distributions received and gain realized with respect to ADSs.

One method to avoid the aforementioned treatment is for a U.S. holder to make an election to treat us as a qualified electing fund. A U.S. holder may make a qualified electing fund election only if we furnish the U.S. holder with certain tax information and we do not presently intend to prepare or provide this information. Alternatively, another method to avoid the aforementioned treatment is for a U.S. holder to make a timely mark-to-market election in respect of its ADSs. If a U.S. holder elects to mark-to-market its ADSs, any excess of the fair market value of the ADSs at the close of each tax year over the adjusted basis in such ADSs will generally be included in income. If the fair market value of the ADSs had depreciated below the adjusted basis at the close of the tax year, the U.S. holder may generally deduct the excess of the adjusted basis of the ADSs over its fair market value at that time. However, such deductions generally would be limited to the net mark-to-market gains, if any, that were included in income by such holder with respect to ADSs in prior years. Income recognized and deductions allowed under the mark-to-market provisions, as well as any gain or loss on the disposition of ADSs with respect to which the mark-to-market election is made, is treated as ordinary income or loss.

Based on our estimated gross income, the average value of our gross assets and the nature of our business, we do not believe that we will be classified as a PFIC in the current taxable year. Our status in any taxable year will depend on our assets and activities in each year and because this is a factual determination made annually at the end of each taxable year, there can be no assurance that we will not be considered a PFIC for any future taxable year. If we were treated as a PFIC in any year during which a U.S. holder owns ADSs, certain adverse tax consequences could apply, as described above. Given our current business plans, however, we do not expect that we will be classified as a PFIC in future years.

You are urged to consult your own tax advisor regarding the possibility of us being classified as a PFIC and the potential tax consequences arising from the ownership and disposition (directly or indirectly) of an interest in a PFIC.

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Backup Withholding and Information Reporting

Payments of dividends with respect to ADSs and the proceeds from the sale, retirement, or other disposition of ADSs made by a U.S. paying agent or other U.S. intermediary will be reported to the IRS and to the U.S. holder as may be required under applicable U.S. Treasury regulations. We, or an agent, a broker, or any paying agent, as the case may be, may be required to withhold tax, currently at the rate of 28% (the backup withholding tax), if a non-corporate U.S. holder that is not otherwise exempt fails to provide an accurate taxpayer identification number and comply with other IRS requirements concerning information reporting. Certain U.S. holders (including, among others, corporations and tax-exempt organizations) are not subject to backup withholding. Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amount of backup withholding withheld may be used as a credit against your U.S. Federal income tax liability provided that the required information is furnished to the IRS. U.S. holders should consult their tax advisors as to their qualification for exemption from backup withholding and the procedure for obtaining an exemption.

U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences to Non-U.S. Holders

Sale, Exchange or Retirement of Securities

If you are a non-U.S. holder and you sell, exchange or redeem ADSs, you will generally not be subject to U.S. Federal income tax on any gain, unless one of the following applies:

- the gain is connected with a trade or business that you conduct in the United States through an office or other fixed place of business, or
- you are an individual, you are present in the United States for at least 183 days during the year in which you dispose of the ADSs and have a "tax home" in the United States, and certain other conditions are satisfied.

Backup Withholding and Information Reporting

Backup withholding and information reporting apply to non-U.S. holders as follows:

Information reporting and backup withholding may apply if you use the U.S. office of a broker or agent, and information reporting (but not backup withholding) may apply if you use the foreign office of a broker or agent that has certain connections to the United States. You may be required to comply with applicable certification procedures to establish that you are not a U.S. holder in order to avoid the application of such information reporting and backup withholding requirements. You should consult your tax advisor concerning the application of the information reporting and backup